



FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

Weather forecast cards for Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday with icons and temperature ranges.

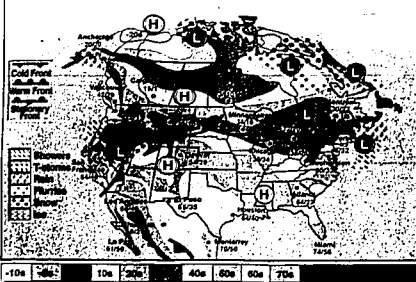
REGIONAL WEATHER

Southern Idaho: Cloudy with a bit of snow in the morning... Northern Nevada: Cloudy and cold with periods of snow... Northern Utah: Clouds and limited sun...

NATIONAL WEATHER Yesterday (for the 48 contiguous states) High 82° in Sandberg, CA Low -13° in Gunnison, CO

NATIONAL WEATHER

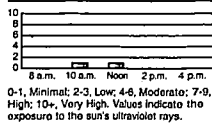
Showers are now positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are shown for the nation. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.



SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 8:04 a.m. Sunset tonight 5:07 p.m. Moonrise today 12:13 p.m. Moonset tonight 10:54 p.m.

UV INDEX TODAY



NATIONAL CITIES

Table listing weather forecasts for various national cities including Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Denver, etc.

ALMANAC section with weather statistics for Twin Falls and regional cities like Boise, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

CANADIAN CITIES weather forecast table for Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, etc.

WORLD CITIES weather forecast table for London, Paris, Moscow, etc.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table listing weather forecasts for regional cities like Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, etc.

Comunidad 733-0931 or 677-4042 advertisement.

Comcast plans merger with AT&T cable in \$52B deal

NEW YORK (AP) - Comcast Corp. will merge with AT&T's cable TV business in a deal valued at about \$52 billion...

Transition

Continued from A1 "Getting bin Laden will take skill and luck and maybe a lot of time. We've got to move on here..."

Escape

Continued from A1 Qaeda members taken prisoner by provincial officials since Sunday after the warriors escaped into Pakistan along rugged mountain trails...

U.S. holds

Continued from A1 At least two senior Taliban officials are in U.S. custody, defense officials said Wednesday as the search for Taliban and al-Qaida leaders continued in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

Cottage

Continued from A1 remodeling. Over the past few years, a number of interested private parties backed away from the house for that reason, Johnson said.

Lease

Continued from A1 profit and loss statements by department," said hospital spokesman Shawn Barigar.

Continued from A1

She contacted the Twin Falls County Historical Commission and the Jerome Historical Society, and both groups discussed ways to save it. Paul Smith, who heads up the Twin Falls group, said the College of

Continued from A1

Some captives "are telling us stories about Osama giving a speech 14 days ago and then leaving, but these men are not very credible," Gul said. "I have heard that Osama has shaved his beard and gone to Pakistan, but no one can say for sure."

Continued from A1

But on the other hand, as both considered the structure's demise, they accepted it. "Those things happen," Ricketts said. "I can understand the power company. They do have to conduct their business, and they have always been very cooperative for historic things. So I feel they probably did everything they could."

Continued from A1

Ricketts was a co-founder of the Jerome County Historical Society in 1982. James, who teaches anthropology at Robert Stuart Junior High School and is involved in the Minidoka Internment Camp project, said the same.

Circulation information, Mail information, and Times-News telephone directory.

IDAHO LOTTERY advertisement with numbers and prizes.

Photograph of a stone cottage with a caption: "The old stone cottage" located near Shoshone Falls in Jerome County met with its demise earlier this week.

Times-News writer Julie Pence can be reached at 733-3241 or by e-mail at jpepnc@magicvalley.com.

# Senate kills farm bill for 2001, pushing issue into election year

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate has killed for this year a farm bill proposed by President Bush that would have boosted spending on agriculture and nutrition programs by nearly 80 percent. Democrats said they will try again in January.

For the third time in a week, majority Democrats were unable Wednesday to muster the 60 votes needed to cut off debate and bring the legislation to a final vote. The stalemate pushes the issue into an election year, when control of the Senate and the seats of several farm-state members will be at stake.

The 54-43 vote "jeopardizes billions of dollars in assistance to farmers and ranchers, which is

available now and which are not likely to be available next year," said Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D. Daschle pulled the bill from the Senate floor after losing the vote.

Republicans say there is plenty of time and money available to write a farm bill next year, before existing programs expire. The Democratic bill raises crop subsidies so high that it would encourage excess production and drive down commodity prices, according to the Bush administration.

"I'm disappointed that the Senate has chosen to go down such a partisan path," said Bruce Knight, a lobbyist for the National Corn Growers

Association. "This is a lot more about control of the Senate than the best way to provide a farm bill."

The Democratic bill would reauthorize farm programs through 2006. Most of the money would continue to go to grain, cotton and soybean farms, but the bill offers new subsidies for a variety of additional commodities, including milk, honey and lentils, and also would double spending on conservation programs.

The Bush administration criticized both that bill and another one passed by the GOP-controlled House in October, and urged Congress to delay finishing work on them until 2002.

# Research bolsters idea of life from space

**The Associated Press**

Sugar compounds, an indispensable ingredient for life today, have been found in meteorites, bolstering the theory that chunks of rock from outer space delivered the materials that gave rise to life in Earth.

Another key ingredient, amino acids, has already been found in meteorites.

George Cooper of NASA's Ames Research Center at Moffett Field, Calif., said that while it has not been proved that meteorites delivered the materials that led to life, the discovery means meteorites containing the building blocks were at least present on the planet early in its history.

His findings appear in today's issue of the journal Nature.

# Study links organism to humans

**Milwaukee Journal Sentinel**

MILWAUKEE — A single-cell organism that swam in the Earth's primordial soup hundreds of millions of years ago is an evolutionary sibling of humans and all other animals, according to research Tuesday by University of Wisconsin-Madison scientists.

While the finding advances the knowledge of human evolution, the idea that people and pond scum are related is bound to draw criticism from those who abhor the thought of connections between people and other species.

At the same time, the paper for the first time provides scientific evidence of a theory that first sprung up 130 years ago, that certain single-cell organisms known as choanoflagellates are linked to animals.

"(The author) provides the most compelling modern molecular evidence to support this 100-year-old classic idea," said Michael Levine, a professor of genetics and development at the University of California at Berkeley.

Levine predicted that in the coming months the entire genetic code of the organism would be sequenced by other scientists and compared with that of humans and other animals. Once that is done, more common genes are likely to be found, he said.

# Suspected terrorist arrives in D.C.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first person charged with plotting the Sept. 11 attacks with Osama bin Laden has been flown to the Washington area, the U.S. Marshals Service said Wednesday.

A Marshals Service plane flew Zacarias Moussaoui to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in suburban Virginia and was immediately taken to an undisclosed secure facility, Marshals spokesman Dave Turner said.

"We have taken all appropriate steps and measures to ensure the safety of him and the public," the spokesman said.

Moussaoui, 33, will stand trial

in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, Va. His arraignment is Jan. 2. Some of the six charges against him carry the death penalty.

U.S. District Court Judge Leonie M. Brinkema has been named to oversee his case, including a brief court appearance Wednesday. Brinkema, an appointee of former President Clinton, recently presided over a capital murder case of a man

accused of killing the main witness against him in a burglary case. A jury convicted the man, but sentenced him to life in prison.

Moussaoui is charged with conspiring to commit acts of terrorism, aircraft piracy, destruction of aircraft, use of weapons of mass destruction, murder of U.S. employees and destruction of U.S. property. Four of the charges could result in the death penalty.

Benigno Reyna, director of the Marshals Service, said providing security for Moussaoui will be "unlike any other case. We've handled terrorists before. Now it's having an impact on the sanctity of life itself."



Zacarias Moussaoui

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# Yemen brings in more forces in al-Qaida sweep

ADEN, Yemen (AP) — U.S. trained troop reinforcements on Wednesday moved into the remote hills of central Yemen where government forces have battled armed tribesmen in an assault to capture suspected operatives of Osama bin Laden.

There was sporadic gunfire but no fighting reported in the provinces of Shabwa and Ma'rib, where heavy clashes took place Tuesday as the government tried to capture five suspected bin Laden loyalists being protected by the Abida tribe.

Yemen's sweep appeared to be the most serious military operation yet by an Arab country against bin Laden's al-Qaida terror network. The United States blames al-Qaida for the Sept. 11 attacks in the United States and a deadly October 2000 attack on a U.S. destroyer that was refueling in Yemen's port of Aden.

# Dems press for tougher gun laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — Armed with a report detailing how terrorists buy guns in the United States, Democrats said Wednesday that stronger federal restrictions on firearms are necessary to homeland security.

"Jihad trainees are instructed to 'obtain an assault rifle legally' and enroll in American gun clubs to take courses in sniping, general shooting and other rifle courses," said Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., referring to training manuals for holy war found in the ruins of a radical Islamic safehouse in Kabul.

Reed has proposed requiring criminal background checks for all sales at gun shows. A competing bill has been introduced by Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., and Rep. Mike Castle, R-Del.

Current law requires licensed gun dealers to run background checks to see if prospective buyers have criminal records. Checks are not required in most states for other sales, including those between private or unlicensed sellers and buyers at gun shows.

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NATION

# Report suggests small nukes to destroy mass-destruction weapons

WASHINGTON - Defense officials are considering the possibility of developing a low-yield nuclear device that would be able to destroy deeply buried stockpiles of chemical or biological weapons.

Such a move would require Congress to lift a 1994 ban on designing new nuclear warheads. In a report to Congress, the Defense Department argues that conventional weapons, while effective for many underground enemy targets, would be unable to destroy the most deeply protected facilities containing biological or chemical agents.

In recent years there has been a growing unease that terror groups or unfriendly, newly nuclear-capable states may be hiding weapons of mass destruction, including chemical and biological weapons, in deep underground facilities.

## Economic stimulus bill hangs up in the House

WASHINGTON - House Republicans walked away from negotiations to spur the economy and instead moved toward approving a tax-cut bill Wednesday night that Democratic leaders called unacceptable and inadequate.

The Republican bill would extend unemployment benefits for 13 weeks, lower the 27 percent income tax rate to 25 percent, and provide breaks for corporations and small businesses. It would give jobless workers a health care tax credit that could be used to purchase health insurance.

The bill was given virtually no chance of passing in the Senate, in view of the opposition of Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., and other Democratic leaders. The GOP had failed to land down the 60 votes needed to win final approval over the leaders' objections.

The continuing clash between members of the two parties, primarily over health care for the unemployed, effectively means Congress will be unable to give the depressed economy a jolt before leaving for the Christmas holidays.

## Study finds way red wine helps fight artery trouble

Researchers say they have discovered the key component in red wine that explains the so-called French Paradox, or the way the French can eat lots of cheese, buttery sauces and other rich foods and still suffer less heart disease than Americans.

The explanation is pigments known as polyphenols. The pigments are not present in white wine or rose, and they seem to be lost before when they are present in grape juice.

### Nation in brief

**Polyphenols inhibit the production of a peptide that contributes to hardening of the arteries, researchers report in today's issue of the journal Nature.**

Other studies have shown red wine helps fight heart disease, and scientists have theorized that the benefits are caused by antioxidant compounds that prevent or slow the damaging effects of oxygen on the body.

### Grand jury: Tyson Foods execs smuggle illegal aliens

WASHINGTON - A federal grand jury in Tennessee indicted executives and managers of Tyson Foods Inc. on charges of conspiring to smuggle illegal aliens to the company's poultry processing plants, the Justice Department said Wednesday.

A 36-count indictment unsealed Wednesday said Tyson's managers tolerated the hiring of illegal aliens to meet production goals and cut costs.

The company aided the immigrants by obtaining false documents so they could work at Tyson poultry processing plants "under the false pretense of conspiring to smuggle illegal aliens to the company," the department said, quoting the indictment.

### NEA denies controversial grant; approves another

WASHINGTON - The National Endowment for the Arts has resolved two controversial grant proposals that had been put on hold by its acting chairman, approving one and rejecting the other.

The agency, which suffered heavy budget cuts in the 1990s

after some members of Congress objected to projects they considered obscene, approved a \$60,000 grant for a production of a new Tony Kushner play about Afghanistan, "Homebody/Kabul."

Kushner's Pulitzer-Prize-winning play "Angels in America" offended some people because of its treatment of homosexuality. The new grant will help fund a production scheduled for April by Berkeley Rep in California.

The agency denied a \$42,000 grant proposal to the Maine College of Art in Portland for an exhibit by performance artist William Pope.L., entitled "William Pope.L. & Racism." In an earlier performance, Pope.L. walked around New York City with a 14-foot white cardboard penis and explained that it was a comment on "the supremacy of white phallicuses."

- compiled from wire reports



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WORLD

# Colombian boy dies without seeing father

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) - A cancer-stricken boy who had begged Colombia's guerrillas to free his kidnapped father so he could spend his final days with him has died without getting to see his dad.

Andres Felipe Perez's pleas to see his policeman father held by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, before he died had become a national crusade in war-weary Colombia.

Lying emaciated on a hospital bed and then in his home, the terminally ill 12-year-old for months was regularly shown on national television.

Children mailed letters to the rebels asking them to grant Andres Felipe's wish. Several prominent Colombians offered to temporarily take the father's place in captivity order to fulfill the child's wish.

To many Colombians, the Andres Felipe's death showed that the FARC had descended to new levels of cruelty.

"They are beasts, all of them, to deny this child something so easy," said Soledad Martinez, a store clerk in Bogota who had followed the story and had asked her own children to pray for the boy and his father.

"Now it's too late," Martinez said.

His dad, police Cpl. Norberto Perez, was captured almost two years ago in a FARC attack on a rural village. The boy had earlier been diagnosed with cancer, and his condition worsened after his father was taken.

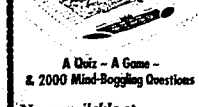
Doctors initially said there was a possibility that Andres Felipe could be saved if Perez donated a kidney to his son. A request was made to the rebels for the release of the father, who is held in isolated jungle prison camps with other

policemen and soldiers captured in Colombia's civil war.

But FARC leaders refused to free him, first insinuating his son was not really sick and demanding that a rebel doctor examine the child. The rebels then tried to exchange Perez for an imprisoned guerrilla.

The government refused, saying the policeman should be released as a humanitarian gesture.

## Educational Insights\*



837 Pocatello Rd. Twin Falls 734-2725

# S.A. fights ruling it must provide key AIDS drug

CAPE TOWN, South Africa (AP) - The South African government said Wednesday it would appeal a court ruling compelling it to provide a key drug to HIV-positive pregnant women that would lower chances of passing the virus on to their children.

The Pretoria High Court ruled Friday that the government had to make the drug nevirapine available countrywide.

"Having examined the reasoning of the judgment and the orders made, we came to the conclusion that this judgment could

have far-reaching implications in defining our constitutional democracy and in shaping the state's responsibility for the delivery of social services," Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang said in a statement.

# Hardships spark riots in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) - Police stormed a city hall in western Argentina on Wednesday where rioting workers trashed their offices, smashing and overturning furniture. The frenzy was the latest as anger over a deep economic decline boiled over around the country.

Earlier, police fired tear gas to quell a looting rampage by some 2,000 people in a commercial district near the capital, Buenos Aires.

Wednesday's unrest came after a weekend of supermarket looting in cities across the South American nation, where Argentines are desperate after four years of recession that has pushed unemployment above 18 percent. The government has partially frozen accounts to halt a rise on the banks.

In the western city of Cordoba, hometown of embattled President Fernando de la Rúa and his increasingly unpopular economy minister, Domingo Cavallo, angry clerks in City Hall rampaged in their offices Wednesday.

Riot police armed with batons and firing rubber bullets seized the building and then fanned out through palm-lined avenues to drive back protesters, who threw stones at police and wielded rifles and what appeared to be tear gas canisters.

There were no immediate reports of casualties. In the run-down shopping district of San Miguel on the northwestern rim of greater Buenos Aires, however, police said five officers were injured in looting.

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Second from the corner on the left

MORNING BREAK

Crossword puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down sections.

Auctions date to 450 B.C.

Earliest auctions in the record at hand go back to 450 B.C. in Babylon where young women in good physical condition were sold on the block.

Advertisement for BridgeView Estates featuring a 'FREE ROOM AT THE INN' and 'Happy Holidays from all the Associates of BridgeView Estates.'

MORNING BREAK

Man wonders how far to go to stop friends' drunk driving

DEAR ABBY: We've all heard the statement, "Friends don't let friends drive drunk." My question is this: To what extent should a friend go in order to prevent someone from driving drunk?

Married Gemini should look for addition to family soon

IF DECEMBER 20TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... you are emotional and loyal, and take promises seriously. You could be on the stage; you instinctively know how to communicate feelings.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Within 24 hours you will be engaged in literature concerning the lives of "mystic" people.

Pet of the Week advertisement for 'Oscar' the terrier, with contact information for TWIN FALLS ANIMAL SHELTER.

TIPS FOR GIVING A CELL PHONE advertisement for A&H Cellular, listing plans and carriers.

Buhl

Advertisement for Calvary Chapel featuring Pastor Brent Huether and Christmas Eve services.

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Advertisement for DAISS INSURANCE AGENCY, listing services and contact information.

Advertisement for Buhl's Only Full Service Station, listing services like gas, oil, and tires.

Large advertisement for Mattawa Golf Course, featuring a map and the slogan 'Putting The Magic In Mattawa'.

Hagerman

Advertisement for Billie Henslee, Sales Representative for The Times-News.

Gooding

Advertisement for Phil's Flowers & Espresso Garden, listing floral services and contact info.

Castleford

Advertisement for The Corner Merc, listing various goods and services.

Wendell

Advertisement for Simerly's Santa's Checklist, listing holiday decorations and gifts.

Valley West Realty

Advertisement for Valley West Realty, listing real estate services and contact info.

IN WENDELL

Advertisement for Video Rental Shop & Gift Store, listing rental services and prices.

Home How-Tos!

ENTERTAINING WITH EASE... Entertain your guests with ease by preparing early. In the weeks for entertaining...

Home How-Tos!

Always take care of a spill as quickly as possible—the longer the spill sets, the harder it will be to remove.

Home How-Tos!

For group stains, apply a dry cleaning solvent made for clothes, using a damp towel. Blot, then repeat the application.

Home How-Tos!

Always take care of a spill as quickly as possible—the longer the spill sets, the harder it will be to remove.

Wendell

Advertisement for The Times-News Business Directory, listing various local businesses.

Seattle's Best Coffee

Advertisement for Farmhouse Family Restaurant & Country Store, listing menu items and location.

Valley West Realty

Advertisement for Valley West Realty, listing real estate services and contact info.

IN WENDELL

Advertisement for Video Rental Shop & Gift Store, listing rental services and prices.

Home How-Tos!

Advertisement for Simerly's Santa's Checklist, listing holiday decorations and gifts.

# COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

## CHRISTMAS HOPE

'Hope Is Born Again' will be presented at 7 p.m. Friday at the King Fine Arts Center in Burley. This original production, presented by Julie Goodfellow, incorporates song, dance, narration and scripture to tell the story of the birth of the Christ child. Tickets can be purchased from Dance Additions in Burley and Welch Music in Burley and Twin Falls, On Stage in Twin Falls, Julie's Danceworks students or by calling 878-3565. Advanced tickets are \$6 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and under and seniors, or \$20 for a family. At the door, the cost is \$9 for adults, \$5 for children and seniors or \$25 for a family.



Photo courtesy of JULIE GOODFELLOW

Members of the Burley High School drama team hold their first place trophy from state drama competition. The team earned the state championship after competitions Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at Nampa. Burley drama students have been state champions for three consecutive years.

## BURLEY HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA

Members of the Burley High School drama team hold their first place trophy from state drama competition. The team earned the state championship after competitions Nov. 30 and Dec. 1 at Nampa. Burley drama students have been state champions for three consecutive years.



BAURIE CHANEY/The Times-News

## People for Pets thanks more people for efforts

People for Pets Humane Society would like to thank some kind and generous people who were inadvertently omitted in our People for Pets Build the Shelter thank you ad. We could not do this tremendous feat without the help of the following:

Russ and Marilyn Lively, Ron and Debbie Miciak, Kevin and Debi Krcal, Bruce Waag, Fred and Pat Harder, Signs Now, Randy Hansen, Walt Sinclair, Lori Head School of Dance, Joyce Ballard, Kelly Klaas, Dr. Szanto, Fred Meyer, Jamille Carvajal, Blue Lakes Country Club and Denise Smith.

**DEBRA BLACKWOOD**  
People for Pets Humane Society  
Twin Falls

## Woman grateful for help given during bad weather

On Thursday morning, Dec. 7, I was northbound on 2500 East at Curry Crossing taking my daughter to day care. I saw a bright red Chevy Lumina coming down the middle of the road. Thinking I had better try to get over in the slush, I realized that they were not moving over or slowing down. The slush grabbed my tires and I fishtailed. I almost swiped them as I tried to regain control.

