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News-News


Twin Falls, Idaho/96th year, No. 355

Friday, December 21, 2001

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

 Today: Chance of snow today, lessening tonight, high 36, low 18.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Cash crunch: Burley lawmaker Sen. Bruce Newcomb predicts and tough legislative session next month.
Page B1

MONEY

Menu changes?: A restaurant industry veteran is the heir-apparent to head IHOP Corp., which is preparing a Twin Falls restaurant.
Page E14

WEEKEND

By our own writers: What's new and local from Magic and Wood River valley writers for Christmas '01?
Page C1

SPORTS



The Hermitator: Two-time Olympic and world champion Hermann Maier is back on skis after nearly losing a leg this year in an accident.
Page D1

On the hardwood: Highland at Twin Falls led a full slate of high school basketball action Thursday.
Page D1

OPINION


Weathering a recession: Kempthorne takes a reasonable approach to use "rainy day fund," today's editorial says.
Page A10

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WINTER ARRIVES HARD, EARLY



Four-year-old Colby Marsh, who lives in East Fork between Halley and Ketchum, has no trouble making do with the nearly 100 inches of snow that has fallen on the Sun Valley area over the past couple of weeks. Colby has had boards on his feet for three years, said his mother.

Moisture lifts snowpacks, farmers' spirits

By Robert Mayer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Although the calendar officially marks today as the first day of winter, Idaho has experienced winter-like conditions for nearly a month.

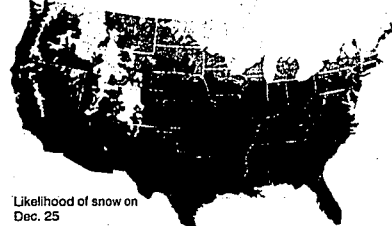
The region has received a healthy dose of rain and snow since late November, all but erasing the drought that has nearly drained the state's reservoirs.

Since October, the Twin Falls area has received 2.63 inches of rain and 13.3 inches of snow, while Idaho's overall statewide basin snowpack average has climbed to 139 percent of normal.

Additionally, the lack of a big freeze has helped replenish the groundwater. Although most nights the temperature has dropped below freezing, the relatively warm days have prevented the ground from permanently freezing, allowing much of the

Dreaming of a white Christmas

Scenes of a white Christmas are not likely in most of the country as forecasters predict where it will snow in the United States on Dec. 25.



Likelihood of snow on Dec. 25
■ 25% or less ■ 26% - 50% ■ 51% - 75% □ 76% - 100%

SOURCE: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration AP

How are we doing?

Thursday's snowpack figures for the mountains that supply irrigation water to southern Idaho.

Watershed	Percent of average
Upper Snake River	101%
Salmon Falls Creek	166%
Oakley Basin	202%
Big and Little Wood	137%

Source: National Resources Conservation Service

Views on the weather - A2
Sun Valley fills rooms - B1

for the Idaho Department of Water Resources, cautions against premature optimism.

"We're off to a great start, but we've got a long way to go before we can be confident," he said.

With the snow accumulation season running from the beginning of November to the end of March, and with the bulk of the

Train kills 20 deer among herd near Dietrich

By Robert Mayer
Times-News writer

DIETRICH - While this season snowfall has been a blessing for farmers, it has proved to be lethal for some migrating animals.

Thursday morning, a train killed 20 deer that were walking along an active railroad track just outside of Dietrich. Cody

When deer are in the road
Drivers should be extra cautious during the migratory season for big game animals, Capt. Dave Neal of the Idaho State Police said.

If a collision with a deer seems imminent, Neal advises drivers to hit the animal straight on rather than swerve to avoid it. Such evasive maneuvers may cause the driver to lose control with perhaps even graver results.

He also advises, if possible, smooth braking, as heavy braking tends to lower the nose of the vehicle which could scoop the animal up, throwing it into the windshield.

Conant was driving along the highway that parallels the tracks when he witnessed an oncoming train fast approaching a group of

nearly 60 deer. The engineer blasted the horn, Conant said, but rather than scatter away from the tracks, the deer simply remained on the tracks and tried to outrun the train.

"I was shocked," he said. "It was a horrible deal to watch."

In another incident earlier this week, a group of antelope was killed on Highway 93 between

Researchers discover colossal calamari

Mystery squid lives three miles down

The Associated Press

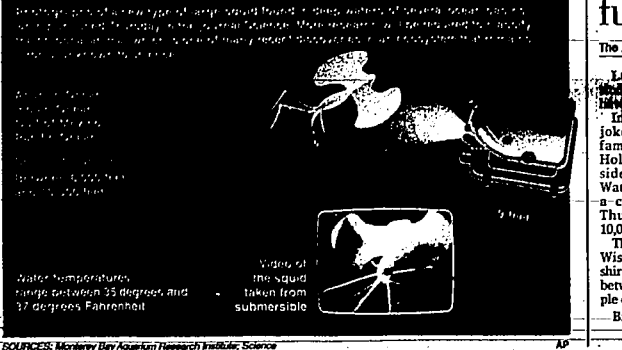
WASHINGTON - A bizarre creature with 20-foot-long spidery legs that lives in the cold, inky black three miles below the surface of the ocean has been discovered in photographs taken by deep sea submersibles.

"I call it a mystery squid," said Mike Vecchione, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration researcher. "It's unlike any other squid I've ever seen."

Vecchione, first author of a study appearing Friday in the *Journal of Science*, said the only evidence of the squid comes from photographs and video images taken during submersible dives.

Please see SQUID, Page A4

Mysterious deep-water giant



Water temperatures range between 35 degrees and 37 degrees Fahrenheit. Video of the squid taken from submersible

SOURCES: Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute; Science AP

Bush targets more groups

One gave nuclear secrets to al-Qaida, president contends

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - President Bush stepped up the financial war on terrorism Thursday as he moved to choke off global funding to two groups and three individuals accused of backing the suspects in the Sept. 11 attacks on America.

The president announced his latest "strikes" in the Rose Garden on a blustery afternoon as he delivered an upbeat, 100-day progress report on the U.S.-led international campaign against terrorism.

"We and our coalition have done much in the past hundred days. With the help of freedom-loving countries around the world, we will do much more to rid the world of evil and of terrorists," Bush vowed.

Meanwhile, the first British peacekeepers flew into Afghanistan as the United Nations approved their mission to help the nation heal after decades of war. Fifty-three British Royal Marines landed at Bagram air base north of Kabul, part of an initial contingent of up to 200 peacekeepers that will move into the capital ahead of Saturday's inauguration of an interim administration.

The dangers in the strife-ridden country were brought into sharp

Please see TARGET, Page A2

Judge upholds most of Idaho's consent law

The Associated Press

BOISE - A federal judge on Thursday upheld the core of Idaho's law requiring parental or judicial consent for minors seeking abortions, but said two key elements are unconstitutional.

U.S. Magistrate R. Mark Williams said the law, passed by the Legislature in 2000 and modified last winter to accommodate an earlier ruling, generally would not impose an undue burden on young women seeking to end unwanted pregnancies.

But Williams struck down a provision restricting the opportunity for obtaining judicial consent to judges in the girl's home county or the county where the abortion is to be performed. He said there was "no legitimate state interest."

Please see UPHOLD, Page A2

Scientists claim they've found funniest joke

The Associated Press

LONDON - After months of serious study and much merriment, 100,000 people have voted on the world's funniest joke.

In an experiment named Laughlab, a joke about Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. Watson emerged as a clear winner Thursday from 10,000 entries.

The experiment, devised by Dr. Richard Wiseman of the University of Hertfordshire, also looked at differences in humor between men and women and among people of 11 nations.

Big differences emerged between the

Please see JOKE, Page A4

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

AccuWeather.com

IDAHO ALMANAC

Idaho Extremes
 Yesterday: High 50°
 Pama Low 12°
 Salmon

30/20

Missoula 29/14
 Lewiston 38/28

McCall 28/8
 Salmon 27/10

Boise 36/22
 Sun Valley 35/10
 Idaho Falls 31/18
 Pocatello 32/22

TWIN FALLS 35/18

Source: Asthma and Allergy of Idaho

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

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Flurries and breeze of sunshine.	Partly cloudy.	Partly sunny; snow possible at night.	Clouds followed by some sunshine.	Partly sunny.	Partly sunny.
▲ 36°	▼ 18°	▲ 30° ▼ 16°	▲ 32° ▼ 18°	▲ 34° ▼ 20°	▲ 34° ▼ 22°

REGIONAL WEATHER

Southern Idaho: Cloudy with a snow shower or two during the morning; a low breaks in the clouds by afternoon and maybe a flurry. Highs 34-40. Decreasing clouds this evening, then partly cloudy overnight. Lows 18-24.

Boise: Cloudy with a snow shower or two during the morning; a few breaks in the clouds by afternoon and maybe a flurry. Highs 36. Decreasing clouds this evening; then partly cloudy overnight. Low 22.

Northern Nevada: Cloudy during the morning with some widely spaced snow showers; becoming partly sunny west and mostly cloudy east during the afternoon. Highs 28-37. Partly cloudy tonight. Lows 5-15.

Northern Idaho: Cloudy with widespread snow showers, most intense in the mountains; a couple of inches in the valleys to 6 inches in the mountains. Highs 27-33. Mostly cloudy with a snow shower or two tonight. Lows 12-18.

Southern Idaho: Early morning clouds and a flurry or two giving way to plenty of sun by afternoon. Seasonably cold with highs 26-36. Partly to mostly cloudy tonight with a few flurries possible. Lows 15-20.

NATIONAL EXTREMES

High 81° in Chandler, AZ Low -11° in Gunnison, CO

NATIONAL WEATHER

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

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Boise	36-46	28-36	Idaho Falls	31-41	23-31
Butte	35-45	27-35	Jerome	28-38	20-30
Coeur d'Alene	35-45	27-35	Malheur	30-40	22-32
Elgin	35-45	27-35	Meridian	35-45	27-35
Hailey	35-45	27-35	Moreno	35-45	27-35
Heppner	35-45	27-35	Northwest	35-45	27-35
Home	35-45	27-35	Payson	35-45	27-35
Idaho Falls	31-41	23-31	Shoshone	35-45	27-35
Jerome	28-38	20-30	Twin Falls	35-45	27-35
Malheur	30-40	22-32	Wendover	35-45	27-35
Meridian	35-45	27-35	Yellowstone	22-32	14-24
Moreno	35-45	27-35			
Northwest	35-45	27-35			
Payson	35-45	27-35			
Shoshone	35-45	27-35			
Twin Falls	35-45	27-35			
Wendover	35-45	27-35			
Yellowstone	22-32	14-24			

CANADIAN CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Calgary	11-18	10-18	Edmonton	5-15	24-30
Charlottetown	2-7	22-30	Kelowna	33-37	30-38
Edmonton	5-15	24-30	Fort St. John	28-32	27-30
Kelowna	33-37	30-38	Regina	18-21	11-11
Fort St. John	28-32	27-30	Saskatoon	18-24	17-10
Regina	18-21	11-11	Vancouver	42-44	34-34
Saskatoon	18-24	17-10	Victoria	44-45	41-33
Vancouver	42-44	34-34	Winnipeg	22-27	18-15
Victoria	44-45	41-33			
Winnipeg	22-27	18-15			

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today: 8:04 a.m.
 Sunset tonight: 5:08 p.m.
 Moonrise today: 12:37 p.m.
 Moonset tonight: 11:54 p.m.

First Full Last New
 Dec 22 Dec 30 Jan 5 Jan 13

UV INDEX TODAY

10
8
6
4
2
0
-2

6 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m.

0-1, Minimal; 2-3, Low; 4-6, Moderate; 7-9, High; 10+, Very High. Values indicate the exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays.

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Atlanta	59-69	56-62	Chicago	37-47	30-37
Baltimore	42-54	42-54	Denver	49-59	42-52
Boston	30-38	37-28	Detroit	36-46	29-31
Buffalo	29-37	21-28	Houston	68-78	62-71
Charlotte	60-70	58-69	Los Angeles	61-71	54-64
Chicago	37-47	30-37	London	51-59	48-56
Cleveland	36-46	31-32	Manila	26-34	26-34
Columbus	49-59	42-52	Medan	26-34	26-34
Dallas	62-72	55-65	Osaka	51-59	48-56
Dallas	62-72	55-65	Seoul	51-59	48-56
Denver	49-59	42-52	Singapore	26-34	26-34
Detroit	36-46	29-31	Taipei	51-59	48-56
El Paso	61-71	54-64	Tokyo	51-59	48-56
Fairbanks	18-18	-10	Winnipeg	22-27	18-15
Fargo	26-36	20-24	Yokohama	51-59	48-56
Honolulu	83-89	82-87			
Houston	68-78	62-71			
Indianapolis	39-49	32-37			
Jacksonville	62-72	55-65			
Kansas City	49-59	42-52			
Las Vegas	49-59	42-52			
Little Rock	59-69	52-58			
Los Angeles	61-71	54-64			

WINTER

Continued from A1

Larsen points out last year's winter season also started off promising, with snowpack measuring 87 percent by mid-December, but ended with a fizzle, totaling only 50 percent.

"We start off good, but then it just quits. Sometimes it just stops snowing," he said. "We desperately need this weather pattern to continue. We live or die based on our snowpack."

Long-range forecasts by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Boise are calling for normal temperatures and normal precipitation for the remainder of the season.

Lus Colin, lead forecaster for the National Weather Service in Boise, said this "wet and stormy period for the last couple of weeks" may change to a dry period in the first week of January.

Farmers have borne the brunt of the drought that plagued the recent year.

RICK Rodgers, a farmer in Roseworth who grows malt barley, hay and feed corn, welcomes the precipitation. Arid conditions caused Rodgers to lose \$30,000 last year, forcing him to leave 140 acres of his nearly 900 acre fallow because of an irrigation water shortage.

Terry Kramer, a Castleford farmer of barley and alfalfa, tempers his enthusiasm with measured amounts of caution.

"This has been extremely helpful," he said, adding that it's going to require at least 200 percent of normal moisture to sufficiently recharge the groundwater supply. "One hundred percent isn't going to do it."

Farmers aren't the only people happy with the weather. Others include:

- Ski resorts. The abundance of snow naturally has people in that industry overjoyed.
- "This record snowpack we have for this time of year has got our phones ringing," said Jack Sibbach, spokesman for the Sun Valley Resort. "Business has picked up briskly."
- The top of the mountain in the Sun Valley region is measuring 81 inches of snow, the most Sibbach has seen since 1982.
- Fire officials. The snow being dumped in the mountains could also pave the way for a lower fire danger in the upcoming year.

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WINDS

Continued from A1

Edwards, a business owner and avid golfer who normally plays twice a week, said the abundant snow and rain have put his pursuit on hold for a few months.

"This year I'm kind of excited to see the snow because it was getting so dry up in the mountains," he said. "By February, I'll be real tired of it, but right now it's not too bad."

said Ed Waldapfel, spokesman for Sawtooth National Forest. The rain and snow are soaking into the large fuel - the dead trees and other wood on the forest floor - making it more difficult to ignite during the summer months.

"This is tremendous for us," he said.

The potential for fire will be known in the spring, when he evaluates the moisture in the wood, grass and duff layer of pine needles.

Target

Continued from A1

focus by an afternoon explosion in the northern city of Murree. Sharif, where a fragmentation grenade ripped through a market, wounding 100 people.

And Pakistani troops recaptured a dozen al-Qaida fighters who had escaped their guards-the day before. The fighters had been cornered in Pakistan after trying to flee Tor Bora, across the border in Afghanistan, but they overcame their captors amid a deadly gun battle. Up to seven fugitives escaped last night.

Deer

Continued from A1

Jerome and Shoshone.

Such accidents are occurring with greater frequency, said Mike Todd, regional conservation educator for the Idaho Fish and Game Department's Magic Valley region. He attributes the incidents to the snow that has fallen in southern Idaho making it difficult for the animals to trek to lower elevations.

Once the snow accumulates to more than 2 feet deep, deer and antelope have difficulty moving about, and thus, start seeking areas that are free from snow and out of the wind, he said.

"They find places to bed down that's convenient, and this happens," he said. "Unfortunately, they pick the wrong place to do it."

He said that while his office normally receives a fair number of reports of animals being hit throughout the year, he hasn't seen this level of accidental slaughtering of herds since the severe winter of 1995-92. During light snow seasons, such as have occurred in the last few years, deer are still able to find vegetation and are less inclined to migrate to lower elevations. The deeper the snowpack, the farther south the deer must progress.

Glenn and Thomane McCleary have seen their 240 acres at King Hill overrun with more than 500 head of deer and antelope. It's an expensive invasion, as the migratory animals are eating the stock pasture that was meant for the McCleary's 61 head of cattle.

Report: bin Laden names hijackers

WASHINGTON (AP) - Osama bin Laden names some of the Sept. 11 hijackers and commends them to Allah, according to a more thorough translation by one of the experts hired by the government to review a videotape of the suspected terrorist.

A more leisurely review of the tape, which was released by the government last week, came up with "a whole bunch of names," translator George Michael said Thursday in an interview with The Associated Press. He would identify only three: Nawaf Alzahrani, Salem Alhazmi and Wail Alshehri.

"You'll have to talk to the Pentagon about the rest," Michael said.

An independent translator, who is a native Saudi, told AP that bin Laden also refers to the name Alhamdi several times in reference to suspected hijackers Ahmed Alghamdi, Hamza Alghamdi and Saeed Alghamdi.

Alshehri was on American Airlines flight 11, the first plane to hit the Twin Towers at the World Trade Center in New York; Alhamzi and Alhazmi were on American Airlines flight 77, which hit the Pentagon.

Views on the weather

It was difficult Thursday to find any one weary of the Magic Valley's wintry weather in recent weeks. Most were like Sonja Parish, a hearing specialist:

"If I didn't like the snow and the wind, I wouldn't live in Idaho," she said.

Still, there were a few happy faces the shortest day of the year arrived. Laurie Davis, a service technician with a local natural gas company, said the cold weather has kept her busy, servicing 20-25 houses a day, and sometimes working until 8 a.m. in fact, by the first day of winter, the bulk of her work is over.

"The first day of winter means spring is not far behind," she said. "I really look forward to the days getting longer. That part of it is great."

Erud Richards, a business owner and avid golfer who normally plays twice a week, said the abundant snow and rain have put his pursuit on hold for a few months.

"This year I'm kind of excited to see the snow because it was getting so dry up in the mountains," he said. "By February, I'll be real tired of it, but right now it's not too bad."

Uphold

Continued from A1

In restricting minors in this way."

Idaho has only six abortion providers. They are located in three of the state's 44 counties.

Despite warnings that it was unconstitutional, the two-county provision was approved by anti-abortion lawmakers to replace an earlier judicial bypass that Williams voided in the summer of 2000 as too restrictive. That provision limited a girl to judges in her judicial district, which ranges from four to 10 counties.

Also on Thursday, the judge barred implementation of a requirement that doctors notify parents within 24 hours after performing abortions. The medical emergency without parental or judicial consent.

"All other states allow a physician to proceed with treatment if he believes an abortion is necessary without any requirements upon him following the procedure other than his ethical obligation to care for his patient," Williams wrote in the 42-page opinion.

However, the judge rejected arguments from Planned Parenthood of Idaho Inc. that the law was too restrictive in defining medical emergencies. He also dismissed claims that a provision setting criminal sanctions against doctors who perform abortions on minors without parental or judicial consent was unconstitutionally vague and unenforceable.

Williams said adequate constitutional protection was provided by the requirement that the state prove beyond a reasonable doubt that physicians knew they were violating the law.

Clarification

A story in Wednesday's paper on a group of people working on a dairy ordinance needs to be clarified. Bill Chisholm and Rich Carlson are members and paid employees of the Idaho Rural Council.

Circulation

Daniel Walock, circulation director

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NATION

Accusations in Congress fly as stimulus bill dies for this year

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The Senate officially buried economic stimulus legislation Thursday as lawmakers rushed to wrap up the congressional session by quickly approving the remaining spending bills along with a tax-relief bill for victims of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.



Tom Daschle
Majority leader

The collapse of the stimulus package left the session ending on a sour note - two months after the original target date for adjournment - with both sides casting blame at each other as they left town. Administration officials, increasingly bold about portraying Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., as an obstructionist, asserted that a deal had been struck in reach Wednesday but that Daschle blocked it at the last minute. Democrats denied that, saying the two sides had remained far apart on many issues.

Another priority deemed essential by the administration - legis-

lation to help protect income tax returns from devastating losses in any future terrorist attacks - also remained unresolved. Insurance companies have pledged to boost rates if action is not taken by year's end. But the measure was bogged down in the Senate in a dispute over Republicans' insistence on limitations on liability from lawsuits, including a ban on punitive damages and a cap on lawyers' fees.

In a burst of cooperation before starting the monthlong recess, the Senate joined the House in approving federal tax relief for families of victims of the terrorist attacks. The measure waives income tax liability for the year of death and the year preceding it.

Those who do not earn enough to pay income taxes would receive a minimum payment of \$10,000. Relief was also provided from the federal estate tax.

A compromise on tax relief to help New York City businesses recover from the attack was reached too late to include in the package, and will be considered early next year. Lawmakers also failed to pass a package of corporate tax breaks that expire at the end of the year, requiring action early next year to restore the breaks.

The death of the stimulus measure presented a risk for both sides. Republicans are gambling that they can convince the public that Democrats are at fault for the failure to agree on steps to bolster the economy and help unemployed workers. Some Democrats are betting that the economy may recover enough to help lessen the pressure for corporate and individual tax breaks, allowing them to focus the package on unemployment benefits.

Report: Body may be that of missing biologist

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) - A body carrying the identification of a missing Harvard University scientist was found Thursday in the Mississippi River, about 300 miles south of where the man was last seen.

Police Lt. Joe Scott said a positive identification will be made after the body, discovered near a hydroelectric plant in Vidalia, La., is returned to Memphis for an autopsy.

A wallet on the body carried the name of Don C. Wiley, a molecular biologist whose abandoned rental car was found Nov. 16 on a Mississippi River bridge in Memphis. The keys were in the ignition and the tank full of gas.

Peacekeepers prepare for Afghan mission

Los Angeles Times

UNITED NATIONS - Peacekeepers will be dispatched to Kabul this weekend under a Security Council resolution approved Thursday that authorized an international force to safeguard the area around the Afghan capital over the next six months.

The resolution, passed unanimously after two weeks of closed-door debate, formally endorses Britain's offer "to take the lead in organizing and commanding" the force. An initial contingent of about 200 British troops is expected in Kabul before a new interim government is sworn in Saturday. "The United Kingdom is ready to go," Jeremy Greenstock, the

British ambassador to the United Nations, said after the vote here.

Deliberately not mentioned in the resolution is the subordinate relationship of U.N.-authorized peacekeepers to U.S. forces in the country.

The British government, in a letter to the Security Council on Wednesday, said that while its mission would have a distinct mandate and command structure, the Pentagon should retain ultimate control over foreign forces in Afghanistan.

The British also said that they would lead the peacekeeping mission only until April 30, when their troops would be withdrawn. Some American forces are expected to remain well beyond that point.

Interior secretary calls for investigation of fur planting

DENVER (AP) - Interior Secretary Gale Norton has called for an investigation of federal biologists who planted lynx fur in two national forests.

Norton said Wednesday she was deeply troubled by the situation and asked her agency's inspector general to investigate. The Forest Service is expected to announce that it also is planning to investigate, The Denver Post reported Thursday.

During the 2000 sampling session, biologists planted three samples of lynx fur on rubbing

posts in parts of the Wenatchee and Gifford Pinchot national forests in Washington state, areas not normally home to the lynx. Fur taken from the posts is used to indicate if the wildcats have been in the area.

The seven biologists - three from the Forest Service, two from the Fish and Wildlife Service and two from the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife - admitted they planted the samples, but said their intent was simply to test whether the lab could accurately identify the lynx fur.

Florida official must pay legal fees

BARTOW, Fla. (AP) - Florida Secretary of State Katherine Harris and her family must pay more than \$230,000 in legal fees after losing a battle over the estate of her late grandfather, a judge ruled.

The feud pitted Harris and her mother, Harriett Harris, the daughter of citrus and cattle baron Ben Hill Griffin Jr., against Griffin's four other children. Harris, who was vilified by Democrats and feted by

Republicans for her central role in the Florida presidential recount last year, announced in October that she is running for Congress.

Circuit Judge Michael Hunter ruled Tuesday that the Harrises must pay \$222,370 in attorney's fees and \$12,866 in court costs.

Griffin's four daughters challenged their brother in court last year, saying he took more than his share of the \$500 million estate. They settled out of court.

Hundreds riot at California state prison

LANCASTER, Calif. (AP) - About 300 inmates rioted at a crowded state prison Thursday, prompting a crackdown by guards using tear gas and wooden bullets, authorities said. Six inmates were seriously injured.

Fighting broke out in a prison yard about 10:45 a.m., said Marjot Bach, a state corrections spokeswoman.

The riot was quelled after about 15 minutes and the entire institution was locked down, Bach said. The prison is in the High Desert, about 40 miles north of Los Angeles.

Guards used pepper spray, tear gas and wooden bullets on the prisoners before firing several warning shots, Bach said. She said it was unclear whether any prisoners were hurt.

Numerous inmate-manufactured weapons were found on the yard, Bach said. Two inmates were stabbed and had collapsed lungs, while two others had serious slash wounds, she said.

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 MONDAY DEC 17 10-10
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 Washington had argued for some form of coordinating power over all allied troops in the country in order to avoid inadvertent casualties or even confrontations among friendly forces.
 "We need to make sure that the international assistance force does not in any way interfere with our efforts to root out the remaining elements of al-Qaida and the Taliban," U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte said Thursday.
 There must be "a clear-cut division of labor between the two forces," Negroponte said, with peacekeepers confined to security responsibilities in and around Kabul while American forces wage war elsewhere in the country.

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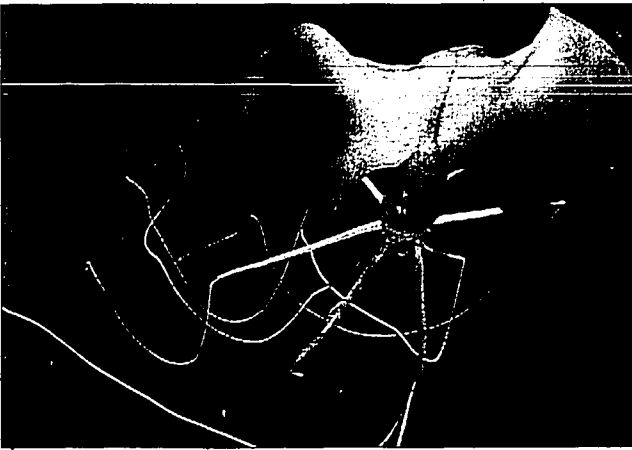
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NATION



AP photo

A deep-sea submersible vehicle took this picture of a luminous squid this past May in the central Pacific Ocean. The squid, with 20-foot-long spidery legs, was sighted at a depth of 11,154 feet, just less than two miles.

Squid

Continued from A1
 However, he said, the findings are persuasive because they came from eight independent world-wide sightings by scientists from eight institutions in four countries.
 The sightings were in the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans and in the Gulf of Mexico. The deepest sighting came at 15,534 feet — almost three miles below the surface — in the western Atlantic off the coast of Brazil.
 "Not only is this thing really bizarre, it seems to be fairly common in deep waters all over the world," said Vecchione.
 Little is known about creatures living in the deep waters of the world's oceans, he said.
 "This is the largest unexplored part of the Earth by far," said Vecchione. "I firmly believe that there is a lot of really weird stuff down there that we don't know about.... We are really ignorant about what lives on our own planet" at great depths.
 "The photos show an animal with a relatively small head

topped by large fleshy, collar-like fins. Extending from the base of the head are 10 wispy appendages sweeping out for up to 20 feet. Some of the appendages are sharply bent, as if at a joint. Some scientists reported seeing suckers on the upper part of the limbs. Suckers are a common feature of squid. The largest animal sighted was about 21 feet long, but most of that was legs and tentacles.
 "It is very distinctive with the very long skinny arms, with an elbow," said Vecchione. "There are 10 appendages there, but they all seem to be pretty much the same. In most squid, two would be tentacles."
 The scientist said he could not estimate the weight or mass of the animal but observed: "It is not like a giant squid which has a really massive body. This is a fairly small squid with bizarre arms that stretch on forever."
 The deep water home of the squid is a world of darkness, untouched by light from the surface. Many animals living there make their own light with luminescent chemicals in their bodies,

but Vecchione said there was no evidence the squid could make light.

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The Times-News Online

Joke

Continued from A1
 jokes liked by men and women, with men favoring jokes involving aggression, putting down women and sexual innuendo.
 Women preferred jokes involving word play such as: "A man walks into a bar with a piece of tarmac under his arm. He says to the bartender: 'A pint for me, and one for the road.'"
 Laughlab, organized in conjunction with the British Association for the Advancement of Science, claimed it was the largest experiment of its kind ever conducted. Volunteers were asked to log on to an Internet site where they could rate jokes and add their own.
 The joke voted the world's second-funniest was submitted from the United States, Wiseman said.
 Germans rated more jokes "very funny" than people of any other nationality.
 Being easily amused is not the

The winners ... (?)

World's funniest joke
 Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson go camping, and pitch their tent under the stars. During the night, Holmes wakes his companion and says: "Watson, look up at the stars, and tell me what you produce?"
 Watson says: "I see millions of stars, and even if a few of those have planets, it's quite likely that on some planets like Earth, and if there are a few planets like Earth out there, there might also be life."
 Holmes replies: "Watson, you idiot. Somebody stole our tent!"

