

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/96th year, No. 358

Monday, December 24, 2001

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Morning clouds and fog, then some sunshine.
High 30, low 14.

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MAGIC VALLEY



Tree shortage: A Christmas tree shortage in Mini-Cassia means they may have sold out by today.

Page A6

SPORTS

Easy pickings: Tampa Bay and New Orleans met on Sunday in a game thick with playoff implications.

Page A7

Irish eyes: Notre Dame is reportedly winning Washington coach Rick Neuheisel for its football coach opening.

Page A7

OPINION

Yes, Virginia: An old Christmas Classic reminds us of the hope that comes with Santa, in today's editorial.

Page A10

HEALTH & FASHION



11th-hour gifts: If you haven't started your Christmas shopping yet, inquire within.

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TERM LIMITS HIT HOME



Twin Falls County Sheriff Wayne Tousley contemplates what will be next for him if he is forced to retire from office at the end of his term in 2005 because of Idaho's term limits. Some legislators are planning an attempt to overturn the law.

No more careers in office

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Sheriff Wayne Tousley said he doesn't care about having a fancy office or a fat salary.

What matters most, he said, is doing a good job for the people who elected him.

A list of local officials affected - A12

"I ran as an independent, so I would not be beholden to anyone other than the people who elected me," he said, sitting at his folding-table desk. Behind him were common brown boxes filled with file folders.

Out of necessity, Tousley runs the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department in Spartan fashion, but he said he'd rather head up that agency than city law enforcement. Even though he could almost double his salary as a police chief of a fair-sized town, he said he doesn't like the thought of some capricious city councilman or mayor having the ability to work toward firing him. It happens to police chiefs on

Legislators ponder challenge to term limits law

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

JEROME - Going against the will of her constituents is not her habit, said Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome.

But now she's facing an issue in which she thinks it'll be for the greater good. The issue? Term limits on Magic Valley's county, city and school elected officials as well as state-level officials.

Bell represents Jerome and Minidoka counties. In a 1998 advisory vote on term limits, Jerome County voters approved the ini-

limit elected officials recently failed in Mississippi because it included local officials, said Gary Moncrief, a Boise State University political science instructor and nationally recognized expert in the subject of term limits.

Nineteen states - including all of the Western states - have passed initiatives limiting elected officials at the state level. There

are only three or four states without term limits across the nation left that have an initiative statute, Moncrief said, although some states have achieved term limits through constitutional amendment.

Thirty-eight states have an option that allows local officials to be term limited. Eight of the 10 most populous cities in



Rep. Celia Gould
Rep. Maxine Bell

turned it down, with 2,419 voting for it and 2,436 voting against it.

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"I'm concerned enough about what will happen to local government that I would be willing to do what we have to do," she said. "When you think about it, it means we will lose our school board members, and that's a voluntary position."

Magic Valley legislators at large are in a huddle as they strategize how to circumvent the 1994 initiative that passed with a 58 percent majority statewide the first time it was put to the voters and with a 53 percent majority again in 1998. The initiative was recently upheld by

Please see CHALLENGE, Page A2

Indeed, Christmas is so firmly embedded in our sense of family life, it seems it must always have been part of the winter scene. Yet early Christians disagreed about when the holiday should fall. Some nominated May 20, others held for Nov. 18. Church leaders were suspicious of non-traditional Christmas traditions. In the oldest surviving reference to using boughs of holly as decorations, the 3rd Century theologian Tertullian denounced the practice.

Please see CHRISTMAS, Page A12

Tests show explosives in shoe

Suspect caused flight diversion to Boston

The Associated Press

BOSTON - Preliminary FBI tests found explosives in the sneakers that a passenger tried to ignite aboard a Boeing 767 jetliner, and the man was charged Sunday with the federal crime of assaulting a flight crew.

His identity remained unclear. He was listed in court papers Sunday as Richard C. Reid, the name on his British passport. French authorities identified him as a Sri Lankan named Tariq Rajja. In London, Scotland Yard said they believed the suspect was a British national.

Reid, 28, was charged Sunday in a federal criminal complaint with intimidation or assault of a flight crew causing interference with their duties. He faces a maximum 20 years in prison if convicted.

An initial court appearance was set Monday morning, the FBI said. Reid was being held under constant watch Sunday in a jail in Plymouth, according to Mike



An FBI agent, left, sits next to a suspect identified by U.S. authorities as Richard Reid Saturday. Reid has been charged with intimidation or assault of a flight crew after he tried to ignite an explosive in his shoe

Seele, spokesman for the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department.

French police opened an investigation Sunday to determine how Reid ended increased security measures at Charles de Gaulle airport outside Paris, where American Airlines Flight 63 took off Saturday.

they had noticed the tall, pony-tailed man standing alone and stone-faced before boarding.

"He had a blank look," Nicholas Green, a 27-year-old French trader, said. "The people who had seen him, remembered him."

During the flight, the suspect, who was sitting behind the wing in the coach section of the Boeing

Passengers on the flight said

Clues give insight into al-Qaida's secret world

The Washington Post

JALALABAD, Afghanistan - In May 1996, Osama bin Laden and his entourage of three wives, 13 children and a cadre of Arab militants and bodyguards arrived at the Jalalabad airport in eastern Afghanistan at the invitation of a powerful local military commander eager to offer bin Laden refuge after his expulsion from Sudan.