I couldn't. We 180'ed into a steep little ditch, causing serious damage to my Bonneville. It may be totaled. I am waiting to hear. But just to let you know we are OK.

I saw, however, the red car didn't even brake or stop.

I would truly like to thank Lon, Alexis, Mandi, the gentleman in the brown Dodge utility truck and the gentleman in the snow plow for their selfless assistance.

Also to remind everyone that they are not the only ones on the road in lousy weather.

Thank you,  
**JANETTE ECKLEY**  
Filer

## Man goes to mat with praise for wrestling tourney

I would like to thank the Minidoka School District for putting on a great wrestling tournament.

Saturday, Dec. 8 was the Magic Valley Conference Junior High Championship Wrestling Tournament. It was held at the Minico High School and was a great success. Everything went smooth and the student athletes had a great time.

Congratulations to all the athletes. Win or lose, it takes a lot of guts to step on the mat one-on-one with an opponent. I am proud of every wrestler that stepped on the mat. You participated in a sport that most kids are afraid to even try.

**JOHN LENKER**  
Jerome

## Thanks to help, motorcycle club collects toys for locals

Brother Speed Motorcycle Club would like to thank everyone who attended this year's Toy Run. Thank you to all of the local businesses for supporting us with donations and raffle items:

King's, Royce and Sons, Kmart, Subway, Snake River Sports, Second Look, M.H. Jones Farms, East End Electric, Snake River Bowl, Pawn 'N Consignment, Plaza Pub, Scottie's Cycle of Twin Falls.

With your help, we donated more than \$2,500 of toys to local families and made a cash donation to a Declo teen-ager with cancer.

Thanks again for all your support.

**JOHNNY GAMBOA**  
Burley

## TF Optimist Turkey shoot helps area young people

We would like to give thanks to the following businesses and organizations for helping the Twin Falls Optimist Club with the 16th Annual Wayne Kinney Memorial Turkey Shoot.

The Twin Falls Gun Club for

its generous help and support every year; Red's Trading Post for the donations of the guns for the raffle; and Magic Valley Printing for the donation of the raffle tickets and fliers.

We would also like to thank all the people for attending the event on Dec. 2. The money raised from this event will help the Optimists in their various youth projects, including Coats for Kids, annual Halloween Safety Fair, Respect for Law Week, Easter Egg Hunt and Always Buckle Children (ABC) in the back seat.

**DENNIS J. BOWYER**  
JOHN HEAD  
Co-Chairmen  
Optimist Club  
Twin Falls

## Skeet shoots raise money for CARE, safe kids coalition

Thank you, Magic Valley, for making the Junior Club's Fifth Annual Skeet Shoot successful. We especially thank the participants and the Twin Falls Gun Club for helping us to raise money for two very worthy causes - Children at Risk Evaluation Services and the Magic Valley Safe Kids Coalition.

A hearty thanks also goes to The Prime Cut, Randy Hansen, Eduardo's, Wendy's, Jack-in-the-Box, Snake River Grill, Dunky's Drought House, Applebee's, Outback Steakhouse, Gertie's Brick Oven Cookery, The Royal, Pizza Hut on an Addison Avenue, Victorious Fish Tacos, Perkins Family Restaurant, Rainbow Fly Shop, Uptown Bistro, The Pressbox, Simerly's Sporting Goods, Falls Brand and The Times-News.

The generosity of these businesses speaks volumes on the quality of our community.

**STACY MADSEN**  
Junior Club  
Twin Falls

**Grocery store shows charity all around for Salvation Army**

I would like to thank the Smith's Food and Drug Store

here in Twin Falls for its help in the recent past, for what they are doing now and what they have pledged to do for the rest of the year.

At the beginning of this year, Smith's pledged the charitable counter collections to The Salvation Army.

Then they allowed us to use their store parking lot for the collection of canned goods during the community-wide Postal Food Drive.

Next they had a promotion for us matching "dollars for pounds" and, lastly, the corporation and the local store let The Salvation Army put kettles in front of their store during the Christmas season here in Twin Falls and Burley.

So thanks again to the Smith's Corp. and its employees for benefiting the people of our community.

**ELMER HAGERTY**  
Advisory Board Chairman  
Twin Falls Corps, Salvation Army  
Twin Falls

## Job's Daughters Bethel 56 appreciates project help

Job's Daughters Bethel 56 of Twin Falls wishes to thank all in the community who support our Bethel by buying Christmas wreaths and garlands each year. Ten percent of all profits will be given to charity, and it is our major fund-raiser for Bethel activities for the coming year.

This year, money will be given to the Southern Idaho Learning Clinic, the Ike Kistler Safe House, and to the charity chosen by the spring term Honored Queen.

Additionally, we would like to acknowledge Magic Valley Storage, Culligan Water Softeners and The Times-News for their help with this project.

Thanks again to everyone for supporting Job's Daughters in the Magic Valley.

**BROOKE JARDINE**  
Honored Queen, Bethel 56  
Twin Falls

## Jessica seeks family who shares her heritage

Personality: Christmas can be a difficult time for Jessica. It was about this time last year when she realized she and 13 year-old brother, Joseph, could not return home.

Coming from a Native-American culture where family ties are close, Jessica feels this loss deeply.

Her close, nurturing relationship with Joseph sustains them. She is committed to finding an adoptive family who shares their heritage.

Jessica's caution and reserve gives way to trust and confidence when she senses acceptance. She can also be a loyal and compassionate friend.

Interests: Jessica's ability to sink baskets from the free-throw line has helped her junior high school basketball team secure a

### Thursday's Child



Jessica Age 14

7-2 winning season. She also likes to play volleyball. Her artistic ability and need for solitude are evident when she draws landscape scenes or

writes in her journal.

Special needs: Jessica needs a strong Native American parent who will help her believe in her future without ignoring positive ties to extended family members in Idaho.

She needs a single parent or a couple in a committed relationship.

A strong female role model could help her overcome worry, establish safe boundaries, and build self-esteem.

Jessica needs an educational advocate to help her work within an Individual Educational Plan.

"Thursday's Child" profiles children awaiting adoption. For more information about this child or others, call the Idaho CareLine at 1-800-926-2588.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

**St. Edward's must take Mass reservations**

TWIN FALLS - Due to the recent move and enforced restrictions on seating in the St. Edward the Confessor Parish Hall Chapel, all masses for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day will be by reservation only. Reservations can be picked up from 152 7th Ave. E. until Friday noon.

**Times-News deadlines change for the holidays**

TWIN FALLS - Because of the holiday, deadlines for the community page have been changed. Items for the Saturday or Tuesday page are due by today at noon. For more information, call 735-3288 or e-mail to patm@magivalley.com

**CSI schedules evening EMT courses spring semester**

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho Emergency Medical Technician program will offer evening classes for the first time during the spring semester.

Instructor Dennis Patterson welcomes inquiries about the new schedule, and the program and career opportunities.

Only the entry-level EMT program will be offered in the

evening. Successful completion of the basic training allows the student to become a member of an emergency squad, join a fire department or work on an ambulance. Advanced EMT and paramedic programs, as well as First Responder courses, are offered during daytime hours.

The new evening EMT program will be offered from 6-10 p.m. Thursdays with a required lab from 6-10 p.m. on either Tuesdays or Fridays. Following 120 hours of classroom and lab instruction, the candidate may take the National Registry test.

Spring semester classes begin at CSI on Jan. 21. For information, call Dennis Patterson at 733-9554, Ext. 2712 or by email at dpatterson@csi.edu

**Burley Library welcomes visit from Santa on Friday**

BURLEY - The Burley Public Library will host a visit from Santa Claus at story time at 10:30 a.m. Friday.

Story time is intended for babies and toddlers up to age 6 and their care providers. The public is welcome.

The library will be open special holiday hours. The library will close at 5:30 p.m. Thursday for the annual staff and library board holiday get-together. The

library will be closed Monday and Tuesday for Christmas. On Wednesday, on Dec. 26 and Dec. 31, the library will close at 6 p.m. The library will be open on Dec. 28 and Dec. 29 for normal operating hours.

The library will resume winter operating hours Jan. 2, 2002. The hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

**Burley LDS stake presents annual Christmas concert**

BURLEY - The Burley Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will present its annual Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the Stake Center, 2050 Normal Ave., Burley.

Those performing include the Stake Choir, under the direction of Jeff Rasmussen with accompanist, Roxanne Dimond; Soft Touch; the Extension Chords; soloist Jacques Lee; a violin, flute and piano trio, Jolene Hobson, Colleen McGill and Marilyn Whiting; and Wayna McGill and Jeff Rasmussen performing a piano/organ duet. Wayne and Nancy Blauer have written and will present the narration.

The community is invited to attend free of charge.

## Watershed Watch Alerts Idaho Clients

**Moffatt Thomas Partner Scott Campbell**

**Is Recognized Leader in Water, Environmental Law**

Moffatt Thomas Barrett Rock & Fields, Chtd., has been strengthened by its new partner Scott Campbell, a leading voice in the region in water and environmental law for two decades.

- Campbell's Watershed Watch seminar informed water rights holders how their property rights could be affected by the complex Snake River Basin Adjudication process moving upstream.
- Campbell is helping clients anticipate and deal with imminent government restrictions that may be imposed if drought conditions continue this winter.
- Legal issues involving the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, and water rights litigation are the areas of major emphasis in his practice.
- Clients in land use development disputes can take advantage of his prior experience as the Chief Civil Deputy of the Ada County Prosecuting Attorney and his service on the Ada County Planning and Zoning Commission.

Moffatt Thomas has been helping clients in business, litigation, finance and industry since 1954, and is expanding its reach across Idaho. In addition to its Boise headquarters office, Moffatt Thomas has full-service offices in Pocatello and Idaho Falls.

**Moffatt Thomas**

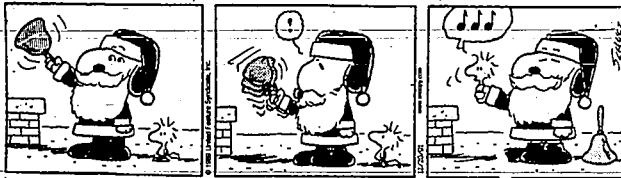
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COMICS

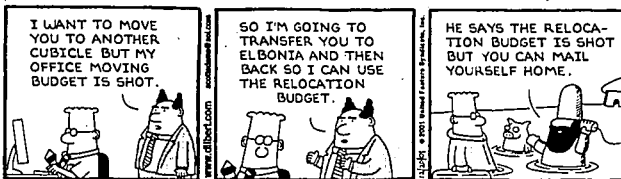
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



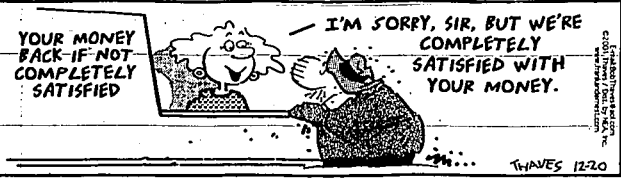
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



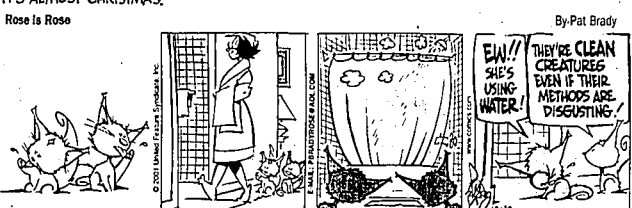
The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



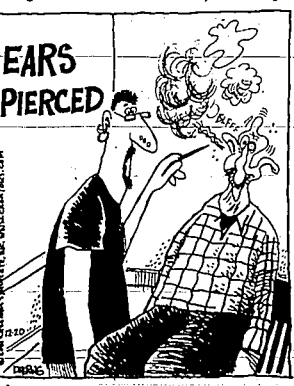
Luan

By Greg Evans



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequiter

By Wiley





## EDITORIAL

### Common interests should unite local animal groups

Everyone knows that an animal isn't a pet until it has a home. So anything that helps needy cats and dogs toward happy lives is worthwhile.

But quibbling over philosophical differences doesn't help. Though the People for Pets Humane Society and the Sheena Foundation do admirable work to place homeless animals and reduce animal overpopulation, the two groups need to resolve their differences for the sake of the animals they want to help.

The divide between the two animal groups centers mostly on the proposed operations and size of a new animal shelter for the community - a goal both groups share.

People for Pets, which operates the current shelter in Twin Falls, has done a commendable job of working on tight funding for more than a decade. But the shelter could do more to make pet adoptions more accessible.

Its hours of operation don't coincide with most working people's schedules. Not being open on Saturday, the only day when many prospective owners can look for pets, doesn't help. (The Humane Society of the United States recommends a shelter be open one weekend day, and also to 7 p.m. one night a week.)

Complaints have also been made from the community that it's too difficult to adopt a pet. The People For Pets undoubtedly wants good owners for pets, but the application and

selection process doesn't need to be so complicated. A willing and responsible owner-to-be should encounter a welcoming, user-friendly reception at the pound.

A new shelter may offer opportunities for other improvements - such as soliciting pet food donations and recruiting volunteers. A governing structure open to broad community input, perhaps with appointments from the city and county, could bring more diverse ideas. It also might ease the burden on those who have put so much work into our animal shelter.

Allegations that People for Pets has been excessive in its payroll and other spending are unfair and unkind. Working on a shoestring budget, director Laurie Simonds and her staff have made a noticeable difference at the shelter since taking over 14 years ago.

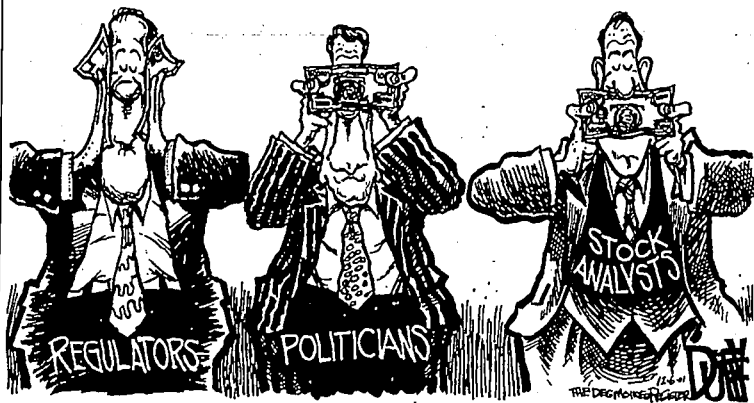
Staff members have always made extra efforts to show animals to prospective owners, even during non-business hours.

As with any public operation, improvements can always be made. And in the current drive for public donations, the two organizations will be more effective if they pool their efforts.

For the sake of the community and the animals they seek to serve, Sheena and People for Pets should negotiate a reconciliation.

*People for Pets and the Sheena Foundation have the same goal for a new animal shelter. Working out differences would be beneficial to them both.*

### WHY THERE WAS NO WARNING OF ENRON'S COLLAPSE



### Enron's fall reveals the deception of stock markets

The collapse of the energy company Enron has inevitably become a metaphor for many of the sins of modern capitalism. It may be, but the story is more complicated than a simple tale of victims and villains.

Capitalism derives its strength from the power of self-interest and the ingenuity of the human spirit. But its weaknesses also stem from human nature, which can convert the quest for riches into self-deception and dishonesty. The dangers mount in periods of economic and financial exhilaration when - as we've just experienced - the stock market seems the fastest path to instant wealth. People yearn for their pot of gold and, to get it, stretch rules and lapse into wishful thinking.

The cult of share prices seduced managerial elites, ordinary investors and workers alike with often-disastrous consequences. Among top corporate managers, it led to widespread embellishing and doctoring of financial reports. Accounting rules were twisted or evaded to enhance reported profits, because higher profits would (presumably) mean higher share prices. Creative obscurity became commonplace. The same spirit gripped many investors and workers. People suspended skepticism and counted their paper profits. The dot-com and telecom debacles are well-documented results. Now Enron joins the list.

To work well, capitalism needs accurate information. Even with ideal information, markets make mistakes. But false or misleading information compounds the dangers, and the booming stock market inspired a boom in misleading information. The Securities and Exchange Commission and the Financial Accounting Standards Board, an accountants' self-policing organization, did little to check these abuses.

At its peak, the company's stock traded at \$90 a share; now it's selling for about 50 cents. The simplest explanation



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

for its bankruptcy is a loss of credibility in its financial statements. On Oct. 16, the company announced it would take a \$1 billion charge to reflect losses in "broadband" communication and water businesses, among others. It also announced another \$1.2 billion loss on a transaction outside its balance sheet. On Nov. 8, the company said its profits from 1997 to 2000 had been overstated by \$591 million.

Though large, these losses shouldn't have single-handedly devastated a company that had reported \$2.7 billion in profits between 1997 and 2000 and claimed year-end 2000 stockholders' equity of \$11.5 billion. (Stockholders' equity is the difference between what a company owns and what it owes.) But the revelations destroyed the faith of customers and creditors in Enron's numbers. Were other losses lurking? If you fear not being paid, you stop dealing with Enron or lending to it. Once that happened, the company collapsed. The skepticism was warranted. At the end of 2000, Enron reported debts of \$10.2 billion on its balance sheet. In its bankruptcy filing, it listed debts of almost \$40 billion, including \$22 billion on its balance sheet, nearly \$7 billion "off balance sheet" and almost \$11 billion for "project financings."

Among the collapse's biggest casualties are the workers who lost jobs (about 5,600 so far, including 1,100 in Europe) and had their retirement savings wiped out. Many were dangerously overinvested in the company's stock. About 58 percent of the assets of the company's 401(k) retirement plan were invested in

Enron stock, reports a survey by DC Plan Investing, a newsletter. But Enron wasn't exceptional. The survey found that 95 percent of Procter & Gamble's plan was in company stock, 77 percent of General Electric's and 54 percent of Dell Computer's. No matter how well-run the companies, these high dependencies are risky. "A lot of employees invest in the company stock if they like the company," says Louis Berney, the newsletter's editor. "It's a crime perpetrated by the employees against themselves."

Lawsuits may uncover wrongdoing, but outwardly, Enron's 401(k) program seems fairly typical, says Jack VanDerhei, a pension expert at Temple University. According to company spokesman Mark Palmer, Enron matched employee investments with a 50 percent stock contribution: If I invested \$5,000, Enron would put up 2,500 in stock. The stock contributed by the company could not be sold until a worker reached 50; but there were 20 investment choices - including buying Enron stock - for personal contributions. True, there was a total trading ban from Oct. 29 through Nov. 12, because the plan's outside administrator was being changed. But, says Palmer, investors had been informed of a ban. They could have sold anytime earlier.

Enron's downfall stemmed mainly from its own mistakes. Whether some corporate officials crossed the line between creative obscurity and illegal concealment is an open question. But in a larger sense, the collapse reflected the financial fever of the past decade. Those who glorify capitalism's triumphs often forget that it's also vulnerable to the frailties of human nature. Pursuing self-enrichment, people often follow the path of least resistance. It sometimes leads to a cliff.

Robert Samuelson is a columnist for Newsweek.

## The Times-News

Stephen Hargren, Publisher

Clark Walworth, Managing editor Mike Smit, Advertising director

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hargren, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, David Cooper and Shelley Ridenour.

### Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who

sign letters with false names will be permanently banned from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Boise office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

## LETTER

### You can't fight evil with evil, Potter

Potter, and we have difficult lives. Wizard Voldemort killed Harry's parents. Aunt Petunia, Uncle Vernon and Cousin Dudley believe his family. He lived in a closet, little food and lived horribly. No loving family. Family hadn't taught him where "true power" comes from.

Harry was 11, magic began. He received a letter and discovered he had special powers. Hogwarts School invited him to study with them. He did. Met new friends and didn't feel a "nobody." A new family! Magical adventures, dreams fulfilled. Sounds great, huh!

Now wait! Life's not easy. Harry's friends are wizards and witches. Wizards are sorcerers, devily and witchcraft. Witches are sorcerers, a bedevil, into demonology, witchcraft, hoodoo, voodoo and levitation. Harry and buddies try doing good and try to defeat evil. Scriptural minds know evil can't be fought with evil. Wizards, witches aren't good, says almighty God. Dictionaries point this out with definitions. Witchcraft operating in people isn't getting power from God. The Bible says any power that isn't coming from God is evil. Want God's protection? Don't do these things. "Let no one be found among you who sacrifices his son

or daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft or casts spells or who is a medium or spiritist or who consults the dead. Anyone who does these things is detestable (hateful) to the Lord - You must be blameless before the Lord your God." (Deuteronomy 18:10-13, NIV)

We're not to do things that God says, "No." Don't do witchcraft, magic or wizardry.

You don't have a family who loves or protects you? Do you have a wonderful family? You'll get lonely. We have, "I'm a nobody," "nobody cares" or "nobody notices me" feelings. We know that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob understands. His promise: "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you."