World's second funniest joke
 Two hunters from New Jersey are out in the woods when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing. The other whips out his mobile phone and calls the emergency services. He gasps out to the operator: "My friend is dead. What can I do?"
 The operator in a calm soothing voice says "Just take it easy. First let's make sure he's dead."
 There is a silence, then a shot is heard. The guy's voice comes back on the line. He says: "OK, now what?"

same as having a good sense of humor, however. One of the favorite jokes in Germany was: "Why is television called a medium? Because it is neither rare nor well-done."
 Other jokes rated as supremely funny in different countries were as follows:
 Sweden: "A guy phones the local hospital and yells, 'You've

gotta send help! My wife's in labor!' The nurse says, 'Calm down. Is this her first child?' He replies, 'No! This is her husband!'"
 Canada: "What do you call a woman who can balance four pint glasses of beer on her head? Bearsh." "Think 'tricks with beer' and the joke comes into focus."
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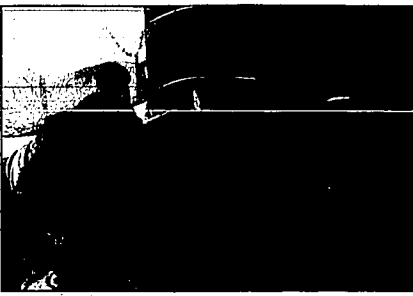
KABU, Afghanistan (AP) — The warm smell of baking bread rose in the frosty morning air, and the brick oven's glow illuminated what is still a rare tableau in this country: a group of women, sleeves rolled up, working for pay.

The "widows' bakeries" of Kabul, closed for the past 2.5 months, reopened Thursday, providing food for the city's neediest — and jobs and dignity for the all-female staff.

At Bakery No. 4, a mud-walled compound in Kabul's run-down Karti Ariana district, the thump and thud of rolling pins resounded as half a dozen women shaped lumps of flour dough into the oval flatbread that is a staple of the Afghan diet.

Outside, where ice had glazed the puddles overnight, a small crowd of women in ragged blue burqas gathered, waiting for the first hot stacks of loaves fresh from the oven. "We're very happy to have this bread," said a 38-year-old mother of seven named Bibi Gul, taking her little girl by the hand as they headed for home.

Twenty-one of the bakeries run by the U.N. World Food Program



Afghan women work in a bakery in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday. The bakery was reopened by the United Nations Food Program.

fired up their ovens on Thursday, with more to follow. The WFP bakeries provide subsidized bread to more than 6,700 Kabul families, a ration of five loaves a day for a family of six.

The bread was free on Thursday, but the bakeries were expected to begin charging a small fee again soon. When they last operated, they charged 2,000 Afghanis a loaf — about 10 cents at the time.

Under Taliban rule, the bakeries were used as a lifeline for thousands of widows in the capital, who might have quietly starved without them. Women were not allowed to work, or even to leave their homes unaccompanied by a

male relative, so widows were left trapped and destitute.

The bakeries were a rare exception to the ban on women working — but their relationship with the Taliban was fraught with constant tension.

"They were very, very suspicious of us," said Masuda Jalal of the WFP. "They would come and watch the compounds, to make sure there were no men coming and going, ever."

No one is sure why the Taliban chose to let the bakeries keep operating. Pressure from the international aid agencies funding most of them helped, so did the long Afghan tradition of commercial bakeries run by women.

Taliban chief had secret life of luxury

Chicago Tribune

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — Five years ago Mullah Mohammed Omar began building a compound for himself against the backdrop of four towering mountain ranges, in perhaps the most picturesque part of the city.

This wasn't just any compound. It had air conditioning units in every room; a mosque; a fountain with benches, a sculpture of a mountaintop, custom-designed wall units and a Western-style kitchen replete with a dishwasher.

Painted in pastel shades, the Mullah's home was decorated with murals of mountains, rivers and flowers. Concrete ceilings were painted to look like wooden beams and poles were sculpted into tree trunks.

It was a far cry from the modest mud bungalow where Omar

began his Kandahar career as Amir-ul-Mumineen or leader of the faithful.

By the end of his iron-fisted reign, he had not only acquired three wives and nine children, but also a fabulous compound and six Toyota Land Cruisers with cruise control, tinted windows and built-in refrigerators. Not bad for a man who saw himself as the upholder of an Islamic way of life compromised by corruption and excess.

"It really bothers me," said Janan Muhammad, 40, a Kandahar resident. "We kept saying for three years, 'Make our roads for us,' but he kept saying he couldn't do it. He just built a big house for himself the likes of which have never been seen in Kandahar. He didn't do anything for us."

With the Taliban's departure from Kandahar, the residents of the second-largest city in

Afghanistan are beginning to learn about the indulgence of the former spiritual leader. After Omar moved to his compound a year ago, the road to his home was closed to Kandahar residents and few knew what lay behind the compound's high brick walls.

Shrouded in mystery, the one-eyed Omar remains an enigmatic figure. Few in the West know much about him, and few in Kandahar met the man who issued numerous edicts.

He fashioned a society based on what he and his fellow Taliban members thought were the purest of Islamic ideals. Women, of course, were subjected to the strictest measures: They were forbidden from leaving their homes without a male relative. They were forced to wear heavy, all-covering burqas. Music, television, kite flying, photography and painting the human form were all banned.

Report: Iraqi defector helped build banned weapons

NEW YORK (AP) — An Iraqi defector claims he helped repair secret storage facilities for biological, chemical and nuclear weapons in government buildings, a hospital and private villas until nearly a year ago. The New York Times reported Thursday.

Adnan Ihsan Saeed Al-Haidari, a civil engineer who defected in August, gave details of the projects and copies of contracts during an interview in Bangkok, Thailand, the newspaper said.

He said he personally visited at least 20 sites he believed were associated with Iraq's chemical or biological programs and that he had done repair or construction work in nuclear weapons facilities.

Al-Haidari claimed Iraq used

companies to purchase equipment with United Nations blessing, then secretly used the equipment to further its program to develop weapons of mass destruction. It was not possible to verify his claims. Unidentified spokesmen for the CIA and the Defense Intelligence Agency refused to comment, the Times said.

Advocates of targeting Iraq next in the U.S. war on terrorism say Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is trying to rebuild his unconventional weapons programs that U.N. inspectors tried to dismantle after the 1991 Gulf War. Inspectors have not been allowed into Iraq since departing ahead of U.S. airstrikes in late 1998.

The Times said the interview with Al-Haidari was arranged by the Iraqi National Congress, an Iraqi opposition group that seeks to overthrow Saddam. Al-Haidari said the group helped him flee Iraq in August.

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NATION

War demonstrates air power's abilities

By Nancy Benac
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — In their thundering attacks on Afghanistan's cities and caves, U.S. warplanes demonstrated how much air power can do and how much it has improved as a weapon of war. In the Persian Gulf War in 1991, it was unheard of for an unmanned plane to pound targets with missiles, or for a wide variety of bombs with satellite-guided tails to steer themselves, as has been done in Afghanistan. Even since the 1999 NATO bombing campaign over Kosovo, the military has refined its bombing capabilities.

The result: "By any historical standard, we've been able to restrict the scope of violence to the people who have it coming to them, in an extraordinary way," said Eliot Cohen, a professor at Johns Hopkins University's School of Advanced International Studies.

Now, as the war in Afghanistan moves into a phase likely to feature less U.S. air power, military experts point to two key factors in the success of the bombing campaign:

• **Smarter smart bombs:** Precision-guided weapons have gotten more precise and flexible, and become more prevalent throughout the military.

• **Better targeting information:** Thanks to advances in communication technology, pilots have more timely and accurate data, which shortens the time between locating a target and smacking it.

"Increasingly, we can see it and increasingly, we can kill it," said Dan Kuehl, a professor at the National Defense University. The air campaign has not been without its risks, however, as demonstrated by the deaths of three Green Berets killed by an errant U.S. bomb earlier this month and scattered reports of civilian casualties. Experts on air power also caution that Afghanistan's primitive air defenses did not expose U.S. warplanes to the risk they would face in many parts of the world.

"The biggest danger is in terms of learning the wrong lessons, to assume that other countries will be this poorly defended," said Loren Thompson, a military analyst at the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va. "You wouldn't want to fly most of our aircraft over a well-defended country."

Still, the Afghan campaign has demonstrated how U.S. air forces, whether land- or sea-based, have become the leading edge of American military power.

Mighty air power

In Afghanistan, U.S. warplanes have demonstrated the advance in air-power technology. Here are a few of the "stars."



Joint Direct Attack Munition: JDAM kits turn conventional bombs into satellite-guided warheads that can be fired from 15 miles away and are accurate to within 30 feet. They use the global positioning system and have been one of the most-used weapons in Afghanistan.

Predators: These unmanned aircraft can fly over dangerous areas and transmit video and infrared and radar information to controllers on the ground. For the first time, some have been outfitted with missiles that have been fired at al-Qaida and Taliban targets.

AC-130 gunships: Slow-moving, but they offer pinpoint accuracy. The aircraft can loiter at low altitude over a target and unload withering fire from side-mounted guns. The latest versions have radar to detect targets at long range, as well as satellite-guided navigation systems.

SOURCE: Associated Press

"It's consistent with the American way of war," said Air Force Historian Richard P. Hallion. "Always emphasize fire-power dominance and engage a foe at a distance."

The proliferation of precision-guided weapons helps do just that. Such weapons were the exception during the Gulf War, making up maybe 10 percent of munitions. In Kosovo, the majority of U.S. bombs were laser-guided, which can run into trouble in bad weather. In Afghanistan, the bombs are mainly all-weather and satellite-guided.

To trace the progress of American air capability, Thompson offers some historical contrasts: At the end of World War II, it took more than 800 flights by the Army Air Force to damage a particular Japanese aircraft engine plant. In the Gulf War, it often took many flights to destroy one target. In Afghanistan, an average carrier-based aircraft is hitting three or four targets per flight, and a bomber can hit as many as a dozen on one mission.

"Air power has enabled us not only to win quickly, but to do it humanely," Thompson said. "We get the war over quickly and, generally speaking, we don't hit civilians."

The big star of the Afghan effort is the JDAM — Joint Direct Attack Munition — a \$20,000 kit

that transforms an unguided, or "dumb," bomb with a 1,000- or 2,000-pound warhead into a "smart" weapon that uses the satellite-linked global positioning system to guide itself to its target.

It was developed after the Gulf War showed the need for precision weapons that would not be affected by clouds or adverse weather, and made a limited debut in Kosovo. In Afghanistan, it is one of the military's most-used weapons. The errant bomb that killed the three Green Berets was one of three JDAM mishaps in Afghanistan; all three incidents are under investigation.

"The JDAMs are less accurate than laser-guided

"It's consistent with the American way of war: Always emphasize fire-power dominance and engage a foe at a distance."

— Richard P. Hallion, Air Force historian

bombs but a heck of a lot cheaper and they can be dropped by a wider range of aircraft," said John Pike, a military analyst at GlobalSecurity.org.

Equally important to the success of the air war have been improvements in targeting information. The same technological advances that make a Palm Pilot or a BlackBerry paper work are at play in what military planners call "network-centric warfare." Some of that information is being relayed by unmanned aircraft controlled by someone at a computer on the ground. And for the first time in Afghanistan, the Predator unmanned aircraft are not just relaying information to warplanes; some have been firing Hellfire anti-tank missiles.

The advances in communication in the Afghan war also have a human component — U.S. special forces on the ground have been a big help in relaying precise targeting information to pilots above.

Analysts caution, however, against the inclination by some to overplay the dominance of air power to the exclusion of other kinds of force. As Marine Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said this week: "Sometimes the best weapon system is an individual with a rifle, other times the best weapon is a plane with a bomb on it."

U.S. Marines may join search of Afghan caves

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. commander of the war in Afghanistan is considering sending several hundred Marines, and possibly a smaller number of Army troops, to the mountainous Tora Bora area to join the search for clues to the remnants of the al-Qaida network.

Senior defense officials, who discussed the matter on condition of anonymity, said Thursday that Gen. Tommy Franks, head of U.S. Central Command, was inclined to send the extra forces but had made no final decision.

If they went, the U.S. forces would help search hundreds of caves and tunnels where Osama bin Laden may have been hiding before his al-Qaida forces broke and ran. A few dozen U.S. special operations troops are already in the area helping Afghan tribal forces search the caves.

Sending more troops to Tora Bora would raise the risk of casualties, but some military planners believe it is the best way to clarify who among the al-Qaida were killed during recent fighting, and, in so doing, gain a better understanding of whether bin Laden is still in that region.

Some wonder whether bin

Laden's trail has already grown cold. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Wednesday said he does not know whether bin Laden has left Afghanistan. He did not rule out the possibility that the man blamed for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks may be dead in a Tora Bora cave or tunnel.

"It does not matter. We'll find him one day," Rumsfeld said. The hunt for al-Qaida in Tora Bora has been complicated by harsh winter weather and the knowledge that some of the terrorists' abandoned bunkers and caves were probably booby-trapped or mined. It also is possible that some al-Qaida fighters are laying in wait in some caves, prepared to resume fighting.

U.S. officials have said they would like to break into caves whose entrances were sealed shut by U.S. bombing. They believe they will probably find the bodies of al-Qaida fighters there, as well as potentially useful documents.

Of the al-Qaida materials found thus far in caves, bunkers and in urban buildings throughout Afghanistan, most relate to the group's pursuit of chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, another U.S. official said.

U.S. sends arms to help fight in Philippines

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — The U.S. Army on Thursday gave hundreds of weapons, including sniper rifles, mortars and grenade launchers, to the Philippine military for use against a Muslim extremist group linked to the al-Qaida terrorist network.

The arms are part of a military package promised by President Bush when Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo visited Washington in October. Lt. Col. Jose Mabanta Jr. said

the arms are meant to "reciprocate" Arroyo's condemnation of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and "our government's role in leading the war against terrorism in Southeast Asia."

The Philippine government is fighting the Muslim extremist group Abu Sayyaf, which is holding American missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham of Wichita, Kan., and a Filipino nurse, hostage on southern Basilan island.

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Families of Sept. 11 victims will receive at least \$500,000

WASHINGTON — Families of people who died in the Sept. 11 attacks will receive at least \$500,000 under a federal victims compensation program.

The amount includes at least \$250,000 for pain and suffering and the rest for loss of wages and benefits, according to interim program rules published by the Justice Department and obtained by The Associated Press.

Nation In brief
Kenneth Feinberg, a Washington attorney who will run the program, was outlining the fund at a news conference Thursday.

According to the rules, Feinberg will develop a methodology for calculating how much victims and families should get to ensure that "similarly situated claimants should not receive dramatically different treatment."



Rescue workers stand for a moment Wednesday with the flag-draped remains of a victim of the Sept. 11 attacks at the wreckage of the World Trade Center in New York.

families of victims who earned modest wages.

Authorities identify last victim of hijacked plane
SOMERSET, Pa. — Officials

have positively identified everyone who died when United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in rural Pennsylvania on Sept. 11, other than the four hijackers.

Somerset County Coroner Wallace Miller said Wednesday that the last one of the 40 victims of the hijacking had been identified.

The four hijackers cannot be identified because there are no DNA samples available for comparison. Their remains will stay in FBI custody in case investigators need them.

The flight from Newark, N.J., to San Francisco made an abrupt turn near Cleveland and veered back across Pennsylvania before crashing into a field in Shanksville, about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. All 44 people on board were killed.

Widow of Sept. 11 hijack victim sues United Airlines

NEW YORK — A woman whose husband died aboard one of the jetliners that slammed into the World Trade Center sued the air-

line Thursday, alleging company negligence led to the Sept. 11 hijacking.

Ellen Mariani of Derry, N.H., filed the lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the southern district of New York. Her husband, Louis Mariani, 58, was a passenger on United Airlines Flight 175, the second plane to hit the center.

Her lawyer, Don Nolan, said he didn't know of any other such federal suits.

The lawsuit, which sought unspecified damages, said Ellen Mariani and her children have sustained "substantial non-economic damages" including "loss of companionship, grief, sorrow, pain and anguish."

Yemen buries 18; hunt fails to turn up al-Qaida members

ABYAN, Yemen — Yemen buried 18 soldiers killed during suspected Osama bin Laden operatives as teams went house-to-house Thursday looking for al-Qaida members.

Searchers backed by U.S.-trained special forces were in villages in Marib, Shabwa and al-

Jawf provinces, security officials

in Marib said on condition of anonymity. Tribal elders said no suspects had been captured.

Defense Minister Abdullah Ali Eleiwa and senior Interior Ministry officials were in the region directing the search for suspected members of bin Laden's al-Qaida network, the security officials said. Ministry officials could not be reached for comment.

Yemen's sweep this week appeared to be the most serious military operation yet by an Arab country against al-Qaida. The United States blames al-Qaida for the Sept. 11 terror attacks and a deadly October 2000 attack on the USS Cole, which was refueling in Yemen's port of Aden.

Boys give up money for Afghans, get park passes

WISE RIVER, Mont. — Two brothers who gave up their vacation savings to answer President Bush's request to help feed the children of Afghanistan are getting free passes to the Utah amusement park they'd been sav-

ing up to visit.

Bobby and Zachary Larson collected and recycled aluminum cans for two years for a trip to Lagoon in Utah. But when the boys heard President Bush ask each American child to donate \$1 to help starving children in Afghanistan, they announced they were sending in all of their savings — \$119.40.

Their parents and other adults couldn't talk the boys out of sending all of the money. "I felt bad that the kids (in Afghanistan) were poor and had no food," said Bobby, 9.

When their story made the news, the boys received more than 15 letters and postcards from people praising their generosity — some from as far away as New York.

On Tuesday the boys received an e-mail from Lagoon officials saying four passes were on their way for the boys and their parents.

"We are thankful to live in a country with outstanding youth" such as Bobby and Zachary," the message read.

— compiled from wire reports

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Officials link shooting spree with racial overtones to Klamath water war

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (AP) — Three men have been arrested in a shooting spree with racial overtones stemming from the summer conflict over whether endangered fish and irrigating farmers should get scarce water supplies in the Klamath Basin. Witnesses said the men yelled "sucker lovers" at Indians while driving through the town of Crawford in a pickup, firing shots from street windows and buildings in broad daylight for about an

hour on Dec. 1. A town of about 800, Chiloquin is home to the offices of the Klamath Tribes. "To be doing this, to me, is really an act of terrorism," Klamath County Sheriff Tim Evinger said Wednesday. "I consider it to be terrorizing an entire community." Arrested were George W. Curry, 23; Richard E. Sharp, 26; and Adam W. Lee, 27, all of Bonanza, east of Klamath Falls. Each was charged with felony intimidation because of their com-

ments related to Indians plus conspiracy, unlawful use of a weapon, reckless endangerment and criminal mischief, authorities said. The Klamath Tribes consider the Lost River sucker and short-nosed sucker a sacred gift from their creator. A major ceremony is held each year to mark the return of the fish to the Sprague River to spawn. Because the fish are on the endangered species list, they were a factor in the decision by the U.S.

Bureau of Reclamation to sharply reduce irrigation water to more than 1,000 farms on the Klamath Reclamation Project. During the drought last summer, water was held back in Upper Klamath Lake, where the suckers live, rather than sending it to farms. Though water was also held back from farmers to increase flows for threatened collo salmon, signs posted along roadsides and carried at demonstrations in singled out the suckers.



George W. Curry



Richard E. Sharp



Adam W. Lee

Farmers reject ideas for water conservation

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore. (AP) — Oregon State University scientists' suggestions for ways to minimize the economic pain of the Klamath Basin water wars got a cool reception from farmers who don't like having to share with endangered fish.

"It's a complex problem, but there's a simple solution," said Bob Gasser, farmer, R. Crawford. "Water has got to go back to the family farm."

Crawford and about 50 people who depend on irrigation of the 200,000 acres of the Klamath Reclamation Project for their livelihoods sat through a four-hour presentation Wednesday on a draft of a report titled "Water Allocation in the Klamath Basin: An Assessment of Natural Resource, Economic, Social and Institutional Issues."

The 301-page report was conceived last July by faculty at OSU after protests broke out over the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation decision it had to severely reduce irrigation on the Klamath Reclamation Project during a drought to abide by Endangered Species Act demands for water for endangered suckers in Upper Klamath Lake and threatened salmon in the Klamath River.

OSU agricultural economist Bill Iatern offered alternative approaches for managing the basin's water in times of drought that included buying out water rights from lands that are only marginally productive, such as pasture, and allocating the water that is available to lands that produce the most valuable crops, such as mint, potatoes and grain.

Bob Gasser, a fertilizer dealer and member of the Klamath Water Users Association, agreed with Crawford that handing out water only to successful farmers was unfair. "All these solutions take something from agriculture," he said.

Felice Pace of the environmental group the Klamath Forest Alliance said the report offered a good beginning to finding solutions to the conflict, but did not state strongly enough the need for leaving the past behind and finding new solutions.

"There's better ways for doing this, but they involve change, and change is scary," Pace said.

BLM will remove fewer horses from range this winter

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — In a settlement with mustang advocacy groups, the Bureau of Land Management has agreed to reduce the number of wild horses it plans to remove from public lands this winter.

The federal land managers had planned to remove 2,827 wild horses from Utah, Oregon, California and Nevada in 11 roundups between now and May. The horses would be placed in the BLM's adoption pool or in holding facilities and not returned to the range.

In September, the Fund for Animals and the Animal Legal Defense Fund sued the BLM, challenging the new strategy that called for removing 40 percent more horses than the established "appropriate management level" population level based on available food and water for each herd area on public rangeland.

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OPINION



LETTERS

Decisions are long past due

I agree with the editorial board on most of what they wrote on Dec. 5, especially the fact that the job is getting nastier at all the time. Also that the time has come for the commissioners to make some decisions and develop an ordinance that will site confined animal feeding operations in a reasonable manner and allow for a certain amount of protection in the agricultural zone to those people that live there. We are long past the time that this rewrite should have taken.

However, I believe there needs to be some clarification on the idea about the timing of the moratorium lawsuit. The dairy industry has been very willing to work with the opposition, the administrator and the commissioners in trying to come to some conclusion. You would think the task could be accomplished in 18 months. Instead, it has been one moratorium after another. The industry should have filed the lawsuit when the third moratorium was started but wanted to negotiate in good faith. Finally, after the fifth moratorium, there needs to be a court decision to decide if they have that much authority and can stop things ad infinitum. The moratoriums have probably hurt existing operations more than the impact of siting new operations. They have done great harm to the dairy industry not only in this county but also the entire state. It is simply not right!

The editorial indicated that the dairy industry was insisting on winning all the marbles. This couldn't be further from the truth. The industry has long supported good siting as a way to be good neighbors. But the opposition and the commissioners have the idea that the siting ordinance should include all environmental regulations. The state and federal governments do that. Leave that authority to those who have the expertise and the resources (money) to regulate the industry. If my memory is correct, a bill was passed in the 2000 Legislature that the counties were only responsible for siting, not all the other stuff they keep trying to include in this ordinance. The industry has been willing to try to work through this drafting. However, there comes a time when more mediation is not going to accomplish anything. I think we are at that point and the commissioners need to move forward.

ALVIN SMUTNY
Twin Falls

Red Cross chapter has needs

To the people of Idaho, we say, "Thank you!" Your generous support of the American Red Cross has made a huge difference in the lives of thousands of people affected by the barbaric attacks of Sept. 11. The initial goal of the American Red Cross was to make sure the immediate needs of those affected by the disaster were met. We have been successful. To date, the Red Cross has spent more than \$200 million providing services to 32,000 people affected by the terrorist attacks. That's three times as much as any other charity. More than 50,000 volunteers have assisted on the disaster - 58 of them from Idaho.

The American Red Cross, announced on Nov. 13 that all of the money raised for the Liberty Disaster Fund would be

used to provide for the immediate and long-term needs of those affected by the disasters of Sept. 11.

But your support is also needed closer to home. The Red Cross in Idaho responded to nearly 240 home fires last year, assisting more than 1,200 people. Many of these disasters did not make the news, but they were devastating for the family left standing in the cold. Since Nov. 1, the Red Cross in Idaho has responded to 30 home fires - 12 of those fires were here in the Magic Valley. For families left homeless, we provide clothes, shoes, food, lodging, referrals and comfort. Just like you, they took for granted they'd always have these things until one day it was all gone.

They're glad the Red Cross was there to help them start over. Your generosity in providing for the needs created by the Sept. 11 disaster has been wonderful, but it didn't help your local Red Cross. The Greater Idaho Chapter was simply a conduit for the monies designated for the Liberty Fund. That leaves your local Red Cross wondering how to pay for the services that are increasingly in demand around Idaho. You hold the key. People like you make local services possible with donations of time and money. We have a goal of raising \$413,000 by the end of the year. We are about halfway there. Your gift to the American Red Cross will help pay for vital disaster services. You can also become a volunteer and help deliver those services. The need is great and growing.

Together, we can save a life. CLINT BLACKWOOD
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Clint Blackwood is the emergency services coordinator for the Sawtooth Branch of the American Red Cross of Greater Idaho.)

Rethink livestock hearing

We seem too often to forget that ours is supposed to be a government of, for and by the people. We appear to be more a government of, for and by the profit, a nation not under God, but under greed. Too many decisions are made that seem to be more concerned with individual or corporate well-being than for the public's health, safety and welfare. "Due process" is a concept given quite a bit of attention in our Constitution and the Bill of Rights. It is my long experience that if the process of decision-making is flawed, the outcome is inherently flawed as well.

The confined animal feeding operation issue is a very divisive issue. It is an issue that needs attention and needs to be resolved. Five moratoriums have been enacted and the basic elements of getting a handle on this issue have not been done. There has been no cow count, no assessment of available land on which to apply manure. The odor issue has not been resolved despite all the hoopla. The Idaho State Department of Agriculture has shown itself to be an inept and incompetent steward of the public health, safety and welfare.

And now in order to save Commissioner Brockman from his self-imposed deadline, we are being rushed to approve a partial set of ordinances dealing with this very important issue. While there are some good aspects to the proposed ordinances, there are also some very

serious shortcomings and some very vague concepts. We need discussion, a workshop of give and take so that when a public hearing is held it will have meaning. Beyond that, there are other options that have been worked up that need to be discussed as well. The county commissioners are supposedly public servants; they work for the people. To set a hearing between Christmas and New Year's makes one question their priorities and their leadership. The lack of thought that went into that decision certainly makes one question the thinking that went into the proposed ordinances. I urge the commissioners to rethink the scheduling of this hearing, to set up a series of workshops on this issue and then go to hearing.

The commissioners can best save their jobs by showing visionary and courageous leadership on this, not rushing to meet an impractical and self-imposed deadline.

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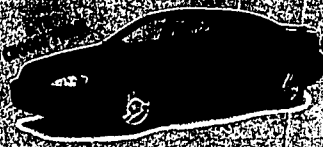
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Feds convict TF man on drug charges

BOISE — A 61-year-old man who had worked as a plumber in Twin Falls was convicted on Wednesday of drug charges in U.S. District Court, according to the U.S. attorney's Idaho district office.

Oscar Ortiz Sr. was found guilty of conspiracy to traffic methamphetamine in a possession with intent to distribute, distribution and concealing knowledge of a felony, the federal prosecutor's office said.

His sentencing is set for March 6 in Boise, and Ortiz could face a life sentence, the attorney's office said.

The original case against Ortiz included eight other defendants, all of whom eventually pleaded guilty to various drug charges, according to the attorney's office.

The case against Ortiz hinged on allegations that he got large quantities of methamphetamine and sold them in the Twin Falls area.

Investigators and prosecutors also claimed that his son, Oscar Ortiz Jr., was involved in the selling, according to the attorney's office. Oscar Ortiz Jr. is serving a prison term in Boise in connection with a conviction on drug charges, according to the U.S. attorney's office.

Two investigators will probe SIRCOMM situation

JEROME — The Twin Falls Police Department and the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office have each appointed an investigator to conduct an inquiry into allegations of misconduct at the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center, the center's interim director said Thursday.

Capt. Jim Munn declined to identify the investigators or give any details of the inquiry or the circumstances leading up to it. But he said the probe as of Thursday didn't involve any allegations of criminal misconduct or possible criminal charges.

He would not say if the probe is connected to the recent suspensions of the center's director, Jeff Rodeman, operations manager Gloria Falconburg and dispatch shift supervisor Chantel Smith. Munn and members of the center's board of directors have also refused to say if the suspensions or the inquiry have anything to do with a strip-tease dancer's performance at the center in November.

Munn, of the Twin Falls police, and Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office Lt. Jim Dahl were picked by the board to fill in for Rodeman and Falconburg.

Munn would not speculate Thursday on how long he and Dahl might have to fill in, how long the probe might last or whether Falconburg, Rodeman and Smith might be fired.

Some Twin Falls offices will be closed Monday

TWIN FALLS — Christmas Eve is Monday. Here's what's open and closed on that day.

- Some city offices will close early. Twin Falls City Hall will be closed.
- Most county clerks' offices will be open.
- Most federal offices will be closed.
- Most banks will be open, but some are closing early.
- The Twin Falls Public Library will be closed.
- The Twin Falls Municipal Swimming Pool will be closed.
- The U.S. Post Office will be open.
- Major grocery stores, including Albertsons, Smith's and Swenmart, will be open.

Fund will help family of Twin Falls man

TWIN FALLS — Friends of the family of a Twin Falls man who was found dead south of Hansen Saturday have established a fund to help cover funeral expenses and future expenses of the man's children.

Officials believe Robert Simon, 31, died of exposure. He leaves a wife and three children.

Donations can be left at White Mortuary or at any branch of D.L. Evans Bank in the area or the Robert Simon Memorial Fund.

Compiled from staff reports

Newcomb predicts tough session

By Sharl Chaney
Times-News writer

HEYBURN — Term limits, Medicaid and the budget were hot topics at the legislative "Toast and Topics" Thursday morning, hosted by the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce.

"It's not going to be an easy session, but it won't be the worst session," said Rep. Bruce Newcomb, R-Burley.

Five state legislators talked about the upcoming legislative session, including Newcomb, Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, Rep. Scott Bedke, R-Oakley, Rep. Bert Stevenson, R-Rupert, and Sen. Denton Darrington, R-DeLo.

The budget

Bedke said setting the state's budget will be a fight for dollars. There are no new dollars, so if money is given to one entity, it will have to be taken from some-

one else, he said.

"There will be real competition for every dollar," Bedke said.

In education, Bedke said, some districts "have larger accounts to weather the storm

"There will be real competition for every dollar."
— Rep. Scott Bedke, R-Rupert

than others do." Aware of problems it may cause, Bedke said it is shaping up to be difficult to fund education in whole. Everyone has a little less money to work with, Bedke said.

The slowdown in the economy has also resulted in a decrease in gas tax revenues.

The budget process may be difficult, Newcomb said, agreeing with Bedke.