Jalalabad, a chaotic commercial trading center close to Pakistan and a few hours' drive from a caracomb of mountain hideaways known as Tora Bora, became the gateway for bin Laden's audacious attempt to build an autonomous, multinational army of religious warriors and global terrorists within the boundaries of a sovereign state.

Last week, forces charged with that mission lost their last foothold in Afghanistan, just south of here, when they were reportedly pushed out of the mountain hide-outs where they had retreated after the collapse of the Taliban regime and under

intense U.S. bombing in retaliation for Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Bin Laden's five-year sojourn in Afghanistan is veiled in many mysteries. But a portrait of his organization is emerging from clues left scattered during al-Qaida's retreat, in accumulating documents and in abandoned houses and training camps, as well as from interviews with Taliban insiders and Afghans who knew the al-Qaida fighters.

Much of the evidence suggests that while preparing a loose network of terrorist cells for actions abroad, bin Laden created a society within a society in Afghanistan. Al-Qaida ran its own schools and grocery stores. It maintained offices, laboratories and aircraft. Shielded by a sym-

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Please see AL-QAIDA, Page A2

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

AccuWeather.com

IDAHO ALMANAC
Idaho Extremes Yesterday: High 40° Low 1°
Twin Falls through 6 p.m. yesterday: Temperature High/Low 28°/18°
Precipitation 24 hours ending 6 p.m. yesterday: 0.00"
Snow to date: 1.25"
Normal month to date: 0.85"
Water year to date (Oct. 1): 2.95"
Normal year to date (Oct. 1): 2.80"
Barometric Pressure Yesterday at 6 p.m.: 30.49 in.
Pollen yesterday in Twin Falls: Grass N/A, Weeds N/A, Trees N/A, Mold N/A
Sources: AccuWeather and Almanac of Idaho

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

Table with 7 columns: TODAY, TONIGHT, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY. Includes icons for weather conditions and temperature forecasts.

SUN AND MOON

Table showing Sun and Moon times for Sun, Moonset, Sunrise, and Moonrise for today and tomorrow.

CANADIAN CITIES

Table listing weather forecasts for various Canadian cities including Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.

REGIONAL WEATHER

Southern Idaho: Low clouds and locally dense patches of fog in many valley areas this morning, then some sunshine today. Highs 28-36. Partly to mostly cloudy tonight with areas of fog returning late. Lows 6-26.
Bolsa: Some fog early, then some sunshine today. High 32. Clear this evening, then partly cloudy overnight with areas of fog returning. Low 22.
Northern Nevada: Some sunshine today, but quite chilly. Highs 22-36. Clear to partly cloudy and cold tonight. Lows -7 to 17.

WORLD CITIES

Table listing weather forecasts for various world cities including London, Sydney, and Tokyo.

NATIONAL WEATHER

NATIONAL WEATHER EXTREMES
High 90° in Thermal, CA Low -20° in Wisconsin, MT
NATIONAL WEATHER
Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are shown for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.

REGIONAL CITIES

Table listing weather forecasts for regional cities including Boise, Burley, and Coeur d'Alene.

meineke Discount Mufflers
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Shoe

Continued from A1
767, tried to light a fuse protruding from one of his shoes, according to one of his passengers...

Al-Qaida

Continued from A1
pathetic government and forbidding topography, it housed, fed and trained thousands of recruits in guerrilla warfare at training camps and in Kabul's best neighborhoods...

Challenge

Continued from A1
the Idaho Supreme Court. In its decision, the high court pointed out that legislators have the authority — if not the political will — to change or even repeal laws.

Legislators leaving

Legislators who stand to be term-limited in 2004
Sen. Clint Stennett, D-Hetchum Rep. Wendy Jaquet, D-Hetchum Rep. Tim Rindger, R-Shoshone Sen. John Sanky, R-Hagerman Rep. Curtis Gosh, R-Bowman (has declared candidacy for lieutenant governor)

Legislators leaving

Legislators recognize that it's a go-for-broke situation. Twelve out of 15 local lawmakers will be term-limited in 2004, though Gould will bow out before then to run for lieutenant governor...

Ballot to term-limit legislators

It's up to legislators as to whether the term-limits coalition has to punish them with the November initiative, he also said. "It's like a timeout," he said. "If they're going to act like little children, then we'll send them to their rooms."

Times-News telephone directory

Table listing contact information for various departments including Circulation, Classified Advertising, Retail Advertising, and Publisher.

Afghanistan has good will, but little else

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) - Afghanistan's new leaders have a lot of good will - but little else.

They didn't even have desks or chairs until the United Nations chipped in \$500,000 for basic necessities ahead of their first Cabinet meeting Sunday. The start-up kit included computers, stationery, even paper clips, as well as one vehicle, evidently to be shared by the 29 ministers.

Over the next six months, the interim administration will get an additional \$25 million from the United Nations to set in motion the restoration of the judiciary and an enduring system of government.