Teach children about Dudley's out there doing wrong stuff making lives miserable. We bully and do mean things. The Bible says, "These are sins." Hurting and fearful things happen. We hurt by the sins that others do. When we sin, we earn what it pays. God says, repent, sin no more.

God's power overcomes, nothing or nobody else's. God said it, that settles it.

HELEN MACDONALD, Rupert

### People for Pets seeks solution

As a volunteer and committee member of the People for Pets Building Fund, I would like to respond to the letter written by Robert Powers.

The city and county of Twin Falls are in desperate need of a new animal shelter. The current facility does not provide accessibility to handicapped individuals, it is severely out of compliance with building codes, and it is too small to house and sustain the large number of animals brought to it that are homeless, abused, vicious and/or injured. All options have been looked at, and it has been determined that repairs and additions are not a viable option. Nor the facility does meet the requirements as set forth by the veterinarian. All of the aforementioned reasons contribute

## LETTER

### to the limited hours opened to the public.

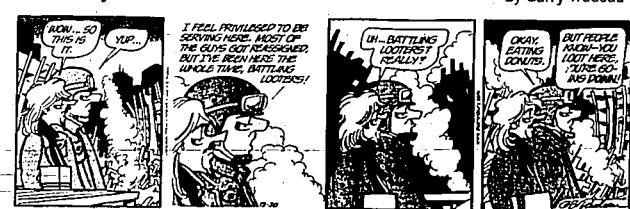
The People for Pets Building Fund is a group of community volunteers who are donating our time, effort and money to correct a situation that was not caused by us. We are local people trying to promote responsible ownership of animals. We encourage animal owners to spay and neuter their pets as a means to control an exploding animal population. We are people willing to accept the task of solving a problem that has been ignored by city and county officials for far too long. We are volunteers trying to raise money to build a new shelter that is open six days a week with extended business hours. All of our efforts are to accomplish the goal of finding loving and caring homes for the animals and, at the same time, provide a safe environment for the employ-

### ees and the public.

We are a local group of people that do not have bad intentions but only a desire to make an improvement in our community. What is difficult to understand is why anyone would want to spend their time attempting to create dissension in our community with the ultimate goal being to thwart the efforts of a group of well-meaning volunteers. Since the tragedy that occurred on Sept. 11, I have seen people come together and, from the worst of humanity, we have seen the best of humanity. A much-needed new animal shelter can be a reality if we all work together.

Shame on you, Robert Powers and the 19 others!  
BRETT GIES  
Twin Falls

### Doonesbury



### By Garry Trudeau

### Mallard Fillmore



### By Bruce Tinsley

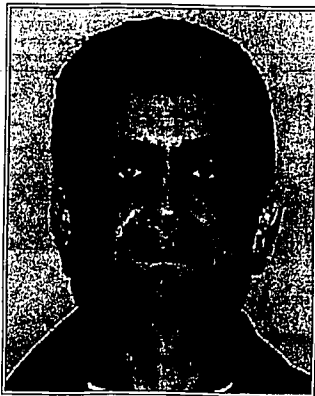
What Can You Do?

# HE WAS SPOTTED IN HAMBURG, PRAGUE, FLORIDA, AND MAINE. AND IF SOMEONE HAD CALLED US, HIS PICTURE WOULDN'T BE SPOTTED IN THIS AD.

He lived among us, attending classes, shopping at the mall, eating pizza, going out now and then with friends. It seemed as though there was nothing special about him.

What might have tipped someone off that something was not right? What signs might have caused concern?

Was it that he, was asking questions about things way out of his league? Or the fact that he insisted on learning to pilot a plane, even though he apparently had no talent for it? That he said he wanted to learn to fly but didn't need to know how to take off and land? That he was interested in crop-dusting—an obviously risky endeavor—when he couldn't even get a plane off the ground?



Or was it that he paid only cash—and plenty of it—for his rooms, cars, tuition, and airline tickets? Or that he had a constant string of roommates who rotated through?

Sometimes you spot things that just don't add up. And that's the time to give us a call. In 22 cases to date, people have called or otherwise been in touch, with critical information that led to

solving an international terrorist crime or frustrating a planned international terrorist act. Simply because they noticed something that just wasn't right.

If your phone call could have made a difference—if you had the power to make September 11th just like any other day—you'd do it, wouldn't you?

## REWARDS UP TO \$25 MILLION

**CONTACT:** Your local police, the FBI, or the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consulate. **CALL:** 1-800-USREWARDS. **E-MAIL:** [mail@rewardsforjustice.net](mailto:mail@rewardsforjustice.net). Rewards of up to \$25 million, protection of your identity, and relocation of your family may be available for persons providing information that prevents an international terrorist act against U.S. persons or property or brings to justice persons who have committed one. To date, more than \$8 million has been paid.

YOUR CALL OR E-MAIL WILL BE KEPT STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL.

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1.800.USREWARDS  
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U.S. Department of State

NATION

# Following the terror road map

Millennium bomb plot convict trod a familiar path

BOU ISMAEL, Algeria (AP) — For Ahmed Ressaam's family, it is hard to reconcile the memories of a talkative and athletic boy with the man caught trying to bring explosives into the United States to commit terrorist acts on the eve of the millennium.

But Ressaam's journey from this impoverished Algerian town was similar to that taken by many poor, young Algerians who grew up amid a brutal civil war in the early 1990s. His descent into international terrorism was all too natural, some analysts say.

Ressaam, 34, was arrested two years ago in Port Angeles, Wash., with a trunkload of explosives — apparently intended to blow up Los Angeles' airport among other targets on New Year's Eve 1999. He was convicted in April and is awaiting trial with authorities in an effort to reduce a 130-year prison term.

Ressaam's testimony is being used in a case against Zacarias Moussoui, a Moroccan descent under arrest in the United States and charged with conspiracy to murder thousands in connection with the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. Ressaam has told authorities he met Moussoui at a terrorist training camp in Afghanistan, a senior U.S. law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

Still, Ressaam's family says they can't believe he is a terrorist.

"We don't believe it, even now. We know our brother," said 31-year-old Kamel, one of Ahmed Ressaam's four brothers and two sisters. He spoke at the family's four-room home in a poor section of this Mediterranean coastal town, 30 miles west of Algiers.

Ressaam's path changed in 1992 when the then annually elections that a radical Islamic party was poised to win. The move began a decade of civil war in which 130,000 people have been killed.

The young Ressaam — who had failed his final high school exam and was helping his father run the family's small cafe — joined Algeria's radical Islamic movement, according to France's intelligence agency.

Hounded by an army crackdown, he left home and set out for Europe and then Canada.

Ressaam's family says they know nothing of his ties to extremists in Algeria and insists he went abroad to look for a job.

But Ressaam made his way to a terrorist training camp in Afghanistan and was eventually enlisted to help carry out the millennium terrorist plot, which authorities believe Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network was behind. The plot unraveled with Ressaam's arrest.

The stream of Algerians into international terrorist organizations has not abated. Since Sept. 11, more than two dozen Algerians and other North Africans have been detained for alleged connections to al-Qaida. It was not unusual for Algerians to go to Afghanistan.

Some 3,000 Algerians went to help fight against the occupying Soviets, and about 1,000 stayed on at the end of the war, according to Salima Tlemceni, a reporter for the daily newspaper El Watan. As Algeria's Islamic insurgency grew, more headed to Afghanistan for training, said Tlemceni, who has covered Algeria's Islamic insurgency since it began.

Trained for war, they returned home to bolster Algeria's insurgency fighters like the Armed Islamic Group, or GIA, known for its brutal massacres. Others went to Bosnia, or to the West to join GIA support groups. Others, like Ressaam, veered toward terrorism with an international profile.

**Soldier of Fortune** magazine sees boom

DENVER (AP) — Interest in the adventure and military magazine Soldier of Fortune has boomed since the Sept. 11 attacks sparked a new wave of patriotism and Americans turned their attention to the war in Afghanistan.

Magazine subscriptions sold over its Web site have increased from two to three to as many as 25 a day.

# MAKING WATER



U.S. Navy Chief Petty Officer Tony Williams, left, of Norristown, Penn., works with Mujahadeen freedom fighters, left to right, Ruzeo Khan, Mahamad Sadek, Achikula, and Mahamad Anwar, as they hand crank a Chinese made engine used to pump water from a cistern at the Kandahar International Airport in Kandahar, Afghanistan, on Wednesday. The Mujahadeen were helping the U.S. Navy Seabees establish water service at the airfield. The Mujahadeen fighters have intimate knowledge of conditions of the airfield after battling the Taliban and Soviets for years.

## Officials say fires at ground zero have died

NEW YORK (AP) — The stubborn fires that have burned beneath the ruins of the World Trade Center for the past three months are finally out, officials said Wednesday.

Fire Department spokesman Robert Calise said it is possible that some small pockets might still be burning, "but we consider the fire to be out."

Calise said a firetruck remains on standby at the site.

The smoldering fires were fueled by such things as documents and office furniture.

Meanwhile, the city's tally of people killed or missing in the attacks has fallen to 3,000 — down from its high of 6,700 in September.

City officials have said there are a number of reasons for the steadily declining number: names listed more than once on missing person-reports, overest-

imates from some foreign consulates and families who filed early missing reports but neglected to notify police when loved ones turned up safe.

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# Firefighters help two fatherless boys in NYC

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — When Karen Diaz learned she was in the advanced stages of breast cancer a year ago, the Brooklyn mom began the agonizing process of preparing her two young sons for life without her.

"Mommy's sick," she told Michael, 7, and Christopher, 4, again and again. "I might not be here, but Daddy will always be here to take care of you."

Her husband, Matthew, also reassured his boys: "We'll always be a family," he would say.

Then, early on Sept. 11, Matthew Diaz, 33, a union carpenter, was asked for a favor by his foreman: Could he finish laying some tile in the 10th-floor offices of Cantor Fitzgerald? Diaz was killed in the terrible minutes after the World Trade Center was attacked.

"My mommy was supposed to die first, not Daddy," Michael keeps telling his grandmother, Florence Kniff, 59.

One night last week, Kniff overheard Christopher whispering to a picture of his father, as the boy lay in bed. "Do you have a bed in heaven, Daddy? Is the food good?" Christopher asked. "Please, can you come home?"

As they face their first Christmas without their father — and possibly their last Christmas with their mother — Michael and Christopher have been adopted by a group that also has seen more than its share of loss: the firefighters of Ladder Co. 147 and Engine Co. 281.

Sometime this week, two dozen firefighters plan to surprise the brothers with an early visit from Santa, who will land on their roof, courtesy of a tower ladder. "These kids' father might not have been a fireman, but he's still not going to be home on Christmas," said Ladder 147 firefighter Bobby Fraumeni, a 20-year FDNY veteran. "That guy's family deserves the same as everyone else's family."

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# MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

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City Editor: Chad Balkin, 733-0931, Ext. 234

The Times-News

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Section B

## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Collision kills one, leaves two critical

GOODING - A head-on crash Tuesday near Gooding left one Magic Valley man dead and two others suffering from critical injuries, according to the Idaho State Police.

James Hollifield, 50, of Gooding died at the scene on Idaho Highway 46 about two miles south of Gooding, according to the ISP. Jason Applewhite, 27, of Kimberly was listed in critical condition late Wednesday at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, and Stanley Born, 42, of Gooding was in critical condition at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, hospital spokeswoman said.

Applewhite was driving a United Parcel Service van southbound at about 4:43 p.m. when he apparently lost control and the van crossed into oncoming traffic, according to the ISP. It collided head-on with the Dodge pickup Hollifield was driving with Born as a passenger. Born might not have been wearing a seat belt, but Hollifield and Applewhite were, according to the ISP. The airbags in Hollifield's truck failed to deploy.

The accident was still being investigated Wednesday with weather and road conditions as possible causes. Citations were pending, according to the ISP.

### SIRCOMM board of directors confirms names

TWIN FALLS - The board of directors for the regional 911 dispatch center confirmed at Wednesday's board meeting the names of three center employees who were recently suspended.

The suspended employees include Gloria Falconburg, the operations manager for the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center; Jeff Rodeman, the center's director; and Chantel Smith, a dispatch shift supervisor, the board said.

The board of directors recently decided to put three of the dispatch center's employees on paid administrative leave. Board members and other officials previously declined to say who were suspended.

They have also declined to say whether the suspensions and a subsequent inquiry had anything to do with a strip-tease dancer's performance last month at the dispatch center.

### SAFE KIDS moves to new location at MVRMC

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley SAFE KIDS Coalition has moved to a new location on Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's main campus.

The new office is located at 698 Addison Ave. W., the former pediatric building at the corner of Martin Street and Addison.

The Magic Valley SAFE KIDS Coalition provides educational materials, classes and assistance to both individuals and families on injury prevention programs for children. Preventable injuries are the leading killer of children ages 14 and under, according to a hospital news release.

SAFE KIDS offers safety programs on a variety of topics including bicycles, fire and water safety, sports, firearms, home, farm, playground, motor vehicle, animal and child safety seats.

SAFE KIDS also provides low-cost safety equipment for families of all income levels. This equipment includes infant, convertible and booster car safety seats, gun locks, bicycle helmets, snow and ski helmets and seat belt covers.

SAFE KIDS-trained safety seat technicians can inspect and show parents how to install children's safety seats. The free service is available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

For more information about the Magic Valley SAFE KIDS Coalition, call 737-2430 or stop in at the new office.

### Groups still need coats for needy children

TWIN FALLS - The Jerome and Twin Falls Optimists clubs are in need of coats for the "Coats for Kids" program.

Children's small sizes are especially needed as well as gloves, hats and boots. Used items in need of mending are also welcome.

For more information, call Sheri Mitchell at 734-2552 or Lori Daniels at 324-7000.

# Officials seek dairy lawsuit dismissal

By Sandy Miller  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - County Commissioners Gary Grindstaff, Bill Brockman and Marvin Hempleman have denied every allegation of a lawsuit filed by a group of dairy operators and business owners.

The commissioners want the lawsuit dismissed, and they want their legal fees reimbursed. Twin Falls County Chief Civil Deputy Attorney Rosemary Emory filed the commissioners' response to the lawsuit Monday.

County commissioners said they could not comment on the lawsuit Tuesday.

The lawsuit says commissioners broke Idaho law when they enacted five consecutive moratoriums that halted construction of new dairies and expansion of existing operations. The complaint was filed Nov. 21 by the Idaho Dairywomen's Association, Glanbia Foods Inc., dairy operators Michael and Valerie Quesnell and John and Mary Nunes, heifer operation owners David and Leslie Snelson, Clear Creek Loan and Mortgage owner Jack McCall

and radio and television broadcaster Zeb Bell.

The lawsuit alleges that the moratoriums placed invalid, overly restrictive regulatory controls upon pre-existing business operations of dairies in Twin Falls County to such an extent that it injured their constitutional and statutory rights.

The plaintiffs' attorney, Scott Campbell of Boise, told *The Times-News* earlier this month that Idaho law only allows emergency moratoriums and interim moratoriums. County commissioners approved five consecutive moratoriums - the first in July 2000 and the fifth in October of this year.

The plaintiffs cited different reasons for how the moratoriums have hurt their businesses, and all are outlined in the lawsuit.

The Idaho Dairywomen's Association, which represents dairy owners and operators, says the moratoriums injured their members' constitutional and statutory rights.

The Quesnells say they've been unable to construct a new dairy, which would allow their son to join them on the family

dairy farm. The Nunes say they've been unable to expand their existing dairy and thus successfully complete an Internal Revenue Code section 1031.

The Snelsons say they've been unable to expand their replacement heifer operation to make it more viable and profitable.

McCall, who specializes in agricultural loans, says the moratoriums have caused a large drop in the volume and monetary quality of loan applications for new dairies. *See page B3.*

# Home for Christmas



Darrell and Sharlene Combs and their sons Junior and Christopher listen to the dedication prayer for their new Habitat for Humanity home on Wednesday afternoon. The family put in many hours of labor over the required number and are looking forward to Christmas in their new home.

## MV Habitat for Humanity dedicates a new house Wednesday

By Carol Stephens  
Times-News Correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Eleven-year-old Junior Combs hopes to be in his new home for his 12th birthday. That's Christmas Day, but the chances are iffy.

His parents, Darrell and Sharlene Combs, have been working hard to have their Habitat for Humanity home finished, but "some" things are beyond their control.

At the home's Wednesday dedication ceremony, Lorraine Smith, president of the Habitat for Humanity of Magic Valley affiliate (HFHMV), said all the

work is usually finished by the dedication, but this time there are some finishing touches still needed before the Combs can move in.

Carol Robertson, HFHMV treasurer, said some work on the kitchen sink needs to be finished and the plumbing inspected. Both front and back steps must be in place, the sidewalk laid, and a certificate of occupancy obtained before the Combs can move in, but Robertson said she hopes that can all be done before Christmas and if not then, by New Year's.

Chuck Taylor, a builder who volunteers his time to oversee

the building of HFHM homes, said if a cement sidewalk can't go in now, he'll put a boardwalk in until the ground warms up in the spring.

Meanwhile, the living room and hall of the new home was filled Wednesday with more people than there was room. Some stood outside the front door for the dedication. Rev. Curtis Webb offered a prayer and Rev. Jerry Steele blessed the house. Kent said, executive director of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, and chamber ambassadors had a ribbon cutting.

"Usually we cut the ribbon when a business has invested in

the community. This time the community has invested in a home. We like that," Just said during the ceremony.

The community and a number of businesses have invested in HFHM. Smith said the Combs put in well over the 500 hours of sweat equity that is used in place of a down payment. In October, Sharlene Combs said the family had put in more than 1,000 hours on their home and the home next to it. Since then, they've added many more hours to that. "Every bit of work in the world won't make a house, if you don't have money," Smith said. "We want to

*See page B3.*

## District judge: Simplot can choose new energy supplier, but can't get reparations

By Nate Johnson  
Times-News writer

RUPERT - A district judge's ruling Monday on a lawsuit filed by J.R. Simplot Co. against the city of Heyburn was both a loss and a victory for each side.

"On the face of it we're pleased with the ruling, but we haven't had time to delve into it," said David Hawk, Simplot's director of energy and natural resources.

The lawsuit claims the electric rates set by the city of Heyburn are unreasonable. If Simplot should succeed in showing Heyburn's electrical rates are unfair, 5th District Judge John Melanson's ruling says the court may authorize Simplot to change to a new electrical supplier. However, the company would not be entitled to judicially-imposed reparations for overcharges.

Melanson granted Simplot's

motion for partial summary judgment, declaring the rights of each side to be determined under Idaho Code 61-334A, regarding municipal power, rather than an amended version of the law.

The law gives aggrieved consumers the right to change electrical suppliers upon court approval. The amended version of this law does not provide for change in electrical suppliers; instead, if the city adjusts its rates, the court determines they are unfair.

In granting Simplot's motion, Melanson denied Heyburn's motion for summary judgment, which asked the court to apply the amended law.

The amended statute did not meet the conditions necessary for retroactive application, Melanson wrote.

"Idaho, statutes adopted by the Legislature are not retroactive 'unless expressly declared' ... Nevertheless, courts have created an 'exception. Statutes

which are remedial or procedural in nature, and do not create, enlarge, diminish or destroy contractual rights, may operate retroactively," Melanson wrote.

The amendment of I.C. 61-334A, which was not expressly retroactive, affected both procedural and contractual rights, Melanson wrote.

"While the new statute does provide a change in procedural rights ... it also changes the possible outcome of the litigation (the right to choose a new supplier as opposed to the right to judicial review of rates)," Melanson wrote.

Melanson did grant Heyburn's motion for summary judgment as to whether Simplot could assert a common-law claim for reparations against the city, and dismissed Simplot's claim for reparations. Simplot had sought reparations from the city for rates

## Burley Council continues economic development talks

By Shelley Ridenour  
Times-News writer

BURLEY - City Council members agreed Tuesday to continue discussing whether the city should have a role in the community's economic development issues.

At a previous council meeting, Councilman Curt Mendenhall said the council wanted to hear from residents about what role, if any, the city should play in economic development.

A few residents spoke at Tuesday's council meeting, but no sort of consensus was reached. Truman Bradley said if he had to decide Tuesday, his position is the city should not form another committee. Instead, Bradley said, the existing economic development groups in the area should handle such tasks.

Downtown businessman Duane Rasmussen said he'd like to see the city establish an economic development group. Rasmussen said there are currently 16 empty

buildings in about a four-block area of downtown Burley.

"Our downtown is hurting. We need some help. Anything we can do to help downtown would be good."

Councilman Gordon Hansen said the council needs to have an aggressive economic development plan for Burley.

He believes that was a mandate from voters and said he hears many comments from constituents about the need for economic development efforts on the part of the city.

Councilwoman Adria Masoner lamented the city's lack of ability to offer enticements to businesses that are considering locating in Burley. City ordinances don't allow the city to waive permit fees, she said, and state statutes don't allow tax breaks.

