

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Clouds and snow flurries, then some sun. High 32, low 14.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Santa in demand: At least one local Santa Claus is booked for December months ahead.

Page B1

MONEY

Cashing in: Displays and events get some of the credit for increased sales at Burley's mall.

Page D1

FAMILY LIFE

City lights, country lights: Where to find the brightest Christmas lights in the Magic Valley.

Page E1

SPORTS

The Spectacular Six: Meet The All-Times-News High School Football Team.

Page C1

OPINION

Reading, writing and reform: Education reform bill puts America's schools on the right path, today's editorial says.

Page A14

Concert series concludes today

The final Christmas in City Park installment of the season is scheduled for 5 p.m. today in the park's band shell in Twin Falls. Local musicians will perform and refreshments will be available. Christmas in City Park, sponsored by the Soroptimists International chapter, features outdoor concerts on the Sundays of Advent each year.

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Prison personalities



The women of cell block 1000 at the Twin Falls County Jail spend much of their time playing cards and sleeping. The cell block, one of three for women, holds up to 12 inmates and is frequently at capacity. The number of women in the county jail and Idaho's prison system has risen significantly in recent years.

Female inmates are mostly the nonviolent type

By Mark Heinz
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — If Twin Falls County Jail commander Capt. Bob Wright had it his way, more of his inmates would behave like ladies.

"The women in here are typically not teaming up to make any gang-type activity. They want to team up and make the best of the time they have to be here," he said.

Wright's boss, Twin Falls County Sheriff Wayne Tousey, has said women are the fastest-growing segment of the population in his jail. Some Magic Valley officials who deal with young offenders ranging from

Former prisoners return to community — B6

age 7 to 17 said they're seeing more girls getting into trouble. That mirrors trends across Idaho, a Department of Corrections official said.

And some of the most horrendous murders in the valley's recent memory were committed by women.

"Since I've been prosecutor in Twin Falls County, I've put four people away for life," Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb said. "Two of them were women."

But the sensational first-degree murder cases against Vicki

Arlene Jensen of Gooding and Alisha Ann Murphy of Buhl — who were both at age 32 sentenced to life without parole — are exceptions to the apparent rules of female crime, Loeb and others said.

"Violence just isn't a big factor yet, they said.

When girls do get violent, it's most often against a relative, usually another female, said Snake River Youth Center and Juvenile Detention Center Director Chris Talkington.

Women prisoners will usually hurt only themselves, said Bona Miller, the assistant director for planning with Idaho Department of Corrections.

"With men, anger comes out in

physical violence," she said. "With women, anger comes out in yelling, screaming, crying and self-mutilation."

Even so, the trend could be changing, Talkington said.

"We are seeing more physical acting out with the girls. They are starting to catch up with the boys."

Wright, who has been working at the jail for 17 years, said women inmates are typically as docile and cooperative now as when he started.

"Some of them are more aggressive now. But most of them are the same as they always were."

Please see INMATES, Page A5

Officials try to get grip on tire disposal situation

Shoshone facility exceeds permit

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

SHOSHONE — Old tires Magic Valley residents have paid \$2 a pop to properly toss are being hauled to a private disposal site identified by local officials as an environmental hazard.

Tires taken to the regional landfill and its transfer stations are collected by Idaho Tire Recovery in Shoshone. From there they are to be sold for recycling — typically to cement plants that burn the tires for power.

The tire collection site a few miles north of Shoshone on Idaho Highway 75 is permitted by Lincoln County for a maximum of 100,000 tires. In October, the site had an estimated 600,000 to 1.3 million tires, Lincoln County reports.

Terry Schultz, executive director of the Southern Idaho Solid Waste District, said the district had heard of concerns about ITR.

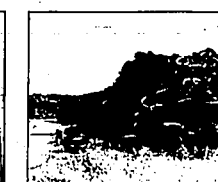


From the waste district's point of view, if ITR no longer were able to collect tires, it would cost more to dispose of them, Schultz said.

The solid waste district pays ITR \$1.50 for every passenger tire ITR hauls off, Schultz said. It costs \$2 per passenger car tire for an individual to drop off a tire at the landfill. The 50-cent difference pays for two tire amnesty days a year.

Drop-off fees are waived on amnesty days to promote the proper disposal of tires.

At least one collector has a cheaper alternative to the regular drop-offs. Mark Hope, owner of Tire Disposal and Recycling Inc. of Clackamas, Ore., collects tires in Idaho. He said he charges a \$1.05 pickup fee per passenger



car vehicle.

"We are active in the area. We do provide service in Idaho," he said.

Idaho doesn't require tire collectors to post financial assurance so that money will be available for tire cleanup if the business fails, Hope said.

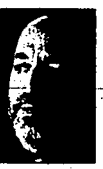
Please see TIRES, Page A2

Hopes run high as interim Afghan government takes power

Knight Rider News Service

KABUL, Afghanistan — Hamid Karzai accepted the title of prime minister Saturday as his interim Afghan government peacefully took power, formally ending five years of harsh Taliban rule and offering hope to a nation shattered by 23 years of war.

"We are happy that we are seeing the sun rise again on our country's land," Karzai told 2,000



Hamid Karzai

No burqas at Inauguration — A6

Afghan and foreign dignitaries, including Army Gen. Tommy Franks, the U.S. war commander.

Across the world, a ceremony in Washington also heralded recovery and healing as a difficult year moved through a melancholy holiday season toward conclusion.

The wife of a man killed at the Pentagon on Sept. 11 carried the Olympic torch to the White House and handed it to President Bush. As the next runner picked up the torch and a choir sang "Carry the Flame," the woman's

Plight of orphans prompts Americans to action

The Associated Press

It was the empty look in the girl's eyes in the newspaper picture that caught Michelle Porter's attention.

Then the story about the Afghan child and her fellow orphans seized Porter's heart.

"She was cold and starving. I just wanted to pick her up and give her a hug, and tell her everything was going to be all right," she said.

So did scores of others across the United States who saw the Associated Press photo and story last month telling how hundreds of



After reading an article about orphans of the Afghanistan war, Leigh Yeoman taped the story and photos to her refrigerator in her Charlotte, N.C., home and began to investigate the possibility of adopting a child from the war-torn region.

No home cooking

Out-of-area labs might be chief source of meth

By Shari Chaney and Mark Heinz
Times-News writers

BURLEY — No one denies that methamphetamine is a big problem, especially in rural Minnicassia.

But the area apparently isn't yet a hotbed of methamphetamine manufacturing, some officials said. And the resources for going after any labs that might pop up are limited.

A lot of the meth being used and sold in the Magic Valley is apparently imported from elsewhere, said Capt. Clark Rollins of the Idaho State Police investigations division. That's probably because from a dealer's standpoint, it's still cheaper and far less risky to buy meth bulk than it would be to make it here, he said.

San Francisco-based methamphetamine expert Dr. Alex Stalcup said during a recent visit to Twin Falls that he thinks the Magic Valley has one of the highest concentrations of meth labs in the state.

But Rollins and Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loeb questioned that conclusion.

"I think Idaho as an entire state is one of the highest in the nation, but I don't think we have nearly the number of labs as Boise, Coeur D'Alene or Pocatello," Loeb said.

How big is the problem?

The FBI busts about four to eight labs in this region each year, Rollins said. And so far, none of them have been "mega-labs" — capable of cooking up 100 pounds or more of the drug — the likes of which Boise has seen, he said.

Loeb said most of the meth-based cases he prosecutes are still for possession and distributing, not manufacturing.

The meth cases spiked about three years ago but then dropped slightly and have held steady ever since, Loeb said.

Both Cassia County Sheriff Jim Hignens and Minidoka County Lt. Dan Kindig said no meth labs have been busted in Mini-Cassia, although there are some in the area.

The Cassia County Sheriff's Department knows of some labs in the area, although none have been uncovered yet, Hignens said. The department has been either short on time or late getting to a lab, he said.

Rollins said small, home-based labs can be quickly taken down and moved, so it is difficult to track them down.

Kindig agreed no meth labs have been busted in his area, but some starter labs were broken up before they became labs.

More labs are seen around colleges and universities, Hignens said.

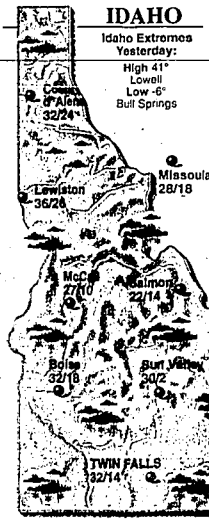
Kindig said a large part of the meth comes from the west, as far away as Oregon and the Tri-Cities in central Washington.

A minimum amount of meth is made in the area, said Minidoka Prosecuting Attorney Rick Bollar said.

No one is denying methamphetamine is a problem.

Please see METH, Page A2

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY



ALMANAC: Idaho Extremes, Yesterday's High/Low, Bull Springs, Twin Falls through 8 p.m. yesterday, Normal/High/Low, Record high/low, Precipitation, Month to date, Normal month to date, Water year to date, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Pollen yesterday in Twin Falls, Grass, Trees, Source: Asthma and Allergy of Idaho.

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

Weather forecast for Twin Falls from today to Thursday, including icons for clouds, rain, and fog, and temperature ranges.

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise and sunset times for today and tomorrow, moonset times, and moon phase indicators.

CANADIAN CITIES

Weather forecast for Canadian cities including Calgary, Edmonton, Kelowna, Vancouver, and Winnipeg.

WORLD CITIES

Weather forecast for various world cities including London, Paris, Tokyo, and Sydney.

REGIONAL CITIES

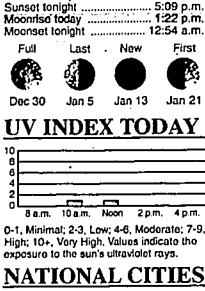
Weather forecast for regional cities including Boise, Burley, Elko, and Pocatello.

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures on today's highs and tonight's lows. All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2001

NATIONAL WEATHER

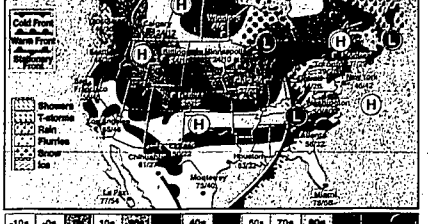
National weather news including reports on flurries and fog in Idaho, and a high temperature in Harington, TX.

UV INDEX TODAY



NATIONAL EXTREMES

High 84° in Harington, TX; Low -7° in Havro, MT.



NATIONAL CITIES

Weather forecast for major national cities including Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, and New York.

Sutton & Sons Auto Center advertisement with contact information for Hailey, Idaho.

Meth

Continued from A1. amine is a problem in Mini-Cassia, however. 'We do have it here,' Higgins said, 'and it is a very serious problem.' Not only is meth itself a problem, Kindig said, it leads to other crimes and burdens medical resources.

Afghanistan

Continued from A1. eyes moistened and she seemed to wish. Bush reached out his arm and wrapped Elizabeth Anderson Howell in a protective embrace. Howell's husband, Brady, died in the terrorist attack.

Orphans

Continued from A1. children live in a Kabul orphanage with no heat, no running water and barely enough food to last two weeks. Many people were so moved they wanted to adopt the orphans. Others simply wanted to offer food or clothing.

Tires

Continued from A1. The Shoshone tire pile is the largest pile he knows of in Idaho, Ehler said. There are a couple of others owned by counties struggling with the cost of tire disposal.

Circulation

Daniel Walock, circulation director. Circulation phone lines are open between 7 and 10 a.m. only.

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IDAHO LOTTERY

Idaho Lottery results for Saturday, Dec 22, including 6/49, 5/39, Wild Card, and Pick 3.

Times-News telephone directory listing various services and their contact numbers.

Advertisement for Idaho Lottery with details on various game types and prize amounts.

ITR

ITR owner Tom Floyd did not respond to The Times-News' request for an interview. In a May letter to Lincoln County Commission Chairman Jerry Nance, Floyd wrote that his company had suffered financially because of embezzlement by an employee.

Big Wood River

The Big Wood River must be removed first. Tire piles are not permitted to be within 200 feet of the river, but there are piles less than 50 feet away, Lincoln County records say. The tires pose an environmental hazard because of their volume and their proximity to the Big Wood River, officials say.

Times-News environmental writer Jennifer Sandman can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or jsandman@magicvalley.com.

NATION

Americans get another al-Qaida prisoner

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American military patrolled the skies over Afghanistan on Saturday in pursuit of Osama bin Laden and his soldiers as a new leader was installed in Kabul.

And as Hamid Karzai was sworn in as Afghanistan's prime minister, the Pentagon investigated and denied charges that the only U.S. air strike in days had mistakenly killed Afghan tribal leaders traveling to his inauguration. The Pentagon has said the dead were believed to be Taliban leaders on the move.

Another captured al-Qaida member was brought to the jail manned by Marines in the southern city of Kandahar, bringing prisoners in U.S. custody there to 16 and over to 24. The new prisoner was not considered senior, an official in Washington said.

The other eight prisoners are on the Navy's USS Peleliu in the Arabian Sea, the detention facility for more important figures in the Taliban and the terrorist network.

Reconnaissance planes looked for targets Saturday and bombers were at the ready. But like earlier in the week, no ordnance was reported dropped. The air support part of the war has drastically slowed since Afghan fighters claimed control of al-Qaida's last stronghold, and the last major piece of enemy territory, in Tora Bora.

Up to 300 al-Qaida fighters could still be hiding in forests, valleys — and possibly caves — around the largely abandoned cave complex, another defense official said. The Pentagon prepared to hasten the search of the region for them and leader bin Laden, not because they had good information that they are there, but in case they are, officials said.

American troops began entering the caves during the week to take out documents and other intelligence materials, leaving the chasing of fighters mainly to Afghan militiamen, one official said.



Gunnery Sgt. Vincent Owsley, left, along with Staff Sgt. Steve Williams of Montrose, Colo., carry a Soviet 'nine-foot rocket' to a disposal site where it will be blown up along with other ordnance found around the Kandahar International Airport Thursday.

In a planned stepped up operation, more American troops will be sent there to help look for evidence, people, weapons and clues on his whereabouts, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Friday.

The movement of new forces might not come for several days, Pentagon officials have said.

The war's commander Gen. Tommy Franks is said to be trying to figure the right balance of missions, given that some troops must be kept in Kandahar to handle detainees while others are protecting other areas.

Rumsfeld declined to say how many soldiers would take part but said it will include troops from other countries as well.

Bin Laden, held responsible by the United States for the Sept. 11 attacks, has eluded coalition forces including Afghans, Americans and British special forces. Military officials had said bin Laden was probably in the Tora Bora area, but they have

found no sign of him after al-Qaida largely abandoned the area this week.

Officials acknowledge they don't know whether their No. 1 target in the war is dead or alive. And if he's alive, they don't know where he is.

In China, Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf says he's "reasonably sure" that bin Laden has not escaped to his country and that there's a "great possibility" the al-Qaida leader is dead.

Meanwhile, military officials insisted that an air strike late Thursday killed Taliban leaders, not anti-Taliban tribal leaders traveling to Kabul for Saturday's inauguration of the new, post-Taliban government.

The strike included Air Force AC-130 gunships and Navy F-14 and F/A-18 jets from the aircraft carrier USS Stennis, officials said. Ten to 12 vehicles were hit, as well as a compound with command facilities where the convoy originated, military officials said.

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Sources say that the CIA tracked Osama bin Laden for four years

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — For four years prior to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, the CIA paid a team of about 15 recruited Afghan agents to regularly track Osama bin Laden in Afghanistan, according to well-placed sources. The team had mixed results, ranging from excellent to total failure. Once every month or so, the team pinpointed bin Laden's presence in a specific building, compound or training camp, and that location was then confirmed by the CIA through communications intelligence or satellite overhead photography. On two occasions, the team

reported firing on bin Laden's caravan, though the agency could not independently validate this.

On some rare days, the team provided a specific location, and the CIA was able to obtain three or four verifications from other intelligence sources, confirming bin Laden's whereabouts. For other periods, the team would lose track of him.

The existence of the tracking team was one of the most tightly held secrets in the CIA over the past several years and suggests that the U.S. search for bin Laden in Afghanistan was more concentrated and aggressive than previously disclosed.

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NATION

Change will come slowly in schools

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Students and teachers returning to classes after the holidays are going to find someone new in charge of the schools.

State leaders seized control of the Philadelphia school district at 12:01 a.m. Saturday — setting in motion what experts called the most ambitious reform program ever attempted.

Gov. Mark Schweiker has ordered that bold strokes are needed in a district with a \$216 million budget deficit, low test scores, chronic teacher shortages and crumbling buildings. Eighty percent of the district's 210,000 students are poor, and students speak more than 70 languages.

Major elements of the plan won't be implemented until September.

What changes almost immediately is the governance of the nation's seventh-largest school district.

A five-member reform commission will replace the eight-member school board appointed by the mayor. The commission — with three members appointed by the governor and two appointed by the mayor — must hire an interim chief executive officer and decide how to implement Schweiker's vision.

Schweiker wants to hire Edison Schools Inc., the nation's largest for-profit education company, to operate dozens of low-performing schools and advise the district's management.

Among its myriad challenges, the new commission must choose which schools to privatize, determine Edison's role and reform the finances of a \$1.7 billion operation.

The new panel will conduct its business out in the open, said James E. Nevels, appointed as the commission's interim chairman.

Our goal must be nothing less than the installation of a newly structured, improved education system in Philadelphia by September," he said.

Opponents are seeking to derail Schweiker's plans.

A hearing is set for Thursday on a lawsuit seeking to prevent the reform from moving forward, entering into a contract with Edison. Another pending lawsuit seeks to overturn the 1998 law allowing the state takeover.

The Philadelphia Federation of Teachers also plans to challenge the arrangement.

"We will fight any attempt to replace union wage jobs with minimum-wage jobs," said union president Ted Kirsch. "We will be relentless in our criticism if this deal turns out to be ... a political power grab that leaves kids out of the equation."

Across the nation, 18 states have seized control of 40 districts, and some places — including Baltimore, Minneapolis and Hartford, Conn. — have tried private management of individual schools.

Edison, the nation's largest for-profit education company, runs 136 schools with 75,000 students. Its schools feature longer days and school years, heavy investment in technology and a uniform curriculum.

Critics say Edison schools perform no better than public schools, and in many cases perform worse. Edison says its students are typically the most disadvantaged, making comparisons difficult.



An American Airlines plane sits on the runway Saturday afternoon after being diverted to Boston's Logan International Airport when a passenger tried to ignite an 'improvised explosive' in his shoes, authorities said.

Passenger tries to ignite 'explosives'

BOSTON (AP) — A passenger on a jetliner bound from Paris to Miami tried to ignite an "improvised explosive" in his shoe Saturday, but the crew and fellow passengers subdued him, authorities said. The plane, escorted by military jets, landed safely in Boston.

The suspect, identified as Richard Reid, was taken into custody by the FBI. Officials said he was alone traveling on a British passport, which may have been fake.

"I'm told the flight attendant was drawn to him by the smell of sulfur from a lit match, and then challenged him as to what he was doing," said Thomas Kinton, interim executive director of the Massachusetts Port Authority, which runs the airport.

The flight attendant intervened after the man tried to light his shoe on fire, and the 6-foot-4 Reid resisted and bit her, Massport spokeswoman Laura White said.

Passengers subdued him, belting him into his seat. Two doctors used a first-aid kit to sedate him, and the man's shoe, which had protruding wires, was removed.

Two F-15 fighter jets escorted the plane, American Airlines Flight 63, to Logan, where it landed at 12:50 p.m. with police, fire

and bomb squads standing by. The 185 passengers and 12 crew members were taken off safely.

"They X-rayed the shoe and found that in the heel, there were holes drilled, and there looked to be a detonator wire, and the substances consistent with (the explosive) C-4," White said.

The shoe was taken from the plane, rendered harmless and taken to an FBI laboratory for analysis, White said.

White House officials monitored the situation throughout the afternoon and President Bush received two briefings, spokeswoman Scott McClellan said. Administration officials also consulted with acting Gov. Jane Swift's office.

White said Reid's passport, issued in Belgium three weeks ago, was "questionable." He boarded the plane without luggage or additional identification.

Reid was being interrogated at the airport by the FBI. The other passengers were also being questioned, White said.

The intervention on the flight "appeared to have prevented something very serious from occurring," Kinton said.

The FBI's Kim McAllister confirmed that one man was in FBI custody for "interference with a flight crew," but had not been arrested.

A spokeswoman for Britain's Foreign Office, speaking on customary condition of anonymity, said, "We are seeking normal consular access as we would with any U.K. citizen."

C-4 is a military plastic explosive. Its main ingredient is RDX, which is also used in fireworks. The whitish, puttylike substance can be easily molded by hand, and can be detonated if burned.

The explosive was used in the October 2000 bombing of the USS Cole in Yemen, killing 17 U.S. sailors and wounding 39.

OxyContin pill shipment vanishes in New Jersey

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A shipment of a powerful prescription painkiller is missing, and the air freight courier says the shipment could have been lost or stolen.

Nine cases of OxyContin, valued at about \$800,000, were to be shipped to a company in southern New Jersey Thursday, said Emery spokesman James Allen. The drugs never arrived.

"We move a lot of boxes and unfortunately sometimes they get lost," Allen said.

Allen said the company had notified police and was interviewing employees to try to find out what happened to the shipment.

It was unclear how many pills were in the shipment.

To the friends and relatives who helped in so many lovely ways to make my 81st birthday memorable. A heartfelt thank you and God bless!

Betty Pastoor

U.S. promises probe of convoy incident

Los Angeles Times

KABUL, Afghanistan — U.S. officials said Saturday they were still confident that a convoy bombed by U.S. warplanes two days earlier was a legitimate target but retreated from categorical denials that the victims were Afghan tribal elders and promised a full investigation.

Pentagon officials initially described the 14 vehicles struck near the eastern city of Khowst late Thursday as carrying Taliban leaders. They dismissed reports from the region that the attack killed 65 supporters of the new Afghan government en route here for Saturday's inauguration.

Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, who was here for the inauguration, insisted that the airstrike was directed at "a good target." But Franks said an investigation will be conducted to determine whether the attack might have been an unfortunate incident of "friendly fire."

said. "I don't think it's true. The first information I got was there was no such bombing. I will check it out."

Another U.S. official here for the ceremonies also claimed to have intelligence reports identifying the convoy as Taliban leaders or members of Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network and said U.S. aircraft were fired on from the vicinity of the convoy just before the vehicles were bombed.

"The indications that I have right now tell me that this was a target that we intended to strike," Franks told reporters after the ceremony installing Fashun tribal leader Hamid Karzai as prime minister. Karzai also said his initial information suggested that there had been no attack on tribal elders en route to witness the transfer of power here.

"I will definitely check it out with our American friends," he

The Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press news agency quoted Afghans in the region of the attack as saying the Pentagon was misinformed about the people traveling in the convoy.

The agency quoted regional councilman Abdullah Jan as urging Karzai to order an inquiry into the attack. Jan told the news agency that at least two senior regional leaders were killed in the bombing.

Others in the region said the convoy had been forced to make a detour after running into a Taliban roadblock — a pattern of movement that might have led surveillance teams to conclude that the travelers were aligned with the ousted fundamentalists rather than trying to flee them.

"I will definitely check it out with our American friends," he

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

NATION

U.S. pledges to help stabilize Afghanistan

By Barry Schweld
The Associated Press



James F. Dobbins

WASHINGTON - Think of Afghanistan as a kaleidoscope. New patterns form with shifting alliances, manipulated by feuding warlords and predatory neighbors.

There are minefields everywhere - an estimated 5 million to 7 million of them, literally - as well as the potential for trouble-making by countries that habitually try to influence events in Afghanistan.

The interim government headed by Prime Minister Hamid Karzai, a 43-year-old Pashtun leader, is short of money and controls only part of the country.

His ace in the hole is the United States. American diplomats led by James F. Dobbins preached reconciliation to

diverse factions and helped work out a compromise political arrangement to steer Afghanistan through the next several months.

A peace-keeping force of 3,000 to 5,000 troops, authorized by the United Nations, should help. As will the international donors' conference Japan will hold next month to help get Afghanistan back on its feet.

Most of all, the new government will benefit from U.S. military success in cleansing the South Asian country of the fierce Taliban militia and the terrorism

network headed by Osama bin Laden.

The U.S. message to Karzai and his brand-new government was summarized this way by State Department spokesman Richard Boucher:

"Whether it's financial support, security support, humanitarian support, diplomatic support, political support, we're prepared to offer them every possible support, and we're sure other members of the international community are."

The Bush administration recognized the interim government, reopened its embassy after a 12-year lapse and vowed to work as hard in peacetime as in wartime.

Elle Krakowski, senior fellow at Johns Hopkins' Central Asia Institute, says that's the right prescription.

"In order for a stable peace and long-term settlement to be effective the U.S. must remain centrally involved politically, diplomatically and economically," he said in an interview. "And that means by not turning key decision-making over to the United Nations or other international bodies or siding with any one state, such as Pakistan, which the United States is inclined to do."

Next door, India and Pakistan are at each other's throats. The Bush administration is preaching calm. A spillover to Afghanistan appears unlikely, but the region is volatile.

And if the Bush administration carries its war against terrorism beyond Afghanistan's borders, to Iraq for instance, it could be a serious distraction to nation-building in Afghanistan.

Inmates

Continued from A1

But drugs - especially methamphetamines - seem to be practically omnipresent in the cases against area girls and women.

Starving for attention

Any Bailey has been both ends of a troubling equation. A former adult probation and parole officer, she recently took over the Twin Falls-based District V Status Offender Services - which deal with troubled children as young as 7.

Nearly all the girls and women she's tried to help are lacking or didn't get one thing - the strong, nurturing support of a good family. Fathers and/or positive, responsible male role models seem to especially lack in many of their lives, she said.

"What I've noticed is that a lot of the girls are in single-parent families, mainly with the mom parenting," she said. "Even if there is a male present, he's not involved or, is involved in some sort of negative way."

And when girls don't get the attention they need at home, they tend to look for it in dark places and risky ways, Bailey said.

Lying, sneaking out and truancy if unchecked can lead to worse problems that often funnel into meth use or dealing, she said.

Talkington also cited the importance of family. "Unfortunately, government - be it the feds, the state, the county or the courts - is being asked to be surrogate families to these kids," said Talkington, who ran the Idaho-Youth Ranch before taking his present job.

Lack of family support, coupled with an apparent denial or ignorance of girls' problems by society at large, has set many youngsters up for disaster, he said.

"There tends to be a predisposition for people to think that girls don't have the problems boys do. Girls just do not have as many resources for help in Idaho as boys do," he said. "I don't think we're even close to identifying the scope of the problems with girls, much less finding the solutions."

Enter meth

If any of the girls Bailey and

By the numbers

Women admissions to the Idaho Department of Corrections from Idaho courts by calendar year:

Year	Number of Women
1991	112
1992	127
1993	145
1994	173
1995	221
1996	301
1997	292
1998	361
1999	405
2000	439

* Note: These figures include convicts actually sent to the women's prison in Pocatello and those given probationary or suspended sentences.

Averages of daily census of Twin Falls County inmates:

Year	Total number of inmates	Number of women
1997	136	11
1998	192	20
1999	190	18
2000	217	29
2001	238	37

* Note: These are for an 11-month period running from Jan. 1 through Dec. 1 during each year.

Census for Twin Falls County inmates on Dec. 12, 2001

Total inmates	Number of women
284	47

Girls made up about 34 percent of the juveniles on probation in the Magic Valley between April 1 and Sept. 30 this year.

Sources: Idaho Department of Corrections, Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office, Snake River Juvenile Detention Center

Talkington deal with graduate to the Magic Valley's adult justice system, it's likely the word "methamphetamines" will appear somewhere in their court files.

"Nationwide, the incarcerated women has been the fastest growing segment for about 10 years," Miller said. "What a lot of the current research says is that the majority of that increase is a result of the war on drugs."

"We're seeing a lot more

young women with problems with meth. And drastic things happen in their lives if they get involved with meth," said Dorothy Hamilton, a primary counselor at the Walker Center in Gooding.

Nationally and across Idaho, women aren't often nailed on drug manufacturing and distribution charges, Miller said. Usually, it's for drug possession. That seems to also be true locally.

"I think most of the women we see involved in those types of crimes are accessories because the male forces them into doing things," said Sheriff Tousey.

Hamilton said many of the women she sees get into trouble because their husbands or boyfriends are dealing drugs.

"It's really discouraging when they don't have a healthy environment to go back to - if their spouse is using or their boyfriend is using. Or, more and more, we're seeing that the parents are using if we're dealing with younger women," she said.

Even if women are charged with crimes that don't directly relate to drugs, drug use is often behind them, Hamilton and Miller said.

The most common non-drug charges against women are for perjury or embezzlement, Miller said. Often, they were trying to get money for drugs.

When women steal, they usually shy away from burglary and entering, Hamilton said.

"Women are less likely to do burglary. We find they are more likely to steal from friends or family."

Right idea, wrong approach?

While there's no question more women are getting into trouble with the law, locking them up might not be the thing to do in many cases, Miller said.

"What we generally find is that women are a low risk to society, but high risk to themselves and at high risk for reoffending because their needs are so high," she said.

That's because many women convicts are mothers, and most of them are single mothers, she said. And separating a mother from her children can often discourage her from straightening her life out, Miller said.

"As women, we need to build relationships. You can't do that in prison very well," she said.

No matter what setting a troubled woman is put into, counseling for drug use is paramount to breaking the cycle that could land her children in Bailey's and Talkington's programs, Hamilton said.

Because the drugs particularly make it impossible for them to be good parents, they typically get in trouble with Health and Welfare over the children," she said.

Wright said that for now at least, reversing the trend of women ending up in jail cells will be a tough battle.

"It hasn't gotten any better. It just seems to be getting worse."

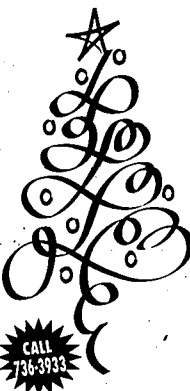
Times-News reporter Mark Heinz can be reached at 735-3238 or by e-mail at mheinz@magicvalley.com.

Get into the outdoors

Every Thursday in the Outdoors section, The Times-News guides Magic Valley residents to recreational opportunities.



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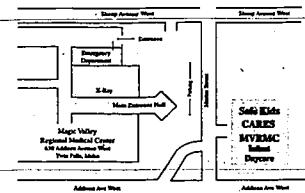
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NATION/WORLD

Afghan swearing-in sees no burqas

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The dress was eclectic: combat fatigues and rough Afghan wool caps, turbans and tribal robes, natty Western dress suits — and for the new prime minister, Hamid Karzai, a splendid green-and-purple ceremonial cloak.

But there wasn't a burqa in sight. At the inauguration of Afghanistan's new interim government Saturday, the two women ministers both wore simple headscarves for their swearing-in — one black, one white — eschewing the shroud-like covering that was an emblem of the now-ended Taliban era. The handful of women in the audience also were uncovered.

Moments of solemn formality filled the nearly three-hour ceremony, interspersed with the long familiarity of men who have been allies and rivals on the battlefields of Afghanistan.

Warlord Ismail Khan — who has made it plain he doesn't think he's getting his due in this new government — swept in more than an hour late, making his entrance only moments before Karzai was to take the oath of office.

The about-to-be prime minister interrupted his keynote speech to offer the bearded Khan a spontaneous greeting from the podium. "My brother!" he called out.

About 2,000 people packed into a wood-paneled hall that became steadily steamier as the ceremony went on.

But with all the dignitaries,



Hamid Karzai, center, prays as he takes the oath of office as Afghanistan's interim prime minister at the Interior Ministry in central Kabul, Afghanistan, Saturday. It was Afghanistan's first peaceful transfer of power in more than two decades.

diplomats and tribal elders in attendance, perhaps the most attention-getting guest was a dead man.

The dais was dominated by an enormous portrait of Ahmed Shah Massoud, the northern alliance military commander assassinated two days before the Sept. 11 terror attacks in the United States. An empty chair was set aside for him in a place of honor, festooned with flowers and yet another portrait.

Cries of grief arose when Massoud's name was mentioned in speeches — as it was often — and

some in the crowd wept.

Afghanistan's overwhelming privations showed themselves in small, poignant ways amid this celebration of nationhood.

The Afghan national anthem was played, but it was on tape. A U.N. spokesman said on the eve of the ceremony that he supposed there hadn't been time to rustle up a band or a chorus.

The Interior Ministry building where the ceremony was held was whitewashed for the occasion, but wrecked, scorched structures still dot the ministry compound.

Bush urges appreciation of family, friends

WASHINGTON — (AP) — President Bush urged Americans Saturday to spend Christmas "appreciating more than ever the things that matter most — our families, our friends and our faith."

In his weekly radio address, Bush said the entire country shares the grief of those whose loved ones died in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and during military action in Afghanistan.

And to those serving in the military campaign in Afghanistan, he said: "We owe them much."

"The year now ending saw a few acts of terrible evil," Bush said. "It also saw many more acts of courage and kindness and love. And these reflect the great hope of Christmas — a light shines in the darkness and the darkness shall not overcome it."

Bush took part in an Olympic torch relay ceremony on the White House lawn Saturday, then departed with his wife and twin daughters for an extended holiday weekend at Camp David. The Bushes will head to their ranch in Crawford, Texas, after Christmas.

In the address, the president lauded Congress for approving education reforms, tax relief and various measures to protect the country from future terrorism, but lamented the Senate's failure to agree on an economic stimulus plan.

"I'm hopeful that the positive spirit of bipartisan accomplishment that guided much of this year's success will prevail when Congress returns early next year," he said.

But right now, the president said, Americans are more concerned with the "eternal promise of peace on Earth and goodwill to men" that Christmas represents. The holiday takes on a special poignance in light of

the terrorist tragedy that claimed thousands of lives on Sept. 11, he said.

"This Christmas comes just months after a great national loss," Bush said. "We find ourselves appreciating more than ever the things that matter most — our families, our friends and our faith. We count our blessings, and we remember all those who feel loss, separation and need."

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Who serves on the INEEL Citizens Advisory Board?

Anyone who is willing to work with others on something important can serve on the CAB. That's because the Department of Energy has plenty of technical experts — what they need from the CAB is help understanding the views, opinions, concerns, and perspectives of citizens like you.

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- ★ Business interests
- ★ Educational community
- ★ General public



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If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a member of the INEEL CAB, call the Board's support staff at Jason Associates Corporation for an application: (208) 522-1662 ext. 3028

Officials offer anthrax vaccine to employees of tabloid publisher

DELRAY BEACH, Fla. (AP) — People possibly exposed to anthrax at the Boca Raton offices of tabloid publisher American Media Inc. were offered a vaccine taken from military supplies Saturday, but there were few takers.

Anthrax contamination at the office complex was discovered in early October, when a photo editor died of the inhaled form of the disease after apparently coming into contact with tainted mail. A second employee was infected but lived.

Of more than 1,100 AMI employees and contractors to whom the three-shot series was offered, three people decided to take the vaccine, Tim O'Connor, spokesman for the Palm Beach

County health department, said Saturday.

Nearly three dozen Boca Raton postal workers and investigators who had been inside the building were also offered the vaccine.

Saturday, 59 people eventually came to the clinic and were offered a 40-day supply of antibiotics in addition to the military vaccines; 40 people decided to go on the antibiotics.

People were told it would be their only opportunity to start the series of vaccination shots, which the federal government is offering to people who have been in anthrax-contaminated buildings. The first shots were given to congressional employees in Washington.

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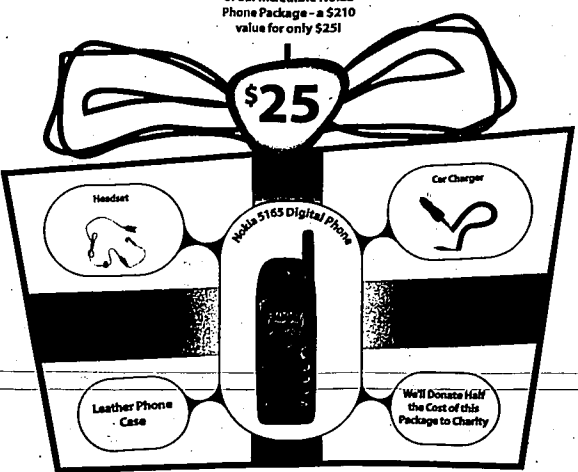
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Family dreams of new Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — As they gathered around their battered old television on Afghanistan's inauguration day, the faces of the Rahmati family were portraits in hope.

Afiza, the college-educated mother, wants to return to the job the Taliban took from her. The father, Ramatullah, is seeking to salvage his government career — and the pride he once took in supporting his family.

Their three daughters, shy but self-possessed young women in their late teens and early 20s, plan to start college — or finish it. One is a budding poet, another a would-be scientist, and the third has a gift for languages.

And everyone longs for the return of their two beloved boys — sons, brothers lost to emigration, a sadly familiar Afghan story.

With the swearing in of an interim government Saturday, the Rahmatis weren't dwelling on loss. Instead, they spoke of their dreams for life in a country free from warfare for the first time in decades — and from the unbearably heavy repression the Taliban used to quell that fighting.

The Rahmati sisters hadn't yet been out of the house without their burgas, the all-enveloping garment the Taliban required women to wear. They talked about what that first walk would be like — seeing their familiar rutted street unfilled by the hated blue-mesh screens that shut out so much of the world.

At 12:30 p.m., Kabul television began broadcasting the inauguration ceremony, already in progress. The young women spoke in quick, excited murmurs about what they watched — a United Nations envoy talking of a new day for their country.

And then the screen faded to black. It was a power outage, an almost daily occurrence in this rundown part of the capital. They groaned, then looked at each other and laughed.

They'd make do, as always. They'd listen to the rest of the ceremony on a scratchy battery-powered radio. They'd watch excerpts later on the evening news, when they had electricity again.

And again, they'd fall into



Three sisters from the Rahmati family are shown in their living room in Kabul, Afghanistan, Thursday. Rashida, left, 21, had studied science and math, while Zaroona, 24, was a budding poet and Faruzan, 18, had studied languages. All three sisters were forced to suspend their studies when the Taliban came to power.

reveries about their new lives. Afiza, 45, studied literature at Kabul University, mixing freely with male classmates, as was done in those days. She taught for a time, and eventually went to work in the education ministry.

She and Ramatullah have been married 30 years, and from the beginning, there was never a question about her working outside the home. She brought in money, and the work gave her satisfaction, and that was reason enough.

She has a witty face and a ready laugh, qualities she passed on to her daughters — 24-year-old Zaroona, 21-year-old Rashida and 18-year-old Faruzan. But when the Taliban put an end to her working life, she quietly admits she fell into depression.

Unable to leave the house, she brooded. "It was a kind of darkness inside me," she said.

It was her girls, imprisoned at home themselves, who drew her out again. They sent word to pupils Afiza had once tutored that they could study again in the Rahmati home.

Students came — mostly little girls, but also boys whose parents wanted them to study math and science rather than the rote diet of religious lessons in Taliban schools.

Afiza's daughters were the teachers at first. But they quietly

let their mother know they needed her help, asking gentle questions about the lessons, even when they knew the answers. Finally, she rejoined them.

"My daughters," she said, looking at them with love and pride. She started to say more, then shook her head. "My daughters."

Ramatullah, 54, can play the stern Pashtun patriarch at times, but he never doubted what he wanted for his girls and boys alike — an education.

They were well on their way when the Taliban came. Zaroona was in her first year at university, Rashida was earning high-school honors in science, and Faruzan, the baby of the family, already spoke the best English of all.

Zaroona was beginning to publish poems in newspapers, and had come to the attention of several respected Afghan poets. She wrote both in Pashtu, her father's native language, and Dari, her mother's.

After the Taliban took over, she tried to publish more, but her work was rejected or censored.

"How long can we live in the shadows? We are drunk on misery," went one couplet cut before a poem was printed.

She continued to write, filling notebooks with verse she showed only to her family.

"My secret," she said, looking at her sister and parents. "Our secret."

Pakistan's president says bin Laden might be dead

BEIJING (AP) — Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf says he's "reasonably sure" that Osama bin Laden has not escaped to Pakistan and that there's a "great possibility" that the al-Qaida leader is dead.

In an interview broadcast Saturday on Chinese state television, Musharraf said Pakistan would hand bin Laden to the

United States if he's caught. "He's not in Pakistan, of that we are reasonably sure. But we can't be 100 percent sure. We have sealed the borders between Afghanistan and Pakistan," Musharraf said.

"The Tora Bora region in which he was supposed to be operating ... has about eight passes leading into Pakistan," Musharraf said.

"We are guarding each one of these passes."

"Maybe he is dead because of all the operations that have been conducted, the bombardment of all the caves," Musharraf said. "There is a great possibility that he may have lost his life there."

"If he does enter, if we identify him, he will be handed over," Musharraf added.

Monday, December 24 at 1:00 p.m. and will be closed on Christmas Day.

Classified line ads to run on Tuesday, December 25th need to be placed by 11:00 a.m. on Monday

Classified line ads to run on Wednesday, December 26th need to be placed by 12:00 p.m. on Monday

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NATION

Anthrax investigation focuses on Army research center in Utah

Knight-Ridder/News Service

WASHINGTON - For the man who spent decades cooking up anthrax and other biological weapons for the U.S. military, the biggest unanswered questions in the recent anthrax investigation loom as large as the deadly bacteria under a microscope...

nation's top germ warrior and now serves as a bioterrorism consultant. Patrick, now 75, taught scientists at the Dugway Proving Ground Army research center in Utah a new "good procedure" to better dry anthrax and put it into a highly concentrated form...

ists are going through as they try to narrow the investigation and answer myriad questions: Can foreign anthrax really be ruled out? Can ultra-lethal, sophisticated anthrax be produced outside of a well-equipped laboratory such as Dugway? Why have the anthrax attacks apparently stopped? Can a prime suspect be identified? Patrick, who served for a time as a weapons inspector in Iraq, isn't quite sure that investigators should completely dismiss the possibility of overseas suspects.

Dugway and Battelle, but I haven't seen anything indicating that it's internal or external," Patrick told Knight-Ridder. Battelle Memorial Institute is a research firm in Columbus, Ohio, that was supplied anthrax from Dugway. Patrick said that it's possible to produce potent, concentrated, powdered anthrax outside of a lab. "Anybody who knows how to use a lab centrifuge" could do it, he said.

ally charged to stay airborne longer and minute in size - making it easier to adhere to a person's body if contact is made. Patrick said drying and concentrating anthrax isn't as difficult as some experts have made it out to be. Because it is so stable, anthrax "is the only agent that you can dry by so many different ways," he said.

stopped only when the source of anthrax ran out. Investigators said they have not identified a prime suspect. Months ago, they searched the house of a Milwaukee microbiologist who formerly worked at Battelle. Although investigators said they have ruled him out completely, they have not charged him with anything and apparently have been unable to develop evidence linking him to the attacks.

Congress sees failure and success this year

WASHINGTON (AP) - A political defection that turned the Senate upside down and a terrorist attack that wounded the nation were the defining events of a year in which Congress was at both its patriotic best and partisan worst.

It was "one of the most extraordinary sessions of Congress," said House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill.

The first year of the 107th Congress saw lawmakers give the new president several important victories. They agreed to a 10-year, \$1.35 trillion tax cut - the biggest in two decades - and in the final days passed a major education bill giving schools incentives to improve achievement.

Congress responded to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks with an unprecedented level of unity. Within days, it passed a \$40 billion emergency relief package and authorized President Bush to use force against those behind the attacks. A few days later it approved a \$15 billion package to help the airline industry survive the economic consequences of the attacks.

Over the next two months, Congress sent Bush two other far-reaching anti-terrorism bills, one giving law enforcement sweeping new surveillance and wiretapping powers and the other expanding airport and airline security.

Lawmakers stayed on the job despite being evicted from the U.S. Capitol on Sept. 11 and being forced out of their nearby offices by anthrax contamination. One Senate office building remains closed for sanitation.

But beyond the war on terrorism, the midpoint of the 107th Congress found both parties complaining of lost opportunities. Some of the administration's top priorities, such as revitalizing the domestic energy industry, giving religious charities better access to taxpayer money and granting the president new authority to negotiate trade agreements, were stuck in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

Democrats were unsuccessful in moving some of their priorities, including a financial aid increase in the minimum wage, a Medicare prescription drug benefit and patients' rights legislation.