But that's just the beginning. The United Nations says it could take billions of dollars to rebuild the nation, a long, arduous task that also will demand the sustained political will of the international community and the commitment of the Afghan leadership.

"What has happened here over the last two decades is an affront to humanity," said Ahmed Fawzi, a spokesman for the U.N. special envoy to Afghanistan, Lakhtar Brahimi.

Fawzi chastised the international community for abandoning Afghanistan, which fought a Western-financed insurgency against the former Soviet Union during the 1980s.

Bitter factional fighting followed that led to the repressive Taliban regime, which used brute force to ensure law and order and total compliance to its rule.

"We have neglected Afghanistan for too long," Fawzi said. "We are doing the right thing. The time has come to make up for the mistakes of the past."

At a conference to be held in Japan next month, Fawzi said the international community will put together a plan to raise the huge amounts needed to rescue Afghanistan.

The situation is desperate. The country's coffers are empty. Its infrastructure is in shambles, destroyed by 23 years of conflict. Government employees haven't been paid in more than five months.

There are more than 28,000 widows in Kabul alone, more than 30,000 children making a living off the streets of the capital and nearly two-thirds of the city's population dependent on international aid.

TASTE OF FREEDOM



As the people of Afghanistan spent their first day under the rule of a new government Sunday, three friends share a bicycle as they ride on the street in the Afghan capital of Kabul.

Taliban's demise brings signs of more tolerant brand of Islam

Knight Ridder News Service

KABUL, Afghanistan - The Taliban called Avatar Singh and other followers of the Sikh faith pagans. They barred music and dancing at their religious gatherings. But the worst came later, when Afghanistan's militant Islamic rulers demanded that Sikhs wear yellow tags to differentiate them from Muslims, in much the way that the Nazis branded Jews.

The ouster of the Taliban already has brought signs of a more tolerant brand of Islam creeping into Afghan society. Two weeks ago, a government official told Singh that Sikhs, members of a Hindu sect who believe in one God and reject the caste system, would have an office of their own in the Bureau of Islamic Affairs.

"They have already given women rights and positions in the cabinet," said Singh. "And now we are also getting rights to practice our religion freely. We are coexisting with Muslims again."

After taking power on Saturday, Afghanistan's new interim is trying to meet those expectations for religious tolerance. In his inauguration speech, Prime Minister Hamid Karzai pledged to protect the laws of Islam, but he also backed the

freedom to practice all religions in Afghanistan and supported the rights of women, who were oppressed under Taliban rule.

But the new Afghanistan could see a clash between rigid and moderate interpretations of Islam. The 30-member cabinet is a potentially combustible mix of Western-minded exiles and traditional leaders schooled in conservative Islamic values. There's also an older generation of Afghan Islamic fundamentalist leaders who have stepped down from power, but continue to wield influence in political and cultural circles.

Burhanuddin Rabbani, who led the regime that preceded the Taliban, has publicly warned of the dangers of secularization and urged Afghans to follow sharia, the conservative Islamic law that covers everything from dress codes to punishment.

Rabbani warns - returning Western-educated Afghan exiles not to undermine the traditional order. "We won't push them into following Islamic sharia laws," said Sayed Majibullah Hashimi, Rabbani's chief spokesman, "but they will accept our culture and traditions. They can't run away from it."

Afghanistan, however, hasn't always been dominated by a fundamentalist version of Islam. Kabul, the capital, was known as

place of tolerance where women dressed in Western clothing and worked in universities and hospitals.

Hindus, Sikhs, and Jews lived together with Muslims and played important roles in the nation's economy.

The 14-year war against the Afghan Communist government and the Soviet troops who invaded the country in 1979 helped radicalize many Muslims in Afghanistan.

Radical groups that advocated the creation of an Islamic state, particularly those backed by the government of neighboring Pakistan, organized many of the Afghan mujahideen, or freedom fighters.

Pakistani soldiers hunt for al-Qaida along border

TORKHAM, Pakistan (AP) - In a huge manhunt for a handful of Osama bin Laden loyalists, Pakistani troops patrol in trucks and helicopters and train machine guns on ravines and barren hills along the border with Afghanistan.

Thousands of soldiers are searching for five al-Qaida fighters who remain at large after dozens of Arab war prisoners overpowered their Pakistani guards last week.

At least 16 people, including 10 prisoners and six guards, were killed.

After intense U.S. bombing and a ridge-by-ridge assault, anti-Taliban forces in Afghanistan declared victory over bin Laden's Arab fighters, who were hiding out in the cave

network at Tora Bora. But many stragglers are still believed to be on the run, and U.S. forces are helping to clear caves one by one.

Despite the downfall of the Taliban and the rout at an al-Qaida stronghold that had been considered virtually impregnable, the escape by Arab prisoners who had fled across the border from Tora Bora has put Pakistan on edge.

Some 4,000 troops were already stationed along a roughly 50-mile stretch opposite Afghanistan's White Mountains, where Tora Bora is located. Another 6,000 were brought in to search for the fugitives, who are believed to have a few Kalashnikov rifles, little ammunition and no food.