Masoner suggested the council formalize standards to allow the city to somehow offer incentives, but also to make sure the city follows the law when doing so.

*See page B3.*

MAGIC VALLEY

Emergency service cuts 31 medics

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - In a last-ditch effort to save Kootenai County's Emergency Medical Services System, 31 medics have been terminated.

Board member John Malloy earlier estimated it would cost around \$500,000 to keep the system afloat until an override levy election planned for May.

Gary Hoertz, deputy chief. Malloy said the board will still function and restructuring plans are under way.

So, until the Joint Powers Board annuls its existence, county commissioners cannot step in. However, Commissioner Ron Rankin said a plan is in place to contract out the service to a private firm, estimated at about \$150,000 a year.

Jury convicts former Council man of assault

PAYETTE (AP) - A Payette County jury deliberated more than three hours before acquitting a former Council man of committing a hate crime but convicting him of assaulting a black referee following a high school football game.

Chiefs because she said they had called an inordinate number of penalties during the game. The referees asked her not to take their picture, and Manley tried to take the camera.

It's not a nice word. Mr. Rae should not have used it. It was rude, crude and unattractive. But it wasn't illegal.

- Edgar Steele defendant's lawyer

Cutbacks result in longer wait for assistance

LEWISTON (AP) - Families going into the holidays in need of stamps and cash assistance can expect longer waits due to a higher demand and layoffs in the state Health and Welfare Department in north-central Idaho.

The cuts are a result of Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's call for a 3 percent budget reduction in all state agencies except public schools, which had a 2.5 percent reduction.

The department is working with area nonprofit organizations like the YWCA to help families. But many Idaho residents have donated money after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, so contributions to local charities are suffering.

Reliance budget, we tried to focus our layoffs in a way that minimized the impact on the clients coming in the front door." Health and Welfare spokesman Bill Walker said.

Prosecutors alleged Rae, following an Oct. 28, 2000, football game between Notus and Council high schools, used a racial slur in confronting referee Ken Manley. The incident allegedly occurred after Manley scuffled with Rae's wife, Kimberly, over photographs she tried to take of the referees for the Adams County Record newspaper.

News beat Council in the state playoff game that night. Mrs. Rae wanted to take a photo of the officials because she said they had called an inordinate number of penalties during the game.

Nature Conservancy acts leery of Superfund stigma

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - The potential of a Superfund designation is keeping a renowned conservation group from seeking new restoration projects in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

landowners, while avoiding lawsuits and confrontations. It has protected more than 94,000 acres in the Panhandle and about 220,000 acres statewide.

of the skiers' gondola in Kellogg harmless for historic contamination. "If they have a policy with contaminated sites, that's their choice," Eckman said.

Some environmentalists contend the pollution - not the Superfund designation - scars the basin. "The stigma is not the EPA," said Buel Hollister of the Kootenai Environmental Alliance.

Payne could face execution as rape trial starts for killer

BOISE (AP) - Convicted killer Darrell Payne of Nampa could be sentenced to death before he goes on trial next summer for three rape charges. Payne pleaded innocent Tuesday to the rape charges filed over the sexual assaults of two 14-year-old girls in Boise's Barber Park in June 2000.

But if the schedule holds, Payne may be in the rape trial with a pending death sentence from the Maher case. Prosecutors did not file the rape charges until Payne's capital murder trial was finished, in order to minimize pre-trial publicity.

Couple pleads guilty to illegally transporting wastewater

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - A Post Falls couple faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine after pleading guilty to transporting chromium-contaminated wastewater from their refrigerator repair business.

Travis and Debbie Erickson pleaded guilty in U.S. District Court on Tuesday. Their sentencing is scheduled for March.

Federal prosecutors alleged they transported the wastewater to Cooper Road, where once a week for eight months and dumped it in the city sewer. A state investigator estimated

Erickson dumped more than 65,000 gallons of wastewater into the sewer. Besides the federal charges and fines, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has fined the couple \$80,000. That penalty is being negotiated.

Police arrest husband after Nampa woman dies

NAMPA (AP) - A man sought in the shooting death of his wife is in custody after a short police chase in Caldwell. Miguel Martinez, 26, of Nampa is charged with second-degree murder and is being held at the Idaho County Jail on \$500,000 bond.

called about a man who was inquiring about one of the flagged accounts. Officers responded and found Martinez and a second man in a car on a side road. Martinez was arrested on the east side of Caldwell after a short pursuit.

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, Ext. 278, between 9 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 5 p.m. every day.

TWIN FALLS



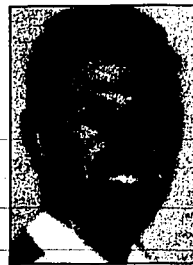
James William 'Jack' Rupard

James William "Jack" Rupard, 81 of Twin Falls, Idaho, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001, at his home in Twin Falls, Idaho. Jack was born March 17, 1920, in Rupert, Idaho, the son of Luther T. and Katherine Alton Rupard. He grew up and attended schools in Rupert, Idaho. In 1940, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy and served his country from 1940-1945 during WWII. When he returned from the service, he worked as a sheepherder in Soda Springs and Rupert. On May 24, 1953, in Rexburg, Idaho, he married his sweetheart, Mary J. Mortensen. They were sealed to each other on June 25, 1964, in the Idaho Falls Temple in Idaho Falls, Idaho. During his life, he worked as a warehouse foreman for Agrigrow Seed Co. He retired from there after 30+ years of service. Jack loved his family and spending time fishing, hunting and sharing the outdoors with them. He loved animals. Jack was proud of his grandkids and loved to hunt and fish with them and his friends. He loved traveling with his family, and one of his favorite trips was their cruise to Alaska. He was also an avid reader of Louis L'Amour Books and also collected coins. He was missed by all who knew and loved him. Jack is survived by his loving wife of 38 years; Mary of Twin Falls;

Idaho; daughters, Laura (Scott) Sherman of Twin Falls, Idaho, Holly Lynne (Tom) Maier of Castle Dale, Utah, Jackie (Bill) Hinrichs of Paul, Idaho; brother, Bus A. Rupard of Rupert, Idaho; sisters: Phyllis Rickert of Jerome, Idaho, and Aimee Covert of Rupert, Idaho; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents; his son, William Dennis Rupard; and his brother, Oscar Rupard.

Funeral services will be held Friday, Dec. 21, 2001, at 1 p.m. at the Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls. Visitation will be held today, Dec. 20, 2001, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the funeral home.

TWIN FALLS



Robert Phillip Simon

Another spirit has joined our Heavenly Father: Robert Phillip Simon, 51, of Twin Falls, on Saturday, Dec. 15, 2001. He was born July 25, 1950, at Phoenix, Ariz., to Michael and Mary Fleming Simon. Robert worked for Slinger Farms Inc. He was a son, brother, husband, father, and a friend to all who knew him. Surviving is his wife, Paula; his parents, Mike and Mary Simon; his sons, Nathan Simon, Matthew Simon, and Tyler Hitzeman; daughters, Shelby Simon and Paige Hitzeman; a sister, Kimberly Simon; his brother, Andy Fleming;

and his nephew, James Simon. He was preceded in death by his grandpa, Nick Fleming. The memorial service will take place at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 22, 2001, at White Mortuary Chapel, with Pastor Neil Miller officiating. The Robert Simon Memorial Fund has been established and donations may be taken to any D.L. Evans Bank or left at White Mortuary.

WOOD DALE, ILL.

Aurora C. Hernandez

Prayers will be said for Aurora C. Hernandez, 79, at 9:30 a.m. Friday, at Gell's Funeral Home, 280 W. Irving Park Road, Wood Dale, Ill. The family are asked to gather at 9:45 a.m. at the Church of the Holy Ghost, 254 N. Wood Dale Road, where a Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10 a.m. The Rev. Kevin Farrell will officiate. Born Nov. 21, 1922, in San Rafael, Texas, the daughter of Guadalupe and Margarita (nee Salinas) Cardenas, she and her husband, Leonard, died in 2001, at Manor Care Center, in Elk Grove Village. Interment will be in Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Aurora is survived by her children, Minerva (Cosmo) Solis of San Ygnacio, Texas; Aurora (the late Fiorentino) Martinez of Cathedral City, Calif.; Julie (Angie) Hernandez of Corpus-Christe, Texas; Raquel (Arnoldo) Solis of Kimberly, Idaho; Sofia (Ramon) Galdino of Moreno Valley, Calif.; Rosa (Ramiro) Rodriguez of Selma, Calif.; Mario Hernandez of Twin Falls, Idaho; Pedro (Mari) Hernandez of Elgin, Texas; Janie (Clifford) Garrett of Wood Dale, Ill.; Bertha (Miguel) Galdino of Wood Dale, Ill.; Margie (Francisco) Perez of Wood Dale, Ill.; and Noemi Miranda of Villa Park, Ill.; 61 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and brothers-in-law, Leonardo Hernandez. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Julian Hernandez Sr., on Feb. 4, 1995; brother, Nicolas Cardenas; and sisters, Viviana Martinez and Teresa Hernandez. Visitation will be from 3 to 9 p.m. today at the funeral home.

SERVICES

Merle L. Kiser of Twin Falls, service at 11 a.m. today at White Mortuary; military rites will be conducted by area veterans and auxiliary; cremation will follow the service. Betty O. Bird of Jerome, graveside service at 11 a.m. today at the Jerome Cemetery (Hove)-Robertson Funeral Chapel, Jerome.

CHapel

David Ellis Fowler of Hailey, memorial service at 1:30 p.m. today at the Presbyterian Church of the Big Wood in Ketchum (Wood River Chapel, Hailey). Bertha Lucille Bybee Stimpson of Dietrich, service at 1 p.m. Friday at the Shoshone LDS Church; burial will follow at the Shoshone Cemetery; friends may call from 6-8 p.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel in

Twin Falls and from 11:30 a.m. until the time of service at the church.

Erica Leigh Hesselholt Parks of Filer, service at 1 p.m. Friday at the Filer Middle School auditorium; friends may call from 4-8 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. Roy Anker Amundson of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Dec. 29 at First Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls (White Mortuary, Twin Falls).

Jean M. Saunders

BUEHL - Jean M. Saunders, 86, of Buhl, died Monday, Dec. 17, 2001. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. today at the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, located on the corner of Ninth and Maple in Buhl. Arrangements are under the direction of Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Russell Wayne Toupin

BOISE - Russell Wayne Toupin, 73, of Boise, died Monday, Dec. 17, 2001, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise. A graveside service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Friday at Gem Memorial Gardens in Burley. Friends may call from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday at Hansen Mortuary Chapel in Burley.

DEATH NOTICES

1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome. injuries sustained in an automobile accident south of Gooding. A memorial service will be held at noon Saturday at the Gooding Country Club. Arrangements are under the direction Demary's Gooding Chapel. A full obituary will appear in Friday's Times-News.

Phyllis J. Preckel-Jones

JEROME - Phyllis J. Preckel-Jones, 66, of Jerome, died Sunday, Dec. 16, 2001, at her home. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Friday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel,

James 'Jim' Robert Hoffield

GOODING - James "Jim" Robert Hoffield, 50, of Gooding, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001, of

Lawrence Edward Prather

HAGERMAN - Lawrence Edward Prather, 57, of Hagerman, died Tuesday, Dec. 18, 2001, of injuries sustained in an automobile accident west of Wendell. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demary's Gooding Chapel.

HOSPITALS

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER Some names are omitted at the patient's request. Dismised Benjamin Reed of Burley. Admitted Crissy Hale of Hansen.

# Burley students compete in geography bee

By Shari Chaney  
Times-News writer

**BURLEY** — What is the official language of Guyana, South America?

Twenty-one Burley Junior High School students answered questions such as that in an attempt to win the first round of the 2002 National Geographic Bee Tuesday night.

Seventh-grader Austin Greer earned the title of Burley Junior High champ and Jayne Lyons was first runner-up. Greer will now take a written geography test in hopes of advancing to the state level of competition.

Colleen Parkin, teacher at Burley High School, said the top 100 scores from each state on the written test advance to state competition, held April 5.

Greer will take the test today, Parkin said, but won't find out results for several months if his score advances him to state.

Greer also won the school competition last year as a sixth-grader at White Pine Elementary School.

Burley's competition was held at Bonanza Motors in Burley, which Parkin said helps bring a



From left to right, Stephanie Johnson, Daniel Larson and Britany Sharp react to another participant's answer in the bee held Tuesday at Bonanza Motors.

bigger turnout to the event. Bruce Breshears, from Bonanza Motors, spoke before the contest, telling the students to relax and have fun.

"I know you know all the answers already," he said with a smile.

Bonanza Motors provides a \$100 stipend to the winner of the bee if the student qualifies for state competition. The contest is not school sponsored, so students

have to come up with money on their own to get to the state competition, Parkin said.

Parkin said she was impressed with the level of knowledge the students showed. The children did wonderful and definitely have geography skills, she said. They are watching the news and reading the newspaper as well.

"I think kids are getting stronger in academics," Parkin said.

Only schools that register are involved with the National Geographic Bee; many in the Mini-Cassia area have registered and will be or have held competitions. In Minidoka County, East Minico Junior High School will hold its bee Jan. 9; Acquia Elementary School will hold its competition after Christmas.

White Pine held its competition Dec. 12; sixth-grader Marcus Hoskins won the contest. DeLo Elementary School crowned eighth-grader Tyrel Erwnet as geography champ.

Fourth- through eighth-graders are eligible to compete in the bee. State-level bees are held in the spring and the winner proceeds to the national competition.

Ultimately, 10 students will compete in May in the National Geographic Bee in Washington, D.C. for a \$25,000 college scholarship. The second- and third-place winners receive \$15,000 and \$10,000 scholarships, respectively.

Times-News writer Shari Chaney can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, ext. 110 or by e-mail at [schaney@magicvalley.com](mailto:schaney@magicvalley.com).

# Three women earn House nomination

**POCATELLO (AP)** — Area Democrats have nominated three women to fill the Idaho House vacancy created when third-term Rep. Roger Chase was elected mayor earlier this month.

School district employee Elaine Smith and former

Bannock County Commission hopeful Carol Gunter were nominated Tuesday, and then former state Rep. Beverly Bistline agreed to have her name submitted to provide the traditional slate of three nominees to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. He has 15 days to pick a successor.

# Skate

Continued from B1  
answering service costs the city about \$20,000, and he has received a lot of complaints about it. The city will keep the automated system as a backup.

"I will kick in if the new utility clerk is on another line," he said. However, having the clerk's primary responsibility be answering the phone should eliminate 90 percent of the automated answering.

Approved the renewal applications for 202 alcoholic beverage licenses for 22 Jerome businesses. The application for Garibaldi's Restaurant was

approved contingent upon their passing a city fire and building safety inspection.

Approved the training request of police officer Troy Russmussen to go to the death and homicide investigation class to be held Jan. 9-11 in Boise at a cost of \$508.

The council approved the training request of public works employee Steve Hoffman to attend the Idaho Horticultural Expo Jan. 16-18 in Boise at a cost of \$407.

City Hall will close at noon on Monday and reopen at 8 a.m. on Wednesday.

# Habitat

Continued from B1  
thank the over 100 donors who made this possible and the biggest donor was the Elizabeth Armstrong Estate with \$10,000." They've also received \$6,000 from Home Depot, \$1,000 from Novartis Seed Company employees, who also donated their labor; \$7,500 from US Bank and donations from community churches, businesses, and local service clubs. A fact sheet said that Yale Residential Security Products, Square D/Schneider Electric and Whirlpool Corporation have also donated new materials.

The Combs are so close to their goal, it's torture to have to wait. "Finally, I'll have a room of my own," said 13-year-old Patricia Combs.

The Combs have Patricia and three boys — Junior, George and Christopher — and live in a two-bedroom home that is considered substandard by HFM-MV standards. Ongoing medical expenses

have stopped the Combs from moving to a better place and is one of the reasons why they qualified for a HFM-MV home. "It's been about six years since we made it to the waiting list," Darrell Combs said.

One HFM home next to the Combs stands empty and unfinshed. The people who qualified for that home had an increase in their financial outlook and were able to qualify for a commercial loan and so gave up their Habitat home. Allie Snyder, HFM-MV vice-president, said the affiliate is still taking applications for that home and for another home on which work will soon begin.

HFM-MV was incorporated on Dec. 26, 1990 by Tim Dodd, Rev. Ed Pangburn and Arlan Call, Robertson said.

Times-News Correspondent Carol Stephens can be reached in Twin Falls at 733-3520.

# Avista asks to set wind-generated energy rate

**BOISE (AP)** — Avista Corp. is seeking authority from the Idaho Public Utilities Commission to establish a rate for customers who choose to purchase power generated by wind.

The company's wind power option would be priced in increments or blocks. Each \$1 block of wind will equal 55KWh of energy.

Under one of two proposed

options, customers could purchase wind power in set monthly amounts, such as \$2 or \$3 each month.

That amount would be set and not linked to the customer's monthly use.

Alternatively, customers could calculate and buy a percentage of wind-generated power to serve their average monthly load.

For example, a customer who wants to have half of his 1,100 kilowatt hour average monthly electricity use served by wind power would pay \$10 per month to buy 550 kilowatt hours of wind power.

Avista officials said the wind power would be delivered by the company within one year of when the energy was purchased by the customer.

Company officials maintain it will not make a profit on the program. The \$150,000 in expected revenue would be applied to program costs.

The company is asking for the program to start on Feb. 1.

Avista is contracting with PacificCorp to purchase output from its Stateline Wind Facility on the Oregon-Washington border.

# GOP moves coroner candidates on to county commissioners

The Times-News

**TWIN FALLS** — The Twin Falls County Republican Central Committee is passing on to county commissioners the names of three coroner candidates.

The committee's first recom-

mendation is Dennis Chambers, a former crime lab and evidence supervisor. The committee next recommended Kim Hernandez, a former deputy coroner and interim coroner from 1995 to 1998, followed by Cherrell Jacobsen, a phlebotomy specialist who was

chief deputy coroner in 1995.

Glen Schroeder had also applied for the part-time position.

The committee made its recommendation Wednesday evening. That recommendation will now go to county commissioners, who

will make the final decision.

Former Coroner Gene Turley resigned effective Dec. 9 to take a job as investigator with the county public defender's office. His annual salary as coroner had been raised from \$18,362 to \$19,096 this year.

# Simplot

Continued from B1

paid for electric power, past and present, which exceeded reasonable rates.

Although Simplot's common-law claim was valid, a judicial mandate for reparations would infringe on legislative powers, Melanson wrote.

"Conceptually, this court does not perceive the difference between awarding a judgment against a municipality for rates charged customers in the past and actually setting rates, since either action has the same effect

on the municipality's receipts for electric power," Melanson wrote.

Melanson wrote that the statutes in question empower the court to determine the fairness of present, not past, rates. The suit will test the reasonableness of only the present rates, according to Melanson's opinion.

Melanson also granted Heyburn's motion for summary judgment on Simplot's failure to file claims for damages because of a failure to comply with the procedures set out by statute;

that bars Simplot's claim for reparations.

Melanson also denied three other motions filed by Heyburn for summary judgment. Those motions had questioned the likelihood that electric rates could be made reasonable and asserted Simplot's claims are moot because of the adoption of new rates. The suit will go to trial Feb. 12.

Times-News writer Nate Johnson can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 109 or by e-mail at [njohnson@magicvalley.com](mailto:njohnson@magicvalley.com).

# Burley

Continued from B1

When discussing a related topic, the council declined to pay a \$3,092 bill to PlanMakers for work related to the downtown revitalization effort.

Councilman Jon Anderson asked what arrangements had been made to pay the Boise company, which is working on an evaluation of how to improve the downtown area.

City Administrator Mark Mitton said two local banks had reached an agreement with Mayor Doug Manning to pay the PlanMakers bill after the work was completed. But the city has already made about four quarterly payments to PlanMakers and hasn't received any money from businesses to repay those payments.

Councilman Curt Mendenhall said the council approved payments it shouldn't have and the council now would deal with the commitments made by private businesses to pay for the study. "Evidently it slipped through us that we didn't have an agreement," Mendenhall said.

Council members noted Tuesday they'd have to hold a special council meeting before the end of the year to deal with an electric contract with the Bonneville Power Administration.

The meeting will be to decide whether to buy an insurance policy of sorts to ensure that the city

would pay its same rate to the BPA in the event the utility company has to buy power from some other entity if the BPA's transmission system is interrupted.

City electric department manager Dille Mouson said it would cost the city \$3,222 for 21 months of coverage.

Because the terms of the 2002 contract between the city and the BPA haven't been finalized, the council couldn't approve an expenditure related to that contract Tuesday night, City Attorney Randy Stone said.

Council members voted 4-2 to buy an acre of land off of U.S. Highway 30, behind Gordon Paving Co., for \$12,500. Councilmembers Brent Kerbs and Mendenhall voted "no."

The intent is to use the land as a transfer station for garbage. Kerbs wanted assurance that the city would actually proceed with establishing a transfer station. If not, he asked, why should the land be bought?