The year ended on a bitter note with House Republicans and Senate Democrats blaming each other for the demise of a package of tax cuts and universal health benefits aimed at reviving the weak economy.

The seeds of that discord were planted seven months earlier, when Sen. James Jeffords of Vermont, saying the Republican Party had become too conservative, left the GOP to become an independent ally with Democrats. That ended the ability of Vice President Dick Cheney, the president of the Senate, to break a 50-50 tie vote and put Democrats in the majority with the power to set the agenda and run committees - for the first time in six years.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., the target of relentless GOP attacks in the closing weeks, said Republicans never got used to being in the minority. "That underlying current is still there. There is still a sense of 'Whose agenda is it going to be?'"

The Senate always moves much slower than the House, but House Republicans have pounded on this fact to criticize the other chamber.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman James Sensenbrenner, R-Wis., said more than 30 bills that originated in the House and passed the House are awaiting Senate action. "You can see what side of the Capitol is working and what side isn't," he said.

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Mazar-e-Sharif girls go back to school with fanfare

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan (AP)—The news was broadcast on television and radio. Mullahs announced it in the mosques. Teachers even went door to door to spread the word personally.



Farima, 8, smiles as an unidentified U.S. special forces soldier shakes her hand on the first day of school for girls in Mazar-e-Sharif, northern Afghanistan, Saturday. The school had been ransacked by the Taliban.

School is back in session for the girls of Mazar-e-Sharif. More than three years after the Taliban banned female education, schools for girls in this northern Afghan city reopened Saturday to an almost euphoric reception.

Dozens of girls, many of them formal students for the first time in their young lives, fidgeted on cracked wooden benches during an assembly in the shattered remains of the Fatima Balkhi school, which serves students of all ages.

There were no chairs, no desks, no notebooks, no pens. But the students must come every day — no excuses — math teacher Sahira Kholmi told the smiling girls.

“These schools are open now and there are few obstacles in our way. So we should learn,” she said.

When the hard-line Taliban took control of the city in 1998, they banned education for

women under their harsh interpretation of Islam and forced the closure of Fatima Balkhi.

Then, as if seeking to ensure the 80-year-old school would never reopen, they methodically gutted it.

Light sockets were ripped from ceilings and electrical outlets pulled from walls. Chairs, desks and blackboards were smashed and dumped in the street.

Doors were ripped off their hinges and at least half the panes in windows and doors were

smashed. Even chunks of plaster were gouged with the ceilings.

But learning did not disappear from Mazar-e-Sharif. It simply went underground.

Kholmi, like most of Fatima Balkhi's teachers, began giving private lessons in her home. When the Taliban found out about such tutoring across the city, they outlawed that, too.

“I did not accept their order,” Kholmi said. “If I closed my home to the students, they would not learn.”

So she continued to teach. Her students told anyone who asked that they were visiting a relative, and she made sure they left her house one by one, so they did not attract attention.

Sunya Haslami, 16, said the clandestine lessons scared her, but she had to keep learning.

“Now there is no problem. Our education will be very good. Now we will study,” she said.

As the girls sat in the near-freezing assembly room, blown by wind gusting through broken windows, two U.S. special forces soldiers walked in.

One knelt, and through an interpreter, asked some of the girls their names and ages, if they knew their ABCs and how to count to 10.

The other took snapshots. The soldiers, who declined to give their names, took notes about the school's desperate needs and handed out notepads.

“This is just a small token so they can get started in the school,” one told the teachers before he left.

German lawmakers approve sending troops for Afghan force

BERLIN (AP)— German lawmakers on Saturday approved a six-month deployment of as many as 1,200 troops for an international force established to protect Afghanistan's new government.

Opposition deputies joined most members of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's governing coalition to pass the measure.

The international force approved Thursday by the U.N.

Security Council will number between 3,000 to 5,000 troops, under British command. Already, British Marines were deployed in the streets of the capital, Kabul when the 30-member interim government led by Hamid Karzai took power Saturday.

At the special session of Germany's lower house, 538 of the 581 members present voted in favor of the deployment.

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Mideast mine clearance is a booming business

Los Angeles Times

Fred Estall is a sapper. That is to say, he spends his days inching along the ground on his belly, carefully running a metal detector over the soil and probing it with a stick as he searches for land mines. On a good day, he can cover about 60 feet an hour like this. On others, he might cover only three.

On one hand, his is a job with unlimited prospects. There are literally millions of land mines waiting to be uncovered and destroyed. On the other, it is a job with an utterly finite future, one where death or horrific injury are always one wrong move away.

Land mines litter 68 countries. Afghanistan is among the most affected, with about 10 million land mines lying in wait beneath the rocky, dry terrain. Last Sunday, three U.S. Marines were injured — one lost a leg below the knee — when one stepped on an explosive device during a search for mines and booby traps at the war-ravaged Kandahar airport. They are among the latest to join the list of hundreds of thousands of names long, of those caught in the trap land mines set.

Estall was part of the United Nations' first mine-clearing effort in Afghanistan in 1989. He has also worked in other countries with significant land mine problems — one of thousands of deminers employed by various humanitarian groups. Their goal: rid the world of the 110 million land mines that have been planted since World War II, when they were first extensively used.

Many deminers are regular citizens of mine-affected countries who have been trained for the task. Others, like Estall, are former military personnel who were taught how to lay and remove mines as part of their training. Estall had been in the New

Zealand army for 13 years before joining the U.S. Department of Defense Humanitarian Demining team, which operates in heavily mined countries during peacetime.

Sappers, as they are traditionally known, have a long history. They date back to the Roman Empire and siege warfare, when soldiers dug trenches to advance upon enemy lines. Trenches were called saps, and those who dug them were called sappers.

Today, sappers are better known as combat engineers, a term that came into existence when the Army Corps of Engineers was founded during the Revolutionary War to build roads and fortifications.

Their affiliation with land mines dates to the Civil War, when soldiers adapted artillery shells and buried them in the ground with a fuse or trip wire to explode on contact. These explosives were not mines, per se, but a precursor. Land mines, as we know them today, were first designed in the 1930s.

Today, there are dozens of varieties of anti-tank mines meant to explode military vehicles that run over or near them — and anti-personnel mines, designed to either maim or kill humans.

By far the most common are the anti-personnel type. Many are made from metal, but increasingly they are plastic and ceramic to avoid detection. Some look like hockey pucks and batteries. Others resemble pineapples, even toys.

Estall makes it his business to know the difference. He has to. His sole piece of protective gear is a pair of safety glasses. His only tools are a prod and a metal detector. “You’ve got to have a lot of faith in your metal detector,” Estall said. “If it makes a sound, you go to investigate. You can’t just take it for granted that it’s a piece of metal.”

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NATION

Finding comedy on Capitol Hill

Congressmen's house serves as inspiration

WASHINGTON (AP) — Here's the plot:

Four middle-aged men in Congress share a passion for policy and a house away from their families. They laugh. They eat takeout. They discuss water rights and dairy price supports.

Al Franken, comedy writer and "Saturday Night Live" alumnus, is trying to massage this material into a television sitcom. He's working loosely from a real-life model—a group house on Capitol Hill owned by California Rep. George Miller and occupied during congressional work weeks by Miller and three other Democrats.

Franken will give CBS a pilot sometime this winter. His working title is "Little House on the Hill."

Miller laughs at Franken's description of the living arrangement as "adorable." He has owned the house since the late 1970s and has been renting space to colleagues since 1993, after his wife returned to the San Francisco Bay Area so his second son could go to school there.

"It beats going home to some apartment by yourself," Miller says.

Here's the layout: Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., and Rep. William Delahunt, D-Mass., sleep in the living room, near an open kitchen. Miller and Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., have private rooms upstairs.

Franken spent some time with the guys during the fall to get a sense of the living conditions and the interplay among four Type A personalities. He came away with an appreciation for the sacrifices they make in the name of public service.

"They're basically middle-class people who have to have two residences so that they can do their work in Washington and spend time in their districts," Franken says. "Washington isn't like it is in the movies. This is not grand living."

Congressional history is replete with lawmakers who save money by sharing living quarters — Abraham Lincoln did so when he served in the House. A few sleep in their offices.

Franken's effort is the second stab at a television series based on a congressional group house. Janis Berman, wife of Rep. Howard Berman, D-Calif., vetoed a pilot script after seeing her idea about



Owned by Rep. George Miller, D-Calif., this Capitol Hill townhouse serves as the Washington home for Miller, Rep. William Delahunt, D-Mass., Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., and Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.

four neurotic lawmakers turned into a stereotype upon Congress.

"The script ended up being sexist and unrealistic," she says.

Schumer, 51, has household seniority over Durbin, 57, but gave up the bedroom because Durbin, after six years on a couch in a previous shared living arrangement, insisted on a bed.

Durbin says Miller also nudged Schumer back to the couch. "Miller told Schumer he'd have to pay more rent for the bedroom," Durbin says.

The two-story row house could use a fresh coat of blue paint. It won't get one, though. "No one is terribly interested in fixing it up," Miller says.

The furnishings, described by Durbin, make the place look like a Goodwill warehouse.

"No one's even asked about the food."

"The only thing we have left is pretzels. Pretzels and Diet Coke," Miller says. "We ate all the healthy stuff earlier."

Former Rep. Leon Panetta, R-Calif., couldn't recall eating anything healthy when he was among the home's original four, along with Miller, Schumer and ex-Rep. Marty Russo, D-Ill.

"Very frankly, it wasn't a place where we fixed evening dinner,

or for that matter breakfast or lunch," Panetta says.

Russo lost a re-election bid in 1992. His spot went to Durbin. The ethics became dicey for Panetta when he left Congress to become President Clinton's chief of staff in early 1993. Former Rep. Sam Gedejenson, D-Conn., took his place. When Gedejenson lost his race last year, Miller offered a bed to Delahunt, 60.

"We looked for someone who would be an easy fit," says Miller, 56. "No dynamic younger members."

Asked to describe the atmosphere when he lived there, Panetta plants tongue firmly in cheek and says, "Did you ever see 'Animal House'?"

Durbin has a more sedate description.

"You have middle-aged white males sitting around talking about grandchildren and Metamucil," he says.

Franken says he is not basing his characters on Miller, Schumer, Durbin and Delahunt.

"It wouldn't be fair to them," Franken says. "I don't want people sitting there saying, 'I didn't realize that George Miller wets his bed.'"

Hypothetically speaking, of course.

Bush may seek more for security

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is expected to seek at least \$15 billion in new spending for domestic security needs in his 2003 budget, to fund everything from local police to baggage screening equipment.

The budget may include money for vaccines and items such as communications equipment for hospitals and public health agencies to better coordinate their response to a terrorist attack, congressional aides say.

In Congress, "there will be a strong desire to spend more than that," said Rich Meade, Republican staff director of the House Budget Committee.

Congress approved \$20 billion in spending earmarked for domestic security in the 2002 budget. About half of that was requested prior to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Homeland Security Director

Tom Ridge told The Washington Post for a story in Saturday's editions that the White House has settled on "substantial increases in spending" for domestic security. The budget request will focus on helping police and health care professionals respond to possible attacks, Ridge said.

Ridge "is developing a national strategy for homeland security," a White House spokesman said Saturday. "As part of that, Governor Ridge is assessing our needs for combatting terrorism, and responding to any attacks that may come."

Bush is to release his 2003 budget proposal after his State of the Union address to Congress next month.

The House committee's staff surveyed government agencies for their anti-terrorism budget requests and came up with at least \$15 billion in proposals, said

Meade. There is broad agreement that hospitals and public health agencies need help getting communications equipment and other technology so that they can quickly identify an attack victim and respond appropriately, said Bill Hoagland, the GOP staff director of the Senate Budget Committee.

"Everything we've looked at indicates the resources in our public health system have not been 'kept up to speed,'" Hoagland said.

Another big-ticket item: baggage screening equipment for airports. The government would need \$6 billion to buy all the machines that are necessary, Hoagland said.

Bush's budget request is expected to set off a struggle in Congress to increase the spending and to define what can be classified as a security need.

'Time' considers bin Laden for Person of the Year

NEW YORK (AP) — There's no question he has captured newspaper headlines for days on end and impacted millions of lives, but should Osama bin Laden be Time magazine's Person of the Year?

While the decision won't be announced until this morning, editors at Time had to weigh several considerations in making their selection this week — including the likelihood of a strong reader backlash.

Choosing bin Laden would undoubtedly anger some and could even lead to canceled subscriptions.

At the heart of their decision, though, must be the criteria set out by Time founder Henry Luce: "the person or persons who most affected the news of our lives, for good or ill, this year."

Time spokeswoman Debra Richman declined to specify this year's list of candidates, but she did say that the selection would

in "some way" reflect the events of Sept. 11.

In addition to bin Laden, readers of Time's Web site have nominated candidates including President Bush, New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and the rescue teams of New York.

Time has faced similar quandaries in the past, and has occasionally selected unpopular leaders, including Hitler and Stalin.

Granted, both of those selections were made before the full

extent of either man's ruthlessness was known to the world at large.

In selecting Hitler for 1938, the year before he invaded Poland, Time called him the "greatest threatening force that the democratic, freedom-loving world faces today."

Likewise, Time twice chose Stalin — in 1939 and again in 1942, while World War II was still raging and Stalin was standing up to Hitler.

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Ron Wilson, AAMS

Body found in Mississippi is missing biologist

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A body found in the Mississippi River was identified Saturday as a Harvard University biologist who disappeared more than a month ago.

Don Wiley, 57, had been missing since Nov. 16, when his rental car was found abandoned with the keys in the ignition on a

Mississippi River bridge at Memphis.

The body was discovered Thursday snagged on a tree near a hydroelectric plant at Vidalia, La., across the river from Natchez, Miss., about 300 miles south of Memphis. A wallet containing Wiley's identification was found on the body, police said.

Shelby County medical examiner O.C. Smith began an autopsy on the body Friday. The body was identified through dental records, police Lt. Walter Norris said.

Authorities said the cause of death may be determined in the coming week. No evidence of foul play was found in the car.

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Palestinian boys stand next to graffiti of a Hamas gunman as they look at the body of an Islamic Jihad militant during his funeral procession Saturday.

Palestinians bury those killed in infighting, call for unity

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinians buried six young men killed in some of the worst Palestinian infighting in years, while a second militant group appeared ready Saturday to heed Yasser Arafat's call to halt attacks against Israel.

As the procession for one of the dead, an Islamic Jihad supporter, passed a police station in Gaza, mourners formed a human chain to prevent any shooting between militants in the crowd and police.

All six funerals in and around Gaza City, no one in the crowds of mourners was seen carrying weapons — a sharp contrast to past funerals, which have been accompanied by gun-toting militants firing into the air. All the burials took place without incident.

Islamic Jihad, the other group responsible for multiple suicide bombings, distributed leaflets at Saturday's funerals saying it would do its part to prevent rifts among Palestinian groups.

"Islamic Jihad will stand side-by-side with all Palestinian parties to protect the internal unity," the leaflet said.

Remarks by one of the group's leaders also suggested that attacks were being suspended, though he did not say so explicitly.

"Islamic Jihad desires to work in order to protect the Palestinian national interest," Nafez Azzam, one of the group's top leaders, told The Associated Press.

Arafat, the Palestinian leader, called for an end to attacks against Israel a week ago, and a subsequent crackdown carried out by Palestinian security forces led to clashes that left seven Palestinians dead and nearly 100 injured on Thursday and Friday.

A funeral Friday erupted into violence when the procession passed a police station.

In another development in Gaza, Israeli troops stopped several cars in central Gaza near a Jewish settlement and detained six Palestinians, according to Palestinian security sources. The Israeli military said it was checking the report.

Hamas, the militant group that has carried out many of the suicide bombings against Israel, said Friday it was suspending attacks in the interest of Palestinian

Mideast combatants see glimmer of hope

By Dan Perry
The Associated Press

JERUSALEM — Is the intifadah winding down? That's what Palestinians and Israelis wonder after Yasser Arafat issued a televised call for ending attacks on Israel, shut down offices of the militant Hamas and Islamic Jihad, stepped up efforts to track down their leaders and won a Hamas pledge to end suicide bombings and mortar attacks in Israel.

Israel has pulled back troops from some Palestinian areas and appears to have quietly given Arafat some time to enforce a cease-fire. There have been no Israeli airstrikes or killings of militants since Arafat's speech a week ago.

"I believe that we have reached a turning point after 15 months of intifadah," U.N. envoy Terje Larsen declared, using the popular term for the Palestinian uprising. "It seems as if for the first time the Palestinian Authority is moving with seriousness in order to curb the violence."

Still, Israelis are wary that Arafat's moves are just short-term tactics aimed at easing U.S. and European pressure. And Palestinians have little faith that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is interested in peace.

Since Israel blames Arafat for

attacks by militants, any progress could be dashed in a split second by a single suicide bomber. Islamic Jihad has not yet accepted Arafat's cease-fire plea, and Hamas' announcement appeared

"I believe that we have reached a turning point after 15 months of intifadah."

— U.N. envoy Terje Larsen

involved in attacks on Israelis.

On Thursday and Friday, Palestinian police clashed with supporters of the two groups, leaving seven Palestinians dead and nearly 100 injured.

Police said that in addition to closing dozens of Hamas and Jihad offices, they shut five metal workshops in the Gaza Strip on suspicion they were manufacturing mortar shells and stopped a Hamas cell from firing mortar shells.

On Friday, Hamas announced pursuing peace. Palestinians officials say they have in recent weeks arrested dozens of key members of Hamas and Islamic Jihad as well as 15 members of their own security services

involved in attacks on Israelis.

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seven Palestinians dead and nearly 100 injured.

Police said that in addition to closing dozens of Hamas and Jihad offices, they shut five metal workshops in the Gaza Strip on suspicion they were manufacturing mortar shells and stopped a Hamas cell from firing mortar shells.

On Friday, Hamas announced

in a leaflet that it ordered attacks suspended "until further notice" to preserve Palestinian unity.

Hamas sources said there was a debate within the organization about how to respond — that while most Hamas leaders in the West Bank and Gaza supported stopping attacks at least for now, those elsewhere were against it.

There were indications of a similar debate within Islamic Jihad as well.

Arafat's stepped-up efforts came after the European Union joined the United States in pressing him to crack down on the extremist groups whose suicide bombings and shootings killed 37 Israelis in early December, scuttling a three-week truce mission by U.S. envoy Anthony Zinni.

It also followed an Israeli Cabinet decision that Arafat was "irrelevant" and a chorus of Israeli politicians calling for his ouster.



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Israel bans Arafat from visiting Bethlehem on Christmas Eve

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel has banned Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat from attending Christmas Eve services in the West Bank town of Bethlehem this year, according to a government statement issued early Sunday.

The statement, from the Security Cabinet, charged that Arafat "is not acting to dismantle Palestinian terrorist groups or stop terror attacks against Israel."

On Saturday, Arafat had told reporters that he would attend the Christmas services in Bethlehem, the traditional birthplace of Jesus, with or without Israeli permission.

But he has been virtually trapped in the West Bank city of Ramallah since an Israeli air

strike destroyed his helicopters in Gaza Dec. 3, retaliation for Palestinian suicide bomb attacks in Jerusalem and Haifa that killed 26 people and three bombers.

Ramallah is 10 miles north of Jerusalem. Bethlehem is five miles south of Jerusalem. With Israeli tanks and troops surrounding Ramallah and guarding the entrances and exits of Jerusalem, Arafat would be hard pressed to make the trip unless Israel agrees.

Arafat, a Muslim, has attended Christmas Eve festivities in Bethlehem every year since 1995, when the town was turned over to Palestinian control as part of a far-ranging Israeli-Palestinian peace accord.

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WORLD

Argentine lawmakers appoint nation's third president in two days

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) - Adolfo Rodríguez Saa, a jovial governor lauded for expanding business in his desert province, is taking on the more formidable task of being Argentina's interim president and tackling the crushing recession that toppled his elected predecessor.

Lawmakers meeting in a special session were expected to vote late Saturday to appoint the 54-year-old populist politician to fill the office left vacant by Fernando

de la Rúa, who resigned Thursday after widespread looting and rioting that resulted in 26 deaths and 200 injuries.

Rodríguez Saa takes over after Senate leader Ramon Puerta served as acting president for a day as congressional leaders sought a replacement.

Assuming a job many in his own Peronist party spurned, Rodríguez Saa is expected to serve for at least 60 days, until new elections tentatively scheduled for March 3. The leader elected there will finish out the two years of de la Rúa's term.

His appointment restores Argentina's largest party, the Peronists, as the country's dominant political force after the worst unrest since the late 1980s, when another financial crisis gripped this South American country of 36 million people.



Adolfo Rodríguez Saa

Rodríguez Saa's main role will be confronting a four-year recession that has pushed unemployment above 18 percent and has the country on the brink of defaulting on its \$132 billion public debt.

Serving as governor of San Luis province in western Argentina the past 18 years, he was known for colorful rhetoric and a populist touch, an image far

different from de la Rúa's solemn, technocratic style.

But it is Rodríguez Saa's record in San Luis that perhaps will be most inspiring to Argentines, who grew increasingly angry over the belt-tightening policies enacted by de la Rúa.

Rodríguez Saa transformed his province by bringing in modern industry to replace faltering mines, putting in reliable water systems and highways and building 30,000 houses for the poor.

With a low jobless rate and reputation for good, state schools, 64% of politicians optimists like Franklin D. Roosevelt and himself, and pessimists like de la Rúa. "We are governed by a generation of old-timers," he was quoted as saying in a newspaper. "Argentina's next president should be under 40, because this generation is ruined."

Pakistani president calls Indian actions arrogant

XIAN, China - Pakistan's president criticized the Indian government as high-handed Saturday for recalling its ambassador from Pakistan amid high tensions over the suicide attack on India's parliament.

Asked whether Pakistan would respond in kind, Gen. Pervez Musharraf answered, "No."

"We regret the very arrogant and knee-jerk response of the Indian government,"

World Musharraf said after praying at the Great Mosque in the central Chinese city of Xi'an.

He declined to comment on a call by President Bush for Pakistan to act against a Pakistani-based Islamic group that India has linked to the Dec. 13 attack at the Indian parliament compound in New Delhi.

But officials in the Pakistani capital said the nation's central bank was likely to issue instructions soon to freeze the group's assets.

Iranian president's backers want fight against hard-liners

TEHRAN, Iran - In a sign of mounting frustration, students boldly urged Iran's reformist president on Saturday to take the offensive against conservatives blocking his drive for greater freedoms.

"Show authority or resign!" some students shouted at President Mohammad Khatami during a gathering at Tehran University.

Patience among Khatami's core backers is wearing thin as hard-line clerics mounted reform newspapers and prosecute lawmakers and students.

Khatami stood his ground at the Students' Day gathering of about 3,000 people. He insisted his resolve would not be dampened by his opponents, who use the judiciary to stifle perceived critics of the establishment.

Khatami repeated his warnings that the conservatives' "violence and force" could touch off a social upheaval that could be difficult to contain.

Bulgaria mourns seven youths who died at disco

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) - Mourning relatives and friends of seven teenagers at a children killed in a stampede outside a disco left flowers and lighted candles Saturday near the icy stairs where they died.

Some of those waiting in line to enter the disco Friday evening slipped on the slick, winding stairs leading up to the club's entrance and were trampled as the crowd behind continued to push forward.

Six girls and one boy, ranging in age from 12 to 18, died. Four were seriously injured and dozens suffered lighter injuries.

Nadezhda Gavrilova, an official of Sofia's emergency hospital, said 13 youngsters remained in intensive care Saturday.

"All of them, including the four who were in a critical condition, are conscious now and their conditions are improving," she said.

Violence near Bangladesh capital leaves 50 wounded


DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) - About 200 people armed with pistols, spears and meat-cleavers attacked a village during a five-hour rampage, wounding at least 50 people, including children, Bangladesh police said Saturday.

The attackers vandalized dozens of homes and attacked fleeing women and children during the raid Friday in Aguandi, a farming village 20 miles east of the capital, Dhaka. The attackers also looted grain stores, said Saiful Islam, the area's police chief.

The villagers said the attackers were supporters of the governing Bangladesh Nationalist Party, or BNP, from a neighboring village.


Islam said the attackers targeted the village because most of its 50 families supported former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League party.

— compiled from wire reports



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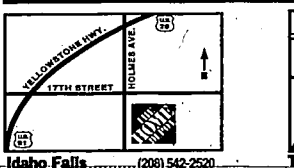


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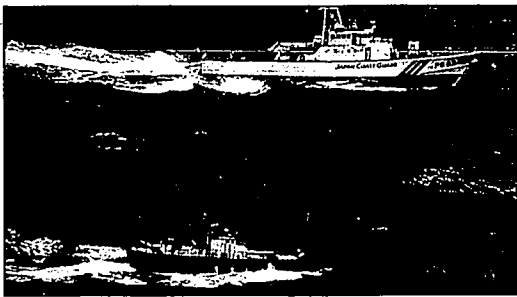
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Japanese coast guard sinks fishing boat

Six-hour chase ends in firefight

TOKYO (AP) - A six-hour chase ended in a firefight Saturday during which Japanese coast guard vessels sank an unidentified fishing boat that may have been spying for North Korea, government officials said.

Two Japanese coast guard personnel were slightly wounded and an estimated 15 crewmen from the fishing boat were dumped in rough seas when it went down Saturday night about 240 miles off the southwestern Japanese island of Amami Oshima.



A Japanese coast guard vessel, top, sails alongside an unidentified vessel that illegally entered Japan's exclusive economic zone in the East China Sea 580 miles south of Tokyo Saturday. The suspicious ship was spotted earlier by a patrol plane and patrol boats on the scene sank the ship.

AP photo

Coast guard officials in Tokyo said early Sunday they did not know how many of the crew were alive, saying rough conditions and concerns that survivors might put up resistance were slowing rescue efforts.

Twenty-seven navy and coast guard vessels and 14 coast guard aircraft joined the chase of the boat, which carried Chinese markings and was first spotted Friday cruising about 90 miles

off Amami Oshima inside Japan's economic exclusion zone.

Japan has exclusive fishing rights in the area, which extends 200 maritime miles beyond its 12-mile territorial waters.

The boat's appearance "closely resembled" that of vessels believed by Japanese authorities to have conducted surveillance for North Korea in the past, Shigehiro Sakamoto, a

coast guard official, told reporters.

Kyodo News agency reported, however, that some government officials believed the boat might belong to Chinese smugglers.

When approached by a coast guard vessel Saturday afternoon and ordered to stop for inspection, the boat fled westward toward China, ignoring warning shots, officials said.

The Japanese vessel then fired

at the boat, hitting the stern with a burst from a 20 mm machine gun that set off a fire. The boat was finally surrounded by four Japanese coast guard vessels about six hours later.

Before the boat could be boarded, its crew reportedly fired sub-machine guns at the Japanese vessels, hitting two coast guard personnel. The Japanese vessels shot back, sinking the boat, officials said.

Zimbabwe president shrugs off Commonwealth criticism

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) - Zimbabwe's president accused the Commonwealth, the association of Britain and its former colonies, of being racist for moves that could remove Zimbabwe from key councils within the group.

President Robert Mugabe, currently visiting Libya, rejected fresh protests by the Commonwealth about violence in Zimbabwe and intimidation of political opponents and the media, a government-run newspaper reported Saturday.

"The Commonwealth is not just white people, you see, the Anglo-Saxon, and this is what the

British want it to be," Mugabe told The Herald.

Zimbabwe's worst economic crisis since independence in 1980 has been deepened by the often violent occupation of at least 1,700 white-owned farms by ruling party militants and a program to nationalize some 4,500 farms without paying compensation.

Scores of people have been killed since militants began occupying white-owned farms in March 2000. Human rights groups and opposition officials have accused Mugabe of orchestrating the violent occupations to crush political opposition.

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EDITORIAL

Washington's hard work pays off in education bill

Those who doubted President Bush's campaign promise about education reform should forget dining on Christmas goose. They can eat crow instead.

The education reform bill passed by Congress in the past two weeks is a major achievement for the president and national lawmakers. Ultimately, it should lead to even greater achievements by children in our public schools.

The bill has a stronger emphasis on federal testing, while increasing federal funding for public schools. The bill passed after difficult negotiations between Democrats and Republicans.

As a result, it includes \$22 billion of education funding, a good chunk of which is earmarked for poorer students - something Bush wanted from the start. The bill also gives local school officials the ultimate decision on how to spend the money.

Other ideas in the bill are also appealing. English fluency will see greater emphasis, since the bill eliminates funding for native-language instruction. ESL students will be tested in reading and language after three years in U.S. schools. Schools can also decide whether to use the money for programs or to reduce student-teacher ratios.

But the real spirit of the new education bill is to increase accountability for public schools. Through federal testing standards, schools are required to show reading and math improvements in grades 3 through 8.

Data would be separated to distinguish how minority students are progressing. If schools continue to fail,

this bill allows parents to do something about it, by putting their kids in charter or private schools.

These new standards for accountability are what we've wanted to see for some time. It's only fair to expect that a program-consuming a major share of our taxes will also show major results.

The new education program should help American schools over the next generation and beyond. Education leaders of the Senate and House deserve praise for working with Bush to write a solid bill.

Close to home ...

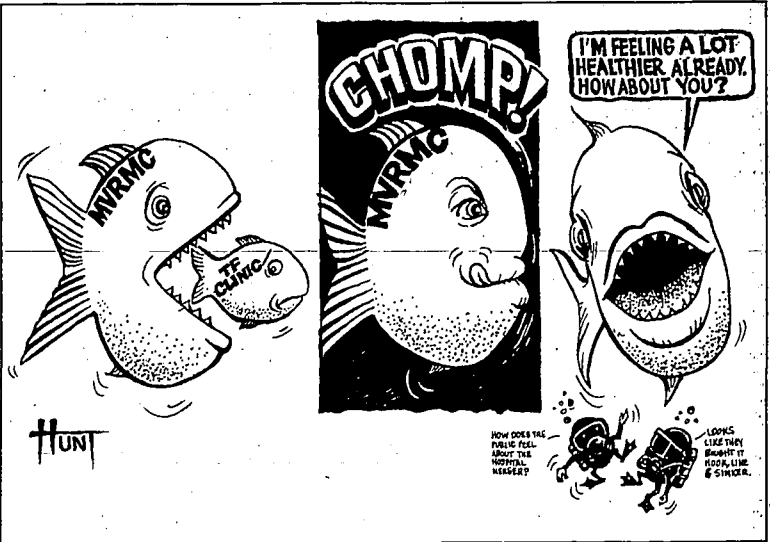
Here in Idaho, we praise the selection of Twin Falls attorney Laird Stone, who was appointed to the State Board of Education by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne.

A Magic Valley native educated in Idaho schools, Stone has been a strong advocate for sound fiscal management of public education. He has a professional background in family and juvenile law that will prove beneficial to the board.

Stone is also likely to be a voice for more accountability from both students and teachers. He has already been involved in board matters through his consultations on budgets and testing with board member Blake Hall. His familiarity with those issues will make his transition easier.

With school budget concerns looming, it's more important than ever to get the most out of the taxpayer's dollar. Stone's appointment should help the State Board apply those funds for the maximum benefit of Idaho students.

It's only fair to expect that a program consuming a major share of our taxes will also show major results.



Bush is no Scrooge with atomic material

Put whiskers and a red suit on him, and Secretary of Energy Spencer Abraham would make a passable Santa Claus. What Abraham brought home from his recent trip to Moscow and his negotiations with the Office of Management and Budget, plus what others have accomplished in Capitol Hill, are some of the best Christmas presents anyone could have hoped to find under the tree.

In sum, the path has been opened to greater progress in the new year on securing Russian nuclear materials and decreasing the chances that terrorists will be able to obtain the ingredients for suitcase nuclear bombs or other weapons of mass destruction.

Here is the story, as gleaned from interviews with Abraham, members of Congress and others in the Bush administration.

First, the final appropriations bill of 2001 contained virtually all the money that proponents had been seeking in vain all year to safeguard the atomic materials loosely stored and casually guarded at Russian sites. As readers of previous columns on this subject know, the green-eyed people in President Bush's OMB had inexplicably decided earlier this year that this was a place to save money, despite the fact that Bush had heartily endorsed the program during the campaign and since taking office.

Bush's first budget cut the money for the Nunn-Lugar program, the 10-year-old bipartisan effort sponsored by former Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia and Sen. Richard Lugar of Indiana - two of the nation's most foresighted national security experts - to lock up those loose nukes and provide work for Russian nuclear scientists left unemployed by the breakup of the Soviet Union.

But now Congress has boosted the



DAVID S. BRODER

appropriation by \$120 million, just \$11 million less than the sum a strong backer of the program, Texas Democratic Rep. Chet Edwards, had been seeking. Wisconsin Rep. David Obey, the senior Democrat on Appropriations, led the fight to restore the money.

Lugar told me the outcome was "very good news" and said he appreciated "the very strong bipartisan support" for the program.

But more good news is in store. Abraham has become a real advocate for the Nunn-Lugar program and said in an interview he is committed to "expanding and accelerating" it in coming months and years.

The former Michigan senator spent two days in Moscow last month with his counterpart, Minister of Atomic Energy Alexander Rumyantsev, and with officials of the Russian navy, another partner in the project. They agreed to "establish a formal process to monitor progress" in "improving measures on nuclear materials physical protection, control and accounting, as well as preventing illegal trafficking and handling of nuclear and radioactive materials."

Beyond those formal words, Abraham said, there was a clear recognition on both sides of the central importance of such controls, in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He and Rumyantsev agreed to set up their own direct communications link, so if any bureaucratic barriers appear, they can deal with them

directly and quickly. "This has become one of my top priorities," Abraham said.

At the same time Abraham was holding these meetings in Moscow, the National Security Council was removing its hold on plans for disposing of Russian and American plutonium - a principal ingredient of nuclear weapons - through a process that converts it into a form safe to use in generating electricity. Some Bush aides had questioned the cost and complexity of the process, but they have now agreed that the disposal process can proceed, with adequate funding next year.

Finally, Bush has signaled that money for safeguarding nuclear materials and blocking proliferation of nuclear weapons will be increased in future years. In a Dec. 11 speech at The Citadel, Bush called this "a vital mission." And, congressional sources tell me, his budgeteers actually have increased fiscal 2003 money for this program beyond the Energy Department's request - a real rarity these days.

The effort to safeguard nuclear material likely will expand beyond Russia. Abraham visited the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna to promise joint U.S.-Russian initiatives to strengthen controls on cross-border movements of this lethal stuff. Lugar has talked with Vice President Cheney and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice about his vision of developing similar programs for India and Pakistan, and eventually even for Iran and Iraq.

Having previously criticized the Bush administration and some in Congress for shortsighted economies in this area, it is a pleasure now to commend them for this Christmas gift to the nation - and to the world.

David Broder is a columnist for the Washington Post.

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In Twin Falls, call or write:
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Current shelter is inadequate

Response to the Dec. 5 letter by Robert Powers: There is no space to utilize on additional time available to make the current shelter "user-friendly." The existing facility is grossly inadequate (about 1,800 square feet) with no place to expand.

The shelter operates 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday. Mornings (seven days a week) are dedicated to cleaning and disinfecting kennels, laundry and feeding animals. The size and configuration of the shelter makes it impossible to be open to the public during these times. Wet, slippery floors, hoses and unkeened animals create an unsafe environment for the public.

We don't receive enough funding from Twin Falls City and Twin Falls County to staff the shelter on Saturdays. The shelter is currently operating in the red and is subsidized by the non-profit People for Pets Magic Valley Humane Society Inc. Funds cover most operating expenses. While not generous donations to People for Pets, we could not provide low-cost spays and neuters or pay emergency veterinary care.

To accommodate the working public, we offer mobile adoptions. Two Saturdays a month, volunteers take adoptees from the shelter to different locations. Since this program began, adoptions have tripled. Mobile adoptions allow people who don't feel comfortable at the animal shelter an opportunity to see animals available for adoption. They give the animals a chance to see the rest of the world. They also give us the oppor-

tunity to inform people about the animal shelter, our mission and our plans to build a new shelter.

A new shelter will provide long-term solutions to our current problems. The proposed design will provide a safe and secure environment for the animals, staff and public. Appropriate materials and arrangement of space will allow for efficient cleaning and disinfection. The planned facility has a separate adoption room for potential pet owners and pets to get acquainted, a treatment room for injured animals, and isolation and quarantine areas for unhealthy or unfriendly animals.

People for Pets Building Fund has raised \$110,000 of the \$500,000 necessary to build the new shelter. Ongoing fund raising includes donations, selling T-shirts, hats and Walk-of-Life bricks. These bricks, engraved with your name, company logo or message of love and remembrance of a special person or pet will greet the public at the entrance to the new facility. If you can help, call Marcy at 734-4303.

SHERY OLSEN-FRANK

Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Sherry Olsen-Frank is the chairman of the board of directors for People for Pets, Magic Valley Humane Society.)

Do term limits affect judges?

Question: Apparently I missed this in government class in high school. Since Idaho now has term limits, how does that affect judges? They receive an advisory vote to office after an initial appointment. Are they now also affected

by the term limits decision?

CHUCK DUDLEY

Twin Falls

Bush does well in youth's eyes

Dear Mr. President:
My name is Ty and I live in a little farming community called Rupert, Idaho. Our community relies on farming and agriculture for our livelihood. It is a small community where nearly everyone knows everyone else. A month ago, my family has discussed moving to a larger city where jobs are more plentiful. After Sept. 11 when the World Trade Center was destroyed, I think we are feeling more blessed by our insignificance.

Even though we are a small community, we have people who do not believe in prayer in schools or prayer in public places. I watched you on television asking the people to pray for those who have died and those who are left behind. What I don't understand is why you haven't encouraged the public to be more prayerful in the past.

First we had prayer in schools and now after years of forgetting about God, you and the government and the news media are asking us to remember him. I don't know about you, but I bet he is glad you have finally remembered him. He wants us to talk to him, and because of who he is, the only way to speak to him out of respect is through prayer.

I feel bad for all the innocent people that lost their lives for no good reason and for those people who have lost family in this disaster. I am afraid of war, but I think we need to protect our land and communities.

I think you are doing a good job by staying out front and letting the people know what you are thinking. I hope the government can do something about the terrorists, because nobody should be able to bully someone that bad.

I feel grateful, as I am sure you do, that the fourth plane did not hit anything or damage any other buildings. My heart goes out to those people who died trying to save others. I hope I would have been that brave if I had been in their place.

I am proud to be an American.
TY PEBLEY
Rupert
(Editor's note: Ty Pebley, age 11, is a sixth-grader at Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert.)

Quoting scriptures, are we?

This is really a two-part letter! First, to the readers:
Helen MacDonnell's letter (another against poor Harry) stated, "Scriptural minds know that evil can't be fought with evil." In a sense, she is right because it proves my point I am about to make.

Wow, another revelation to the fact that the Potter books and movie are fantasy. Where were all these letters back in the day of Bedknobs and Broomsticks? I always knew there was something fishy about that fairy godmother in Cinderella. In fact, I think I will go into the kids' whole collection of Disney movies now and destroy them. They are filled with evil that will surely push them over the top. I am sure that all my sins as an adult had to do with me

being allowed to watch that genie series, and H.R. Puff 'N Stuff when I was a kid. Evil, it's all evil! Come on people, get a grip!

And as for you, Times-News, I sent two letters in the past which quoted verses from the Bible and was told that it is absolutely not allowed! In fact, I argued with the editor about it once on the telephone. So tell me, did the policy change or did you get a new editor? What a crock!

MICHELLE CHAVEZ

Bohi
(Editor's note: We normally don't allow extensive scriptural quotations in letters. That one slipped past us. Our apologies for the inconsistency.)

Smokers help economy by dying

Phillip Morris Co., in an effort to keep the Czech Republic from raising taxes on tobacco, gave them data proving the government had saved \$147 million in one year due to early deaths caused by tobacco. Savings on housing, pensions and health-care costs, plus the added benefit of tobacco taxes.

The British Medical Journal, telling it like it is, said, "Smokers are doing their country a huge favor by boosting tax revenue, by dying early and not drawing pensions." according to tobacco giant Phillip Morris.

Is it possible that Dubya has read these reports and that is causing him to defend the tobacco companies? Of course, the millions they spend on campaigns wouldn't help, would it?
MAYNATH
Twin Falls

LETTER

Voting should be term limit

Hello. My name is Jana Larson. I am writing in concern for the recent Idaho Supreme Court's decision regarding Idaho term limits. I do not agree with the ruling. I am 18 years old, and I am a senior at Buhl High School. My future plans are to serve my country in the United States Navy. I understand why Don Morgan, who is chairman of the Citizens for Term Limits, would like to see term limits. Citizens have lost trust with their local, state and national legislators. They want to eliminate corruption and the abuse of power. Legislators need to gain experience and respect in order to be productive. Life is like that in the military, school, work and in the corporate offices. I feel that Idahoans do not realize the hard work legislators go through. The public should not forget that we already have term limits — a ballot. If you do not like what they're doing, fire them!

JANA LARSON
Buhl

War on weight example shows government excess

The surgeon general of the United States has hit the American people with a public health "bombshell": Being too fat can be bad for your health.

David Satcher vows that he will launch a campaign against girth that is equivalent to the one the office launched in 1964 against smoking.

Annually, 300,000 Americans die because of obesity, he tells us. Tommy Thompson, secretary of Health and Human Services, has chimed in with a request that all Americans — as their patriotic duty — lose 10 pounds.

Such proclamations may seem harmless enough. Hey, it's good advice, right? It has been said that, after Sept. 11, the days of government-bashing are over. In the face of implacable external (and possibly internal) enemies to our safety and security, we all should recognize the vital importance of the federal government.

But it is in the context of the Afghan war that the surgeon general's fat war seems almost tailor-made to remind us why criticism of the government never goes out of style.

Satcher's campaign is a huge, blinking neon sign of how government agencies overstep any conceivably legitimate authority in search of excuses to live. The surgeon general's office, if it has any purpose at all, should be dedicated to issues that concern public health — such as anthrax or diseases that spread unbidden to people. Obesity, like smoking, no matter how many people die from it, is overwhelmingly a matter of private health. It is a personal problem for specific individuals with no particular public policy implications. Why is it the government's concern?

Taxpayer-funded agencies should think twice about spending Americans' money to lecture us about our chosen behavior — especially one like overeating, whose unpleasant side effects are universally understood. The endless stream of popular diet books makes one wonder how the surgeon general could possibly think we need him to tell us we could stand to lose a few pounds.

BRIAN DOHERTY

What the surgeon general misses is that obesity isn't something caused by an outside pathogen or injury whose bad consequences are then unavoidable without expert medical treatment.

Obesity is a condition. It is caused by freely chosen behavior. Certainly, some real diseases, such as sexually transmitted ones, are usually also obtained by chosen behaviors. But they involve pathogens that do their thing no matter what we want. People can cure themselves of obesity by universally understood mechanisms: eating less and exercising more. Why spend tax money on a campaign against it?

Campaigns like the surgeon general's are not harmless, even beyond the question of public funds being wasted on unnecessary purposes. By declaring conditions caused by — and reversible by — freely chosen behaviors to be diseases, the surgeon general damages the vital concept of individual responsibility. He helps foster a positively unhealthy culture in which people blame outside forces and phony diseases for their own choices. And extending the discipline of public health — with the extensions of government power that go with it — over personal pleasures or vices such as smoking and overeating is a dangerous precedent.

People warned that the government's war on tobacco launched it on a slippery slope.

So far the surgeon general is just talking about education on the perils of poundage.

That's how the tobacco wars started. They ended in massive legislation, smoking bans, new taxes and huge lawsuits. Satcher appears set to launch us down that same slope when it comes to our eating habits.

Americans should tell him that they certainly can decide for themselves how much they want to eat and exercise.

Brian Doherty is an associate editor of Los Angeles-based Reason magazine.



Bush succeeds in rolling the 'diplomatic dice'

JACK SPENCER

President Bush had barely finished announcing his intention to withdraw the United States from the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty when the cry went up among missile-defense foes: Why now?