Magic Valley Mall

DEC 23	DEC 24	DEC 25	DEC 26	DEC 27	DEC 28	DEC 29
10-8	8-6	CLOSED	8-9	10-9	10-9	10-9

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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, 8a.m.

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Some offices will close today

TWIN FALLS - Here's what's open and closed for Christmas Eve today:

- Some city offices will close early. Twin Falls City Hall will be closed.
- Most county clerk's offices will be open.
- Most federal offices will be closed.
- Most banks will be open.
- The Twin Falls Public Library will be closed.
- The Twin Falls Municipal Swimming Pool will be closed.
- The U.S. Post Office will be open.
- Major grocery stores, including Albertson's, Smith's and Swenmart will be open.
- The Social Security offices will be closed.

BLM seeks applicants for 2002 fire crews

TWIN FALLS - The south-central Idaho office of the Bureau of Land Management is seeking applicants for the summer 2002 fire season.

There will be possible openings for fire engine crew members, clerical help, fire education and aviation positions.

Applicants must be 18 years old by June 1, 2002, United States citizens and possess high school diplomas or GED equivalent.

Those who qualify can apply on line at www.id.blm.gov/siifc or www.nc.blm.gov/jobs. Only electronic applications will be accepted.

Applications received by Jan. 20 will be considered first. For more information, call the recruitment information line at 886-7299.

Emergency services offers new Web site

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls County department of disaster and emergency services has recently launched a Web site offering information on how to deal with emergencies.

"The site at www.twinfallscounty.org/disaster_services.htm offers advice on preparedness for severe weather, terrorism and other possible disasters and emergencies.

For more information, call disaster and emergency services coordinator Jackie Frey at 736-4087.

Ezra Pound conference comes to Wood River

HAILEY - The International Ezra Pound Conference will be holding its 20th biennial conference in the Hailey/Sun Valley area in July 2003.

Conference participants accepted an invitation in July by the Hailey-based Ezra Pound Association, according to a letter from the association.

It will be the first International Ezra Pound Conference to be held in North America, the association said.

Chaired by eminent Pound scholar Hugh Witemeyer, the conference will bring 150 scholars to the area.

The association is working to restore Pound's Hailey birthplace, which it acquired in 1998.

When completed, the home will be used for readings, discussion groups, exhibits, student literature programs, small musical events and other cultural activities.

The association hopes to have the home restored in time for the conference, the association said.

Compiled from staff reports

BOOKED SOLID

Buhl Santa's services must be reserved early

By Mary Lou Potts
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Sometimes Santa Claus finds it difficult to hold a straight face and not giggle a little when he visits with children.

But when Wayne Oglesbee was on duty as Santa at the Twin Falls Festival of Trees this year, he was thrown a curve. A 7-year-old girl sat on his lap and told Santa not to bring her any gifts this year; she wanted them sent to the children in New York.

"It brought tears to his eyes," Oglesbee said.

Oglesbee is usually booked through December. In addition to private parties, he works the Magic Valley Mall with three other Santas, visits the Boys & Girls Clubs and mingles with shoppers in Old Towne.

Reservations for his services are required early in the year.

"Having a real beard, how I present myself to the children and my enjoyment in doing it," Oglesbee said, is the reason he thinks his schedule is full for December every year.

Oglesbee has been portraying Santa for four years and loves every minute of it.

The idea came to him as he was watching the movie "Santa Claus" with comedian Tim Allen. He became inspired to try it himself. His wife and 17-year-old daughter supported



Tallin Thompson, 2, of Buhl gives Santa Claus a kiss after she tells the Jolly Elf what she wants for Christmas. Wayne Oglesbee is one of four Santas at the Magic Valley Mall this year; his Decembers are always booked solid.

him to do it.

Oglesbee bought a Santa suit and beard but one small boy pulled his beard off and said, "You're not Santa."

His embarrassment prompted him to grow a real beard the next year and bleach it. Now

when the children pull his beard, they realize it's real.

Oglesbee has lived in Buhl 28 years and has volunteered in community projects before, but he said portraying Santa Claus makes him feel good and he will continue to play the part as long

as he is healthy and able to do it.

His real job is with Kowz R Us Dairy in Castleford. In December, he works from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. and then goes to the mall. But on the days he is booked, his bosses do let him have time off to carry out

Santa's duties.

In January, Oglesbee will return to his normal working hours.

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

Woman meets families' needs

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

JEROME - It wasn't in her job description, but Linda Morrey soon found herself matching the needy in her community with the generous.

When Morrey started working at the Jerome Head Start Center in October, her job was basically to answer the telephone and take messages. That soon changed.

Judy Crist, center manager, asked Morrey to work on the adopt-a-family-for-Christmas project. Crist gave Morrey a file that contained a short list of businesses that had adopted families in years past. Morrey sent letters to those businesses asking them to "open their hearts and adopt a family for Christmas."

Since she has lived in Jerome for 56 years, Morrey started adding names of other businesses, individuals and organizations to the list. She also began



Linda Morrey, who works at the Jerome Head Start Center, helped 25 needy Head Start families get 'adopted' in time for Christmas.

advertising for prospective adopters through radio and television public service announcements.

Twenty-five families had requested adoption this year. By

mid-December, only three families were still left. And just days before Christmas, even those families had been adopted.