Mendenhall agreed. "I don't know if we're that far along," he said.

Also Tuesday, council members asked Cassia County Sheriff Jim Hignens to step up enforcement of the speed limits along Overland Avenue.

Kerbs said people speed frequently while traveling over the bridge. He asked that the speed limit either be increased or that it

be enforced. Hignens said that when the wider bridge was first opened to traffic, police officers wrote many tickets for speeding. Council members told him it's time to do that again.

In other business, the council: Accepted a bid for gas purchases next year for city vehicles from Mr. Gas. The bid calls for selling the gas to the city for five cents above the rack price, Mitton said. No other bids were submitted.

Suspended the rules for annexing property to allow only one reading of an ordinance and then approved the annexation of Park Place, a subdivision off of Park Avenue, near Burley High School. Property owners in the subdivision requested annexation, Mitton said.

Renewed beer permits for Rite-Aid, Y-Dell dances, CJs, Bonanza Lanes, Burley Inn Chevron, Angela's, Albertson's, the Stinker Station, Smith's, Stokes, John's, Shon Hing restaurant and Snake River Bowl.

Renewed beer and liquor licenses for the Burley Elks and Eduards.

Renewed a taxi permit for S-Night Taxi.

Issued building permits to Roland Fasset for a home at 113 E. 100 S. for \$114,000 and to Ward's Cleaning at 125 W. Ninth for \$20,000.

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IDAHO/WEST

# Boom of '90s left large areas behind

BOISE (AP) — The boom of the 1990s that made Idaho one of the nation's strongest state economies still left large parts of the state behind, new Census Bureau estimates indicate.

Statewide, median household income rose 42 percent from 1989 to 1998, faster than all but 13 other states, and the poverty rate dropped nearly 7 percent, a decline beaten in just 18 states. Over the same span, total population rose 3.5 percent.

But inside Idaho, the eastern and northern parts of the state — areas heavily reliant on natural resources — generally saw less than average growth in income and a rise in the poverty rate, according to a new report released by the Census Bureau last Wednesday.

The census report involved upper, middle and lower estimates of the overall poverty rate, the child poverty rate and median household income.

The Associated Press analysis focused

## Economic conditions vary greatly in different parts of Idaho

solely upon middle estimates. Because those estimates are built from survey data and statistical models, large margins of error may affect comparisons between different areas or comparisons of a single area's numbers over time.

The report reflected any number of anomalies like Power County, south and west of Pocatello where the poverty rate declined over 3 percent while median household income went up just 24 percent.

• Latah County, the home of the University of Idaho, saw the poverty rate go up over 2 percent while median household income was up 49 percent.

• Owyhee County, which includes part of the Duck Valley

Indian Reservation continued to record a poverty rate over 21 percent despite a 47 percent increase in median household income over the decade.

"Each one of those places has its own story," social economist Charles Skoro said. "You have to know about each of those places to understand. Something that might be pretty small from the standpoint of the whole state may be very important in a little county."

But overall, the report again showed the strongest growth concentrated in a handful of counties. Statewide annual median household income rose \$10,600 to \$35,863 in 1998, but only 10 of the 44 counties managed to match or exceed the state wide average.

In 1989, 16 counties exceeded the statewide average.

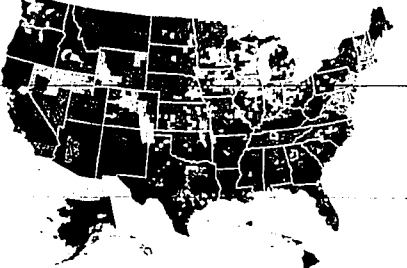
The poverty rate across the state fell nearly a full percentage point from 13.5 percent to 12.6 percent. But the counties were all but evenly split between those with rising rates and those with falling ones, 31 had poverty levels higher than the statewide rate in 1998. That was up from only 22 with higher rates than the state in 1989 as the state was pulling out of the near depression of the mid-1980s.

The report reinforced the concern policy makers have expressed about rural Idaho and the concentration of economic development in isolated pockets of the state.

And despite the economic downturn that has plunged the state into a budget crisis, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has restated his commitment to a multimillion-dollar rural economic development program he believes will help pull the state out of the current financial slump.

## Pockets of poverty

The 1990s were prosperous for the nation overall. But large areas of the country — especially rural counties in the South and Midwest and along the U.S.-Mexican border — remained in poverty, left behind during the country's period of record expansion.



Percentage of people living in poverty, 1998  
Less than 10% 10.1 to 15% 15.1 to 20% 20.1 to 25% More than 25%

SOURCE: Census Bureau

## Legal action looms over redistricting

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — After its first attempt failed to secure court endorsement, the citizen panel charged with redrawing state legislative district lines may be facing a second legal challenge.

Bonneville County and the city of Idaho Falls are threatening to sue if one of two new blueprints for legislative districts is adopted.

They object to that plan that splits the city of Idaho Falls in two with the southern half combined with voters in four counties in the southeastern corner of the state. The districts would span more than 100 miles north to south.

"I think it's safe to say they won't be thrilled with the idea of the city being split that way," Idaho Falls Mayor Linda Milam said.

After the state Supreme Court voided his first plan because of partisan variation among the 35 districts was over 10 percent, the commission last week submitted two new proposals to public scrutiny and will hold a hearing Jan. 4 in Idaho Falls.

## Travel agency apologizes for anti-Mormon comment

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Officials at a travel agency have apologized for a comment about a Cottonwood High School choir being Mormon and not Christians.

The Cottonwood Madrigals had booked a trip April 5-8 to New York City to perform at Carnegie Hall. After a performance with music arranger and conductor Moses Hogan had to be rescheduled, the group looked for a new performance venue.

A travel agent working for Field Studies International, a New York City-based school tour agency, asked whether the Cottonwood group might be involved in a Christmas music concert going on in the April time slot.

The concert arrangers, a coalition of private Christian schools, declined, saying they preferred to include only member institutions.

A representative of the travel agency passed the word to a Utah agent working with Cottonwood, apparently adding a comment in jest about The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Field Studies president Lloyd Meeker said.

## WATER WARS



Protesters use their hands this summer to open headgates on an irrigation canal that taps upper Klamath Lake in Klamath Falls, Ore., after federal officials shut off farmers' water to comply with the Endangered Species Act. Oregon State University scientists offered a draft report Wednesday on the Klamath Basin water wars, identifying a lack of leadership and an undercurrent of racism against Indian tribes as obstacles to solutions in the dispute.

## Study cites obstacles in dispute

Says racism, lack of leadership prevent progress at Klamath

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (AP) — Oregon State University scientists offered a draft report Wednesday on the Klamath Basin water wars identifying a lack of leadership and an undercurrent of racism as obstacles to solutions.

The 301-page report was conceived last July after the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation shut off irrigation water to about 90 percent of the 200,000-acre Klamath Project irrigation system to conserve water for endangered suckers in Upper Klamath Lake and threatened salmon in the Klamath River.

"The big broad picture is we'd like to raise the quality of the discussion about policy through information," said Jim Gallagher, an OSU Extension Service leadership trainer serving as facilitator on the project. "We were very frustrated that there was no certainty about what this all meant to the community."

He said there was even debate over whether the Klamath was an agricultural community or not.

A team of faculty from OSU, the University of California at Davis and the University of California at Berkeley produced the report. Seventeen sections cover history, community impacts, fish and wildlife, water resources and law, agricultural resources, economics, public policy issues and alternative strategies for allocating water.

The draft was to be presented to the local community at the offices of the Oregon State University Extension Service.

The writers of the report hope to use comments from people at the presentation and e-mails from people reading it on the Internet to improve the report, then issue a final version in March.

In a section titled "Consequences for the Community," researchers interviewed 70 people one-on-one and in focus groups. Researchers identified a clear lack of "visionary leadership" to craft workable solutions, a high level of frustration based on uncertainty over future irrigation deliveries, as well as an undercurrent of racism in relations between farmers and the Klamath Tribes.

The Klamath Tribes hold the endangered Lost River sucker and shortnose sucker as sacred gifts of food from their creator, and have pressed efforts to protect them. Maintaining higher water levels in Upper Klamath Lake, where the fish live, was a factor in the decision to shut off water to farms.

One unidentified farmer acknowledged to researchers that racism runs quietly beneath the surface in relations with Indians.

The report noted that contributions dropped dramatically from non-Indian businesses to a tribal social service agency that helps mostly non-Indians overcome drug and alcohol problems. The reason was the water conflict. It also noted that Indians standing in line at social service agencies had become much quieter so as not to draw attention to themselves.

Looking at Klamath County in Oregon and Modoc and Siskiyou counties in California, the report identified agriculture as a \$320-million industry accounting for 7.9 percent of the Upper Klamath Basin economy, ranking behind construction and wood products manufacturing and above health care, real estate, retail trade and government.

The report calculated overall drought impacts at \$74.2 million, and losses directly from shutting off irrigation water to protect endangered fish at \$44.5 million.

Local estimates of agricultural losses last summer from the irrigation cutbacks were put at \$250 million, and Congress appropriated \$100 million in emergency aid to Klamath Project farmers.

## Buhl schools hope grants will help in wake of cuts

By Mary Lou Potts  
Times-News correspondent

Carpenter, grade one, all of Castleford.

Jon Jund recommended hiring Larry Shark and Stan Smuts as eighth-grade boys basketball coaches and Mike Gomar recommended Cindy Patchett as a special education aide at the middle school. The board approved the recommendations.

The board reported on its recent meeting with state legislators about the recent holdbacks. "It was an informational meeting that led to good discussions concerning the holdbacks and an informational sharing of exchanges between board members and legislators," said Armand Eckert, board chairman.

Future Farmers of America students who attended the national convention in Louisville, Ky., on Oct. 23, gave a picture presentation of the trip and workshops they attended. The students said they heard good motivational speakers and went on fun and educational tours in the state.

Those attending were Laurie and Lacey Owen, Joyce Bohman, Andy Cunningham, Jared Nipper, Cortlin Runyan, Alan Avery, Matt Busby and instructor Shane Stockham.

Times-News correspondent Mary Lou Potts can be reached in Buhl at 543-8854.

The district was recently awarded three grants. The Idaho Community Foundation awarded \$3,500 to the music department at the high school and middle school. The money will be used to purchase new choir robes and another \$1,613 was awarded to purchase an upright string bass instrument.

Idaho Technology and Learning will also supply a \$65,000 grant for the district's computer systems. Bill Fields, computer instructor, said the money will be divided in half and awarded at two times.

The Advanced Regional Technical Education Coalition will be the recipient of \$2,527 from State Vocational Education. The money will go to purchase minor equipment for ARTEC classes.

In other school board business:

- Open enrollment was approved for Mary Pehrson, grade 12, of Filer; Italia Jimenez, grade five, of Castleford;
- Kody Carpenter, grade two, Kevana Carpenter, kindergarten, Kylie and Joey

## Report: State tax revenues decline in worst performance in a decade

The Associated Press

States' tax income began declining sharply in the first quarter of the current budget year, the first such drop in a decade, with the West and the Northeast the hardest hit, a new report found.

The report released Wednesday brought painful news for state budget writers, who have already cut spending to adjust to the recession and are about to start planning for the year ahead. Budget writers were also trying to deal with slowing revenue growth that occurred in fiscal 2000.

With drops in personal and corporate income tax lending the way, states reported collecting 3.1 percent less in revenue from July through September compared to the same period a year ago, according to the survey released by the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government at the State University of New York in Albany.

Idaho tax collections were off 6.5 percent during the summer quarter compared to a year earlier. But while that decline reflected the state's slowing economy, it also included the impact of a record \$11.4 million tax cut approved in March.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has already ordered \$55 million in spending cuts, covered another \$20 million with cash otherwise earmarked for the budget reserve and slashed the projection for tax collections in the current budget year by nearly 6 percent.



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# Dillard's

Boise-Towne Square Mall

Lights for dollars:  
Companies find ways  
to make extra money for  
the holidays. Page C4

# OUTDOORS

INSIDE

Comunidad ..... C3  
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Classified ..... C7-12

Outdoors Editor: David Cooper - 733-0931, Ext. 246

The Times-News

Thursday, December 20, 2001

Section C

## Shooting for sheer delight

There always came a time in every boy's life when he would discover if he's a Daisy man or a Crossman loyalist.

Or at least there was, until the words "BB gun" became synonymous with space heaters, bear traps and red M&Ms.

The BB gun, the traditional toy/weapon that signified a rite of passage from boyhood to manhood (or so we always thought), is now on the endangered list of testosterone. The Consumer Product Safety Commission recently told Daisy Manufacturing Co., the nation's oldest and largest BB gun manufacturer, to recall about 7.5 million guns that come from a certain line of high-powered air rifles.



CROSSING THE DIVIDE  
David Cooper

In case you've missed it, BB guns aren't the same old simple pump-and-shoot mechanisms that were a tame rendition of a John Wayne Winchester. Now, you can pump them 20 times (twice the suggested amount) so they can shoot 780 feet per second. This has resulted in lawsuits from parents who think buying an air gun is like buying a water weenie, but end up with children who are seriously injured.

It's been years since my first single-pump Daisy wore out with little more than pop-power. But the idea of government officials comparing a BB gun to an Uzi is kind of baffling. Especially because my first gun was given to me as a safety measure.

When I was a kid, my family spent a lot of time in the stretches of eastern Idaho and Island Park. Each trip to West Yellowstone resulted in my purchase of a toy slingshot, and I was free to shoot in the aspen thick area around Henry's Lake. Unfortunately, I only mastered the art of broken glass and dented metal.

So my parents quickly learned that a BB was far less damaging than a stone. I received my first Daisy BB gun for Christmas along with a small canister of BBs, and a few lessons on hunter safety. These lessons included: never to point the gun at anyone; never to fire near the house; and always use a specific target — just not anything owned by your sister. That still allowed a great amount of liberty in how I could shoot my first gun. And when you're a young marksman on the prowl, the possibilities are endless.

It didn't matter that you weren't hunting anything but BBs blasted. Tin cans and aspen trees do just fine for the young triggerman. Eventually, mastering the BB gun is as easy as tying your shoes in the dark. The BB gun isn't an actual firearm, but it isn't an actual toy. So it's a perfect way to orient a kid on how to care for a gun, and learn caution before moving on to real firearms.

BB guns were never vilified by the public. And how could they be? Advertisements for BB guns ran in "Boys Life" magazine, the periodical for the Boy Scouts. Not exactly the publication of future terrorists.

But best of all, using a BB gun got me out of the house and wandering into outdoor areas that made it even more enjoyable. Since then, every hunting trip I've taken has been best remembered for the scenes I've encountered rather than the harvest taken. Or my... just not a good hunter.

My... isn't getting a Daisy this Christmas like I did as a boy. He's still much too young, and besides, he still needs to work on target practice with a water pistol. But as he gets older and if he wants one, I'll be glad to furnish him a good starter BB gun, even if the Consumer Product Safety Commission advises against it.

In an age of Sony Playstations, Game Cubes and X-boxes where kids stay inside all day and learn how to aim, shoot and kill with an cyber-AX-47, I figure a BB gun should be a pretty tame alternative. And if they don't let me buy him a Daisy, I know where he can get a perfect slingshot.

David Cooper is the editorial editor and outdoors editor for The Times-News.

## A glimpse at our PIONEERING PAST

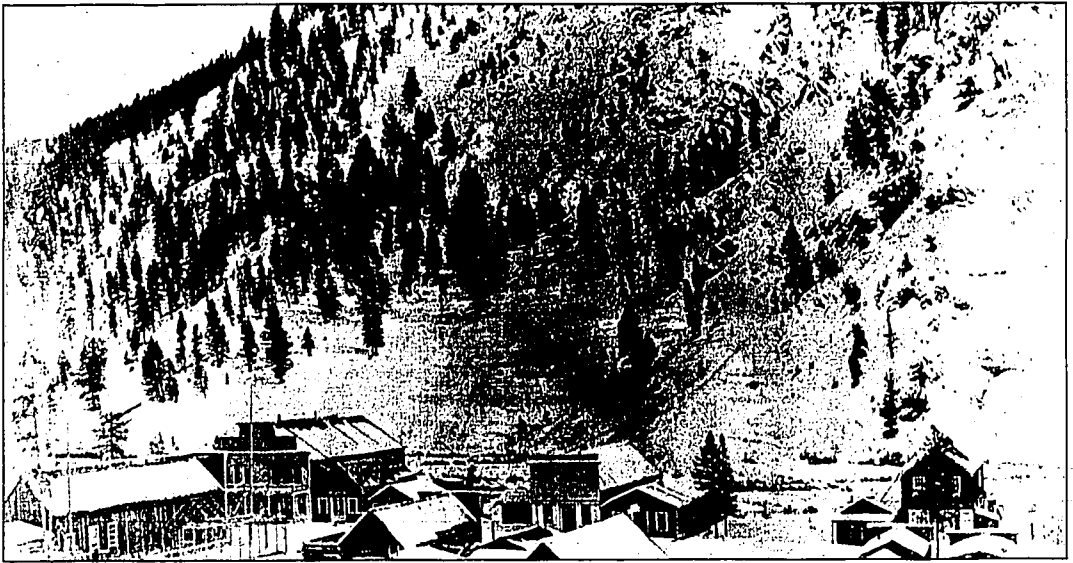


Photo from the Dodge Home Realty Co.

## Ghost towns provide a look at Idaho history

By Paul Brown  
Times-News correspondent

Turning up the waterway near Yankee Fork and the Salmon River above Stanley, you enter a theater of unique Idaho history reaching back more than a hundred years.

To visit Sunbeam Resort at this intersection of rivers one can't help notice the remains of the old Sunbeam Dam, which was built to furnish electricity for the Sunbeam Mine at the base of Loon Creek Summit on Jordan Creek.

This eventually became the gateway to the mining boom town of Bonanza City and its neighbor Custer.

The trappers who first came here mentioned colors of gold in the sands of the Yankee Fork, but no major strikes were made until 1873, when a discovery was made at the confluence of Jordan Creek and the Yankee Fork by John Morrison. Soon after, a man by the name of Norton found and named a quartz claim, the Charles Dickens, on a mountain close by. Other deposits were soon discovered by other prospectors following hot on the heels of the initial strikes. The first winter at this elevation of 6,300 feet was spent in tents cooking over open fires in 30-below-zero weather.

The decision to build a town came in 1878, hoping that it would encourage the opening of

a road into the area, either from the south toward Ketchum or the north toward Salmon and Challis.

The layout of the town of Bonanza was planned and platted by Charles Franklin, with the city lots ranging in price from \$40 to \$300. Bonanza City grew quickly as miners volunteered their time to help with the erection of the city structures.

### Directions

To explore the mining ghost towns of Bonanza City and Custer, go north from Ketchum on Highway 75 over Galena summit and into Stanley. From Stanley, continue north on 75 another 12 miles, then turn left at Sunbeam Resort and go along another 10 miles to the valley of Bonanza City and Custer.

Bonanza City soon became a hub of activity, with a trail coming over Loon Creek Summit from the Thunder Mountain Mining District, as well as the trails from the north and south. The establishment of sawmills to provide saved boards for buildings instead of logs simplified the construction projects, along with square nails forged in their own blacksmith shops.

The town of Custer also was born later in the year of 1878, two miles north of Bonanza City near the General Custer Mine and Mill. One year later, a narrow,

steep, winding road was pushed through from Challis, over Mill Creek Summit, then down the Yankee Fork to Custer and Bonanza. A toll was set for each person and animal using the right of way. There is still evidence of cabins and early civilization, if you look closely, as well as signed stops such as "Fanny's Upper and Lower Hole," along the Mill Creek Summit Road.

More men came, as well as women and children, and more claims were filed and became valuable, if showing much color at all. Claims were selling for \$1,000 to \$25,000 each, but no other discoveries have ever equaled the Dickens, Custer, Lucky Boy or Montana.

The Custer Mill did much to put the place on the map when it was constructed in 1879 and put into operation in 1881. Remains of the ore bin still stand today, overlooking the Yankee Fork, defying the elements year after year.

Soon after the opening of the road to Challis, the valley attracted a school teacher, lawyers and doctors as the valley hummed with sounds of civilization and mining.

There were now stores, saloons, hotels, a post office and sawmills in abundance. Custer's population peaked in 1888 to about 3,500, compared to

Please see PAST, Page C2

## Bonanza City, Then and Now



PAUL BROWN/The Times-News

At top, an 1883 photo shows the mountain base mining town of Bonanza City from Main Street. The boom town and its neighbor Custer saw thousands flock to its hills looking for gold through two centuries.

Above, the remains of Bonanza City today, which has not seen any mining activity since World War II.



PAUL BROWN/The Times-News

A hiker looks up at the Lucky Boy Mill with the assy shack in the foreground.