Schools received a 6.8 percent funding increase last year, Newcomb said. With the current holdbacks of 2.5 percent, school budgets are still 4.3 percent higher than last year. He acknowledged the education community had made commitments with the additional money, but he said using the rainy day fund won't solve school budget problems.

Cameron also painted a bleak picture of the budget, but said one good thing was the \$64 million left on the table last year. Without it, "We would really be in dire straits."

However, on Wednesday a third holdback was announced, Cameron said. The state is another \$20 million short for this fiscal year. Cameron reminded the crowd that when the legislators

Please see BUDGET, Page B3



Bruce Newcomb, speaker of the Idaho House of Representatives, shares his views after the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce's "Toast and Topics" held Thursday morning. Newcomb is a Republican from Burley.

GIDDY-UP



Students at Heyburn Elementary School put on a Christmas play and sing-a-long Thursday afternoon. The audience was transported to Santa's workshop where students sang and danced.

Forest Service allows ski guides

The Times-News

KETCHUM — The U.S. Forest Service has decided to issue a six-month temporary permit to allow Sun Valley Helicopter Ski Guides to continue operations while the Forest Service wraps up an environmental analysis.

The ski guides' permit expires this month, and operators are awaiting a decision regarding the renewal of a new five-year permit.

There is one exception with the temporary extension, said Kurt Nelson, district ranger for the Ketchum Ranger District. The assessment should write the operation will be moved from the base of Durrance Peak to an already approved, existing helicopter landing site at Cathedral Pines Organization Camp.

That move is expected to eliminate conflicts at the current Durrance helicopter site. Nelson said he expects to have the environmental assessment available for public review this month.

The environmental assessment evaluates the effects of issuing the ski guides a new permit. The assessment analyzes the effects of helicopter skiing on wintering wildlife, other backcountry users and the location of a base staging area for the helicopter.

To obtain a copy of the assessment, people can contact Forest Service offices in Fairfield and Ketchum. SNRA headquarter and the forest supervisor's office in Twin Falls, or view it online at www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth.

The public review and comment period ends Jan. 16. People wishing to comment on the assessment should write to Forest Supervisor, Sawtooth National Forest, 2647 Kimberley Road E., Twin Falls, 83301.

A public information meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Jan. 7 at the old Ketchum City Hall.

Filer drivers ed fees increase

By John E. Swayze
Times-News correspondent

FILER — Members of the Filer School Board Wednesday approved a 33 percent increase in student fees for drivers education classes.

Increasing fees from \$52.50 to \$70 is intended to offset the cost of new textbooks and give instructor Cecil Nice a wage comparable to those of other

Holidays look great for Sun Valley

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

Ice show and parade

SUN VALLEY — Looks like somebody's been racking up points with Santa this year at Sun Valley.

Sun Valley Company is getting a better Christmas than it could have hoped for in the wake of Sept. 11's terrorist attacks and a flagging economy.

Sun Valley's General Manager Wally Huffman said the number of people booking lodging over the Christmas week has turned out to be pretty much like last year.

"Up until a few days after Thanksgiving it was looking pretty grim," he said, noting that the resort lost 60 percent of its Thanksgiving business after it was unable to start ski operations on Thanksgiving Day.

"But now we're full from the 27th of December through the first of January. It looks like we'll have a pretty traditional Christmas after all."

The all-important present under Sun Valley's trees, of course, is snow.

Almost-daily doses of thigh-deep powder on Baldy's playground have exceeded any

tion to that happy rule, with an occupancy rate between 20 percent and 25 percent.

"We may have a little more availability than usual, but it's looking pretty solid," said Carol Waller, executive director of the Sun Valley/Ketchum Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber is getting a lot of calls about its travel tokens, which it is offering as an incentive for visitors to come to Sun Valley, Waller said.

The deal awards \$25 gift certificates to each family member in every family or group that makes lodging reservations through Central Reservations, Damon Nelson Travel and Alaska Air Vacations.

The chamber has also strung a banner across Main Street thanking people for visiting Sun Valley. And volunteers have set up a kiosk offering free coffee, cocoa and cookies at the Hailey airport in another bid to appear extra gracious to those who fly into Sun Valley this week.

Interestingly, the Sept. 11 attacks hit Sun Valley in a way that might not have been imagined.

A backlog of paperwork prevented the chamber from

skier's — or businessman's — fondest hopes.

Ninety-four inches of the white gold fell on Baldy between Dec. 1 and Thursday morning. And, while human memory isn't always the most reliable, some locals are saying they haven't seen this much snow in December — ever.

The bumper crop of snow pushed Sun Valley's stock up, as Colorado resorts like Aspen were struggling to keep 18 inches of snow from blowing off their slopes just a week ago. As an added bonus, Eastern resorts have languished under balmy temperatures. This may push a lot of skiers who had planned to stay close to home westward.

If the "traditional Christmas" plays out like Huffman hopes,

Sun Valley can expect more than 3,000 skiers on Christmas Day with a couple days toward the end of the week boasting 6,000 skiers, said Sun Valley Marketing Director Jack Sibbald.

Rarely does the mountain entertain 7,000 skiers in a single day, although it has the capacity to ferry many thousands more up the mountain in a given day.

The Sun Valley/Ketchum Chamber of Commerce had just started a lodging inventory Thursday afternoon. But many motels and hotels, such as the Ketchum Korral, are booked solid through New Year's. Ten percent of the Tamarack Lodge's rooms are available the week following Christmas.

Elkhorn Resort is the excep-

Please see SUNI, Page B3

Please see FILER, Page B3

IDAHO/WEST

Montana governor wants quick cleanup

Martz endorses listing Libby as Superfund federal cleanup site

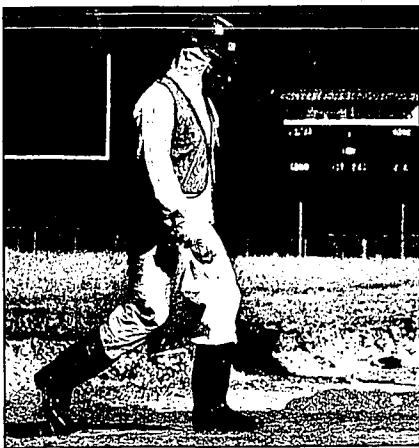
HELENA, Mont. (AP) - Montana Gov. Judy Martz on Thursday endorsed listing Libby as a federal Superfund cleanup site to deal with asbestos contamination linked to 200 deaths in the northwestern Montana mining and logging town.

She said she will use Montana's one-time-only "silver bullet" privilege, which is the right of each state to put one Superfund project on the list quickly, bypassing public comment periods, so the cleanup can begin more quickly.

"While I am confident that cleanup would progress with a normal Superfund listing process, the risk of delay still hangs as a possibility," Martz said in remarks prepared for delivery in Libby. "I know that a delay is unacceptable to you, and it is also unacceptable to me."

Martz's support was considered crucial since the EPA rarely endorses Superfund sites without a governor's support.

The EPA has been working in Libby on an emergency basis since November 1999, after the Kallispell (Mont.) Daily Inter Lake and the Seattle Post-Intelligencer first linked asbestos contamination from the now-closed W.R. Grace & Co. vermiculite mine to deaths and illnesses among local



An unidentified worker wearing protective clothing walks on the track at the Libby (Mont.) High School football field Aug. 8 after removing soil contaminated with asbestos that had been spread on the track, coming from a nearby vermiculite mine.

residents. The Seattle newspaper said at least 192 people had died and 375 others had been diagnosed with ailments likely caused by

asbestos exposure. The vermiculite was used to make a variety of household products, including home insulation. The ore, however, contained

harmful tremolite asbestos and the substance was spread throughout the area by mine operations and on the clothes of unwitting workers. A Superfund listing guarantees Montana would pay no more than 10 percent of the cost of cleaning up the contamination. Martz estimated Thursday that would amount to \$3 million to \$5 million.

Martz earlier had been critical of the Superfund program and expressed skepticism over its potential use in Libby. She said the state could not afford to pay \$5 million to help with the cleanup and that private enterprise could do a better, quicker job of cleanup.

She suggested Grace be given the chance to clean up the contamination on its own, although the company has filed for federal bankruptcy protection.

By late October, Martz said her reluctance over Superfund status had waned after visiting Libby and seeing firsthand the EPA's work. She said she would not object to Superfund designation if the federal government agreed to certain conditions, including a guarantee of quick cleanup.

The Republican also wanted a guarantee that homeowners would not be charged cleanup costs, and that EPA would set a firm timeline for the environmental work. EPA Administrator Christine Whitman promised the agency will not try to recover cleanup costs from homeowners.

Term-limits backers vow to protect ruling

BOISE (AP) - Term limits advocates plan a two-pronged attack if the Legislature tinkers with or repeals the state law recently found constitutional by the Idaho Supreme Court.

Don Morgan, a Post Falls stockbroker and chairman of Citizens for Term Limits Idaho Campaign, said on Thursday that both a referendum and an initiative could be placed before voters next November to restore the law and punish lawmakers. "If the Legislature wants my opinion, they'll do the people's business and not undo the people's vote," House Speaker Bruce Newcomb said he had anticipated such a move and was researching a response.

Legislators have been considering their options since the Supreme Court on Dec. 13 voided 6th District Judge Randy Smith's finding that the initiative approved in 1994 violated voters' right to cast ballots for the candidates of their choice.

The court agreed with the state and Citizens for Term Limits that there is no fundamental right to be a candidate for office, and that the Idaho Constitution clearly allows the Legislature or the people to restrict ballot access.

Lawmakers would not be affected by term limits until 2004, but they still might try to repeal the law during the session that starts Jan. 7 despite Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's statements that he would veto attempts to counter

the stated will of the electorate. Prompting the urgency for action is the prospect of 158 elected county officials and an unknown number of local school board members being barred from the ballot in 2002.

Besides outright repeal, another approach being discussed is amending the law to delay its implementation, then putting another advisory measure on the ballot to gauge continuing voter support for term limits.

Public backing for restricting the service of elected officials has declined each of the three times a related measure has been on the ballot since 1994. A 1996 advisory vote won 53-percent support.

But Morgan said term limits advocates, in Idaho and nationally, will spare no expense to ensure the law remains in place. An initiative proposed for the November ballot would restrict lawmakers to 12 years of total service in the Legislature in a 15-year period. The current law limits service to eight years in one chamber or the other in the previous 15 years, but allows lawmakers to start a new eight-year period by shifting between the House and Senate.

A new wrinkle is the idea of launching a referendum drive if the Legislature changes the law during the 2002 session. Morgan said the measure might block enforcement of any change lawmakers enact until voters weigh in next November.

EPA cleanup findings echo Idaho lawmakers

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Preliminary findings by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Ombudsman on the federal cleanup in the Coeur d'Alene River Basin vindicate what Idaho's lawmakers have said for years, Sen. Michael Crapo said.

The Idaho Republican promised he would track the Ombudsman's evolving function in the agency to ensure it remains independent in its investigations.

"The reports that I have seen on it indicate the Ombudsman is going to confirm the things we

have been saying for years and that we have not been able to get EPA to acknowledge or correct," Crapo said Wednesday.

Ombudsman Bob Martin's probe into the agency's handling of its Bunker Hill cleanup is harshly critical of many things. He condemns a landfill used to hold heavy metals from mining, posing a threat to the South Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River "in perpetuity."

The department proposes a \$359 million, 30-year basin cleanup. Crapo said it ignores state and local efforts to find a solution.

He sits on the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, which oversees the Environmental Protection Agency.

He also serves on the Senate Banking and Agriculture committees. "Each one of those committees has their aspect of Superfund," he said.

Idaho's entire delegation introduced legislation this year to ensure the Ombudsman's office remain independent of the agency.

Last month, agency Administrator Christine Todd Whitman announced she would transfer control of the Ombudsman's cas-

load and Martin to the EPA Office of Inspector General. Martin is fighting that decision in court.

Rep. Butch Otter said problems like Bunker Hill distract the agency from what should be its mission. "There is never going to be another EPA action in which this Bunker Hill report is not going to be cited. That takes an awful lot of time and talent away from keeping the environment clean the way we want it," Otter said. "It's unfortunate we can't trust the very government which we entrust with the environment and endangered species."

State of State set for evening

BOISE (AP) - At the request of legislative leaders, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne on Thursday agreed to break with more than a century of tradition and deliver his State of the State address at night.

Kempthorne, already dealing with the state's worst budget crisis since 1983, said he would deliver the speech at 8 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 7.

The leaders of the House and Senate asked to abandon the tradition of the governor's speech kicking off the session after it is

formally convened at noon so they could deal with internal organizational matters.

The midday speech has been televised by public and commercial stations in recent years. Public television had also broadcast it in the evening.

Kempthorne will deliver his budget message as usual at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 9, but he will be followed by Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout and her State of the Judiciary speech. Trout typically delivers her address later in January.

Snow, traffic create game carnage on road

BOISE (AP) - In 30 years of running the Boise River Wildlife Management Area, Jerry Scholten had never seen a day like Tuesday.

Ten deer were killed by motorists between the golf course on Warm Springs Avenue and the Diversion Dam on Idaho 21, just a few miles apart.

It was a tough day for Scholten's assistant, wildlife technician Gregg Burak, who retrieved the mangled deer.

"I couldn't believe it," Scholten said. "Here was this pickup with legs sticking up everywhere."

Collisions are a growing problem on Warm Springs Avenue and Idaho 21, which skirt the Boise Foothills. Deer have been driven down by the heavy snow and are encountering a growing number of commuters.

Scholten said between 1975 and 1980, motorists killed an average of 16 deer annually between Warm Springs Golf Course and Robie Creek on Lucky Peak Reservoir. Between 1980 and 1990, that increased to 26 per year, then between 1990 and 2000, it nearly quadrupled to 94.

Between 160 and 170 deer were killed in each of the past two years, and 67 already have died since September. Thirty of those happened in December.

Traffic is the real culprit, Scholten said.

"When deer and motorists collide, the deer suffer the worst, but the motorists do not usually get away unscathed. A typical deer collision causes up to \$3,000 worth of damage to a vehicle,

Boise estimator Ray Jenner said. Scholten fears a future collision with a deer will cause more than automobile damage. And more elk - a much heavier animal - are turning up in the valley.

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Dickensian

Company of Fools will present Douglas Jones' adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" tonight, Saturday and Thursday nights and Sunday afternoon in Halley's Liberty Theater.



Chamber

The Langroise Tito, Alberson College of Idaho's resident chamber group, will perform at a holiday Italian-style dinner tonight in Buhl's Eighth Street Center.

Season dance

"Hope is Born Again," an original production of dance and music presented by Burley's Julie Goodfellow incorporating song, dance, narration and scripture to tell the Christmas story, takes the stage at the King Center in Burley tonight.



Steamroll

"Steamrolling Through the Holidays," a multimedia Faulkner Planetarium production set to the music of Mannheim Steamroller, will play Wednesday and Thursday at the Herrett Center for Arts on Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

Post-Yule

Laughing Room Only, a comedy revue, will play two shows a night Wednesday and Thursday at Circus Petes Resort Casino in Jackpot.

For times, dates and details, see Events Spotlight on Pages C5-7.

STOCKING-STUFFER BOOKS

Find what's new and local in literature

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

December is the high season for a small but growing coterie of published and self-published Magic Valley and Wood River Valley authors. The following are a few of the best from this year's crop:

"Bitterbrush Country," by Diane Joseph Peavey (Fullcrum Press, \$22.95)

A wide-eyed city slicker, Peavey came to a 26,000-acre ranch near Carey 20 years ago where she found herself surrounded by bonnet ridges, sagebrush-covered hills and miles of bitterbrush instead after the more familiar skyscrapers and cloverleaf.

Before the year was out, she had fallen in love with the ranch, which sits out of sight of the washboard dirt road miles past the Little Wood Reservoir.

In 1991 she began setting pen and voice - to three-minute intimate essays about the life around her. She's written some from a ridge overlooking the ranch; others, in the bunkhouse where she could find refuge from the incessant phone calls from woolbuyers.

"The champagne glasses I so carefully brought in are no longer important - it's this place," said Peavey, who forces herself off the ranch twice a month to tape her Idaho Public Radio essays at a radio studio in Twin Falls. "I would happily discard everything to live in this place. For me, it's about space and quiet-quiet a contrast for someone who used to thrive in urban areas."

"Bitterbrush Country" is based on the stories that Peavey shares with her radio audiences. Like the one about her sudden impulse to prepare a traditional Thanksgiving dinner for somewhat skeptical sheepherders in their tiny trailer miles from civilization. Or the one about her outrage at the highway department's decision to pave the first few miles of the 24-mile road leading from Carey to the ranch.

"Bastards, Bitches and Heroes," by Herman I. Neuman (Writer's Showcase, \$20.95)

This harrowing memoir by a Hagerman writer recounts a childhood of danger and adventure in wartime Germany and his emigration to the United States at age 16, after which he and his younger brother were enslaved on separate farms, according to Neuman. The brothers eventually escaped their captivity and

worked their way through college, but not before enduring an amazing journey. "Bastards, Bitches and Heroes" is an odyssey through the harshest part of the 20th century. But more fundamentally, it's the saga of growing up in a deeply dysfunctional family and persevering over long odds.

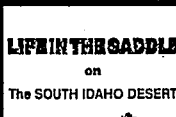
"We are Americans, do you understand?" Neuman

pen name for Armin Buttelin writes in the book's epilogue. "We live in the land of unlimited opportunities and have fine-tuned our mindsets benefit from them. Signi (Neuman's brother) was a Senior Fulbright Scholar in 1991, and ... I have more zest and enthusiasm at 60 than some people have at 16 because I usually enjoy the biggest, the fastest, the bestest, the mostest and the wildest ..."

"The Incomplete Basset Hound Owner," by Jack Lintelmann (Writer's Press, \$9.95)

Melton Valley resident Jack Lintelmann acquired a basset hound named Sally - or vice-versa - and this funny collection of anecdotes is about their life and times together.

"However appropriate the word command might be for some dogs," he writes, "it is not exactly my word of choice for Sally. Suggestion would be more to her liking. Taking for example the word no. As she grabs the occasional daily newspaper and begins to shred it, I just tell her no. ... But I generally get no response ... Several times I have used a traditional, highly recommended tool, the fearsome rolled-up newspaper in conjunction with an extremely loud GDU ("Gosh darn, you"). To no avail. For one thing, she can outrun me. Later, when the situation has calmed down and my



Bill North

Bastards, Bitches, and Heroes



A Memoir



blood pressure has returned to nearly normal, she will sneak back and shred that newspaper too, just to rub it in. By that time, she is beginning to believe her named is GDU Sally."

"House Calls," by Bernard Bodmer (Amherica House, \$19.95)

This lighthearted, anecdotal memoir by a now-retired physician who practiced in Twin Falls from 1958 to 1967 is full of Idaho country-doctor yarns, some of

them notable.

One is about a colleague of Bodmer's in Twin Falls, with a reputation for being especially

loyal to his patients. "If a toe begins to bend at the first joint and continues to push upwards into a fixed position, it is known as a hammer toe. Why, I don't know, and knowing why seemed of little value. Grace had such a toe, and it had become a constant pain when wearing any pair of shoes. It was the little toe - an appendage of questionable value - so this was merely a nuisance problem easily solved. (The doctor) would simply remove the toe.

"The surgery was short and easy. After making rounds on his other patients, (the doctor) went to the surgical patient's room to give follow-up instructions to Grace.

"He was greeted with 'Doctor, it was the other foot which was bothering me!'"

"That situation can be more than a little disconcerting. (The doctor) swallowed hard, took a deep breath and then confidently said,

"Well, we'll just take the other toe off tomorrow."

"Life in the Saddle on the South Idaho Desert: The Stories of Thomas Ike Gray," edited by Karen Quinton (Self-published).

Hollister freelance writer Karen Quinton has compiled the stories of cowboy born in what is now southern Twin Falls County 1877 and raised in an untamed landscape. This is oral history, and a largely untapped subject: The pioneer history of the Salmon Falls Creek drainage and the Owyhee badlands has been little studied.

Gray knew the infamous Diamondfield Jack Davis, and was a witness at his celebrated 1898 murder trail in Albion.

"The night I got there, like a lot of other fool buckeroo kids, I got drunk,"

Quinton quotes Gray as relating.

"Next morning I was sitting on the porch in front of the saloon feeling tough. I knew I would be called on the witness stand sometime that day, and didn't know if I could do it.

"A U.S. marshal had come from Montana in a buggy with a matched pair of Hamiltons. He came along and saw me sitting there and asked if I was a buckeroo kid. I told him I was in from Rock Creek, and he asked me to

Please see BOOKS, Page C4

Tolkien adaptation has ring of authenticity

By Duane Dudek
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

"The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" continues the dubious tradition of filling the marquee with a title so long you think you're in a bookstore rather than in a multiplex. But it does so not out of self-importance, but out of respect for the material.

The title alone, while a mouthful, promises a fidelity to the beloved J.R.R. Tolkien trilogy that the film itself fulfills in spades.

Lately, fantasy genre films have seen heralded films fall short of their potential, in one way or another. It's as if the tools to imagine the impossible have outpaced the imaginations wielding them.

As a result, films that may look great have been creatively tone-deaf, causing desperate fans to embrace them despite their flaws and not because of their achievements.

"Fellowship of the Ring" may or may not be the fifth or sixth in a brave new world of fantasy film, but it does set a new standard against which other such films should be compared.

While not a slavish carbon copy of the source material, it is truer to its spirit than any live-by-line adaptation could ever be (although this opinion is spoken out of a quarter-century-old,



Actor Elijah Wood, center, as Frodo, addresses the Council of Elrond about the fate of Middle-Earth in the adventure movie, 'The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring.'

shadowy half-memory of a text that resisted recent efforts to reinvent it).

But in the same way Tolkien turned the developing 20th century's struggle with industrialization and war into a tale about an unlikely alliance of good souls battling an encroaching evil, New Zealand director Peter Jackson's evocative film synthesizes the traditional and the modern.

"Fellowship" could not have been made without the same computer-generated imagery that is run amok in the hands of less capable filmmakers.

The evocative environments,

Please see FILM, Page C4

'The Lord of the Rings'

- Who's in it? Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen, Viggo Mortensen.
- Where's it playing? Twin Cinema, Century Cinema of Burley, Jerome Cinema, Magic Lantern of Ketchum.
- What's it rated? PG-13.
- Should you go? Even if you're not a fantasy fan, 'The Fellowship of the Ring' has everything you could want in almost any kind of film. It is joyous, mythic, elegant and, most importantly, cinematic. And the "ending" makes you want to read ahead to see just how things turn out.

'Jackpot' hits video stores

The Times-News
and The Associated Press

The Polish brothers' second foray into the high lonesome of the Great Basin reaches local video stores this week.

"Jackpot," a fable about an aspiring country-Western singer who wanders the rattlesnapper West, singing karaoke and looking for a career, follows "Twin Falls, Idaho," released in 1999.

But Michael and Mark Polish's "Twin Falls, Idaho" borrowed only the title from this neighborhood; "Jackpot" was actually filmed in part in Elko County in the summer of 2000.

And although "Jackpot," the town, isn't part of the film - it's a destination the character never reaches - the scenery is familiar.

Jon Gries stars as the karaoke singer, who goes by the stage name Sunny Holiday. He has a wife, (Dart Hannah) and a baby daughter, but his real satisfaction comes from singing George Jones' weepy "Grand Tour" over and over.

Original "Saturday Night Live" cast member Garrett Morris plays his manager, Les Irving, although how Sunny has a manager is baffling in itself. Together they travel the country in a hot pink sedan, singing, scamming people - and selling jugs of blue cleaning solution out of the trunk.



Photo courtesy of Sony Picture Classics
Jon Gries and Dart Hannah in a scene from 'Jackpot.'

Various women throw themselves at Sunny, including a trailer-dwelling cocktail waitress (Peggy Lipton, who's strayed far, far away from "The Mod Squad") and a suburban mother (Crystal Bernard, uncharacteristically naughty in heavy black eye liner and big blond hair).

Anthony Edwards (Dr. Mark Greene from "E.R.") shows up as Sunny's brother, an obsessive-compulsive movie owner.

Please see JACKPOT, Page C4

WEEKEND

'Ali' punches its way into area theaters

Combined wire services

Movies playing in south-central Idaho this weekend. Opinions are by Los Angeles Times

Big box-office
Last weekend's top-grossing movies:
1. 'Vanilla Sky,' Paramount.
2. 'Ocean's Eleven,' Warner Bros.
3. 'Not Another Teen Movie,' Sony.
4. 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,' Warner Bros.
5. 'Behind Enemy Lines,' Fox.
— Source: Exhibitor Relations Co.



Will Smith portrays Muhammad Ali in the new Michael Mann film, 'Ali,' about the world champion boxer's life from 1964-74.

younger than 13; (R) restricted, younger than 17 admitted only with parent or adult guardian; (NC-17) no one younger than 17 admitted.

'Ali'
Director Michael Mann's story of 'The Greatest' is merely good. Muhammad Ali is such a fabled figure, his life should sizzle with passion and put viewers on the emotional ropes as the boxer goes from center ring to exile and back again. Instead, there's a clinical passivity about the production, a remoteness that captures Ali's moves and attitudes but fails to get inside his skin. Will Smith makes a decent showing as Ali. Jon Voight as Howard Cosell and Jamie Foxx as Ali buddy Bundini Brown are noteworthy among the supporting players. The film imparts few insights into Ali. Mann presents a champ who is who he is, no explanations needed or tendered, who acts out based on principles that required greater explication to bring the character to life. R for some language and brief violence. 157 min.

'Behind Enemy Lines'
A film that might as well be called 'Top Gun Goes to Bosnia.' Hot-shot flyboys rule one more time, proving to the world that once a lone American gets riled up, adversaries on foreign shores, no matter how numerous, had best look-to-the-laurels. Owen Wilson and Gene Hackman star. Director John Woo's first theatrical feature, after a career of what's described as 'innovative' commercials. (146. PG-13, for war violence and some language.)

'Black Knight'
Can you imagine what happens when Martin Lawrence, playing an employee of a medieval theme park in South Central L.A., is magically transported to 14th-century England and finds himself leading a rebellion against an evil king? Of course you can, and that's the problem with this fish-out-of-water comedy, whose script seems to have been copied from a Renaissance Faire handbook. Lawrence pulls all his usual pop-eyed faces and flop-sweat desperation moves, but the movie never rises above its tired 'Connecticut Yankee' concept. Rated PG; language, violence. 1 hour, 35 minutes.

'Haiku Tunnel'
A self-help guide in the guise of a workplace comedy, 'Haiku Tunnel' shows what happens when permanency threatens to stabilize the seesaw life of a temp employee. Can an aspiring writer who has always flitted from job to job and woman to woman commit already? Josh Kornbluth, co-writer, co-director and protagonist of this intermittently funny, shaggy-dog story, stars as a joshier named 'Josh Kornbluth,' the pride (and perhaps only employee) of a temp agency called Unifox. A balding Buddha of a guy, 'Josh' talks

to the camera as analyst and therapist, recalling how it was that he went 'perm.' He is engaging at first — especially for anyone who has ever worked in the secretarial pool and tamed a dodgy letter moistener. But as 'Josh's' story wears on, so does one's patience. However refreshing it is to see a movie about the secretary rather than the lawyer (a point inadvertently made by 'The Firm,' where Holly Hunter's secretary was infinitely more interesting than Tom Cruise's attorney), there is a long wait for the light at the end of the 'Haiku Tunnel.' Rated R.

'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone'

The good news is that director Chris Columbus ('Home Alone') and writer Steve Kloves have been slavishly faithful to J. K. Rowling's introduction to Harry Potter, the orphan destined to become the world's greatest sorcerer at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. And that's the bad news, too, in a film so crowded with characters, setups for future installments, plot points and computer-generated special effects that it barely takes a breath of contemplation, comic or otherwise. As Harry, Daniel Radcliffe is adorable but makes little impression; fortunately, Columbus surrounds him with a pack of esteemed English actors, including Richard Harris, Maggie Smith, Richard Griffiths, Zoe Wanamaker and, best of all, Robbie Coltrane as the shambling giant Hagrid. It has some great moments, and fans of the books, especially we ones, will be satisfied, but it's no 'E.T.' Rated PG; violence, disturbing themes. 2 hours, 32 minutes.

'Hells'
Writer-director David Mamet revisits the crime-and-con under-world in this clever, albeit unoriginal, thriller. Gene Hackman plays a master thief compelled to do one last job before sailing into the sunset with his much younger wife (Rebecca Pidgeon). His crew of Delroy Lindo and Ricky Jay is supplemented with Sam Rockwell, the hot-headed nephew of his repulsive sponsor, Danny DeVito, and that turns the job into a complex game of whom-do-you-trust so unpredictable as to be predictable. Still, the performance by Hackman, the rat-a-tat dialogue and our love of the game keep this involving, if not compelling. Rated R; language, violence. 1 hour, 47 minutes.

'How High'
A supernatural smoke signal helps two regular guys get into Harvard. With Method Man and Redman.

'Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius'
Animated adventure finds a gadget-loving kid taking on the parent-snatching aliens known as Yekins. Featuring the voices of Martin Short and Patrick Stewart.



Josh Kornbluth and Sarah Ovrman star in 'Haiku Tunnel.'

'Joe Somebody'
Tim Allen plays a corporate cog on a dead-end job who tries to turn things around after a run-in with the office bully. With Julie Bowen, Kelly Lynch, Patrick Warburton and Jim Belushi.

'The Lord of the Rings'
J.R.R. Tolkien's Middle-earth realm of hobbits, elves, dwarfs, wizards and humans springs to visceral life in this opening chapter of the trilogy. Director Peter Jackson has crafted one of the finest fantasy films ever made, promising equally great things for parts two and three, shot simultaneously and due out around Christmas in 2002 and 2003. 'Fellowship' is a thrilling, eye-filling epic built from a seamless blend of full-size sets, miniatures and digital effects, dazzling costumes and makeup, and glorious New Zealand landscapes. Elijah Wood leads the cast as the hobbit charged with destroying the ring of power that threatens all creation. Ian McKellen as wizard Gandalf and Viggo Mortensen as human warrior Aragorn are standouts among the excellent cast. PG-13 for epic battle sequences and some scary images. 178 minutes.