"They are larger families with Please see FAMILIES, Page A6



Jay Hutchison, who has operated a Christmas tree lot in the area for more than 20 years, shows one of the few trees he has left. He will be open until today or until he sells out, he said.

M-C feels tree shortage

By Shari Chaney
Times-News writer

BURLEY - If you want to trim a tree on Christmas Eve, you could be out of luck.

A tree shortage has caused less lots to appear in Mini-Cassia-and many of those lots were selling out quickly.

Vicki Serr, of Vicki's Country Garden in Paul, said she has had a better year selling Christmas trees because of the shortage. There just weren't that many trees, Serr said.

Serr said she thought forest fires may have had something to do with the shortage. Also, Christmas tree sales aren't providing as big a profit margin as well, so less people are selling them, she said.

There is a shortage of trees, said Jay Hutchison, who has sold trees in the area for more than 20 years.

"The economy has affected it drastically," Hutchison said of

recent tree sales. Last year, Hutchison said, he was out of trees by Dec. 16, but was also in a better location on North Overland.

At Smith's Food and Drug Center, company spokeswoman Marsha Gilford said, "Tree sales went very well this year."

Gilford said the Burley store manager felt there were less Christmas tree outlets in the area and so trees were sold out a bit faster than in previous years. Trees went on sale around Thanksgiving and half out in about three and a half weeks, Gilford said.

Traditionally full pinion trees are still the biggest seller, Hutchison said.

Seventy-five to 80 percent of people still want the big full Christmas tree, Serr said. Sparse trees are becoming more popular for decorating because ornaments show more.

Women tend to go for the

Please see TREES, Page A6

Quick response units save lives

By Nate Johnson
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Kent Searle's pickup is an ambulance.

Searle is one of 80 Cassia County residents who have trained to earn emergency medical technician certification and who volunteer to respond to medical emergencies.

His pickup isn't technically an ambulance; he doesn't use it to transport patients. But if he gets a call he will drive to the scene of an emergency and provide care until the ambulance arrives.

There are quick-response units in Oakley, Declo, Albion, Malba, Raft River, the City of Rocks National Reserve and west Cassia County. Combined, they can have someone at almost any place in Cassia County in five minutes, said Searle, who is the president of the Declo Quick Response Unit.

On the back roads of rural Cassia County where it can take longer for medical service to arrive from the hospital, immediate care can be crucial.

"After six minutes without oxygen the brain starts to die. If



Wayne Mullen sorts medical equipment in a personal pickup. Having oxygen and defibrillators spread through the communities of Cassia County helps cut the response time for medical emergencies.

you can maintain circulation, maintain oxygen in the brain, you can prevent a lot of damage," said Wayne Mullen, president of the Oakley Quick Response Unit.

The units respond to heart attacks, child births and acci-

dents involving hazardous materials.

The idea for a group of emergency medical volunteers originated sometime in the 1970s, Mullen said. The most recent unit, west Cassia County, was

Please see UNITS, Page A6

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Average*
Upper Snake River	97%
Salmon Falls Creek	155%
Oakley Basin	203%
Big and Little Wood	134%
Henry's Fork	103%
Big and Little Lost	103%

CSI TODAY

Today College campus is closed for Christmas break. Magic Valley Bible Church Christmas Eve service, 6 p.m., Shields 117/118.	Planetarium Narcotics Anonymous weekly meeting, 7 p.m., Desert 112.
Tuesday Herrett Center is closed for Christmas.	Saturday CSI baseball camp, all day, Expo Center. "WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars," 2 and 4 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. "Season of Light," 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," 8 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.
Wednesday CSI baseball camp, all day, Expo Center. "Season of Light," 1 and 3 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," 2 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.	Sunday Magic Valley Bible Church, 9 a.m. to noon, Shields 117 and 118.
Thursday CSI baseball camp, all day, Expo Center. "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," 1 and 3 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. "Season of Light," 2 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.	Friday CSI baseball camp, all day, Expo Center. "Season of Light," 1, 3 and 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," 2 and 8 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.

SERVICES

Adabel Adamson of Rupert, service at 10 a.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel; burial will follow at the Rupert Cemetery; friends may call one hour before the service at the funeral chapel.

Yvonne Diane Kindall of Jerome, service at noon Wednesday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome; burial will follow at the Jerome Cemetery.

Opal J. Bolte of Heyburn, viewing for family and friends will be held from 6-8 p.m. Wednesday at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel; graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Roosevelt Cemetery in Rosevelt, Utah.

Jay Granville LaJeunesse of Twin Falls, graveside service at 2 p.m. Thursday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls; friends may call from 4-8 p.m. Wednesday at White Mortuary.

George Wilbur Babcock of Gooding, service at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Gooding First Christian Church; burial will follow at Elmwood Cemetery; viewing will be held from 1-7 p.m. Wednesday at Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Mary Armstrong Johnson of Orem, Utah, and formerly of Buhl, service at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Sharon 3rd Ward building, 445 S. 700 E., Orem, Utah; viewing will be held from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Sundberg/Olpin Mortuary, 495 S. State St., Orem, or one hour before the funeral Thursday at the chapel. Memorial service at 1 p.m. Friday at the Buhl 1st Ward

building on East Main Street; burial at the Buhl Cemetery; viewing will be from noon to 1 p.m. Friday at the Buhl chapel.