After all, they said, it's not as if we're about to deploy a missile shield today. We have more testing to do. And here's the president, pulling out of an agreement that arms-control proponents say has kept the world safe for decades. He's "rolling the diplomatic dice," the New York Times wrote.

"Our security needs demanded he take this step. Some observers may hail the ABM Treaty as the 'cornerstone of strategic security,'" but the fact is that the treaty no longer addressed the security risks facing America — or the world — in the new millennium.

The treaty, let's recall, enshrined the doctrine of "mutual assured destruction" — the notion that a policy of deliberate vulnerability would reduce the number of missiles in the world. In theory, if we agreed not to deploy a missile shield, our enemies would stop building more missiles in an escalating attempt to overcome it.

But it didn't work out that way. The number of strategic warheads

which a congressionally appointed commission has warned could reach cities and military bases in Alaska and Hawaii.

The point is, all this has taken place in a world ruled by the ABM Treaty.

OK, critics may reply, but these threats have been building for a while. Why withdraw from the ABM Treaty before we have a system ready to go?

There's no way to create the layered system the president envisioned, with land-, sea- and space-based components, without violating the treaty.

Ironically, Russia seems more amenable to the president's deci-

sion than many of his hyperventilating critics. The Union of Concerned Scientists, for example, says our withdrawal "could block even deeper cuts in U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals." Yet in January both nations will sit down to discuss not if they'll be cutting their arsenals, but how deeply and how fast.

Sounds like President Bush rolled the "diplomatic dice" — and won.

Jack Spencer is a policy analyst in the Davis Institute for International Studies at The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy research institute.

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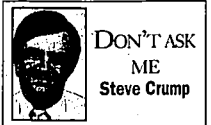
The best joke ever? Show me the funny

I've heard from a lot of folks since the announcement Thursday of the world's funniest joke.

You don't get it. Or if you do, you think it's worth at best a titter — certainly not a guffaw and decidedly not hysteria.

Laughlin, a British-based scientific study of humor, says it polled 100,000 people, and a plurality found the following amusing beyond all reason:

"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 deduce.'



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

Watson says: 'I see millions of stars, and even if a few of those have planets, it's quite likely there are 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.'

To be fair, it's not a bad joke. It's droll, understated and ironic and it reads far better than it sounds. In short, as humor, it's doomed.

For as all great joke-tellers know, it's not the material that counts: it's the presentation.

Most jokes live or die in the first five or six words out of the jokester's mouth; if they're funny, what follows isn't particularly important.

"A priest, a TV evangelist and a Mormon bishop are in a rowboat, fishing together. The priest realizes that he's left his tackle box in his car, gets out of the boat and walks over the water to the shore, gets his gear, walks back and sits starts fishing. An hour or so passes and the bishop gets out of the boat, walks over the water, gets his lunch, comes back, and nibbles on his sandwich. The evangelist, not to be outdone, mumbles something about going to the bathroom, stands up, steps over the side of the boat — and disappears beneath the waves."

The priest, chuckling, says to the bishop, 'Think we should be told him about those submerged rocks?' Replies the bishop: 'What rocks?'

A successful joke must be sold, but never oversold. The fewer words, the better, and if you are prone to mangle jokes in the retelling, have the goodness not to try.

"The Idaho State Chess Championships were held just before Christmas in a large hotel in Boise, and they began with an opening reception in the lobby. Accompanied by holiday music, the gala had been in full swing for about an hour when the participants — full of complimentary champagne and themselves — were unceremoniously booted out the front door by the hotel's security staff."

The association's president stormed up to the front desk and demanded an explanation. 'It's simple,' the hotel manager replied. 'During the holiday season, I just can't stand to listen to chess nuts boasting in an open foyer.'

But of course, there are a few truly great jokes that tell themselves:

"Steven Spielberg decides to make a movie about famous composers and musicians. He invites three Hollywood heavyweights to consider parts in the film. They take a meeting, and Spielberg gives them a list of composers to choose from. Steven Seagal says, 'You know, I've always loved Chopin. Strong and dynamic, I'd like to play him.'"

Please see CRUMP, Page B4

Watershed	% of Average*
Upper Snake Flvior	88%
Salmon Falls Creek	156%
Dukley Basin	205%
Big and Little Wood	130%
Henry Fork	110%

Santa's helper

Woman helps Santa handle mail

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

BELLEVUE — Sure, Santa's as up to date as can be, with e-mail and fax.

But when it comes to signing off on his replies to children, Lisa Phillips does it the old-fashioned way — by letter.

Phillips is Santa's right-hand man when it comes to answering letters — in this corner of the world, at least.

She got started six years ago when she encouraged a neighbor boy to write Santa a letter only to find out that Santa had a shortage of elves answering his letters in the Wood River Valley. Since then, she's answered more than 300 letters, most of which were referred to her by word of mouth.

"I've always loved the idea of simulating letter writing in little children," said Phillips, a former teacher in infant day care. "It encourages them to communicate and to think about others."

Phillips's replies are more than a few brief sentences of generic thoughts.

She keeps previous letters on file, checking them as fastidiously as Santa checks his gift list to make sure she doesn't duplicate what she wrote a child the year before.

She often calls the child's parents to see if there's anything in particular they'd like Santa to note in his reply.

"— needs to know that lying is not a good thing at all and that just pushing is as big an offense as hitting," one mother wrote Phillips. "You might tell him to think good things and to treat others like he wants to be treated. It would go a long way coming from Santa."

Santa's response: "Your handwriting has improved so much this year! Good work! But one of my elves told me you need to improve on not bullying your sister and not telling lies..."

Answering Santa's letters also means dealing with the tough questions, such as, "How do you reindeer fly?"

"How do you deliver presents all over the world in one night?"

"I tell them it's magical," said Phillips, whose own energetic 1-



Lisa Phillips of Bellevue has taken on Santa Claus's arduous task of answering letters to Santa every year. In six years, Phillips has answered more than 300 letters.

year-old son hangs out at her elbow while she does Santa's work. "That Santa moves at the speed of light and that there's a lot of teamwork involved. I try to let it come from my heart, not my head."

Phillips estimates she spends up to \$300 each year on special Santa — Claus — stationery and the Winnie the Pooh stickers she pasters all over the letters and stamps.

Most of her letters come from kids in the Wood River Valley, but she has also answered letters from children in Twin Falls and even as far away as Florida and New York, thanks to zip codes that somehow got transposed.

She works Santa's letters right down to the wire, driving from post office to post office the day before to pick up last-minute letters left in the gaily decorated Santa boxes she's placed there. She's even Fed-Exed a few letters to make sure they arrive in the child's hands by Christmas Day.

To get it all done, she does her Christmas shopping early and sends out New Year's cards, rather than Christmas cards, to her own friends.

Amazingly, Phillips has taken a few hits from parents who criticized her for those occasions when she uses a personal computer to answer letters. But Phillips simply replies that Santa isn't above using today's technological conveniences.

Please see HELPER, Page B4

From Santa, with love

Here's an excerpt from one of Usa Phillips' letters, which she writes on behalf of Santa:

"Mrs. Claus is busy baking cookies for me to take on my long trip to see you. We are all doing our jobs at top speed because Christmas is so near. But we never forget the true Christmas spirit of giving. Our hearts leap for joy when we make someone happy!

I am checking my list and it says you've been very good this year, helping around the house and picking up your clothes. Keep up the good work. And remember your pleas and thank you Rudolph is so excited the elves can't hold him back. And I'm so excited I have butterflies in my tummy."

Volunteers pitch in for Christmas

By John E. Swazey
Times-News correspondent

FILER — Several hundred pounds of canned food, mixed with the enthusiasm of a few dozen volunteers and a dash of organized chaos, is a recipe that will make Christmas a little brighter for families in Filer.

Pastor Tim and Becky Chandler, of in His Name Christian Fellowship, have coordinated the annual food drive for the past two years.

"As president of the Filer Ministerial Association, it falls to me and my wife to organize things, but this is truly a community effort," Tim Chandler said.

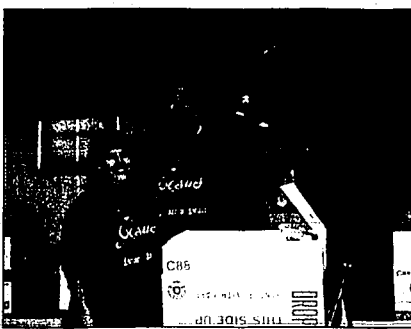
A heavy outpouring of donations from churches, schools and civic organizations created some concern that there might be too much food this year. But this holiday season has seen a record 87 families that need assistance. Last year, 62 baskets were made up and delivered.

"Normally, the number is in the high 50s or low 60s," Tim Chandler said. "The Lord knew something we didn't."

Once the food is organized into categories — soup, canned meats, beans, pasta — boxes are labeled with the name and size of a specific family.

"We can come in here (American Legion Post 47) at 8:30 on Saturday morning and be finished by 10:30 or 11 (a.m.)," he said.

Each volunteer picks a family



Tim and Becky Chandler have together coordinated the annual food drive for the last two years in Filer. This year they have seen a record number of families needing assistance.

and goes around the room filling his or her box with a pre-determined amount of food.

"We have sheets of paper that say a family of four gets two or three cans of chili, vegetables or other commodities," Tim Chandler said. "If the family includes children, there are bags of gifts donated by KMYT's Toys for Tots."

Becky Chandler is "a project-oriented person" whose preparations for each year's food drive begin around October. She sends out applications — to the

churches, schools, city offices and the Salvation Army — in an effort to make sure no one is forgotten.

Becky Chandler says that she knows what it's like not to have enough money during the holidays.

"One year, when Tim was going to school, we couldn't even afford a Christmas tree. Then a man at our church gave us \$50," she said. "It's wonderful to have someone come alongside when things are tight and help people in need."

Public employees get varied bonuses

By Shelley Ridenour
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Some public employees in the Magic Valley get cash, some get turkeys, some get hams and some get nothing in their Christmas stockings this year.

Government entities in the area offer a mixed bag of Christmas bonuses, a poll of nine agencies this week showed.

Cassia County School District officials had planned to give school district employees turkeys as a holiday bonus, but in the face of budget reductions from the governor the district scrapped that plan.

Not buying turkeys for employees saved the district about \$6,500, Superintendent Mike Chesley said. School employees have received holiday turkeys for several years, he said.

City of Paul employees each receive a cash bonus, approved by the council as part of the annual city budget. The total budgeted for the bonuses this year is just less than \$900, City Clerk Laura Haag said.

This year, city of Burley employees each are taking home a turkey, City Clerk Melanie Haynes said.

"We always give either a ham or a turkey," Haynes said. "We have done that for a number of years."

Employees get to decide annually which type of meat they want.

The estimated price tag for turkeys for the approximately 100 city staffers is \$1,500.

Twin Falls County workers each receive a \$15 gift certificate to the Magic Valley Mall, Prosecuting Attorney Grant Loebis said. That bonus has been in place for a number of years.

Cassia County workers each receive a Christmas turkey, County Clerk Darrell Roskelley said.

The total amount budgeted to buy the birds this year was about \$1,700, he said. That provides a turkey to each of the 157 county employees. County commissioners helped distribute the turkeys this week.

For the last two years, Cassia County has given its employees turkeys, Roskelley said. In previous years the bonuses have sometimes been other things.

"It seems like the employees appreciate the turkeys," he said. Two local school districts offer no holiday bonuses to their

Please see BONUSES, Page B4



Teacher Idalia Casiano helps Christopher Busfield finish his Christmas wreath. Busfield is a student in Memorial Elementary School's special-needs preschool.

Preschool's approach pays off for kids with special needs

By Shari Chaney
Times-News writer

RUPERT — They count, sing, play and listen to stories just like any other preschoolers.

And that is how the teachers at the special-needs preschool at Memorial Elementary School try to teach.

There is no special treatment in the classroom, teacher Idalia Casiano said. Children learn to zip their own coat zippers and clear away their own trash after breakfast.

Those might be new things to the group of disabled 3- to 5-year-olds who may be used to others doing things for them, Casiano said.

Most children in the class have multiple handicaps and, "Your heart just goes out to those kids," Minidoka County School Superintendent Nick Hallett said.

Many different disabilities come together in one room. Some children have speech problems, some are physically disabled and some are developmentally delayed, Casiano said. All of them are taught to be as independent as possible.

The program, while expensive, is beneficial for these children, Hallett said. These children will be much less dependent on others.

"The real payoff is for society," Hallett said.

Please see SCHOOL, Page B4

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

Investigation into health center costs school thousands

MOSCOW (AP) — An independent probe of allegations against University of Idaho administrators by 13 current and former Student Health Services employees costs the school \$150 per hour. That ongoing expense is paid by the Student Affairs Office, which oversees student health and employs two administrators named in a \$10 million tort claim

filed against the university last month. The review began Dec. 3, and is expected to continue for a few weeks, school spokeswoman Kathy Barnard said. The tort names Hal Godwin, vice president for student affairs, and Stephen Beckley, who was hired as director of the student health center in 2000.

The tort accuses them of a conflict of interest with financial gain, misrepresentation and misleading of staff. Beckley also is accused of emotional abuse and sexual harassment. The employees contend Beckley has put revenue and insurance costs ahead of care for the students.

The university's Human Rights and Diversity office, which was

formed in part to investigate such claims, is not looking into the tort — by order of President Robert Hoover.

The diversity office costs the school more than \$220,000 per year. The reason for not placing Raul Sanchez, special assistant to Hoover for human rights and diversity, in the investigation is twofold, Barnard said. Some of the claims made by

the employees are that the university has been unfair, she said. So, the school hired an independent investigator.

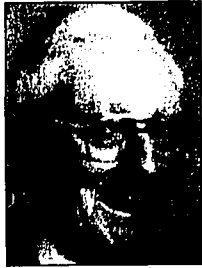
Others such as mismanagement are also outside of the scope of the diversity office's jurisdiction, Barnard said. If the university rejects a tort claim, the plaintiffs can file suit.

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TWIN FALLS



Jay Lajeunesse

Jay Lajeunesse Lajeunesse, 84, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2001, after a short illness. He died peacefully with his family by his side. Mr. Lajeunesse was born October 16, 1917, the son of Jay D. and Corilla-Brown Lajeunesse at Ft. Washknie, Wyoming. He was a proud descendant of the first French fur trappers to explore the Northwest. He was a member of the Shoshone Tribe. One ancestor, Jeanne Baptiste, was with Lewis and Clark when they discovered the Northwest Passage, and another, Basil Ciminaire, Lajeunesse traveled with Fremont on his explorations in the West. His great-grandfather, Charles Lajeunesse, pioneered emigrant trails, as part of the Oregon Trail and the South Pass in Wyoming, and built the first fort at Devils Gate on the Sweetwater in Wyoming. Mr. Lajeunesse served in the Army in the Philippines during World War II. He was involved in education throughout his career, serving as a principal at Riverside School near Blackfoot from 1947-1952, many years as an eighth-grade math teacher, finally retiring from Robert Stuart Junior High School in 1977. After his retirement, he started Jay's Clocks, building Fretwork Clocks with his scroll saw. He attended craft shows, where he displayed his work and sold clocks. He entered many in the Twin Falls County Fair, where he won several Blue Ribbons. Jay enjoyed the outdoors, especially hunting, fishing and camping. He was a member of the Twin Falls Blue Birds, a Gaud Sam Group, and spent several winters in Blythe, California.

He married Barbara Udy on June 13, 1941, she survives at the family home. They had four children: Craig (Craig) Bullen, Peggy (Greg) Moore, both of Twin Falls, Bonnie Jean (Michael) McGree of Centerville, VA. He also has 11 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers, four sisters and by a son Kenneth in 1987. Graveside services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, 2001, at Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call at White Mortuary, Wednesday, Dec. 26, 2001, from 4-8 p.m. The family would like to express their thanks to First Choice Hospice for the loving care given.

JEROME



Yvonne Diane Kindall

Yvonne Diane Kindall, 64, of Jerome, passed away December 22, 2001, at her home. She was born November 9, 1937, in Reno, Nevada, to Vance and Yvonne Sarret Davis. She was raised and attended schools in Reno. Yvonne married Darrell L. Kindall on February 4, 1956. They shared 45 wonderful years together and raised two sons, Dale and Brett. After Darrell retired, they made their home in Jerome. They immediately fell in love with the community and people. Yvonne was fond of him who knew her and was considered a "Second Mother" by many. She was a wonderful wife, mother, grandmother, daughter, sister, and friend who will be deeply missed. Her husband Darrell, sons Dale

and Brett (Pam), grandchildren Kyle and Kairina, mother Yvonne and brother Dale Davis, survive her. Her father preceded her death. Funeral services will be held Wednesday, December 26, 2001, at 12 noon, at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1943 South Lincoln, with Pastor Bruce Stevens officiating. Interment to follow in the Jerome Cemetery.

OREM, UTAH



Mary Armstrong Johnson

Mary Armstrong Johnson of Orem, Utah, formerly of Buhl, Idaho, passed away on December 20, 2001, of causes incident to old age. She would have been 100 years old next June. She was born June 12, 1902, in Parker, Idaho, the 6th child of a family of 10 children. Her parents, Joseph S. Armstrong and Susanna Dalley had moved from southern Utah to Idaho in 1901 and settled in the upper Snake River valley. They homesteaded a claim for 160 acres near Birch creek out of Buhl, where they lived for a time in a dugout in a hillside and a couple of tents, before they hauled enough logs from the Snake River bottom some 6 miles away for their first home. This was the "Dry Farm." Stories of the Dry Farm days were told and retold in many households to over 50 grandchildren for many years. This was a real pioneer life. Her parents, Joseph and Susanna, often worked and prayed and sang together all their lives. They later moved to a beautiful place on "Bullers Island" northeast of Buhl, which became a claim for a river marriage after his first wife died. They were married on June 6, 1931. The marriage was solemnized in the Logan LDS Temple the following year. They moved to Laramie, Wyoming, then to Vernonia, Washington, before returning to Idaho in 1936. Ed managed O.P. Skaggs store in Buhl, from 1936 to 1940. He put together enough capital that year to open Ed's Food Cache in 1940, which he and Mary operated until they sold out in 1953. They were very active in the Buhl Ward of the LDS Church. Mary was always involved in music and in primary and young women leadership. She was also responsible in part of the organization of the Parent-Teacher Association in Buhl and was the first President. Her home was always a gathering place for friends and family. Her cooking was legendary and her influence wide. In the early '40s, she completely restored the abandoned home at 302 1/2 11th Street in Buhl, Idaho, into a beautiful family home. In about 1970, she and Ed moved from Buhl to Boise into a new house on Farrow Street. In January 1971, Ed passed away. She moved to Jerome, Oregon in 1975. She lived in and maintained her home in Orem until about 1996 when her health failed. Her youngest daughter, Elaine Hansen, has been close to her, giving her the most attention and caring for her needs until the end. Mary attended Ricks College in its early years and enjoyed that experience. She traveled abroad to Israel, Taiwan and England, as well as Alaska and to the eastern seaboard. She is the last of her family generation and their spouses, a great singing reunion with family on the other side is a certainty. She is preceded in death by her husband, Edward B. Johnson, daughters, Louise (Larry) Murray, Lola (Presley) and Evelyn (Callis). She is survived by daughter, Gen Dale of Buhl, Idaho, Vivian Allen (Gale) of Eagle, Idaho, Elaine Hansen (Ron) of Orem, Utah, and sons,

Edward A. "Tod" Johnson (Janice) and J. Keith Johnson (Mary), both of Boise, Idaho.

She is "Gramme" to 36 grandchildren, 114 great-grandchildren and 45 great-great-grandchildren. Funeral services are planned for 2 p.m. Thursday, December 27, at the Sharon Third Ward building at 445 South 700 East, Orem, Utah. Another short memorial service will be at 1 p.m. Friday, December 28, at the Buhl First Ward Building on East Main Street. Interment will be in the Buhl Cemetery. Friends and family are invited to a viewing from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on December 26 at the Sundbyst/Dipin Mortuary, 495 South State Street in Orem, or an hour before the funeral at the Chapel on December 27. Also a viewing will be held in Buhl from noon to 1 p.m. on December 28 at the Buhl Chapel.

GOODING



George Wilbur Babcock

George Wilbur Babcock, 89, a Gooding resident, passed away Friday, December 21, 2001, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. George was born on July 1, 1912, in Galva, Iowa. He attended school there through his Junior year in high school. He quit school to help his father on the farm. He loved the farm and was always busy and doing extra work to help there. One year his father told him he could plant squash in the places the corn did not come up. In the fall of that year he harvested his corn. George had a wagon full of big squash. In 1936, the family moved to Lodi, CA. He worked for farmers and had a box making business, making boxes for grape and peach packing sheds. Later, he sold his business and then joined the service. He then became supervisor of a large grape farm and also raised registered Suffolk rams.

He married Beatrice Fordner in 1946 and they did not have any children. There was always a child in their home who was in need of a helping hand or to be cared for. For several years, they were community 4-H leaders of a large 4-H club (110 members) with many projects, and were in direct charge of the sheep projects and took many 4-H projects to the Idaho 4-H and large crowd winning many ribbons and awards in California and Idaho. His rams have been sold internationally. He was very active in the sheep projects for the Idaho 4-H and helped with Achievement Day, lifting and showing. He "judged" in many out-of-state fairs.

Beatrice died in 1979 and George sold the farm and bought a home in Gooding. He became active in the American Legion. He was commander of Perry Byam Post #30 for five years. He spent many days fixing up the American Legion Hall in Gooding with painting, insulation, polishing the dance floor, remodeling the kitchen, and built cabinets and bulletin boards. He also conducted bingo every Wednesday as a fund raiser for the hall. He later became a member of Hagerman Post #41, and he served on the 4th district board. In 1986, George married Esther Guthrie Moore in the War Memorial Hall in Gooding before a large crowd of well-wishing friends and relations. They took a 3,000-mile trip by way of California, New Mexico and Florida, taking five weeks to become acquainted with each other's families. George loved to work with wood and had a carpentry shop in his basement. He made many small articles for friends and community. They both loved to garden and have 123 in their yard with other flowers and vegetables and house plants. Both were active in the Grange. George was

Master Lecturer, Gate Keeper and Excursion Co. He is a member of the Hagerman Grange. He was an honorary member of the FFA in Hagerman School. George was a member of the First Christian Church in Gooding and was respected by all who knew him.

He is survived by his wife, Esther of Gooding, ID, brother, Howard Babcock of Lodi, CA; sister, Helen Tookay of Lodi, CA; stepdaughters, Yvonne Icard of Chandler, TX, and Betty Hood of Towns Creek, AL; stepson, James Moore of Moulton, AL; stepbrothers, Evan Guthrie of Shoshone, ID, and Elden Guthrie of Redding, ID; a sister-in-law of Heeding, CA; and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Beatrice; three brothers, Wes, Bill and Dale; and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Babcock of California.

Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 27, 2001, at 2 p.m. at the Gooding First Christian Church. Burial will follow at the Elmwood Cemetery. Viewing will be on Wednesday, December 26, 2001, from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m. at Demaray's Gooding Chapel. Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

HEYBURN



Opal J. Bolte

Opal J. Bolte, a 91-year-old Heyburn resident, passed away Saturday, December 22, 2001, at Cassia Region Medical Center. Opal was born October 23, 1910, in Taylor, Iowa, the daughter of Vernard Jackson and Lottie May Bowman Bolte. She grew up and attended school in Taylor, Iowa. She married Victor Harold Bolte October 14, 1928, in Fruita, Colorado. Opal and Victor moved to Rosevelt, Utah, in 1933, and later moved to Heyburn, Idaho, in 1939.

Opal enjoyed crocheting and quilting. She was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Opal also enjoyed serving as a secretary for the Relief Society and as a Primary teacher.

Opal is survived by three children, Harold Wayne Bolte of Heyburn, Loraine Andrews of Redland, California and Lawrence Alford Bolte of Heyburn; seven grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren; one sister, Lois Heinemann of Yakima, WA; and one brother, Glen Jackson of Tacoma, WA. She was preceded in death by her husband, two sons, four brothers, and two sisters. Opal had requested that this Poem to be printed in her obituary.

The Patchwork Quilt
I have a lovely patchwork quilt that mother made for me. It brightens up my life, because it's rich in memory. Whenever days are dark and gray and I trace each lovely piece that mother so lovingly did sew and my heart finds brother, I remember.

For everywhere along the quilt familiar pieces lie, reminding me of youthful dreams in happy days gone by. Each pretty pattern brings to mind some suit or dress I wore to parties or to Sunday School on those dear days I year.

For Mother sewed each tiny sorry and piece that patiently I made to make this lovely patchwork so lovingly for me.

A viewing for family and friends will be held from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday, December 26, 2001, at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel. Graveside services will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, December 29, 2001, at the Rosevelt Cemetery in Rosevelt, Utah. Services are under the direction of Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

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May the blessings and the majesty of Christmas be yours, as we celebrate this holy season. To all our family, friends and community thanks for your loyal support. We wish you a wonderful holiday season filled with much happiness and love.

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New rate system may hurt Medicaid patients

LEWISTON (AP) — Idaho Medicaid recipients being transported to and from medical appointments may be hurt for a ride if a new state reimbursement system takes effect next month.

Local providers like All-Ways Transportation and Valley Transit complain a new Idaho Department of Health and Welfare system would make it economically impossible for them to continue carrying those individuals.

"At the end of December, if we don't get a freeze so that we can continue at least on our current rates until they get this matter resolved, we're going to go broke," All-Ways owner Delores Wezza said.

Medicaid provides medical assistance for low-income individuals and families. Previously, transportation rates had been set

Transporters say they won't be able to afford to give rides any more

by each of the 41 Medicaid transportation providers in Idaho.

"For the last 2.5 years we've been trying to work on a rate structure for our Medicaid patients to be transported," said Tom Shanahan, a spokesman for the Department of Health and Welfare in Boise.

The average trip for a Medicaid appointment is about

'At the end of December, if we don't get a freeze so that we can continue at least on our current rates until they get this matter resolved, we're going to go broke.'

—Delores Wezza, owner of All-Ways Transportation

10 miles. And the prices are from about \$7.50 to \$30. A 10-mile trip under the new rate schedule will be \$34.25.

But the new schedule is going to mean a 25- to 60-percent cut in All-Ways reimbursements from the state, Wezza said.

The company served more than 700 clients in the past year out of Lewiston, Genesee and Boise. Most live in rural areas

that require pick-up and deliveries that far exceed the average 10-mile trip.

"It's totally vital to our dialysis program," said Deb Warner-Marbach, a social worker at Tri-State Memorial Hospital in Clarkston, Wash. About 15 dialysis patients are transported there.

A meeting between the state's 41 providers and the department is set for Jan. 13.

Health and Welfare officials said they set the new rates by looking at neighboring states and conducting surveys.

Shanahan also emphasized the rate plan was not in reaction to the state's budget crisis. And it will only save the state about \$266,000.

The rates are scheduled to change Jan. 1, but the state may be willing to adjust them, Shanahan said.

Officials work to stop sediment from pouring into Lake Coeur d'Alene

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — The Idaho Transportation Department is working to repair a breached retention pond that is pouring mud into Mica Bay on Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Residents on the bay hope the sedimentation stops while they can still use their boats and docks.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game fisheries biologist Ned Horner traced siltation Dec. 14 to a failed sediment basin for a state highway project on U.S. 95 above Mica Bay.

Resident engineer Dave Fields said weather and safety concerns are slowing the repair work.

"We've got a design change and we're going to make sure it doesn't happen again," he said. But crews need about five days of continuous fair weather to complete the repairs.

He said exposed slopes in the 10-mile, \$10 million realignment project have been planned.

"Once vegetation takes hold, there's not going to be anything to erode," he said. "It will look different in the spring. As far as I'm concerned it's a minor problem and one we're going to overcome."

Longtime homeowners William and Patricia Swann have been monitoring the sediment for

more than 10 years and have a stack of telling photographs.

A Dec. 14 photo says "the worst mud flow ever."

"It filled the bay from shore to shore, it was just yellow," William Swann said.

In 1994, thousands of tons of mud entered the bay when a highway cut sloughed into Mica Creek.

"We used to launch a 27-foot sailboat with a 4-foot keel," Patricia Swann said. "If you talk about dredging, everyone turns gray, the cost is so prohibitive."

Horner said the 2 million-gallon basin, meant to collect erosion from the project was breached twice, on Oct. 30 and Nov. 23. The second breach was not completely repaired by Friday.

The sediment flow is harmful to fish, Horner said.

He met with the Transportation Department in early November, but said he has not seen any substantial changes.

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality is monitoring the sediment problem and could fine Transportation, but it puts more emphasis on compliance, water quality manager Ed Tulloch said.

Rural Idaho counties, schools will get federal dollars

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Rural Idaho counties that have seen their revenues drop with the decline of logging on public lands will be getting considerably larger checks this year.

Idaho Sen. Larry Craig has announced that federal checks for rural schools, roads and forest projects have finally been released, the result of legislation he co-sponsored in 2000, which was signed into law by President Clinton.

"I am proud that our bipartisan efforts are sending a solution to the funding crisis facing many of our Idaho coun-

ties," Craig said.

Counties that depend on timber for their economic well-being have been receiving money from the federal government since Theodore Roosevelt was president. By law, counties with tax-exempt national forests have gotten one-quarter of the revenue generated from forests, primarily from logging.

But logging on federal land has declined about 80 percent in the past 10 years, causing some rural school districts to lay off teachers or cut programs.

Under the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-

Determination Act, which Craig co-sponsored with Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore., payments are no longer tied to timber receipts. Instead, the majority of funds come from the general treasury.

The new law allows counties to get an average of their three highest timber payments from 1986 to 1999.

Eight eastern Idaho counties will be collecting more than \$13 million, almost three times the amount they received under the old program.

There are conditions attached to the money, said Fremont

County Clerk Abbie Mace. While most of the money goes directly to the schools and the counties, nearly one-quarter of it is administered by a regional advisory council composed of land users, environmentalists and government officials.

The law includes a provision requiring areas that take in more than \$100,000 to commit 15 to 20 percent to environmental projects.

The money represents a significant portion of some counties' budgets.

"It's worth jumping through the hoops," Mace said.

Sawtooth National Forest has seasonal firefighting jobs available

BOISE (AP) — Applications for seasonal firefighting jobs in the Sawtooth National Forest are now available.

"We have jobs available for our engine crews, Sawtooth

Hotshots, Fire Dispatch and helicopter/aircrew," Rochelle Ruhter, the forest's recruiting coordinator, said. "The job locations are in Stanley, Ketchum, Fairfield, Cook Creek, Twin

Falls, Malta and Hailey."

There are 20 fire crew positions open for the upcoming fire season.

Applicants must be 18 years old, a U.S. citizen and able to

pass a physical fitness test.

"Applications received by January 15th will be considered first," Ruhter said.

Applications can be picked up at the forest service office.

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DEATH NOTICES

Lutie R. Reynolds
TWIN FALLS — Lutie R. Reynolds, 91, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2001, at the Willowbrook Assisted Living Center in Twin Falls.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Friday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Ann and Kennedy Davis
TWIN FALLS — Ann and Kennedy Davis, infant daughters of J.D. and Tammy Davis of Twin Falls, were stillborn Wednesday, Dec. 19, 2001, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Ruby C. Knutson
GOO. ING — Ruby C. Knutson, 75, of Gooding, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2001, at BridgeView Estates in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Adabel Adams
RUPERT — Adabel Adams, 72, of Rupert, died Thursday, Dec. 20, 2001, at Minidoka Memorial Hospital.

The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. Monday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel. Burial will follow at the Rupert Cemetery. Friends may call from 6-8 p.m. today and one hour before the service Monday at the

Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Dorothy M. Alexander
SHOSHONE — Dorothy Marie Alexander, 77, of Shoshone, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2001, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Episcopal Church in Shoshone.

Anna Schut
RUPERT — Anna Schut, 85, of Rupert, died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2001.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

SERVICES

Dale LaVerne Welch of Twin Falls, memorial service at 3:30 p.m. today at the Memorial Chapel, Twin Falls Care Center, 674 Eastland Drive.

Glen Panko of Burley, a gathering in his memory will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Ray Anker Anderson of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday at First Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls (White Mortuary, Twin Falls).

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Prosperous New Year!

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Holly Hernandez
BURLEY — Holly Hernandez, 43, of Burley, died Friday, Dec. 21, 2001.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday at the Pella LDS First Ward Chapel. Friends may call from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Elsie G. Ruberry
GLENN'S FERRY — Elsie G. Ruberry, 86, of Glens Ferry, died Thursday, Dec. 20, 2001, at a Mountain Home care center.

The funeral will be held at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Hall in Glens Ferry. Burial will follow at Glenn Rest Cemetery in Glens Ferry. Arrangements are under the direction of Summers Funeral Home, McMurrey Chapel in Mountain Home.

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 Lynn Hansen 1460 Eastern Blvd. Salem, ID 83455 732-0300	 Trevor Lantz 1460 Eastern Blvd. Salem, ID 83455 732-0277	 Tim & Leel 1460 Eastern Blvd. Salem, ID 83455 732-0277	 Cynthia MC 5716 S. Lincoln Salem, ID 83455 734-0306	 Shelley Schell 251 1st Ave. N. Salem, ID 83455 734-8306

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Closure of Jackson Bridge may be permanent

By Nate Johnson Times-News writer

RUPERT - The last car may have already crossed the Jackson Bridge.

Following a unanimous vote on Dec. 14 by the Minidoka County and Burley highway districts, the bridge was officially closed.

Engineers from the state bridge inspection team said the bridge was no longer safe for travel, said Bryan Smith with J-U-B Engineers.

About one-third of the wooden pilings supporting the bridge are significantly rotten, Smith said.

Permanent closure isn't the Burley Highway District's preference, but it is a possibility, district chairman Gaylen Smyer said.

"Both highway districts

Highway districts gather info, consider structure's future

involved will continue to gather information from engineering firms in order to arrive at a decision regarding whether the bridge can be rehabilitated at price levels that are in the best interest of the public," said David Shirley, the Burley Highway District's attorney.

The Montgomery Bridge is three miles downstream from the Jackson Bridge. No roads have been isolated by its closure, Shirley said.

If the districts' commissioners choose not to repair the bridge, they will demolish it or leave it closed off and standing, Shirley said.

The recent closure has not caused much disturbance among area residents.

"I don't think anybody's bothered by it, we've kind of gotten used to it," said Dorothy Branson.

The idea of closing the bridge permanently, however, invokes a different reaction: "I think we'd fight. I moved here in 1916 and I've been back and forth across that bridge all my life," Branson said.

After an application for a bridge-replacement grant was disqualified due to the proximity of the Montgomery Bridge, the highway districts received a \$600,000 federal grant to rehab-

itate the bridge. The highway districts would each pay about ten percent of the money.

"The grant was based on an estimate for repair about 18 months ago. Since then it has deteriorated considerably, prompting its closure," Smyer said.

On Jan. 3, Barry Gwin, the state bridge inspector will meet with highway district commissioners to give a new assessment of the cost of fixing the bridge.

"It's my personal preference to get 10 more years out of that bridge if we can, but we have to weigh those 10 years against cost," Smyer said.

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

Idaho Humanities Council elects five new members

BOISE (AP) - The Idaho Humanities Council has five new faces.

The council's board of directors recently elected the new members to its 18 member council.

The new members from Boise, Moscow, Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls will serve a three-year term.

One of the new members is Leonard Crosby of Post Falls. He is the Chairman of the Post Falls Fair Housing Advisory Committee and a member of the board of directors of the Spokane-Kootenai County Real Estate Research Committee.

Leslie Renee Einhaus was also elected. She is a writer in the University Communications and Marketing Department at the University of Idaho. She lives in Moscow and has volunteered for a number of nonprofit groups.

Another new member of the council is Virginia Johnson of Coeur d'Alene. She is the Chair of Communication Arts, Fine Arts, English, Foreign Languages and Humanities at North Idaho College.

Ron Pisaneschi from Boise, who is the Director of Broadcasting for Idaho Public Television, will also be joining the council.

Raul Sanchez, a resident of Moscow was also elected. He is Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Human Rights at the University of Idaho.

The Idaho Humanities Council is a nonprofit organization and serves as the state based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The board of directors meets several times a year to award grants to organizations throughout the state.

Utah stockpiles liquor for upcoming Olympic Games

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Utah is stockpiling more liquor than ever because of the 2002 Winter Olympics. One state warehouse designed to hold 250,000 cases of alcohol has been packed with 350,000 cases.

Officials expect a rush at state liquor stores by Olympic crowds and visitors at the traditional Sundance Film Festival in Park City. But even as they scramble to meet demand, they are running out of space to hold all the orders.

"It's just gone crazy," said Ken Wynn, director of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

The department is taking special Olympic orders on top of the usual inventory.

Germany's Olympic sponsors ordered 585 cases of a pilsner, Bitburger, and a lager, Koestrichter Schwarzbier. The 14,040 pint-sized bottles of beer

will be served up at a German hospitality house planned at the Park City Racquet Club.

Pre-Olympic business is booming, with state alcohol sales jumping 6 percent in October. The state sold about \$2.2 million more in booze through the first 10 months of the year compared with the year-earlier period.

"We've never seen business like this before," Wynn said. "And it probably won't slow down until March."

The state liquor commission approved liquor licenses for four restaurants Friday, turning away more than a dozen other restaurants.

Snowbasin ski resort, an Olympic venue, was one of the winners, getting its first liquor license for a ski lodge.

Utah controls the sale and distribution of all wine, liquor and beer over 3.2 percent alcohol.

Utah National Guard steps in to help with decorations

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The Utah National Guard, already poised to safeguard the 2002 Winter Olympics, has been recruited to set up decorations as well.

One of the group's Blackhawk helicopters will airlift a pair of 4,700-pound generators needed to power the lighted Olympic rings in the foothills northeast of downtown Salt Lake City.

That eliminates the need for a snow cat that would have crushed scrub oak in the hills, said Fraser Bullock, chief operating officer for the Salt Lake Organizing Committee.

SLOC had to find smaller generators to fit the payload capability of the helicopter. It had planned to use 6,500-pound generators, hauling them aboard a 12-foot-wide snow cat that was too wide to avoid crushing some scrub oak.

The National Guard will charge SLOC about \$10,000 for

the helicopter lift.

"It's an attractive rate, and we're very appreciative of the National Guard's efforts," Bullock said.

The chopper will lift the generators Jan. 4 and bring them down Feb. 25 after the games, said Lisa Romney, the city's environmental adviser.

"We're glad they are doing it," she said. "It is the least impact on the landscape that we could hope for."

Save Our Canyons, an environmental group that has criticized the project as ill-conceived, praised the switch.

"I never imagined that I could be comforted by the thought of Army Blackhawks descending above the city," group spokesman Gavin Noyes said.

School

Continued from B1

In the preschool at Memorial, 19 children come to school in the morning and another 16 come in the afternoon, Casiano said.

"That's a lot for special ed kids," Casiano said.

There is another special needs preschool in Paul, Casiano said. All of the children will be mainstreamed into normal kindergarten, Casiano said. Some may need assistance even in kindergarten, but some children are exited out of the program before reaching kindergarten.

"These students will have a hard time in kindergarten, Hallett said. "But they are much more ready in kindergarten as a result of this program."

Hallett himself has seen the

difference in the children from the beginning of the year to now. These children are learning to conduct themselves, to relate to one another - basic skills about themselves, Hallett said.

The progress they can make when they are 3 and 4 years old is amazing, Hallett said.

Casiano agreed. The students focus on reading and language skills. The classroom is bilingual, with both Spanish and English spoken. The students are also learning sign language, Casiano said. "The idea is to not stigmatize a child out but have all students learn."

Casiano said it would be great to have preschool for every child; it is fortunate the government requires it for special-

needs children.

The program is required by state law, Hallett said, and the school district does receive some federal and state funds to defray costs.

"It's very, very expensive," Hallett said.

The average cost for a student in the program is \$5,300, Hallett said. That's \$4,400 more than the cost for an average student.

It is expensive, Hallett said, but worthwhile.

"I support the program," he said.

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

Bonuses

Continued from B1

employees. None have been offered in Buhl for at least the past 30 years.

It's been at least 10 years since any sort of holiday bonus was given in the Jerome School District, Superintendent Jim Cobble said.

However, he said, in years when the district has received larger-than-anticipated payments from the state, payroll bonuses, which revolved around payroll agreements, have been made.

Nor do city of Twin Falls employees receive any sort of Christmas bonus, City Manager

Tom Courtney said. Likewise, Minidoka County workers don't receive holiday bonuses, County Clerk Duane Smith said.

"We've never done that," Smith said.

There are no restrictions in Idaho on using tax money to pay employee bonuses of any sort, Loebis said.

He double-checked with the Idaho Attorney General's Office Thursday about the legality of employee bonuses and found that the attorney general's office pays an annual cash bonus to its employees every July.

At the county level, Loebis said,

executive power is held by the commissioners, who set salaries and compensation. The Christmas bonus is essentially part of the employee benefit package, Loebis said.

"It is difficult for counties to maintain employees because of very low salaries," Loebis said. "There's not a lot of perks that go with the job. In Twin Falls County, employee retention has been a primary goal of commissioners."

Shelley Ridenour is editor of The Times-News Mini-Cassia Bureau. She can be reached at 208-677-4042, Ext. 107, or by e-mail at sridenour@magicvalley.com.

Helper

Continued from B1

Most parents are just grateful for the hours she spends on the task.

"She takes a lot of pride in her letters. They are definitely not form letters," said Jamie McClure, of Halley. "She tries to find out something special about

the kids that only they would know about."

"She's truly the Santa of the valley," said Ronica Henning, also of Halley. "The letters are just delightful. My son Alex is 10 and the reason he still believes in Santa is because of her letters." This year students at Wood River

High School offered to help answer letters as part of a class project.

"It's hard to let go, but it gives others the opportunity to do something for others," Phillips said. "It's not about me being Santa. It's about reaching out to others and encouraging them to do the same."

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Crump

Continued from B1

"That's great!" Spielberg replies. Sylvester Stallone jumps in: "Well, I'd love to play Beethoven. Such a passionate guy."

"Super!" Spielberg answers. He then looks over to Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has a little smile as he looks over the list. "You look amazing, do you know who you'd like to be?" Ah-nuld doesn't miss a beat. "I'll be Bach!"

Times-News features editor Steve Crump didn't get it the first time either.

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Assisted suicide debate heats up

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) - Before going to bed, Colleen Rice put her ever-present oxygen tank aside and played cards with her grandchildren.

The next morning, she gathered her husband, two adult children and friends around her. She kissed them and told them she loved them, then drank a glass of lethal drugs dissolved in water.

Within minutes, the 67-year-old cancer patient stopped breathing, quietly becoming one of more than 90 Oregon residents to use the state's Death with Dignity law since voters approved it in 1997.

A year after Rice's death, the assisted-suicide law has become the center of a battle of wills between Oregon, the only state that lets physicians help to hasten the deaths of terminally ill patients, and the Bush administration, which opposes the practice.

Last month, U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft said the federal government would suspend or revoke the licenses of doctors who prescribe federally controlled drugs to patients who want to use them to die. A federal judge has temporarily blocked implementation of Ashcroft's decision.

The law requires that before a lethal dose of drugs is supplied to a terminally ill patient, two doctors must agree that the patient has less than six months to live, has voluntarily chosen to die and is capable of making health care decisions.

Rice's husband, Scott, and daughter Catherine Paul say they have become vocal advocates because that's what she would have wanted.

"If her ghost could show up, she'd be chiding you about a sign up on the hill in Washington saying 'How dare you?'" Paul said.

"My mother was a fighter. She'd be fighting for it."

Critics say the law runs counter to medical ethics.

"Federally controlled substances should not be used to kill people," said Dr. William Petty, a physician for Compassionate Care, a group of doctors and others who oppose the law. He believes physicians and patients should focus on end-of-life care and pain management.

"We usually deploay into a battle theater, and our team provides radar coverage of enemy territory," she said. "Guarding America through Operation Noble Eagle is something we never expected we would have to do."

During peacekeeping operations, the 726th helps the 366th Gunfighters fighter group and is prepared to deploy to any location and set up shop.