## Idaho hunters set sights on hunters of the animal kingdom

### Predators become prime hunting targets in winter months

By Neilton Hatch  
Idaho State Journal

POCATELLO — The high-pitched squeal of a wounded rabbit penetrates the cold early-morning air on the sagebrush flat.

Soon, a chorus of squawking magpies chimes in with the rabbit squeal, which is coming from a cassette player's speaker.

The hunters, dressed in snow camo and armed with rifles, sit quietly with nothing moving but their eyes as they scan the flats and willow-covered creek.

Moving like a ghost in the morning light, a coyote runs toward the squealing, squeaking sound like an ant to a picnic.

With most of the general hunting seasons over for big-game animals, hunters turn to predator hunting for coyotes, foxes and bobcats in the winter.

"It's fun," said John Kontes, 52-year veteran to the sport of predator hunting. "I started hunting

coyotes in Mud Lake in 1949. Back then they were worth a little bit of money and we would skin them out and dry the hides to get a little spending money. "It's just fun now, and we need to get rid of some of them so we can get some of our game birds and deer back," he said.

Like most hunters new to a sport, Kontes didn't have much of a clue on how to hunt coyotes. He had a rifle, a call and loved to hunt, so he decided to try it.

"I walked about a mile out in the sagebrush and saw this big clump of brush with a bunch of weeds growing up in it, so I climbed into the middle of it and started calling," he said. "I had called just for a few minutes and I could hear coyotes running all around me, but I had hid so dang well I couldn't get a shot."

— John Kontes, predator hunter

"They ran around me until they got my scent, then all ran off. When I climbed out I could see their tracks in the snow clear around me," he continued.

Please see PREDATORS, Page C2

A bobcat moves through an area of southeastern Idaho. With most of the general hunting seasons over for big-game animals, hunters turn to hunting predators such as coyotes, foxes and bobcats in the winter.



PAUL BROWN



**OUTDOORS**

**Hunting, fishing rules come in different types**

Question: I've noticed not all the hunting and fishing rules are printed in the regulations. Where can I go to find all the rules and regulations?

Answer: Fishing and hunting laws can be divided into two types. Idaho statutes are laws adopted by the Idaho Legislature and signed into law by the governor. These laws do not change from year to year. An example of an Idaho statute is the law that requires hunters to have a hunting license. These laws are located in Title 36 of the Idaho Code. You can find the Idaho Code in



**ASK THE OFFICER**  
**Gary Hompland**

any legal library. In addition, you can locate it through the State of Idaho Web site.

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission adopts rules that change from year to year such as seasons and bag limits. Rule mak-

ing by the Commission must follow a strict procedure prescribed by the Idaho Administrative Procedures Act. The commission adopts fishing and hunting rules after the legislative session ends, as "temporary rules."

Temporary rules have the full force of law but must be approved during the following legislative session. The official publication of the rules and any changes are printed in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin. As with the Idaho Code, the Bulletin is available in the county law library in the courthouse or can

be accessed through the State of Idaho Web page.

The regulation brochures are printed by the department and distributed at license vendors. The "regs" contain both the Idaho Code and Commission Rules without the legalese and are specific hunting and fishing activities.

Gary Hompland is a conservation officer at the Magic Valley Regional Office of Idaho Department of Fish and Game. E-mail your questions to him at [www2.state.id.us/id/fishgame](mailto:www2.state.id.us/id/fishgame).

**Predators**

Continued from C1  
"But I didn't know what I was doing."

Over the years, Kontes has learned a few tricks in hunting predators.

"The average guy just starting will have more fun if he just gets one good call and some good cam," he said. "The more they get into it the more gear they will get."

Kontes recommends people hunt in pairs, one carrying a shotgun for the quarry that comes in close, and the other carrying a rifle such as a 22-250, 222, 223 or a 243 caliber.

"It's best to have two guys so you can watch each other's back when you're calling because you don't know where they will come from," he said.

There are dozens of calls for predator hunters, ranging from cottontail rabbits to fawn bleating or feeding crows.

"I usually only use a howler to locate coyotes," he said. "When I locate them I find a place to sit down and start calling." There are several ways to call predators. For Kontes, he calls for one minute, waits in silence for three minutes and calls again for a minute. Between calls he uses his binoculars to glass for coyotes, foxes or bobcats.

If he spots one, he moves to a mouse snooker. Others will call for up to 10 or 15 minutes then sit for five or 10 more minutes and wait for the predator to come in.

"Once they hear you, they know where the sound is coming

from, and you can't move at all or they will see you," he said.

Kontes will dedicate between 30 to 40 minutes of calling to one spot. If no animal comes in, he moves to a new location.

"When you set up, you need to find a location you can see from, like at a point above a valley or on a rise," he said. "Then you just have to be patient."

"After a while, people figure out what works for them and they will develop their own technique," he said.

But one thing will remain the same: early mornings or late evenings on calm days work the best. Windy days can spoil everything, because it blows your scent around and blows the sound off and they won't come in."

**Past**

Continued from C1

Bonanza at 1,500. Among the late-comer residents were the Chinese, who established their own little settlement on the south end of the city of Custer and fulfilled many service-oriented jobs, like cooks in restaurants, laundry operators and vegetable farmers marketing their vegetables locally. They were responsible for establishing the only church ever built in the Yankee Fork mining district.

Times were prosperous until around 1888, when the mines began to falter and the Custer Mill shut down in 1895, five years after Idaho became the 43rd state.

Then, in 1896, the Lucky Boy Gold Mining Co. bought into the former Custer mining property and kicked off further operations that boomed for another eight years. By now, both towns shared the same post office, cemetery and school and acted almost as

one for many social activities. A favorite were dances held at the schoolhouse twice monthly - rain or shine, winter or summer.

In the early 1900s, the major mines flattered again and the mill shut down in bad need of major repairs and upgrading. Many people drifted away, but old-timers kept some businesses open until 1910 when the Lost Packer Mine closed. In 1910, the Loon Creek Summit and Sunbeam Mine at the foot of Loon Creek Summit on the Jordan Creek side ground to a halt.

The valley occupied by Bonanza and Custer became practically deserted with the only stability being a Forest Service guard station at Bonanza City.

Many landmarks of the area

still bear the names of those who built cabins or sawmills or left some identifying legend to be used as a namesake.

The old toll road to Challis was rebuilt in 1936 by the Civilian Conservation Corps and, today, is a nice Sunday afternoon drive up the Yankee Fork and over Mill Creek Summit to Challis.

There are many tales of individuals' lives that will be forever untold, that were integral pieces of the whole jigsaw puzzle, spanning many historic years of the Yankee Fork boom days. Names like "Tuff" McGown, "Lizzie King" and "John Morrison" live on in the pages of history written about the "Yankee Fork Coun. . ."

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A page for you and your neighbors.

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**CSI center offers evening workshop on Fish and Game**

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho is offering a two-month evening workshop on the ins and outs of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

for those in the community who want to know more about the subject

"Introduction to Fish and Game" is a basic course in understanding the Idaho Department of Fish and Game - its mission, funding sources, fish and wildlife management aspects, hatchery ops, law enforcement, research and future challenges to conservation issues.

Instructor Mike Todd has had more than 20 years of experience in the Idaho Department of Fish and Game as a conservation officer, habitat biologist and currently as an information and education officer.

Class will be held from 7-9 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 9 through Feb. 27 in Shields 104 on the CSI Campus. Cost is \$15.

For more information or to register, call 733-9554, Ext. 2290.

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**Your best shot.**

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If you have a snapshot, The Times-News would like to publish it as part of our new "Trophies" feature. We welcome readers' photos of hunting, fishing or other outdoor scenes.

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For and about  
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# Comunidad

Comunidad editor: Pat Marramona - 735-3288

## OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE



Gerareo Sandoval performs in this week's festival honoring Our Lady of Guadalupe at St. Charles Catholic Church in Hailey. For six years, Latinos in the Wood River Valley have been holding the festival honoring the Virgin Mary's appearance before a young Mexican man in 1531.

## Local student earns national Hispanic recognition award

TWIN FALLS - Matthew (Buddy) Somero, a member of the senior class at Magic Valley Christian High School has been recognized as a scholar in the National Hispanic Recognition Program, school Principal Lawrence La Rue announced.

The National Hispanic Recognition Program, established in 1983, is a College Board program that provides recognition of the exceptional academic achievements of Hispanic high school seniors, and identifies them for post-secondary institutions.

Students enter by taking the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/ National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test as high school juniors and by identifying themselves as Hispanic.

From more than 200,000 students nationwide, approximately 4,900 highest scoring students were initially identified as semifinalists. Based on further evidence of their academic achievement, a select group of 4,200 students have been recognized as a scholar or honorable mention, La Rue said.

The names of all scholars and

honorable mention students are listed in the program publication, which has been released to colleges and universities to encourage them to seek out these Hispanic students as potential candidates for admission.

Founded in 1900, the College Board is a nonprofit membership association of schools, colleges and educational organizations with a mission to prepare, inspire and connect students to college.

Somero also has been named in the 2002 National Merit Scholarship Program.

La Rue will present a Letter of Commendation from the school and National Merit Scholarship Corporation, which conducts the program.

About 34,000 commended students in the nation were recognized for their exceptional academic promise. Although they will not continue in the 2002 competition for Merit Scholarship awards, they placed among the top 5 percent of more than 1 million students who entered the 2002 competition by taking the 2000 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test.

## Diaz flies high in 'Vanilla Sky'

The Hartford Courant

In "Vanilla Sky," Cameron Crowe's remake of Alejandro Amenabar's 1997 "Abre Los Ojos" ("Open Your Eyes"), the young hotshot New York playboy acted by top gun Tom Cruise was initially caught between two women, played by stars with Hispanic surnames, the dark Penelope Cruz and the fair Cameron Diaz.

Cruise, who produced the off-beat romance, which is now playing at theaters in the Magic Valley, with Crowe and Paula Wagner, proves especially fortunate in signing Diaz, as she has arrived at the top of her career.

A recent report has it that Diaz - whose father is Cuban-American - is moving up to a new plateau as a star, winning a \$20 million payday for the sequel to "Charlie's Angels." It has already been a banner year for the quirky blond actress, who established her winning flair for comedy in the Farrelly brothers' "There's Something About Mary." She recently took home a best-actress award from the exciting New York Film Critics Circle. Earlier this year, she lent her voice to the feisty, deceptive, beautiful princess in the ani-



Cameron Diaz

ated hit "Shrek."

At 29, the tall Californian, blue-eyed natural blonde's future includes Martin Scorsese's epic "Gangs of New York" with Leonardo DiCaprio and Daniel Day Lewis, which was to have been released in this holiday season but is being delayed until spring in part because of its three-hour length. She also stars in the upcoming romantic comedy "The Sweetest Thing."

Her career, launched with a surprising debut opposite Jim Carrey in the 1994 "The Mask," has shuttled from big pictures like Oliver Stone's "Any Given Sunday" - in which she excelled as a spoiled, demanding team owner - to Spike Jonze's "Being John Malkovich" - in which she was unrecognizably drab. Both 1999 releases demonstrated her versatility, as did two 1998 films, the huge hit "Mary," showing her sweet side, and Peter Berg's black-edged "Very Bad Things," revealing her ability to display wretched values.

## She puts a Latina spin on Girl Scouting

By Coreen Hart  
Times-News correspondent

BURLEY - Juanita Ronquillo started a Latina Girl Scout troop last summer at the urging of friends.

"They're nice girls," the Burley Junior High School ESL teacher said of the participants.

Her eight-member troop participated recently in the "Be Your Best Self" program, which is an arm of the Junior Miss Program. It was a way of celebrating Juliette Gordon Lowe's birthday, the Girl Scouting founder.

Charmaine Ralphs, with the Junior Miss program in Mini-Cassia, said there is an indoor camp program that teaches subjects that jibe with Girl Scouting, such as how girls can realize their potential by service to others. They also studied honesty, nutrition and hygiene.

"They've already earned quite a few badges," Ronquillo said of the troop. "We've gone through the manual and got several completed. They earned several in one half-day at the camp."

Her daughter, Melina Ronquillo, has become a teacher to the fourth- through sixth-graders. She has taught them a unit entitled, "The Power of You," and used games designed to boost personal image.

"There is so much they can learn," Ronquillo said. "The best part is the togetherness. We can do this together as a unit. I just want to let their parents know that there is some place their girls can go and be safe."

However, much of the work has been on her own.

"We could do a lot more projects with another leader to help," she said. "They all say they could help with one project or



Girl Scout leader Juanita Ronquillo coaches while her troop members practice making origami balloons from a single sheet of paper. The Latina troop is pursuing badges from every page of the manual.

### Want to help?

Juanita Ronquillo could use an assistant troop leader or two. She could also use donations of cash, materials and services to aid her troop. Call her at 678-0561 evenings for more information. There's plenty of room for more Girl Scout troops in the Magic Valley. If you want to start one, call the Girl Scout Silver Sage Council at 733-9623.

something, but they can't make a full commitment." At one session, the Girl Scouts practice origami, making balloons from a folded sheet of paper, while Ronquillo coaches from the sidelines. They also have made

Christmas ornaments using an old Huelchol Indian technique. Suzie Rios, owner of Plaza Azteca, said her daughter Maritza's involvement has been positive.

"I think as a Girl Scout, Maritza's confidence has built up.

I could just see that self-esteem increasing. Earning the patches has been good for her," Rios said. "It might be just a coincidence, but she's also reading much more. We used to have trouble getting her to read, but maybe because of the Girl Scout manual, or just being more responsible in general, she's much more involved in school work. She has really enjoyed Girl Scouting."

Times-News correspondent Coreen Hart can be reached through the Mini-Cassia bureau at 677-4042.

## New round of community ESL classes starts at CSI



### Noticias

Participants will learn about the customs, culture, challenges, reality, diversity and value of the Latino community in Idaho.

Organizers say the goal is to increase participants' effectiveness to work on diverse teams and in diverse communities, and implement positive change and apply new knowledge, skills and relationships back in their communities.

Speakers will include Judge Sergio Gutierrez of the Third Judicial District; Jesse Beroin, a former an Idaho legislator, will talk about diversity as good strategic management; Sam Byrd of the Idaho Migrant Council will discuss intercultural awareness and understanding; Don Pena of the Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs

will present cultural demographics and statistics; Arnold Hernandez of Albion College of Idaho will present a session on higher education; and Father Jesus Camacho will teach a survival Spanish course.

Partners with the Association of Idaho Cities Idaho Human Rights Campaign in the event include Idaho Department of Labor, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, Idaho Migrant Council, Image de Idaho del Norte, Idaho Human Rights Commission, Albion College of Idaho, Boise State University, University of Idaho, Idaho Division of Human Resources, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and Women of Color Alliance.

For more information, call AIC Human Rights Coordinator Michael Shaw at (800) 344-8594 or e-mail at mshaw@idahocieties.org.

### Boise State Upward Bound program seeks mentors

BOISE - The Upward Bound program at Boise State University is looking for four people to work with 50 high school students in a residential setting from June 9-July 12,

2002. These people will be required to live in the dorms on the Boise State campus, monitor a student residential situation, act as a role model and provide students with tutoring, mentoring, provide transportation, discipline and guidance. They will escort students to special events and community service activities.

The ideal applicant will have completed at least their junior year in college and must be 21+ years old. Work experience with high school students is a plus. Upward Bound students come from low-income backgrounds.

The purpose is to instill motivation and skills to be successful in high school, graduate from high school and enroll in a post-secondary institution.

The program provides classroom instruction, tutorials, financial aid and other services, and is administered by the Boise State Center for Multicultural/Educational Opportunities.

Send a letter of interest, resume, and three names of reference to Sue B. Huizinga, Project Director, BSU Trio Pre-College Programs, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho, 83725-1770.

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## Notes on the economy

### Magic Valley report

Here, county by county, are the local growth rates between 1989 and 1998 in household median income and the poverty rate from the U.S. Census Bureau.

County	Income	Poverty
Blaine	66.32%	-4.11%
Camas	32.85%	3.45%
Cassia	30.82%	0.65%
Elmore	42.28%	-6.62%
Gooding	52.79%	-18.64%
Jermore	36.38%	6.25%
Lincoln	46.70%	-29.50%
Minidoka	33.80%	8.02%
Owyhee	47.16%	-18.25%
Twin Falls	32.30%	0.75%
State	41.94%	-6.61%

# Teacher goes to work for Dell

## Instructor will leave CSI to help coordinate training

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A longtime College of Southern Idaho employee who helped bring Dell Computer Corp.'s new jobs to town said Wednesday she'll go to work for Dell herself in January.

Liane Schwarz, an instructor in CSI's network support technician program, said the Texas-based

computer giant told her to report to work with the first batch of local employees Jan. 7.

"They're not sure of the title yet, but it's going to be something like a training coordinator" - a liaison between Dell's Twin Falls technical support operation and Austin headquarters - she said.

"We'll be said to see her leave CSI, but at the same time we're very happy for her to have this

opportunity," CSI Vice President of Instruction Jerry Beck said.

Schwarz' hiring is noteworthy, because she is one of a handful of CSI employees who quickly developed PC Prep this fall. The new college course covers general computer hardware, operating systems and software to prepare residents to apply for entry-level jobs in the computer industry, including Dell's.

And CSI's willingness to help train a work force was part of Twin Falls' bait in luring Dell. Beck, Schwarz and three CSI professors went to Texas in October to work with Dell's technical team on developing the PC Prep curriculum, Schwarz said. Dell leaders, she said, were impressed with the CSI representatives' speed in pulling together the new course.

"They asked us would we be

Please see **DELL**, Page C6

# Pier 1 reports strong sales

Knight Ridder News Service

FORT WORTH, Texas - Pier 1 Imports continues to generate strong sales during a season when many retailers are struggling to get shoppers into their stores.

The Fort Worth-based home furnishings chain, which has a Twin Falls store, reported third-quarter earnings of \$25 million, or 26 cents a share, compared with \$23.6 million, or 24 cents a share, in the year-ago quarter.

Pier 1 has benefited from several recent trends, including heightened consumer interest in home furnishings and home-based activities, as well as a preference among shoppers for free-standing stores over malls since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the company said.

"There's a lot of feeling about familiarity with Pier 1," Chief Executive Marvin Girouard said. "Going to familiar places and being comfortable is important to our nation."

Girouard emphasized, however, that Pier 1's efforts over the past few years to improve merchandising, value pricing and brand identity have given the greatest performance boost.

Pier 1's sales were \$374.4 million for the quarter that ended Dec. 1, up 12.8 percent from the same quarter last year. Sales were up 5.1 percent at stores open more than one year.

Pier 1 will probably end the year with \$160 million in cash. Girouard said the company will use funds to invest in new store growth and stock buybacks.

Alex Rotonen, an analyst with SWS Securities in Dallas, said Pier 1 is doing a good job managing its growth.

"It does have longer-term growth potential, especially with the expanded store base, he said, but he added that the stock price seems fully valued. "It is not a cheap stock given the growth rate."

But Lynn Detrick, an analyst with the Sanders Morris Harris investment banking firm in

Please see **PIER**, Page C6

## BRIEFLY IN MONEY

### Housing manufacturer expects loss in Q4

FILER - Michigan-based Champion Enterprises Inc. - a housing manufacturer that has retained Westwind Homes in Filer - said Wednesday that, with less than two weeks left in the year, it continues to expect a loss for the fourth quarter in the range of 7 cents to 12 cents per diluted share on estimated revenues of \$370 million.

"A year ago we had a loss of 42 cents per diluted share (excluding the goodwill impairment charges) when revenues were \$387 million," wrote Walter R. Young, chairman, president and chief executive officer. "With revenues off 23 percent through the first nine months of the year, a 4 percent decline in the fourth quarter certainly shows that the trend is getting better. We're pleased to end the year with this continuing positive trend and recovery indicator despite the loss we expect to report."

Champion Enterprises plans its year-end earnings release Feb. 13.

Young said consumer traffic at the company's retail stores continues strong and in November was up over 20 percent per location from a year ago. Most of the 11 store closings the company announced a month ago have been completed and the inventory absorbed, he said.

### Stores put their hopes on next few days

Santa's in the home stretch but the last few days won't be easy sledding.

With a few shopping days to go until Christmas, some stores are bracing - at least hoping - for crowds of procrastinators by extending hours, slashing prices, printing coupons and advertising heavily.

A lot is riding on this week's activity. In 2000, almost one-third of holiday spending came in the final week, according to the International Council of Shopping Centers. This year, Saturday is predicted to be the busiest day and Friday the second biggest, according to Bill Ford, a senior economic advisor to TeleCheck Services.

Christmas Eve won't be one of the biggest volume days because stores close early.

Reports of crowds notwithstanding, days before Christmas aren't expected to resemble what has largely been a dismal performance so far.