Lutie R. Reynolds of Twin Falls, service at 10 a.m. Friday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Holly Hernandez of Burley, service at 11 a.m. Friday at the Pella LDS 1st Ward Chapel; friends may call from 6-8 p.m. Thursday at the Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Elsie G. Ruberry of Glenns Ferry, service at 1:30 p.m. Friday at the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Hall in Glenns Ferry; burial will follow at Glenns Ferry Cemetery in Glenns Ferry (Summers Funeral Home, McMurtrey Chapel, Mountain Home).

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

Dorothy M. Alexander of Shoshone, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Episcopal Church in Shoshone.

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

DEATH NOTICES

Robin Henderson
BURLEY - Robin Henderson, 21, of Burley died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2001 in the care of her family and the University of Utah Hospital.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

Toni Ann Dare
JEROME - Toni Ann Dare, 55, of Jerome died at her home Dec. 23, 2001.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

Bill Cline
EDEN - Bill Cline, 80, of Eden, died Dec. 22, 2001 at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.
Funeral Services are scheduled for Friday, Dec. 28, 2001 at 2:00 P.M. at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Andrew Gerdes
TWIN FALLS - Andrew Gerdes, 83, of Twin Falls, died Dec. 23, 2001 at Sunbridge Care Center in Nampa.
Funeral Services are pending and will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Rita M. Byram
GOODING - Rita M. Byram, 83, a Gooding resident, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2001 at her home in Gooding.
Funeral services are pending under the direction of Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

HOSPITALS

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER and Edith Brush of Twin Falls.
Some names are omitted at the patient's request.
Admitted: Gary Miller of Shoshone, and Joseph Nunnelley
Dismissed: Ruth Dutt of Filer, John Montana of Eden and Joseph Nunnelley of Twin Falls.

OBITUARIES

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

HAGERMAN

in conjunction to providing and caring for his immediate family. He was always there for his mother Mildred and his aunt Mane.
He is survived by his wife Amber, sons Brian, Aaron, and Lee, his mother Mildred Arterburn of Hagerman, sisters, Betty Slawson, of La Grande, Ore., Linda Messenger, of Bedford, Texas, Adele Pepple of Boise and Janice Roundy of Boise, and brothers Charles White, of Jerome, Daniel White, of Hollister, James White, of Spokane, Wash. and Terry White of Buhl, and an extensive list of aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, and nieces.
He was preceded in death by his father Henry Arterburn.
Funeral services will be held Thursday, December 27, 2001 at 10 a.m. at the Hagerman L.D.S. Church. Burial will follow at the Hagerman Cemetery.

Rodney Lee Arterburn

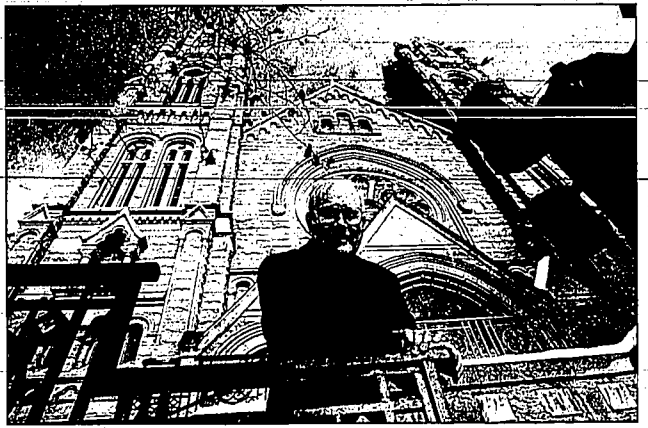
Rodney Lee Arterburn died Saturday, December 22, 2001 as the result of a hunting accident. Rodney was born in Gooding, Idaho on June 2, 1964.
Rodney was the son of Henry and Mildred Arterburn.
Henry moved to Hagerman from North Dakota and Mildred Kirtland moved to Hagerman from Colorado. Rodney lived and grew up in Hagerman, ID. Rodney graduated from Hagerman High School in 1982.
Rodney married his loving wife Amber, on the 8th day of April, 1988. Rodney and Amber have three sons, Brian, Aaron, and Lee.
Rodney was employed in the aqua culture industry. Rodney was an avid outdoorsman and could always be seen with his sons playing catch or heading for that special stream or lake for a day of father-son enjoyment.
He was always available to lend a helping hand to those in need, in