But since Sept. 11, the 726th has been part of a national force of 11,000 airmen - most from the National Guard and reserves - at



Scott Rice and Colleen Rice hold their dog, Jasmine, for a Christmas photo taken in November 1996. Colleen Rice became one of more than 90 Oregon residents to use the state's Death with Dignity law when she drank a glass of lethal drugs dissolved in water.

nally ill patients have the right to decide the circumstances and time of their own deaths.

And so do Oregon's voters; the law has been approved by a majority - twice.

Behind all the legal wrangling and ideological posturing, Colleen Rice's relatives say they don't want the human story to be forgotten.

They didn't want to lose her any earlier than they had to, but they accepted her choice to die on her own terms.

"Nobody forced anyone to do anything. It was her decision," said Paul, who supported her mother's choice but had to force herself to stay in the room when she died.

Colleen Rice initially thought she had worsening asthma, but a CAT scan revealed she had advanced lung cancer. The tumor was inoperable and was leaking fluid into the lung, making breathing nearly impossible. Rice loved to laugh, but doing that

caused pain not even morphine could dull.

About a month after the diagnosis, a specialist told Scott and Colleen Rice: "If you have anything to finish, do it now."

There were many projects to complete. Colleen Rice had been an active woman - a writer, an actress, a businesswoman.

The family raced to edit a historical book she'd been writing, "In the Midst of Darkness." The first copies rolled off the press two weeks after she died. She had signed labels for people who might want an autographed copy.

"She became very focused," Scott Rice said. "She thought, I have some strength and I know there are things I need to do."

That included making use of the assisted-suicide law.

"Years ago, before any of this happened, she would say, 'I don't want to suffer,'" Scott-Rice said. "She had a fear of drowning. ...

You know, with lung cancer, it's going to be something very close to that."

At one point, she learned the U.S. Senate was debating a measure that, like Ashcroft's order, would have made it illegal for doctors to prescribe medicines to help people die.

"It terrified her," Scott Rice said. She chose the day, Dec. 13 - after her grandson came home from the Navy, but before Christmas. She didn't want to die on Christmas.

Relatives did their best to be cheerful.

"I was thinking how hard it was for us, trying to look happy, playing cards with the kids. As hard as it was for us, I can't imagine how hard it was for her. She knew she'd never see them again," Paul said. "She never cried once. It came together the way she wanted it to."

"No one forced anyone to do anything. It was her decision."

-Catherine Paul, daughter of Colleen Rice, who used Oregon's Death with Dignity law

Avalanche expert has fun, takes job seriously

OGDEN, Utah (AP) - Father and son glide on their skis then disappear, into the aspens at Franklin Basin. Jesse Logan and his son, Spencer, an avalanche forecaster, have been skiing together since Spencer was barely able to walk.

"It used to be 'Follow me, son. Now it's always 'I'll wait for you, Dad,'" Jesse Logan said.

It's just like old times, but today is all-business, -at least for half the pair. Spencer Logan is one of two avalanche forecasters with the U.S. Forest Service Bear River Avalanche Information Center. His father is there for fun.

Spencer Logan spends three or four days a week in the mountains, analyzing recent storms, wind action, settling snow and weak layers underneath that could cause a slide. He enjoys the job, and so does his father, even though he doesn't get paid.

But it is serious business. The avalanche forecast is updated four times a week, providing what Spencer Logan calls the "bull's-eye approach" to safety.

It starts with general information on avalanche-prone terrain and snow conditions and moves to specifics like snow-pit results.

The pits are dug three feet deep into questionable areas, revealing weak layers.

"A snow pit gives you very detailed information for a very small space, but it takes more than just a snow pit to make a good decision about a particular slope," Spencer Logan said.

Tom Kimbrough, of the Utah Avalanche Center, said people should take avalanche classes and learn how to observe conditions before trying to analyze a snow pit.

"I don't like to overemphasize the snow pits ... It's sort of like looking both ways before you cross a street," Kimbrough said. "But snow pits take a lot of experience as far as evaluating your findings."

Kimbrough, a 30-year student of snow, says it is often necessary to "constantly re-evaluate your route," watching for wind-loaded slopes and changes in snow consistency.

"I've had to dig dead bodies out of the snow and it makes you think twice before you jump into something steep and deep," Kimbrough said.

Though he's never been caught in a major avalanche, Kimbrough knows many who have.

"They say it's extremely humbling," he said. "They have all these ideas in their head about what they're going to do if they get caught, but when they do, they're completely at the mercy of the snow."

He advises skiers to grab a tree, get off to the side or, if caught, to "fight like hell. Go for the top if you possibly can."

Once buried, chances of survival dim rapidly after 15 minutes.

"Your partners better be damn quick at getting you out," Kimbrough said.

Finding buried people is difficult without the aid of avalanche beacons, probes and shovels. By the time search and rescue arrives, the operation is more search than rescue.

"Unfortunately, it becomes less an issue of finding someone alive, as recovering a body," Logan said.

"I've had to dig dead bodies out of the snow and it makes you think twice before you jump into something steep and deep."

-Tom Kimbrough, Utah Avalanche Center

"Federally controlled substances should not be used to kill people."

-Dr. William Petty, Physicians for Compassionate Care

Watchdog squadron protects the West

BOISE, Idaho (AP) - Employing a giant radar tower and a bevy of blinking lights, Idaho's 726th Air Control Squadron is involved in a new mission of keeping Western skies safe from intruders.

The Mountain Home Air Force Base squadron is guarding airspace in Idaho and adjacent states as part of a homeland security effort dubbed Operation Noble Eagle.

The 200 men and women in the 726th - radio call sign "Hardrock" - have been tracking all air traffic within a 240-mile radius of the base since the Sept. 11 attacks on the East Coast.

For security reasons, the 726th did not reveal its operations to the public until Friday. It was called to assist the Colorado-based North American Aerospace Defense Command in protecting domestic airspace.

Before, NORAD's mission was observing aircraft-entering the

United States and Canada and looking for bombers or missiles approaching U.S. coastlines.

"We watch the inside of the country and look for any aircraft that doesn't look, sound or act normal," said Lt. Col. Kat Stoddard, 726th commander.

The homeland defense mission is something new for the squadron, Stoddard said.

"We usually deploy into a battle theater, and our team provides radar coverage of enemy territory," she said. "Guarding America through Operation Noble Eagle is something we never expected we would have to do."

During peacekeeping operations, the 726th helps the 366th Gunfighters fighter group and is prepared to deploy to any location and set up shop.

But since Sept. 11, the 726th has been part of a national force of 11,000 airmen - most from the National Guard and reserves - at

work at home.

NATO Airborne Warning and Control System surveillance planes were deployed to aid the war on terrorism and to beef up U.S. airspace surveillance in the absence of U.S. AWACS deployed overseas.

AWACS crews and the 726th are looking for aircraft that do not belong in stateside airspace or act suspiciously. They coordinate fighter interceptions of them.

"We do the same job that AWACS does, but we do it from the ground," Stoddard said. Spokesmen would not say whether any suspicious planes have been spotted or if interceptions have been launched.

"This unit is extremely proud of everything we have been doing," Stoddard said. "We've been working extremely hard for over 100 days now, but we are very glad we were asked to be part of Noble Eagle."

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Ricki Clemons prepares for work in the laundry of the Community Custody Unit of the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center earlier this year. Clemons is participating in a work-release program where she has graduated from the Correctional Center to the Community Custody Unit.

Return to the community

Programs help prisoners go back to work

POCATELLO (AP) - When Ricki Clemons went to work at Perkins restaurant, she said it was like coming back after a three-year vacation.

But Clemons has not been on an exotic working holiday. She has been incarcerated at the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center for, as she explained it, playing with a lot of counterfeit money.

The petite blonde gets to go into the community and work because she has graduated from the Correctional Center to the Community Custody Unit, a place where inmates make the transition between prison life and the outside world. They work in the community for regular wages, do their own laundry and chores, work on resumes, take classes and self-help courses. A stay in the CCU can be anywhere from 10 months to a few weeks, with the average time being about three months.

"We don't just turn people out with \$10 and a new suit anymore," Acting Employment Coordinator Lt. Tim Magagna said. "The idea is to get someone out into the community, get them a job, friends and a place to live before they go. Then they're a lot less likely to land back up here in the future."

Correctional officer Jocj McCormick gets along well with most of the women there. "Getting into work release is a major accomplishment for a lot of them," the McCormick said. "After sitting for however long, to go out and talk to someone who isn't an officer or an inmate, it can be frightening, but they look forward to it."

Now, with 30 days to go until her release, Clemons is working, saving money and making good contacts for work references for when she moves back home to Spokane, Wash.

Although she's been getting paychecks and at least one raise since she started at the restaurant, they get sent straight to Boise. Any expenses are then taken out and the rest is put into an account.

Before she is released, the



A dormitory in the Community Custody unit at the Pocatello Women's Correctional Center, which houses inmates participating in the work release program is seen earlier this year.

Department of Correction will cut her a check for the balance. She figured it would be about 40 percent of what she has earned since she started working.

But money is not the only important aspect of the program. It's also about building self confidence.

Even though Clemons had worked at a Perkins before she went to prison, the first day was difficult. The job itself was not too tough - all the training came back quickly. It was the social part that got to her.

Although no one announces that a prison inmate is coming to work, management knows and word gets around quickly, partly because the women are driven to and from work by other inmates in marked cars.

"Yeah, it was scary," she said. "You wonder if people are going to judge you because of where you came from. But they didn't. Some were curious, but they've all been wonderful. I'll really miss them when I go home."

Woman from the Pocatello Community Custody Unit also

work around town as drive through attendants, janitors or clerks. They work at places like McDonalds, Denny's, Applebees, Holt Arena, the Ramada Inn, Thunderbird, Pizza Hut and many other area businesses.

Magagna said he has gotten great support from local businesses.

"Frankly, this is a hard population to get employed," he said. "But all the employers we have here have been great to work with. We have repeat calls all the time asking for workers. I think it would be hard to find a more motivated group of employees. They are the first ones people call if they want to drop a shift, because they want to make as much money as they can as quickly as they can."

Women qualify for the work release program on a point system. Prisoners incarcerated for a sex crime, murder or other violent crime, or who have tried to escape are automatically disqualified. And, while there is more freedom in the work release program, there are more

Security issue might weaken Kempthorne

BOISE (AP) - Seven weeks after he installed extraordinary security measures at the state Capitol, darkening political clouds may be more of a threat to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne than any terrorist.

"The security issue could have some negative fallout if it is viewed as symbolic of the continuing issues this governor has had, especially in terms of his lack of accessibility," Boise State University political scientist James Weatherly said. "There is a sense that he is not fully engaged in meeting with general public."

In what has become the biggest impact from the Sept. 11 terror attacks 2,000 miles away, the Republican chief executive on Nov. 1 acted on advice of top aides and fortified the Statehouse with a wall of concrete barriers.

He limited access to just two entries, closed streets north and south of the building and brought in dozens of state troopers and National Guardsmen to patrol the Capitol Mall.

Since then, critics have flooded the governor's office and the capital city's newspaper with letters.

It has been an intense, if localized, assault on a political figure, whose standing with voters before this fall was extremely high, according to political operatives in both parties.

By itself, experts discount the possibility that security could cost Kempthorne re-election, assuming he runs. But combined with a flagging economy, the worst budget crisis in 18 years and crumbling schools, the first-term governor and former U.S. senator and Boise mayor could find the campaign trail much rockier than in 1998, when he won in a landslide.

The security decision, Kempthorne said in an interview with The Associated Press, "is not based on politics or polls. It's based upon the professional recommendations of people you have to rely on."

"I wasn't seeking it," he said. "But I inherited it. I had to do what I thought was right based upon what those gentlemen told me."

The most caustic public criticism has come from Ada County, which boasts a quarter of the state's registered voters and has been at the heart of Kempthorne's political base. He took 65 percent of the vote over Democrat Robert Huntley in 1998.

The objections run the gamut. Some complain about the \$335,000 price tag when the rest of state government has been forced to cut spending and even

lay off some workers.

Others are just embarrassed. Many have said Kempthorne's security decisions are rooted in fear for his own personal safety. Some even called him a coward.

"People who want to personalize it, people who want to attack me personally, yes, you've seen them take their shots," Kempthorne said. "I think that's unfortunate. It's not my style."

The controversy seems to fade beyond Idaho's largest county. Newspapers report but a handful of letters either way.

"I would guess Kempthorne has the same popularity he has always had," said Lewiston Morning Tribune editorial page editor Bill Hall. "This is almost entirely a Boise Valley thing."

There will be no exact measure of voter dissatisfaction until the May primary. But there is general agreement that criticism over Statehouse security means little unless Kempthorne faces credible opposition, either from within the GOP or from Democrats. At the same time, there has been little evidence that Kempthorne is gearing up to run again.

"If nobody will challenge him, he's fine," University of Idaho political scientist Florence Heffron said. But "politicians are very good at sensing vulnerability in other politicians. People are more likely to turn up."

It is no secret that Republican Congressman Mike Simpson of Blackfoot, a former Idaho House speaker, has wanted to be governor. But he flatly denies any inclination to challenge Kempthorne.

"I think Dirk is doing a pretty good job overall. I know he's taking some abuse on this security thing, but that is no reason to challenge him," Simpson said. "I also think he'd be difficult to beat."

But state Senate Republican Floor Leader Jim Risch of Boise, who has backed the governor legislatively since Kempthorne passed him over for appointment as lieutenant governor a year ago, is weighing his options.

Still, he declines to commit himself either way.

"You are not the first person to ask me that today or yesterday or the day before," he said.

Former U.S. Rep. Helen Chenoweth-Hage, an outspoken conservative, also declines comment on speculation - including from within the Kempthorne camp - that she might take on the governor.



Gov. Dirk Kempthorne

responsibilities too. Magagna said escape attempts are unusual. "What would be the benefit?" he said. "These are women who know the date of their release and it's coming fast. If they escape and get caught, that's another five years." Clemons thinks she'll be all right when she gets to Spokane. "I've learned to think before I act. That's what got me in trouble in the first place," she said. "And I love cooking. I actually think I'll stay with the Perkins company because they've been so good to me." The Perkins cook gets kind of choked up when she talks about leaving Pocatello, both because she'll miss the friends she has made at work and because she is so desperate to go home to Spokane, where her family lives. "She's one of the best," kitchen manager Tiny Creekmore said. "Very motivated. One of the things I like best about Ricki is that I don't have to tell her what to do, or how. I'll definitely recommend her to the Perkins in Spokane. Heck, she could probably have my job in a year if she wanted it."

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IDAHO

Idaho Dem sees a future

83-year-old thinks Democrats can come back strongly

BOISE (AP) — Mel Morgan, a sharp-witted curmudgeon who led Idaho Democrats to some of their best showings, wants back in the game.

Though he is 83 and suffered a fourth heart attack in June, things are looking up for Morgan, who helped elect two governors.

He has patched up a truce with one of those, Cecil Andrus, celebrated his 60th anniversary last week with his wife, Janice, on Pearl Harbor Day, and thinks Democrats are finally on the rebound.

Last month, Morgan, a throwback from the old Pocatello Democratic machine, lunched with Andrus at Boise's Arid Club, letting the Boise elite know they were putting behind them a decade-old bitterness.

"I was 'back' would take that part back," said Morgan, who was Gov. John Evans' campaign treasurer in 1982 and state chairman from 1983-88. "I don't know if we'd win, but I'd try."

Morgan, the brilliant fund-raiser for Andrus, the best Idaho politician of his generation, are talking strategy again.

"We're gonna form some kind of committee and see what we can do to help the party," Morgan said. "If we had a good candidate for Sen. Larry Craig and a good candidate for Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, we'd beat their pants off."

While conceding no such candidate has emerged, Morgan said Kempthorne is vulnerable, calling the public relations disaster over Statehouse security "the stupidest political mistake I've ever seen. I understand the governor needs protection, but he doesn't need a house full of state troopers."

Morgan said Democrats have other issues working for them, including the \$64 million Capitol renovation, being made at a time when Kempthorne is pressing an unprecedented budget holdback for public schools.

Morgan said Democrats, who hold just 12 of 105 seats, can't concede control of the Legislature by leaving most races uncontested as they have in recent years. "We need candidates — that's what the Democratic Party needs more than money — because you can't beat anybody with nobody."

Morgan is being cheered on by some bi-partisan fat-cherers who meet for coffee at Moon's Cafe weekday mornings.

"Because of his business background, he has a knack for talking to Republicans and Democrats, especially those Republicans in the moderate range," said Jim Kerns, former president of the Idaho AFL-CIO. "But he can meet with a bunch of blue-collar workers at the Labor Temple and have that same credibility."

Born in Pocatello, Morgan operated his family's jewelry store chain for 50 years. He was on the boards of the U.S. Ski Association and the state Council on Vocational Education, founded the Idaho State University Century Club and spent five years on the Pocatello City Council.

He came to Boise in 1941 to become Highway Safety Administrator. It was in that job that he crossed Andrus and wound up getting fired for arranging sick pay for suspended Transportation Director Kermit Kiebert. Kiebert, who had been charged with sexually abusing his daughter, was later acquitted and reinstated.

Morgan makes it for coffee infrequently now, but when he does, "He likes to war with the best of 'em and insult everybody," said Sal Ceselki, a longtime friend.

But Morgan is sentimental when it comes to his wife, children and grandchildren, who were in Boise for the 60th anniversary. In past years, he gave Janice engraved jewelry with sweet words like, "There will never be another you." Thirty years ago, he bought a billboard with a big heart that read, "I love you, Jan."

Janice Morgan said the ability to laugh and rebound from rough patches is key to their success. "Because there are ups and downs." Now, Morgan is trying to help revive his party. His friends, including Republicans like lawyer Allyn Dingel, wish him the best.

"Mel Morgan has such respect for our political institutions that regardless of age or health he will not hesitate to do what he can do to revive what is so necessary for Idaho — an active, vibrant two-party system," said Dingel.

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IDAHO/WEST

Post Falls girl becomes Official Kid Ice Cream Taster

POST-FALLS (AP) — Ten-year-old Katy Dimon landed a job kids any age would drool over.

For one weekend in this month, Katy is an Official Kid Ice Cream Taster at the Dreyer's Ice Cream Factory in San Francisco.

Her responsibility? Tasting gallons of top-secret ice cream flavors during a marathon tasting session with nine other kids.

It's the sweetest job around.

"We eat ice cream about five

times a week," Katy says.

Katy had to compete against more than 12,000 other hopefuls with similar credentials.

Earlier this year, Dreyer's advertised in newspapers across the country for 10 tasters, ages six to 14, for a weekend's worth of work in the company's first contest exclusively for kids. Contestants had to explain in a "job application" why they'd be the best person for the position.

It took more than just a love for ice cream to qualify for a job this important, and Katy was a couple scoops better than the rest.

"Ms. Katy here is a very savvy young lady," says John Harrison, Dreyer's Official Ice Cream Taster. "Unlike so many resumes that said, 'I love ice cream. I want to be a Kid Taster,' we looked for creativity, and that's what we saw on her application."

Katy's application promised

she'd be honest, opinionated and responsible. She even suggested six flavors she created herself.

But one attribute that undoubtedly qualified her was a willingness to try different foods, though Dimon admits that could also hamper her judgment gauging what kids would like best.

"I have some really weird tastes," she says.

Like, sardines?

"Yeah, actually," she laughs.

"And squid, alligator, artichokes, crab, you name it."

Katy will try anything. Credit that to her parents who insisted she taste everything once before deciding not to eat it.

"She'll eat stuff many children won't eat," says her mother, Ginny.

Since Dreyer's has 125 flavors on the market, a willingness to try different tastes complements Katy's other prize: A year's supply

of ice cream.

"That should last us for two months," she said.

But the real payoff for Katy is the experience, she said.

She's always had a passion for business, having once ran her own jewelry stand called Dimon Jewelry at a farmer's market when she was 8. She even started a newspaper at her school in Veridale, and has another business in the works.

Lewis, Clark researcher's work will air

THE DALLES, Ore. (AP) — Science and history will merge on the Discovery Channel next summer, as film crews focus on the archaeological work of a Lewis and Clark researcher who specializes in examining the physical evidence at 200-year-old campsites.

Ken Karsmizki, curator of history at the Discovery Center & Museum in The Dalles, uses minute particles of soil and bone fragments to learn, for instance, how many bison were dressed down at an encampment on the 1804-1806 Voyage of Discovery and how the camp was arranged.

"This is archaeology by trowel, not by shovel," explains David Scheerer, the film's director. "This is forensic archaeology."

Old campfires tell tales. The heat essentially locks such clues in place, and scientists recover the evidence by digging small trenches across the old firepits.

The analysis allows precise dating of the campfire through a study of the soil's magnetic properties, Scheerer explained.

The film will recreate the encampments themselves, with actors portraying expedition members. Then, the same site is filmed again — this time from Karsmizki's perspective as a 21st century archaeologist and historian.

"We do this wonderful travel through time," Scheerer said, with the goal of bringing the story alive through archaeology.

Filed research projects take place at key places along the Lewis and Clark Trail, such as a boat portage that required 12 men to haul a replica 1,200-pound dugout canoe.

Karsmizki hopes the film will explain the challenges of conducting that research. "It's really not as easy as you think to find archaeological evidence of Lewis and Clark," he observes. "The journals are not necessarily consistent, and the maps are not necessarily consistent."

Scheerer's team started last May, following Karsmizki along the Lewis and Clark Trail from St. Louis across the Great Plains and the Rockies. In December, film crews visited the Discovery Center in The Dalles to show how materials are analyzed in the laboratory.

Scientists can take soil, distill it to the organics, and find traces of parasites and pollen that provide important clues of who used the site two centuries ago.

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Magic Valley's Finest



The Times-News' Spectacular Six Making the grade

The Times-News

If nice guys don't finish first, explain *The Times-News*' picks for all-area football Players of the Year.

Sure, they wreaked all kinds of havoc on the field and certainly caused their opponents unusual amounts of grief with the brilliance of their play but Twin Falls' Jed Butler, Burley's Jed Thomas, Declo's Jordan Bagwell, Glens Ferry's Corey Hall, Raft River's Chase Erickson and Castelford's Elvis Medina are the consummate student-athletes.

Not one of them has a grade-point average of less than 3.50 and all are appreciated even by their opponents.

There is Hall, the 2A Player of the Year, who played linebacker and running back for the Glens Ferry Pilots and is a Division I prospect with tremendous speed and a fearsome ability to hit. He carries a 4.00 GPA and led the Pilots to the state championship game where they fell to defending champion Kamiah 12-7.

Before Wendell faced off with Glens Ferry and Hall for the Canyon Conference title game, Wendell coach Jerry Diehl knew exactly how to stop Hall.

"A chainsaw," he said. "He's a great player. I've known Corey for a long time; he's a great kid. He's big and strong and fast. He can really bring it."

And there is the other senior of the group, Erickson of 1A 11-Man Raft River, who also hits the books as hard as opposing players, as the linebacker-running back has a 3.86 GPA. And like Hall, he led his team to the state title game. The Trojans fell to Mackay, which has now won six straight state crowns.

"We just couldn't get him blocked," said Oakley coach Brett Graham. "Chase was all over the field against us."

And, yes, that's right, the other four are juniors who will likely come back better next year.

Butler, the 5A player of the year, is a 4.0 student who earned all-Region III first-team honors for his stellar linebacker play despite standing just 5-foot-8 and weighing 155 pounds.

"He's our leading tackler and that's what you want from your linebackers," Bruin coach Mark Schaal said. "He's not overly big or overly aggressive but he's a smart player who understands the game."

Thomas, the 4A player of the year from

The Times-News

With all six of *The Times-News*' selections for area Players of the Year being as fantastic in the classroom as they are on the field, the question must be asked: Is it coincidence?

"It doesn't surprise me that they're all good students — especially around here," Declo coach Kelly Kidd said. "A lot of the kids who really excel in athletics are excellent in the classroom."

Bagwell, the 3A player of the year, led the Declo Hornets to a 8-2 record as a

Meet the All-Times-News Football Team - C4-5

And he thinks he knows why. "Good students are often very coachable kids," Kidd said. "But obviously there are kids who struggle in class and are great athletes. And there are smart kids who aren't good athletes."

Twin Falls coach Mark Schaal isn't surprised either by the group's performance in the classroom.

"I definitely think it helps," he said. "I don't think there's any doubt about it. Those are the kids who are going to understand the game and if they don't, they'll work to figure it out. That's how they got there with their grades."

"It definitely blows away the myth that you're a dumb jock if you're a good athlete," Kidd said.

running quarterback and is yet another hard-hitting, punishing linebacker on this group. Bagwell, who has never received a B and carries just a 3.9 GPA because he has had an A- twice.

"He put it to us," Burley assistant coach Shaun Walker. "He's as good a football player as we faced."

And then there is Medina, the 1-A, 8-Man player of the year who lights up the scoreboard with his dazzling athleticism and everyone around him with his equal-

ly brilliant smile. In the faster paced world of 8-Man, Medina was the longest blur as he racked up touchdowns and tackles at an incredible pace. He also led the Wolves to the state semifinals for the third straight year.

"He is the first to knock you on your rear and then is the first to help you up," Castelford coach Shawn Scow said. "He's one of the best sports we have."

That can be said of all six of the players.

San Francisco frustrates Philadelphia

Eagles fall for first time on the road

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Over and over again, the Philadelphia Eagles fell just a few inches short — and the San Francisco 49ers' confidence grew with each dramatic stop.

Derek Smith made two exceptional plays during a game-turning defensive stand in the fourth quarter, and Terrell Owens caught a 32-yard touchdown pass with 6:52 left as the 49ers beat Philadelphia 13-3 on Saturday.

The Eagles' first road loss of the season came in a game of inches — specifically, the handful of inches Philadelphia couldn't gain on six consecutive plays inside the 20 early in the fourth quarter.

"Nobody blinked," Smith said. "We got in there and kept stopping them. We've gone through



Philadelphia running back Deuce Staley is unable to score from the one-yard line in front of a line of 49ers defenders Saturday in San Francisco. The 49ers won 13-3.

some growing pains, but our defense has come along fantastically.

The 49ers' young defense finally

won the battle of wills with an end-zone interception by Smith, their hard-hitting linebacker.

Please see **NUMBERS**, Page C2

Bush welcomes Olympic torch to Washington D.C.

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Bush helped pass the Olympic flame on Saturday between two runners' touched personally by the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Bush, bundled against the cold in a black wool overcoat and white cowboy hat, greeted Elizabeth Anderson Howell with a kiss on the cheek after she ran up the White House driveway and handed him a lit torch. He used the torch to light an Olympic cauldron.

Howell's husband, Brady Howell, was killed in the attack on the Pentagon. Bush said her participation in the Olympic torch relay "represents the strength shown by so many families after Sept. 11."

"Liz, our nation prays with you during this holiday season," Bush said. "We pray for peace and comfort for you and your family."

Bush then lit another torch from the cauldron and handed it to the next runner, George Washington student Eric Jones. On the day of the attacks, Jones left campus and rushed to the Pentagon.

Over four days, he helped carry away the wounded and dug a red Marine Corps flag out of the rubble. Jones then drove to New York and spent several days helping rescuers there.

"I thank these two torch bearers for their courage and their compassion, for representing the best of our great country," Bush said.

Countdown to the Salt Lake Olympics

The Torch Tour: President Bush greeted bearers of the Olympic torch on Saturday as the flame passed between runners touched by Sept. 11. Today's relay begins in Philadelphia and ends in New York City, where Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will deliver the torch to Rockefeller Plaza.

Utah is stocking more liquor than ever because of the 2002 Winter Olympics. One state warehouse designed to hold 250,000 cases of alcohol has been packed with 350,000 cases. State regulators are taking special Olympic orders on top of the usual inventory.

SPORTS

Hurme records fourth career shutout in Ottawa win

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Mike Fisher scored midway through the second period and Jani Hurme stopped 23 shots for his fourth career shutout Saturday, leading the Ottawa Senators to a 1-0 victory over the New Jersey Devils.

The Senators defeated the Devils for the first time this season after three losses.

Brussels 4, Islanders 2
UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Glen Murray had a goal and an assist, and defenseman Kyle McLaren added a pair of assists as Boston beat New York.

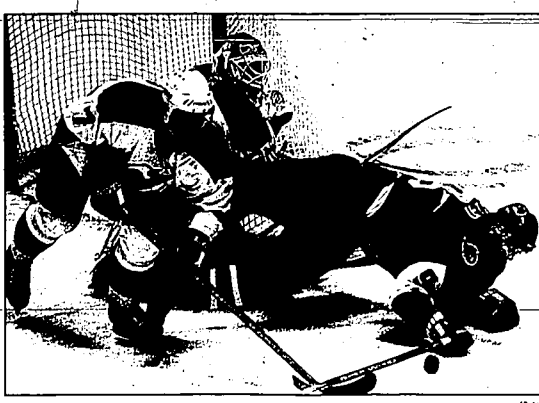
Maple Leafs 3, Sabres 2
TORONTO — Alexander Mogilny scored and had two assists as Toronto held on for a victory over Buffalo.

NHL
Gary Roberts scored the go-ahead goal for the Maple Leafs and Travis Green also scored. James Patrick and Rhet Warren scored for the Sabres while he just one win in their last eight (1-6-1).

Canadiens 2, Kings 1
MONTREAL — Yanic Perreault scored a power-play goal with 3:15 left as Montreal beat Los Angeles, ending the Kings' five-game winning streak.

Stars 4, Blue Jackets 2
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Richard Matvichuk jammed in a pass from Pierre Furrer for the go-ahead goal as Dallas beat Columbus.

while stopping 27 shots. The Stars were 1-3 in their last three games and had just their last two. The loss was the third in a row for the Blue Jackets, the lowest-scoring team in the NHL with just 66 goals in 36 games.



Washington Capitals' Peter Bondra scored with 0.8 seconds remaining in regulation, lifting Washington to a tie with Pittsburgh.

Capitals 4, Penguins 4
WASHINGTON — Peter Bondra scored with 0.8 seconds remaining in regulation, lifting Washington to a tie with Pittsburgh.

Ottawa's Martin Havlat eyes the puck as he hits the ice after attempting to squeeze between New Jersey's Andrei Zylitzin (7) and goaltender Martin Brodeur on Saturday in East Rutherford, N.J.

period was his first against the Penguins, who dealt him to the Capitals in July after 11 seasons.

Blues 2, Panthers 0
SUNRISE, Fla. — Keith Tkachuk and Cory Stillman scored less than two minutes apart early in the third period to lift St. Louis past Florida.

The victory was just the Blues' second in their last 13 road games and first in their last seven.

Philadelphia 4, Carolina 3, OT
PHILADELPHIA — Philadelphia's Mark Recchi scored his second goal of the game 27 seconds into overtime to give the Flyers a victory over Carolina.

Philadelphia's Mark Recchi scored his second goal of the game 27 seconds into overtime to give the Flyers a victory over Carolina.

SCORES AND STATS

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National Basketball

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Saturday's Women's College Basketball

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ON THE AIR TELEVISION

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NFL Seawalks at Giants

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Friday's Late NHL Summaries

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THE 2001 ALL-TIMES-NEWS FOOTBALL TEAM

All-Times-News
first-team offense

Quarterback

Chris Maughan, sr. Dietrich

As the Blue Devils' triple threat, Maughan's versatility was rivaled by only Castleford's Elvis Medina. The senior quarterback accounted for over 2,100 yards of Dietrich's offense and 34 touchdowns, passing for 1,278 yards and 17 touchdowns and rushing for 901 yards and 17 scores. "I think we prepared for him more than any other player," Carey coach Lane Kirkland said. "He was a great passer and a strong runner."

Running back

Skylar Stevenson, sr. Wendell

Stevenson's speed stretched defenses and every time he touched the ball he was a threat to score. The Wendell rocket accounting for 1,009 yards on 109 carries for 14 touchdowns. "He made it easier to run to the middle of the field, too," coach Jerry Diehl said.

Running back

Chris Floyd, sr. Buhl

Floyd accomplished something this season that he'd wanted to do since he first started carrying the ball for the Indians - gain 1,000 yards rushing. The 5-foot-10 senior passed the hallowed mark and kept going, finishing with 1,245 yards on 238 carries and 12 touchdowns to lead the Indians.

"Floyd was probably the best running back we saw all year," Fliser coach Brett Wright said.

Tight end

Josh Villaro, sr. Buhl

When Villaro wasn't bulldozing defensive ends on running plays, he was catching passes over the middle and dragging defenders for extra yards.

The 6-foot-1, 180-pound senior caught 18 passes for 289 yards and two touchdowns for Buhl this season, averaging over 16 yards per catch. And his ability to perform his duties as an extra lineman also helped teammate Chris Floyd to his first 1,000-yard season.

Offensive line

Elwood Crowell, sr. Glenns Ferry

When the 6-0, 220-pound Crowell wasn't making tackles on defense, he was opening holes on offense. Facing the Pilots' running backs was often punishing enough, but with Crowell leading the way at guard it was brutal. On defense he finished with 148 tackles.

Offensive line

Beau Cahoon, sr. Declo

The driving force behind the potent Declo ground game, Cahoon paved the way for Bagwell and Terry Darrington to chew up big yards for the 82 Hornets. "Nobody got the better of Beau," coach Kelly Kidd said.

Offensive line

Luke Bair, sr. Minico

Bair was the Offensive Player of the Week twice for the Spartans in a nine-week schedule, recording 11 pancakes and dominating his part of the field.

"He can play football," said coach Tim Perrigot, who added that there are numerous schools looking at the 6-5, 270-pounder.

Offensive line

Jeff Bolton, sr. Wood River

A dominating offensive lineman, the 6-5, 285-pounder has verbally committed to play at Montana State. Bolton opened gaping holes on offense and closed them on defense for the Wolverines.

Offensive line

Jon Bobango, sr. Castleford

For the past two seasons, Bobango has been at the center of one of the most prolific offenses in the Magic Valley.

The 5-foot-10, 230-pounder manned the middle of the Castleford offensive line, calling line adjustments and opening holes for Sawtooth All-Conference selections Elvis Medina and Ryan and Seth Blick.

Wide receiver

Ben Lammers, sr. Jerome

At 6-foot-5, Lammers was one of the biggest wide receivers in the Magic Valley. He was also one of the best. Lammers finished with 44 receptions for 604 yards and four touchdowns, catching 37 percent of Jerome quarterback Kiel Thibault's passes.

Wide receiver

Sheldon Horn, sr. Dietrich

At the run-first, pass-third 1A 8-man level, Dietrich's Sheldon Horn was the exception.

Horn managed 16 receptions this season for 483 yards, averaging a whopping 30 yards per completion. He was also one of quarterback Chris Maughan's favorite targets in the end zone, grabbing nine touchdowns.

Kicker

Beni Gomez, sr. Glenns Ferry

Gomez used his powerful leg to pin teams deep in their own territory on kickoffs. The Glenns Ferry defense usually took care of the rest. He was also consistent on extra point and field goal attempts.

The All-Times-News
second-team offense

Quarterback

Kiel Thibault, sr. Jerome

Offensive line

Silvestre Juarez, sr. Glenns Ferry

Running back

Scamus Campbell, sr. Gooding

Offensive line

Tyrel Hoagland, sr. Wendell

Running back

Maverick Milton, soph. Oakley

Tight end

Ammon McBride, jr. Oakley

Running back

Bruck Goff, sr. Raft River

Wide receiver

Josh Boehler, sr. Declo

Offensive line

Jason VanBurskirk, sr. Burley

Wide receiver

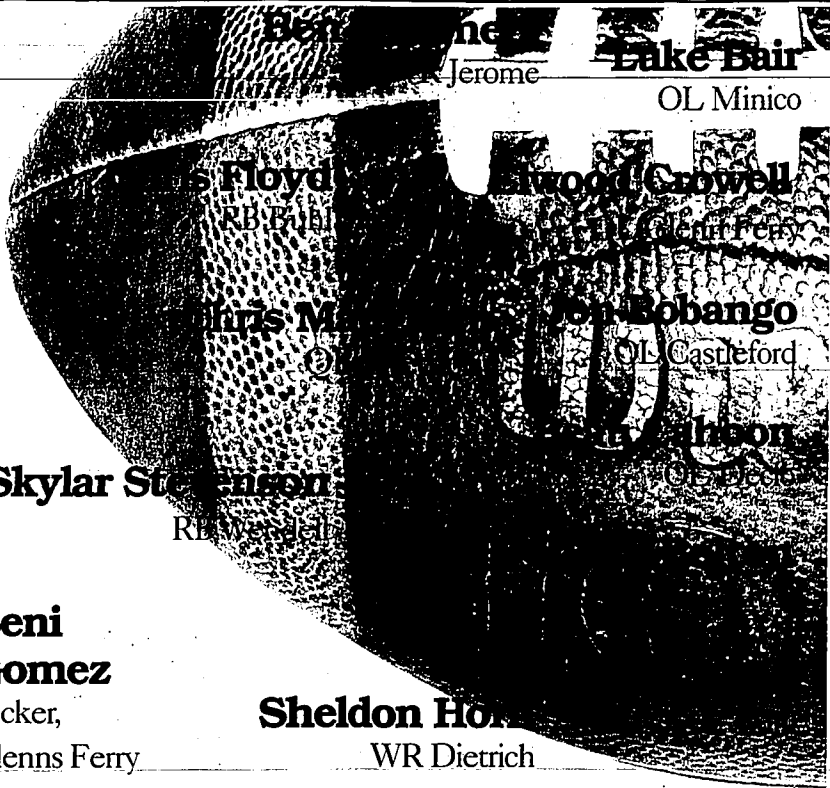
Chris Herzinger, jr. Twin Falls

Offensive line

Mike Barker, jr. Buhl

Kicker

Cesar Frias, sr. Shoshone



Beni Gomez
Kicker,
Glenns Ferry

Sheldon Horn
WR Dietrich



Jordan Bagwell, Jr. Declo

Class 3A
**Times-News
Player
of the Year**

The numbers don't begin to serve Declo's Jordan Bagwell. But they do provide a clue as to his impact this past season for the Hornets.

In his first year as the team's starting quarterback, Bagwell rushed 171 times for 1,258 yards and 19 touchdowns, he completed 43-of-118 passes for 776 yards and nine touch-

downs with just four interceptions. While he was a first-year starter on offense, Bagwell started his second season at linebacker where he had 32 solo tackles, including five for losses, and 51 assists.

Bagwell said he enjoys both sides of the ball equally well. "It's a toss-up between quarterback and linebacker," he said. "With quarterback, I like the decision-making and I feel like it's a challenge. But on defense you're much more free out there. It's fun if someone makes a play and you can get all excited."

As talented as Bagwell is, head coach Kelly Kidd said that is just the half of it.

"Jordan Bagwell is the epitome of a student-athlete," he said. "He has a 3.9 grade-point average and works really hard at that."

And he is also unselfish. "We went back and forth on him

at running back and quarterback and he was always, 'Whatever's best for the team, coach,'" Kidd said.

"That's nice to work with."

He is also one of the hardest workers of all the Hornets. "He is a leader by example," Kidd said. "I'm very privileged to have the opportunity to coach him."

Kidd said Bagwell blended in as a junior leader on a team with a talented senior class. He's also one of the most popular students at the high school.

Bagwell sings with the Treblesetters, a vocal group at the high school, and is a standout basketball player.

Though honored to be recognized, Bagwell doesn't understand why he's singled out.

"I'm just really grateful to be able to play and that I'd be considered for these awards," he said. "My team did everything for me." And he for it.

Elvis Medina, Jr. Castleford

The "Elvis for president" bumper stickers haven't started popping up yet in Castleford, but if the 5-foot-11 do-everything back with the rock-and-roll name and the game to match exceeds this year's performance on the football field, it could happen.

Medina led the Wolves in almost every statistical category this season, taking Castleford to the 1A 8-man state semifinals for the third straight year. He finished the year with 1,613 yards rushing and 25 touchdowns, gaining a gaudy 11.4 yards per carry. Medina also completed 28 of 49 passes for 498 yards and eight touchdowns.

Throw in a 17-yard reception, 19 2-point conversions, and a team-leading 79 tackles on defense and suddenly there isn't much Medina can't do.

"I don't really care about the numbers," he said. "I wouldn't have been

able to do those things without my offensive line, without the other quarterbacks and without the other running backs blocking for me. All I want right now is a state championship. I don't care if I rush for 3,000 yards, as long as we get that championship."

As masterfully as Medina runs an option offense, it's defense that he takes the most pride in. Teaming with brother Erik, the Medinas formed the core of the Wolves' corps that held opponents out of the end zone so often that Castleford played just one complete game all season, winning the other 10 by the mercy rule.

"I like defense a little bit better just for the hitting," Medina said. "Putting a hit on somebody is just fun."

Medina's work ethic has become almost legendary and he has an ability to make everyone around him better. He's that rare player with eye-

Class 1A 8-man

**Times-News
Player
of the Year**

bulging statistics and a team-first attitude that every coach would like to have on their roster and nobody wants to play against.

"The awards are okay," Medina said. "But I wish they had an award for team of the year. I don't think it's just one guy, I think it's the whole team. Everyone has to play hard."



Jed Thomas, Jr. Burley

Class 4A

**Times-News
Player
of the Year**

It might be better to detail what Burley's junior running back Jed Thomas doesn't do on a football field.

Kick and punt. He tackles. He defends the pass. He runs. He catches. He returns kicks. And he scores touchdowns by the dozens.

"I'm not sure I did all that," Thomas said. He did. Thomas carried the ball

132 times for 900 yards and 13 touchdowns, gaining an average of 6.8 yards per carry. Five of those touchdown-runs were greater than 50 yards and he gained an additional 399 yards on kick returns, with two going for scores. Thomas also caught 11 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown, bringing his total to 16 TDs for the season.

"We knew he'd be their guy," Jerome coach Eric Anderson said. "We just couldn't stop him."

The junior burner also had 36 tackles, forced a fumble and recovered two fumbles from his defensive back position.

And he did this while missing a good deal of time because of an injury.

"I was very happy with my season," Thomas said. "But I don't like that I missed so much time. In ways, I felt like I let the

team down."

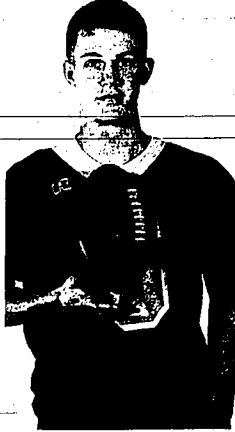
Hardly. Thomas was the biggest reason the Bobcats bounced back from an 0-9 campaign last season to finish 5-4 this year. And while he may have missed time because of injuries, few players probably saw more action since he rarely missed a snap.

"He was in on probably 95 percent of our plays because he does everything for us," Burley assistant coach Shaun Walker said. "He was the man for us."

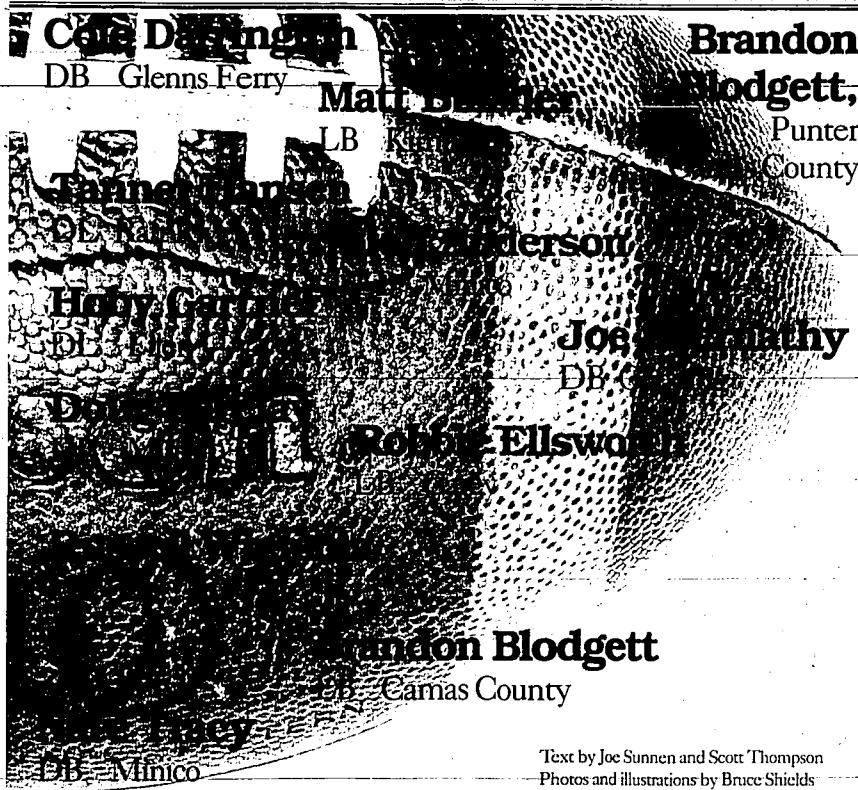
Thomas said he enjoys the many different hats he wears but said it can be pressure-packed.