'The Majestic'
Contrary to the film's plot summary, director Frank Darabont ('The Shawshank Redemption,' 'The Green Mile') has made another prison movie, the inmates being you, the audience. Darabont sets out to make a modern humanist fable in the vein of Frank Capra, but the result is preachy, nauseating pap. Jim Carrey stars as a blacklisted-1950s screenwriter who finds an idyllic life in a small town after losing his memory. The film is hampered with such cloying humanist that 'The Majestic' comes across as a Capra-on-Prozac fairy tale. And

like 'The Green Mile,' a good movie that could have been great had its three-hour length been chopped. 'The Majestic' is a bad film that could have been good with half an hour sliced away. PG for language and mild thematic elements. 152 minutes.

'Monsters, Inc.'
After Pixar's two 'Toy Story' movies and 'A Bug's Life,' one has the feeling everyone who works at the computer-animation studio is just a big kid. Pixar's fourth feature answers the question of how the monster got in the closet anyway: He was sent through a portal to collect the frightened screams of little children, which the energy company Monsters, Inc., uses to power Monstropolis. When the company's top scream-collector, the hairy, scary Sulley (John Goodman), is sabotaged by his many-tentacled rival (Steve Buscemi), he and his eyeball of an assistant, Mike (Billy Crystal) find themselves with an adorable — and verboten — human toddler (Mary Gibbs) on their hands. They've got to get her back to her world before the boss finds out. If 'Inc.' seems more workmanlike than its predecessors, it compensates in wit and in technological breakthroughs — most of which you may never notice, so convincing is this world. Rated G; nothing objectionable. 1 hour, 26 minutes.

'Not Another Teen Movie'
A 90-minute exercise in redefining the word gratuitous. This feature directing debut from former MTV VP Joel Gallen reaches broadly and deeply into the teen movie genre, from 'Porky's' to 'Cruel Intentions,' with particular emphasis on John Hughes' 1990s oeuvre. But unless you're a hearty 14-year-old, it's hardly worth fishing the two or three funny moments out of the potty humor and repulsive sex talk.

What's Playing

<p>Rally Ketchum Sun Valley All, SkitTime Cinemas (starts Tuesday) 'Behind Enemy Lines,' SkitTime Cinemas 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,' Sun Valley Opera House 'Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,' Magic Lantern 'The Majestic,' Magic Lantern 'Monsters, Inc.,' SkitTime Cinemas 'Ocean's 11,' Magic Lantern 'The Heist,' Odyssey Theater 'How High,' Odyssey Theater 'Vanilla Sky,' Magic Lantern</p>	<p>Cinema 'The Majestic,' Twin Cinema 'Monsters, Inc.,' Twin Cinema 'Not Another Teen Movie,' Odyssey Theater 'Ocean's 11,' Odyssey Theater 'Out Cold,' Odyssey Theater 'Shallow Hal,' Twin Cinema 'Spy Games,' Twin Cinema 'Vanilla Sky,' Twin Cinema</p>
<p>Twin Falls All, The Orpheum (starts Tuesday) 'Atlantis: The Lost Empire,' Twin Cinema 'Behind Enemy Lines,' The Orpheum 'Black Knight,' Odyssey Theater 'Haiku Tunnel,' Lamphouse Theater 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,' Twin Cinema 'The Heist,' Odyssey Theater 'How High,' Odyssey Theater 'Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius,' Twin Cinema 'Joe Somebody,' Twin Cinema 'Kate & Leopold,' Twin Cinema (starts Tuesday) 'Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,' Twin Cinema 'Max Keeble's Big Movie,' Twin</p>	<p>Burley 'Behind Enemy Lines,' Century Cinema 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,' Century Cinema 'Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius,' Century Cinema 'Joe Somebody,' Century Cinema 'Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,' Century Cinema 'The Majestic,' Burley Theater 'Monsters, Inc.,' Century Cinema 'Ocean's 11,' Century Cinema</p>
<p>Jerome 'Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius,' Century Cinema 'Joe Somebody,' Century Cinema 'Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring,' Jerome Cinema 'The Majestic,' Jerome Cinema</p>	<p>Gooding 'Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone,' Gooding Cinema</p>
<p>Shoshone No movies this week.</p>	



Silas, played by Method Man, and Jamal, played by Redman, star in 'How High.'

With Chris Evans, Chyler Leigh and Randy Quaid. (130. R, for strong crude sexual content and humor, language and some drug content.)

'Ocean's Eleven'
Are you in or out? With George Clooney asking and Steven Soderbergh directing this titular remake of the 1960 Rat Pack caper, it's a rhetorical question. Clooney has the Sinatra role of a thief plotting a casino robbery; his Mission Impossible team includes Brad Pitt, Don Cheadle, Carl Reiner, Elliott Gould and Matt Damon, but the real prize is Clooney's ex-wife (Julia Roberts), currently involved with casino boss Andy

Garcia. Though the heist itself is just an excuse for us to spend some old-fashioned quality time with movie stars, Soderbergh is such a good director you may find yourself holding your breath anyway. As for Clooney, he's either the last of the great male movie stars or the first of the new crop who aren't so self-conscious. As they used to say about Steve McQueen, women want to be with him and men want to be him. Rated PG-13; language. 2 hours.

'Out Cold'
'Out Cold' is a mildly raunchy snowboarding flick that features,

Please see MOVIES, Page C3

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'The Princess Diaries' reaches stores

Combined wire services

New videos in Twin Falls-area stores this week:

'The Princess Diaries'

The sweetly squeaky clean humor of this female wish-fulfillment fantasy about Mia, a 15-year-old girl (Anne Hathaway) from San Francisco who wakes up to discover that she's the hereditary heir to the throne of a small European principality, is tempered by lots of subtle bile in the supporting cast's performances. Chief among the movie's sour treats is the turn by Heather ('Welcome to the Dollhouse') Matarazzo as our heroine's nerdy best friend and constant critic of the 'A-list' social circle that Mia aspires to join. While it seems a harmless summer diversion for girls from middle school to middle age, there's nevertheless some retrograde notion that a tjara will make anyone happy. Didn't Diana Spencer's sad story teach us anything? Contains nothing offensive. Rated G.

'Moulin Rouge'

In Baz Luhrmann's postmodern musical, Ewan McGregor's a penniless writer come to Gay Paree, circa 1899. And Nicole Kidman - conspicuously cast against prim type - is Satine, the Moulin nightclub's hottest attraction. Both sing far better than you'd expect. And besides, they're more than carried along by Luhrmann's thespiancy to many things, including Paris' Bohemian era, the evolution of pop music from Gilbert & Sullivan to Nirvana, and musicals from 'Frier's 'Dancer in the Dark.' The great star, of course, is Luhrmann, who also made the inspired 'Strictly Ballroom' and 'Romeo + Juliet.' Working with music director Marius DeVries and many other regular collaborators, he has created a flamboyant, cutting-edge opera with nods to cinema, music and the audience itself. Contains sexual shenanigans, some violence and absinthe drinking. PG-13.

'Scary Movie 2'

This sequel to last year's 'Scary Movie' is actually a little more tightly focused than the original, which is, admittedly, not saying a

Movies

Continued from C2

in addition to its bland young leads and stable of beer-guzzling buffoons, a well-preserved Lee Majors, a hyper-endowed Playmate of the Year and a guy having sex with a Jacuzzi jet. But despite its unabashedly low-brow intentions, this is a film that isn't afraid to ask the big questions, such as: Can you get a sexually transmitted disease from a polar bear? PG-13 (mild profanity, sex and substance abuse jokes, general inanity)

'Shallow Hal'

This staggeringly earnest, wholly sentimental film about seeing beyond surface appearances comes from filmmakers you'd hardly expect to persistently appeal to our better natures. So what are brothers Bobby and Peter Farrelly doing telling the story of the fatuous of the title (Jack Black), a misguided creature who is interested only in beautiful women when a bit of brainwashing gives him the seed of Rosemary (Gwyneth Paltrow in a fat suit) like she was, well, Gwyneth Paltrow unsuited. The problem is not that the Farrellys want to be telling us that 'the brain sees what the heart wants it to feel,' it's that they can't do it successfully. With Jason Alexander. (154. PG-13, for language and sexual content.)

'Spy Game'

In 1975's 'Three Days of the Condor,' Robert Redford played a young, idealistic CIA agent who

Hot videos	
Rentals	Commemorative Edition,' Touchstone Home Video.
1. 'Pearl Harbor,' Touchstone Home Video.	2. 'How The Grinch Stole Christmas,' Universal Studios Home Video.
2. 'How The Grinch Stole Christmas,' Universal Studios Home Video.	3. 'Shrek,' DreamWorks Home Entertainment.
3. 'Planet Of The Apes,' FoxVideo.	4. 'The Land Before Time: The Big Freeze,' Universal Studios Home Video.
4. 'America's Sweethearts,' Columbia TriStar Home Video.	5. 'Snow White And The Seven Dwarfs,' Walt Disney Home Video.
5. 'Ghosts Of Mars,' Columbia TriStar Home Video.	6. 'Babe In The Nutcracker,' Artisan Home Entertainment.
6. 'Swordfish,' Warner Home Video.	7. 'Mickey's Magical Christmas: Snowed In The House Of Mice,' Walt Disney Home Video.
7. 'Legally Blonde,' MGM Home Entertainment.	8. 'Holiday In The Sun,' Dualstar Home Video.
8. 'Lara Croft: Tomb Raider,' Paramount Home Video.	9. 'Pokémon: Mewtwo Returns,' Warner Home Video.
9. 'Shrek,' DreamWorks Home Entertainment.	10. 'Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer,' Sony Wonder.
10. 'The Animal,' Columbia TriStar Home Video.	

lot, considering the fact that the original scattershot, low-budget yuckfest was all over the comic map.

At least now, director Keenen Ivory Wayans and his seven screenwriters (including brothers Shawn, Marlon and Craig) manage to keep their satiric shtick on target, that is to say on scary movies (mainly 'The House on Haunted Hill') and less on pop culture in general. In addition, the returning cast (Marlon and Shawn Wayans, Anna Paris and Regina Belle) are joined by some talented supporting actors, including James Woods in a funny send-up of 'The Exorcist' and Chris Elliott as a handyman with a hideously deformed hand. Contains obscenity, projectile vomiting, comic fixation on body parts, slapstick violence and sex with the living, the dead and the undead. Rated R.

'All Over the Guy'

In this movie, produced and written by Dan Bucatinsky, the romantic bio is between Eli (Bucatinsky) and Tom (Richard Ruccolo), two young men unable to find a satisfying relationship. Eli has been having trouble finding the right person. Promiscuous Tom, who has no problem getting lovers or mixing martinis, runs screaming as soon as comment taps him on the shoulder.

They don't know each other as the movie starts, but they're about to, thanks to mutual friends who

throw them together. Those friends - Eli's friend Jackie (Sasha Alexander) and Tom's pal Brett (Adam Goldberg) - could use a little love themselves. As the movie makes refreshingly clear, love's ups and downs are not the exclusive domain of Julia Roberts or Freddie Prinze Jr. This is about love, in any form. And the movie's entertaining for some wickedly funny situations and witticisms. Contains sexual situations and sometimes graphic language and situations. Rated R.

'The Center of the World'

Wayne Wang's digitally filmed drama about Richard Longman (Peter Sarsgaard), a Silicon Valley boy-billionaire who pays a part-time stripper named Florence (Molly Parker) money for three days with him in Las Vegas, isn't so bad, or that good. A sort of updated but banal 'Last Tango in Paris,' it's about little more than sex and it's not about sex. Richard's paid companion agency, not she's a prostitute, and the movie poses (and doesn't even answer) the stunningly uninteresting question: Can money buy you love? Wang (who has assembled an impressive resume that includes 'Chan Is Missing,' 'Eat a Bowl of Tea' and 'Smoke') seems too overwhelmed with the allure of his subject to come up with anything other than mundane philosophical questions. Contains sexu-

al scenes, nudity and obscenity. Unrated.

'Series 7: The Contenders'

Michael O'Sullivan's this black comedy, set in the near future, 'The Contenders' is a TV show that selects and arms six contestants. Each one, followed by a camera person, has to kill the others until one is left standing. The front-runner is Dawn (Brooke Smith), an eight-months-pregnant single woman in her 30s who won in previous 'Contenders' series. Can she plug the neck nurse, the 18-year-old girl and the guy who used to be her main squeeze? With 10 kills already to her name, and a child growing inside her, she's time-tested, with a lot to live for.

Filled with all the reality-TV staples (confessional interviews, over-the-top narration and over-teasers before the next commercial break), this parody of such TV shows as 'Survivor' mines all available ore from this low-budget subject. It's as funny as you could reasonably expect without Christopher Guest being involved. Contains violence and obscenity, as well as details of a surgery and a birth. Rated R.

'The Vertical Ray of the Sun'

The first anniversary of their parents' death brings a Vietnamese family together for a commemorative feast. But it's more than food that marks this story. Among bereaved daughters Lien (Tran Nu Yen Khe), Khanh (Le Khanh) and Suong (Nguyen Nhu Quynh), their brother Hai (Ngu Quang Hai), Khanh's husband Kien (Tran Manh Chung) and Suong's husband Quoc (Chu Ngoc Hung), there's a dishful of hidden family secrets that come to light. And in writer-director Tran Anh Hung's movie, the real banquet is entirely visual. Never have leaves looked so green and succulent, or human faces so warm and rich. At least, not since the last Tran Anh Hung movie. If you've seen his gorgeous images in such movies as 'The Scent of Green Papaya' or 'Cyclo,' you know you're in for a treat. In Vietnamese with subtitles. Contains sexual situations and themes. Rated PG-13.

DVD sales outpace VCR purchases for first time

Knights Rider News Service

You may not have joined the DVD generation yet, but you're no dummy.

With every visit to Blockbuster or Best Buy, you can see the selection of DVDs growing, if not yet dwarfing the assortment of VHS tapes for sale or rent. What may have seemed a fad a few years ago is obviously the wave of the foreseeable future.

In fact, monthly sales of DVD players exceeded sales of video cassette recorders for the first time in September, according to the Consumer Electronics Association. Although VCRs will still outsell DVD players for this year as a whole, the association says DVD players are expected to outsell VCRs in 2002.

The VCR isn't dead yet. After all, tens of millions of people still use the machines to tape their favorite TV shows and play kee-ka-ka home videos.

But it's only a matter of time before the DVD (digital versatile disc) player becomes the dominant hardware for watching movies at home, and your old analog videos of Hollywood fare will be swept away like so many half-empty boxes of popcorn.

Of course, there's an easy solution: Join the DVD parade. Maybe not today, maybe not tomorrow - but maybe in time for Christmas - you'll get tired of that 'creaky copy of "Casablanca" you own on tape. You can get one for essentially the same price on DVD that will not only look and sound better, but is also supposed to last forever.

It's then that you'll want/need/gotta have a new DVD player.

Prices begin at less than \$80 and can surpass \$1,000. But even a bottom-dollar player offers twice the picture and sound of the best video cassette recorder. A typical course of action is to go with a name brand that may offer a few extra bells and whistles, such as "virtual" surround sound that emulates a roomful of speakers, for about \$150 to \$200. It's also worth paying a little extra for higher-quality cables that connect the player to the TV.

DVD players hook up to any TV. But it's not the same with every set, so do a quick examination of the back of your TV before you go shopping.

If you have an older set with only an antenna input, you'll need to buy an RF (radio frequency) modulator for about \$30 and install it between the TV and the DVD player.

However, you'll get far better image quality if your (newer) TV has a set of three RCA jacks on the back - one for video and two for stereo audio. The image will be even more improved if your set is equipped with an S-video connection that allows the player to send audio and video information directly to the picture tube and speakers without being diminished by first going through the TV tuner.

A still more impressive picture can be achieved if your (even newer and higher-priced) TV has component video inputs that separate the video into three connections. And for videophiles demanding filmlike quality there is progressive scan DVD, which has the effect of redrawing or "doubling" the number of lines of resolution on the screen - but that requires a new digital TV set.


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WEEKEND

Somber, scary films rule as Golden Globe nominees

By David Gemain
The Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. - It's definitely a year for the terrifying, troubled, twisted and tragic at the movies. Solemn films about delusion, blackmail, vengeance and doomed love dominated Golden Globe contenders, including "A Beautiful Mind" and "Moulin Rouge," which led with six nominations each.

"A Beautiful Mind" - starring Russell Crowe as schizophrenic math genius John Nash, tormented by hallucinations - was nominated for best dramatic picture Thursday.

Its other nominations included Crowe for dramatic actor, Jennifer Connelly for supporting actress and Ron Howard for

director.

Competing in the musical or comedy category, "Moulin Rouge's" nominations included best picture, actress Nicole Kidman, actor Ewan McGregor and director Baz Luhrmann. The tragicomic musical presents Kidman and McGregor as ill-fated lovers at a Paris nightclub in 1899.

Kidman also was nominated for dramatic actress in the horror story "The Others."

Also cited for two films was Billy Bob Thornton: dramatic actor for his blackmailing barber in the "Cone Brothers" "The Man Who Wasn't There" and musical or comedy actor for "Bandits," in which he plays a neurotic bank robber whose quirks include Thornton's real-life fear of artificial furniture.

Books

Continued from C1

come inside and have a drink with him. I then said I had already had all the drinks I could stand the night before. In that case, come and try my remedy," he suggested.

"... he named not less than a dozen things he wanted the bartender to put in a glass for me. When this was done, he told me to drink it. I never had anything straighten me up so quick as that drink did. When I got on the witness stand that day, I was in good shape."

"The Disappearing Airplane," by Bill North (Writer's Club Press, \$9.95).

Bill North - real name Milton Nodueker - is a licensed pilot whose day job is librarian in the Hagerman School District. The first of what's planned as a series of Silver Wings Flying Adventures, this novella is

geared toward older elementary school readers.

It's the story of Six Two Echo - a real airplane at the Buhl airport - and its adventures with Rob, a 16-year-old pilot who helps battle a plot by a doomsday cult to develop biological weapons on an Idaho ranch.

"I'm not sure the world's saved yet," an FBI agent tells Rob.

"These people are pretty persistent and I suspect we'll find similar operations in other places. This case alerted us to the possibility and gave us some things to watch for..."

Timely indeed.

- Times-News correspondent Karen Bossick contributed to this report

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 733-3223, or write to him at crump@magical-ly.com

OVAC plans tryouts

The Times-News

OAKLEY - Oakley Valley Arts Council will hold tryouts for their spring production, "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum," from 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3, 2002, and 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Jan. 5 at

Howell's Opera House.

Participants should come prepared with a short musical number and their own accompanist. They should be prepared to read provided lines.

For more information, call Diane Woodhouse at 678-2748.

Flix

Continued from C1

elaborate battle scenes and fantastic creatures require a technology that is as current as it is costly.

But Jackson has his roots in up-by-your-bootstraps filmmaking, and his use of miniatures, matte paintings, costumes and in-camera trickery give the film a tactile grittiness that makes the fantasy feel like reality.

And it is in this authenticity that the film distinguishes itself. The stout-hearted "Fellowship" is closer to "Braveheart" or "Gladiator" than it is to "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone." And its considerable violence should give parents pause. But its spectacle is made intimate and credible through the detailed conduct of its characters: the calloused, working-class hands and tired eyes of Gandalf the Wizard; the hairy-footed, clear-eyed but naive Hobbit Frodo, in whose untested hands the fate of the world of Middle Earth rests; and the bloody-footed horses ridden by the screaming wraiths that pursue them.

Frodo, played by Elijah Wood, has inherited a ring coveted by long-dormant evil forces. The ring has a life of its own. It wants to be found by these forces, and its evil tempts all who come near it. Led

by Gandalf, played by Ian McKellen, and protected by a "fellowship" of other Middle Earth species, including elves, trolls, Hobbits and humans - played by John Rhys-Davies, Viggo Mortensen, Sean Bean, Sean Astin, Liv Ullmer and others - Frodo travels into the same heart of darkness where the ring was forged to destroy it.

The story takes Frodo and his friends from the bucolic conviviality of the Hobbits' emerald shire and the "Lost Horizon" majesty of the elven capital, through the cavernous underworld of trolls, and into a hellish wasteland where they do battle with the things that inhabit it.

Although three hours long, the film ends in a cliffhanger that will be resolved in the next two films. It leaves you wanting more, but it is the same place the first book paused.

Jackson filmed all three stories at once, a risky tactic that offered economy of scale. But that, and shooting them in New Zealand, made the \$270 million total cost of the films affordable.

The seams show a little after multiple viewings, but the initial impression of a vividly imagined and majestically realized journey that manages to be thrilling yet intimate is the lasting one.

Jackpot

Continued from C1


Mark Polish - the co-screenwriter of "Jackpot" - has a cameo role in the movie, but Michael, the film's director and co-author, does not. The brothers played the twins in "Twin Falls, Idaho."

They're 30-year-old identical twins who grew up in Sacramento, Calif. "Twin Falls, Idaho," their first feature film, was accepted for showing at the 1999 Sundance Film Festival, where it found an audience and, more importantly, a distributor.

Tolkienville for the uninitiated

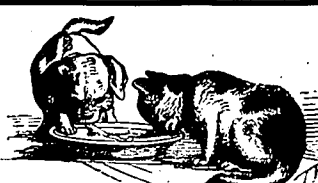
- **Hobbits:** Gentle, furry-footed creatures who dwell in furnished holes. They grow to about 3-foot-6 and live about 100 years.
 - **Bilbo Baggins** (Ian Holm): Known for his own adventures and travels. Bilbo bequeaths the One Ring to his nephew Frodo.
 - **Frodo Baggins** (Elijah Wood): An adventurous hobbit who undertakes the quest to destroy the One Ring.
 - **Samwise Gamgee** (Sean Astin): Frodo's loyal friend and a member of the Fellowship.
 - **Meriadoc Brandybuck** (Dominic Monaghan): Known as Merry, this fun-loving young hobbit joins his second cousin Frodo's quest.
 - **Peregrin Took** (Billy Boyd): Merry's constant companion, this adventurous young hobbit is known as Pippin.
 - **Elves:** These noble, elegant, magical beings are not subject to age or disease, although they can be slain or die of grief.
 - **Arwen** (Liv Ullmer): An elf princess, she falls in love with a human.
 - **Etrond** (Hugo Weaving): Arwen's father, he was born of an elf mother and a human father.
 - **Legolas** (Orlando Bloom): Lethal with knife and bow, he represents the elves in the Fellowship.
 - **Gandalf** (Cate Blanchett): A wise and powerful elf queen.
 - **Dwarfs:** They're tough, but love beauty and live to about 250.
 - **Gimli** (John Rhys-Davies): His courage and fierceness are assets to the Fellowship.
 - **Wizards:** supremely powerful, they can use their magic for good or evil.
 - **Gandalf the Grey** (Ian McKellen): A powerful wizard, he faces his greatest test in destroying the One Ring.
 - **Saruman** (Christopher Lee): Once head of the Council of the Wise, he has succumbed to the lure of power and evil.
 - **Humans:** A fledgling culture that produces valiant warriors.
 - **Aragorn** (Viggo Mortensen): Also known as Strider, this brave warrior is a cornerstone of the Fellowship.
 - **Boromir** (Sean Bean): He joins the Fellowship despite his misgivings about destroying the Ring.
- Source: Knight Ridder News Service

Sell your treasures in *The Times-News* Marketplace classified advertising. 733-0931



ADOPT A PET!

Happy Holidays from People for Pets Humane Society. Here is a gift suggestion for that hard to buy for person... Get them their own personalized brick that will be a part of the walkway into the new animal shelter. Contact the animal shelter for more information (it's tax deductible.)



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Burley Shelter
678-2256




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Dr. Bill Fulkner
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"Eggnog" is a long-haired young adult cat. She's a little shy but very sweet.

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Located 1 Block N. of Falls Ave.
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"Jingle" is a very sweet young pup who has two litter mates looking for homes too. She's a Terrier cross.

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"Candy" is a teenage Siamese cross. Please help make her holiday special.

There are many other cats and dogs at the Shelter that need caring homes.


The Times-News



"Dasher" is a Heeler/cross young adult. If you understand them, he would be the dog for you.

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"Glitter" is a seven-week-old Collie cross. She would shine for you.

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www.winnipeg.com/web/pets/index

The Langroise Trio will perform in Buhl

CLASSICAL



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

Saturday and Dec. 31

The Fugitives will play country and rock from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the 610 Club, 1054 Overland Ave., Burley.



Dec. 28-31

The Kentucky Headhunters will play two shows a night at Cactus Petes Resort Casino in Jackpot. Prices for the 8 p.m. dinner show start at \$14.99 on weeknights and Sundays and \$19.99 on Saturday. Tickets for the 11 p.m. cocktail show are \$7.50 on weeknights and Sundays and \$10 on Saturdays. For reservations and information, call (800) 821-1103.

Jan. 2 - Utah

SheDaisy will play the E Center in the Salt Lake City suburb of West Valley City at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$22 and \$32, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TIXX. The E Center is located at 3200 S. Decker Lake Drive.

Jan. 4-5 - Utah

Violinist Sarah Chang will perform with Utah Symphony at 8 p.m. nightly in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$16, \$22, \$36, \$37, \$43 and \$43, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 18-19 - Utah

Utah Symphony will perform Hector Berlioz's "Symphonie Fantastique" at 8 p.m. nightly in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$16, \$22, \$26, \$33, \$37 and \$43, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 24 - Utah

Utah Symphony will perform a program of Beethoven, Stravinsky and Vivaldi at 7:30 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$16, \$25 and \$32, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

COUNTRY

Tonight
The Fugitives will play country and rock from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Shakers in Declo. No cover charge.

Saturday

Breakaway will play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. at George K's East Restaurant and Lounge, 275 E. Third N., Burley.

Saturday

Dusty and the Nomads will

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

Wednesday - Utah

The Young Dubliners will perform at Salt Lake City's Zephyr Club at 10 p.m. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix (800) 888-TIXX. The Zephyr Club is located at 301 South West Temple.

Jan. 5 - Boise

The Willie Waldman Project, featuring former Grateful Dead bassist Rob Wasserman, will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Jan. 14 - Boise

Adema will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Jan. 22 - Boise

Smashmouth will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$19.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Jan. 28 - Boise

Sun 41 will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$20, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.



Jan. 30 - Boise

Fishbone will perform at Bogie's at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766. Bogie's is located at 1124 Front St.

Jan. 31 - Boise

They Might Be Giants will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$19.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Feb. 1 - Boise

O.A.R. will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$12, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-

4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Feb. 3 - Boise

Blue Oyster Cult will play the Big Easy Concert House following the Super Bowl (about 9 p.m.). Tickets, which are \$18.50, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Feb. 14 - Boise

Joan Jett will sing at the Big Easy Concert House at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$25, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Feb. 16 - Boise

Lars Frederiksen and the Bastards will perform at the Big Easy Concert House at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Feb. 23 - Boise

Mickey Thomas, Bobby Kimble and Jim Jamison will play the Powerhouse Event Center at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$37, can be reserved by phoning (208) 433-0197. The Powerhouse Event Center is located at 621 S. 17th St.

H I P - H O P

Feb. 7 - Boise

Tone Loc will play Bogie's at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$18, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766. Bogie's is located at 1124 Front St.

CELEBRATIONS

Through Jan. 2 - Boise

The holiday lighting event, "Winter Garden Aglow, Starry Nights," will be featured from 6-9 p.m. nightly at the Idaho Botanical Garden, 2355 S. Penitentiary Road (east on Warm Springs Boulevard to Penitentiary Road). For more information, call (208) 343-8649.

Jan. 1

The 15th annual Freeze on Skis will be held at noon at Shoshone Falls Park in the Snake River Canyon northeast of Twin Falls. The water-skiing-roped event is free and open to the public, and hot beverages will be available.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tonight

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

Tonight

David Santistevan will play from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tonight and Saturday

Bob Nora Band will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls. Cover charge is \$3.

Saturday

Miss Magic Valley Amy Cline and the Old Time Fiddlers will perform in the Christmas Chorus from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Canyon Cafe Food Court at the Magic Valley Mall in Twin Falls.

Saturday

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

Saturday

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

Wednesday

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

CITY OF TWIN FALLS WHAT'S HAPPENING

Public Awareness 735-4357

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE
City Hall will be closed December 24 and 25 for the Christmas holiday. PSI Waste Systems will be closed Christmas Day. Trash pick up will be one day behind schedule for the remainder of the week.

CHRISTMAS TREE CHIPPING
Residents of the City of Twin Falls will once again be able to participate in our ongoing waste reduction program by having their Christmas trees chipped. This program helps reduce waste ordinarily deposited in a landfill, and will be conducted by the City of Twin Falls Street Department. The trees will be chipped into mulch in the interest of environmentally sound waste management. Trees need to have all ornaments, wire, lights, and plastic bags removed. The drop off site is at 6th Avenue West, east of the Animal Shelter and it will be open from December 25, 2001 to January 15, 2002. If you have any questions call Sherry Jeff, Sanitation Inspector, at 735-7264.

THE OLYMPIC TORCH IS COMING TO TWIN FALLS
January 26, 2002

DANGER: SLIPPERY ROADS AHEAD

- Drive slowly in rain, and go well below the posted speed limit in snow or ice.
- Allow more time to decrease speed when approaching other vehicles, intersections, curves, railroad crossings and driveways.
- Give ample distance to the vehicles ahead. In wet weather, double your normal following distance, and always select the proper gear before heading up or down hill.
- Think beyond your vehicle. Roads that were wet during the day can turn icy once the sun does down. Remember that ice forms beneath underpasses, on bridges, in the shade and at higher altitudes.
- If you don't have anti-lock brakes, pump your brakes slowly to stop instead of jamming on the brakes.
- Don't let good weather fool you: Even on sunny days, a fast turn off a paved road onto gravel or sand can throw your vehicle into a skid, or make it impossible to stop in time.

**Water Department
736-2215 ext. 204**

PROTECT WATER PIPES
With extremely cold weather, leave a small trickle of water, about the size of the lead in a pencil, running through the night or when leaving home for an extended period of time.

Street Department

SNOW CAN BE A HAZARD
In anticipation of future snowfall and to help school children and pedestrians, please observe the following: shovel snow from your sidewalks and put shoveled snow along side the driveway or sidewalk. To prevent flooding and traffic hazards, do not put snow in streets or gutters.

Parks & Recreation 736-2265

CHRISTMAS IN CITY PARK
Family Entertainment at City Park
Sundays at 5:00pm

AFFORDABLE HELMETS
Ask at the Parks and Recreation Office for your \$5 off coupon towards the purchase of a \$15 helmet at the Safe Kids Coalition Office. Please wear protective equipment; your life may depend on it.