of Twin Falls since 1965, died at her home on December 21, 2001 of natural causes. She was born July 17, 1910 at Idaho City, Idaho.
She married W. Scott Boyer on June 30, 1930. He preceded her in death on September 16, 1944.
Lutie and Scott had made their home in Reno, Nev. prior to his death in an automobile accident. Lutie stayed in Reno after this accident and worked for Harsh's Club for over 30 years. During this time she met and married Monte E. (Bun) Reynolds on January 17, 1949. After their retirement in Reno, she and Bun moved to Twin Falls to get closer to family. Bun preceded her in death on November 24, 1984.
Lutie was also preceded in death by her parents, Hattie E. Fox and Oscar L. Bumgardner, by three sisters - Berna White, Caroline Brown and Gertrude Woods, as well as one brother - James L. Bumgardner. She is survived by two sisters - Myrtle Thomas and Mabel Ames. Also surviving are two step daughters - Dorothy Lovett and Pat Stampfli, and a special nephew and caregiver - Robert C. (Shirley) White and numerous other nieces and nephews.
Funeral Services will be held at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 255 S. Kimberly Rd., Twin Falls at 10:00 A.M. on Friday December 28, 2001. Burial will follow at a later time at Sunset Memorial Park.
The family would like to extend a special "Thank You," to Mel and Curt Gamborel and their staff at Witwobrook and to the staff at First Choice Hospice for their loving care given to Lutie.
The family suggests memorials in Lutie's name to First Choice Hospice, 147 Main Ave., East, Twin Falls, ID 83401 or donations to the charity of ones choice.

TWIN FALLS



Lutie R. Reynolds, 91, a resident of Twin Falls since 1965, died at her home on December 21, 2001 of natural causes.



Bishop George Niederauer, the Roman Catholic Church's top official in Utah, stands outside the cathedral Tuesday in Salt Lake City.

Catholics find unity in minority

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - When people talk about "The Church" in Utah, they're not talking about the Roman Catholic Church.

Catholicism is the state's second-largest religion, but only represents 8 to 9 percent of its residents, or about 200,000 members. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints claims 70 percent of the residents as Mormons.

The sheer dominance of Mormonism in Utah - where it's not just a religion, but a culture - pushes Catholics together and has created a tightly knit minority.

Dee Rowland, the Salt Lake Catholic diocese's government liaison, said the emphasis on religion here results in more participation and commitment among Catholics.

"I'm amazed at the distances that people travel to attend Mass in rural areas," Rowland said. "I'm overwhelmed by the sacrifices parents make financially and in transportation complications to send their children to Catholic schools."

At least 60 percent of Utah's Catholics are Hispanic.

Leticia Medina, the director of the State Office of Hispanic Affairs, has navigated Utah's religious divide in her 20 years as a Utah resident.

"It was very difficult to even say I was Catholic because I was looked down upon," she said after she first moved here from Los Angeles.

The mother of four daughters, Medina said she struggled with raising her girls here.

Her daughters were told by teachers to take off the crosses they wore on necklaces. Other students would ostracize the girls, and they were left out of joining Girl Scouts because the groups met at Mormon ward houses, she said.

One of her daughters dropped out of school at the age of 16.

"She said 'I'm not the right color. I'm not the right religion.' It was too much pressure for her to deal with," Medina said.

Greg Schirf, managing partner of the Utah Brewers Cooperative and owner of Wasatch Brewery, tells people that living in Utah has given him a minority complex.

Schirf, a Catholic from Milwaukee, moved to Park City in 1974. Utah's culture took some getting used to.

"I think what allowed me to survive is living in Park City," he said, describing the upscale ski town as a Catholic enclave.

To live in any other part of Utah "would have been too overwhelming. The reason I did stay

I'm amazed at the distances that people travel to attend Mass in rural areas. I'm overwhelmed by the sacrifices parents make financially and in transportation complications to send their children to Catholic schools.

- Dee Rowland, the Salt Lake Catholic diocese's government liaison

is the recreational and business opportunities. But there were some lonely times. And why bother voting?"

Schirf's biggest beef with the Mormon church is its political dominance. About 90 percent of the Utah legislators are Mormon as well as Republican conservatives.

With the culture and religion of Utah tied together, bad feelings can arise among Mormons and non-Mormons alike.

In October, The Salt Lake Tribune, the state's largest newspaper, funded a survey to find out how deep the religious divide reached.

The survey found that more than two-thirds of Utah's residents perceive a social, cultural or political divide between those who are Mormon and those who are not.

Sixty percent of non-Mormon respondents said they experienced discrimination or uneasiness in Utah because of their religious views; 31 percent of Mormon respondents said they had experienced religious discrimination.

The poll was conducted by Valley Research and questioned 600 randomly selected adults in six of the state's most populous counties. It had an error margin of 4 percent.

There have been efforts made to bridge the religious divide.

Medina said her church has made a point of working on social causes with churches of other faiths.

The bishop sits on the newly created Alliance for Unity to promote more tolerance in the state, along with Mormon church leader Elder M. Russell Ballard of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles.

And Mormon leaders continue to implore the faithful to be more accepting of others.

At this fall's semiannual General Conference, Ballard told church members to practice tolerance and inclusion.

He made a special point of addressing Mormons who live where they are in the majority.

If neighbors disagree with the Mormon church or the church's stance on an issue, "Please don't suggest to them - even in a humorous way - that they should consider moving someplace else," Ballard said.

Utah was founded by the faith's pioneers fleeing persecution in the East in 1847 and is the home of the Mormon church's world headquarters.