"It's a big responsibility but it's nice to know that your coaches and teammates trust you, though," he said.

Next year, Thomas said he wants to rush for at least 1,000 yards and score 20 touchdowns.



THE 2001 ALL-TIMES-NEWS FOOTBALL TEAM



All-Times-News first-team defense

Defensive line

Hoby Gartner, sr. Filer

Gartner was Filer's edge-rushing answer this season, using his speed to crash down on offenses from his position at defensive end. Gartner tallied 85 tackles from the down position and also reached the quarterback 11 times.

Defensive line

Tanner Hansen, sr. Raft River

Hansen controlled the line of scrimmage for the Trojans, collecting 32 tackles with four losses and three sacks.

And on offense, "he was the big set of shoulders we chose to run behind," Raft River coach Randy Spaeth said, paving the way for Raft River's potent running game.

Defensive line

Doug Barclay, sr. Minico

Barclay, 60, 190 pounds, was arguably the best player on what might have been the best defense in the area. Despite constantly taking on double-team blocks, the Spartan senior finished with 31 tackles and 17 assists. He also had two interceptions and a fumble recovery.

Defensive line

Russell Wiersma, jr. Buhl

The 6-4, 220-pound Wiersma stood out on both sides of the ball for Buhl as an offensive and defensive tackle, but it was on defense that the junior had the biggest impact. He finished with 46 tackles.

Linebacker

Robbie Ellsworth, jr. Carey

Ask area 1A 8-man coaches who some of the best defensive players were this season and near the top of the list is always, "that little linebacker from Carey."

Ellsworth racked up 36 solo tackles and 30 assists this season, turning his 5-foot-5, 135-pound frame into a battering ram. He also ranked second on the team with 10 sacks.

Linebacker

Matt Bulcher, sr. Kimberly

The senior linebacker was the target of every team's blocking scheme but still managed to get in on 49 tackles and a sack for the Bulldogs.

"He's a really good linebacker and presented us with some problems," Declo coach Kelly Kidd said.

Linebacker

Brandon Blodgett, sr. Camas County

Blodgett lined up everywhere on defense for the Musers and did not disappoint. The senior finished with 142 tackles, including 100 solo stops. He also took one of his two interceptions back for a touchdown.

"We felt we could put him anywhere and he'd make an impact," Camas County coach Randy Jewett said.

Linebacker

Jeff Anderson, sr. Minico

Anderson is one of three members of the Spartan defense to make the first team. The 5-8, 165-pounder recorded 43 tackles and 41 assists with two sacks and an interception.

"He's a really good linebacker with great instincts," Spartan coach Tim Ferrigot said.

Defensive back

Cole Darrington, sr. Glenns Ferry

The Pilots asked a lot of their defensive backs this season, running man coverage most of the time, and none delivered like the 5-10, 166-pound Darrington. The Glenns Ferry senior had 66 total tackles and four interceptions while providing solid run support.

Defensive back

Nate Tracy, jr. Minico

The 5-9, 160-pound Nate Tracy recorded 32 solo tackles with four assists along with getting an interception and recovering two fumbles.

"He not only was tough against the pass but provided great run support as well," Burley assistant coach Shaun Walker said.

Defensive back

Joe Abernathy, sr. Gooding

Gooding might have been the surprise team of the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference, reaching the playoffs for the first time in six years, and Abernathy was a big part of that success.

The senior Senator finished with four interceptions from the safety position and was third on the team in tackles with 59.

Punter

Brandon Blodgett, sr. Camas County

The only player to make The All-Times-News football team twice, Blodgett averaged nearly 40 yards per punt to keep Muser opponents pinned deep in their own territory. In an important game with Carey, he boomed a punt that eventually rolled to a stop 68 yards down the field.

The All-Times-News second-team defense

Defensive line	Linebacker
Zac O'Toole, sr. Jerome	Brett Cook, sr. Declo
Defensive line	Defensive back
Sherman King, sr. Wendell	Shawn Hennefer, jr. Carey
Defensive line	Defensive back
Tyrel Woodop, sr. Oakley	AW Wells, sr. Buhl
Defensive line	Defensive back
John Salli, jr. Carey	Ben Rodgers, jr. Castelford
Linebacker	Defensive back
Nathan Jayo, sr. Hagerman	Andy Coats, jr. Twin Falls
Linebacker	Punter
Tim Hughes, sr. Filer	Christian Ayala, sr. Wood River



Korey Hall, Sr. Glenns Ferry

Class 2A

2001 All-Times-News Player of the Year

When Joel Herrmann is asked if Korey Hall is better as a running back or a linebacker, the Glenns Ferry football coach simply says "yes." The rest of the 2A ranks learned why this season as the Pilots marched to the state championship game.

On the offensive side of the football Hall was a menace, rushing for 714 yards and 15 touchdowns. On defense he

was a terror, racking up 113 tackles, three sacks and Glenns Ferry's only touchdown in a 12-7 loss to Kamiah in the state title game. Hall scored after blocking a field goal and running 36 yards to the end zone with the loose ball.

"Not only did his play help us but the confidence he'd give everyone else really helped," Herrmann said. "You'd really see it on kickoffs. Nobody would block him. They'd run right by him and hit somebody else."

Hall missed four games with an arm fracture and played most of the season with a soft cast on his left arm. "I didn't get it checked out for a couple of days," Hall said. "I thought I just hyper-extended my elbow. It turned out to be a spiral fracture. It was still sore after I came back, but I just wanted to play."

As successful as Hall has been running the ball - he's collected 2,721 rushing yards since his sophomore year - it's defense that will likely take

the 6-foot, 220-pound human sledgehammer to the next level.

"I like defense," Hall said. "I like hitting people more than I like being hit."

The two-time recipient of the linebacker award at the Boise State University summer camp was named Most Valuable Player of the camp over the summer and could be wearing blue and orange next season. Hall said having his father, Dan Hall, as the team's defensive coordinator has helped him approach the next level.

"It's hard to have your dad as your coach sometimes, but he's pretty cool about letting the other coaches teach me," Hall said.

And Hall's success isn't limited to athletics. Despite participating in football, basketball, wrestling and track and field, he maintains a perfect 4.0 grade-point average.

"The first thing I'll say about Korey Hall is he's everything you'd want him to be," Herrmann said. "He's a great athlete and a 4.0 student."

Chase Erickson, Sr. Raft River

Selfless and ruthless are two ways to describe Raft River High School senior Chase Erickson. The consummate team player is another.

Erickson, who started at quarterback for the Trojans last year as a junior, switched to running back for his senior season without complaint.

"Like I told coach, 'I'll play any position you want. I just want to play,'" he said. "It didn't go unnoticed by Raft River head coach Randy Spaeth, as Erickson racked up a monster year for the Trojans and was one of the biggest reasons Raft River made it to the state championship game."

"That's basically his attitude," Spaeth said. "He doesn't have to have the big-time role, he just wants to play. He's not one of those kids who is out for Chase, he wants to help the team wherever he can." And he did help, gaining 751 yards and

10 rushing touchdowns on 118 carries. When he wasn't running the ball himself, Erickson opened holes for teammate Brock Goff, who rushed for 1,048 yards and 11 touchdowns on 202 carries.

But where Erickson really shined was on the defensive side of the ball, where he had 113 tackles (solos and assists), including 14 for losses and three sacks. He also had three fumble recoveries, including one for a touchdown and an interception for a touchdown.

"Defensively, and offensively some times, he was one of our big-play players who the kids really rallied around," Spaeth said.

"If you've got a running back swinging out to the flat and he doesn't see you and you're going as fast as you can and give him all you've got, that's the perfect hit," Erickson said.

One of Erickson's favorite memories

Class 1A 11-man

2001 All-Times-News Player of the Year

from the season is the state record, 72-yard punt he struck in the state championship game, which was Raft River's only loss of the season. Erickson also carries a 3.86 grade-point average.



Jed Butler, Jr. Twin Falls

Class 5A

2001 All-Times-News Player of the Year

When a team gives up just over 37 points per game on defense, the bright spots usually come from potential, not performance. In Twin Falls junior linebacker Jed Butler, the Bruins got both.

Butler made 58 tackles this season to lead Twin Falls, throwing his 5-foot-8, 155-pound frame into any running back he could reach. And 55 of those

tackles were solo. "I don't know how right that is," Butler said. "It seemed like (senior David) Orr was in on every tackle with me."

Butler's performance on the field this season was good enough to earn him a place on the All-Region III first team - one of only four Bruins to claim the honor. In the classroom Butler maintains a perfect 4.0 grade-point average.

"They're kind of the same thing," Butler said of football and scholastic. "If you have a hard time learning a play you have to keep practicing it. In something like math, if you're having a hard time getting a concept down after doing your homework, you do a few more problems."

Butler also spent time in the Twin Falls backfield, carrying the ball four times for 7 yards and catching five passes for 34 yards, including a touchdown in the Bruins' lone win of the season over Pocatello.

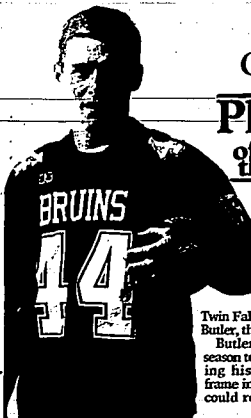
"Losing so many games gets you down," he said. "Just trying to keep your head up, go to practice every day, and keep going is what's hard. Of course it's always a lot more fun when you win, but you have to do what needs to be done."

Butler missed most of his sophomore season with a broken foot and said he spent much of this season just catching up to the game at the high school level.

"I had to learn everything all over again," Butler said. "The reads are a lot different in high school. And even when you're not exactly sure what to do, you have to do something. I had to learn that."

The next step for Butler, he said, will be to shed some of his "ah-shucks" on-the-field demeanor.

"If you asked some of the coaches they'd say I never got fired up," Butler said. "I'm just not one of those guys that jumps around and yells. I'm more quiet. I just try and get ready for the next play."



Utes lose nose guard before Vegas Bowl

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Nose guard Ma'ake Kemoatu was suspended for the final game of his University of Utah football career Friday after the NCAA ruled he had improperly provided textbooks to his younger brother Tevita.

Kemoatu, who has 30 tackles during his senior season, will miss next Tuesday's matchup with USC in the Las Vegas Bowl after Utah discovered the violation and reported it to the

NCAA.

As a scholarship player, Kemoatu gets textbooks at no charge, but the four-year starter also obtained three extra books for his brother, who as a walk-on is not allowed to receive such benefits. The Utes discovered the discrepancy when Kemoatu turned in his books at semester's end last week.

Kemoatu repaid the university for the books, but the NCAA requires a one-game suspension

for such incidents, and turned down Utah's appeal.

Kemoatu cannot practice with his teammates, dress for the game or be provided with meals or lodging.

Tevita Kemoatu, a freshman defensive lineman, is redshirting this season, so his suspension will be served in Utah's first game next season against Utah State. Another brother, Chris Kemoatu, is a freshman offensive lineman.

Campus police take next step in Colorado

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Campus police have asked some Colorado football players to provide DNA samples as investigators look into a student's claim she was gang raped at a party for recruits.

Officers talked to coach Gary Barnett on Thursday and explained players could voluntarily give DNA samples or face the possibility of receiving a court order to do so, Lt. Tim McGraw said Saturday.

"We've asked people we

believe were there to supply us with some DNA samples," McGraw said. "It is part of a thorough investigation. It can be used to place somebody there. It can be used to show they weren't there."

Only one football player with significant playing time on the nation's No. 3-ranked team has been mentioned in connection with the accusations, Barnett said in a statement released by the athletic department Saturday. The coach did not identify the player and said he voluntarily took a lie

detector test.

"The results indicate that the student-athlete was not complicit in this alleged activity," Barnett said.

Witnesses who attended the Dec. 7 party have told The Daily Camera of Boulder a half dozen players were there, along with some high school players being recruited by the team.

The witnesses also told the newspaper they took the woman to Boulder Community Hospital after the alleged attack.

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MAGIC VALLEY DAIRY INDUSTRY KEEPS LOCAL ECONOMY STRONG

Local Businesses say "Thanks."

Looking back at the area's economic trends over the last 11 months, one thing is very clear, the year was anything but boring. As a new administration in January took up residence in the White House, we watched as the bulls and bears took turns running down Wall Street.

Nationwide consumer confidence slid as the country's unemployment rates climbed to 5.7 percent. Then the unthinkable on Sept. 11 and life hasn't been the same since.

But here in the Magic Valley, the economic outlook has been a bit brighter. Local consumer confidence all year has held strong and the latest unemployment figures shows this region is below the national average at 4.1 percent.

Why the unprecedented prosperity in a time when other areas are suffering from company cutbacks and downsizing? One reason is the economic boost the area enjoys thanks to the Magic Valley dairy industry.

Idaho's dairy industry is unique in the respect that even when economic times get tough, it's an industry that just keeps on going - it has to.

Cows still need fed and that keeps local farmers busy growing crops and buying machinery and seed. The cows still need milked and that means workers are necessary to manage the herds and dairy

operations and veterinarians to watch over the animal's health. The processors still need to keep up with growing consumer demands for dairy products so milk is purchased from the dairies and people are needed to run the processing plant and to transport the product.

The result is dairy dollars circulating throughout our communities, an economic ripple effect that helps out local businesses.

Now, a few local business owners would like to say "Thanks" to the local dairy industry for helping make their 2001 a great business year and

"Idaho's dairy industry is unique in the respect that even when economic times get tough, it's an industry that just keeps on going—it has to."

they're looking forward to working with the dairies in 2002.

"We at Cavazos Mexican Food support the dairy industry. We proudly serve Real dairy products as the dairies have supported us. We all need each other."

Gabriel and Velda Ibarra, owner/operator Cavazos Mexican Food, Wendell. "The dairy industry makes us what we are today. They're friends and family. We should always remember to be grateful for all they bring to our communities, which is jobs, product and progress."



Gypsy Shelton, owner/operator Gypsy Sun Bath and Body, Jerome and Shelton Bros., Jerome.

"My dairy customers are great to work with. I support them at every opportunity. My business, my life, my future is better for being associated with the dairy industry. Without the dairy industry, my life, my family's life would be much less economically and socially satisfying."

John Werner, owner/operator Werner Electric, Buhl.

"We need the dairymen just like they need us. Our dairy industry helps keeps other aspects of our economy going, which in the long run benefits all of us."

Amy Dimond, owner/operator Magic Hair, Wendell. "The affect on real estate because of the dairies is substantial. Not only are we making sales to the operators, but to the workers as well.


Also, the dairies bring in a lot of dairy related businesses into the area, which helps by creating jobs and boosting the economy."

B.J. Ross, co-owner REALTOR, Canyonside GMAC Real Estate in the Magic Valley.

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SPORTS

Family gives Weiss stability in Olympic quest

The Associated Press

While the rest of the medal favorites were warming up for the Olympics at the Grand Prix finals, Michael Weiss was at a Christmas pageant, watching his 3-year-old daughter sing carols with her class.

Video camera in hand, he was just another proud dad, not a two-time U.S. figure skating champion hoping to make his second Olympic team next month.

"Those things are really important to me," he said. "Skating is a big part of my life, but it's one part. Having a wife and having a family, having two children, puts everything in perspective."

"Family and kids — that's what's really important in life." While skating tends to be a nomadic sport, with most top athletes training hundreds of miles from home, Weiss has never left Fairfax, Va. He's trained with the same coach, Audrey Weisiger, since he was 9.

Most skaters put their personal lives on hold to train, doing schoolwork through correspon-

dence and hanging out with other skaters. At 25, Weiss has been married four years. He and wife Lisa have two young children, Annie Mae and 2-year-old Christopher.

"I grew up in a family that was a very close family. We helped each other out and were very supportive," he said. "When I first got married, everyone was kind of writing off my skating career, saying, 'Well, he's got more important things to worry about now.' With me, it's just added more to my team and to my support group."

Five months after Annie Mae was born, he won his first U.S. title and was a bronze medalist



"Skating is a big part of my life, but it's one part. Having a wife and having two children, puts everything in perspective. Family and kids — that's what's really important in life."

—Michael Weiss, Olympic skater

at the 1999 world championships. A year later, Christopher was born, and Weiss added a second U.S. crown and another bronze from worlds.

"I just find that so insulting when people say Michael's not focused," Weisiger said. "If anything, — his desire to provide for his family has made him more focused than ever."

While his family will always be his priority, redeeming himself at nationals and doing well in Salt Lake City is a big deal to him.

He'll be only 29 in 2006, so he could stick around for another four years. Realistically, though, this is probably his last shot at an

Olympic medal. So he's working harder than ever. A typical day starts with breakfast with his family. Then it's off to the rink for morning practice, which runs about 90 minutes. He'll stretch or work out for another hour and then break for lunch, joining Lisa and the kids when he can.

He has another practice session in the afternoon and gets home about 3:30 p.m., just in time for the children to wake up from their naps. Because Lisa — who is also Weiss' choreographer — has had them by herself all day, Weiss takes over until the kids go to bed around 8:30 p.m.

Then finally there's a little time to relax with his wife and get some work done in his office.

"Lisa and I used to say we were so busy," Weiss said, laughing. "Those words, you just don't understand until you have one and then two kids. You just don't know the meaning of busy until you can't even take a shower by yourself. You can't do those things without a child pulling at you or getting into your toothpaste drawer."

"I couldn't imagine not having them now. They're amazing."

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During this season of giving, the Magic Valley Skateboard Association would like to take this opportunity to say "Thank You" to everyone who gave, in any form, and helped take our community's new Skate Park from vision to reality. Without those recognized here, and the countless anonymous donors who contributed through the many community fundraisers, the park would not be a reality! Thanks so much for your generosity and support.

Twin Falls Skate Park

DEDICATED July, 2001

City Council			M.V.S.A. Board Members		
Elaine Steele, Mayor	Lance Clow	Glenda Thompson	Ron Black, President	Kate Lopez	Art Frantz
Howard Allen, Vice Mayor	Gloma Galan	Ipp Craig	John Pohlman, Vice President	John Bingham	Skip Engberg
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	Digital Media Solutions	John & Nancy Miller	First Federal	MV Builders Association Specialty Painting	
	Julia Taylor Center	Robert & Nancy Miller	Clintonia Foods, Inc.	Nelson & Company	Twin Falls Kiwanis Club
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Barbara McFarland	Car's Home Inspection	John & Nancy Miller	Frank & Lisa Muller	Dr. Ed Newton	Howard & Ann Miller
Tom Barton	The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	John & Nancy Miller	Linda Muller	Ken Pedersen	F. Watson Jr.
Black Trucking	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Paul & Linda Nelson	Smith & Greg
Boat Construction	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Pro Products	Supper Diner
Boyd Electric	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Mark & Sheila Parker	Jerry & Ann Parker
Ralph & Patricia Breaux	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Pat Parker	Charles & Joyce Parker
Bruce Chemical Co.	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Pat Parker	Wanda & Jim Parker
	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Peggy Parker	Wanda & Jim Parker
	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Miller	John & Nancy Muller	Paul & Linda Parker	Wanda & Jim Parker

Replica of the permanent recognition plaque to be located at the skate park. If you are listed on the plaque, please check for accuracy. If you feel you should be listed on the plaque and are not, please contact either Dennis Bowyer at 736-2265 or John Pohlman at 736-5690.

AN EXTENDED THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING HONORABLE MENTION DONORS:

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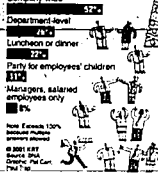
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| Andy Ebbs | Jade Hatfield | Anthony Lopez | Tasha McCurdy | Megan Stallings | Sara Webster | |

Through the generosity of all who have given, the Skate Park is finally a reality. The M.V.S.A. Board Members respectfully urge you to support the Senior Citizens' Center Building Fund & "The People for Pets" Building Fund, so that they too, may become a reality. Thank you & Happy Holidays, Magic Valley!

Unhappy holidays; Laid-off Boeing workers may abandon Washington.
 Page D3

Office parties

About three-fourths of U.S. employers have holiday office parties. Types of parties planned.



BRIEFLY IN MONEY

CSI offers class on using geographic data

TWIN FALLS - Employees of businesses and agencies that use statistical and geographical data have an opportunity to learn about Geographic Information Systems. The College of Southern Idaho is offering a class called Introduction to GIS.

GIS is a software program that manages data and links it to geographic locations such as addresses, parcel numbers and census tracts. CSI physical geography professor Nancy Jonsson-Byler said the CBS television program "The District" is a good example of how the Washington, D.C., police department uses GIS to show patterns of crime within the city. Many other businesses and government agencies have begun incorporating GIS in the past decade, and all federal management agencies have been mandated to use GIS, she said.

The class will use the Arc View program and be taught by Jo Dodds. Students will create maps with single and multiple themes and will learn to search databases about selected themes. Geographic mapping experience is not required, but familiarity with Windows is important.

The two-credit class will meet from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m. Tuesdays, starting Jan. 22, in Room 124C of the Canyon Building at CSI. The text for the class comes with a compact disk that contains many GIS exercises. For information, contact Nancy Jonsson-Byler by phone at 733-9554, Ext. 24, or by e-mail at njonsson@csid.edu.

Workshop teaches about career planning skills

TWIN FALLS - The Center for New Directions at the College of Southern Idaho is offering a Career Planning workshop.

The workshop will benefit those who are beginning an education or trying to identify interests or develop new skills. A professional staff member will help participants identify their interests, discover workplace talents, explore careers in demand and investigate their options.

Class will be held in two parts, from 5 to 7 p.m. Jan. 7 and Jan. 10, at the Center for New Directions. To sign up, call 733-9554 or (800) 680-0274, Ext. 2680. The workshop is free, and career advisers are included. Deadline to register is Jan. 7.

Online course shows global business techniques

TWIN FALLS - Local students will get a chance to learn global business techniques in Introduction to International Business, starting in January at the College of Southern Idaho.

Instructor Edit Szanto said the three-credit course will be offered completely online using Blackboard, CSI's online course-management system.

"This course is designed to provide students with the background, basic knowledge and skills needed to understand and succeed in international business," Szanto said.

Students will learn a framework for the analysis of international business operations, including basic characteristics and concepts of business, the growth and magnitude of international business, and international economic and political institutions.

Topics include multinational business and the national interest of host countries, investments and monetary relations with special emphasis on issues of trade restrictions, and direct foreign investment. Students need a working knowledge of Windows, Word and the Internet. Some knowledge of PowerPoint also is required.

For information, Szanto can be reached by e-mail at eszanto@csid.edu or by phone at 733-9554, Ext. 2163.

Compiled from staff reports



Billie Martinez works on a craft project at the Snake River Plaza. Martinez's quilts and other craft projects are one of many attractions at the Burley mall.

DRAWING A CROWD

Mall displays, events attract local shoppers, help to increase sales

By Lorraine Cavener
 Times-News correspondent

BURLEY - While many are crying recession, the Snake River Plaza Mall is showing an increase in sales.

"For the month of December we have had close to a 36 percent increase over last year's sales," said Monica Manning, assistant manager at Maurice's, on Thursday. "It's been really good. Just last week we had a 25 percent increase."

In November the store posted an 8 percent sales increase. "Last year we were decreasing at this time," she said.

Manning attributes the increase partly to more available merchandise. The amount of inventory is based on sales. "The more merchandise you sell, the more the company sends," Manning said.

Having more available prompts shoppers to buy locally, she said. The J.C. Penney store at the Burley mall is seeing a similar trend.

"For the year we are having a single-digit increase of about 6 percent over 2000," said Keith Krupicka, manager. "We've been doing very well."



Steve Thompson, marketing director at Snake River Plaza, shows off the 'Row of Honor,' a tribute to people in the military.

Merchandise and local support have been key factors, he said. "We're pleased with customer response to our merchandise mix," Krupicka said. "The community has been supporting the store very well."

While both Krupicka and Manning attribute success of their stores to merchandise or advertising, they say Steve Thompson, the mall's marketing director, is another main reason for success.

"Steve does a good job. He tries hard to get events in," Krupicka said.

Manning agreed. "Steve Thompson goes the extra mile to bring people in," she said.

Craft fairs, exhibits and a number of events throughout the year have helped attract customers back to the mall.

"We are doing well in spite of the recession," Thompson said. "Overall the business climate here has been upbeat and positive."

Hebburn's mayor also noticed a difference. "I see a lot more traffic over there," Mayor Cleo Cheney said. "Somebody's doing a better job."

Please see MALL, Page D4

North Main project waits for word on grant

By Carol Stephens
 Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Historic Old Towne's business improvement district members should know by mid January whether the North Main Avenue Limited Improvement District makes the first cut in its application for a \$500,000 state economic-development grant.

Total project cost is budgeted at \$1 million with the rest of the money coming from the city, its Urban Renewal Agency and the merchants in the LID. The project would improve streets, put in new sidewalks in the 200 and 300 blocks of Main Avenue North and West and add street lights.

Carleen Herring of Region IV Development Association, who put the proposal together, said the Idaho Department of Commerce scoring committee met Friday to decide which applicants will be dropped and which will make the first cut.

"The (state's Economic) Advisory Council will meet mid January for the final ranking. Con Paulos of Jerome is the

Region IV's representative on the council," she said. "Applicants who survive the cut will have until March 1 to submit additional information, review costs and in general dot their i's and cross their t's," Herring said.

In mid April, Herring said, each applicant will have 10 minutes to present its case before the council and five minutes to answer questions from the council.

"All grants are scored to a thousand points," she said, "with the staff awarding 800 points

and the council 200."

"Those 200 points can make or break a project," Herring added, "depending on how they're used. A project low on the list can be brought right up to the top, or the council can give no points to a project."

Recommendations on who get the funding are usually made quickly, Herring said, but the council's decision is not final. That rests with Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. Herring said it is rare for the governor to overturn the council's recommendation.

Please see GRANT, Page D4

Smaller airlines suffer hardships

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) - In the weeks following the Sept. 11 attacks, Kim Champney watched the mounting number of refund requests and cancellations called in to the regional airline he runs.

In the 30 days after hijackers flew jetliners into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Big Sky Airlines saw more cancellations than ever before. Demand for seats on Big Sky planes - which link small airports in Montana, Washington and North Dakota to major airports at Denver, Salt Lake City and Minneapolis - still hasn't recovered.

"Our traffic is close to 30 percent below what it was," Champney said in a telephone interview from his office in Billings, Mont., where he is president of Big Sky.

The airline's story is similar to those at many of the nation's 95 regional airlines, those carriers

"Our traffic is close to 30 percent below what it was."

- Kim Champney,
 president of
 Big Sky Airlines

that fly skiers to Vail, Colo., fishermen to Bozeman, Mont., and businessmen to Buffalo, N.Y.

The regional airlines represent a small but vital part of air travel in the United States. Regional airlines carry one of every eight passengers, but were the only source of scheduled air travel at 47% of the nation's 686 airports.

As travelers fearful of flying turned away from air travel, many of these small carriers were left in a precarious financial situation.

SkyWest Inc., a regional carrier based in St. George, Utah,

that flies between Twin Falls and Salt Lake City, told shareholders that it saw about 3,750 scheduled flights canceled between Sept. 11 and Sept. 30. The company said the attacks were behind a drop of about \$3.3 million in income for the third quarter of 2001 compared to the previous year.

Ken Button, director of the Center for Transport Operations and Logistics at George Mason University and an expert on the economics of the aviation industry, said that is largely due to the thin profit margins on which regional airlines operate. For some airlines, that margin is as small as the cost of a couple of seats on a 100-seat airplane.

Immediately after the attacks, members of Congress, particularly those from rural states, promised to help the regional airlines. One way was to increase money available to airlines

Please see AIRLINES, Page D4

No more Prime Cut

Twin Falls eatery closes after 25 years

By Carol Stephens
 Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - The Prime Cut Restaurant closed its doors last week after 25 years in the business.

Owner Barry Steen said the arrival of big new restaurants in Twin Falls severely hurt his business.

"I look at the business as an 80/20 pie, and each restaurant wants a slice. We've had the Outback, Montana Steak House, Tomato's and Sonic that all opened within a six-month span. We lost customers, and my slice of the pie got smaller," he said.

The economy also affected his business.

"My customers were the farmers and ranchers and middle-income families. They felt the low-water crunch and didn't make it out to dinner as often, so we had a spring slump," Steen said.

"When Sept. 11 hit, we felt it bad," he added. "With Christmas parties at half of previous years' levels, Steen decided he couldn't continue working at a loss."

"I need to feed around 10,000 people per month to get by. We were down to between 6,000 and 7,000," Steen said.

"Two more new restaurants will soon be opening. In fact, one of them has hired some of my staff," Steen said, "which makes me feel better."

He had 24 employees - one full-time assistant and 23 on hourly wages.

Prime Cut bought the land and built the restaurant in 1976. Steen said he started work there in 1986 as assistant manager and then manager. He left in 1991 to gain more restaurant experience.

"When I left we were feeding 12,000-15,000 people a month. That's what I thought we would be doing when I came back in 1997," Steen said.

The building had been sold to G & S Properties in Salt Lake City.

"I leased the building from them and bought the restaurant, built it back up, but my pockets just aren't deep enough now to fight the influx of big restaurants for my slice of the pie," Steen said.

The property owner was notified Monday.

"They've already got a letter of intent signed by a local person to buy the property," Steen said. He said he couldn't release the name, and G & S Properties did not return a reporter's call Friday.

Steen will continue his catering business, changing the name from Prime Cut to Barry's.



Aircraft from Big Sky Airlines are shown at Logan Airport in Billings, Mont., March 18, 1999. In the 30 days after hijackers flew jetliners packed with aviation fuel and passengers into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, Big Sky Airlines saw more cancellations than ever before, and still hasn't recovered.

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

Autozone Auto Parts opens Burley branch

BURLEY - Autozone Auto Parts is open at 811 E. Main St. in Burley.

Store manager Tony Hernandez is an Automotive Service Excellence-certified parts specialist with nine years of parts experience and two years as a front-end mechanic. Two other employees have six years of parts experience.

Autozone Auto Parts, at 678-7777, is among 3,100 corporate-owned stores nationwide and in Mexico. The chain provides parts with lifetime warranties.

Autozone Auto Parts will open two more stores in Idaho in the next year and two more after that.

Judy's Etc. in Buhl opens, sells \$1 to \$20 items

BUHL - Judy's Etc., a new low-prices store in Buhl, officially opened with ribbon-cutting ceremonies Dec. 11.

Owner Judy Bettazza and her 16-year-old son, Jake, operate the store 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.



Buhl Chamber of Commerce President Steve Kaatz, left, Mayor Barbara Glozen and chamber Executive Director Marilyn Huether help Judy Bettazza open her new store in Buhl.

Monday through Saturday. Special hours of 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. are in effect until Christmas Eve.

The store offers many items under \$1 and some to \$20. Bettazza said she buys surplus items by the truckload and when her inventory is down, she plans to work her way into a dollar store.

United Parcel Service and Federal Express service is available in the store.

Store offerings of comic books, cosmetics, greeting cards and balloons are just a few of the items available. Balloon delivery is offered for occasions such as birthdays, weddings and holidays.

Jerome Family Clinic receives 'Hot Shot' award
JEROME - The Jerome

Family Clinic received a "Hot Shot" Award from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare for having one of the two most-improved childhood immunization practices in the state.

To be eligible, the clinic needed documentation of immunization rates exceeding the state's average. The state team that evaluated its medical records earlier this year nominated Jerome Family Clinic for the award.

In the past, the state ranked 50th in the nation for immunization rates. However, boosting Idaho's rate is a priority of Gov. Kempthorne and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, the clinic said in a statement. The state's immunization program is educating the community on the importance of children receiving immunizations and providing ideas to physician clinics on how to track immunizations for their patients.

Jerome Family Clinic is the third largest private provider of childhood immunizations in District 5.

At Jerome Family Clinic, receptionists remind parents to bring in immunization cards for record keeping. The nurses

coordinate vaccine acquisition, storage, administration and record keeping. The nurses initiated a recall system and a computer-generated sticker system for record keeping. They also have been making copies of all records to be entered into the IRIS system with the district health department and are beginning to access the IRIS system by computer.

All providers at Jerome Family Clinic are encouraged to assess children at all visits for the status of their immunizations and to update them on any child who is well or affected by only minor illnesses. The clinic is in the process of reviewing charts on children 12 to 36 months old to assess their immunization status, update records and recall them for vaccines.

Henningsen Cold Storage wins family business award

TWIN FALLS - Henningsen Cold Storage Co. was one of seven Oregon businesses selected by Oregon State University's Austin Family Business Program to win Oregon Family Business of the Year awards.

Henningsen is this year's winner of the "Old Family Business of the Year," which honors

firms in operation for 75 years or more. The company was founded in Portland, Ore., in 1922.

Michael E. Henningsen Jr., chairman and president, accepted the award at the Family Business Day Awards ceremony Nov. 15 in Portland.

"Family business awards recognize the contributions that family-owned businesses make to their industries and to their communities," said Pat Friskhoff, chairman of the Austin Family Business Program. "In Oregon, more than 90 percent of the businesses are family owned," she said, adding that nationally, family businesses employ more than half the country's work force.

Award criteria include business linkage, contributions to the community and industry, innovative business strategies and practices, succession preparedness, multigenerational family business involvement and longevity.

Based in Hillsboro, Ore., Henningsen operates eight cold storage warehouses in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Oklahoma, North Dakota and Pennsylvania and employs 185 people nationwide.

New class teaches of Internet business

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho's business and technology departments incorporated a new elective course, E-Commerce Basics, in their programs for the spring semester.

"Electronic commerce, or e-business, is especially important to rural small businesses," said Mary Jones, E-Commerce Basics instructor at CSI. "The startup cost is low and the interaction between the Internet presence and the actual land-based business can improve customer service and the company's cash flow."

Jones said as recently as seven years ago there were just over 1 million computers connected to the Internet worldwide. Today there are more than 213 million. Individuals can now access more than 2 billion Web pages, and an estimated 2.5 million pages are added daily.

As small businesses quickly become one of the cornerstones of the new digital marketplace, industry estimates show that nearly 70 percent of them will access the Internet in 2003, Jones said.

Sherry Hoem, a graduate of the E-Commerce Basics course, said the CSI course was worthwhile. She and her husband, Ray, are selling their certified gourmet lamb sausage through their Internet Web site.

Two classes are offered: From 10 to 11:30 a.m. Mondays and Fridays or 2:30 to 4 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, both from Jan. 25 through May 13 in Room A23 of the Evergreen Building at CSI.

For more information, call Jones at 733-9554, Ext. 2419, or send e-mail to mjones@csi.edu.

GIFT GIVEAWAY



Burley Area Merchants Association sponsored "BAMA's Great Gift Giveaway" Nov. 22 through Dec. 15. BAMA includes more than 40 area merchants promoting the idea of shopping locally. More than \$7,000 in prizes were given away, including gift certificates, trips and a car donated by Budget Sales. Here, Albert Ochoa shows the car he won. With him is Mike Tilley, owner of Budget Sales.

HOTEL HOSPITALITY

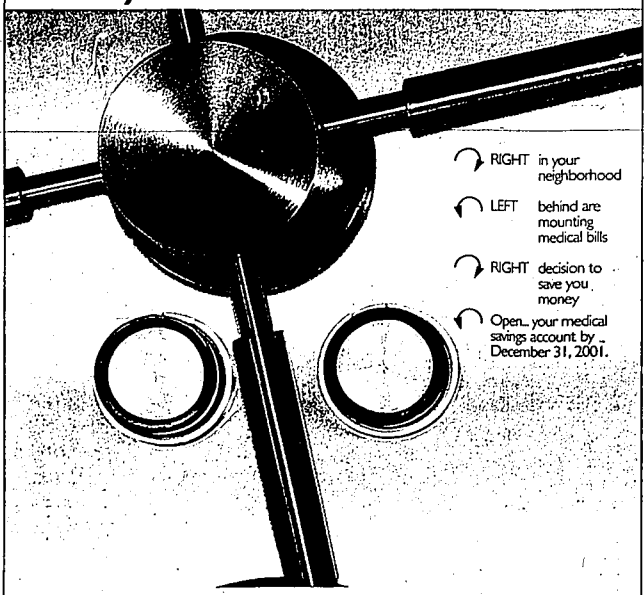


The Burley Area Merchants Association's promotion, "BAMA's Great Gift Giveaway," also awarded two one-night stays at Peery Hotel in Salt Lake City. Winners were Loree Nakano and Dianna Gonzales, not pictured.

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The Times-News: Your guide to living in the Magic Valley

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We Determine Your Needs, your best plan, not our best plan

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES



Kip McKelvey Sunny McKelvey
TWIN FALLS - Magic Valley Realty said Kip and Sunny McKelvey joined its team of professional Realtors.

Sunny McKelvey is a native of the Magic Valley currently residing in Twin Falls. Kip McKelvey is a long-time resident of Magic Valley. He also is a lifetime member of "Who's Who In America."

TWIN FALLS - Community Partnerships of Idaho, serving the Magic Valley with employment solutions for people with disabilities, recently reported several of its employees received certification from The National Registry of Certified Community Service Personnel, in Olympia, Wash.

Those receiving certification at Level III - the highest level - are Jody Reichel, Brent Culver, Stephanie Harrison, Randy Givens, Nancy Green and Priscilla Arlano.

Level II certificates were given to Cheryl Ryan, Penny Jones and Carma Sobotka.

The organization recognized Diana Keckerovic, Mark Todhunter, Francis McKay and Douglas Guymon with Level I status.

NRCSCP certification recognizes individuals at all levels of proficiency, experience and education who are providing community-based social and/or rehabilitative services. The certification isn't just academic but allows for experience and education (formal job-related continuing education) to be weighted equally in determining a certification applicant's level of professional development.

The recommendations and qualifications given to the NRCSCP had to show evidence of the experience these individuals have to work with disabled residents of the eight counties in south-central Idaho.

For more information about Community Partnerships, call Reichel, regional program director, at 735-2134.

TWIN FALLS - John Gomez, Magic Valley's service manager for Standley and Co., recently attended J. Houle and Sons New Product Orientation School in Drummondville, Quebec,



John Gomez

Canada. Standley and Co. is Idaho's only Houle dealer and specializes in the design of manure-handling systems for and sells equipment to the dairy and livestock industry. Houle and Sons has dealers nationwide and distributors worldwide and has been manufacturing equipment since 1956.

Gomez can be reached at 280-1169.

TWIN FALLS - The Times-News this year honored four employees.

Gigi Contardo, as employee of the year, received a \$1,000 bonus.

Contardo has performed maintenance tasks for The Times-News since spring 2000. Previously in Twin Falls, he worked three years as a janitor for the Blue Lakes Mall and Bank of America - while beginning to learn English - then seven years as a tailor for Babbel's Cleaners.

A native of Romania, Contardo said he long dreamed of living in America. Under the country's communist regime, he listened secretly to Voice of America radio broadcasts as a child.

After about 20 years as a tailor in Romania, Contardo started work for a dance company, which toured Western Europe. Those travels gave Contardo choice to defect, but he waited because of his two young sons in Romania. After his sons were grown, Contardo - still a tailor - defected during a trip to Greece. After three years in Greece waiting for an American visa, Contardo came to Twin Falls in 1990 through the College of Southern Idaho's refugee center.

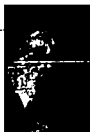
Since then, he said he has learned English, brought his wife, Tina, and two sons to Twin Falls and worked hard to get a house and "American cars."

Tina Contardo has worked for eight years as a McDonald's cook. The family intends to stay in Twin Falls, Gigi Contardo said.

He also was the newspaper's employee of the quarter for the first quarter of 2001.

Contardo and each of the other 2001 employees of the quarter received a \$250 bonus.

Kevin Hall became sports editor at The Times-News in March after serving as a sports-



Kevin Hall

writer for two years. Hall has worked as a journalist for over 40 years, beginning as a music critic at a small magazine in Seattle and working as a correspondent for several biweekly newspapers. He arrived at The Times-

News in 1998, working on the paper's copy desk.

Hall covers College of Southern Idaho basketball and is a member of the U.S. Basketball Writers of America.

Matt Shindle, mailroom supervisor at The Times-News, supervises the area responsible for the assembly of the newspaper including advertising inserts and preprinted sections.

Shindle has worked at the newspaper for eight years and



Matt Shindle

supervises 10 employees. Jan Hutchings, a native of Idaho, has been an ad designer in The Times-News' advertising department for more than 12 years. She earned a degree in ele-



Jan Hutchings

mentary education at Idaho State University, minoring in library science and art. She wrote and illustrated activity books for children at two companies and later taught elementary school in Idaho for six years.

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- Burley 2159 Overland Ave. 677-8909
- Burley Wal-Mart, 415 Riverside Dr 678-4739
- Chubbuck Wal-Mart, 4210 Yellowstone Avenue 238-3513
- Idaho Falls 1185 E. 17th St. 522-1000
- Jerome Wal-Mart, 2680 S. Lincoln 644-6491
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- Driggs Grandview Electronics, 50 Industrial Park 354-8029
- Gooding Western Auto 309 Main St. 934-4851
- Idaho Falls Cellular Games, 2631 South Hill Road (208)524-5522
- Idaho Falls Fair's Jewelry, 2026 E. 17th St. 523-3755
- Idaho Falls Manhattan Cellular, 1557 Northgate Mile (in front of Fred Meyer) 529-3066
- Idaho Falls Precise Sound, 1598 W. Broadway 529-0607
- Idaho Falls Vision Communication, 2300 East 17th St. 528-7255
- Ketchum Chateau Drug, Glacobi Square 726-5696
- Mackay Mountain Valley Towning, 110 S. McCaleb St. & Hwy 93 588-2400
- Montpelier R & L Communication, 862 Washington (208)847-1521
- Pocatello Cellular Games, Pine Ridge Mall (next to Sears) (208)238-8314
- Pocatello Handy Phone, 616 South 5th Street (208)234-2630
- Pocatello The Buzz Shop, 408 E. Oak State 233-0440
- Preston Hubbard's Cellular, 795 Waterway Drive 852-1674
- Preston Swainston's IV, 157 South State 852-0719
- Rexburg Auris One, 220 East 2nd North. (208)359-6162
- Rigby KDS Electronics (Radio Shack), 107 East Main (208)745-0812
- Salmon GGT Enterprises (Radio Shack) 2340 Main Street (208)756-6756
- Salmon Salmon Valley Cellular, 701 Main St. 756-2531
- Soda Springs R & L Communication, 101 East Hooper Ave. 547-4444
- Twin Falls The Buzz Shop, 1565 Fairmont 734-2808



David Goodsell and his wife Darlene, pack up his lunch and snacks in their kitchen in Lynnwood, Wash., before he leaves for his job at the Boeing Renton plant, Oct. 22. Later that day, Goodsell received two months notice that he was being laid-off from Boeing. The layoff was the last straw, prompting Goodsell and his family to plan to leave Washington.

Job cuts make for hard holidays

SEATTLE (AP) — Even before Sept. 11, Darlene and David Goodsell were getting fed up with Washington state: the traffic, the skyrocketing cost of living and even the famously gray weather.

Then came the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, and David Goodsell soon learned he was losing his assembly mechanic job at Boeing Co.

"I am not even looking (for a new job) in Washington state," he said. "We are done with this state."

The Goodsells aren't alone. The aftermath of Sept. 11 will cost Washington state thousands of jobs, adding even more burden to a state already struggling with a downturn in the tech economy. Unable to afford the high cost of living and facing one of the highest unemployment rates in the nation, many say they will move.

For those who stay, the outlook is bleak.

"The recession in Washington will last longer than the U.S. recession, and be deeper than the U.S. recession," says Chang

Mook Sohn, executive director of the state's economic forecast council.