Great Gift Idea!

ICE SKATING PACKAGE
Four Saturdays in February. Includes transportation, admissions, rentals and lessons! \$60 per person.

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4th-5th-6th grades
Games are on Saturdays, starting in January. Call today!

HOLIDAY OPEN GYM
Join your friends for hoops at Robert Stuart.
Saturday 2:00-8:00pm Sunday 2:00-4:00pm
Wednesday & Thursday 2:00-8:00pm

DOWNHILL SKI PACKAGE
Four Sunday trips to Pomeroy!
Includes clinic and lift tickets.
\$45 for all 4 trips!
Registration deadline is January 4.

Swimming Pool 734-2236

POOL CLOSED
December 24 & 25

OPEN SWIM
December 26 thru 28 1:00pm - 6:00pm

LIFEGUARD CLASS
December 26-29

LAP SWIMMING
Mondays through Thursdays
5:15pm & 6:30pm

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FREE Month unlimited Internet with new signup!

FREE CHRISTMAS BEAR

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Rupert 436-7151

Burley 878-7151

Twin Falls 734-3655

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WEEKEND

Events

Continued from C5
p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls. No cover charge.



Thursday - Boise
Tony Furtado will play the Big Easy Concert House at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$10, can be reserved by phoning (800) 950-4827, online at <http://www.ticketweb.com>, or at Atkinson's Market in Ketchum. The Big Easy Concert House is located at 416 S. Ninth St.

Dec. 28 - Utah
Leftover Salmon will perform at Salt Lake City's Zephyr Club at 10 p.m. Tickets, which are \$20, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TIXX. The Zephyr Club is located at 301 South West Temple.

Jan. 28
Mini-Cassia Community Concerts will present Three Mo Tenors at 7:30 p.m. in the King Fine Arts Center in Burley. Admission is by season membership only; they are \$31.50 for adults, \$15.25 for students and \$94.50 for families, available by phoning Susan Tuft at 678-1798.

Feb. 1-2 - Utah
Utah Symphony will present "Bugs Bunny Bonanza: Music from Merrie Melodies," 8 p.m. on Feb. 1 and 2 p.m. on Feb. 2 at Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$22, \$27, \$33 and \$41, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Feb. 9 - Utah
Audra McDonald will headline an "All-America Music Night, Olympic Arts Festival Concert," 7:30 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel hall. Tickets, which are \$26, \$36, \$45 and \$50, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

DANCE

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

Tonight
The Disabled American Veterans Auxiliary will hold a dance at 8:30 p.m. at the DAY Hall, 459 Shoup Ave., Twin Falls. Archie Turner will provide the music.

OPERA



Jan. 26, 28, 30, Feb 1, 3 - Utah
Utah Opera will present Stephen Sondheim's "A Little Night Music," 7:30 p.m. on Jan. 26, 28, 30 and Feb. 1 and 2 p.m. on Feb. 3, Capitol Theater, Salt Lake City. Tickets, which range from \$30 to \$132, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

THEATER



Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Thursday
Company of Fools will present Douglas Jones' adaptation of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," 7 p.m., Liberty Theater, Hailey. Sunday's performance is at 3 p.m. Tickets, which are \$8, are available weekdays at The Mint box office. The production continues Dec. 28-30.

Dec. 28-30
Leonard Nimoy's "Vincent" is making a return to the Wood River Valley. Sun Valley actor Jim Jarrett will perform the one-man play at the nexStage Theater in Ketchum at 8 p.m. on those nights. Tickets for the play are available at Chapter One Bookstore or by phone at 726-9124.

Feb. 20 - Boise
The road production of the Broadway musical "Jekyll and Hyde" will play the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University at 8 p.m. Tickets, which are \$25, \$35 and \$42.50, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766.

COMEDY

Wednesday and Thursday
Laughing Room Only, a comedy revue, will play two shows a night at Cactus Pines Resort Casino in Jackpot. Prices for the

8 p.m. dinner show start at \$14.99; tickets to the 11-p.m. cocktail show are \$7.50. For reservations and information, call (800) 821-1103.

KARAOKE

Tonight
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Melody, 502 Sixth St., Rupert.

Tonight and Saturday
Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. until midnight at the Montana Steak House, 1826 Canyon Crest Drive, Twin Falls. No cover charge.

Tonight and Saturday
Full Moon Music Madness Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room, 613 Fremont, Rupert.

Saturday
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the

Big Kahuna, 9 E. Main, Declo.
Nightly except Sunday and Monday

Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub, 402 Main N., Twin Falls.

Sunday
Full Moon Music Madness Karaoke will be featured from 6-10 p.m. at the Blue Room, 613 Fremont, Rupert.

Wednesday
Full Moon Music Madness Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverside Bar, 197 Highway 30 W., Burley.

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

Wednesday
Karaoke will be featured at 7 p.m. at Honker's Place, 121

Fourth Ave. S., Twin Falls. No cover charge.

THURSDAY

Full Moon Music Madness Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Office Lounge on Idaho Street in Paul.

THURSDAY

Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the

Riverside, 197 Highway 30 W., Burley.

ACROBATICS

Jan. 21 - Utah
The Peking Acrobats will play Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall at 7 p.m. Tickets, which are \$11, \$15, \$17 and \$20, can be

Please see SPOTLIGHT, Page C7

Classifieds 733-0931

Merry Christmas!
BREAKFAST, PRIME RIB & BUFFET SPECIALS
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Spotlight

Continued from C6
reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 31
Acrobat Tomas Kubinek will perform at 7:30 p.m. in the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium in Twin Falls, an Arts on Tour presentation. Tickets, which are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students and children, are available by phoning 733-9554, Ext. 2288. Season tickets are also available, at \$35 for students and children, \$40 for seniors and \$45 for adults.

F I L M

Jan. 9, 11, 13
The 14th annual World Film Series will continue with Eric Valli's "Café 54," Jan. 9 and 11 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 13 at 1:30 p.m., Lamphouse Theater, Twin Falls. Tickets are \$7.50, available at the door or at the Magic Valley Arts Council office, Everybody's Business and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark in Twin Falls. The Lamphouse Theater is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Jan. 16, 18 and 20
The 14th annual World Film Series will continue with Eric Valli's "Himalaya," Jan. 16 and 18 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 20 at 1:30 p.m., Lamphouse Theater, Twin Falls. Tickets are \$7.50, available at the door or at the Magic Valley Arts Council office, Everybody's Business and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark in Twin Falls. The Lamphouse Theater is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Jan. 23, 25 and 27
The 14th annual World Film Series will continue with Lukas Moodysson's "Together," Jan. 23 and 25 at 7 p.m. and Jan. 27 at 1:30 p.m., Lamphouse Theater, Twin Falls. Tickets are \$7.50, available at the door or at the Magic Valley Arts Council office, Everybody's Business and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark in Twin Falls. The Lamphouse Theater is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Jan. 30 and Feb. 1 and 3
The 14th annual World Film

Series will continue with Tran Anh Hung's "The Vertical Ray of the Sun," Jan. 30 and Feb. at 7 p.m. and Feb. 3 at 1:30 p.m., Lamphouse Theater, Twin Falls. Tickets are \$7.50, available at the door or at the Magic Valley Arts Council office, Everybody's Business and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark in Twin Falls. The Lamphouse Theater is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

Feb. 6, 8 and 10
The 14th annual World Film Series concludes with Francois Ozon's "Under the Sand," Feb. 6 and 8 at 7 p.m. and Feb. 10 at 1:30 p.m., Lamphouse Theater, Twin Falls. Tickets are \$7.50, available at the door or at the Magic Valley Arts Council office, Everybody's Business and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark in Twin Falls. The Lamphouse Theater is located at 223 Fifth Ave. S.

A R T S H O W

Through Dec. 30
The Magic Valley Arts Council will sponsor a woodturning exhibit through the month of December in the Galeria Pequena, 132 Main Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Through Jan. 26
"Sustained Chord," an exhibition of recent work by Cheryl Shurtleff and Richard Young, will be on display in the Jean B. King Gallery at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. The exhibit is free. The gallery is open Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturdays from 1-9 p.m. The Herrett Center is closed on Sundays, Mondays and holidays.

Through Jan. 30
"The Art of Hells Canyon," paintings of the Canyon County landmark by six artists, will be on display at the Eighth Street Center in Buhl. The Eighth Street Center is located at 200 N. Eighth St.

PLANETARIUM

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday

"Steamrolling Through the Holidays" has returned to the Faulkner Planetarium in the Herrett Center on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

"Season of Light," a look at the history and meaning of many of our seasonal traditions, is also being brought back after a two-year absence. Matinee presentations of "WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars" will also be shown throughout the season. "Season of Light" will be shown at 1 and 3 p.m. Wednesday. "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," featur-

ing the Christmas music of Mannheim Steamroller, will show at 2 p.m. that day. On Thursday, "Season of Light" will show at 2 p.m. with "Steamrolling" at 1 and 3 p.m. On Friday, "Season of Light" will show at 1, 3 and 7 p.m., and "Steamrolling" will be shown at 2 and 8 p.m.

On Saturday, the planetarium will show "WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars" at 2 and 4 p.m., "Season of Light" at 7 p.m., and "Steamrolling Through the Holidays" at 8 p.m.

Admission to all Faulkner Planetarium shows is \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families of up to two adults and five children. For more information, call 733-9554, Ext. 2655.

A second 'Magic Christmas' will air

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Seven Magic Valley musical acts will appear in the second annual edition of "A Magical Valley Christmas," which will be broadcast by KMVT-TV over the next five days.

Producer Mark Bork of twin Falls put together the 30-minute program, sponsored by First Federal Savings Bank.

"It turned out wonderfully," Bork said. Artists in the program include the College of Southern Idaho Jazz Quintet; the Twin Falls High

School five, a vocal group; violinist Joey Machala of Twin Falls; the 90-voice Poppewell Elementary School Choir of Buhl; the Magic Valley Chorale singing Handel's "Hallelujah" Chorus; the alternative rock band Rachel's Tears; pianist Janessa Nye of Twin Falls; and La Pandilla de Cristo from Rupert performing "The Little Drummer Boy."

"A Magical Christmas" will be shown tonight at 8 p.m., Saturday at 11 p.m., Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Monday at 4 p.m. and immediately following the 10 p.m. newscast, and Christmas Day at 11 a.m.

Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

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Office	 Sales, 4 Years	 Sales, 3 Years	 Customer Relations, 1 1/2 Years	 Sales, 4 Years	 Sales, 3 Years	 Sales, 6 Months
Parts	 Office Manager, 2 1/2 Years	 Receptionist, 16 Years	 Sales, 10 Years	 Auto Clerk, 4 Years	 Customer, 2 1/2 Years	 Sales, 4 1/2 Years
Service	 Parts Manager, 27 Years	 Parts, 26 Years	 Parts, 3 Years	 Service Manager, 14 Years	 Sales, 10 Years	
Body Shop	 Service, 24 Years	 Service, 31 Years	 Service, 13 Years	 Service, 10 Years	 Service, 10 Years	 Service, 10 Years
Reconditioning	 Service, 3 Months	 Service, 3 Months	 Body Shop Manager, 2 Years	 Auto Body, 12 Years	 Service, 9 Years	 Auto Body, 11 Years
	 Body Shop, 3 Months	 Body Shop, New Employee	 Reconditioning, 27 Years	 Reconditioning, 15 Years	 Reconditioning, 3 Years	 Reconditioning, 13 Years

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WEEKEND

'Skipping Christmas' tops hardcover fiction list

Publisher's Weekly

Hardcover fiction

- 1. 'Skipping Christmas' by John Grisham (Doubleday)
2. 'Violent Are Blue' by James Patterson (Little, Brown)
3. 'He Sees You While You're Sleeping' by Mary Higgins Clark and Carol Higgins Clark (S&S and Scribner)
4. 'The Best-Loved Poem of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' by Caroline Kennedy (Hyperion)
5. 'The Corrections' by Jonathan Franzen (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)
6. 'Last Man Standing' by David Baldacci (Warner)
7. 'Jackdaws' by Ken Follett (Dutton)
8. 'The Mildred Snowmen' by Jan Karon (Viking Penguin)
9. 'The Sigma Protocol' by Robert Ludlum (St. Martin's)
10. 'Desecration' by Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins (Tyndale)
11. 'The Fiery Cross' by Diana Gabaldon (Delacorte)
12. 'Black House' by Stephen King and Peter Straub (Random House)
13. 'The Kiss' by Danielle Steele (Delacorte)
14. 'Journey Through Heartsongs' by Mattie J. T. Stepaniak (VSI Books)
15. 'A Bend in the Road' by Nicholas Sparks (Warner)

Nonfiction/general

- 1. 'The No Spin Zone' by Bill O'Reilly (Broadway Books)
2. 'John Adams' by David McCullough (Simon & Schuster)
3. 'The Final Days' by Barbara Olson (Regency)
4. 'Theodore Rex' by Edmund Morris (Random House)
5. 'Onc Nation: America Remembers September 11, 2001' by Life Magazine Editors (Little, Brown)
6. 'Christmas in Plains: Memories' by Jimmy Carter (Simon & Schuster)
7. 'New York September 11' by Magnum Photographers (Simon & Schuster)
8. 'How I Moved My Cheese?' by Spencer Johnson (Putnam)
9. 'How I Play Golf' by Tiger Woods (Warner)
10. 'Guinness World Records 2002' (Guinness Publishing)
11. 'The Heart of the Soul' by Gary Zukav and Linda Francis (Simon & Schuster)
12. 'Kiss and Make-Up' by Gene Simmons (Crown)

Mass market paperbacks

- 1. 'The Fellowship of the Ring' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
2. 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
3. 'Heaven and Earth' by Nora Roberts (Jove)
4. 'Dreamcatcher' by Stephen King (Pocket)
5. 'From the Corner of His Eye' by Dean Koontz (Bantam)
6. 'The Two Towers: The Lord of the Rings Part 2' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
7. 'Code to Zero' by Ken Follett (Signet)
8. 'The First Counsel' by Brad Meltzer (Warner Vision)
9. 'Black Hawk Down' by Mark Bowden (Signet)
10. 'The Return of the King: The Lord of the Rings Part 3' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
11. 'Tom Clancy's Power Plays: Cold War' Created by Tom Clancy and Martin Greenberg; written by Jerome Preisler (Berkeley)
12. 'A Widow for One Year' by John Irving (Ballantine)
13. 'Roses Are Red' by James Patterson (Warner)
14. 'Deck the Halls' by Mary Higgins Clark and Carol Higgins Clark (Pocket)
15. 'Falling Stars' by V.C. Andrews (Pocket)

- 19. 'The Fellowship of the Ring' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
20. 'The Hobbit' by J.R.R. Tolkien (Del Rey)
21. 'Heaven and Earth' by Nora Roberts (Jove)
22. 'Dreamcatcher' by Stephen King (Pocket)
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Planetarium revises its schedule

TWIN FALLS - While the rest of the College of Southern Idaho campus is closed, the Herrett Center for Arts and Science will be open between Christmas and New Year's days with special showings of the Faulkner Planetarium's two holiday programs.
The Herrett Center will be closed Christmas Day and will be open regular hours Wednesday through the following Saturday. The center will be open 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Dec. 28 and 19 p.m. on Dec. 29. The center will be closed again on New Year's Day.
'Season of Light,' a program the Faulkner staff likes to describe as explaining "the history and mystery of Christmas," will be shown at 1 and 3 p.m. Wednesday, and 11 a.m. through the holidays, featuring the Christmas music of Mannheim Steamroller, will show at 2 p.m. on Thu. On Thursday, 'Season of Light' will show at 2 p.m. with 'Steamrolling' at 1 and 3 p.m. On Dec. 28, 'Season of Light' will show at 1, 3 and 7 p.m., and 'Steamrolling' will be shown at 2 and 8 p.m. On Dec. 29, the planetarium will show "WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars" at 2 and 4 p.m., 'Season of Light' at 11 a.m., and 'Steamrolling Through the Holidays' at 8 p.m.
Admission to all Faulkner Planetarium shows is \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families of up to two adults and five children. For more information, call 733-9554, Ext. 2655.

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Role-playing games started in Tolkien's Middle-earth

By Mike Gyax
Twin Falls Journal Sentinel

Long before virtual game worlds, before even Dungeons & Dragons, there was J.R.R. Tolkien's magical realm of Hobbits, orcs and elven kings. But the reverberations of that magical world triggered the shock wave of creativity that led to a new family of game-playing.

Adventure games now have millions of players around the world and bring in billions of dollars each year for the companies that make them, thanks to the foundation laid by Tolkien's works, particularly "The Lord of the Rings" trilogy.

Tolkien's work also has influenced other veins of popular culture - everything from the droids in the first "Star Wars" film to role-playing at medieval fairs can be connected to him.

Peter Jackson's big-screen version of the first book of the trilogy, "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring," opened Wednesday in theaters nationwide. Gyax said he liked Tolkien's idea of a team or "fellowship" made up of several fantastic races, with dwarves, elves and humans "mixing together in a more intimate way."

Such multicultural mixing, with each race offering specific strengths and weaknesses as the group goes out on a quest, is typical of Tolkien, Drouot said. "That is the kind of fundamental idea of a fantasy role-playing game," he said. "It's racial coding, and that comes straight out of 'Lord of the Rings.'"

Some of Tolkien's monsters, such as the demonic Balrog and



J.R.R. Tolkien
Wrote 'The Lord of the Rings'

the living-dead Ring Wraiths, helped Dungeons & Dragons designers spawn a bestiary for their game.

"We even used the term 'Hobbit' at first," Gyax said. Because Tolkien had it copyrighted, they later changed their term to "halfling" for a race of little people.

And while Gyax says he is not a big Tolkien fan - "It's too slow-paced for me" - he said "Lord of the Rings" and "The Hobbit" have done more than influence game designers.

"The main impact Tolkien had on the fantasy role-playing game market was to expose millions of readers in the age of our target market to the worlds of fantasy and imagination," Gyax said. "It got them interested so they were ready, willing and eager to pick up a game and have adventures in a magical world."

Fantasy themes have been fertile ground for the electronic game industry, which enjoyed \$6 billion in sales last year. The online role-playing fantasy world of Everquest has more than 400,000 players, and Ultima Online has some 225,000

Some of Tolkien's monsters, such as the demonic Balrog and the living-dead Ring Wraiths, helped Dungeons & Dragons designers spawn a bestiary for their game.

subscribers. In these Internet games, fantasy fans from all over the world log in and share a virtual world, slaying monsters and winning treasures.

Fantasy games "spark a renaissance of interest in his stories," said Drouot, the Wheaton College professor. "They give people more to do than just read the book. A lot of my students sign up for my class because they are into the role-playing games online."

Keith Feinstein, a video game historian in Murray Hill, N.J., said Tolkien has "become so ingrained in fantasy games, you don't even think about it."

"The impact is so vast," he said. "I don't think you can make a fantasy game today that doesn't have a Tolkien influence."

"Any time an orc shows up in a video game, you know he is there because of 'Lord of the Rings,'" Feinstein said, referring Tolkien's sinister race of corrupted elves.

Feinstein, founder of a traveling museum exhibit on the history of video games called Videotopia, said Tolkien-inspired games include early text-based computer adventures, which progressed to games with graphics, including a simple sword-and-sorcery fighting game called "Warrior" and a multi-player arcade classic called "Gauntlet."

Rick Dyer, who in 1983 helped create "Dragon's Lair," the first full-animation video game, said all electronic fantasy games reflect some form of Tolkien's touch.

"I think that most people can remember when they read 'The Hobbit' and 'Lord of the Rings' and

That was the 'Harry Potter' of its time," he said. "When we were doing 'Dragon's Lair,' we would buy the illustrated Tolkien books and look at the art rendering and get ideas from that."

Dyer, chairman of DragonStone Software in Diamond Bar, Calif., is working on "Dragon's Lair 3D," a re-engineered version of the original in which players assume the role of Dirk the Daring, who must explore a castle and rescue the princess Daphne.

"For me, the 'Lord of the Rings' trilogy has been an inspiration for my life's work," Dyer said. "This industry is full of people like me that want to make it real."

Interplay developed an official DOS-based "Lord of the Rings" game that was published by Electronic Arts several years ago, but Feinstein said there hasn't been a big-budget computer or video game version because designers found it easier and cheaper to build their own worlds and create original content.

Tolkien's books continue to spark creativity because of the depth of detail in the stories, said Todd Howard of Bethesda Softworks in Rockville, Md.

"The greatest thing about Middle-earth is that we know how they lived," said Howard, project leader for "The Elder Scrolls III: Morrowind," a role-playing game for computers and Microsoft's Xbox. "It's more than a story. It's a real world, which is why it engrosses so many people."

Tolkien's touch is evident in other veins of popular entertainment, from the multitalented, ethnically diverse crew of the Enterprise on "Star Trek" to the

strong Tolkien flavor of the "Star Wars" epic, Drouot said.

The droids are similar to Hobbits in that they're on a mission, carrying something powerful and important yet remaining essentially impotent.

"Tolkien's creation of the dragon Smaug in 'The Hobbit' has influenced almost all other dragon portrayals in literature," Drouot said. "Before Smaug, dragons were mostly bestial, didn't talk much and certainly didn't have 'personality' the way Smaug does."

Dean Cain, 42, of Brookfield, Wis., has seen Tolkien's creations flavor the Old World environment at the Bristol Renaissance Faire, where he has been a sword-play performer since 1976.

Although officially the event is a re-creation of an Elizabethan village, it's also often home to cloak-wearing wizards walking around with jeweled staves.

"You'll also see a lot of characters in Viking-style outfits, which are wildly inappropriate for the period," said Cain, who plays a rapier-wielding pirate. "There is also a standard cadre of other characters, a Balrog-looking creature and a regular group of elves."

Although the fantasy characters are technically out of place, more traditional Renaissance Faire characters have found a way to rationalize their presence.

"The easiest way to explain it away is that fantasy plays were the theme of the day," Cain said. "You can say they're wandering performers."

"But it's hard to explain away the Klingons that show up,"

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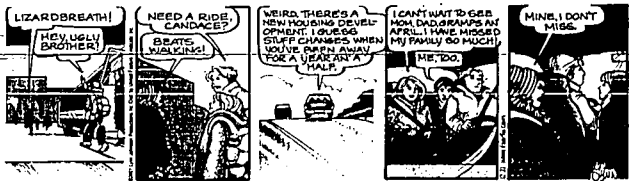
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis

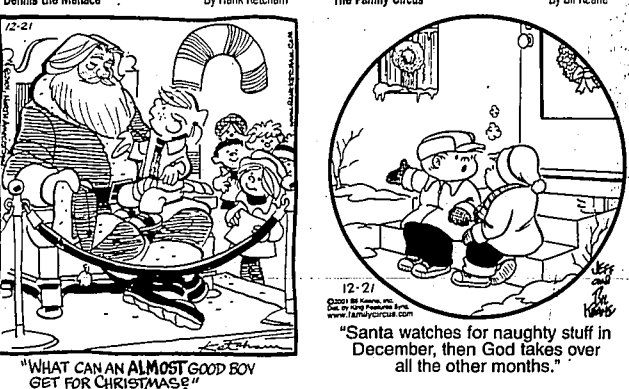


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus

By Bill Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Brannan



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

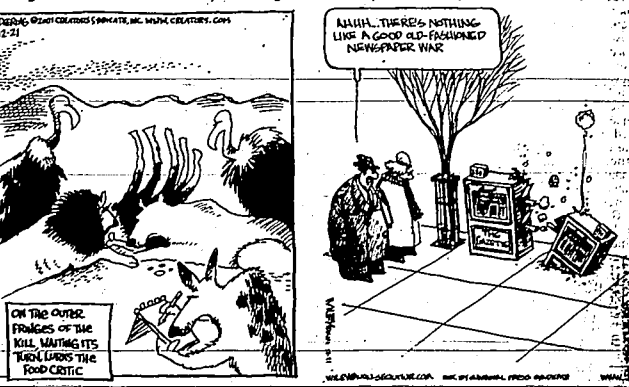


Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Shootout leaves five wounded

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — In a test of Yasser Arafat's ability to crack down on militants, hundreds of Palestinian police surrounded the hide-out of a fugitive militant leader Thursday but failed to arrest him when his supporters opened fire.

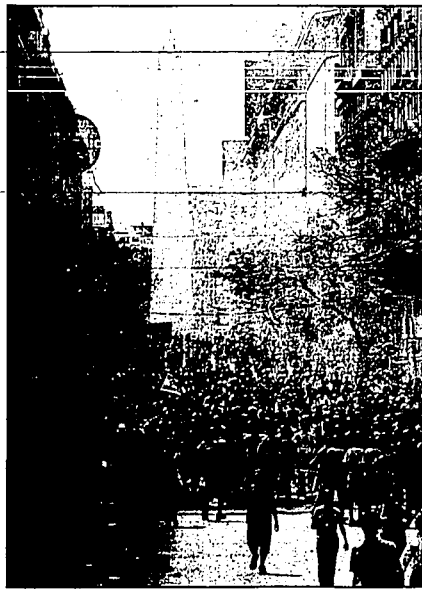
In the West Bank, Israel slightly eased restrictions that had been tightened last week after a Hamas bus attack killed 10 Israelis. Troops withdrew from the Palestinian town of Nablus, and tanks also pulled out of two neighborhoods in the town of Ramallah — though they remained in position near Arafat's headquarters.

The fighting in Gaza City and the Israeli troop pullback came just hours after Palestinian and Israeli security commanders resumed coordination meetings.

The U.N. envoy to the region, Terje Roed-Larsen, said he was encouraged by the Israeli pullback and the ongoing Palestinian crackdown on militants, including the attempt Thursday to arrest Abdel Aziz Rantisi, the most senior figure from the terrorist group Hamas to be targeted by the Palestinian leadership so far.

Essentially, it's a turning point," Roed-Larsen said, adding that the situation remained fragile.

After nightfall Thursday, several hundred Hamas supporters threw rocks and firebombs at Palestinian police wielding shields and clubs and lined up across a street near a house where Rantisi was holed up. Four police were hurt by rocks, security officials said.



Demonstrators shout antigovernment slogans Thursday in Buenos Aires. Hundreds of protesters demanding the ouster of Argentina's President Fernando de la Rúa clashed with riot police Thursday as escalating unrest threatened to unravel the government and plunge the country deeper into chaos. The death toll from two days of violence climbed to 19.

Official says Argentine president resigns amid widespread unrest

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — President Fernando De la Rúa submitted his resignation Thursday, a high-ranking official said, as his government crumbled amid deadly rioting and looting sparked by anger over Argentina's deepening economic crisis.

The resignation followed two days of clashes between police and protesters that left at least 20 people dead and scores injured. On Thursday, police battled hundreds of demonstrators in the streets of Argentina's capital, while looters ransacked homes and supermarkets nationwide.

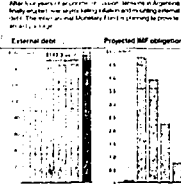
The resignation must be approved by Congress before taking effect, officials said. Senate President Ramon Puerta was expected to be named interim president when the resignation is finalized.

The official, who spoke with The Associated Press on condition of anonymity, said De la Rúa had signed his resignation late Thursday afternoon.

It came amid local reports that De la Rúa efforts to cobble together a government of "national unity" with the opposition Peronist Party had encountered resistance.

Earlier Thursday, De la Rúa sent riot police to quell the violence after 20 people died across the country in two days of rioting sparked by the government's failure

Argentina's economic unrest



to end a punishing recession marked by double-digit joblessness, hunger and rising poverty.

Authorities arrested more than 2,000 people nationwide, including 350 in the capital. In Buenos Aires, one man was dragged by his hair, others carried kicking and shouting to police vans.

De la Rúa's resignation came hours after his economy minister, Domingo Cavallo, quit. Television reports said the entire Cabinet had offered to resign.

De la Rúa went on national television Thursday and invited the opposition Peronist Party to join him in a government of "national unity."

"We are in a critical situation," he said. "I share the anguish of our people. Only a government of national unity can lift our country up."

He said he was open to changes in economic and social policies to restore peace and defend the country's democratic institutions.

Earlier in Buenos Aires, protesters fought pitched rock-throwing skirmishes with riot officers, who swung truncheons, charged at the crowd on horseback and fired round after round of tear gas. Water cannons roared across the Plaza de Mayo, directing their jets against scrambling demonstrators, who then counterattacked. Many demonstrators called for the departure of De la Rúa.

"Get out! Get out!" the angry crowd shouted over helmeted riot police defending the Casa Rosada, or presidential palace, where the president was reported to be holding emergency meetings.

Defying a state of siege imposed Wednesday by De la Rúa, the crowds stood up to hours of rubber bullets, water cannon and repeated charges by cavalry.

The battles raged for hours as white clouds of tear gas wafted over the palm-lined plaza of the elegant European-style capital whose central boulevards dawned grimy and gray, littered by rocks and smoldering trash fires.

The grassy Plaza de Mayo, the downtown square fronting the Casa Rosada, has long been the stage for national protests against the austerity measures taken by the De la Rúa government to end the spiraling economic crisis.

South Korean civic leaders: Let us eat dog

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Civic leaders on Thursday urged people from overseas to stop criticizing South Korea's dog-eating culture, calling the culinary tradition "a matter of national pride."

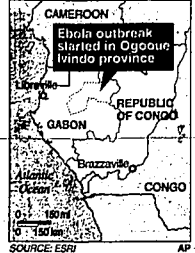
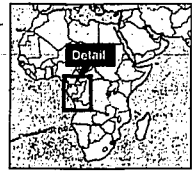
The group of 166 legislators, doctors and others vowed to launch a campaign against foreign opponents of its centuries-old tradition in South Korea, where about 3 million of the 47 million people are believed to eat dog meat as a delicacy.

"The issue of dog meat is a matter of national pride," said a statement. "Criticizing us as 'barbarians' for our food culture is tantamount to criticizing our thousands-of-years-old culture itself."

Shopping mall ceiling collapses

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP) — The ceiling over a crowded shopping mall ice rink collapsed Thursday, trapping several children under debris and shattering a glass wall. Twenty-one people were seriously injured, police said.