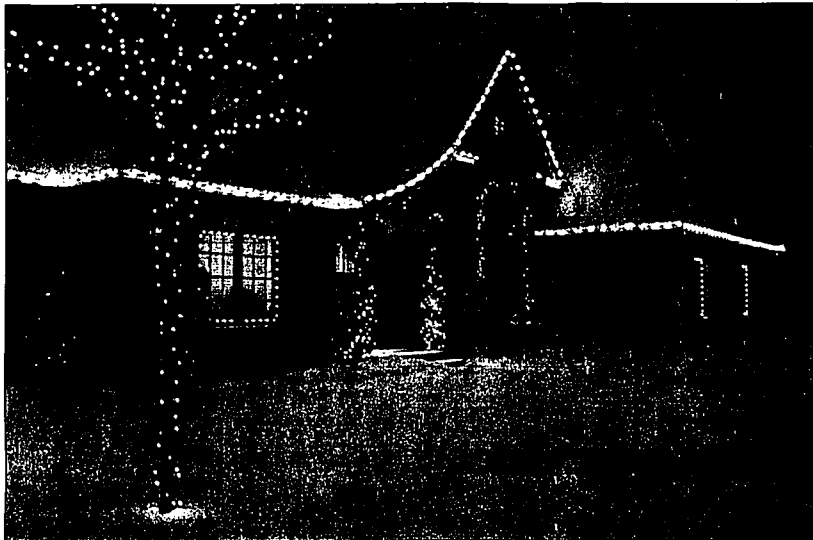
"I don't expect a huge late upsurge," said Frank Badillo, senior retail economist at Retail Forward, a Columbus, Ohio-based market research and consulting firm. "We've seen a bit of bad news announced day by day in the economy and I expect consumers to remain cautious, which should translate into weak sales, but that won't be without retailers trying."

Kmart certainly is trying. The mass merchant with stores in Twin Falls and Burley is keeping its 2,100 stores open for a marathon 110 hours, starting at 6 a.m. today before finishing at 8 p.m. on Christmas Eve. And during that time there will be big markdowns, including 70 percent off precious jewelry.

Kmart takes a breather on Christmas Day but flings its doors open at 6 a.m. the day after, for after-Christmas sales.

Compiled from wire and staff reports

# Santa's helpers



A home decorated for the holidays by Merrill Quality Landscapes stands near Idaho Falls. Steve Winegar, Merrill's vice president and operations manager, said the Rexburg-based company added Christmas lighting to its services five years ago to make the winter months a little less harsh on the bank accounts of the company and its workers.

# Idaho businesses cash in on spirit of season

The Associated Press

IDAHO FALLS - About five years ago, the bigwigs at Merrill Quality Landscapes had a bright idea: Branch out business to include decorating homes for the holidays.

A landscaping company offering to hang Christmas lights is just one aspect of a recent phenomenon of busy Americans handling over Christmas traditions to professionals.

"It's convenient, but there's a price. Merrill is not the only landscaper that will outfit any home or business with lights and festive wreaths. Lone Pine Garden Center and Gift Shop also will

handle the task. There's a charity organization with a booth in the mall that will wrap presents while you wait. Some stores sell Christmas trees that have already been decorated.

And countless restaurants and caterers throughout the area are itching to cook a holiday meal for anyone too busy to spend a day in the kitchen.

"You can get somebody to do pretty much anything these days," said Elden Moore, a cook at North Hi-way Cafe, which can take care of the food and drinks for any holiday party, from family size to companywide.

Steve Winegar, Merrill's vice president and operations manager, said the Rexburg-based com-

pany added Christmas lighting to its services five years ago to make the winter months a little less harsh on the bank accounts of the company and its workers.

"We used to shut down" during the winter, he said. "We were trying to come up with something to generate enough money to get through the slow season."

So they bought into Christmas Decor, a franchise with 300 branches nationwide.

"This brings about 2.5 months of employment for our employees," Winegar said. Customers from Ashton to Pocatello, residential and commercial, quickly warmed to the idea, he said.

Depending on how much the customer wants to spend, lights can be set up along the ridge-line of a roof and positioned to outline all windows, walkways, driveways, fences, trees and yards.

Wreaths with lights can be custom-fitted to adorn doorways, and garland can be wrapped along handrails inside the house and out. The company will even take the decorations down and store them until they're needed again.

"Whatever they want, from a simple wreath up to an entire estate property with over 30,000 lights," Winegar said. "We can be on one house for a week, or we could do three homes in a day."

# Buhl residents help brighten up city for Christmas

## Business in brief

• Bill Atkins, 1301 E. 4150 N.

### Qwest long-distance plan waits for testing

DENVER - Qwest Communications International Inc. does not plan to file with federal regulators to re-enter the long-distance market in Colorado until an independent test of Qwest's network is completed.

The test, which measures how open Qwest's network is to competition, is scheduled to be completed in late February.

Steve Davis, Qwest's senior vice president of policy and law, said Qwest could file its application shortly after the test is completed and before a final report is issued.

State regulators have reserved two days of hearings in mid-January to handle other issues involving Qwest's re-entry bid.

Ken Reif, director of the

Colorado Office of Consumer Counsel, said the utility watchdog is most concerned that Qwest keeps its local network open to competition once it is allowed to re-enter the long distance market.

Denver-based Qwest had hoped to file this year for re-entry in one of the 14 states in its territory, which include Idaho, but delays have pushed the target to early next year.

It also has lowered its long-distance revenue estimates from \$350 million to less than \$150 million for 2002.

### Regulators say telephone surcharge will rise 3 cents

TWIN FALLS - A surcharge on residential, business and wireless phone lines will increase from 5 cents per month to 8 cents beginning Feb. 1, the Idaho Public Utilities Commission said.

The surcharge helps fund the Idaho Telephone Service Assistance Program, administered by the state Department of Health and Welfare to provide

basic phone service to low-income households.

In 1998, the PUC reduced the surcharge from 13 cents to 5 cents a month after a report showed the fund was developing a significant surplus.

Participation has since increased by about 30 percent. According to a report submitted by the fund administrator, the fund will show a negative balance of nearly \$270,000 by September if there is not an increase in the surcharge, the PUC said.

The surcharge helps pay for credits to low-income households to help them obtain and maintain telephone service. Federal and state governments contribute to a combined credit of \$12 per month per household for Qwest and Verizon customers and \$10.50 for customers of other telephone companies. The state's contribution is \$3.50 per month.

About 26,000 Idahoans are helped through the program.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

# Lawsuit accuses IHC of unequal treatment

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Intermountain Health Care insurance plans frequently reject emergency room claims from non-IHC hospitals that it would accept from its own hospitals, a federal court suit contends.

The suit, proposed as a class action, contends the plans regularly deny emergency room billings without reviewing patients' medical records.

It says that IHC - which with 480,000 members is Utah's largest health maintenance organization - be forced to reimburse improperly denied emergency room costs.

It also asks that IHC be required to review emergency treatment "records" before rejecting claims and be ordered to accept professional treatment to IHC hospitals in processing emergency room billings.

IHC - whose Idaho holdings include Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley - issued a statement late Tuesday saying the suit filed Friday was based with factual errors and that the company is in full compliance with laws regarding payment for emergency center treatment.

The suit stems from IHC's denial of emergency room claims filed last year by Salt Lake City residents Bryce L. Brunner and Linda K. Floyd.

On Aug. 16, 2000, Brunner experienced pain and swelling in his left knee while on a family vacation in Vernal. He said a

Please see **IHC**, Page C5

Project assists businesses with e-commerce

BLACKFOOT (AP) - The state and Lewis-Clark State College are creating an eastern Idaho incubator to help small businesses plunge into electronic commerce.

Technology Incubator. "Going about to establish a Web presence is somewhat daunting," Hoffman said Tuesday. "As far as I can tell, this is unique."

provide struggling start-up firms with buildings, office equipment and secretaries are not new, applying it to e-commerce is novel.

business transactions. "Our focus is to direct this effort as much as possible to rural communities. One of the nice things about e-commerce is you can do it in a bedroom in Grace as easily as Poateello, Idaho Falls or Boise."

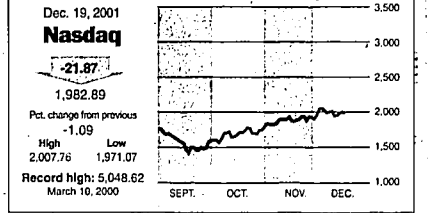
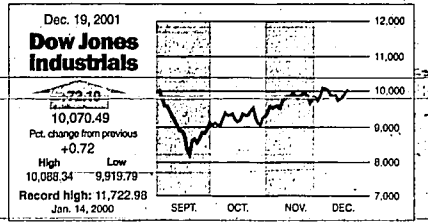
Land Board schedules hearing on resort proposal

BOISE (AP) - After months of delay, the state Land Board has scheduled a public hearing Feb. 7 on plans for the controversial WestRock four-season resort on the shores of Lake Cascade.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, who heads the Land Board, told WestRock principals of the hearing Tuesday. They have been seeking an audience since May to persuade the five-member panel of top elected officials.

WestRock's local permitting process. However, "I welcome the opportunity for other citizens of Idaho on a wider basis to learn about the project and make their comments," Boppes said.

WestRock's predecessor, Valbois, a few years ago, the Land Board has been leery of approving the idea without extensive review.



IHC

Continued from C4. Vernal doctor advised him to go to an emergency room immediately upon his return to Salt Lake City.

emergency room physician there treated him for acute cellulitis. When he submitted his emergency-room bill of \$640.98, IHC said it did not qualify as an emergency. The suit alleges that decision was made without physicians checking Brunner's treatment records.

he appealed this April, IHC once more denied the claim, saying his challenge had fallen outside a 60-day window. Brunner maintains that nowhere in IHC's insurance policy was the appellate deadline mentioned.

national pain. She was diagnosed with advanced gall bladder disease and the organ was removed. Floyd's St. Mark's bill of \$984.72 was rejected by IHC as not a bona fide emergency. The insurer also rejected her later appeal, the time limit expiration of a 30-day deadline.

Profit-taking results in mixed market

NEW YORK (AP) - Technology selling and profit-taking Wednesday, resulting in a mixed market despite strong gains in the financial and energy sectors. Analysts said investors were consolidating their gains from the recent tech rally. They also attributed some of the losses to Wall Street's unwillingness to leave too much in the market until the signs of a recovery become more definite.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, Volume, Bid, Ask, Spread, etc. Includes sub-sections for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Columns: Most Active, Gainers, Losers, Diary, etc. Includes sub-sections for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, Volume, Bid, Ask, Spread, etc. Includes sub-sections for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange. Mutual funds are also included.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange stocks with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, Volume, Bid, Ask, Spread, etc.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including soybeans, corn, wheat, and oil. Columns include commodity name, high, low, and change.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices for items like soybean meal, soybean oil, and various grades of wheat.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table of potato and onion prices, including Idaho Falls and other regional varieties.

POPCORN

Table of popcorn prices for different brands and grades.

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POPCORN

Table of popcorn prices for different brands and grades.

SUGAR

Table of sugar prices for various grades and origins, including New York and London markets.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices for cattle, hogs, and sheep, including futures and cash prices.

CHEESE

Table of cheese prices for various types like cheddar, mozzarella, and parmesan.

POPCORN

Table of popcorn prices for different brands and grades.

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Dell

Continued from C4
willing to come to work for Dell?
Schwarz said, "We just kind of
laughed and said, 'We've never
before...'"

So I think it will be positive
from that standpoint," he said.
For next semester, Beck said
CSI probably will shift work
among existing employees when
Schwarz leaves at the end of
December. Eventually, he said,
college is likely to make a hire
for some kind of position to replace
her.

"I have no reason to think not,"
Beck said. "But we might sit on
the position for a while because
of the situation we're in -- if we
have the ability to cover all of the
classes."

Schwarz held a variety of jobs
in her 15 years with CSI, including
database specialist for the CSI
Foundation, part-time teacher and
network administrator for four
CSI buildings. She moved into full-
time teaching three years ago, she
said.

In addition to teaching, she is
the Cisco Regional Academy
administrator helping coordinate
Cisco programs at local high
schools and at the college.

Employees can turn around and
sell the stock the next day if they
choose, she said.

That's an attractive compensation
package for the Magic Valley
market.

"I would say it had a lot to do
with it, but it wasn't my full reason,"
Beck said. "I was
impressed by what I saw in Texas
-- their business model. Everyone
we met from the receptionist to
the factory worker to the technician
loved their job, they loved
Dell, were very, very happy. And I
was very impressed with the level
of the technicians, and their
trainers and managers."

Another part of the decision,
her husband said, was that the
couple works in the same CSI
department.

Todd Schwarz, a CSI professor
of Internet technology, said he
and his wife both love their jobs
but had thought for a while that
one of them ought to find work
elsewhere.

"Because of the seniority I have
here at the college, it would have
been more difficult for me to
leave," he said. Todd Schwarz has
taught there full-time for 13 years.

Times-News Business Editor
Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached
at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or by e-mail
at virginia@magicvalley.com.

Continued from C4
Houston, said the stock could see
another strong year if trends
remain strong.

"On a 12-month basis going
forward, our potential price
target could be \$20 given current
estimates," she said.

Strong sales are continuing in
December, leading the company
to revise its fourth-quarter earnings
guidance to 40 to 42 cents a
share, up from 37 to 38 cents a
share.

Given recent performance,
Pier 1 has accelerated its plan to
open more stores. In fiscal 2002,
Pier 1 will have opened 100 new
stores and closed 24 stores. In
fiscal 2003, the company plans to
open 110 to 120 new stores and
close or relocate 25 to 30 stores,

Pier 1 stores in North America and
around the world. By the end of the decade
by expanding in some metropolitan
areas and by moving into more
medium-sized markets. Pier 1 also
operates 17 Cargo Children's
furniture stores and plans to open
eight to 12 more in the coming
year.

Pier 1 is also testing two large-
format stores in Dallas and St.
Louis. These stores allow the
company to feature more product
lines and bigger furniture
pieces. The company does not
plan to convert all large-format
stores but could introduce as
many as 50 large-format stores
over the next few years, Giourad
said.

Something missing?
We're able to customize our
market, mutual fund, or commodity
that's not in our report, just call us.

and we'll be included.
Please call Ramona Jones at 733-
0931, Ext. 262, with your sugges-
tions.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table of mutual fund data including fund names, share classes, and performance metrics.

LEGAL NOTICE - LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO WATER RIGHTS... Notice is hereby given that OWYHEE RANCHES, INC., AND/OR MAINLINE RANCHES AND/OR BLAINE COOK AND/OR BRUCE HUNSAKER AND/OR YOUNG & YOUNG PARTNERSHIP, PO BOX 707, RUPERT ID 83350 have filed Application for Transfer No. 46445 with the Idaho Department of Water Resources...

The application filed on August 13, 2001 involving 23 water rights proposes to the three farms together into a common system, divert a combined total of 67,630 cfs from ground water...

2001. The application filed on August 13, 2001 involving 23 water rights proposes to the three farms together into a common system, divert a combined total of 67,630 cfs from ground water...

Published in the Times News on 12/13 & 12/20/01.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO WATER RIGHTS... Notice is hereby given that an Application for Transfer has been filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources for change of water rights with the following details...

Published in the Times News on 12/20 & 12/27/01.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE FA-12732

On the 20th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, Interest and Impounds of \$1,032.24, due per month for the months of April through September, 2001, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

ORDINANCE NO. 2707 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, REZONING REAL PROPERTY...

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

ZONE of the real property below described; and, WHEREAS, the City Planning and Zoning Commission has made recommendations to the City Council for the following...

SECTION 1. That the following described real property be and the same be REZONED AS R-3 (30,000 sq. ft. parcel) lot located in the NE1/4E1/4 of Section 1, Township 10 South, Range 17 East, Boise Meridian, Twin Falls County, Idaho, and more particularly described as follows...

Published in the Times News on 12/13 & 12/20/01.

On the 20th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 4th day of April, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, Interest and Impounds of \$1,032.24, due per month for the months of April through September, 2001, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

ORDINANCE NO. 2707 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, REZONING REAL PROPERTY...

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

The Beneficiary of a note to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation. DATE: November 13, 2001. NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE FA-12731

On the 30th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

Published in the Times News on 12/13 & 12/20/01.

On the 4th day of April, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 30th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, Interest and Impounds of \$1,032.24, due per month for the months of April through September, 2001, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

ORDINANCE NO. 2707 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, REZONING REAL PROPERTY...

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

grantor, to FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY OF IDAHO, INC., an Idaho Corporation, as SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE, for the benefit and security of WELLS FARGO HOME MORTGAGE, INC., as beneficiary, recorded February 27, 1996, as Instrument No. 1996003203...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, Interest and Impounds of \$685.31, due per month for the months of July through September, 2001, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

Published in the Times News on 12/13 & 12/20/01.

On the 30th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 30th day of March, 2002, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 2603rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of TWIN FALLS, State of Idaho...

The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust Note, the monthly payments for Principal, Interest and Impounds of \$509.81, due per month for the months of March through September, 2001, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement...

ORDINANCE NO. 2707 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, REZONING REAL PROPERTY...

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS, MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. 01-223-0771 AMENDED SUMMONS THOMAS C. MILLER, Plaintiff, vs. ROCKY MILLER, Defendant.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: In the Matter of the Estate of MARCIA A. PARRIS COLE, Decedent.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the decedent of the deceased that SHARRON OLIVIA VOTRY, PAMELA SUSAN GIBSON and LENDOLE EUGENE CUNNINGHAM, III, have been appointed joint personal representatives of the Estate of the decedent...

Published: December 20, 2001. January 3 and 10, 2002.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS, MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. SP-01-0263 NOTICE TO CREDITORS: In the Matter of the Estate of JONATHAN E. BROWN, Decedent.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the decedent of the deceased that SHARRON OLIVIA VOTRY, PAMELA SUSAN GIBSON and LENDOLE EUGENE CUNNINGHAM, III, have been appointed joint personal representatives of the Estate of the decedent...

Published: December 13, 2001 and 20, 2002.













RIISING High School Sports STARS

Kael Pope Wendell basketball

Kael Pope is a big reason the Wendell Trojans boys basketball team remains undefeated. He's certainly the tallest, standing 6-foot-7 as just a sophomore.



He is also pitching in 10.8 points and 8.9 rebounds a game while providing a rare duo of big men under the basket at the Class 2A level.

Pope and 6-5 senior Sherman King patrol the paint. Pope said he has learned a lot from King and the team's other seniors.

"I think it's a lot of fun to play with the older guys and learn from them," he said. "They treat me real good."

Last year, Pope played three quarters of varsity basketball and one quarter on the freshman team to keep him and his talented classmates on the floor together for one quarter a night.

Fellow sophomore Cody Howerton is also seeing some varsity time for Wendell.

Pope said he has always enjoyed being taller than everyone else.

"I've been tall all my life and I felt kind of awkward and clumsy for a while," he said. "But between my eighth grade and freshman year I started to grow into my body."

Pope scores the majority of his points on rebound follows and using a drop step and jump hook.

The sophomore star also plays football - defensive end on varsity and defensive end-tight end on junior varsity - but he prefers roundball.

"I just like it better - probably because I'm better at it," Pope said.

Pope said he is thinking of becoming a teacher because "I like kids."

He said he has a lot of experience with children since he has 19 nieces and nephews.

- Scott Thompson

Sundii Brizendine Bliss girls basketball

The Bliss girls basketball team and junior guard Sundii Brizendine are both off to good starts. "We're really doing really well," Brizendine said. "And I think this is one of my better years. I'm shooting better and I'm better physically. I'm a lot faster and stuff."



And it's not like the 5-foot-6 guard hasn't had a good season before. Last year, she had four 28-point games and scored more often than she has this year.

She said she is averaging about 18 points a game this year.

Still, she feels she is playing better than last year and most importantly the Bears are off to a 5-3 start.

She scores a lot of her points in transition and is a dead-eye outside shooter.

Brizendine also competes in volleyball where she played outside hitter and setter.

But basketball is her favorite sport. "I really like volleyball," she said. "But I think I'm better at basketball than volleyball because I don't have as much a height disadvantage. But I like volleyball. It's really fun and I have great coaches."

This year, Brizendine plans to again run track after not going out last year. She wants to run the 400-meters and the 300 hurdles.

- Scott Thompson

Spartans pull away from Twin Falls

By Scott Thompson Times-News writer

RUPERT - Minico big man John Fennell had a couple of running mates Wednesday; Twin Falls big man Leigh Castillo had but one.

And that was all the difference in the host Spartans' 67-33 boys basketball victory over Region III foe Twin Falls Wednesday.

Fennell had 17 points, including a 3-point and a resounding dunk, and was joined in double-figures by teammates Ryan Hepworth and Travis Noble, who chipped in 15 and 11 points respectively.

Castillo, who was dominating at times, finished the game with 13 points but teammate Andy Coats was the only other Bruin to post more than seven points. Coats finished with 11 points.

"We knew that Castillo was going to get his points," Spartan coach Mike Graefe said. "But we just wanted to limit the other players and try not to let anyone else go off on us."