Boeing plans to cut as many as 30,000 jobs by the end of 2002 as a result of the attacks, and as many as 20,000 could be in Boeing's Puget Sound-based commercial airplane plants. What's more, economists believe that, for every Boeing job lost, another 1.7 jobs are lost in related supply and retail sectors.

And unlike previous Boeing layoffs — nearly commonplace in the cyclical aerospace industry — this time other industries won't be around to pick up the slack. The unemployment rate in November 2001 had already soared to 6.8 percent — nearly the highest in the nation — before the Boeing layoffs started to take place.

It could be 2004 before Washington state's economy is on the mend, economists say.

Goodsell, 38, is one of its victims. He started work at Boeing in 1997, attracted to the high pay and generous benefits. Like many of his co-workers, he was part of a family tradition. His father — worked there for 15 years, his uncle for 45 years.

But in 1999, he was laid off as part of Boeing's last major round of job cuts.

Still, his family was not too worried. The state economy was booming, and Darlene Goodsell, 44, went from part-time to full-time at her grocery store job. With tuition reimbursement, David Goodsell went back to school for an information technology degree and took various part-time jobs.

Moreover, David Goodsell was convinced he'd be able to get a tech job quickly — until, a year later, the dot-com boom went bust.

Then, on Aug. 23, relief came when Goodsell was recalled to his

Boeing job.

Darlene Goodsell bought a new car, but otherwise the family continued to save. He worked the swing shift so they could avoid costly child care, and he took on weekend shifts whenever possible, making \$33.60 an hour in overtime.

"I figured I'd weathered the storm pretty well," Goodsell recalled.

Less than three weeks later, early on Sept. 11, Goodsell came home from his swing shift and sank into bed. He was awakened by a phone call from his wife, who told him to turn on the television. He hit the remote just in time to see the second plane hit the World Trade Center.

Goodsell received his layoff notice a couple weeks later, and his last day of work was Dec. 14.

Like countless other Boeing workers, the Goodsells are looking to move to Texas, with its lower cost of living and the promise of jobs at rival Lockheed Martin Corp. — which recently beat out Boeing for the Joint Strike Fighter defense contract and is recruiting Boeing workers.

It could be 2004 before Washington state's economy is on the mend, economists say.

Grant

Continued from D1.

Pat Madarieta, Region IV's contact at the Idaho Department of Commerce, said the Twin Falls project would come under the downtown-revitalization grant category.

"We have \$2.1 million for that category with a total of \$2.4 million in applicants — or \$300,000 more being asked for than money available," Madarieta said.

He also warned, "It doesn't mean we'll spend all the money budgeted to a category in that

category. We have \$12 million in community-development applications, which includes sewer and water projects, and only \$9.8 million budgeted."

Five towns are competing for the dollars in downtown revitalization. Madarieta said they are

Burley, Dubois, Montpelier, St. Maries and Twin Falls.

Both Twin Falls and Burley have solid projects, Herring said.

"Everything is still in a wait-and-see mode," said Dave McAlindin, Twin Falls' economic director.

Airlines

Continued from D1.

under the Essential Air Services program — basically a federal subsidy to airlines to continue providing air service on routes that would otherwise lose money.

The Transportation Department was poised to cut as many as 44 communities from its Essential Air Services program in order to keep costs at its initial funding level of \$50 million.

This fall, lawmakers, particularly those from rural states, pushed an additional \$13 million into the EAS funding as part of the transportation budget. And this month, lawmakers added another \$50 million to the EAS program through language shoehorned into a defense spending bill. That brought funding up to \$113 million for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1.

But the aid to regional airlines is dwarfed by the \$15 billion in loan guarantees and direct payments for major airlines won after an intense lobbying effort immediately after the Sept. 11 attacks.

"That's just the way it was done. I don't know if there'd be a fairer way to do it that wouldn't have biased it the other way,"

Champney said. "But certainly, our losses were proportionately as great."

If regional airlines disappeared, it would leave wide parts of the nation, those places without a large airport at a major city, without any air travel at all.

Many of those truly remote air routes are in states like Montana, Wyoming and the Dakotas — places with towns that are four, five or six hours drive away from a major airport — or Alaska, where some towns are accessible only by air.

"If you want to keep these communities linked to civilization, you either have to buy them some huskies or ensure this Essential Air Service money is there," Button said.

At \$63 million, congressional negotiators had found enough to keep from dropping communities from the EAS program — but that was before the decline in air traffic brought profit margins crashing.

"It wasn't enough," said Deborah McElroy, president of the Regional Airlines Association, the industry's lobbying group.

Reps. Jerry Moran, R-Kan., and Tom Udall, D-N.M., coaxed signatures from 41 House members on a letter to House leadership demanding more money for the EAS program.

"We're in a position we've never been in before. No one has had this exact experience. We know that 10 years ago, during the Gulf War, traffic declined, took a full year to get to level prior," Champney said.

"I don't know that anyone knows the traffic will continue to be below normal levels. But certainly the changes in security, the longer lines to get through the airport, are having an effect on people's air travel."

Big Sky flies to 27 cities in Montana, North Dakota and Washington. In 16 of those cities, it is the only carrier.

If one of us were to fall onto hard times and not be able to continue, it would be very difficult for the rest of us to pick up the slack," Champney said.

Udall, the New Mexico congressman, said Congress was hoping that the greater spending on aid to small airlines this year would work as a sort of bandage approach until business returned.

YOUR BUSINESS

CONTRIBUTIONS

A GIFT OF ART



Wells Fargo Bank donated to the Twin Falls Public Library two black and white photos of Shoshone Falls and Twin Falls. The photographs had been stored for many years. Here Heather Walker, manager of the bank's downtown Twin Falls office, presents one of the pictures to library director Arlan Call. It is estimated the pictures were taken prior to 1910, bank officials said. The pictures are now on display in the library's Idaho and Pacific Northwest history room.

South Central Community Action Agency received a new walk-in freezer, donated by Lamb Weston Inc. and voluntarily installed by Source Refrigeration and HVAC, J & L Electric, Idaho Metal



Fabrication, Western Pipe Insulation and Westphal & Sons. The freezer will provide much needed space for the agency's donated frozen food, especially for turkeys, frozen potatoes (also donated by Lamb Weston) and other products.

The freezer is valued at over \$10,000 and as an in-kind dona-



This donated freezer will hold food donated to South Central Community Action Agency.

tion will serve as a match toward reducing total cost for the agency's new facility, the agency said.

TELL US YOUR BUSINESS

YourBusiness is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it:

- Promotions and staff changes.
- New certifications.
- Seminars and workshops.
- Awards and achievements.
- Charitable business activities.
- Other business news.

Please e-mail items to Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins at virginia@magvalley.com

Or contact her at:
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83303
733-0931, Ext. 242
Fax: 677-4543 or
734-5538



YourBusiness deadline: Noon Wednesday for publication the following Sunday.

Mall

Continued from D1.

Somebody's doing something right. They need kudos."

For several years the mall and its parking lot looked bare, but that has changed, he said.

While the mall still has a couple of vacancies, Thompson sees strong possibilities of filling them soon.

One of the things Thompson did impressed Cheney and has others in the community talking — a display of flags from all 50 states as well as Army, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard and MIA/POW flags.

"A Season of Peace, Hope, Honor and Pride," is the display's theme.

On one end of the mall a "Row

of Honor" is full of wreaths and pictures honoring those serving in the military.

"It brings in a lot of people," Thompson said.

Thompson got community sponsors to help pay for the \$3,500 display of wreaths and flags. Sponsors' names are displayed on the wall near the Row of Honor. He is still looking for a few more sponsors to meet the cost.

But he does not attribute the mall's recent success only to the patriotic display.

"The way I see it, we're all in it together," he said. "We live in a great community that supports local business. That's what makes it happen."

Wishing you & yours a very Merry Christmas!

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Old traditions blend with new in country Christmas fun

TWIN FALLS—Of course, Santa leaves gifts under the tree. But at the Holloway family households, there also is a special gift to each child left by "the Phantom."

Bill Holloway as a young boy would search at once for his Phantom package Christmas morning, and his own children have done the same.

In Jerome, Jackie Montgomery's family rises early and checks out the unwrapped gifts delivered by Santa. Then they all go outside to give cattle, horses and mules a generous helping of hay.

Another Montgomery tradition is to hitch horses or mules to the wagon, gather up friends and neighbors, and ride around singing in harmony.

At Indian Cove west of Glens Ferry, Margaret and Joe Black enjoy family time with their eight sons and a generation of grandchildren.

"We go to Mass on Christmas Eve in 'Armenae,'" Margaret Black said, "then come home for dinner and a family gift exchange."

In King Hill, the biggest family holiday of the year for ranchers Bud and Betty Allen is Thanksgiving. So Christmas is more of a quiet holiday where the traditional highlight is Betty's huge, super-moist-graham-cracker fruitcake.



Bundling up for old-fashioned winter hayrides and Christmas caroling is a family tradition for Jackie Montgomery of Jerome. Here she drives her team of Belgian mules to take a ride with neighboring friends Beverly Hill, Amber Gay, Brady Gay, age 5, and Josey Gay, 2.

versal water rights language in the farm bill being considered in the Senate.

The proposal in question would allow the federal government to acquire and control water rights through the Conservation Reserve Program. The Water Conservation Program would provide temporary or permanent acquisition of water rights by the Secretary of Agriculture for 1.1 million acres of farmland enrolled in the CR. Craig and Crapo warn that state water

rights are not protected under the legislation. Craig said the provision would require CRP participants to contract some of their water rights to the federal government in order to qualify for a CRP program.

Buhl man will serve as IASCD president

BOISE—A long-time conservation leader from Buhl was chosen to lead the state's association of soil conservation districts.

Roger Stutzman has served on the Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District board since 1982 and the IASCD board of directors for the last seven years.

One of his goals as president is to improve communications with the state's legislators. Stutzman, along with district supervisors from across the state, have been frustrated with the lack of technical support and funding that's been made available to meet the water quality challenges set out by the state's TMDL schedule.



Fambeat
Highlights of this week's Magic Valley Ag Weekly, The Times-News' weekly report on agriculture.

Dairy Bureau chief gives Wendell dairy choices

WENDELL—A Gooding County dairyman appears to be facing tough decisions, after Dairy Bureau inspectors reported on an incident involving management of the dairy's waste.

Bureau inspectors last week, responding to a complaint, found a full lagoon and land application of effluent at Van Dyk 3 dairy in Wendell.

Local cattlemen start course for new year

JEROME—A grass-roots organization, the Magic Valley Cattlemen's Association, takes its cue from local membership. The

MVCA is a local chapter of the statewide organization, the Idaho Cattlemen's Association. Issues and concerns facing local cattlemen make a priority list that is then tackled head on by state and local volunteer leaders and staff.

Dan Danos of Gooding, president of the Magic Valley Cattlemen's Association said the local membership works hand in hand with leadership at the state level.

Preserving private property rights, including water rights, is a goal both at the state and local level.

"The Magic Valley Cattlemen's Association is ever vigilant to keep private property rights in place," Danos said.

Sugar beet trucks continue to run busy schedule

PAUL—John Schorr, Agricultural Manager of the Mini-Cassia District of the Amalgamated Sugar Co, said sugar beet processing is running at a steady clip.

"There are about 40 trucks reloading from outlying dumps, carrying 30 tons each, that are unloading in 2 1/2 to 3 minutes per load at the factory in Paul. With the addition of 1,000 to 1,500 tons per day from the factory piles, this keeps our slicers busy 24 hours a day."

"We are pretty well on schedule, shooting for completion date of March 1," Schorr said. "The sugar content is holding well, and the cold weather helps the storage life of the beets."

Idaho delegates fight water rights challenge

WASHINGTON—Idaho Sens. Larry Craig and Mike Crapo are leading the push to strict contro-

The Times-News

BOISE—Following is the list of businesses filed during November with the Idaho secretary of state's office—including both new ones and existing ones that had been filed with counties and had to be refiled with the state.

Businesses added by name, agent, address and nature of business.
5W Westpark LLC, Chris R. Stephens, 205 S. 2nd St., Ketchum, ID 83340.
5th Ave. Outlet Store, Ardell Hill, 351 Fifth Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail trade.

Global Resources Inc., Blaine Fillington, P.O. Box 4036, Hailey, ID 83333, retail and wholesale manufacturing.
Dani's Do & Dye, Dani Garner, 491 W. 300 S., Heyburn, ID 83336, retail trade.

Dates F. Fryberger Architect PA, Dates F. Fryberger, 114 Gin Ridge Road, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Denmar LLC, Dennis Gleeed, 44 W. 100 N., Rupert, ID 83350.

The Depot Owners Association, George Kirk, 220 Second Ave. S., No. 201, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Doctors Woodworth, Warren & Garrard, Dentists, PLLC, Dr. Gerald A. Woodworth, Scott Avenue & G Street, Rupert, ID 83350.

Double Check Supply Inc., Jill Nielsen, 809 W. 100 N., Paul, ID 83347.
Dreamaker Street Rods LLC, Darren Hall, 3239-B Falls Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Dry Creek Mini Storage, Brad Perkins, 3319 N. 4625 E., Murtaugh, ID 83344, services.
E & R Trucking Inc., Eldon Lancaster, 223 Eighth Ave. E., Jerome, ID 83338.

En. Fine Catering Cuisine, Stephanie Gincaboi, P.O. Box 753, Ketchum, ID 83340, services.
Elite Motors, Jason Newhouse, 643 Second Ave. S., Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail, wholesale.

Elle Rose Cashmere, Elle Rose of Sun Valley Inc., P.O. Box 3103, Ketchum, ID 83340, retail trade.
Enchanted Interiors, Mark Farmer, 26 Robbins Ave., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.

Engel & Associates LLC, Matthew B. Engel, 221 Northwood Way, Suite 100, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Fair Fields, Marian Lane, P.O. Box 534, Fairfield, ID 83327, retail trade.

Falls Bank, Independent Food Corp., P.O. Box EE, Twin Falls, ID 83303, retail trade services.
Firesafe Exhaust and Steam

Bill Stuart Painting, Deborah Stuart, 145 Ninth Ave. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301, services.
Bio-Earth Elements Inc., Kirby L. Koop, 817 Walnut St. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

B/E Enterprises Ltd. Co., Daryl K. Tadlock, 144 Earl Drive, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Brookstreet Securities of Twin Falls, Paul R. Graff, 3728 N. 2500 E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, finance, insurance, real estate.

Bunn Properties LLC, William K. Bunn, 611 Yingsir Road, Jerome, ID 83338.
Burley Digital Group, Jeff A. Nicholas, 43 W. 200 N., Burley, ID 83314, services.

Canyon Vista Corp., Christy J. Williams, 1198 Mountain View Drive, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Canyon Vista Family Limited Partnership, Christy J. Williams, 1198 Mountain View Drive, Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Carnoulet Homes, Dale Tabor, 1210 Harmony Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301, services.
C&F Leasing Co., Timothy Carroll, 223 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Center for Environmental Education and Information, Wester Center for Environmental Information, P.O. Box 1778, Sun Valley, ID 83353, services.

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MONEY

Last-minute shoppers face many temptations

By Eileen Alt Powell
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A holiday warning: Last-minute shopping may be hazardous to your wealth. That's especially true this year with so many merchants offering deep discounts to lure customers to their stores, financial experts say.

"When you're rushed, you lose the opportunity to comparison shop and you often buy impulsively," said Don Blandin, president of the American Savings Education Council in Washington, D.C. "It's not a good deal when you over-

"When you're rushed, you lose the opportunity to comparison shop and you often buy impulsively."

—Don Blandin, president of the American Savings Education Council

spend or go into debt for something you don't need."

Judith Jean-Louis, a 38-year-old nurse who was shopping this week at Macy's department store for Christmas gifts, agrees. "Prices are so low this year that there are many temptations," she said. "It's easy to end up buying too much."

On this particular shopping expedition, in fact, she hadn't found a gift for her husband. But the discounts were so good in the lingerie department that she bought new sheets and a comforter.

Valerie Banks, 47, who works as a housekeeper, also said she was finding it difficult to pass up department store bargains.

"It's cheaper, so you buy more," she said. Her booty from a recent trip included bedding for her niece, a sweater for her son and a bottle of perfume — "reduced 15 percent" — for herself.

Apparently looking for prices to go even lower, a lot of people have delayed the start of their holiday shopping this year. A current survey by the Express found that more than 30 percent of people waited until December, up from 25 percent last year. Men are twice as likely as women to be procrastinators, with many avoiding the malls until the final week before Christmas.

Kathleen Gurney, a specialist in the psychology of money and an adviser to the GE Center for Financial Learning, said shoppers should not be distracted by deep discounts.

"For many people look at the wrong end of the equation," she said. "You have to focus on what you're spending, not what you're saving."

Gurney added that it also helps to make a list and stick to it. "It's easy to get caught up in the frenzy at the store," she said. "People get caught up in the activity itself rather than focusing on what am I there for."

Gurney also advises that people who have a weakness for sales consider leaving their credit cards at home and limiting themselves to cash.

Bill Cullinan, interim president of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling in Silver Spring, Md., said that one of the biggest problems families face is overspending for children.

"I'm especially concerned when there's such pressure to get the latest 'in' things," he said.

Cullinan advises parents to be frank with their children about what they can afford. If a child's "wish list" is for three items, help him or her cut it to one.

"I know it's hard to say that done, but it helps teach lessons, not just about money but that love isn't based on material things," he said.

Blandin of the ASEC refers to the rush shopping days before Christmas as the "hot war" and says it doesn't have to be that way. This season, after the Sept. 11 attacks and amid the war in Afghanistan, many people are looking for things money can't buy.



Diane Bromberg, shows a copy of the tape and books she's made to teach others how to get into the gift basket business in the basement of her Franklin Lakes, N.J., home Dec. 12.

Entrepreneur built a company by networking with other businesses

NEW YORK (AP) — For Diane Bromberg, a cellophane-wrapped basket filled with cookies, jams and chocolates is more than a calorie-laden delight; it's a symbol of her success.

Six years ago, Bromberg, in need of a job and with two children to support, started her own business — not the dot-com dream many other entrepreneurs pursued, but a more traditional, one-woman operation, putting together gift baskets in her home workshop in Wayne, N.J.

Now, "I'm finally taking a deep breath and saying to myself, 'I'm really supporting myself,'" Bromberg said at the height of the busy holiday season and just one day after buying herself a new Land Rover.

In truth, Bromberg has been successful not just because of the thousands of baskets she packages and ships each year. As she built her business, using a mix of her personality and marketing techniques straight out of a textbook, Bromberg discovered other ways to make money, by teaching other people how to make baskets and running events to help small business owners network.

Networking has been the driving force behind Bromberg as an entrepreneur. In talking about her work, she talks about networking, not baskets.

"I'm consistently marketing, consistently networking," she said. "That brings me back to the basket boutique."

People who have worked with Bromberg say they admire her ability to network with so many people.

"She probably spends 70 percent of her time networking," said Richard Magid, who runs support groups for small business owners in New Jersey as part of the New York-based Let's Talk Business Network. "She knows the value of communicating and keeping in contact with people, and it comes back to her at this time of year, the busy season."

Jerry Goldstein, an attorney who also has worked with Bromberg, said, "She makes people think that by networking with her, they're going to receive the benefits of having her know who they are."

Bromberg, whose background was in art, had a comfortable life, living in what she describes as a beautiful million-dollar home, raising two children and working part-time. But by the mid-1990s, that life had disappeared amid

'I joined every group, became a member, every support and networking group to let everyone know that this was my business.'

—Diane Bromberg

financial problems and a divorce, and Bromberg had to find a way to support herself and her family.

In early 1996 she started International Basket Boutique, putting together gift baskets and shipping them. She actually had the idea before her marriage broke up — she had put together baskets for her husband's company, loved it and got a lot of compliments for her work.

"But you have to sell a lot of baskets to make a living, and so Bromberg began building her business by forming contacts with as many people as possible and finding creative ways to give her name and her company exposure.

"I joined every group, became a member of everyone member, every support and networking group to let everyone know this was my business," she said. "I gave baskets to people that had a lot of traffic in their stores, gave them baskets to raffle off for the holidays."

Bromberg never went to business school; but she said that being exposed to business people in her family helped prepare her for running her own company. "I was like a sponge, listening to my husband and my brother," she

said. "A lot of it was that I didn't have a lot of choices. I knew I had to go out there and earn a living," she said. "It was a lot of trial and error."

Networking also led to offshoots of her business. She started getting calls from people who had read about her or who had met her as she networked.

"Women found-found-me-and-said, 'I want to do what you do,'" Bromberg said. "Being the entrepreneur that I am, I figured I help could women start their own businesses."

So Bromberg began selling a marketing package that's a how-to for setting up a basket business and began selling it on a Web site (www.intlbaskets.com). She has written several books, including one on starting a home-based business and runs seminars on running a basket business.

She also founded Networking Events Co., which puts together educational events for business people. Bromberg lines up speakers on topics such as "How to work a room" or "How to close a sale."

But like many other entrepreneurs, she still worries, and that drives her to keep networking. "I always think that it's not enough... I'm still a process in the works."

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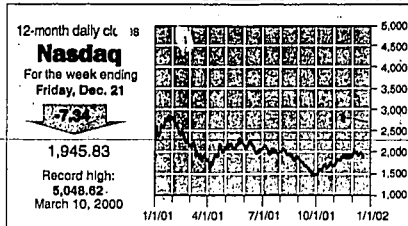
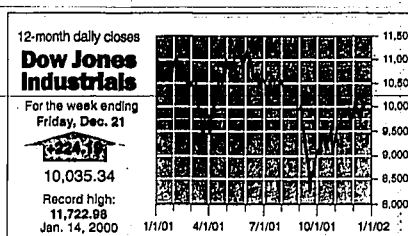
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Wall Street shrugs off Argentina's troubles

By Amy Baldwin
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Even as Argentina's economy crumbled and its angry citizens took to the streets this past week, Wall Street paid little attention.

Despite riots that have resulted in at least 22 deaths, ultimately resulting in the resignation of the country's president, the Dow Jones industrial hovered around the 10,000 level, rising 2.3 percent on the week.

While individual companies with business exposure in Argentina face some fallout, overall Wall Street barely notices. The turmoil within South America's second-largest country — a stark contrast to the collapses in Asia and Russia in the late 1990s that caused widespread problems.

Wall Street's thinking is that while Argentina still risks insolvency as it struggles with \$132 billion in debt, there will be little effect on global markets, including here in the United States.

Analysts say traders have learned to shelter themselves from turmoil in international markets. But there are also several reasons why what happened in Argentina matters less to U.S. markets.

"In this case, there's less chance that one region's financial crisis will spread to other markets as the so-called 'Asian Contagion' did."

"The magic word here is contagion, and there hasn't been

much," said Russ Sheldon, senior economist at Harris-Nesbitt Bank of Chicago. "Despite the size of the Argentine economy by South American standards, it's not a player in the global market. So, there is no contagion."

Others said Wall Street's calm attitude stems from traders having known for a while about Argentina's flailing economy, which has been in recession for nearly four years. U.S. companies, particularly banks, and investors have had time to curtail their business and investing there.

"It didn't surprise us or come out of the blue. I think we have had ... years to work on exposure," said Arthur Hogan, chief market analyst at Jefferies & Co. "This is not a new development, it is just coming to a head, and so, the (world) markets are able to look past it."

The Argentine situation is a contrast to the 1997 Asian currency crisis, which caught traders more off guard, Hogan said. While there were hints of problems in Asia, few expected how widespread the effects would be.

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Joe Somebody (PG) Daily 7:00-9:30

Sat-Sun 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:30

Henny Youngman (G) Daily 7:15-9:15

Sat-Sun 12:45-2:30-4:10-7:20-9:40

Lord of the Rings (12) Daily 7:30

Sat-Sun 12:30-4:10-7:30

All Shows 5:15-10:15

the ODYSSEY 6

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Black Knight (R)

Sat-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:50-7:10-9:20

Ocean 11 (13)

Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:00-9:30

Out Cold (R)

Sat-Sun 12:45-2:30-5:10-7:20-9:40

How High (R)

Sat-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:50-7:10-9:20

Not Another Teen Movie (G)

Sat-Sun 12:45-2:30-4:10-7:20-9:40

The Heat (R)

Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:00-9:30

All Shows 5:15-10:15

the ODYSSEY 6

104 Main Street • Twin Falls • 734-2000

Black Knight (R)

Sat-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:50-7:10-9:20

Ocean 11 (13)

Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:00-9:30

Out Cold (R)

Sat-Sun 12:45-2:30-5:10-7:20-9:40

How High (R)

Sat-Sun 12:30-2:40-4:50-7:10-9:20

Not Another Teen Movie (G)

Sat-Sun 12:45-2:30-4:10-7:20-9:40

The Heat (R)

Sat-Sun 1:30-3:30-7:00-9:30

All Shows 5:15-10:15

Twin Cinema 12

104 Main Street • Twin Falls • 734-2000

Henny Youngman: Best Genius (G)

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Spey Ganga (R) Robert Redford

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Mattie (PG) Daily 7:15-9:15

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Joe Somebody (PG) The Allen

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Shallow Hal (12)

Today 6:45-7:30-9:15

Lord of the Rings (12) The Allen

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

Monsters Inc. (G) Walt Disney

Today 12:30-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

All Shows 5:15-10:15

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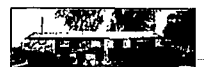
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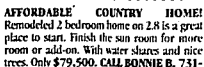
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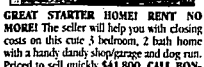
HOMES FOR SALE



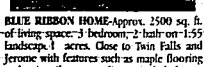
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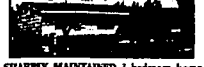
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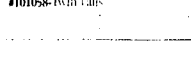
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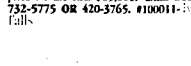
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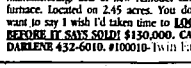
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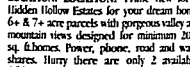
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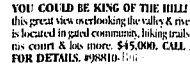
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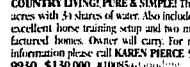
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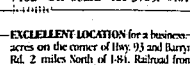
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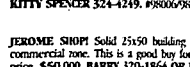
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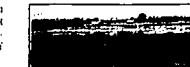
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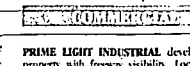
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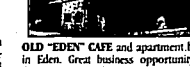
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REAL ESTATE

50 LEGALS

FARM SERVICE AGENCY (FSA) FARM FOR SALE

The Farm Service Agency (FSA) is selling a farm in "as is" condition, located in Cassia County, Idaho, described as follows: The farm consists of 54.13 acres, including a dwelling and general purpose building. This includes 44.1 acres of cropland, with 48.8 acres within the Burley Irrigation District. Irrigation equipment consists of a pump and motor, aluminum mainline, and hand-moved lateral sprinkler lines. The farm is located at 61 South 1050 East, Declo, Idaho.

The property is being offered for sale to those individuals FSA considers to be qualified beginning farmers or ranchers, and all prevailing claimants in the civil action *Pigford vs. Glickman*. Beginning farmers or ranchers who are prevailing claimants will be given first priority consideration in the purchase of this property. If more than one beginning farmer or rancher who is a prevailing claimant submits an application, priority within this group will be determined by lottery. Qualified beginning farmers or ranchers must be in need of FSA credit assistance either in the form of direct FSA financing, an FSA guaranteed loan, or a participation

50 LEGALS

loan. For other requirements and information on how to qualify as a beginning farmer or rancher, you may contact your local FSA office.

THE SALES PRICE WILL BE \$160,000.00.

An "eligible" Beginning Farmer or Rancher is defined as one who has materially and substantially participated in the operation of a farm or ranch for at least 3 years but not more than 10 years and meets the eligibility requirements outlined in FmHA Instruction 1943-A.

FSA can make a direct loan up to the \$160,000.00 purchase price. If there are no FSA funds available at the time of purchase, a beginning farmer or rancher may lease the farm for up to 18 months while waiting for funds. Offers must be in writing on form FmHA 1955-45, "Standard Sales Contract" and must be submitted along with a complete application to the FSA Office in Rupert, Idaho, by 4:30 p.m. on January 11, 2002. Offers received after that date will not be considered. The government reserves the right to cancel the sale at any time and the right to reject any or all offers. For additional information, a "Standard Sales Contract" form and application package, contact the FSA Office at 98C South 200 West, Rupert, Idaho. The phone number is (208) 496-4777.

50 LEGALS

tion, a "Standard Sales Contract" form and application package, contact the FSA Office at 98C South 200 West, Rupert, Idaho. The phone number is (208) 496-4777.

PUBLISH: December 16, 18, 21, 23, 25 and 28, 2001

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minidoka County Highway District, a political subdivision of the State of Idaho, proposes to sell to

50 LEGALS

the Three Creek Highway District, a political subdivision organized under the laws of the State of Idaho, property described more particularly as follows:

One (1) 1984 Caterpillar Model 140G, grader, Serial No. 72V07341.

The Minidoka County Highway District proposes to sell and the Three Creek Highway District proposes to purchase the above-described personal property for the sum of \$35,000.00, pursuant to the provisions of Idaho Code Sections 67-2322 and 67-2323. The Minidoka County Highway

50 LEGALS

District proposes to ratify the proposed written agreement at its meeting scheduled for Monday, January 7, 2002 at 8:00 p.m. at the Minidoka County Highway District office located at 225 West 50 South, Rupert, Idaho. The Three Creek Highway District proposes to ratify the proposed written agreement at its meeting scheduled for Tuesday, January 8, 2002 at the hour of 7:00 p.m. at the office of the Three Creek Highway District Office, Rogerson, Idaho. Interested parties may obtain copies of the proposed agreement at:

either the Minidoka County Highway District office or at the Three Creek Highway District during regular business hours. The property to be sold may be viewed by contacting the Minidoka County Highway District Office at 225 West 50 South, Rupert, Idaho. DATED this 19th day of December, 2001. Three Creek Highway District /Ira Brackett, Secretary Minidoka County Highway District /Sylvia Tracy, Secretary

50 LEGALS

PUBLISH: December 22, 23, 24, 29, 30 and 31, 2001

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REAL ESTATE

501 OPEN HOUSES

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502 HOMES FOR SALE

A GUARANTEED AD

Buy the Guaranteed package and The Times News guarantees to sell merchandise or automotive items in 7 days and real estate in 15 days or we will return the ad an additional 7 days. There is a \$3 extra charge for the guaranteed package. Ads may be cancelled early for customer convenience but the charge will remain the same.

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FILER

3 bedroom, 2 lots \$41,000
3 bedroom, corner lot \$37,500
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2 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, \$18,000

Mary Christmas

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Richfield Easy mortgage money home, 1248 sq. ft. 3 bdrm, 2 bath on 4 lots of 24,400 sq. ft. 24'x40' insulated garage w/office, 2 sheds, 1 for motorcycle. Forced all around. Many trees, some fruit, \$108,000. 1-800-395-2289; Code 8049

Need A Home? Twin Falls Area - Boise Area? TheHessTeam.Com

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TWIN FALLS \$33,900 3 bdrm. garage. For listing call 800-319-3323 ext. H792

TWIN FALLS 270 Caswell 3 bdrm, 1 bath. Sprinklers. \$89,000. 733-1557

TWIN FALLS Custom 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home on Meander Point with formal living room, kitchen w/island, family room w/ fireplace, and unfinished lower level. \$209,900 Happy Holidays

NELSON REALTY LLC
734-3930

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502 HOMES FOR SALE

502 HOMES FOR SALE

Twin Falls Professional Office Center
Directly Across from CSI



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Agency Bid \$17,645.46
Appraised
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98A S 200 W, Rupert,
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Ext. 1


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There is NO down payment!

Homes are 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and double car garage! Low monthly payments are adjusted to your income.



For more information please call toll free 1-866-335-2087

Season's Greetings

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Line #1 - 208-734-6500 - 1-800-658-9863

REAL ESTATE

TWIN FALLS Rock Garden Condo for sale by Owner! 2 level, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, fireplace, \$75,000. Call 734-4187 / 732-0732 or 800-707-0817.

TWIN FALLS N.E. location, 6 bdrms, 3 1/2 baths, oil tub 3 car garage, auto sprinklers, appls., cedar deck. Price reduced. \$225,000/offer. 733-0949

TWIN FALLS Priced Reduced!! Beautiful 5 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, on fully landscaped 1 acre lot. Vaulted ceilings, auto sprinklers, large deck what tub and much more. \$168,000. Owner willing to carry contract. 735-9815 or (209) 641-8118

TWIN FALLS 1905 vinyl, oxc. cond. 3 bdrm, 2 bath. \$99,500. 543-6992

513 ACREAGE AND LOTS

HEYBURN Fully developed upscale lots for sale. Foxboro subdivision. Restorative covenants. Price reduced. Call 679-0637.

TWIN FALLS Brand new subdivision next to Oregon Trail Elementary School. Complete packages including lot, stick built 3 bdrm, 2 bath, dbl garage, vinyl siding, and 2 x 8 construction. Homes starting at \$86,000! Call LYNN RASMUSSEN, President of the Rasmussen Team @ Gem State Realty. 737-3900 or cell phone 420-2807.

GEM STATE REALTY, INC.
734-0400

514 INCOME PROPERTY

TWIN FALLS "Tired of stocks?" Check return on new 4 plex. Call Chuck 733-8207

515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

TWIN FALLS PROFESSIONAL OFFICE CENTER DIRECTLY ACROSS FROM CSI Approx. 2000 sq ft, highly visible, avail. 1/14/02. Lease rate \$2500 per mo. (taxes & insurance paid). Call J. Francis Florence 281-800, Westerra Real Estate Group 733-7653

516 MOBILE HOMES

FLEETWOOD '95 14 x 66 2 bdrm, 2 bath. Nice! Must see! \$23,000. 678-3262

HEYBURN Fleetwood '98 24x40, 3 bdrm, 2 bath. All appls. Like new. Sitting on a quiet street, not a mobile home park. Grass and trees. (land not included). 411 18th St. Heyburn ID \$29,900. Brockman's 800-978-4380 Cash for double widos

NASHUA '82 14 x 70. Without. Gas heat & appliances, wood stove. \$13,500/offer 431-9607

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED

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OR
208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

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\$100 REWARD
For information or return of my manikin taken from my front porch. CALL 326-8690.

FOUND Malo, Border Collie, neutered, 15 stamped, Hazelton area, 829-5638 (leave message).

FOUND Little girl's wallet with \$26 in it. Call to identify 736-7666.

FOUND Swiss Army knife with keys. Call to identify at 208-423-6458, ask for Dave.

HOUND POUND
TWIN FALLS ANIMAL SHELTER

FOUND:
1. Husky cross neutered male on Addison.
2. Flat cross neutered male, green collar.
3. 2 Lab/Terrier X female cross femur young adult.
4. Aussie cross female red big pup.
5. Pit cross rod and white male on 3rd Ave. North

ADOPTION:
1. Heeler young adult male.
2. Spaniel black female X puppies.
3. 2 Lab/Terrier X puppies.
4. Lab X young adult female dog, in house trained.

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Animals are **SOLD** or **DESTROYED** after 48 hours, so please call or visit the pound daily to check if your pet is here. This is not an up-to-date list; mixed dogs are hard to describe. Or come pick out a puppy, dog or cat. They would love a home!
This is a public service announcement of The Times-News.

LOST Madonna & Child cameo brooch. Lost 12/14 Call 644-9052

LOST 2 dogs vicinity of Anderson Lumber, Siberian Husky with 1 brown eye and 1 blue eye.
Beagle Lab X. Might answer to Nick / Marshall. Call 731-7362.

LOST 3 yr. old female, white German Shepherd. Comes to the name of Skyler. **REWARD!** Call 733-2890.

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- 3 line minimum - Private Party Only

Pay Schedule • All Ads Must be Prepaid

Number of Days - 3 lines	Cost
1-3 days	\$16.70
4-7 days	\$23.80
8-15 days	\$42.00
16-30 days	\$78.50

(Includes Magic Values, Ag-Weekly and Internet)

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(Allow 1 space for each letter, punctuation marks and blank spaces.)

↓ Additional lines extra charges ↓

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Amount Enclosed \$ _____
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Credit Card Number _____
Expiration Date _____
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Twin Falls, ID 83401-0548
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The Times-News

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Now taking applications for our waiting list for 1, 2 & 3 bedroom Apartments.
Mountain View East
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FOR RENT
Now taking applications for our waiting list for 1 & 2 bedroom Apartments
Valley Park Apartments
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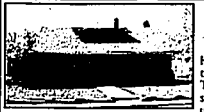
FOR RENT
Clean 1 Bedroom Apartments
Now Renting For Seniors, Handicapped, Persons
Rent Based on Income
POPLAR GROVE APARTMENTS
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Large, Clean 1, 2 & 3 Bedroom Apartments. Rent based on income.
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Southwood Apartments
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539-0558



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737-3912



VANCE WALKER
Sales Associate
420-0364



TAMMY GOODING
Sales Associate
737-3940



KAY KENDRICK
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Sales Associate
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THOMAS LLOYD
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324-8443



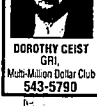
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Sales Associate
324-8508



ERNE KENDRICK
Sales Associate
410-2000



DORIS BARKER
Sales Associate
324-4664



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3 Bedroom, 2 bath mobile home, split bedroom plan, large master bedroom, storage shed, overrange, refrigerator, dishwasher. \$14,000. Call DEBBIE @ 734-4044.

436 WASHINGTON ST. N. \$48,000. Great location for your small business - located on a heavily traveled street. Business sign in place and parking available in front and rear - 1738 total sq. ft. - accessible from street and alley. Call JOANN @ 737-3961 OR KATHI S. @ 737-3917.

GREAT BUY! Only \$48,000. 2-3 bed room home with large garage/shop. Home was just painted and is in good shape. House has gas heat, wood stove, oven/range, refrigerator, washer and dryer, storm windows, fenced yard. Great value and potential for first time home buyers. Call TOM LLOYD 737-3924 or 308-0117.

\$59,900. Enjoy this cheerful home on a tranquil street with easy-care landscape. Spacious, room-to-room. Food storage area, central air. Rain-proof covered patio/garden, sprinkler system, chain-link fence, fireweed fruit trees. Immediately available. Call DEBBIE DANIELS 737-3907.

\$81,000. This 5 bedroom 2 bath home in Murtaugh features 2,028 sq. ft. of living space, with gas forced air heat, family room, shed, metal roof and a fireplace. For more details Visit TheHesTeam.com or Call WALT 737-3939 or TAMM 737-3940.

\$62,900. Lots of potential with this home. Home sits on just a little less than 1 acre in city limits. 2 bedrooms 1 bath, 2 car detached garage. Call DIANN DOMAN 737-3916 or 731-1205.

\$64,500. Situated on over 1 1/2 acres this small acreage is a great place to get away from it all. Copy 2 bedroom home that is updated, and shows great pride in ownership. Lots of room for all your animals. This one won't last. Call ERNIE or KAY KENDRICK 410-2002 - 410-2000. 4101475.

Very nice 3 bedroom with many new upgrades. Priced right at \$72,500 lease option to purchase. Don't delay call your agent BRENDA today. 410-5074 or 324-8652.

\$75,000. This home has 4 bedrooms 1 bath, basement with Family Room. Gas heat, large rooms, fenced in yard. Call THE RASMUSSEN TEAM or view @ lynerasmussen.com 737-3900 or 737-3925.

\$78,000. Rolling and want a home but need some additional income. This duplex might be your answer. Unit 1 - 2 bed, 1 bath with garage. Unit 2 - 1 bed - very nice. Call to see. Ask for SANDY 737-3968.

\$85,000. Brick home, wonderfully landscaped, you'll fall in love. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, fully fenced yard w/garden spot. Central air, gas heat and a brand new two car garage with RV parking. A must see, won't last long. To see, call for showing PEGGY @ 737-3925.

\$89,500. Brand New Home! All the new Park View Estates Sub. Great sq. ft. at this price. Three bedrooms, 2 baths. Has it all: gas heat, central air, vinyl siding, front porch. Close to Oregon Trail Elementary & Driving Range, more floor plans to choose from. Call THE RASMUSSEN TEAM 737-3900 or 737-3925. Very Affordable.

\$89,500. Looking for a cheap 2+3 bed shop? This nice home also has vinyl windows, metal siding, and newly remodeled bath with the attached single garage, partly remodeled for a small great room, hot heated, and wall can be removed to be converted back to a single garage, 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Call to see CAROL BULLEN @ 737-3911 or 410-2003.

\$89,800. Sharp, Sharp, brick home in Sawtooth School Dist. With central air, gas heat, wonderful fenced backyard. At this price this one won't last so Call RON FREEMAN 737-3915 Licensed to Sell or KATHY PARTRIDGE 737-3920.

REDUCED TO \$95,000. Lovely brick home in quiet neighborhood, 3 bed (1 with w/egress windows) 1 3/4 bath, bright kitchen, nice utility room, single car garage w/automatic opener, fenced with beautiful mature landscaping, covered patio, auto sprinklers, very nice home. A must see. Call DIANA WHITNEY 737-3969.

"IF YOU HURRY" This winter you can be in the front of your own fireplace! 4 bedroom home on Altair priced at \$98,000. Large deck, full fenced yard. Gas heat with air conditioning, large family room. Many other features for you to see. Call SANDY @ 737-3968.

\$99,900. Wish upon a star and you will have your dream come true. Great open floor plan with 4 bed, 1 3/4 bath less than a year old. Auto sprinklers, fenced yard on a beautiful area. Call DIANN DOMAN @ 737-3916 or 735-1428.

\$105,000. This is a nice home in a nice quiet neighborhood. Lots of room for a large family or could easily be set up for 2 separate families. Close to shopping & schools. To see Call LOUISA HARRIS 280-0822/324-8652.

\$109,900. Better than new with this great 3 bedroom, 2 bath home near Morningside Elementary. Built in 1996, has large fenced back yard, auto sprinklers and gas heat. Call KATHY PARTRIDGE 737-3920 or RON FREEMAN 737-3920 Licensed to Sell.

Located in Albion this home has 4 bedrooms & 2 3/4 bath. Situated on 3 1/2 of an acre this home is close to hunting, fishing, skiing & snowmobiling. This getaway has lots of room for friends & family to visit in the 14270 mobile home that is included in the price of \$118,800. Call KAY or ERNIE KENDRICK 410-2000 or 410-2002.

\$129,000. This is the home with room to roam. Newly listed 4 bed 3 bath on nice corner lot, great location and great landscaping. Must see inside, separate kids hangout or new quarters with it's own new kitchen, or could be rented out for extra income. Spacious rooms and lots more call LEXI 737-3918 or 734-8753.

Two year old home in Hageman on large lot. Vaulted ceilings, plant shelves, wired for surround sound, oak trim. 3 bed, 2 bath, central air, RV parking and more! All for only \$145,900. Call JUANITA MYERS @ 731-9625 or 324-8652.

COUNTRY CHARMER This well built country farmhouse has everything you've been looking for. Fully upgraded, while maintaining its vintage charm, this three bedroom, two bath home has over 2,100 sq. ft. of comfortable living space. Every creature comfort has been considered, 1.75 acres. Don't miss this one! A new 28'x32' foot shop building is included. \$147,000. Call KEN 731-6665.

Wonderful family home on 1.6 acres with water shares. 4 bedroom 2+ bath with full basement for expansion. Built in 1994, this home boasts a 2 car garage deep enough to park 4 cars at once. Quiet country setting! \$149,000. Call NICHOLE 420-5262.

\$149,000. Beautiful Brand New Home. Great view come with property. Open spacious floor plan, oversized two car garage, and covered patio. Located on one acre, you have 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, open kitchen & lots of built in gas heat. Central Call THE RASMUSSEN TEAM @ 737-3900 or 737-3925 to see the property. Or view @ www.lynerasmussen.com.

Need to shop? Loads of room? How about a large shop. 2 nice homes, one over 2000' on an acreage for only \$149,900! If you need a place for the dogs, kids, horses, semis, or whatever, this is the one for you! Call KATHI S. @ 737-3917 and leave a message, she'll get right back to you, or 738-9219 or home - 413622.

\$150,000. Breckenridge and all of its advantages. Location plus security, just completed and beautiful. Large rooms with all the extras. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Den, Large Kitchen with Pantry and Lovely landscaping with auto sprinkling system. To see call DORIS @ 737-9310 or 731-5639. #102184.