It was not immediately clear what caused the collapse of a newly constructed, 270-square-foot section above the rink. That area of the mall — one of the largest in Pretoria — opened in October, said Germa van Rooyen, a spokeswoman for the shopping center.



Ebola outbreak spreads over to Republic of Congo

BRAZZAVILLE, Republic of Congo (AP) — Despite stepped-up border controls, an outbreak of the deadly disease Ebola has spread from Gabon to neighboring Republic of Congo, the World Health Organization and government officials said Thursday.

The country's health officials have identified 11 cases in a remote, forested region on the northern border with Gabon, where 16 cases have already been reported, WHO said in a statement released in Geneva. The health ministry confirmed the outbreak but said the number of people infected was less than 10.

At least 15 of the victims have died, the ministry said. It was not clear how many of the deaths were in Republic of Congo.

Authorities on both sides of the border had feared the disease would spread and restricted movement between the two central African nations.

But at least one woman believed to be infected with Ebola fled Gabon and was located on the other side of the border in Mbomo village, Republic of Congo health authorities said. The woman's baby died in Republic of Congo before she was repatriated to Gabon, where she also died, health ministry spokesman Bertin Eboua said.

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Jerome 4 Cinema
Malleik (PG) Daily 6:45 - 9:30
Sat-Sun 1:00 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30
Ice Scream (PG) Daily 7:00-9:30
Sat-Sun 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:00
Jimmy Neutron (G) Daily 7:15-9:15
Sat-Sun 12:45-2:55-5:05-7:15-9:15
Lord of the Rings (13) Daily 7:30
Sat-Sun 12:30 - 4:00 - 7:30

WILL SMITH
ALI
OPENS DECEMBER 25TH AT THE ORPHEUM

METHOD MAN
REDMAN
HOW HIGH
NOW AT THE ODYSSEY & THEATRE

NOT ANOTHER TEEN MOVIE
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SEASON OF LIGHT ... 7:00PM
STEAMROLLING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS ... 8:00PM

Saturday, December 22
WSKY: RADIO STATION
OF THE STARS ... 2 & 4:00PM
SEASON OF LIGHT ... 7:00PM
STEAMROLLING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS ... 8:00PM
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
Wednesday, December 26
SEASON OF LIGHT, 1 & 3:00PM
STEAMROLLING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS ... 2:00PM

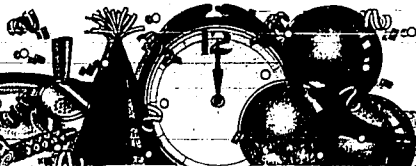
Thursday, December 27
SEASON OF LIGHT ... 2:00PM
STEAMROLLING THROUGH THE HOLIDAYS ... 1 & 3:00PM
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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“When you start the season off knowing you have a great team, and then to end up like this, it's disappointing.”

”

—Denver running back Terrell Davis

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High school boys basketball
Camas County at Shoshone, 6 p.m.
Minico at Century, 6 p.m.
Hagerman at Gooding, 7:30 p.m.
Caldwell at Jerome, 7:30 p.m.
Rigby at Twin Falls, 6 p.m.
High school girls basketball
Oakley at Hansen, 6 p.m.

BRIEF

NCAA indefinitely suspends Okafor

COLUMBIA, Mo. — The NCAA has indefinitely suspended Missouri center Uche Okafor, saying he violated the rules of amateurism when he was on the roster of a Russian professional team.

The 6-foot-11 Okafor, a native of Nigeria, has not played in any games for Missouri since transferring from the College of Southern Idaho, a two-year school.

“This is ridiculous. We will appeal,” Missouri athletics director Mike Alden said after the decision. Alden said an NCAA reinstatement committee won't be able to hear the case until after Christmas.

Team Dynamo, the Russian semipro basketball team that signed Okafor to a contract and paid for travel and living expenses for him to come to Moscow, is now defunct. Okafor never played in a game for the team.

From wire reports



SALT LAKE 2002



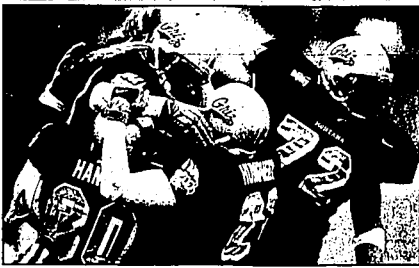
Countdown to the Salt Lake Olympics

49 days until Opening Ceremony

The Torch Tour: The Olympic flame starts its day in Martinsburg, W.Va., before heading down the Potomac River valley to Arlington and Alexandria, Va., before finishing the day across the river at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

March to the Medals: Jim Shea made the Olympics a three-generation affair for his family Thursday when he won a spot of the U.S. Olympic skeleton team. Shea's second-place finish at a World Cup skeleton meet makes the Sheas the first family to produce three generations of American Olympians.

Shea's grandfather, Jack, was a double gold medalist in speedskating at the 1932 Winter Olympics at Lake Placid, and his father, Jim, represented the United States at the 1964 Winter Games in Innsbruck in three skiing events.



Montana's Tate Hancock (30), Yohance Humphrey, center, and Dyland McFarland, right, congratulate T.J. Oelkers, left, after Oelkers scored a touchdown during the third quarter against Northwestern State in Missoula, Mont., Dec. 1. Montana won the NCAA Division I-AA semifinal 28-19.

BACK IN THE BIG GAME

Montana faces Furman for national championship

The Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — After Montana lost to Georgia Southern in the I-AA national championship game a year ago, the Grizzlies vowed to return for another try.

Instead of another shot at Georgia Southern today, Montana (14-1) faces Furman (12-2), which ousted Georgia Southern from the playoffs last week.

“A year ago we came up a little bit short against Georgia Southern. That served as a huge motivational factor,” Montana coach Joe Glenn said. “We start-

I-AA football national championship

Montana (14-1) vs. Furman (12-2)
Today: 3:30 p.m. ESPN2

ed working in January, and it became a mission for 12 seniors to lead this team back to Chattanooga.”

Montana has made it to the playoffs the last nine years and has played in four title games, winning it in 1995 over Marshall. Last year, Furman was just try-

ing to get to the Scenic City.

The Paladins were beaten by Hofstra in the first round, and they began this season with the defeat in mind.

“We worked extremely hard to get here. In fact, we began talking about it after the Hofstra game last year,” Furman coach Bobby Johnson said. “We not only wanted to get here, but to win it as well.”

The game could be Johnson's last as head coach at Furman. He is a leading candidate to replace Woody Widenhofer at Vanderbilt. Please see MONTANA, Page D4

Bruins bow to Rams

Twin Falls lets 24-14 lead slip away in defeat

By Scott Thompson
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls couldn't get the basketball past half court for much of the second half and Highland guard Chelsey Jackson couldn't miss during that stretch.

It was a bad combination for the host Bruins, who lost a 24-14 halftime lead before falling 51-45 in overtime in a Region III girls basketball game Thursday night.

After Bruin standout Kim Strunk nailed a pair of free throws to lock the game at 38-39 with 4:05 remaining in regulation, the Bruins (13 Region III, 5-6 overall) didn't get the ball past half court against the full-court pressure of the Rams again until there was 2:44 remaining. At that point, the Rams (1-3, 8-5) were up 43-38 after Jackson nailed her fifth 3-pointer of the night.

It wasn't the first time the combination of Jackson and the Highland press doomed the Bruins.

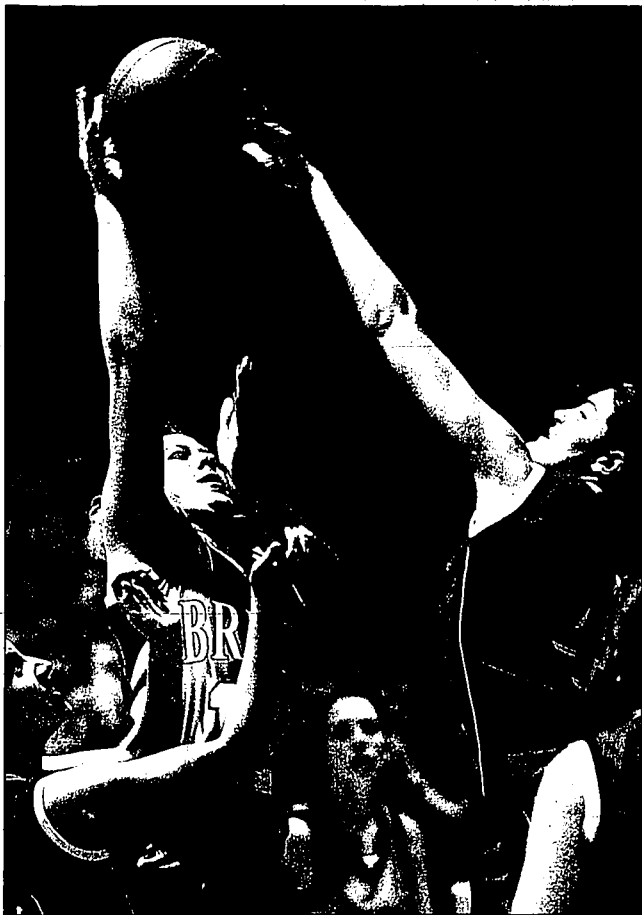
“We knew they were going to come into the second half uptempo and we just didn't respond to it,” Bruin coach Lawrence Pfeifferle said. “We just didn't attack their press the way we needed to.”

Mostly thanks to the press, the Rams jumped out to a 36-30 lead after three quarters with Jackson scoring 14 of the team's 22 points in the quarter. Highland had just 14 points in the first half.

“We're capable of playing good defense,” Highland coach Scott Hansen said. “But we didn't come out and play aggressive enough in that first half. Kim (Strunk) jumped out to that start and we just had to get somebody on her.”

During the pivotal third quarter, Highland held Twin Falls to just six points and held Strunk scoreless for the second straight quarter after the Bruins' lone senior scored Twin Falls' first 10 points of the game.

“Maybe our youth showed a little bit tonight,” Pfeifferle said. Please see BRUINS, Page D2



Amanda Hovey has her shot stripped by Highland's Rebecca Adamson during Thursday's game in Twin Falls. The Bruins lost a close one in overtime 51-45.

Receiver leads Pitt to Tangerine win

The Associated Press

ORLANDO, Fla. — Antonio Bryant was healthy enough to give Pittsburgh its first bowl win since 1989.

Bryant, a question mark heading into the game with a bad right ankle, caught two touchdown passes as the Panthers closed out a remarkable turnaround season with a 34-19 victory over North Carolina State in the Tangerine Bowl on Thursday night.

Bryant, the game's MVP, wasn't the only star for the Panthers (7-5) in their sixth straight victory.

David Priestley, who had 13 TD passes and one interception during Pitt's winning streak, threw for 271 yards. And Pitt's defense, which had allowed a combined 37 points in its previous five games, came up big after N.C. State (7-5) closed to 27-19.

Lewis Moore sacked Philip Rivers and forced a fumble that was returned 16 yards by Tyre Young for a score with 6:15 left to clinch it for the Panthers.

Pittsburgh began 1-5, but came back with the program's longest



North Carolina State tailback Ray Robinson is splayed by Pittsburgh line-backer Lewis Moore, right, in the first quarter of the Tangerine Bowl Thursday winning streak since 1989.

Bryant had all seven catches for 101 yards in the first half as the Panthers built a working margin.

Coach Walt Harris earned his first bowl win in three tries in his

five seasons with Pitt. The Panthers got their first postseason victory since beating Texas A&M in the John Hancock Bowl 12 years ago.

Bryant hurt his ankle in the first bowl win in three tries in his

Maier prepares for return to the slopes

The Associated Press

FLACHAU, Austria — Hermann Maier was given the go-ahead to ski today, his first time on the slopes since his motorcycle accident last summer.

Maier is scheduled to make a slow run down the Achterjet course in his home town of Flachau, site of this season's World Cup finals.

The 28-year-old tried cross-country skiing on Monday and Tuesday as an initial test. The exercise went well, and doctors have allowed him to take a shot at alpine skiing, said Maier's agent Knut Oreslek.

“He'll be skiing down like a tourist on Alpine skis — not Herminator-like,” his agent, Knut Oreslek, said Thursday. “But it will be good for him. Everything should be OK.”

The two-time Olympic and world champion, who nearly lost a leg following his accident in



Hermann Maier

also designed to relieve pressure on the bone, which was broken where the ski boot begins. Surgeons inserted screws and a titanium rod to repair his tibia.

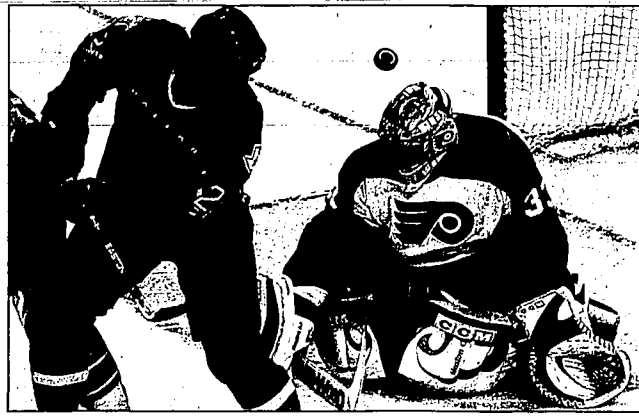
Maier knows the special ski boot is only a temporary solution. “If I really want to ski as I used to, I need the same old aggressive material that I used to ski with before,” Maier said last month.

Maier, who was also badly bruised around his pelvis, is also recovering from nerve damage in both his legs.

SPORTS

Boucher, Flyers stop Dallas, 2-1 Lemieux, daughter of goalie share bonds

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Keith Primeau scored the game-winner midway through the second period, and Brian Boucher made 29 saves as the Philadelphia Flyers defeated the Dallas Stars 2-1 on Thursday night.
Marty Murray also scored for Philadelphia.
Martin Rucinsky tallied a power-play goal for Dallas.



Philadelphia goalie Brian Boucher, right, deflects a shot by Dallas' Kirk Muller over his head during the first period Thursday.

Bruins 5, Canadiens 0
BOSTON — Byron Dafoe recorded his 74th career shutout as Boston snapped a three-game losing streak and beat Montreal.

Brian Rolston, Andy Hilbert and Rob Zamuner scored in a 52-second span during the first 6:17 of the game.
It is Hilbert's first NHL game and Zamuner added his second goal of the game late in the second period.

Devils 3, Oilers 3
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Mike Comrie stole the puck deep in the Devils' end and scored unassisted with 1:36 to tie with New Jersey.
Josh Green and Ethan Moreau also scored for the Oilers, who rallied twice in the third period from one-goal deficits.

Randy McKay, who had not scored in 20 games, tallied twice for New Jersey, while Bobby Holik got the other goal in the Oilers 33-15.

Philadelphia goalie Brian Boucher, right, deflects a shot by Dallas' Kirk Muller over his head during the first period Thursday.

Kings 4, Sabres 2
OTTAWA — Lubomir Visnovsky broke a tie with 5:15 remaining in the game as Los Angeles beat Ottawa in a game that featured a wild second-period brawl.

Jaroslav Moriy, Steve Heinze and Adam Deadmarsh also scored to help the Kings extend their winning streak to five games and their unbeaten string to seven at 6-0-1.

Mike Fisher and Ricard Person scored for the Senators.
Ottawa goalie Jani Hurme and Los Angeles counterpart Felix Potvin were ejected along with four other players for their roles in the melee that resulted in 174 penalty minutes.

Predators 6, Canucks 2
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Kimmo Timonen and Cliff Ronning each scored a power-play goal and had three assists to lead Nashville past Vancouver.

The four points by Timonen and Ronning tied a franchise record.
The victory extended the Predators' home unbeaten streak to 10 games.

Greg Classen, Dennis Arkipov, Scott Hartnell and Bubba Berenzweig also scored for the Predators.

Barrett's relay combination also gave Lemieux, the Barrossos and Pittsburgh, a startling reminder of how star-crossed these two lives are — marked by uncanny comebacks and high-profile bouts with cancer.

Ashley was first diagnosed with neuroblastoma when she was 4 years old, when her father and Lemieux both skated for the Penguins in the midst of two consecutive Stanley Cup runs.

Given a 15 percent chance to survive, Ashley prevailed after chemotherapy, radiation and a bone-marrow transplant sent the cancer into remission.

"She has been through so much in her life — to be able to run together — we both had cancer in the past, it is special," Lemieux said.

Diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease in January 1993, Lemieux left the Penguins for six weeks of cancer treatment and returned to finish the season — the first of three great comebacks in his career.

Lemieux took off the 1994-95 season, his body weary by chronic back problems and the Hodgkins. He came back to win consecutive NHL scoring titles and retiring after the 1996-97 season.

Lemieux bought the team 1999 to rescue it from bankruptcy and returned to the ice last December.

Barrosso, 36, is 9-8-3 with a 2.21 goals-percentage average, 922 save percentage and two shutouts — his latest on Sunday against the Penguins — in 21 games.

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Mario Lemieux and Ashley Barrosso are linked by cancer, hockey — and after Thursday morning — the Olympic torch.

Ashley, 14, the daughter of Carolina Hurricanes goaltender Tom Barrosso, received the torch from Lemieux, her father's former teammate and now the owner and captain of the Pittsburgh Penguins, as part of the two-day torch relay through Pittsburgh.

Mario, bothered by a hip injury that has kept him out of the lineup for all but three games since surgery in October, jogged the two-tenths of a mile without a problem.

"It is a lot more special to me because I'm playing in the Olympics. It is a great honor for me," Lemieux said.

When it's all over, the torch will have traveled 13,500 miles through 46 states en route to the opening ceremonies of the Winter Games in Salt Lake City on Feb. 8.

The moment was especially poignant for Ashley, 14, whose father, Tom, was selected for the U.S. Olympic hockey team Wednesday night.

"Ashley running with the torch today is a terrific day for her and our family, based on the look on her face it was worth it," said Tom Barrosso, who took last season off when Ashley was again diagnosed with cancer.

But the relay combination also gave Lemieux, the Barrossos and Pittsburgh, a startling reminder of how star-crossed these two lives are — marked by uncanny comebacks and high-profile bouts with cancer.

SCORES AND STATS

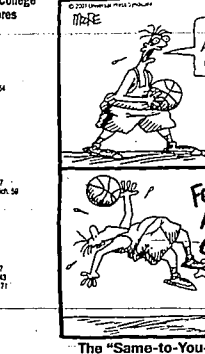
BASKETBALL

Table with columns for National Basketball Association, Eastern Conference, and Western Conference. Lists teams like New Jersey, Boston, Dallas, etc. with scores and game details.

Today's Games

Table listing today's games for various sports including Basketball Men's College, Football, and Hockey. Includes team names and scores.

IN THE BLEACHERS



The "Same-to-You-but-More-of-It" Shout Deflector. On sale now at referee supply stores everywhere.

ON THE AIR

Table listing television broadcasts for various sports including Golf, Swimming, Football, NBA, and College Basketball.

Wednesday's Late NBA Boxes

Table listing Wednesday's late NBA games, including matchups like Boston vs. Dallas and scores.

Wednesday's Late NBA Boxes

Table listing Wednesday's late NBA games, including matchups like Boston vs. Dallas and scores.

FOOTBALL

Table listing football games, including matchups like Carolina vs. Tampa Bay and scores.

NHL Scoring Leaders

Table listing NHL scoring leaders, including names like Ylvisaker and scores.

NBA Boxes

Table listing NBA games, including matchups like Chicago vs. Dallas and scores.

National Basketball

Table listing national basketball games, including matchups like Chicago vs. Dallas and scores.

Today's Women's College Basketball

Table listing today's women's college basketball games, including matchups like Duke vs. Stanford.

West Coast Hockey League

Table listing West Coast Hockey League games, including matchups like San Diego vs. Phoenix.

Central Basketball

Table listing central basketball games, including matchups like Chicago vs. Dallas and scores.

High School Basketball Games

Table listing high school basketball games, including matchups like Boise State vs. Idaho State.

HOCKEY

Table listing hockey games, including matchups like Carolina vs. Tampa Bay and scores.

NHL summaries

Table listing NHL summaries, including game results and key statistics.

SKIING

Table listing skiing events, including matchups like Bode Miller vs. Ted Liggett.

TRANSACTIONS

Table listing transactions, including player movements and trades between teams.

SPORTS

Jordan, Wizards ride seven-game streak

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chris Whitney is the only Washington Wizards player remaining from the team's last seven-game winning streak. It was so long ago, he doesn't remember it.

But many, many losing streaks are very fresh in his mind, and that makes the current seven-game run very, very sweet.

"Oh, definitely. I've been here for a long time," said Whitney, who signed in March 1996, a few weeks before that last seven-game spurt, the Wizards' longest winning streak of the 1990s.

"To have something like this — not just a streak, but for it to mean something. It's early in the season, and for us to be in the thick of things in the division is great."

It is December, and the Wizards (12-12) are 500. Michael Jordan, coach Doug Collins and the supporting cast have lifted the malaise off the MCI Center and bucked the losing culture that Collins feared was sucking the team down earlier in the season.

"I told our guys, there are three things in sports or in life," Collins said. "There's losers, there's winners, and then there's a champion. I said we're moving to be winners. That's our next step: to be winners."

The Wizards actually blew out a team Wednesday night, crushing Atlanta 103-76. Jordan had one hot quarter — scoring 18 of his 23 points in the second — but his teammates did their share, and

he was able to rest his knees the final 15 minutes of the game.

Afterward, Jordan said "there's such a positive feeling" in the locker room and that the players think they can win any game they're about to play. Those are old clichés in other cities, but it's a novel experience for the Wizards.

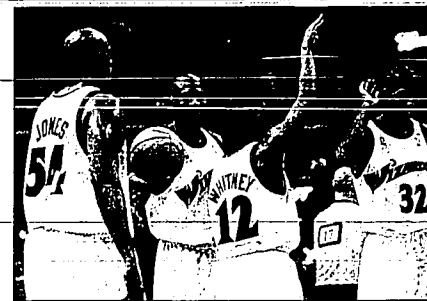
"I don't think it's anything like the Chicago Bulls the years that we won. I don't think these guys are walking around with swaggers," Jordan said. "We're very proud. The feeling is infectious, and we want to keep it going."

Everybody in this locker room wants to take showers and feels the difference from the way it was last year. I don't think anybody wants that feeling back."

If the Wizards beat Orlando today, they'll have their first eight-game winning streak since 1983. It's an amazing recovery from a 3-10 start — including an eight-game losing streak — and it started the night Jordan declared, "We stink," following a loss to Cleveland on Nov. 27. The Wizards are 9-2 since.

"I think I pointed out something that everybody felt," Jordan said. "We all looked at ourselves. We felt that we could play better basketball. From that point on, we've been focusing, and we're starting to understand how to be professional...."

"I think we're surprising ourselves — in terms of how everybody's fit into a role. We're starting to excel."



Washington's Michael Jordan, second from left, smiles along with teammates Popeye Jones (54) Chris Whitney (12) and Richard Hamilton (32) as a call went their way against the Atlanta Hawks during the third quarter of the Wizards' 103-76 win, Wednesday at the MCI Center in Washington.

Virginia downs Hoyas to remain undefeated

WASHINGTON — Chris Williams had 17 points and 11 rebounds as No. 5 Virginia beat No. 16 Georgetown 61-55 on Thursday night in the John Thompson Classic.

Roger Mason added 16 points and six assists to 16 points for the Cavaliers (7-0) to their 24th straight non-conference victory. Tony Bethel led the Hoyas (9-2) with 12 points.

While there wasn't the hype of the Bethel-Sampson-Patrick Ewing matchup of 1992, won by Virginia 68-63, the teams recovered from a laborious first half to produce a high-tempo, high-emotion finish as each played a ranked opponent for the first time.

Ceremonies at the game commemorated the 1982 showdown, when Virginia's Sampson was a senior and Georgetown's Ewing a sophomore. Sampson, former Hoyas coach Thompson and former Cavaliers coach Terry Holland were on hand.



Georgetown's Tony Bethel, left, fouls Virginia's Roger Mason during the first half Thursday at the MCI Center in Washington.

Crockford and Lambert were a combined 18-of-22 from the field. Robert A. Sarri and Aston Kennedy led Arkansas-Little Rock (4-6) with 12 points apiece.

No. 18 Syracuse 80, South Florida 68

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Preston Shumpert scored 22 points and broke Syracuse's career 3-point record as the Orangemen welcomed head coach Jim Boeheim back.

Boeheim, who had prostate surgery this month, missed the last three games and was not expected back until Dec. 29.

Shumpert hit a pair of 3-pointers to pass Lawrence Moten and become Syracuse's career leader with 68.

Kueth Duany had 18 points and 10 rebounds, and DeShaun Williams had 20 points and nine assists for the Orangemen (10-2).

Altron Jackson led South Florida (7-2) with 22 points.

No. 25 Cincinnati 102, La.-Monroe 66

LAS VEGAS — Steve Logan scored 23 points and Taron Barker added a career-high 18 as Cincinnati beat Louisiana-Monroe in the second round of the Las Vegas Classic.

Barker, a junior college transfer, made consecutive 3-pointers to give the Bearcats a 31-point lead in the second half. Cincinnati went 12-of-17 from 3-point range in the second half.

It was the ninth consecutive victory for the Bearcats (9-1).

Women's Top 25

No. 8 Baylor 85, UALR 55

WACO, Texas — Danielle Crockford scored 22 points, and Sheila Lambert added 17 for Baylor (11-0).

Pitt

Continued from D1

regular-season finale against Alabama-Birmingham (see p. 3), and wasn't at 100 percent since arriving in Florida on Monday.

But the 2000 All-American and two-time Big East wide receiver was on his game early. He caught TDs of 15 and 2 yards as the Panthers went up 24-10 at halftime.

Meanwhile, N.C. State wasn't

the same team on defense after losing Associated Press first team All-American linebacker Lester Fisher early in the second quarter to a broken left forearm.

The teams traded field goals in a closely played first quarter before the Panthers took control in the second, scoring on drives of 60, 48 and 70 yards.

Without Fisher in the lineup, Pittsburgh was able to establish a

Finley, Nash topple Bucks

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Finley and Steve Nash each scored 33 points in Dallas' season-high fifth straight victory, downing Milwaukee 113-101.

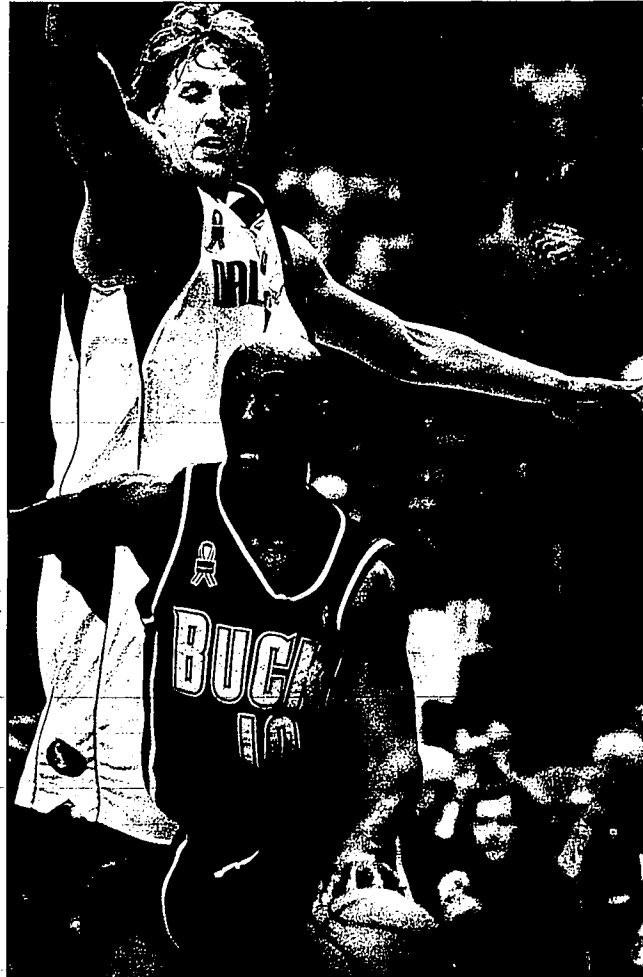
Tim Hardaway added 15 points, and Juwan Howard 13 for the Mavericks, who won despite only eight points and 3-for-14 field goal shooting from their top scorer, Dirk Nowitzki.

Nowitzki, who started the night with a 23.3 scoring average, did lead Dallas with 12 rebounds.

Finley and Nash added eight assists apiece.

Nash went 12-for-18 from the field, including 5-for-8 from 3-point range. Finley hit 16 of his 31 field goal attempts, and the Mavericks shot 51.7 percent from the floor.

Ray Allen and Glenn Robinson both scored 21 points for the Bucks, and Michael Redd added 15. Milwaukee's three-game winning streak ended.



Milwaukee Bucks guard Sam Cassell, right, works the ball inside of Dallas forward Dirk Nowitzki during the first period in Dallas Thursday.

Grizzlies 90, Knicks 88

NEW YORK — Shane Battier scored 21 points, including a tiebreaking jumper with 9.8 seconds left, and the Memphis Grizzlies defeated New York 90-88 Thursday night as the Knicks missed five shots in the final 6 seconds.

It was the first victory ever in New York for the Grizzlies, who lost their previous five games at Madison Square Garden. Memphis won for just the second time this season on the road and dealt the Knicks their fifth loss in six games.

Sprewell finished with 27 points, Allan Houston had 25, and Jackson added 14 points, eight assists and seven rebounds. Camby was 0-for-6 from the field and 2-for-5 from the foul line.

Stromile Swift scored 15, Pau Gasol had 14, and Jason Williams added 11 points, nine assists and seven rebounds.

Raptors 96, Bulls 91

TORONTO — Vince Carter scored 29 of his 33 points in the second half and led Toronto on a 16-5 run after Charles Oakley floored him with a forearm below the chin in the fourth quarter.

Brad Miller had 24 points, and Marcus Fizer had 19 for the Bulls, who have lost 14 straight road games and five games in a row overall.

Lakers 107, Rockets 101

HOUSTON — Kobe Bryant scored 27 points, and Derek Fisher added 23 by making seven

of nine 3-pointers as Los Angeles dealt Houston's 15th straight loss.

The Lakers, 25th in the NBA in 3-point shooting, were 12-for-20 (60 percent) from long range.

The Rockets' 15-game losing streak is two short of the franchise record set in the 1967-68 season. They had a separate slide of 15 in a row that same season en route to a 15-67 record.