In the second quarter, the Spartans (1-1 Region III, 5-1) expanded a 15-14 lead by limiting the Bruins (0-1, 3-4) to just nine points and Castillo to just a deuce for the 31-23 margin at intermission.

"I definitely think the better team won tonight," Twin Falls coach Dan Vogt said. "They just outscored us and we couldn't make shots. And we only got one shot."

From there, the Spartans slowly pulled away with the 6-foot-7 Fennell scoring 13 second-half points and Minico dominating the glass and sagging off the Bruin outside shooters, who did not take advantage of the open looks.

"We just pulled back into a zone," Graefe said. "And their perimeter shooters weren't making them."

Earlier, Castillo and the Bruins looked to be in control as Twin Falls jumped out to an 11-4 lead midway through the first quarter when Castillo hit his third basket of the frame.

"I don't know why we have to start that way," Graefe said. "It seems like everybody comes out fired up to play us and we just have to get settled down. It kind of makes me nervous. We're a veteran group, though, so we've been through the battles."

But the Spartans rallied to seize the lead for good when Hepworth knocked down a pair of free throws with a second left in the first quarter to make it 15-14. Hepworth scored 10 of his points in the first half.

Depth helps Minico claim victory

away with the 6-foot-7 Fennell scoring 13 second-half points and Minico dominating the glass and sagging off the Bruin outside shooters, who did not take advantage of the open looks.

"We just pulled back into a zone," Graefe said. "And their perimeter shooters weren't making them."

Earlier, Castillo and the Bruins looked to be in control as Twin Falls jumped out to an 11-4 lead midway through the first quarter when Castillo hit his third basket of the frame.

"I don't know why we have to start that way," Graefe said. "It seems like everybody comes out fired up to play us and we just have to get settled down. It kind of makes me nervous. We're a veteran group, though, so we've been through the battles."

Herd escape in 2OT

The Associated Press

MOBILE, Ala. - In the highest-scoring bowl game in history, Marshall rallied past East Carolina 64-61 in double overtime Wednesday night to win the GMAC Bowl behind Byron Leftwich's 576 yards passing.

Leftwich capped his performance with an 8-yard touchdown toss to Josh Davis to end it.

The Thundering Herd (11-2) stormed back from a 38-8 halftime deficit, tying it at 51 in the final seconds of the fourth quarter. Marshall wasted a chance to win in regulation when it missed the extra point.

Previously, the highest-scoring bowl was Texas Tech's 55-41 victory over Air Force in the 1995 Copper. Leftwich finished 41-of-70 with four scoring passes and a TD run.

Ahead 51-45, East Carolina (6-6) recovered an onside kick in the final two minutes. But the Pirates couldn't run out the clock and punted into the end zone.

Marshall took over at its 20 with 50 seconds left and no timeouts. After two incomplete passes, Leftwich hit Denero Marriott for 20 yards.

Leftwich then connected with Curtis Jones for 27 yards and Marriott for 23.

Marshall made it 51-41 when Leftwich hit a leaping DJ Watts in the corner of the end zone for an 11-yard touchdown with seven seconds left.

Curtis Head's extra-point try was wide right, his seventh missed PAT of the year, leaving it tied.

Head's 28-yard field goal with 1:53 remaining cut the deficit to six points.

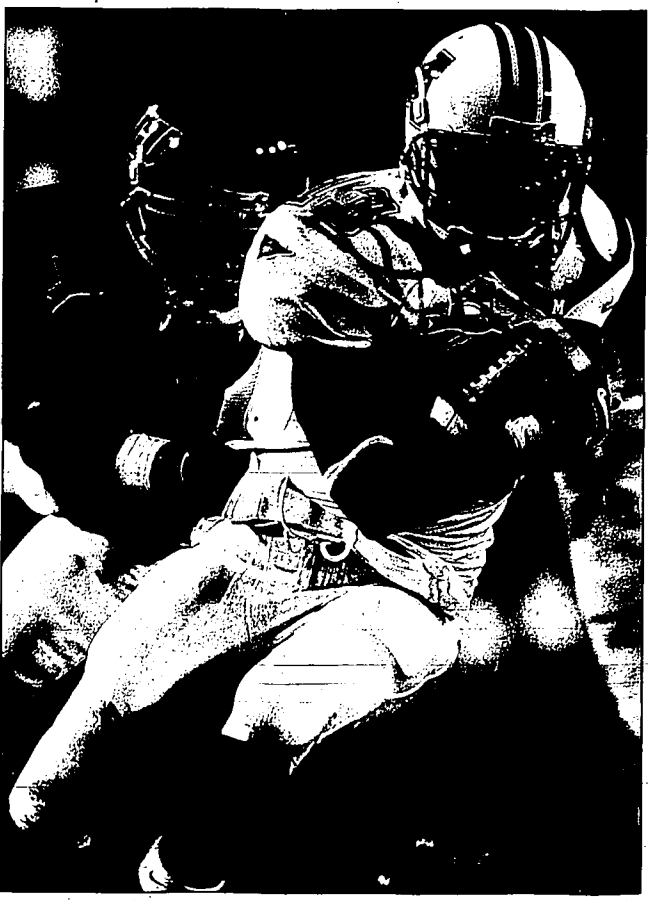
Both teams scored touchdowns in the first overtime. Marshall's Franklin Wallace had a 2-yard run and Leonard Henry came back with a 25-yard TD on the next play.

Marshall held East Carolina to Kevin Miller's 37-yard field goal in the second overtime.

Then, Leftwich hit Marriott for a 21-yard completion. After two running plays lost yardage, Leftwich connected with Davis to win it on third-and-goal.

Henry rushed for 195 yards and three scores on 29 carries, but couldn't overcome Leftwich's fifth 400-yard passing performance of the year.

The teams combined for 1,141 total yards.



Marshall wide receiver Denero Marriott (13) gets wrapped up by East Carolina's Travis Heath (45) in the second quarter of the GMAC Bowl Wednesday in Mobile, Ala.

Bonds, Boone accept arbitration

Gonzalez rejects Cleveland's offer

The Associated Press

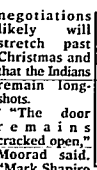
NEW YORK - Barry Bonds will stay with the San Francisco Giants, deciding Wednesday to accept the team's offer of salary arbitration rather than remain in an uncertain free-agent market.

Bonds, who became a free agent after hitting a record 73 home runs, could wind up with a one-year contract worth at least \$20 million, which would shatter the arbitration record of \$8.2 million set this year by Atlanta's Andrew Jones. Bonds would prefer to sign a multiyear deal.

"Barry will continue to work toward that," said his agent, Scott Boras.

Bonds, 37, faced a midnight (EST) Wednesday deadline to accept the Giants' offer of salary arbitration.

Juan Gonzalez rejected Cleveland's offer of arbitration. His agent, Jeff Moorad, said negotiations likely will stretch past Christmas and that the Indians remain "long-shanks."



Barry Bonds



Moises Alou

"The door remains cracked open," Moorad said. "Mark Shapiro (Cleveland's general manager) and I talked at some length today and agreed to stay in touch regarding Juan. At the same time, as I thought it might, ramped up this week. And we have begun to talk more specifically about other teams about what a multiyear contract for Juan might look like."

Second baseman Bret Boone also accepted arbitration from Seattle. His agent, Adam Katz, attempted to negotiate a multiyear deal during the day but the Mariners would only guarantee three years, not four.

"Negotiations are ongoing and we're still hopeful we can come to terms on a multiyear deal," Katz said.

Chan Ho Lee and Johnny Damon were among the other big-name free agents who faced the deadline.

Free agents who accept are considered signed for next year. Those rejecting the offers can negotiate with their former teams through Jan. 8, about three weeks.

Bonds earned his record fourth MVP award this season, but the Giants were the only team to publicly admit making an offer to him.

"Barry had many things to consider," Boras said.

Boras, also represents Park, who was offered arbitration by Los Angeles, and Damon, who was offered arbitration by Oakland.

Malone's latest comment follows his statement that he didn't want to carry the Olympic torch "in the desert somewhere" but would consider carrying the torch into the stadium for the opening ceremony.

Utah's Malone says Olympics have priorities in wrong place

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - Karl Malone is concerned that corporate sponsors and Olympics celebrities, instead of athletes, are the focus of the 2002 Winter Olympics.

Malone's latest comment follows his statement that he didn't want to carry the Olympic torch "in the desert somewhere" but would consider carrying the torch into the stadium for the opening ceremony.

On Tuesday, a Salt Lake Organizing Committee spokeswoman said Malone never was considered for a role as a torchbearer in the Feb. 8 opening ceremonies at Rice-Eccles Stadium.

In an interview with the Deseret News before the Jan. 2 Tuesday night victory at Miami, Malone said he is concerned that the Salt Lake Organizing Committee and the International Olympic Committee have forgotten the torch tour.

The torch tour: The torch will start out in Pittsburgh and be relayed through Fayetteville, Pa., Cambridge, Md., and Aspen, Colo., before ending the day in Martinsburg, W.Va.

Jackson, BCA urge Irish to consider first black coach

The Associated Press

SOUTH BEND, Ind. - Notre Dame has never had a black head coach in any sport. The Rev. Jesse Jackson urged the Irish to start with football.

"They should consider one, at least put credible black coaches in the mix," Jackson said Wednesday. "A university of that magnitude, if they were to hire an African-American coach, it would be a huge breakthrough."

Jackson is working with the Black Coaches Association to help promote black candidates for all Division I-A openings. The BCA sent a list of prospective black candidates to all Division I-A athletic directors and university presidents in October.

Jackson first issued a statement asking Notre Dame to hire a black coach on Dec. 10, a day after the school introduced George O'Leary as Bob Davie's successor. But O'Leary resigned five days later after admitting he had lied about his athletic and academic background.

There were only five black Division I-A coaches this season.

Jerry Baldwin was fired by Louisiana-Lafayette after going 6-27 over three years. Tony Samuel is 19-35 in five seasons at New Mexico State. Fitz Hill was 3-9 in his first season at San Jose State.

Bobby Williams is 12-11 in two seasons at Michigan State.

The other coach is Stanford's Tyrone Willingham, who has a 44-35-1 record over seven seasons.

According to published reports, athletic director Kevin White received permission to talk to Willingham before hiring O'Leary, but never interviewed him.

Willingham declined to comment Wednesday. "I don't get into speculation and I don't try to discuss rumors," he said.

Notre Dame spokesman Lou Nanni said the university agrees.

Please see IRISH, Page D2

SALT LAKE 2002 Countdown to Salt Lake 50 days until Opening Ceremony
The Torch Tour: The torch will start out in Pittsburgh and be relayed through Fayetteville, Pa., Cambridge, Md., and Aspen, Colo., before ending the day in Martinsburg, W.Va.

Please see OLYMPICS, Page D2

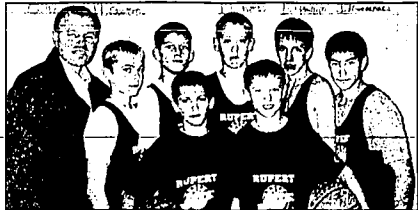
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# YOURSPORTS

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



The Racqueteers' Junior Jazzball 2001 champions were Rich Reynolds' team. Pictured front, I, Casey Miller and Dax Greener; back, coach Reynolds, Ian Blackburn, Braxton Greener, Scott Briggs, Brent Klett and Steven Anderson.

## Team takes jazzball title

**BURLEY** - Junior Jazzball at the Racqueteers recently completed its boys basketball season. Boys coaches this year were Troy Jenson, Jason Haynes, Derek Kunz, Kevin Hoggan, Richard Reynolds and Todd Phillips. Forty-two boys competed in the program. Consolation games came down to teams coached by Hoggan and Haynes, with Hoggan's squad coming out on top. Team members included Kolby Carpenter, Ed Christenson, Tom Hoggan, Clayton Seale, Trevor Seale, Gavin Wrigley and Spencer Stokes. Haynes' team consisted of Chase Anderson, Jarvis Beames, Steven Kirk, Jeff Lowe, Kory Price, Marc Riedel and Chad Allen.

Riedel set a record in the game with four threes in the first half, with two more in the last half. Kris Esig set the season's single-game scoring mark with 37 points. In the league championship, Reynolds' team defeated Kunz's boys, 57-37 to finish with six wins. High scorers were Brent Klett with 14 points and Taylor Kerbs with 13 points.

Players on the Reynolds' team were Braxton and Dax Greener, Ian Blackburn, Casey Miller, Steve Anderson, Scott Briggs and Klett. Kunz team players were Brad Caresia, Bryan Caresia, Aaron Schell, Trevor Reno, Taylor Kerbs, Chris Tumeay and Jason Pollard.

## Weekend of bowling sees plenty of good times

This last weekend could've been called a No-Tap good time.

The Santa 9-Pin Celebration for adults was hosted by Magic Bowl. Jody Bryant won with a 184 average by rolling games of 268, 286, 300 and 250 for a four-game series of 1,104. With his handicap, his total score of 1,208 gave him the title. Others on the prize list were Ken Hinton (1,191), Gary Hottel (1,182), Matt Olson (1,175), Drew Foster (1,158) and Randy Gentry (1,140). Scores are pending final verification.

At the Bowladrome, an Adult/Junior No-Tap Holiday tournament was held with two-person teams divided into four divisions based on the age of the junior bowler.

**Division I (juniors 8 years old and younger)**  
Adults rolled 9-pin and the juniors rolled 8-pin. Winners were the "KoJo's", of Koi Jo and Joelle Moses, with 1,186.

**Division II (juniors 9-11 years old)**  
Juniors rolled 8-pin and adults rolled 9-pin. "Two of a Kind," of Nick and Don Parsons, with 1,685 took first, with second place going to "The Maniacs," Charles and Carole Buckner with 1,624. Carole rolled the high scratch series of the tournament with games of 217, 290 and 276 for a



**783 series.**  
**Division III (juniors 12-14)**  
Both the juniors and the adults rolled 9-pin. The "T&S" team of Shane Rackham and Tom Glass took the pot with 1,643. "Double Trouble," of Nick Moravec and Jerry Seabolt, were second at 1,545 and third went to Heather Rackham and Karen Morano with 1,526.

**Division IV (juniors 15 and older)**  
Adults and juniors both rolled 9-pin with "Trouble X Two," of Josh Serr and Jessie Biggerstaff, winning with 1,703. "RiFrAf," of Ryan and Jim Ferraro, were second with 1,597.

Time to make those plans for New Year's Eve!  
Bowladrome: Accepting reservations for bowling from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., which includes a burger, fries and a drink for \$12.50 for adults. Youth bowlers when accompanied by parents are \$6. Party favors will

be provided. Call 733-0369 for reservations.

Cedar Lanes: Spectro Bowl will be open from 9 p.m. to midnight. No age limit. Finger food and party favors. Champagne at midnight. Call 326-5902 for reservations.

Jerome Bowl: Open bowling. Excellent night for family bowling. 324-5292.

Magic Bowl: 733-2566. Open bowling-Cosmic. Open all evening. Close at 1 to 1:30 a.m.

Snake River Bowl: 679-2695. Open until 10 p.m. for open bowling. Private party scheduled after. They will be open from 4-

10 p.m. on Christmas.

In closing: To all - Merry Christmas and may God bless America.

Thelma writes a weekly column for The Times-News. Contact her at 733-4357 or by e-mail at ttuck@magickinb.com.

## YOUR SCORES AND STATS

### BOWLING

**BOYS SERIES**  
JUNIOR JAZZBALL 2001 CHAMPIONS: RICH REYNOLDS' TEAM. PICTURED FRONT, I, CASEY MILLER AND DAX GREENER; BACK, COACH REYNOLDS, IAN BLACKBURN, BRAXTON GREENER, SCOTT BRIGGS, BRENT KLETT AND STEVEN ANDERSON.

**ADULTS**  
SANTA 9-PIN CELEBRATION: JODY BRYANT, 268, 286, 300, 250, 1,104.

**JUNIORS**  
DIVISION I: KOJO'S (Koi Jo, Joelle Moses), 1,186.  
DIVISION II: TWO OF A KIND (Nick & Don Parsons), 1,685.

**ADULTS**  
SANTA 9-PIN CELEBRATION: JODY BRYANT, 268, 286, 300, 250, 1,104.  
MAGIC BOWL: JODY BRYANT, 268, 286, 300, 250, 1,104.

**JUNIORS**  
DIVISION I: KOJO'S (Koi Jo, Joelle Moses), 1,186.  
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**ADULTS**  
SANTA 9-PIN CELEBRATION: JODY BRYANT, 268, 286, 300, 250, 1,104.  
MAGIC BOWL: JODY BRYANT, 268, 286, 300, 250, 1,104.

**JUNIORS**  
DIVISION I: KOJO'S (Koi Jo, Joelle Moses), 1,186.  
DIVISION II: TWO OF A KIND (Nick & Don Parsons), 1,685.

Player	Game 1	Game 2	Game 3	Game 4	Total
Jody Bryant	268	286	300	250	1,104
Ken Hinton	260	270	280	280	1,090
Gary Hottel	265	275	285	277	1,082
Matt Olson	260	270	280	275	1,085
Drew Foster	255	265	275	279	1,074
Randy Gentry	250	260	270	260	1,040

### Movies

#### Twin Cinema

Showing in 8 Theaters - Advanced Tickets Available Today 8:45 - 7:15 • 8:00 - 8:45

**Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG)**  
Today 7:30 - 9:45  
Shannon Elizabeth - 15 Ghosts (R)  
Tom Cruise - Vanilla Sky (R)  
Domestic Disturbance (15)  
Today 7:00 - 8:30 Shallow Hall (15)  
Today 7:15 - 7:30 - 8:15 - 8:45  
Wait Disney Monsters Inc (G)  
Today 7:30 - 8:45  
Robert Redford Spy Games (R)  
Today 7:15 - 8:30 - 8:00  
Lord of the Rings (15)

### LAMPHOUSE THEATRE

223 5th Ave S • 739-9999

## GHOST WORLD

Thora Birch • Steve Buscemi  
4:00-7:00-9:15

### Odyssey 6

Daily 7:00 - 9:30  
Gene Hackman - The Helix (R)  
George Clooney - Oceans 11 (15)  
Kevin Spacey in K-PAX (15)  
Daily 7:30 - 9:30  
A Snowboarder's Guide - Out Cold (15)  
Not Another Teen Movie (15)  
Daily 7:00 - 9:15  
Martin Lawrence in Black Knight (15)

### Jerome 4

Daily 7:00-9:45  
George Clooney - Oceans 11 (15)  
Harry Potter (G)  
Daily 7:15 - 8:15  
Gene Hackman Behind Enemy Lines (15)  
Daily 7:30 - Lord of the Rings (15)

### Orpheum

Daily 7:00 - 9:10  
Gene Hackman Behind Enemy Lines (15)

## A RING TO RULE THE SCREEN!

-Based Upon N.W.W.H.I.E-

# THE LORD OF THE RINGS

THE HOLOBAWDS OF THE RING

Now at the Twin & Jerome Cinema

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Provided to the "What the West Wears"

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### MENS Wrangler

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38-40 Lengths \$21.95 Big Lengths \$24.95

# \$19.95

Ladies Rocky Mountain & Roper Jeans Values to \$2999 \$49.95 \$2999 \$3495

### Red Lodge Trading Co.

Fleece Lined Hooded Flannel Shirts Extended Sizes to 2XL1

# \$2499

Mens Corral West Brand Snap Front Western Shirts Extended Sizes to 2XL1

# \$2199

Wrangler 20X Hooded Sweatshirts \$3495

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EXTENDED HOURS FOR CHRISTMAS

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Ariat Boots Regular Price \$99.00 - \$120.00

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### Childrens Boots

Leather Uppers - Composition Sole \$2495 to \$4495

### Felt Cowboy Hats

Fur Blend..... \$3995

### Rodeo King

5X Felt... 10X Felt... 20X Felt  
Fur Felt Cowboy Hats \$6995 \$9995 \$19995

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2" Wide with "No Slip" Clip \$1995

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Annie Oakley White Lily & Honeysuckle \$2195

### New Styles and Great Selection

Montana Silversmiths Buckles & Jewelry

### Justin Roper Boots

\$8900

### Work Boots

\$11995

### Justin Gear Bag

with any Justin Boot Purchase Available While Supplies Last

### Kids Boots

Crope Sole \$2499 to \$4499

## Effective January 1st, 2002 Twin Falls Clinic & Hospital's Emergency Room is Closed

All emergency services will be available at our Emergency Room at the Magic Valley Hospital.

If you are experiencing a medical emergency please go to Magic Valley Hospital Emergency Room, located at 400 S. Shoshone.

The emergency room or your doctor are available to you 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

At Magic Valley Hospital, we are committed to providing the highest quality of care for our patients.

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES

ALL-CONTRACTS AVAILABLE

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

550 Shoshone

Medical services that are not life-threatening

Routine medical services

Wellness checkups

Physicals

Injections

Other services

Imaging

Ultrasound

Mammograms

To schedule an appointment call