VIEWPOINT AHEAD \$174,900. Spectacular views from this new 3 bedroom 2 bath home on 1/2 acre at Kenaka Rapids Ranch. Geo thermal water provides economical heating. Abundant wildlife. Year round golf course across the river. Call Dorothy or Ken for an appointment to see this superb property. Call Ken or DOROTHY 734-0400.

Santa's Choice! You will love this darling home in NE Twin. Four to five bedroom, two family rooms, romantic fireplace, cute sunny kitchen, formal living room, fenced back yard. Only \$189,900. Call ME! CAROLYN CUTLER 737-3913 or 420-3381.

\$189,900. Custom Built in 1998 by Harrore - This 4 bedroom 2 bath split bedroom floor plan features 2115 sq ft, 2 wood gas fire place, central air, gas heat, breakfast bar, family room, tile or granite, covered patio, sprinkler system and more. For more details Visit TheHesTeam.com or Call WALT 737-3939 or TAMM 737-3940.

\$199,900. THIS IS A MUST SEE! Walk into a little bit of heaven on 5 acres 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. Enjoy the country view with a wrap around deck, bar, central & fully fenced property. Insulated 2 car garage, home owners have taken great pride in ownership, upgrading everything in the last 8 years. Call KAY today 737-3960.

\$246,900. This beautiful contemporary home on the Kimberly Golf Course, 2624 square feet on 2 levels. Featuring 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, family room, fireplace, formal dining room, breakfast bar, air conditioning, propane heat, auto sprinklers, large deck, private well & septic and includes golf membership. Visit TheHesTeam.com or Call WALT 737-3939 OR TAMM 737-3940 for more information. #100182

NEW LISTING! \$288,900. Twin Falls MFG warehouse/shops building! Good location and visibility. Long term tenants, cash flow. Clean EPA report, sellers may carry equity. Other income properties available. Call TOM LLOYD 737-3924 or 308-0117.

Known as the Canyon Side school, this property has had extensive remodeling and new upgrades such as wiring, plumbing, and windows. Could have many different uses like charter school, daycare, etc. over 5000 sq. ft. of pool. For a private tour of this property call JOHN HOUSER @ 280-2246 or 934-5485.

Price Reduction on this 40 acres with THREE homes near Twin Falls. This great package contains wonderful shop, concrete dog run, and lots of outdoor buildings with multiple garages and out buildings. Enjoy country living close to town. Price at \$299,000. Call KAY or ERNIE KENDRICK 410-2000 or 410-2002.

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can be found at
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DIANN DOMAN
Sales Associate
Multi-Million Dollar Club
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KEN ROY
Associate Broker
731-6685

All we want for Christmas is to thank our valued customers and wish all a very Merry Christmas.

The Times-News Classified Service Representatives
Karen, Shelley, Jill,
Bea, Ruby,
Teron, Sue & Tovia.

FOUND Little girls wallet with \$26 in it. Call to identify 736-7666.

FOUND Swiss Army knife with keys. Call to identify at 209-423-6458, ask for Dave.

LOST 2 dogs vicinity of Anderson Lumber, Siberian Husky with 1 brown eye and 1 blue eye. Beagle Lab X. Might answer to Nick Marshall. Call 731-7362.

LOST Madonna & Child cambo brooch. Lost 12/14. Call 644-9052.

LOST 3 yr. old female, white German Shepherd. Comes to the name of Skyler. REWARD. Call 733-2890.

LOST male Golden Retriever, Sam, 10 yrs. old. Collar & tags. Lost in Hagerman area. Reward. 324-8040 or 324-2375.

Happy Holidays!
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The Times-News Will Close...

Monday, December 24 at 1:00 p.m. and will be closed on Christmas Day.

Classified line ads to run on Tuesday, December 25th need to be placed by 11:00 a.m. on Monday

Classified line ads to run on Wednesday, December 26th need to be placed by 12:00 p.m. on Monday

Your Friends at The Times-News Wish you a very Merry Christmas!

News Room Phone Lines open on:
Christmas Day
Reporter: Mark Heinz call 735-3238 (until 6 p.m.)
Editor: Bruce Whiting call 735-3233 (6 to 10 p.m.)

The Times-News will be open regular hours
Wednesday, Dec. 26, 8 a.m.

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208-677-4042

106 SPECIAL NOTICES
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208-734-5538
on 208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

REMEMBER
That birthday ad you placed some time ago in The Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your pictures. Stop by The Classified Dept today!!!

107 ABORTION ALTERNATIVES

PREGNANT CRISIS CENTER
FREE TESTS. Always Confidential. 734-7472

108 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

BANKRUPTCY
Affordable & fast. Accidents, divorce & criminal matters. Grand Rice at 734-3267

BANKRUPTCY
Competitive rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcies. Jeff Stoker at 734-8452

LAW OFFICE Chapter 7 S345. Uncontested divorce. S295. Other services. 888-255-2398 days/eves.

RETIRED TRANSMISSION MAN. If you're tired of the hassle give me a call. Outfitting at 734-3267

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You find a variety of interesting offerings in the classified columns every day. Develop the reader habit.

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Certificate for analysis, tonics and minerals from a full nutrition supplement recommendation. By mail. S55 (208)352-1146 www.infobio.com

LEARN HOW TO LOSE 40 LBS. and keep it off! Call 516-116-3080.

ADVENTURELAND DAYCARE Now has a few openings. All meals included, home environment. 734-3718

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CASY'S KIDS
Have 4 full time openings. Licensed. ICCP, CPR, meals incl. 327-5774

200 EMPLOYMENT

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment services agencies, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS
CDL Drivers General labor/various Auto Body/Detailing Construction Car Sales/Sales Manager/bookkeeper P/T Bookkeeper P/T Editor Bookkeeper/Inventory Control Cell/Intelligent Employment Solutions Now for an appointment.

ASKING QUESTIONS
Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. A B S O L U T E L Y N O S A L E S. Strictly research. \$7.00 to \$40 per hour. Casual work environment. Flexible evens, days, & wknd. hours. 15-20 hrs. per week. Great part time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more info. Call 726-28531111111

AUTOMOTIVE
Fulltime detailer with or without experience. Mechanically inclined is a plus. Call 332-1457 or apply in person. Leisure Country Auto in Jerome.

BEAUTY
Established full service salon seeks stylist & or nail tech. 10-15 hrs. per week. Lease or commission avail. Call 734-6446 or 731-6448

CHILD CARE
Little Girls Childcare is now hiring a FT loving & organized, good pay. \$5.00 & first aid plus. Pick up application 6717 Fair Ave.

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Immediate opening for (2) Customer Service Reps. Clerical, computer & customer service experience required. Bilingual a plus. Pay DOE. Great career opportunity. Benefits & holiday pay after 90 days. Good work environment. Apply in person with resume at: 1162 N. Bluo Lakes Blvd. Twin Falls.

DRIVER
EXPERIENCED DRIVERS FARM ROAD
• Comprehensive, low-cost medical insurance
• 1,100 mile length of haul
• Paid after every load
• 401(k)
• Paid Trip/Pak & PrePass
• Exc. tuition reimbursement
Owner Operators Welcome
Call 1-877-LEASEWISE (538-7658)
Company-Paid Training Available for Incapable/Disabled Drivers
1-888-JOIN-WSE (1-888-564-6973)
For more information or an on-line application, visit us at www.willshaw.com
EOE

DRIVERS
OH road/Wyoming, Haz Mat, CDL, 2 yrs. exp. No tickets. 208-543-6719

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE WORKER
Full time, benefits. Class A CDL. HazMat. class 1 & 2. Trip. Copy of MVR. A drug free work place. Contact Jim Gibson at Gem State Paper & Supply Company

DRIVERS
Divers/Platted Up to \$25 per mile. \$500 sign-on/800-635-5233

DRIVERS
FT & PT. Company vehicle. Good wage + tips. Good benefits. 20 yrs. or older. Apply at: Chicago Connection, 778 Falls

DRIVERS
KEEP AMERICA ROLLING
Start a new career in trucking. Class A CDL training starting now! Be on the road to a great job in just 30 days. Make \$10,000 to \$12,000 per month. 21 years exp. or high school diploma required. \$600-\$800 weekly. Medical, dental, 401K. No money out of pocket if qualified. On the spot job placement with company paid tuition. Classes starting soon in Twin Falls. Call Now 800-900-0586.

DRIVERS
Positions available for OTR CDL drivers to operate vans, trailers, & walking floors thru 45 states. Competitive wage, bonuses, benefits, incentives. In come will range \$40,000-\$50,000/year, depending on you! Based in Kimberly, ID. 208-734-9062

CLERICAL
Able to handle multiple phones, exc. customer service. Exp. in Word & Excel. Excellent typing skills req. Call 734-6452

COUNSELOR
needed for the Mini Cassia area. CADC required. Call 734-4200

DAIRY
Experienced milker needed. Housing available for right person. Apply in person, 3151 South of Kimberly at 3332 North 3500 East Kimberly, ID

DAIRY
Exp. dairy herd person/dairy feeder. 538-6512

DRIVER
Class A CDL, reader driver. Must be at least 25 years old for insurance. Call 934-6220

DRIVER
B & T TRUCK DRIVING Got your Class A CDL Tuition Assistance Idaho State Certified Bus. ID. 208-543-9599

DRIVER
Driver wanted to drive cattle truck. Some local, mainly out of state. Jerome, Idaho. Only experienced livestock drivers need apply. Call 208-324-7297 or 208-550-2888

DRIVER
Now hiring for mixer driver laborator, full time, benefits, Class A CDL, & TAN endorsement req. Apply at: Kiefer Inc. 751 Madrone St. South Idaho Opportunity Employer

DRIVER
OH road/Wyoming, Haz Mat, CDL, 2 yrs. exp. No tickets. 208-543-6719

DRIVER/WAREHOUSE WORKER
Full time, benefits. Class A CDL. HazMat. class 1 & 2. Trip. Copy of MVR. A drug free work place. Contact Jim Gibson at Gem State Paper & Supply Company

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EDUCATION IT Programmer Analyst Associate: Maintain and update the EMAS recruitment and admissions data base. Provide programing support to the Enrollment Planning division. Proficiency in English, and admissions office using FoxPro, Visual Basic, HTML, and HP mainframe programming languages (Quiz, JCL, GTP). develop routine to very complex reporting programs for Enrollment Planning staff and the general campus community. Coordinate and supervise the production of the various mailings produced, participate in web page development and maintenance as a member of the web development team for the Enrollment Planning Division

TO APPLY: Send your State of Idaho application, cover letter and resume to: MicroSoft Word attachment to business@hr.state.id.us or fax to (208)334-3162. Also e-mail a copy of your resume to mastep@isu.edu For additional information log on to www.isu.edu/departments/humanr

Idaho State University is an AA/EEOE and actively fosters a diverse work force.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Idaho Democratic Party. Salary \$20,000 to \$30,000 plus benefits. Qualifications: Political knowledge fund raising media communications state wide travel. Resume to: email:info@id-democrats.org Fax 208-338-1817 or mail to: 208 W. 5th, Boise ID 83701. Closing date: 12-31-01

Blip Graphics in new interior viewing qualified candidates are high school graduate, shop, and process color skills required. Strong English skills required. Must be able to work under deadline conditions. Friendly staff, high tech equipment, good pay. Benefits, makes Blip Graphics a great place to work. Apply in person with resume and samples. Jobs for Teresa at 214 Blue Lakes Blvd. Call 734-2558 EOE, Drug & smoke free.

JUVENILE
Juvenile Detention Correctional Specialist- Full and Part-time positions available.

Professional, self-disciplined, self-motivated, adult role models to provide guidance, structure and skill building to incarcerated juveniles. Good verbal and written communication skills a must. Just a few years of age. Experience working with at-risk youth preferred but will train the right individual. Applications are available online at www.twinfallscounty.org or at the Human Resource Department, 4th Floor, Twin Falls County Courthouse. Submit hand written cover letter with application. Twin Falls County offers a full benefit package for full-time employees including: Medical/Dental/Vision insurance, life insurance, retirement, sick time, vacation, and personal leave. Some benefits are also offered for part-time employees. Twin Falls County is an equal opportunity employer and drug free workplace.

DRIVERS
Flora, Western States, Canada. \$500 sign on bonus. Home frequently. 888-865-7600

LABOR
Parts Person must be experienced for a busy parts room. Must be multi-task, very organized, exc. people & phone skills req. Must have knowledge helpful but not necessary. Must be able to handle phone, record orders, etc. Benefits available after probation period. Apply at Chermac 432 South Park Ave. W. Twin Falls. NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE

LABORERS
Laborers Needed Sun Valley/Ketchum area landscape company seeking 20 laborers for full time seasonal landscape work. Must have knowledge with starting wage of \$7.56 per hour. Mow grass, prune, plant trees, shrubs and flowers. Install sprinklers and brick pavers. Must be able to obtain/provide drivers license. Able to operate manual transmission. Must be able to operate starting salary for 2002 season. To apply go to your nearest Job Service office. Case #1323, Job Order ID: 6445922

LAW ENFORCEMENT
Entry Level or Lateral Transfer Police Officer The City of Rupert is accepting applications for the position of police officer. The minimum requirements for all applicants are: High school diploma or GED certificate and possession of a valid drivers license. Applicants must also meet written, oral, and physical requirements as per initial testing procedures. The starting salary for entry level is \$22,800 and \$23,840 for lateral transfer. The last day for acceptance of applications is January 4, 2002 at 5:00 p.m. An application form can be picked up at Rupert City Hall. For additional information or to receive an application please contact Roger Bagley or Linda Price at (208)436-9600

CNA's needed for evening shift 2 pm-10:30 pm.

We Offer:
• Health Plan
• 401(k) Plan
• Flex Plan Benefits
• Vacation
• Sick Leave
• Holiday Pay
• Tuition Assistance For Continuing Education
• Professional Growth and Personal Development Opportunities
• Friendly, Family atmosphere.
Send resume to 500 Poik St. E. Kimberly, ID 83341 or call Cindy for an interview. 425-5591 EOE M/F/D/V

What better way to ring in the New Year than with a New Career?

Teleperformance USA is looking for individuals of high caliber with excellent communication skills and the drive to succeed. If you are a self-starter who is an opportunity to build a career.

We offer:
• Paid Training
• Medical, Dental and Vision Benefits in just 30 days!
• Internal Advancement Opportunities
• Regular Raises
And much more!

\$7.00 an hour (must hrs. req.)

Call or Stop by for an Interview Today!
Start your New Year off with a new job!!!

732-5259
WALK-INS WELCOME
Teleperformance USA
GLOBAL RECRUITING & SERVICES SOLUTIONS

1399 Fillmore Suite 502 • Twin Falls, ID, 83301
Across from the new post office.

LANDSCAPING DIVISION MANAGER
Needed at Idaho's oldest yet most progressive landscaping business. Exp. in the landscaping industry a plus, but you must have awesome people skills, ability to motivate others & particular about details & organization! If you fit the bill & desire to be part of the finest landscape company on earth, please send resume to Kimberly Nurseries: 2862 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301. Phone: 877-733-2717 M-F 8am-3pm. Starting salary \$30,000 + DOE.

MANAGERS
Mountain Village Resort in Stanley, Idaho has immediate openings for:
Lodge Manager Trainee & Resort Manager Trainee (Two positions).
Both positions require extensive experience in Lodging or Lounge/Restaurant industry. These are year round, full time positions with excellent benefits. Salary is D.O.E. It is anticipated that promotional positions will be promoted to manager within one year. Applicants must have verifiable successful experience with full knowledge of sales building, cost control and personnel management. E.O.E. Apply by resume only to: John Ballance, Mountain Village Resort, P.O. Box 150 Stanley, ID 83278

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And much more!

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Start your New Year off with a new job!!!

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WALK-INS WELCOME
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1399 Fillmore Suite 502 • Twin Falls, ID, 83301
Across from the new post office.

Health Care

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Choose St. Luke's.
Boise • Meridian • Sun Valley area

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED FOR NURSING EXCELLENCE

BOISE
RNs (FT, PT, Flex)
Clinical Nurse Specialist • Telemetry • CCT • Oncology • Peds/PICU • Float Pool • Ortho • Surgical • L&D • Home Care • NICU • Care Manager-Home Care

Technical (FT, PT)
CSTS • CV Tech • Rad Tech • Angio Tech • MRI Tech • Ultrasound Tech • Nuc Med Tech • Histotechnologist

MERIDIAN
RNs (FT, PT, Flex)
Med/Surg/Critical Care/Peds, OR, Maternity, ER

Technical (FT, PT)
Ultrasound Tech • Rad Tech • CT Tech

SUN VALLEY AREA
RNs (FT, PT)
CCU • OB

Technical (FT, PT)
Nuc Med Tech • MRI Tech

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325 12th East 5th North, Burley, Idaho 83318
208-677-4042

(208) 381-1187 or www.stlukesonline.org
Applications available at stlukesonline.org or St. Luke's Human Resources 102 W Jefferson Boise ID

11-7:30 am-5 pm Call 381-1187 for more info. EOE M/F/D/V St. Luke's is an Equal Opportunity Employer

MEDICAL
RN's Wanted
5 Med/Surg RN's Needed
Flexible Hours
\$20.00/hr.
Plus
Lots of Overtime at
\$40.50/hr.
Call 208-373-7894
864-737-894 Toll Free
9am to 5pm

MEDICAL
CNA's & NA's needed for
full-time days, evenings,
& night shifts. We will
train. Contact Stacy at:
Snake River Rehabilitation
& Assisted Living
5-3440

MEDICAL
Come to beautiful rural
South Central Idaho
Openings for full time:
RN/LPN
Shared call. Great benefits.
Send resume to:
Gooding County Memorial
Hospital
P.O. Box 418
Gooding, ID 83330
or call: 208-934-4453

MEDICAL
Join our caring team
at Gooding Rehab
& Living Center.
We offer in house C.N.A.
training. Competitive
wages, benefit package
& great work environment.
Insurance, Vacation &
Education Incentives
N.A.'s all shifts.
N.A.'s all shifts.
L.P.N.'s 8 & 12 hour
shifts available.
Contact Lori Ward at
Dixie Hall at
934-5601.
EOE M/F/D/V

MEDICAL
Nursing
New Wage Scale for
LPNs and CNAs!!!
Sun Bridge of Twin Falls
currently has the following
open positions available:
RN's & LPN's
Full-time for 2pm-10pm
and 10pm-6am shifts
available. Responsible
for daily patient care
and the appropriate
administration of medical
orders. Current RN/LPN
license and an interest
in working with the geriatric
population required.

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position available. Position
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and office organizational
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PROFESSIONAL
Behavioral Consultant.
Seeking independent
individuals with a desire to
impact our community.
Persons must possess a
BA or BS degree in Social
Sciences, Psychology,
Sociology or related
fields. FT or PT positions
available, salary based
on experience. Come join
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dependable
workers wanted for fast
food. Apply in person
Shelby
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RESTAURANT
Manager for fast food restaurant.
Experience & req. req.
Good wages, may incl.
profit sharing. Send
resume to Box 93039,
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Twin Falls, ID 83303

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Exp. Bartender. Apply in
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Monday through Friday
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Now hiring a cook, exp.
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living health care resi-
dences in the nation,
has opportunities for
sales representatives in
our Wynwood of Twin
Falls residence to sell
the following products:
• Home sales, or program-
ming, including com-
munity and professional
• Real estate sales, and
• Training, sales call, market-
ing events and monitoring
operating on occupancy
levels. Requirements:
• B.A.B.S., 2+ years' expe-
rience, and excellent
• Sales and customer service
skills. Senior living or
long-term care experi-
ence a plus.

TECHNICIAN
Computer technician
wanted. Exp. in Microsoft,
Novell and hardware.
Certification preferred.
Wage DOE. 736-4278

TECHNICIAN
Underground Utility
Locate Technician.
Starting Wage \$9/hr.
Advance to \$100/hr. on
successful completion of
8 wk. training program.
Exp. not req. Outside
environment, company
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SHOSHONE 3 bedroom, 1 bath, \$600/mo. + deposit. Call 886-2907.

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TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm home \$440/mo. 3 bdrm home \$800. **Hallows Property Mgmt.** 524-4324

TWIN FALLS 510 - 3rd, St. N 1 bedroom 1 bath, \$350 + deposit. 6th Ave. E. 2nd St. 1 1/2 bath, \$600 + deposit. Jerome - 520 West G St. 2 bedroom, 1 bath \$300 deposit. Hazelton - 317 2nd St. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. \$400 + deposit.

TWIN FALLS REALTY 734-5858
 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, country, 2 car garage, large yard, oil heat, \$245 + \$400 deposit. 3668 N. 2800 E. Call weekdays 208-393-2051.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath w/2 car garage. NE Twin Falls. \$850/mo. Available immediately. Call Darin 734-4516.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm home 2 car garage. Mornington side/O'Leary schools, w/abus stop for Mornington, front of home. \$750 + \$350 deposit. Call 539-9381.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, \$575/mo. + \$400 cleaning dep. First payment, No pets, req. Available Dec. 23. 734-4101 after 2pm.

TWIN FALLS C/O bdrm, home, large laundry facility, tile floor, bath, on income, no pets. 344-3464. EHO.

TWIN FALLS Large 2 to own 2 bdrm, 1 bath house on acre, new carpets, paint, furniture, wood stove. Very attractive. Tom. 735-8467 for more information.

TWIN FALLS New 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced yd. \$1000/mo. + \$1000 dep. Call 421-2020 or 280-4444.

TWIN FALLS Nice 3 bdrm, full bsmt, W/D hook-up, 806 Blue Lakes \$815/mo. +\$300 dep. Nathan 734-6230 after 5:00 p.m.

TWIN FALLS Spacious duplex, near schools, \$450. Call 733-1359.

WENDELL In country, 3 bdrm, \$500/mo. + \$500 dep. 733-4957/31-0210.

603 FURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES
TWIN FALLS C/O 2 bdrm 1 bath, laundry area, Refrig, stove, gas heat, 1st floor parking. \$475/mo. + \$300 security deposit. 734-7935

TWIN FALLS Kichenette. All utilities, furnished & HBO. Capri Motel. 733-6452.

604 UNFURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES
BUIHL 1 bdrm apt. \$230/mo. 2 bdrm apt. \$450/mo. **Hallows Property Mgmt.**

BUIHLCASTLEFORD 1, 2 & 3 bdrm. apts. available. Call 543-8833.

Equal Housing Opportunity.
BURLEY Clean 1 bdrm, \$300/mo. Subsidy. Available immediately. EHO Call 678-7438 or 878-3333.

CURLEY Quiet, cute and cozy 1 & 2 bdrms. Great location on end of Ave. Call 678-0320 Starting - \$250.

RILER studio apt. all utilities, \$365 + \$200 dep. LG & clean. 228-726-2618

GOODING West Side Court Apt, now taking applications for our new waiting list, low income, 3 bdrms. \$300. Subsidy capped or disabled. Clean quiet, nice neighborhood. Stove, refrig, AC, furnished. Income, dt. determines rent. Small pets/smoking OK. 1446 California St. Call 527-2400 for apt. #109 934-9866. Equal Housing Opportunity.

GOODING 1 bdrm. Apts. Sewer, washer & trash pickup. For apt. #109 934-9866. Equal Housing Opportunity.

HAZELTON New bking applications: 1 bdrm, apts. Quiet & well maintained for the elderly. 62 yrs. of age or older. Handicapped, no smoking, regardless of age. Federally Assisted Housing. Call 829-4206. Handicap Accessible. Equal Housing Opportunity.

JEROME 1 & 2 bdrms. clean, quiet laundry facility, tile floor, bath, on income, no pets. 344-3464. EHO.

JEROME 186 4 bdrm, 3 bath, stove, AC, 3 car garage, tennis court, \$800.

TWIN FALLS 114 2 bdrm, 1 bath, refrig, stove, water & heat, paid. \$425.

TWIN FALLS 111 119-2 bdrm, 1 bath, refrig, stove, W/D, hook-up, 806 Blue Lakes \$815/mo. +\$300 dep. Nathan 734-6230 after 5:00 p.m.

TWIN FALLS Spacious duplex, near schools, \$450. Call 733-1359.

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TWIN FALLS 1 bedroom units at the following addresses:
 3123rd West #5 \$300/mo. + deposit.
 128 Martin #2 \$400/mo. + deposit.
 501 Main East #425/mo. + deposit.
 232 2nd North #2-2 \$300/mo. + deposit.
BRAWLEY REALTY. 734-5858

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm \$625/mo. Utilities Paid **Hallows Property Mgmt.**

TWIN FALLS C/O 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, \$425/mo. No pets/smoking. \$385/mo. + dep. 734-2822 or 731-4256

TWIN FALLS \$250 or \$240/mo. Clean, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$255 + deposit. Includes all utility & W/D. 733-2983 or 734-8774.

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Nixon isn't one of Santa's reindeer

Test your Yuletide knowledge.
1. How many angels first appeared to the wise men?

(a) 3 (b) 1 (c) 365, (d) It's a trick question.
2. Why didn't the Russians like "The Nutcracker" when it opened in Russia in 1892?

(a) They thought the choreography was weak. (b) They thought the story was too "cutesy." (c) They thought Tchaikovsky's music was strange. (d) All of the above.

3. The name of the "City of David" was ...

(a) Nazareth (b) Bethlehem (c) Goliath (d) New York City

4. What does tradition say you're supposed to do when you get kissed under a mistletoe?

(a) Remove a berry from the plant. (b) Dance the "Waltz of the Flowers." (c) Get married before New Year's Day. (d) Call Sally Jessy Raphael.

5. What musical selection from "The Nutcracker Suite" features a Christmas spirit?

(a) "March of the Drosselmeyers" (b) "Swan Lake" (c) "Better than 7-Up" (d) "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy"

6. What Christmas plant was named after a U.S. ambassador?

(a) The poinsettia (b) The amaryllis (c) The Shireley Temple (d) The Bob Hope

7. In the 1948 movie "The Bishop's Wife," who plays the angel that visits David Niven and Loretta Young?

(a) John Travolta (b) Marlon Brando (c) Martha Stewart (d) Cary Grant

8. Who plays young Harry Potter in the blockbuster film "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone"?

(a) J. K. Rowling, (b) Brad Pitt (c) Daniel Radcliffe (d) Dick Clark

9. Name one of Santa's reindeer.

(a) Bambi (b) Cupid (c) Gary Comet (d) Rudolph Giuliani

10. Which holiday movie has chalked up the most TV reruns?

(a) "Miracle on 34th Street" (b) "It's a Wonderful Life" (c) "Star Wars: The Return of Frosty the Jedi" (d) "Ocean's 11: The Return of the Rat Pack"

11. What three words does Santa say while he langes?

(a) Cookies and milk (b) Pull this beard (c) Best of NSync (d) Ho ho ho

12. The 1954 film "White Christmas" stars Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye. Name a co-star.

(a) Vera Ellen (b) Irving Berlin (c) Rosemary Clooney (d) George Clooney

13. In "It's a Wonderful Life," who visits Jimmy Stewart on Christmas Eve?

(a) Santa Claus (b) A rabbit (c) An angel (d) Harry Potter

14. Irish maidens once placed onions named after male acquaintances in their rooms on Christmas Eve and, if an onion threw out a sprout before Jan. 6, the girls ...

(a) Discovered who they would marry (b) Quickly grilled some cheeseburgers (c) Buried the onions and fumigated their rooms (d) Gave the fellow a gift

15. The story about the innkeeper is found ...

(a) In the Marriott Hotel newsletter (b) In the Gospel of Luke (c) On the Web at www.noroom.com (d) None of the above

16. In old Silesia, a baby born on Christmas Eve was destined to ...

(a) Be a lawyer or a thief (b) Be generous (c) Hate fruitcake (d) Forget about getting both Christmas and birthday presents

17. "Chestnuts roasting on an open fire, ... nipping at your nose."

(a) Snowflakes (b) Jack Frost (c) Peanuts (d) Plastic surgeons

18. Which of these gifts is from "The Twelve Days of Christmas"?

(a) Three French breads (b) Eight maids a milking (c) Six geese a laying (d) The Partridge Family

ONE POINT FOR EACH CORRECT ANSWER

1. d. The angels appeared to the shepherds.

2. d. But give yourself a point for any answer.

3. b. See Luke 2:4.

4. a.

5. d. Dr. Joel Poinsett was U.S. ambassador to Mexico in 1825.

7. d. His name was Dudley.

8. c.

9. b.

10. b.

11. Who knows? Give yourself a point for any answer.

12. a and c are both correct

13. c.

14. a.

15. d. Luke 2:7 says there was no place in the inn, but no innkeeper is mentioned.

16. a.

17. b.

18. Give yourself a point for b or c.

SCORING: 16-18, Santa likes you best; 12-15, No coal in your stocking; 6-11, Nice try; God bless us everyone; 4-7, Merry Christmas anyway; 1-3, Bah humbug.

City, country lights



A family on Twin Falls' Elizabeth Avenue has a sense of humor about its Christmas decorations. The tippy fellow is made from old clothes.

Avoid seven common sins of parenting

1. Overindulgence
Your child doesn't need everything and actually doesn't want everything. Learn to withhold. Replace material things with more spiritual ones like caring for a pet or helping others in the neighborhood, making an art project, doing something special together like creating a family scrapbook. Maintain a safe distance from Toys 'R Us unless it's a special occasion or your child has saved money to spend. Help your child learn the importance of pitching in at home. Even very young children can do things around the house. Teach your 3-year-old to put his or her toys away so that others don't trip over them. Post a schedule of chores for an older child and help him understand the importance of commitment.

2. Overcompensation
Unfortunately, many of us are drowning in guilt for having one child. You are convinced you have disappointed your child by not providing a sibling. So you overcompensate. When your child interrupts you for attention, you give it to him. When your child says that he wants another story before bed and you have already read three, you don't say no. Practice the following phrases: "I'm busy now, you will have to wait." Or "This is your time to play by yourself and it's Mom and/or Dad's time to read the newspaper. We will be happy to play with you later (specify a time)."

3. Treating your child like an adult.
You make your child your confidant, a peer buddy. Your child isn't your boss or sidekick and you aren't his or hers. This is a particularly difficult sin for single parents to avoid. Don't talk to your child about problems in your marriage. Don't make your child take sides. If you are single don't discuss your dates other than to say, "I had a good time. I ate pasta for dinner." Too often parents of only children allow children to make family decisions. "Where should we go on vacation?" Your child wants to go to Disneyland and you want to go camping. You may decide as a family what will be the best vacation but don't let our child dictate the choice. Remember, you have worked hard to be a parent. When your child is old enough, he or she will get to be the parent and have all the rights that go along with that position.

4. Overpraising
What's the quickest way to make sure that your only child is entitled? Praise him or her for everything, whether it's done well or not. To avoid this sin, be judicious and realistic when you praise. Make sure that there is something to praise. The one thing that only children rarely lack is self-esteem.

5. Overprotection
Your child needs to learn that failure is part of life but not the end of it. It's difficult for all parents to see their child in pain, but we grow through pain. So a certain amount of disappointment is inevitable to your child's psychological and social well being. Once children understand that failure won't destroy them, they are more likely to take risks.

6. Expecting perfection
Don't ask for the moon. Don't live through your child. Don't examine every aspect of your child's behavior, accomplishments or lack of them. You aren't perfect, so why should your child be? Put your microscope away; your child isn't a specimen. Just because you have one doesn't mean that he or she is supposed to be the playmate of a few children. Your child may be great in art but weak in science. He or she doesn't have to be good at everything.

7. Failing to make rules and sticking with them
Your child is cute. Your child is strong and cunning. Your child knows just how to get to you. On a good day you are stronger and can resist your adorable kid's strategies. On a bad day you allow rules to be bent or even broken. You don't want to be inflexible, but you should be as consistent as possible. It's important for our children to respect us. They don't need to stand when you enter the room, but they should know that when you say something you mean it.

Source: Orange County Register

Find the MV's highlights this Christmas season

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

HANSEN - Just so you know, the Wojcik's electric bill is way bigger than their candy cane budget.

"We give away thousands of candy canes, but our power bill is about \$2,000," said Sam Wojcik, who with her husband, Roy, organizes far and away the Magic Valley's most famous holiday light display at their home along Rock Creek Road 15 miles south of here. "And it's gonna be higher (by as much as a third, because of utility rate hikes) this year."

Sam estimates that tens of thousands of folks cruise by between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, hunkering up on Rock Creek Road on some nights. Theirs is the focus of one of south-central Idaho's most enduring holiday traditions: Driving around in the evenings and looking at outdoor Christmas lighting displays.

Tonight, traditionally, is one of the busiest. Monday night - Christmas Eve - should be a little lighter, "but still a good crowd," Sam said.

The Wojcik's - who say their display is their Christmas gift to their Magic Valley neighbors - start hanging lights before Labor Day. They have to - there are about 200,000 of them.

"We don't really sit down

with a piece of paper and plan it out, but we try add something every year, or change what we have to make it different," she said.

The lights go on at 5 p.m. through Jan. 1. Peak time, every night, is 8 p.m., Sam says. Here are some other highlights of Magic Valley Christmas season, some submitted by Times-News readers:

- 3121 Heatherwood Drive, Twin Falls. Lights outline every object on the property, not the lighted Christmas balls on the trees.
- 961 Wildwood Way, Twin Falls. The column in front of the house have become giant candy canes.
- Darren Hall Construction, 3239-B East 4000 North, Twin Falls. Please see LIGHTS, Page E2

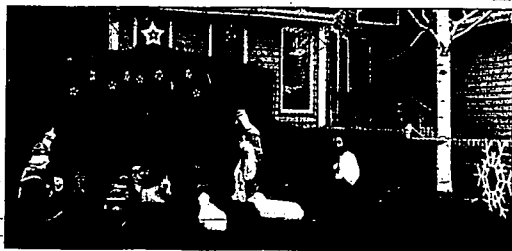


Addresses:

- In Twin Falls:**
- 190 Cordova Ave.
 - 1409 Alder Dr.
 - 866 Capri
 - Corner of Eastland, Elizabeth Blvd.
 - 15 miles south of Hansen

Outside of Twin Falls:

- Jerome Cheese Plant
- 615 E. Main, Jerome
- 2017 Twin View Lane
- 2534 Rock Creek Road
- 400 W. 75 S., Rupert
- 233 N. Meridian, Rupert
- 489 W. Quarterhorse Road, Heyburn



A display on Aztec Avenue in south Twin Falls features and impressive display of light figures including a nativity, snowmen, angels and a herd of deer.

FAMILY LIFE

Make your photos picture perfect

Videotape the holidays with these helpful tips

The Seattle Times

When the holidays are over, the food will be eaten and the toys played with. All you'll have are memories and pictures.

So you don't want lame photos with blurry backs of people's heads.

"I can make sure your holiday pictures are as charming as your memories," we asked Seattle Times photographers to share tips for great seasonal photos, from lighting the menorah to snapping a good family picture to capturing a child's excitement opening presents.

With many point-and-shoot and digital cameras offering telephoto, lenses, autofocus and other features, "anyone can take good pictures now," said photographer Mike Siegel.

But while technology can take care of proper light exposure, simple techniques make the difference between a great photo and a mediocre one.

"The thing most people do wrong is shoot from too far away," said photographer Ellen Banner. Photographers should step closer to their subject or use a zoom lens to fill the frame with their subject without distracting background.

"You can get a nice expression on your children's faces, but if they're sitting next to the trash can, the picture is spoiled," Banner noted.

Don't get too close, however. Many point-and-shoot cameras can't focus closer than four feet from the subject.

On Christmas Day, Banner suggests seating children in front of the tree to open presents. That way, the simple backdrop tells anyone looking at the picture, "This is a holiday shot."

Why does a dog year equal 7 human years?

The absolute worst thing about being a veterinarian is death. Pet's biological clocks tick faster than ours and few pets live past being teenagers.



THE BOND Marty Becker

Because of the frequency of death and the difficulties in dealing with grieving clients, veterinarians sometimes find their souls hardened to death, their souls called to yet another tearful goodbye.

I was a senior in veterinary school when we got, a spunky little miniature schnauzer my wife, Teresa, named, Bode', after a favorite college teacher.

We spoiled Bode' rotten, lavishing the gifts of our generation's philosophy of "pets are family" on him: he sat with us on the couch and watched TV at night, slept in our bed, ate with us in the kitchen munching away on the best pet foods, rode with us in the car yapping his way around town, went on vacation with us.

Then he got an incurable, greasy seborrhea that left his skin oily and quite smelly. His teeth were bad and his breath smelled horrible. He lost his hearing and limped on a bad hip joint. Lovingly, we started calling him by a nickname, Lucky. Despite his bad breath, smelly skin, and limping-to-hip-him-on-and-off of the bed, he NEVER missed sleeping with us a single day.

One day Bode' was stricken with a fatal blow - a condition we call autoimmune hemolytic anemia. Simply put, Bode's red blood cells were dying by the thousands as his body attacked the very thing that kept life-sustaining oxygen.

I remember delivering the news to Teresa and her sobbing

while holding Bode' in her arms gently rocking his body left limp by the lack of oxygen. She couldn't imagine life without Bode'. Neither could I.

She looked to me for guidance in making the right decision and suddenly it hit me: I wasn't coaching another client about the passing of another precious pet, I wasn't gearing up for lectures on what happens when a pet is euthanized or what the options are for memorial services and remains. This wasn't another pet; this was our child, the greatest dog in the world.

Teresa, as usual, was the stronger one and she told me, "You know Bode' won't get better and is in a lot of pain. We love him so much, you know what we need to do," as she handed me Bode's limp body.

Overcome with grief, she couldn't go with me. I gathered up his favorite toys and held him in my lap as I drove to the clinic. "Your journey is almost over little friend," I said to Bode'. "We'll miss you, we'll miss you, we'll miss you," echoed my aching heart.

Holiday pictures

If children are sitting on the floor opening gifts, get down on the carpet, too.

Take a bunch of pictures when shooting a group. The more people, the greater the chance somebody will have their eyes closed or a weird expression. A theme helps unify the picture. For example, see if you can get everyone to wear Santa hats.

Take pictures of everyone. Often, the person with the camera is never in the pictures. Turn the lens on them occasionally.

Shoot an annual picture with your kids in the same spot. Looking at the photos over the years, you can see how much they've grown.

Common mistakes

Judge the right distance when using a flash. As a rule of thumb, stay at least three feet from your subject to avoid a too-bright picture, but not more than 12 to 15 feet away or it will be too dark.

Don't take flash photos against a wall. This creates a huge shadow, if people are sitting on a couch by the

wall, pull it out several feet.

Don't take pictures during meals. Nobody looks attractive while chewing.

Use your zoom lens for close-ups of faces. This eliminates distortion (such as a too-big nose) caused by being too close to your subject.

Turn on all room lights to avoid red eye. Red eyes occur when the subject's eyes dilate and the light reflects off the retina. Back up so there is more distance between the flash and the subject.

Print fixes

Ask for reprints if photos don't turn out right. Amateur photographers usually blame themselves when a picture is too bright or too dark. "But many times, it's the lab's problem," Banner said. "Take it back and ask them to reprint it. If it's a picture you like, it's worth the gamble."

Use a pen to fix red eye. Red eye "doesn't have to ruin a great shot," Banner said. "Get out a black magic marker with a tiny tip, use a steady hand and just color over the red. It makes a world of difference."

-Source: Seattle Times

Knight Ridder News Service

Like so much else that has to do with the holidays, tips on home videotaping begin with eating. Make certain mistakes, and videotapes get devoured like so many Christmas cookies by the camera, the VCR or the weather.

"It will eat it" could be the holiday refrain of Columbia, S.C., videographer Eddie Stroud.

What happens to the tape when the camera is cold and the VCR is warm? "It will eat it."

What happens when the tape is loose in the VCR? "It will eat it."

What can happen to the tape when you haven't checked the VCR or the camera? Most likely, "it will eat it."

Avoid those mistakes, and all you have left is the videotaping itself. Stroud and videographer Ginger Hudson, who own their own shops, shared some of the same technical advice for those trying to capture holiday moments on film.

Here are some of their technical tips about preparation and pitfalls in videotaping:

Biggest tip: Use a tripod. There's less chance of the camera getting dropped, knocked over or capturing shaky images, particularly on the zoom.

Batteries: Charge your batteries the night before and consider using the more expensive lithium-ion batteries. They take a lot of heat and can run six to 10 hours. The need for light and use of the monitor can "eat up" battery power.

Tapes: Put in a fresh tape and again, consider the pricier, better-quality ones. Record a little bit of black or blank footage,

10 to 30 seconds at the beginning of the tape. That will make copying the original tape easier. Recording on the fastest speed usually makes for a better-quality tape.

Camera: Make sure the lens is in good shape. Try to use the eyepiece as much as possible.

Shooting: Make sure you have enough light; the more light, the better quality of video and color. Don't backlight your subject with windows or lamps. Also, think about a wider camera angle. Don't zoom in and zoom out, or zoom in from too far away. Vary your shots. And, if you pan the camera, move it "slower than is comfortable," Hudson said.

Sound: The holiday environment might be loud. With a camera-mounted microphone, sound will be more than four feet from your subject to pick up his or her voice, but don't be so close you're touching. Tell your subjects what you would like them to talk about.

Temperature orientation: Remember a cold camera and a warm tape equals eaten tape. Likewise with a VCR. In South Carolina, humidity also can be a problem. Lenses can fog moving from indoors to outdoors, and too much moisture can short out the video or distort the audio. Acclimate the equipment.

Using the VCR: Run another tape off at least part of one through the machine so you know it's working before loading your precious holiday tape. Make sure the tape is wound tight enough in the shell before playing; the VCR might eat a loose tape. To avoid wear and tear, play copies and hold on to the original.

ing attention to you," Banner said. "Watch for moments - looks of excitement, showing toys to a family member, any interaction." A telephoto lens allows the photographer to get a tight shot without being intrusive.

To get a good shot, even professional photographers use a lot of film. It's worth taking a whole roll of film or more over the course of the day, Banner said. "Many families only get together once or twice a year," she noted. "For \$2 or \$3 more, you can get

much better pictures."

With digital cameras, photographers can click and delete without worrying about cost, Siegel noted.

If relatives refuse to have their picture taken first thing in the morning, negotiate a delayed start to the gift opening so people can shower and prep before the festivities begin.

"If you have a nice picture but Aunt Martha hates her hair, then the whole picture is ruined for her," Banner said.

Experience in failure helps kids grow



PARENTING John Rosemond

A mother recently asked for advice on her 16-year-old son's academic problems. He needed nightly help with his homework, she said, and she was the self-appointed nightly helper. This had been going on since his very first homework assignment. Ten years later, she feels exhausted but afraid that if she stops helping him, he will fail.

"I simply cannot allow him to fail," she said, emphatically. "Ever?" I asked. "Not if I can help it."

I pointed out that failure was a necessary experience. One achieves success by trial and error. In any context, learning what not to do is as essential as learning what to do. Protecting a child from the experience of failure is not only counterproductive, it is ultimately impossible. Sooner or later, it will no longer be possible to protect, and the child will experience failure. Unfortunately, the child, when failure occurs, will not know what to do. The experience may be

devastating.

This mother's heart is certainly in the right place. She doesn't want her child to experience pain. But her head and her heart aren't working together. She understands the ultimate utility of what she's doing, but she cannot reconcile what she knows in her head to be true with what she feels in her heart she must do.

One of the keys to successful discipline (and there is no aspect of child rearing that does not fall under the heading of discipline) is keeping the head and the heart in balance. When one fails to inform the other, the parent's discipline, and the child, suffer.

Sadly, this imbalance is ubiquitous

among today's parents. I risk accusations of sexism, but I venture what I have noticed: Fathers are more likely to be ruled by their heads and mothers by their hearts. Perhaps this is one reason why God intended for children to be raised by both, together.

Like many of her gender, the mom in our example is ruled by her heart. She loves and loves a lot, but her love is not tempered by her head; therefore, her love is weak (no matter the quantity).

A parent who, in similar circumstances, justified refusing the child any help, saying, "He's got to learn that in the real world, you succeed and fail on your own, not because of someone else" would be right-headed but wrong-hearted. No one could argue with the statement. It's fact. But facts alone do not mean a parent's decision is functional.