The NBA single-season record is 23 consecutive losses, set by Vancouver in 1995-96, and tied by Denver in 1997-98.

Shaquille O'Neal had 16 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers.

Rookie Eddie Griffin had career highs of 25 points and 13 rebounds for the Rockets, while Cuttino Mobley added 18 points, and Mookie Norris had 15 points and 10 assists.

Montana

Continued from D1

Furman's route to the title game was not easy. The Paladins entered the playoffs as an at-large team and won in the first and second rounds before facing Georgia Southern, a six-time national champion.

Furman had lost to Georgia

Southern earlier in the year but pulled off the 24-17 upset last weekend.

And the Paladins did that without leading rusher and Southern Conference Offensive Player of the Year Louis Ivory. The senior sprained a ligament in his left knee on Dec. 1 but has been

cleared to play today.

"It has been hard at the beginning of each game. The toughest part is that you don't know if there's going to be a next week," he said.

The game matches two potent offenses averaging about 34 points apiece.

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Inside this special Season's Greetings Section you will find letters to Jolly Old St. Nick from Mrs. Sutton's 4th Grade Class at Oregon Trail Elementary. Also, a coloring contest, Season's Greetings from our local residents and businesses.



CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

SEASONS GREETINGS

Merry Christmas To All!

We hope Santa is very good to you this year. Many thanks for being so good to us!



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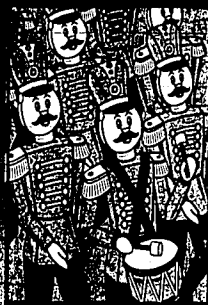
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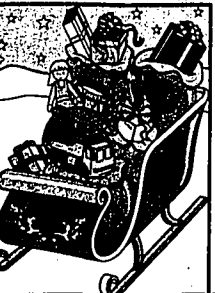
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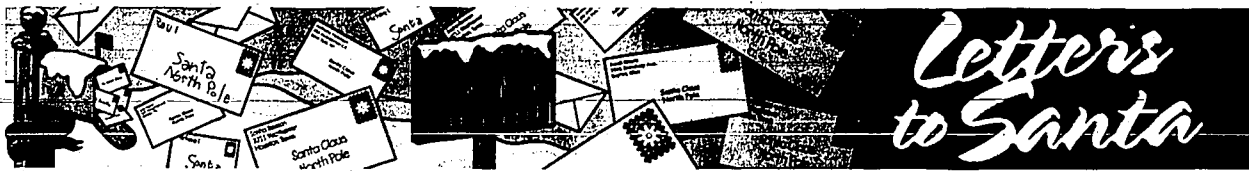
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Letters to Santa



My Christmas Wish List
 I wish people could be with their families on Christmas. I hope kids have at least one parent, because some kids do not get a present. I hope the war will stop, and we could have a world of peace. I hope families get money so they can buy new shoes, and toys and other things. I pray everybody gets a present. Please let homeless people have a gift.
 Sincerely, Angelique

My Christmas Wish List
 I wish I had Game Boy Color games. I wish I had a motorcycle with a 70 horse motor. I wish I had a four-wheeler that's automatic. I wish I had more brothers and sisters. I wish I had more family.
 By Joey Patterson

My Christmas Wish List
 by Kira Spencer
 I wish for a Happy New Year, food and shelter, people to be with their families, God Bless the world, all children to get presents, presents for the ill, homeless, and poor, orphans to find families, clothes for people, for everyone to have a very Merry Christmas, that the war and hatefulness will cease.

COLORING CONTEST

RULES:

Crayons, markers or colored pencils may be used.

AGE GROUPS:

3-5 years / 6-8 years / 9-12 years

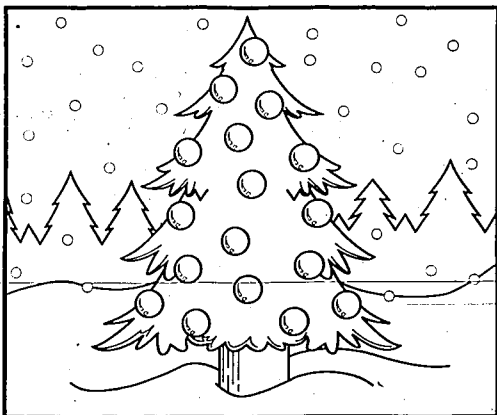
All entries must be received by January 11, 2002.

Winners will be announced January 18, 2002 in The Times-News.

PRIZES:

1st Place: \$50 gift certificate to Fred Meyer (for each age group)

2nd Place: 1 large Papa Murphy's Pizza (for each age group)



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Sincerely, Crystal Nutsch

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I wish for my bother to get a nice place to live for Christmas and him to get food and shelter. I wish for all the orphans to at least to get one present and for everyone to have a good Christmas. I also wish that my dad could find a good job. For the homeless people that don't have homes to have something to have for Christmas. I would also wish for everybody to be able to be with his or her families, for the people that are fighting over seas that cannot be with there family for Christmas to not get hurt, for war and hatefulness to stop, and the world turn form hate to peace. I hope that all children will not want everything for themselves, but to give to others in need and to others that have hardly anything or nothing. I wish for orphans to find good homes with people who love them and for children to have presents with parents who love them dearly and that they will remember the true meaning of Christmas.

HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

BY Kimberly Fivecoat

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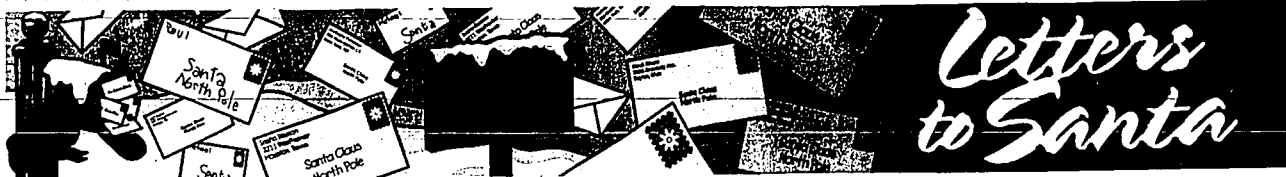
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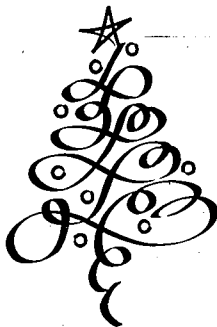
AG WEEKLY





Letters to Santa

Season's Greetings
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355 Addison Ave. W. • 736-2800



Wishing You & Yours A Very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!
PSI Waste Systems

Holiday Special
Perms \$29.95
Long Hair Extra
Discounts on all haircare
Wash • Cuts • Color
Will take evening appointments on Tues, Wed or Thurs through Dec 29 only. Prefer appointments but will take walk-ins.
Euro Style Hair, Etc., Etc.
607 Filor Avenue
Next to Garabaldi's
733-5882

Season's Greetings
We sell warm winters and cool summers.
RAMSEY
SALES & SERVICE
2600 Overland
Burley, ID 83318
208-678-0459

My Christmas list is to give to the poor and give everybody at least one present. Then I'll wish everybody a Merry Christmas. I'd end all hate and war and make world peace. I hope that all the orphans will get new Moms and Dads. I wish that all the sick kids will start to feel better for Christmas, and for every body to have a very Merry CHRISTMAS.
By Kaleb Coggins

HO...HO...HO...HOPE IT'S MERRY!
Here's hoping the Christmas season brings you lots of good...ies and happy memories with family and friends. Thanks so much for your loyal patronage. We look forward to serving you next year!
Cellular Plus
Communications for the Magic Valley
778 Falls Avenue
Suite B1B in the Turf Plaza
734-7336

EVERGREEN NURSERY & LANDSCAPING INC.
1287 W. Main
Burley, Idaho
Since 1983

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!
Wishing you all things bright and beautiful at Christmastime.
Thank you for putting your trust in us.
DELL P. SMITH, M.D., F.A.C.S.
Member
American Society of Podiatry
552 Shoup Ave. W.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
dsmithmd@pmt.org
(208) 735-8386
1-888-223-9147
www.dellpsmithmd.com

HAVE A HOLLY, JOLLY CHRISTMAS!
Our sincere wishes for a glorious holiday that gladdens your heart and leaves you with wonderful memories to last a lifetime. Customers like you have given us so much to be thankful for, and we greatly appreciate your patronage.
J & D AUTOMOTIVE
Owned & Operated by Jeff and Jana Wills
734-2267
139 Blue Lakes Blvd. S. • Twin Falls

Best wishes & many thanks to our loyal customers & friends.
Fonnesbeck Insurance
2441 West 16th St.
Burley, ID
678-5016
Specializing in Farm and Crop Insurance
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We Wish You A Merry Christmas!
MORGAN
"Everything in Garage Doors"
205 S 45 W Burley
208-678-DOOR (3667)
RAYNOR
GARAGE DOORS

I wish that everyone would be healthy, be with there family on Christmas, they can have toys, have food to eat, get clothes, get shoes, have homes, presents for the people who are ill, have a good Christmas, everyone be nice to one another, world peace, to have a Merry Christmas, have orphans get family's, everyone to have a family, let the people in the war go home for Christmas, and have a Happy New Year.
Katelyn Jorgensen

ARK ANIMAL HOSPITAL
Small & Large Animals
Dr. Bill Fulcher
Mon-Fri: 8am - 6pm
Sat: 8am - 1pm
24 Hour Emergency Service
678-1177
750 21st St. Heyburn
(Alfredo Rd)

Paul, Idaho, La-La
A Note Of Thanks
We'd like to throw in a chorus of thanks for your kind patronage and wish you and yours a glorious season filled with love and harmony. Happy Holidays!
Banding Mechanical Services Inc.
PAUL, IDAHO
400 W. 100 S. Highway 25 • 208-438-8108
Toll Free 800-438-7441

Happy Holidays!
to all our friends and neighbors.
Warm wishes for a wonderful holiday season.
Northside Bus Co.
324-4426
47 S. 100 W. • Jerome, ID. 83338

I wish that everyone could be with their families on Christmas day. You can hear the Children laughing And giggling. I wish that every child could get toys, Dolls, cars and airplanes. And that every child can Eat and Drink on Christmas day. And I also wish that Everybody can have a Merry Christmas. And I wish That on Christmas day that I can have a blow dryer And a curling iron. And I wish that at least every child Can at least have one or more presents. And the people who are saving our state can have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New-Year.
Mickinsie Yergensen

Paul, Idaho, La-La-La!
A Note Of Thanks
We would like to reflect on this past year and thank all who have help us, including Twin Falls City Police Department, the Sheriff's Department, all Home Health Hospice organizations, and clergy and chaplains.
Happy Holidays.
WHITE
Hairnary & Cosmetology
TWIN FALLS KEMBERLY
733-6600 423-6350
Reynolds
Funeral Chapel
Twin Falls
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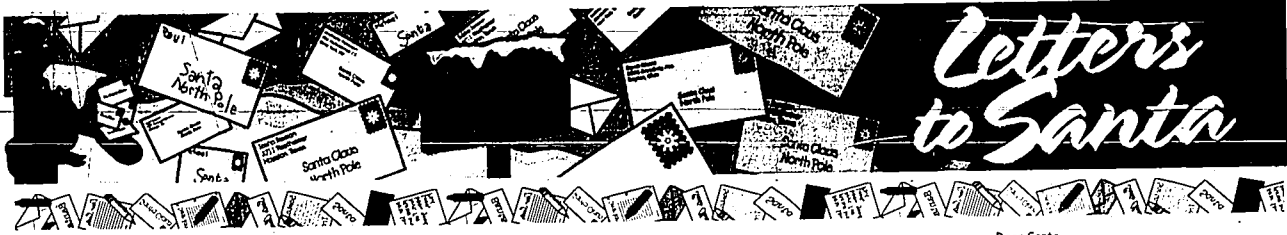
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from
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Idaho's Dairy Best
571 South Idaho St.
Wendell • 536-5666
email: mkdairy@northflm.net

We Wish You A Merry Christmas And A Happy New Year!
Many thanks for your loyal support.
Ruth's
Beauty Salon
Call Connie or Ruby
536-2313
368 W 2nd Ave. E.
Wendell, ID



Paul, Idaho, La-La-La!
Helping you hear better is what we do best.
Fitz Kippers, H.L.S.
Professional Hearing Aid Services
734-2900 678-7600
200 Falls Ave. • 1201 E. 10th St.
Twin Falls Burley

Best wishes & many thanks to our loyal customers & friends.
Dad's Battery Store
• Maintenance Free • Spill & Leak Proof
• Authorized Exide Dealer
434 W. Main St., Burley, ID
678-4926



Letters to Santa

Letters to Santa

Christmas is a time to celebrate hopes and dreams. As is our tradition at The Times-News, we are proud to present some of the letters we have received from our area children, sharing with us their hopes and dreams for Christmas and what presents they would like from Santa. We want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Dear Santa, I want a Scooby Doo game. Mitchell, Gooding, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, I would like a real makeup set, my own room and money. Destiny, Gooding, Age 7 1/2

Dear Santa, I want a Princess Barbie. Malana, Gooding, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, I want a sedge pluff that gas on yar head, crons, sedes and fun stuff. Alex, Gooding, Age 9

Dear Santa, I want a baby doll. Kylie, Gooding, Age 2

Dear Santa, I would like a baby doll. Cassidy, Gooding, Age 2

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie doll and a teddy bear. Triston, Gooding, Age 4

Dear Santa, I would like a doll. Callie Jo, Gooding, Age 2

Dear Santa, I want a barbie doll. Reanna, Gooding, Age 2

Dear Santa, I want a remote car. Gummer, Gooding, Age 2 1/2

Dear Santa, I want a BB gun and a cane carry. Joe, Gooding, Age 5

Dear Santa, I want gameboy pokemon gold. Torin, Gooding, Age 6

Dear Santa, I want a play backhoe. Chase, Gooding, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, I want a Scooby Doo movie. Stetson, Gooding, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, I would like a BB gun. Torre, Gooding, Age 5

Dear Santa, I wish that I will have a good Christmas, and I hope that I get a new bike or a set of clothes or a game boy color. Kaley, Twin Falls, Age 7

Dear Santa, I hope you have a great Christmas. I want blow pens, the N'Sync CD, Britney Spears tour bus and Anne Geddes dolls. Macye, Twin Falls, Age 10

Dear Santa, I hope you have a good Christmas. I want the Britney Spears CD, blow pens, Britney Spears tour bus, Anne Geddes dolls and hair studs. Ashley, Twin Falls, Age 9

Dear Santa, I have been very good! Please bring me a toy I want. I want a hot wheels carry case. Andy, Twin Falls, Age 6

Dear Santa, I would like a lots of clothes, a Diva Starz doll, and something that is from Monster etc. please! Have a happy merry Christmas! Chess, Twin Falls, Age 10

Dear Santa, Can I have a Poppel for Christmas? I hope you have a good Christmas and eat a lot of cookies! I love you Santa! Keri, Twin Falls, Age 6

Dear Santa, I want a coloring pack because it has colors in it! My brother wants a coloring packing too! Merry Christmas! Rochelle, Twin Falls, Age 7

Dear Santa, For Christmas can I please have a Make-up Mandy? I like you and I hope you have a good Christmas! Kelsey, Twin Falls, Age 6

Dear Santa, I can't wait till Christmas. Do you get a stomach-aches from all of the cookies and milk? I want a portable cd player for Christmas. Grace Hall, Twin Falls, Age 10

Dear Santa, Can I have a Poppel for Christmas. I want a yellow lab. Alyssa, Twin Falls, Age 8

Dear Santa, I want cars for Christmas! I want and a football, and a football hat! Merry Christmas and I love Christmas! Forrest Gardner, Twin Falls, Age 8

Dear Santa, I would like you to have all the people that are at war come home to be with their families. Kira, Twin Falls, Age 11

Dear Santa, Please let my Dad come home for Christmas. I do believe in you. For Christmas I want a big collection of Shirley Temple & Milk & Ashley movies. Kirstie Payne, Twin Falls, Age 12

Dear Santa, My favorite holiday is Christmas. I hope you have a Merry Christmas. I want a barbie car, I want a makeup kit please I want lots of books please. Alyxis Goertzen, Twin Falls, Age 6

Dear Santa, When you come to my house wake me up so I can see your reindeer please! I don't want any clothes, okay? Just TOYS! Dylan Farran, Burley, Age 6 1/2

Dear Santa, Baby doll, rocking chair, clothes, toy chest and any toys. Hailey Mickael, Jerome, Age 14 Months

Dear Santa, Barbie, Eric from Nutcracker, barbie tape, barbie doll house, toy chest, bicycle, helmet, clothes. Sierra Mickael, Jerome, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, I wish I could have a kitchen for Christmas and a toy truck for my brother Devin. We have both been very good this year. Thanks Santa. Lynlea Strickland, Wendell, Age 5

Dear Santa, I want a Barbie. I hope the war in Afghanistan is over soon. For our Golden Retriever dog to get over cancer. Nicole Askew, Heyburn, Age 8

Dear Santa, I have been a very good girl this year. We have a new fireplace and I promise there will not be a fire when you come. I would like a puppy and 2 Barbies. Morgan, Twin Falls, Age 4

Dear Santa, I want a battle bots, electronic man steric, game zone arcade ball, Harry Potter levitating Challenge. Austin, Gooding, Age 8

Dear Santa, I would like a Jake the Snake, a barbie doll and a barbie house. Katelyn, Gooding, Age 3

Dear Santa, I would like some diapers, formula, a rattle and some new clothes. Trevor, Hagerman, 5 Months

Dear Santa, I would like a truck, a computer and a new toy box. Garrett, Hagerman, Age 2

Dear Santa, Mommy & Daddy said if I am good you will bring me presents. I've been good. Please bring me Mr. Potato Head and a baby brother. Trenten Gracido, Boise, Age 3

Dear Santa, I want a crimper, Bring it on movie, Moulin Raugh movie, gel pen set, Karaoke machine, perfume set, makeup set, pajamas, pants and shirts. Autumn Briggs, Burley, Age 12

Dear Santa, My brother and me have a lot of love with Mom and Dad, so all we want is one toy each and world peace always. Dalton & Apache Rowbottom, Twin Falls, Ages 8 & 6

Dear Santa, I would like a new toy kitty, and a new barbie doll. Please also bring peace to the children of the world. Shanna, Twin Falls, Age 5

Dear Santa, I've been a very good boy this year. I would like Buzz Light Year, Woody and Zurg. Also would like a sister or brother. Christian Cohee, Declo, Age 2

Dear Santa, I wish that every one going to war with Afghanistan comes back safely. Briana Reeves, Twin Falls, Age 11

Dear Santa, I love you-I would like a set of army toys and walkie talkies. How are your reindeer and Mrs. Claus? Cody Henington, Rupert, Age 8

Dear Santa, I wish you would bring me a skateboard, game boy, and a toy bench. I wish you a Merry Christmas. Ryker Fenstermaker, Burley, Age 4

Dear Santa, I like your Ha-Ha-Ho, and I like your funny toys. I want a big bug, that green snake, battle bug blocks, and a cool hippopotamus. Brock Nickel, Twin Falls, Age 4

Dear Santa, I would like some clothes size 10, bell bottom pants. All of Lisa Frank set. Nike shoes, size 3. Alejandra, Buhl, Age 11

Dear Santa, I want a truck that goes all by itself and a robot dog. A new car for Mommy and a big truck for Daddy. Jacob Kuhn, Jerome, Age 3 1/2

Dear Santa, Please send cute blond or brunette girl to take care of me! Age 20 to 65. Gene, Gooding, Age 72

Dear Santa, I want a Scooby Doo movie. Kyle, Gooding, Age 2 1/2

Dear Santa, I want Harry Potter playstation. Colton, Gooding, Age 6

Dear Santa, I want a yellow teddy bear. Walker, Gooding, Age 3 1/2

To our many friends both far and "Deer"...

Thanks for your kind support this past year.

ELSING PUMP SERVICES

21387 US Hwy 30
Twin Falls • 733-5002

The Book Store & Office Supply

Thank you for your patronage this past year!

Hallmark Cards & Full Line of Gifts

South Side of the Rupert Square

436-5661

Thank you for your patronage this past year.

Merry Christmas!

Dance Additions

1256 Overland Drive
Burley, Id
678-3865

The Miracle of Christmas

May all your hopes and prayers be fulfilled during this holy time of year. Our thoughts and fond wishes are with you. Thank you for your generous support.

MAICO A-1 HEARING AID CENTER, INC.

TWIN FALLS 733-7330
125 MAIN AVENUE WEST 9:30-5:00 WEEKDAYS SATURDAYS BY APPOINTMENT

BURLEY 678-3467
140 EAST 14TH STREET 9:30-5:00 WEEKDAYS SATURDAYS BY APPOINTMENT

Season's Greetings from all of us at MABEY'S PALLET & LUMBER

Heyburn
630 S. 200 W. • 436-6680

Twin Falls
2265 Eldridge Ave • 734-8573

We hope each day of the holiday season is filled with good times, love and laughter. Merry Christmas and many thanks for your business.

Merry & Bright PIONEER EQUIPMENT CO.

436-3191

Mrs. Claus has 3 choices in Magic Valley

CURVES for women

30 minute fitness & weight loss centers

678-2754 734-7300 324-7222
2267 Overland Burley 778 Falls Ave. 149 W. Main Burley

Season's Greetings MARBLE-N-COUNTERS

CUSTOM CULTURED MARBLE

Happy Holidays to you from Tyler Hansen Scott Hansen

1321 East Main St
Burley, ID
208-678-6042

Family Practice Including Obstetrics

FAMILY CARE PHYSICIANS, P.A.
Drs. Arthurs, Irwin & Lohmann
112 West Fifth • Jerome, ID 83338 • 324-1157

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

James S. Irwin, MD
Dave A. Arthurs, D.O.
James D. Lohmann, MD
Alicia Trabert, FNP
Diplomates, American Board of Family Practice

324-1157
112 W 5th Avenue (If no answer call 324-4301)

Joy to all

We waited the whole year through to say a heartfelt "thank you" for all that you've meant to us, and wish you "Merry Christmas!"

McCall's Trailer Restoration
139 S. 300 West • Jerome • 324-3867

MERRY CHRISTMAS

Many thanks for your loyal support & patronage this year.

Happy Holidays!

RAZOR'S EDGE

Full Service Studio
Robin Davis - Owner, Barber
Mikie & Becki - Stylists
678-3451

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

We appreciate how sweet you've been to us, all year long!

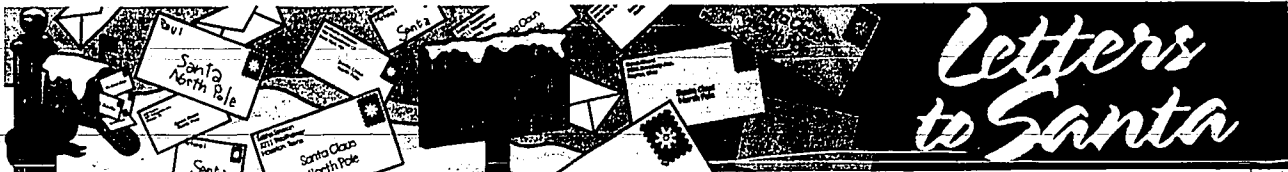
MAGIC VALLEY

114 MARKET AVE. • TWIN FALLS
733-9690

Burley Softwater

KINETICO authorized dealer

1243 Hansen
Burley, ID 83318
(208) 678-5476



Christmas Wish List
 For Christmas I wish that everyone will be happy and that everyone will have a good Christmas. My second wish would be that people would have world peace and that everyone could be with their families. My third wish would be that poor people would have food and shelter on Christmas Day and that war and hatefulness would cease.
 Sincerely, Bryce

Robert's Christmas Wish List
 I want a computer with Internet access, color printer, and a CD-Rom for my grandma and my grandpa. I also wish for a Goozee lamp and sparkle lamp sparkle Goozee, metallic Goozee, plan Goozee, and glow in the dark Goozee for my sister Bianca, and some Beanie Babies for my sis baby sister Rose. For my dad, I wish for him to get some target shooters. I wish for a bird nest for my Mom, a lab puppy for my sister Jasmine. I wouldn't mind to give up all my presents for my family.
 Sincerely, Robert Sanchez Jr.

I wish that everybody could be with their family on Christmas day, that the orphans would be able to find loving families. I wish that Tricia and Carlos would have a Merry Christmas, that the war and hatefulness will stop, that everyone in the war will have a great Christmas, the war will stop before Christmas so that the people in war will be able to go home to their family on Christmas day, the ones over sea will have a Merry Christmas, that the world would have peace, that everyone would love and not hate people. I also wish that nobody would be poor and that everybody would be able to have a feast with a turkey and food so that they can have a great Christmas, that ever one would have warm clothes on their backs, that all of the ill, homeless, and poor people would have one present for Christmas.
 Tierra Candelaria

Merry & Bright
 We hope each day of the holiday season is filled with good times, love and laughter. Merry Christmas and many thanks for your business.
Vicki's Country Garden
 175 S. 600 West • Paul
 438-5663

Happy Holidays
 from **ELECTRIC EXPRESS**
 Call us for all your electrical needs! With our 24 hour service, we are available during the holidays. Locally owned and operated by Scott Keyes.
ELECTRIC EXPRESS
 336-6411
 Wendell, Idaho

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 from all of us at **Nu Vu Glass**

 1601 Overland Avenue
 Burley • 208-678-2229
 421 Eastland Drive
 Twin Falls • 734-9877

QUALITY TIRE SERVICE
GOOD YEAR
 HWY 24 • Rupert, ID • 438-3900

The Gooding Seed Co.
 Wishes you a Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!
 103 Main Street, Gooding
 934-8441

Archibald's Roofing
 Serving All of Southern Idaho Since 1960
Residential & Commercial
 Shingles • Built Up Roofs
 Flat Roofs • Metal Roofs
 Single Ply Roofing
 Quality Material & Workmanship
 Bonded, Licensed & Insured
 280 W. Ave. B • Wendell
 536-2109
 733-4710 • Twin Falls

Christmas Greetings
 Here's wishing your family the very best of the holiday season. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
CONTINENTAL LOANS
 2716 South Lincoln • Suite H
 Jerome • 324-3605
 684 Blue Lakes Boulevard North
 Twin Falls • 735-0892

...and may all your Christmases be bright.
Wok 'n Grill
 1188 Blue Lakes Boulevard North
 734-6898
MANDARIN HOUSE
 735 Blue Lakes Boulevard North
 734-6878

Best Holiday Wishes
 from the staff and residents at
Parke View CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER
 2303 Parke Avenue • Burley, ID 83318 • 677-3073

Greetings of the Season
THE DEPOT GRILL
 Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
 Reopens 6 am the following day
 Open 24 hours
 545 Shoshone St. S. • Twin Falls
 733-0710

Peace on Earth
 May goodwill and joy fill your heart at Christmas and always.
 With much gratitude to you for your patronage.
BABELS CLEANERS
 228 Shoshone Street East
 Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
 733-2258

Wishing you warm holiday greetings from all your friends at
EPIC TRAVEL
 1815 South Lincoln
 Jerome, Idaho
 324-2394

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
 from **CJ ELECTRIC HEATING**
 24-Hr Emergency Service
 436-1621 • Cell: 431-3532
 E-mail: cjelct@pmi.org
 PO Box 363 • Heyburn

JOY
 With Warm Regards at Christmas
 Thank you for giving us the gift of your friendship.
LARUE VETERINARY CLINIC
 James L. LaRue, DVM
 3693 N. 2250 E. • Filer • 326-8446

Little Gems Child Care
 would like to thank our families for trusting us to be a part of your child's life.
 We're ho-ho-hoping your holiday brings you everything you've wished for.
 736-0382

A special Thank You to all the teachers who entered their class in the Times-News drawing.
 We hope to see your class again next year.
The Times-News

The Gifts of Friendship
 You've brought us the best gifts of all — your loyalty and support — helping to make our year so spectacular. Thanks so much for visiting us! All of us at the Shoshone Family Medical Center wish you and yours a healthy and happy holiday season and new year!
 Dr. Keith Davis, Holly Swanson, Janet Sarty, Cecile Wallace, Marty Wallace, Yvonne Gorman, Debbie Hansen, Heather Wallace, Susan McClellan and Wendy Robinson.
Shoshone Medical Center
 113 S. Apple St. • Shoshone
 886-2224

Season's Greetings
 Thanks for the pleasure of your patronage. You've helped make 2001 a very successful year for us and we hope that all good things come back to you during this special season.
 From the Inside Sales Staff
 Barbara, Tammy, Debi & Shelly
The Times-News

Happy Boating & Flooding to you in 2002!
RIVERPAT TWIN FALLS
 238 Blue Lakes Blvd
 Twin Falls, Idaho
 735-8697

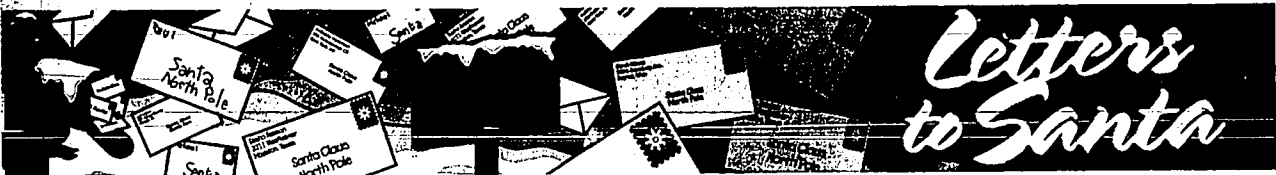
Santa's Helpers
STA-RITE
EAFON DRILLING & PUMP SERVICE
 24 HOUR SERVICE
 485 S. Idaho St. • Wendell
 536-2223

Happy Holidays!
 Unique Gifts, Collectibles & So Much More!
SAV-MOR DRUG
 Full Service Pharmacy & Radio Shack Dealer
 Hours: Mon-Fri: 8:30am-7pm
 Sat: 8:30am-6pm • Sun: Closed
 1109 Main in Buhl
 543-4347

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
 Wishing you all things bright and beautiful at Christmas.
 Thank you for putting your trust in us.
WAITE ELECTRIC CO
 Electric Motor Repair
 Night Service Calls
 Jeff Hopkins, Owner
 255-2nd Ave. East • Twin Falls, ID 83301
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 1-800-245-7698

Serving All Faiths & All Cemeteries with Exceptional Service, Care and Value.
FARNSWORTH MORTUARY
 (208) 324-7777
 1343 S. Lincoln • Jerome, ID. 83338

We wish you a Merry Christmas!
 Many thanks for your kind & loyal support this past year.
 From all of us at
SCHOW'S
 518 Overland Ave.
 Burley, ID 83318
 (208) 678-8305
 323 East 8th PO Box 94
 Rupert, ID 83350
 (208) 436-3755



Letters to Santa

I wish I had a Game Boy advance with a game. I wish for everyone to have food and shelter. I wish that the war would stop. I wish for all the children to have presents. I wish I had a gameboy. I wish for the ill, the homeless, and poor. I wish for all of the orphans and find families. I wish for a pair of new black shoes. I also wish a Merry Christmas to those fighting over seas. I wish for everyone to have a nice Christmas. Merry Christmas to you!
By Kara Smith

I wish that orphans would get a family. It would be nice if everybody would get a present. I wish that the hate and war would stop. I wish that everybody would be able to be with their families for Christmas. I would like it if everybody could have food and shelter. I wish that everybody would have warm clothes. Everybody should be healthy for Christmas. Have a Merry Christmas and a HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!
Sincerely, Winter Guest

I wish for other families to have a parent with them. I also wish for children to have a present and a happy New Year. What I want is for other families to have a good time. What I want is for other families to have a present that sings and dances. Here is a son: We wish you a merry Christmas. We wish you a Merry Christmas. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
Eduardo Tapia



Happy Holidays
from all of us at
Century 21
RIVERSIDE REALTY
More POWER to you:
http://www.c21riverside.com
2000 Overland Ave. Burley
678-9020

Rejoice in the Miracle!
Wishing all of our friends and neighbors a blessed holiday. Thanks for your support.
McClanahan's
220 West Main • Jerome
324-5825

May your Christmas be Merry & Bright
Haun's Hardware
23 East Ellis
Paul, ID 83347
(208) 438-5544

Letters to Santa
Christmas is a time to celebrate hopes and dreams. As is our tradition at The Times-News, we are proud to present some of the letters we have received from our area children, sharing with us their hopes and dreams for Christmas and what presents they would like from Santa. We want to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Dear Santa,
I would like Rescue Ranger, remote snake, helmet, toy microwave, T.V., fish tank, drums, toy snow machine, computer, clothes, bike, radio and car phone. Thank you.
Kyle Riggins, Kimberly, Age 6

Dear Santa,
I would like a dolphin lamp, porcelain dolls, slippers, bike, lava lamp, cassette recorder, dolphin everything, art set, CD's and porcelain set.
Deisteri Amos, Kimberly, Age 10

Dear Santa,
I would like a race car, toy stove, toy clock, CD player, tapes, phone, bike, clothes, shoes, computer fish tank, popholder and movies.
Thank you.
Coy Riggins, Kimberly, Age 5

Dear Santa,
I would like to live with grandma, video games, remote car, bike, clothes, CD's, tapes, shoes, race track, cell phone, movies and TV.
Thank you.
Ezeak Riggins, Kimberly, Age 7

Dear Santa,
We would like our Daddy, a robot baby doll, sugar plum princess doll, butterfly princess doll, barbie computer, girl doll with tassel, kookles, a kitties & hamsters, toy trucks, Barbie Nutcracker movie.
Charlie & Case Weems, Burley, Ages 6 & 2

Dear Santa,
I would like to please have a bunny rabbit. I would also like a patty baby, day bed, and some new clothes. Thank you Santas
Kaela Standley; Eden; Age 7

Dear Santa,
I would like a new motorcycle, a puppy, a hay truck a tractor but plastic, please give me a new scooter. Thank you Santa
Dylan Williamson, Hazelton, Age 3

Dear Santa,
This year I would really like a monster truck, some police stuff (whistle, patrol car) maybe a remote control motorcycle and camping and hunting stuff. Thanks Santa
Cooper Strolberg, Richfield, Age 5

Dear Santa,
This year please may I have a new horse, furry, a new cradle and maybe some new clothes. Thanks Santa
Shiann Williamson, Hazelton, Age 7

Dear Santa,
I would like to have remote control race track that does flips, driving tractor, jeeps and a barbie for my sister.
Coyote, Albion, Age 4

Dear Santa,
Here is my wish list for Christmas, a Blake Shelton CD, Tim McGraw CD-Set the Circus Down, and a white Christmas. Merry Christmas!
Lindsey Galley, Kimberly, Age 12

Dear Santa,
My wish is to pray for the war to end so that every soldier can spend Christmas at home. To wish well for the families of 9-11. MAY GOD BLESS AMERICA!
Seth Benavides, Jerome, Age 10

Dear Santa,
I love you. I want a barbie and a pretty dress. My teacher is nice and pretty. I'm going to make you some muffins.
Kelsie, Twin Falls, Age 5

Dear Santa,
I'd like a tv that works. For my mom, she needs a vacation. Say hello to my dad in heaven. We miss him alot.
Chuck Fetterly, Twin Falls, Age 8

Dear Santa,
I want a Bigman, shoes, action figures, car, trucks, planes, trains and 24 piece puzzles.
Christopher Pilcher, Filer, Age 5

Dear Santa,
I would like a barbie bike, barbie clothes, coney, barbie dolls.
Meghan Jones, Twin Falls, Age 4

Dear Santa,
I want a race car, motorcycle, bike and
Reilly Jone, Twin Falls, Age 2

MERRY CHRISTMAS
Thanks for "Growing" with us! Merry Christmas from
Jess, Malenia, Dave, Gary & Nick
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Merry & Bright
We hope each day of the holiday season is filled with good times, love and laughter. Merry Christmas and many thanks for your business.
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PEOPLE YOU CAN COUNT ON
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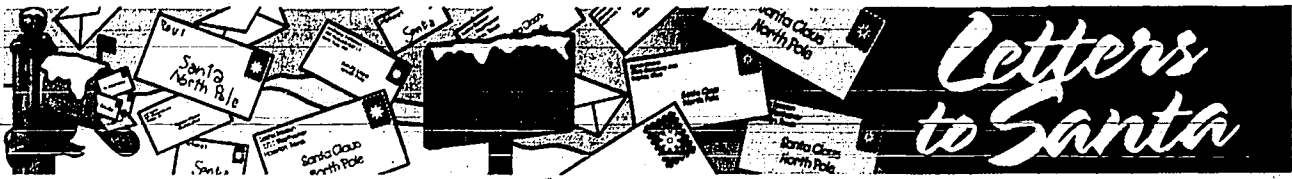
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Merry Christmas
It's been a great year, thanks to you!
Thanks to all of our customers this past year, and may the new year be bright and prosperous!
Gletzen Electric, Inc.
Buhl, Idaho • 543-4610

Happy Holidays
Wishing you all things bright and beautiful at Christmastime. Thank you for putting your trust in us.
HIGHLAND ESTATES
Realtor and Assisted Living for the Elderly
2050 Highland Avenue, Burley, ID
208-678-4411





*Season's Greetings
From*

**STARR
CORPORATION**

Professional Construction Services
Twin Falls • 733-5695

I wish to have a happy new year. I want some Iverson shoes, and a new game for my play station. I wish all the children to have presents. I wish for everyone to have a good Christmas. I wish for everyone to have food and shelter.

Jorge Rodriguez

*Wishing you
many blessings
this holiday season*

**PHYSICIAN
ENTER**

630 Addison Ave. W.
Ste. 100
Twin Falls

733-4343

*Merry Christmas
& a Prosperous
New Year*

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on the truck route
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On Christmas

We thank you for your patronage this past year and look forward to serving you in the New Year. Happy Holidays!

**Kelly-Moore
PONDEROSA
PAINTS**

1280 Flier Ave. East
(Across from Lynnwood Shopping Ctr.)
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For Christmas I wish that everyone could have a good Christmas. I want a four-wheeler and a motorized scooter. I wish that everyone had presents to open on Christmas and shelter and everyone has a merry Christmas and a happy new year. I wish that there was world peace. I wish that orphans had a family and those who are fighting over seas.

By Shad Paris



To Our
Many
Friends...

*Thanks for
your kind support
this past year.*

Povlsen
Company Realtors

1315 Oakley Ave. • Burley, ID
678-5777

Joy to All

We waited the whole year through, to say a heartfelt "thank you," for all that you've meant to us, and wish you "Merry Christmas!"

**GROCERY
outlet!**

2318 Addison Ave. E.
Twin Falls, ID

I wish for the world to have peace, war and hatefulness would cease, food and shelter, and orphans to have good families. I also wish that Carlos and Tricia could spend time with their family on Christmas and New Years. I also wish for a game boy advanced, play station 2, go-cart, computer, and an electric scooter.

Anthony Garcia

The Gifts of Friendship

You've brought us the best gifts of all - your loyalty and support - helping to make our year so spectacular. Thanks so much for visiting us!

KMR FABRICS

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TWIN FALLS, ID 83301
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WSI
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A Smead Company

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222 Hedge Ave • Caldwell • 459-0989

**Frequently Asked Questions
About Christmas Fun**

If Santa doesn't have to age, then why has he become old?
He only appears to be old. He's an undercover kid.

How can a sleigh possibly fly through the air?
If you were being pulled by eight flying reindeer, wouldn't you fly too?

Why do we wish people a "Merry Christmas" instead of a "Happy Christmas"?
The two are about the same, but with "Merry Christmas" an extra twinkle is seen in the eyes.

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*Glad
Thanks
to All*

Boise Cascade Containers
1544 West 27th Street
Burley

678-3531

Why is a Christmas tree that has been chopped down called a "live Christmas tree"?
It's dead but doesn't know it, and yet it's having the time of its life.

Why do we wrap our Christmas gifts with paper?
Because we like to see surprise and joy (real or kindly faked) in the recipients.

How many angels can dance on the head of a pin?
Nowadays only four angels can dance there. Formerly there was no limit, but OSHA passed the Angel Safety Law recently which also requires that the pin must be inspected twice each year for structural defects.

**Hailstone Drywall
and
Acoustics**

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Many thanks for your support!

Steve Hailstone • 734-6042
1131 Eleventh Avenue East • Twin Falls

Have A Glowing Holiday!

We welcome the gift of your patronage

The Blind Store

Gary Jones, Owner
310 2nd Ave. East
733-0674

How many gifts can Santa Claus's bag hold?
One less than infinity. Why one less? Because there's a limit to everything.

How could a star that is high in the sky lead the Wise Men to a tiny manger on the ground?
Wisely, toward the end of their journey they asked directions from someone on the road. Had they not been so wise, they might have missed the manger by several hundred miles. (That person on the road has never been identified.)

Happy Holidays!

Remembering you at Christmas
And wishing you the best in the
New Year!

JEWEL'S HOME CARE

1139 Falls E., Suite A
PO Box 344
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Hearing-impaired man can't hear high-pitched alarm

DEAR ABBY: National Fire Protection Association President John M. Buckman III urged families to change the batteries in their smoke alarms when changing their clocks back to standard time.

I recently installed two smoke alarms in my home with the help of an elderly gentleman friend. When the job was done, I pushed the test button and the sound nearly knocked me off my feet.

My friend didn't bat an eye. When I asked him if he had heard it, his response was, "Heard what?" I asked him to put his ear next to the alarm and pushed the button again with the same result. I knew he couldn't hear high-pitched sounds like the singing of birds, but the alarm sound was so sharp and intrusive I couldn't believe he didn't hear it.

I called the 800-number listed on the brochure and was told the alarms are manufactured with only one pitch.

Are people afflicted with this condition expected to remain at risk should fire erupt in their home because no one makes an alarm attuned to their disability?

It would seem like a simple adjustment to make alarms with a lower pitch audible to everyone. Mr. Buckman asked you to remind readers about the importance of maintaining working smoke alarms. I would like to remind him about how important it is they work for everyone, including people with hearing impairments.

Now that I've sounded my alarm, I hope it is heard by those who can respond to it.

- CONCERNED READER, NEWPORT, VT.

DEAR CONCERNED READER: Your letter is news to me and I'm sure it will be of interest to many others. Surely some enterprising manufacturer will see the wisdom of producing a smoke alarm with an adjustable



DEAR ABBY
Abigail Van Buren

tone that would make it audible to almost everyone. There is clearly a market for such a product.

DEAR ABBY: After reading the letters about the elderly widower whose daughters drove away his second wife and thwarted his subsequent attempts to find love, I offer some suggestions:

1. Rather than telling his daughters to take a flying leap or rewriting his will, he should pick up the phone and call his daughters every day. If they're not home, he should call again and demand to know where they were.

2. Call them several other times a day just to tell them how lonesome he is.

3. Tell them how much he misses their mother - and whine.

4. Try the phrase, "I don't want to worry you, but ..." and complain he's not feeling well, making sure to fully describe every ache and pain.

5. Invite them to his house, saying he needs their help with some-

thing - and whine some more.

6. Drop by for meals unannounced. Better still, stop by any time of day or night and hang around, making a nuisance of himself.

7. Be sure to criticize their housekeeping, child-rearing and anything else he can think of.

If he does this often enough, he'll make them wish he would reappear.

- ANN RIDDELL, PORTLAND, ORE.

DEAR ANN: You're a clever psychologist. If Dad were to become unrelentingly needy and demanding, his self-centered daughters would probably waste no time in distancing themselves.

ACROSS

1 Causative
2 Son of Eve
3 Original
4 thought
5 Hiding
6 Fbor source
7 Uses a
8 speech
9 Figurative
10 phrase
11 Burial
12 Brewwell party
13 Numbered
14 musical piece
15 Plant anchor
16 June or July
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18 Hat by
19 Lighten up?
20 Orchid
21 necktie
22 Kitchen pool
23 Twisted thread
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27 Baby cage
28 Large acid
29 Stuffed nostrils
30 Italian bucks
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Thursday's Puzzle Solved

1 SLEIGH
2 KERR
3 JAGO
4 SHOPPING
5 SANG
6 LIP
7 ANANE
8 LOW
9 ANNO
10 BURIAL
11 BURIAL
12 TOKYO
13 SHEER
14 YARN
15
16
17
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Taurus: You can fulfill your hopes and wishes

IF DECEMBER 21ST IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you are remarkably agile when it comes to getting out of tight spots. You are charming, have marvelous sense of humor and wish the whole world was like you.

Gemini, Sagittarius natives play major roles in your life, could have these letters, initials in names: C, L, U. Your presentations this month are considered "delightful." Get ready for next year, it will mark greater independence of thought and action.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Your inquiring mind nets you the story behind the story. What you learn today enables you to make fresh start in a new direction. Accent originality.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Hopes and wishes can be fulfilled today. Key is to ask for what you truly needed. Cooperate with one who has your best interests at heart. Capricorn involved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Persons in high places are observing your performance. There is pressure due to added responsibility, but you come through with flying colors.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): A romantic relationship is getting serious; this is no time to play games with emotions. If you can't stand the "heat," it may be time to move on.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be comfortable while driving toward your "destiny." Excellent for teaching and learning, spreading the "good word."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Lie

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

low, play waiting game. Stick close to home base. Much that occurs is behind the scenes. Time builds to crescendo; part of scenario includes flowers, music and gifts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Keep recent resolutions concerning diet, exercise and health. Define terms, especially in any real estate transaction. See others in realistic light. Pisces involved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The "power" is on your side; use it wisely. Get organized, line up priorities. Capricorn, Cancer natives will play memorable roles. Lucky number is 8.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You will be rid of "losing proposition." Maintain humanitarian outlook; but know when to say, "Enough!" Aries, Libra individuals figure in scenario.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Let go of preconceived notions. Highlight inventiveness, make fresh start in new direction. Be pleased to know that love is not unrequited. Leo involved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on direction and motivation. Family member needs you and will confide problem. You will be invited to dinner by Cancer native. Show appreciation; don't be obsequious.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Lunar cycle high. Take initiative; you will be at right place at special time almost effortlessly. Gemini, Sagittarius persons will help in entertaining guests.

Missing Boyd? See E12

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MORNING BREAK

Dry-skinned blonds may absorb perfume scents faster than brunettes

Q. How can anybody possibly explain why perfume lasts longer on brunettes than on blonds?

A. Theory is that fair-haired people tend to have drier skin which more swiftly absorbs the fragrances.

Writes a client: "Reason I know that Petaluma, Calif., is the site of the world's only Ugly Dog Contest is that it said so on the invitation to attend that was sent to my sister."



REVISITED
L.M. Boyd

Little if anything works better to fertilize house plants than unflavored gelatin, the experts say. Good nitrogen source. One packet dissolved in a quart of water

themselves. That's how the most ancient of the martial arts came to be. Kung fu.

The milk production of dairy cows falls off sharply just before an earthquake.

In Virginia, it's against the law to telephone somebody and remain silent when the called party answers.

Q. How can the Swiss Guard be expected to protect Vatican

City when they're not permitted to carry arms?

A: They've got a cache of carbines in their basement armory. And they do a lot of target-range work.

Who cooks over an open fire anymore? Nobody, nobody. But some oldtime campers know how to keep the bottom of a skillet from getting black. Cover it with shaving soap before putting

it over flames. Q. All right, you tell me I can't make a raft of rocks that will float me down a river and I'll tell you I can... A. Why not? Pumice floats.

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makes the mix. Through France's Normandy runs the River Vire, and thereabouts is the village of Vaudeville. A 16th-Century songwriter named Olivier Basselin lived there. His convivial tunes were so popular that all such music was identified with his home town. It eventually gave us our word "vaudeville."

Forty percent of the U.S. college students do not routinely watch any television programs at all.

Was none other than Franklin D. Roosevelt who said, "Nothing is so responsible for the good old days as a bad memory."

Grasshoppers can ruin crops, as any farm boy knows. Now reports out of China indicate the experts there have found a way to control grasshoppers. They broadcast a noise that's 15 to 25 decibels higher than the noise made by the male grasshoppers in search of mates. The female grasshoppers ignore the real mating calls and collect around the man-made loudspeakers where they're eliminated.

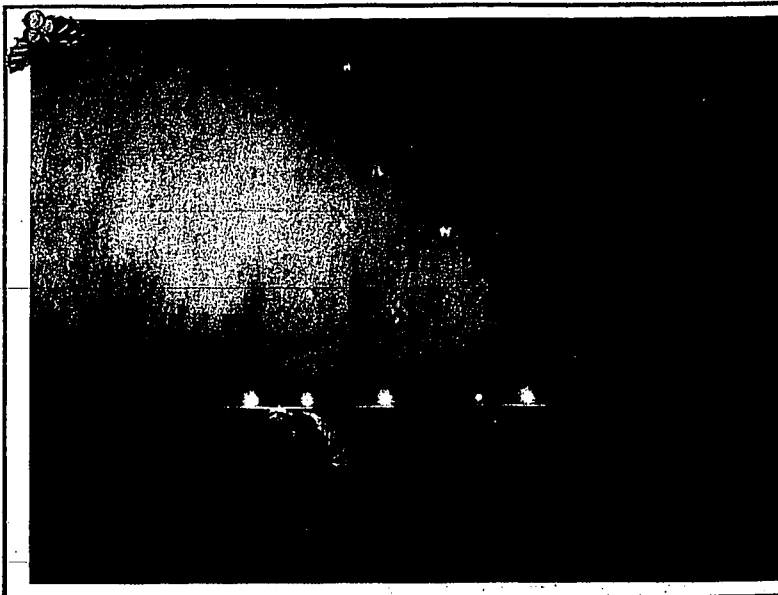
Chinese monks who weren't allowed to carry weapons had to figure out some way to protect

Lincoln Center chairwoman talks of retirement

NEW YORK (AP) - Beverly Sills is talking about retirement, but she's not leaving her post as the chairwoman of the Lincoln Center of Performing Arts anytime soon, a spokeswoman for the organization said.

Published reports this week had Sills leaving her post. But Eileen McMahon told The Associated Press on Thursday that Sills doesn't plan to leave until the center finds a new president to replace the outgoing Gordon Davis, and that won't happen until spring. Even then, she won't leave right away, McMahon said.

"Beverly is very practical and cares very deeply about Lincoln Center, there won't be an immediate retirement," she said. "Her associates and colleagues has been aware of this. She's shared this with people over the years."



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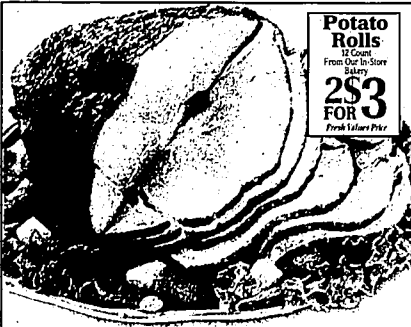
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Smith's *Holiday* SAVINGS

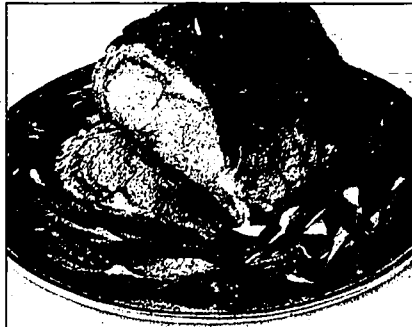


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Spiral Sliced Half Ham

Cook's, Bone-In, Brown Sugar or Honey
Fresh Values Price

169
lb. SAVE **80¢** lb.



Rib Eye Roast

Beef, Bone-In
Fresh Values Price

349
lb. SAVE **3.50** lb.



Butt Portion Ham
Cook's, Bone-In
99¢
lb.
Fresh Values Price

Shank Portion Ham

Cook's, Bone-In
Fresh Values Price

79¢
lb. SAVE **60¢** lb.

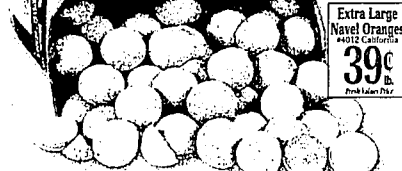


12 Pack Coca-Cola
12 oz. Cans, Regular or Diet.
Other Varieties May Vary By Location
Limit 4

Fresh Values Price

SAVE **6.36** When You Buy FOUR

4\$10
FOR



Extra Large Navel Oranges
#42 California
39¢
lb.
Fresh Values Price

38 lb. Case of Extra Large Navel Oranges
4392 California
SAVE **11.00** ea.



Cooked Shrimp With Tails
31/70 Count, Frozen/Defrosted

SAVE **4.00** lb.

499
lb.



Snack Crackers
7-10 oz. Nabisco, Wheat Thins, Triscuit, Sociables, Twigs, Chicken 'n' A Biskit or Better Cheddar

3\$5
FOR

SAVE **3.37** When You Buy THREE



5 lb. Bag Russet Potatoes
U.S. No. 1
Fresh Values Price

SAVE **1.00** ea.

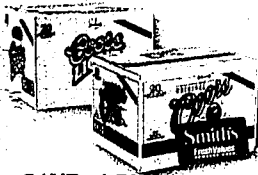
79¢
ea.



Sparkling Apple Juice
25.4 oz. Martinelli's
Fresh Values Price

SAVE **40¢**

199



20 Pack Coors
12 oz. Bottles, All Varieties

Fresh Values Price
1099

SAVE **1.70**



Potato Chips
12.25-13 oz. Lays, Regular or Wavy, All Varieties, Excludes Baked or Wow

Fresh Values Price
2\$3
FOR

SAVE **2.98**



Bath Tissue or Laundry Detergent
Charmin Bath Tissue, 12 Double Rolls or 24 Regular Rolls, Tide or Cheer Laundry Detergent, 100 oz. Liquid or 87 oz. Powder or 100 oz. Ultra Liquid

SAVE **5.00**

499



10 Inch Pies
Pumpkin, Peas, Dessert Apple, Lemon Top Apple, Cherry Pie, Pecan Pie
Fresh Values Price
599



8 oz. Cool Whip
Original, Lite or Fat Free
Fresh Values Price
89¢

SAVE **1.30**



Half Gallon Ice Cream
Private Selection, All Varieties
Fresh Values Price
2\$5
FOR

SAVE **4.88**



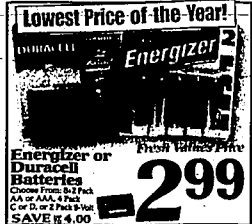
1 lb. Butter
Smith's, Quarters
Fresh Values Price
3\$5
FOR

SAVE **3.97**

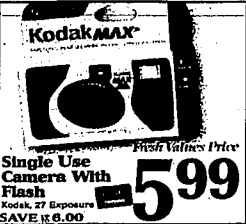


Harry Potter Danish Cookies
1 lb. Cookie Supplies
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FOR

SAVE **4.18**



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Choose From: 9V, Pack AA or AAA, C, D, or 2 Pack D
SAVE **4.00**



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Single Use Camera With Flash
Kodak, 27 Exposures
Fresh Values Price
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SAVE **6.00**



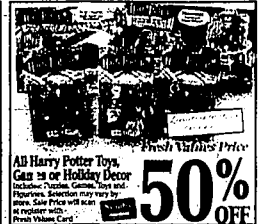
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FOR

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Write Supplies Last
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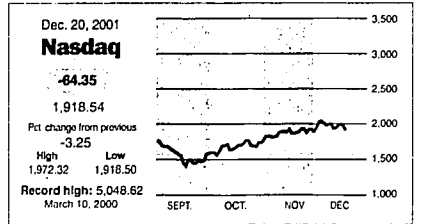
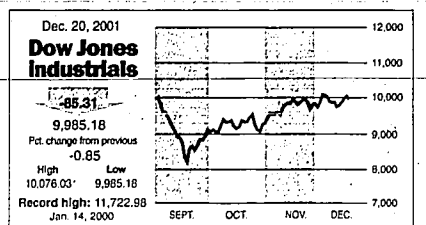
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ALL STORES WILL BE OPEN 6:00 AM, THRU 2:00 PM

MONEY

Consumer advocates condemn cable merger

NEW YORK (AP) — AT&T and Comcast Corp. touted their blockbuster cable merger Thursday as a cheaper way to provide television, Internet and telephone service through a single pipeline to one of every five U.S. households. But the \$45 billion stock deal between the No. 1 and No. 3 cable providers was condemned by consumer advocates who said they doubted prices will go down and too much control was being given to a single company. "Americans should be very worried about how this new com-

binaton will affect what they pay each month for cable and Internet service," said Jeff Chester, executive director of the Center for Digital Democracy. "The opposing views are sure to dominate the debate over whether federal regulators will approve a deal to create a company with 22.3 million subscribers, almost double the size of the closest rival, AOL Time Warner. The new company, to be called AT&T Comcast Corp., will provide competition in local phone markets and give consumers "greater choices at very competi-



Tribe opens new casino with cafe, other amenities

KAMIAH (AP) — With its highway location and the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial expected to bring in tourists, Nez Perce tribal officials say their new casino should be more profitable than ever. Last-minute touches were added Wednesday for the It'se Ye Ye Bingo and Casino. The old casino closed on Sunday and the current building — the former Nez Perce Express convenience store — has undergone a \$1 million renovation since August.

Smith said. The tribal gaming commission and security guards watched while rows of new electronic gaming machines were carefully packed into the building's new machines, the same number as at the old site. Although the lettering for the front of the building remains to be completed, the new building has two river stone pillars at the entry and a conference room where groups can meet. The 40 employees of the tribal casino will receive a total of \$1 million a year in salaries and benefits, said Bob Lee, general gaming manager for the tribe.

Tech industry intensifies doubts about quick recovery

NEW YORK (AP) — An earnings and revenue warning from Juniper Networks helped send technology stocks sharply lower Thursday, as Wall Street worried that the recent rally might have been premature. The demise of a much anticipated economic stimulus package in Congress intensified the market's skittishness. The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 85.31, or 0.9 percent, at 9,985.18, snapping a four-session winning streak. Broader indicators also tum-

Army

Zero, has managed to escape the controversy that has engulfed the Red Cross. It flip-flopped over how it would spend the \$545 million received for the Sept. 11 attack. "We just followed our policy," said Watson, explaining that the Salvation Army simply uses the money as donors request. He said the \$60 million, besides feeding workers at the site, has been and will be used for direct and immediate aid to victims' families and to those whose livelihood has been destroyed. There will also be feeding workers at Ground

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg. Lists various stocks including AIG, Amgen, Amstar, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary tables for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET. Includes Most Active and Gainers/Losers lists.

DIARY

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg. Lists dairy products like Milk, Butter, etc.

INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Chg, %Chg. Lists S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists local stocks like Airtel, Amgen, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

How are the S&P 500 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.

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists various stocks and mutual funds.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists stocks traded on the American Stock Exchange.

MARKETS

Wheat's open at 17.05, up 4

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, Corn, Wheat, etc.

BEANS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, etc.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, etc.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Month, Price, Change. Includes items like Jan, Feb, Mar, etc.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Month, Price, Change. Includes items like Jan, Feb, Mar, etc.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Cheddar cheese, etc.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like TWIN FALLS, etc.

CATTLE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Cattle, etc.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Idaho Potatoes, etc.

METALS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Gold, Silver, etc.

METALS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes items like Gold, Silver, etc.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, Price, Change. Includes various mutual fund names.

Microsoft offers free repair for vulnerable Windows XP

WASHINGTON (AP) - Microsoft's newest version of Windows, billed as the most secure ever, contains several serious flaws that allow hackers to steal or destroy a victim's data files across the Internet or implant rogue computer software. The company released a free fix Thursday.

A Microsoft official acknowledged that the risk to consumers was unprecedented because the glitches allow hackers to seize control of all Windows XP operating system software without requiring a computer user to do anything except connect to the Internet.

The Windows XP problem affects a little-used feature that eventually will allow consumers to control high-tech household appliances using their computers. Called "universal plug and play," the feature is activated by design in every copy of Windows XP and can be added manually to Microsoft's earlier Windows ME software, also used by millions of consumers worldwide.

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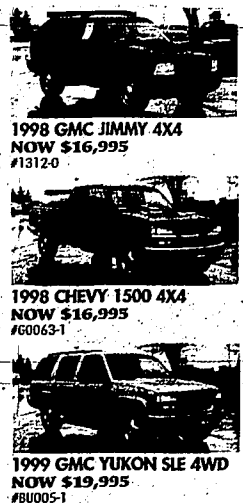
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