So how, pray tell, could the above mom manage the homework issue in a way that reflects balance between head and heart? Well, she could tell him, for exam-

ple, that she will help him with three homework problems (not assignments, but individual problems) per night. No more. And that in each instance her help would not exceed 10 minutes.

"So choose your requests carefully," she could say, "so that you count."

This would expose her son to failure, which in needs to experience, but in does that mitigated against demoralization. Furthermore, her policy would cause him to stop asking for her help at a knee-jerk level but to exhaust his resources before doing so, in the course of which he would no doubt discover that he was more capable than he thinks he is.

And the story would end well, which it is supposed to do.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general child-rearing may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 26B, Indianapolis, Ind. 46244 and on his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com/>

Graduate announces she's earned degree at last



DEAR ABBY Abigail VanBuren

DEAR ABBY: After many years of part-time college classes squeezed in between working and parenting our children, finally at age 42, I have earned my bachelor's degree. I skipped the traditional graduation activities, such as the commencement exercise, but I did order announcements to send to close friends and relatives.

My husband said I shouldn't send announcements. He views them as bids for gifts, which he thinks are for 20-somethings just starting out in adult life.

Abby, I mailed the announcements anyway. Some people did respond with gifts, none of which were inappropriate or overly expensive. Others brought bottles of wine to our party to celebrate my accomplishment. However, I would still like to know if announcements for mature graduates are in poor taste.

-PROUD GRADUATE

DEAR GRADUATE: Announcements of accomplishments such as obtaining one's degree are not in poor taste. It's never too late to celebrate becoming

the person you want to be. Just because it took you longer to get your degree than those who were fortunate enough to study full-time, no one should minimize your hard work.

Congratulations on your tenacity and your degree. You are a role model for your children and other adults.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 17-year-old high school student. Until I was 13, I did some modeling and my mother entered me in beauty pageants. I constantly worried about my appearance and considered myself ugly if I didn't win.

At 13, I began what my mother called "the ugly years."

At my last pageant, the judge told me I was gaining some "chub" and needed to lose weight. After that, I became

Write to Abby

Send letters to Dear Abby, Universal Press Syndicate, 4520 Main St., Kansas City, Mo. 64112, or via her web site at <http://www.udp.com/dearabby>

bulimic for a year. Fortunately, I realized what I was doing to myself and stopped bingeing and purging.

During the four years I have not competed in pageants, I've become happier and more self-confident.

My mother recently told me that now that I'm through the "ugly" stage, it is time to begin modeling again.

Abby, I don't think I can do it. I never told my mother about my bulimia, and she refuses to listen to my reasons for not wanting to model. I don't want her to know about this disorder, especially since I am over it. What should I do?

-NO NEED TO SHOW OFF DEAR NO NEED: Tell your mother exactly what her ambition cost you the first time

around. It's time she stopped projecting her own ambitions on you.

At 17, you are nearly an adult. Under no circumstances should you allow yourself to be pushed into a career that's potentially so damaging to your physical and emotional health.

DEAR ABBY: My brother-in-law's father recently passed away. We had met him several times, but were unable to travel to the funeral services.

My husband and I want to share our sympathies with the family, but we don't know to whom we should send our condolences - my brother-in-law, his mother or both. What is proper in this situation?

-WONDERING IN WASHINGTON DEAR WONDERING: Send an individual note of sympathy to each of them. While one letter might suffice, they are both grieving and would appreciate a personal message acknowledging their loss.

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and her daughter, Joanne.

Lights

Continued from E1 Falls. Spectacularly decorated business.

Lane • 190 Cordova Ave. (corner of Cozova and Aztec) in Twin Falls • 1409 Alder Drive, in Twin Falls • 866 Capri in Twin falls. Lifestyle Nativity scene. • Corner of Eastland and

Elizabeth in Twin Falls. • 2534 Rock Creek Road, 15 miles south of Hansen. • Jerome Cheese Plant, 47 West 100 South, Jerome. • 615 E. Main St., Jerome. Two realtors, a Santa and a large lighted angel. • 233 N. Meridian in Rupert

• 495 W. Quarterhorse Road in Heyburn • 400 West 75 South, Rupert (north end of town) • Paul Rupert Highway near the sugar factory. Lots of lights, angels, Santas, snowmen, Disney character, horses, deer, moose, red white and blue lighting, flags, bears, soldiers.

FAMILY LIFE

Y. CHROMOSOMALLY

By Willy A. Wlaeman, New-York, New-York

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert-Williams

ACROSS 1 Portuguese saint 4 Start of the 15th century 8 Trouble spot 14 Wealthy one 19 SASE, for 20 Balfiore dairy 21 Take a puff 22 Carver modeling 23 Birthday figure 24 Spike or brad 25 Argentine glasslands 26 More Than I Can Say singer 27 Empathy 28 Scorpion's stinger 31 Apart 32 Sillier or Siverstone 33 Phantom 35 Tap-player's call 36 Possible misogyny 41 The Japanese title 44 Icebound Russian 45 Singer Road 46 Adherent: suff. 49 Caster actor Jack 50 Aston ox 52 Torino tree 53 K-O connection 54 jōng 55 Impertinence 56 New Jersey city 58 "Dancing Queen" singers 59 Academy frosh 61 Razed 62 Once again 63 Native-born Israeli 64 Baby food 65 Jazz guitarist Montgomery 66 Dynamic man 68 Ecology pioneer 69 Mitaloid 73 Lady of Spain 74 MIA manufactured 75 "Kitty" group 76 Sticky stuff 77 Distant 78 Supporter 79 Smash defense 80 South Charlie 81 Florida peon 82 Color of NWW 83 Frigid 84 "The Slant Man" star 85 Four pigs 86 Poem for Father's Day 87 Wh? 88 Yawning singing 89 Abu Dhabi, Dubai et al. 90 Sipran Patti 100 Singer Shirley 102 Number of priests? 105 Who was Gomez Addams 106 Without delay? 108 Baseball family 110 Excuse for roughhousing 109 Gavo engraving 110 Spectacle 111 Bruno's island 112 Noblowman 113 Vests offering 114 Clocked 115 Dirty looks 116 Seasons in Burgundy 117 Way cool!

DOWN 1 Type of coral 2 San ... Texas 3 Scimitar 4 "Time"-honored tradition? 5 Very slow pace 6 Make a god of 7 Man or Dogs 8 Ancient Jewish rabbi 9 Surfing the web 10 Word used in comparisons 11 Big theory? 12 "Evil Woman" rock-gp. 13 Some along the coast 14 Sudden plunge 15 King Arthur's paradise 16 Excuse for roughhousing 17 Butler sub 18 Grown life 28 Superman's sweetie 29 Israeli statesman 30 Abba 31 Drinking spot 32 Owl 34 Lauren and Timothy 36 Silent 37 Supplied with hints 38 Flower's follower 39 Siesta shades 40 Sushi choice 42 Bulling bravos 43 Gangster's rod 44 Griemins 47 Author of "A Soa Change" 48 Richard Dreyfuss/Richard Sanderson film 50 Needlefish 51 Luncheon 52 Frozen treat 57 Neighbor of Nor. 58 Severe tributary 60 Rummy choice 61 Australian lit. 62 Either Madison or de Maupassant? 64 Cook a bit 65 Last name of 28D 70 Show to seats 71 One-time link 72 O.T. book 73 Common rail 74 Daigique 75 Miscellaneous 76 Earth: prel. 79 Became more clamorous 81 That girl 85 Switch positions 86 Hook's mate 87 Take's "Star Trek" role 89 Trigonometric function 90 Anapapist leader Jakob 91 Clyde boors 93 Ruffcut 94 Iroquois tribe 95 Spoko roughly 100 Rope fiber 101 Fungi sacs 102 Frolic's cry 103 Filler's or Jackson role 104 Death rattle 106 "Nova" network 107 Silver or Ely

Today's hot toys can fall out of fashion quickly

Knightrider News Services You're hotter than Britney Spears in a halter top - adults fight over you, kids cry for you, your picture splashes across the December covers of magazines. By Easter, you've been reduced to the bottom shelf. Behind Barney. It's not easy being the hot toy of the holiday season. Product shortages cut into profits and prompt customer tantrums. Prices get inflated. Copycats saturate the market. And you disappoint even the ones who begged for you, because few toys can live up to the hype piled on at Christmas. Nothing to do but enjoy the frenzy while it lasts and try to stay grounded. The hotter you get, the harder you fall. Just ask Furby.



Tiger Electronics' one-popular Furby had a quicksilver career.

Just ask Furby. "We used to say toys had a five-year lifespan, but with technology evolving so quickly, toys become obsolete," said "The Toy Guy," Christopher Byrne, whose toy reviews can be found at TheToyGuy.com. Take Poo-Chi, last year's first mass-market robotic dog, which became one of the season's top sellers. The yapping dog is still in stores, for a few dollars less than consumers paid last year, but there aren't many takers. "Nobody cares about Poo-Chi now," Byrne said. "It's not cool, not fashionable. Toys are a fashion business, no matter what we like to call it."

Tiger Electronics' one-popular Furby had a quicksilver career. Electronics - the same folks responsible for Furby - quickly shifted Poo-Chi type to their new generation of robotic characters available this year, like Meow-Chi and Dino-Chi. Of course, they also insist Furby is still popular, especially with collectors. A pop icon, if you will. Good luck finding that furry icon at Toys "R" Us.

Some experts believe the annual hot toy phenomenon faded with the '90s. "Until recently, getting the hot toy was more important than what the toy did. That's why there are a lot of Furbies in the closet," Byrne said. "People have learned they can't hang their hat on a fad. Technology is not enough to impress kids. There has to be some imagination involved. Toys are not complete without the child."

Gemini: Don't take flirtation lightly

IF DECEMBER 23RD IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you are a natural psychologist and writer; when you go after story behind the story, you get it. You are dynamic, intelligent and sexy. You have everything it takes to win. Gemini, Virgo and Sagittarius persons play major roles in your life, could have these letters in names: E, N, W. Your doubts concerning marriage will be erased. Social activity increases in 2002; May of that year will be your most romantic, profitable month. ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Elements of luck and timing ride with you; in matters of speculation stick with number 3. You could be the center of admiration. Gemini figures in scenario. TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Look behind scenes; someone could be following you with good news. Be willing to tear down for purpose. Rebuilding, Leo, Scorpio and another Taurus play roles. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Excellent for reading and writing, teaching and learning. Flirtation serious - don't take it too lightly. Short trip involves out-of-town relatives. No regrets. CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick close to home; family member wants to relate confidential information. Be diplomatic, don't force issues. Music plays; dance to

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr your own tune. Libra in picture. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Avoid self-deception. Get commitments in writing. You succeed if you cover all bases. Maintain aura of mystery; don't tell all, don't confide or confess. Pisces involved. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You'll be trusted with "classified" information. Many will rely upon your ability to be discreet. Resist. Overcome temptation to "know it all." Capricorn plays stimulating role. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Lie low, play waiting game. Be positive concerning legal rights and permissions. Question of marriage will loom large. Don't leave yourself open to threats; cover loopholes. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your kind of day! Take initiative, make fresh start in new direction. Co-worker pays meaningful compliment and is sincere. Romantic relationship heats up; get hot and heavy. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Direction and motivation highlighted; you will need cooperation of family in order to avoid conflict. Focus on comfortable living, marital status and possible

addition to family. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Diverse, accent versatility and intellectual curiosity. Accept assignment of organizing social group. No holds barred, no taboos, including discussions of politics, religion. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Individual in "top spot" could be derailed, mainly because he wanted to be. Taurus, Leo and Scorpio persons play dramatic roles in as "prince litter" and smack home run. The loose ends! PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Investigate financial opportunity; it is legitimate, but get promises in writing. Romantic relationship more serious than expected. Protect self in emotional clinches.

The moon skirts Earth's shadow

Last month ended with the moon skirting just south of Saturn. This Thursday, the moon is coming 'round again - and this time Saturn is squarely in its path.



SKYWATCH Chris Anderson

As demonstrated by the partial solar eclipse earlier this month, the moon's tilted orbit sends it north and south of the ecliptic (the plane of the solar system). So when the moon slid south of Saturn in November, the stage was set for it to swing back north and obscure the planet this month. At 1:26 a.m. Friday, the dark limb at the upper edge of the nearly full moon will begin to occult Saturn. Just over an hour later, the show will end as Saturn emerges from behind the moon's bright limb at about the 4:30 position. The disappearance will be more interesting to watch, especially through a telescope, since the dark limb won't swamp Saturn out with glare like the bright limb will at reappearance. Biannual eclipse seasons last 37 1/2 days, so with the solar eclipse of the 14th under our belts, a lunar eclipse is in the offing. In the early hours of next

Sunday morning, the moon will undergo a penumbral eclipse. Don't get too excited about this, however, unless you're an enthusiast of extremely subtle astronomical phenomena. Between 1:26 and 5:33 a.m. the moon will slide through earth's partial shadow, with the maximum eclipse occurring at 3:33 a.m. If you're watching at mid-eclipse, you might notice the full moon looking a little bit darker than normal, especially on its lower edge. Unless you're especially looking for something out of the ordinary, you might never notice it. Still, it's the best southern Idaho gets until a total lunar eclipse in the spring of 2003. If you're not sure what "penumbral" or "partial shadow" mean, think of it this way: At

Sky calendar (through Saturday) Planets: One hour before sunrise: Jupiter One hour after sunset: Mars; SSW Saturn; E, low Jupiter; ENE, very low Moon: Full Sunday, Dec. 30, 3:40 a.m. Occults Saturn Friday, 1:26-2:30 a.m. Penumbral lunar eclipse, Dec. 30; Begins 1:26 a.m.; mid-eclipse, 3:33 a.m., ends 5:33 a.m.

mid-eclipse, an astronaut standing on the moon would see the earth blocking part of the sun, but not all. Lunar eclipses on earth produce solar eclipses on the moon. Next week: Hints and tips for first-time telescope owners. Chris Anderson is the planetarium production specialist at the Faulkner Planetarium at the Heritage Center for Arts and Sciences at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. Write to him at cander-sm@csid.edu.

Psychologist claims kids are self-centered

Knightrider News Service Our children are poorly prepared for self-sacrifice and hardships they may experience as our country responds to terrorist attacks, according to Harvard psychologist Dan Kindlon. That is because we "give our children too much and demand too little of them," Kindlon says. Kindlon is the author of the recently published "Too Much of a Good Thing - Raising Children of Character in an Indulgent Age" (Talk Miramax Books, \$23.95). In it, he warns that while parents must have the best intentions, they are trying to ensure their children's happiness in all the wrong ways. Too many parents think they can buy their children happiness and success, he claims. Kindlon said recently he was promoted the book at the Galleria's Barnes and Noble bookstore in Edina, Minn., an affluent Minneapolis suburb.

His audience included parents and therapists who asked questions about peer pressure and brand-consciousness, allowances and age-appropriate chores for children. A family-practice physician sought advice on how to handle parents who spoil their children and are not aware of the harm they are doing. Today's parents indulge children by not requiring them to do chores; buying them too many toys, gadgets and other items; and trying to protect them from disappointment. One reason we spoil our children is that we are part of an affluent society and can afford to, Kindlon says. Our overindulgence comes from positive feelings - feelings of love. But the ways we address those feelings are misguided, according to Kindlon. Kindlon concludes we are failing to express our feelings of love with what money cannot buy: time, care and clear boundaries for behavior. The result is that

American children are at risk for depression and often lack strong character that is essential for their well-being and that of the country, according to Kindlon. "What we want for our children is a perfect life devoid of hardship and pain," Kindlon said. "But their happiness as adults is largely dependent on the tools we give them to allow them to develop emotional maturity." Kindlon has two daughters and has taught at Harvard for 17 years. He wrote his book based on results of a parenting-practices study. He and research assistants distributed questionnaires to 654 teenagers in nine schools in different regions of the country and to 1,078 parents of children ages 4 to 19. They also conducted some 50 in-depth interviews with parents, teachers, teen-agers; counselors, therapists and school administrators, as well as a review of previous studies on families and children.

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Dedicated to Excellence John Roberts, DDS INTRA-ORAL CAMERA Technology is continually shared from one field to another. Dentistry has recently benefited from photographic technology in the form of a camera small enough to fit in your mouth. We are now able to take pictures of your teeth and view them on a computer screen. You may even have experienced an intra-oral camera and seen your molars up close. How will this benefit you, the Patient? I have seen two major benefits from this technology in my office: One: Communication between dentist and patient has increased unbelievably. That a picture is worth a thousand words certainly holds true in a cavity or cracked tooth on a computer screen much easier than I can in a foggy little mirror. Two: If the picture of your tooth is stored in the computer, the image can later be sent to your insurance company with your claim. This communication has greatly increased patient reimbursements from insurance companies. The insurance company is usually unable to deny needed treatment when they are sent such a detailed picture of the tooth. The kids love it too. 256 MARTIN ST. TWIN FALLS, ID 83301 E-mail drjohn@lights.com www.smile7.com PHONE (208) 733-5346.

COMMUNITY

Serving the Magic Valley

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

Woman opens her heart to others at Christmas

By Amle Thompson
Times-News correspondent

Twenty years ago, police Sgt. Melinda Borden was working at the Elko County Sheriff's Department when a boy in old shoes and a ratty coat walked in to visit his father in jail and give him a pack of cigarettes.

The man was charged with killing the boy's mother.

When the boy left, Borden, now 49, complained about the condition of his clothes in the middle of winter. Someone told her if she didn't like it, she should do something about it.

And, she did. She started the Gifts of Love Christmas program in which she helped children in need. She helped the boy that Christmas, along with the children of a railroad worker who was killed. The next few years, she aided six or seven families.

"And, then bammm," she said, "It just went."

Now, the program averages about 70 families a year. One year, they helped 175 children.

Borden said.

Barrick Gold Strike is a sponsor of the program, giving \$2,500. Program organizers also sell raffle tickets for prizes that Barrick supplies. Schools have food drives, and turkeys or hams are donated, Borden said.

The jail staff of about 15 people and her family help her, but it's still a big job.

"One year, I didn't have Christmas with my family until New Year's Eve," she said. "I just didn't have time to get everything ready."

Yet, the program has become a tradition in her family. Her children, who were age 7 and 9 when she started, are now grown. They still live in Elko and lend a hand, as do Borden's grandchildren.

"This has been a part of my family forever," she said.

Borden is excited about being a torch bearer for the 2002 Olympic Games. She was born and raised in Twin Falls and can't wait to return for the Olympic festivities.

"One of the guys I work with said, 'You're right up there with Mohammed Ali,' she said.



The 2002 Olympic torch will be carried through Twin Falls between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Jan. 26, followed by a citywide celebration.

An area selection committee chose 42 people to be among the 11,500 inspiring Americans who will carry the torch along a path that begins Dec. 4 in Atlanta and ends Feb. 8 in Salt Lake City, with the opening of the games. Leading up to the games, The Times-News will profile local Olympic torch runners.

Former track star gets chance to participate in Olympics

By Amle Thompson
Times-News correspondent

Brigham Young University All-American track athlete Scott Stirling twice tried to make the United States Olympic team.

Now, he's been chosen to be a part of a relay team that will bring the Olympic torch to Salt Lake City for the 2002 Winter Games.

"It was blown away," said Stirling, 36, who is the electronics supervisor at Office Max in Twin Falls.

With the exception of the Games in Munich, Germany during World War II, the Olympics always has been a place for international athletes to enjoy peaceful competition, regardless of what is happening in the world, the former high school history teacher said.

"For two-tenths of a mile, I will be the 'symbol of what that means,'" he said.

He was nominated by his wife, Konnie Stirling. The couple have three children, Kade, Zane and Avery, and lives in Jerome.

Stirling, who grew up in the Washington, D.C. area, participated in several prestigious high school track meets, including the



Scott Stirling

When he was teaching, however, he always stressed to his classes that education comes first.

Stirling competed in the NCAA Championships two times in the high hurdles, and tried out for the Olympic track team in 1984 and 1988.

The Olympics have always been a big deal to Stirling. He has several friends from the BYU track team who have competed at the Games. He also watched the torch relay near Washington, D.C. when it was on its way to Atlanta for the 1998 Summer Games.

Hershey's Relays and Penn Relays. He also was a state finalist in the 110-meter hurdles and high jump, and part of a championship 4x200-meter relay team.

At BYU, he participated in high hurdles, intermediate hurdles and relays.

"One of my proudest moments, though, was when I was named Academic All-American," Stirling said.

MOUNTAIN VIEW STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Students of the Month for October in Mountain View Elementary School's Positive Action Program in Burley were, from left, Emily Turner, first grade; Cody Hootsen, second grade; and Bridget Bean, third grade. Selected at the end of the month from weekly winners, they chose where to have lunch with the principal and school secretary, and helped in the office during October. Posters with biographical information about the students were displayed in the school.



Towa Evans, middle, receives an advocate of the year award from Lee Woodland, executive director of NAMI of Idaho, and Pete Becker, president of NAMI of Idaho.

NAMI celebrates first year

HAILEY - Four Wood River Valley residents were honored by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Idaho at its annual conference Oct. 7 in Boise.

The honors were just part of the NAMI of Wood River Chapter's first year of events, activities and work related to issues of the mentally ill.

Blaine County Sheriff Walt Fleming was honored for his response to the needs of families, initiating education classes for officers, and supporting, working with and assisting NAMI in its efforts, among other his activities, the Wood River chapter reported.

Talks between Fleming and the NAMI director resulted in a committee formed under the direction of the State. Rep Wendy Jagt.

The committee addresses the need for legislative review and rewording the Idaho Code so it can provide for early intervention, and prevent tragic consequences and long hospitalizations, the chapter reported.

Jaquet of Ketchum also was honored for her legislative efforts on behalf of the needs of the mentally ill, for her understanding of issues affecting the mentally ill, and keeping local NAMI leaders apprised of proposed legislation affecting the mentally ill, the chapter reported.

Philip Gomez with the Wood River Journal was honored for outstanding reporting with depth, clarity and sensitivity on issues affecting the mentally ill, resulting in awareness and public support for reforms in the treatment system for the mentally ill, the chapter reported.

Towa Evans, who is president

of the NAMI of Wood River chapter, was named advocate of the year because of her accomplishments in the community and the state. Evans served as a lobbyist in Washington, D.C., and was instrumental in educating area law enforcement officers about mental health issues, and organizing a police force task force focusing on mental health issues.

The NAMI Wood River Chapter celebrated its first year in November. Among its accomplishments during 2001 was presentation of courses to the public, training for law enforcement, public education through presentations and materials, attending an annual NAMI national convention in Washington, D.C., weekly support meetings and creation of strategic plan for 2002, the chapter reported.

SERVICE NEWS

Wanamaker graduates from armored vehicle course

Marine Corps Pfc. John A. Wanamaker, a 2000 graduate of Gooding High School, has graduated from the light armored vehicle repairman course.

During the course at Marine Corps Detachment, US Army Ordnance Center and School, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., Wanamaker received instruction on troubleshooting, repair and inspection of light armored vehicles.

The vehicles can be launched from a ship with the help of Navy landing craft, which transport

the vehicles and crews to shore. As a Marine Corps infantryman, Wanamaker's job is to repair and use the weapons and equipment.

Amoureux completes Marine Corps training

Marine Corps Reserve Pvt. William P. Amoureux, son of William P. Amoureux of Jerome, has completed basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, Calif.

Amoureux successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically

and mentally. He is a 2001 graduate of Jerome High School.

Chandler completes basic Marine training

Marine Corps Reserve Pfc. Flinton S. Chandler, son of F. Wayne and Debbie R. Chandler of Wendell, has completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.

Chandler successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits both physically and mentally. Chandler is a 2001 graduate of Wendell High School.

We want your news



Pat Marcantonio
Trena Tegan

Please send your news and photos to:

Community Editor
Pat Marcantonio
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
733-0931 Ext. 288

Send your news to us, we want to hear about it.

• Community meetings
• Celebrations
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• Reunions
• Individual achievements
• Your kids and their activities.

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

Magic Valley Singles Square Club gathers

JEROME - The Magic Valley Singles Square Club announced its latest calendar.

There are no dance classes on Tuesday. On Thursday, there will be square dance classes at 7 p.m. at the American Legion Hall in Jerome. The event is in conjunction with the Buttons & Bows Square Dance Club. Bring finger foods.

For more information, call Vera 734-4647.

Oakley Valley Arts Council holds 'Forum' try-outs

OAKLEY - Oakley Valley Arts Council will hold auditions for its spring production of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

Auditions will be held from 7:30 p.m. Jan. 3 and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 5 at Howell Opera House in Oakley.

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

Diane Woodhouse at 678-2748.

T-N offers e-mail greetings to armed forces

TWIN FALLS - This holiday season, The Times-News is helping Magic Valley residents send cheer to members of the U.S. military.

As a free public service, The Times-News offers "Holiday Home Front Greetings." Area residents can send season's greetings to members of the armed forces, and military personnel can send greetings back home.

The greetings will appear on the newspaper's Web site, www.magicvalley.com.

A greeting can be sent to a specific person or unit, or to the armed forces in general. Just call up the Web site, scroll down and click on the "Holiday Home Front Greetings" icon. Then click on "Greetings to Armed Forces Personnel."

If you don't have Internet access, you can mail your greeting to "Holiday Home Front Greetings," P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, and we'll post it on-line for you. Military personnel can send greetings home via the same

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Web site. Greetings will be accepted until New Year's Day.

For more information on Holiday Home Front Greetings, call Community Editor Pat Marcantonio at 735-3288.

CSI offers non-credit judo courses next month

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho is offering non-credit judo classes for anyone interested in learning a new skill, improving their health or becoming more self-confident.

"Judo for Beginners," designed for students age 8 and above, will cover basic judo fundamentals, traditions and history. The course will be held from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 22 through May 9 in Gym 236 at CSI. Cost is \$40 plus a \$15 gi rental fee.

"Advanced Judo," designed for advanced judo students, allows students to continue their studies and cumulative learning of techniques, Kafa and life-style. The course will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 2-4 p.m. on Saturdays, Jan. 3 to May 30 in Gym 236 at CSI.

Cost is \$30 plus a \$40 USJF registration fee. Instructor is Bryan Matsuoaka.

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

The Times-News would like to

profile your organization.

Send your information along with your name, a photo and your phone number to Pat Marcantonio, Community Editor, P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83301.

HEALTH SHORTS

Staying Well This Winter

Some people seem to never get sick - no matter what they do. Usually it's because they have good habits and avoid bad ones. Basically the healthier you are, the less likely a virus or bacteria will take hold and cause an infection.

- Nutrition is very important. Well-balanced meals and plenty of fluids will help keep you well.
- Alcohol should be avoided. Alcohol limits the body's ability to fight infections, and increases the chance of oral secretions getting into the trachea and lungs which can start a bronchitis or pneumonia.
- Smoking - not - only - con-

tributes to getting more infections, but also prolongs the course of the illness. Smoke increases congestion and paralyzes the cleaning-mechanism of the airways.

- Staying physically active stimulates good health. Walking and other forms of exercise are important.
- It is also helpful to avoid crowds, wash hands frequently, and perhaps take vitamins. You can also build up your immunity with flu shots yearly and a pneumonia shot which is needed only once.

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County offers license gift certificates

Knight Ridder News Services

Picture Christmas morning with this under the tree: a gift certificate for a marriage license.

And it's not returnable.

New Castle County, Del., says it is the first county anywhere to offer marriage license gift certificates. Until now, the only option was for a couple to appear in person (with photo ID) to buy the license, which is good for 30 days. That's pretty much the way it works in most places, with fees and dates of validity varying from county to county.

With the gift certificate, anyone can pay New Castle County's \$30 fee (cash, check, money order; in person, at some bridal shows, or by mail) and get an engraved certificate good for the purchase of a license. Later, the couple must

appear in person to redeem the certificate.

The certificate's valid for a full year, and you don't have to live in Delaware to marry there.

The hitch, so to speak, is that if the couple opts not to go ahead with the wedding, there's no refund. Then again, there's no refund on marriage licenses purchased the usual route. And each year, hundreds of marriage licenses are sold but never used in New Castle County, according to Ken Boulden, clerk of the peace there. Who would have thought?

John and Karen Obery, who live in a suburb of Wilmington, Del., thought the gift certificate was a swell idea, so they bought one for their daughter Amy and her fiancé, Brian Sauers, of Gilbertsville, Pa. The Oberys plan to put it under the Christmas tree.

Sauers proposed in October atop the Eiffel Tower and the couple, both 25, plan to marry on May 11, 2002.

"I'm not worried that they'll back out," John Obery said. The gift certificate, he added, "is a symbol of our support of their union-to-be."

Boulden said the idea grew out of bridal fairs members of his staff have attended in recent years. Often, he said, the mother of the bride or a future bridesmaid would approach the country's booth and ask about paying for the couple's license. Previously, there was no way for them to do so.

The certificate must be an intriguing gift idea, Boulden said. There were four inquiries before noon on the day they were offered.

FAMILY LIFE

WEDDING

ENGLER-MILLARD

BURLEY — Jennifer Lynn Engler and Wesley William Millard were married Sept. 8 in the Boise LDS Temple.

The bride is the daughter of Sheryl and Jeffrey Engler of Walla Walla, Wash. She graduated from Cy-Fair High School in Houston, Texas, in 1996 and attended the Air Force Academy before serving in the Taichung Taiwan Mission for the LDS Church. She returned to the academy following her mission. The groom is the son of Helen



Wesley and Jennifer Millard and Steve Jensen of Burley and Clark and Peggy Millard of

Meridian. He graduated from Burley High School in 1995 and attended the U.S. Air Force Academy for two years before serving an LDS mission in Moscow, Russia. Following his mission, he returned to the academy, where he graduated in May and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. He is currently in intelligence training at Goodfellow Air Force Base in San Angelo, Texas.

An open house to honor the couple will be held from 6-8 p.m. Saturday at the Jensen residence, 1034 Atlantic Drive, Burley.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE BURASHES

JEROME — Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Burash of Jerome will be honored at an open house Friday for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 7-9 p.m. at 197 E. 420 S., Jerome.

Burash and Nila Woodall Lloyd were married Jan. 3, 1952, in Sreator, Ill.

They have lived in Sreator, Ill., Saugus, Calif., and Jerome.

He worked at Thatcher Glass for 38 years, Tupperware and the Jerome Recreation Center.

She worked at Bouquet Fabric in Saugus.

They have been active in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The event is being given by their children, Linda Hays of Saugus, Calif., Diane (Fred) Lawrence, Debra Ray and Dawn (Kevin) Higley, all of Jerome.

The couple has 15 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.



Nila and Daniel Burash

THE WOODBURYS

MACKAY — Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Woodbury of Mackay celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 18.

Woodbury and Vernetta Baird were married Dec. 18, 1951, in the Idaho Falls Temple.

They have lived in Burley, Carey and Mackay, where they have resided for 32 years.

He is a rancher and she is a music teacher at the Mackay schools. They have been active in the LDS Church and the Idaho Cowboy Poetry Association.

They have six children, Vernae (David) Buck of Pocatello, Teri (Van) Price of Malad, Randy



Vernon and Vernetta Woodbury



(Sheila) Woodbury and Susan (Ves) Collins, both of Moore, Kirk (Kim) Woodbury of Jerome and Bryce (Stephanie) Woodbury of

Mackay. The couple has 31 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

WEDDING

BROWN-SCOTT

PAUL — Natasha Mina Brown and Cameron Matthew were married Dec. 21 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. A reception was held following the ceremony in Sandy, Utah.

The bride is the daughter of Shannon and Wendy Brown of Paul. She is a 2000 graduate of Minidoka High School and a graduate of Brigham Young University, Idaho in office systems management.

The groom is the son of Matthew Scott of Sandy, Utah, and the late Marina Scott. He is a 1997 graduate of Alta High School and has served in the Chile Vina Del Mar LDS Mission. He is working towards his baccalaureate degree in accounting/finance and will further his studies, seeking a juris doctor degree in corporate law.

A reception to honor the couple will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday at the Paul Stake Center, 424 W. Ellis, Paul.



Cameron and Natasha Scott

ENGAGEMENTS

MCCURDY-SCHROEDER

TWIN FALLS — Lynda McCurdy and Byron McCurdy of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Tasha Lee McCurdy, to Greg Alton Schroeder, son of Robert and Leilah Schroeder of Twin Falls.

McCurdy is a 2000 graduate of Twin Falls High School and has been attending Brigham Young University-Idaho.

Schroeder is a 1998 graduate of Twin Falls High School and has been attending the College of Southern Idaho. He served a mission in Italy from 1999 to 2001. He is employed by AmeriPrice and Hearing Aid Counselors in Twin Falls.

The couple plans to attend CSI



Greg Schroeder and Tasha McCurdy and later transfer to BYU in Provo.

The wedding is planned for Jan. 4, 2002, in the Salt Lake City Temple. A reception will be held from 6-9 p.m. Jan. 5 at the LDS Church, 847 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls.



Kevin Stellingwerf and Erin Rountree

ROUNTREE-STELLINGWERF

TWIN FALLS — John and Ruth McKay of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Erin Rountree, to Kevin Stellingwerf, son of Andrew and Jan Stellingwerf of Twin Falls.

Rountree is employed at Farmers National Bank.

Stellingwerf is employed at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

The wedding is planned for Jan. 12, 2002, at the Twin Falls Reformed Church.

DAVIDS-RAMSEY

BURLEY — Lyle and Rosie Davids of Burley announce the engagement of their daughter, Ami Chante Davids, to Nicholas Keith Ramsey, son of Keith and Beverly Ramsey and Teresa and Blair Keetch, all of Burley.

Davids is a 1999 graduate of Burley High School. She received her cosmetology license from Idaho State University in December 2000. She is currently attending ISU in medical terminology and will graduate in May 2002.

Ramsey is a 1998 graduate of Burley High School. He served a two-year LDS mission to Micronesia, Guam. He is currently attending Idaho State University in the construction program and will graduate in



Nicholas Ramsey and Ami Davids

The wedding is planned for Friday in the Bountiful LDS Temple. A reception to honor the couple will be held 7-9 p.m. at the Unity Ward Church, 275 S. 250 E., Burley.

The couple will reside in Pocatello.

BOSS-WALTON

TWIN FALLS — David and Dorothy Boss of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Robyn C. Boss, to Joshua T. Walton, son of Thomas and Dana Walton of Heyburn.

Boss is a 1998 graduate of Filer High School and a 2000 graduate of the College of Southern Idaho with an associate of science degree in agriculture. She is attending the University of Idaho and is employed by the U of I in Twin Falls.

Walton is a 1996 graduate of Calvary Christian School and has received associate degrees from Idaho State University in 1997 and the College of Southern Idaho in 2000. He is attending the University of Idaho and is employed by the U of I Research and Extension Center in



Robyn Boss and Joshua Walton

The wedding is planned for 2 p.m. Jan. 12, 2002, at the First Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls. A reception will follow the ceremony at the CSI Evergreen Building.

The couple will reside in Twin Falls.

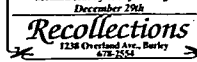
WOODWARD-RICHMAN

PAUL — Roger and Ruth Woodward of Paul announce the engagement of their daughter, Jalene Woodward, to Tadd Richman, son of Monte and Elaine Richman of Burley.

Woodward is a 1997 graduate of Minidoka High School and a 1999 graduate of New Images School of Cosmetology. She is employed at Jensen Jewelers and First Impressions in Burley.

Richman is a 1997 graduate of Declo High School. He served a mission to Philadelphia, Pa. He farms with Bart Bowers in Burley.

The wedding is planned for Friday in the Logan LDS Temple. A reception to honor the couple will be held 6:30-9 p.m. Saturday at the Paul 3rd and 4th Ward building, 300 S. 500 W., Heyburn.



Melissa Handy & Joyce Morgan
December 29th
Recollections
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Your Perfect Wedding

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FORMAL WEAR/SHOES/VEILS
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Hudson's Shoes 148 Main Ave. S. Twin Falls 733-4750
Sweetheart Manor Overland & 42nd St. Burley 678-8692
Tuxedos Now & Gowns Forever Magic Valley Mall Twin Falls 734-4055

PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY
Allens Photo 105 E. Main Jerome 324-2486
Critchfield Photography 488 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Twin Falls 734-5223
Millennium Productions Videography P.O. Box 5770 Twin Falls 735-9987
Pomerelle Portrait Design Studio Boise, Elko, Twin Falls 734-9969
Soundworks Video & Audio Productions 818 10th Ave. E. Jerome 324-2593

JEWELRY
Boyer jewelry 1838 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls 733-4552
Walmart (Wedding Rings) 415 River View Dr. Burley 677-4709

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Gowns Forever Magic Valley Mall Twin Falls 734-4055

LIMOUSINES
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WEDDING FACILITIES
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LODGING/TRAVEL
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Epic Travel 1815 S. Lincoln Jerome 324-2394

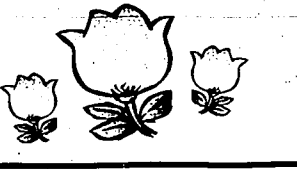
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Best Wishes for a Season Blessed With Good Memories & Warm Smiles
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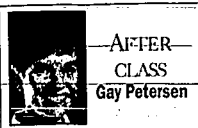
Cherish special memories of Christmas

Christmas is here again – how quickly time passes from one Christmas to another. The older I get the faster it seems to go. But I always look forward to this time of year. It is a special-time and one that brings back happy memories.

I grew up on a farm at a time when farmers were making little money. My Dad certainly worked hard enough, but it seemed that the bills always outstripped our ability to pay. He borrowed money from the bank every year to pay for next years crops, and, though he was an excellent farmer, it seemed that when it came time to pay the bank back, the amount left over was never enough.

He and my brothers and sisters and I, when we were old enough, milked a few cows, and the milk check, small though it was, was paid for our groceries and kept us going.

For a number of years we lacked indoor plumbing, and the



—AFFER—
CLASS
Gay Petersen

houses in which we lived were less than desirable, but, being a child, I didn't realize how little we had. We were happy and healthy. We didn't lack any of the necessities of life, and our parents loved one another and us and didn't confide to us that we should worry – so we didn't.

The Christmases in those days were wonderful. Until I was older I, like most children, believed in Santa Claus, and, supposedly, he was the one, who, the night before Christmas, set up the tree and brought the presents. How wonderful was Christmas morning when we woke up to a tree covered with

ornaments and lights set up by Santa sometime during our slumbers. And how wonderful were the presents – often homemade – that we found beneath the tree. We didn't ask for, nor did we expect, much, so that whatever we got was great.

In the afternoon our home would be full of relatives from both sides of the family. The house would smell of Christmas – mingled with the smell of pine and juniper would be turkey and dressing, pumpkin and apple pie. Those wonderful smells stay with me still.

We would play with our cousins until dinner, stuff ourselves and play some more. The grandparents and uncles and aunts would play games and carry on lengthy conversations about everything from politics to next year's crops.

I think even then that I realized how truly blessed I really was in how much I had to be thankful for.

The adults of my childhood had lived through World War II. They had seen brothers and sons, friends and neighbors, go off to war. They understood, as probably few will ever understand, what it meant to live in celebrating holidays with loved ones.

They passed that appreciation on to their children and grandchildren.

The happiness we all felt at Christmas time was magnified by the many blessings that were part of the privilege of living in this great country.

Today, as our nation faces new dangers and a new type of war, may the Christmas season be even more meaningful, and may the spirit that is part of that season stay with us whatever the future might bring.

Gay Petersen is a retired teacher who lives in Wendell. Write to her at petersen@gmagiclink.com

Earnings don't affect kids' benefits

Knight Rider News Service

Q. Can I go back to work with out affecting my children's payments from Social Security? They've been getting monthly checks on their retired father's earnings record.

A. The amount of benefits your children receive is not affected by your earnings. Their payments will continue until they reach age 18 (19 if they're still in high school) or until they marry. However, if you receive benefits as a mother caring for a child under 16 or disabled, your benefits may be affected by your earnings. Call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 if you need more information.

Q. My wife and I both started receiving retirement benefits on my earnings record at age 65 (she never earned Social Security credits). If I die, will my wife continue to receive the same amount of benefits? If not, how much will she receive?

A. No, if you were to die, your

Social Security Q&A

wife's amount would be different. Presently, you are getting 100 percent of your retirement benefit because you began receiving benefits at the full retirement age, age 65. Since your wife is receiving retirement benefits on your record, she is presently receiving one-half of your full benefit. If you were to die, she would no longer get your retirement, but she would receive widow's benefits. Since she's 65 years old, she would be eligible for 100 percent of your benefit. For more information, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 and request the booklets, "Retirement" and "Survivors."

This column was prepared by the Social Security Administration. For fast answers to specific Social Security questions, contact Social Security toll-free at 800-772-1213.

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Senior Pets, Senior People Unite for "Golden" Partnership

According to the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (APPPMA), senior citizens can benefit from the physiological, social, and psychological benefits that senior pets provide.

Studies suggest elderly pet-owners have significantly lower blood pressure and cholesterol levels than elderly non-pet owners. Because companion animals, young or old, need to be walked, fed and groomed, seniors can take advantage of the increased exercise they'll get which results from pet ownership. Walking and caring for a pet helps hearts stay healthy and keeps joints flexible and limber.

Along with physiological benefits, companion animals (whether furry, finned or feathered) offer love, companionship and social interaction. These additional benefits of pet ownership help older pet-owners maintain their mental and emotional health as well.

"Because young pets require large amounts of time, attention and energy, seniors may find caring for a puppy, kitten or other younger pet a bit of a handful," commended Funda Alp, spokesperson, for APPMA. "Adopting a senior pet can prove to be the perfect fit and complement a senior citizen's lifestyle."

APPPMA offers the following additional benefits that adopting an older pet can bring to an older household:

- Forget Messy Clean-ups: Older pets are usually house trained before adoption.
- Don't Hide Your Shoes: Older pets have passed the teething stage.
- Basic Training: Older pets know the meaning of the word, "No!" They are calmer and learn more quickly.
- No Surprises: Older pets are grown, their temperaments are developed and their medical history is known.
- Finish Reading the Newspaper: Older pets require less attention than younger pets. They allow for "quiet time" for yourself.
- Easier Vet Trips: Older pets have had their shots. They've been neutered/spayed at a younger age. But, they still need their annual check-ups!

"Older cats and dogs will make great companions, but they aren't the only option when adopting a pet," said Alp. "For those allergic to cats and dogs or for those who're unable to walk and exercise daily, companion animals including birds, small animals including guinea pigs and hamsters, fish and reptiles can make ideal animal companions for senior citizens."

Seniors may wish to walk through kennels, breed rescues and shelters to select the perfect older pet. They may want to visit a prospective pet on more than one occasion before adopting to make sure of the animal's temperament and compatibility.

Source:
American Pet Products Manufacturers Assoc.
at www.appma.org

For more information about responsible pet care, visit APPMA's Website. Founded in 1958, the American Pet Manufacturers Association is the nation's leading not-for-profit trade organization serving the interest of pet product manufacturers and educating the public on the many joys and health benefits associated with pet ownership. APPMA's membership consists of more than 650 companies that include both small businesses as well as the nation's leading pet product companies.

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HEALTHY CHEF
Low Fat White Chili

INGREDIENTS:

1 1/2 lbs. extra lean ground pork or turkey	1 small onion chopped
2-3 garlic cloves finely diced	1 can Great Northern beans or white beans drained
1 small can low cal/low sodium diced tomatoes	1 small can green chilies, mild or spicy
1 medium can tomato sauce	3 Tbsp chili powder or to taste
2-3 dashes of cayenne pepper (red pepper)	3 cups of water
8 oz grated Monterey Jack cheese, low fat	Saline crackers, no salt

In a deep heavy kettle, brown ground pork with chopped onions and garlic. Drain when brown. Back on the stove add beans, tomatoes, green chilies, tomato sauce, chili powder, red pepper. Bring back to a boil, add water and cook at a good simmer for at least 3 1/2 to 4 hours. Add water when the chili cooks down a bit. Stop adding water during the last hour of cooking. Stop when it reaches the consistency you like. Serve with grated cheese and crackers and enjoy your meal.

Joy Seidita
Filer, Idaho

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