Salt Lake City is a place where you can come home, switch on the Mormon church-owned NBC affiliate and see commercials for the latest offering from the Mormon church-owned Deseret Books, which has a branch conveniently located downtown in the Mormon church-owned ZCMI mall across the street from the Mormon church-owned newspaper, the Deseret News.

This also is a place where drinking a cup of coffee in the morning or having a beer after work makes a clear statement about religious affiliation. The Mormon church prohibits members in good standing from smoking, drinking alcohol or hot caffeinated beverages.

In short: The rift can be obvious and divisive.

"There's a tremendous challenge to being in the majority of the minority graciously," Niederauer said. "We have to be careful about Mormon bashing. It can become a blood sport."

Mormon church President Gordon B. Hinckley has made a priority to building better relations between Mormons and

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Eric Osterhout tells Santa what he wants for Christmas at the Zions Bank tree-lighting ceremony earlier this month. Santa has been making his last-minute rounds throughout the Mini-Cassia area in recent days.

SHANE CHANEY/The Times-News

Holidays look great for Sun Valley

SUN VALLEY (AP) — Sun Valley Co. is having a better Christmas season than it could have hoped for in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and a flagging economy.

General Manager Wally Huffman said the number of people looking for lodging over the Christmas week has turned out to be pretty much like last year. "Up until a few days after Thanksgiving it was looking pretty grim," he said. In fact, the resort lost 60 percent of its Thanksgiving business after it was unable to start ski operations on Thanksgiving Day.

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

Christmas after all." Snow made all the difference. Almost-daily doses of thigh-deep powder on Bald Mountain have exceeded any skier's or business-man's fondest hopes.

Ninety-four inches of snow fell on Bald Mountain between Dec. 1 and Thursday morning. That pushed Sun Valley's stock up just as such Colorado resorts as Aspen were struggling to keep 18 inches of snow from blowing off their slopes.

As an added bonus, Eastern resorts have languished under balmy temperatures.

If the "traditional Christmas" plays out as Huffman hopes, Sun Valley can expect more than 3,000 skiers on Christmas Day with a couple days toward the end

of the week attracting 6,000 skiers, marketing director Jack Sibbach said.

The Sun Valley/Ketchum Chamber of Commerce has strung a banner across Main Street thanking people for visiting. And volunteers have set up a kiosk offering free coffee, cocoa and cookies at the Hailey airport for those who fly into the resort area this week.

Now that he can breathe a sigh of relief about Christmas, Huffman is looking to the year beyond.

"We haven't had the increase in reservation calls for the rest of the ski season that we have had for Christmas. But that's not surprising," he said. "People are thinking about Christmas right now."

Three faces charges in credit card case

SPOKANE (AP) — Three Spokane men have been charged with illegally hacking Internet business sites and stealing 2,700 credit card numbers and other information.

One of the defendants also is charged with altering and forcing the shutdown of the Web site of the Washington, D.C., mass transit system in May 2000.

Brent Justin Woodfield, 20, Erik Ray Thompson, 21 and Sean Richard Shelton, 21, were arrested Wednesday evening by FBI agents in Spokane.

The three were released without bond after court appearances Thursday. U.S. Magistrate Judge Cynthia Imbrogno ordered them to surrender their computers and not use the Internet as conditions

of their release, pending trial next year.

Woodfield, a former computer network security analyst for the Spokane Public Schools, is charged in a two-count indictment with computer intrusion and possession of credit card information.

Thompson, who operated his own search engine on the Internet, and Shelton, an unemployed laborer, are charged with single counts of possessing the credit card information.

Computer intrusion carries a maximum five-year prison term. Conviction on the credit card charge has a 10-year maximum, and both allow fines up to \$250,000.

"We believe they hacked into

hundreds of Web sites and illegally obtained the 2,700 credit card numbers," Assistant U.S. Attorney Tom Rice said. "They obtained card numbers, expiration dates, personal names and addresses, everything you need to order by credit card on the Internet."

Authorities have no evidence the three actually used the credit card numbers.

FBI agents have randomly contacted some of the credit card holders, but most can't remember or identify the Web sites where they used their cards, Rice said.

The federal prosecutor said it may be impossible to identify the Web sites targeted by the Spokane hackers.

Agency awards low-interest loan to Spirit Lake

BOISE (AP) — The City of Spirit Lake in Kootenai County was recently awarded a low-interest wastewater loan from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

The money will be used for

upgrades to the city's wastewater treatment plant. The project will include construction of a new bypass, lagoon pipe and disinfection system modifications and expansion of the irrigation system.

The department is authorized to make the loans to help towns with wastewater and treatment facilities under the Water Pollution Abatement Act.

The loan will be repaid over a 20-year period.

Families

Continued from A4

five or more children," Morrey had said of the remaining adoptions. Morrey had hoped that a large business would step forward or couple of smaller businesses could join forces.

Head Start serves low-income families and handicapped children and their families. There are 65 families in the Jerome Head Start center but not all families want to be adopted for Christmas. The families have to apply to be adopted and have to explain the level of their need. Some families simply request a food basket, which are coordinated through Saint Jerome's Catholic Church.

Families requesting adoption can ask for toys, games and gifts. Some families request warm clothing and coats. Some even ask for furniture and appliances if the need is great, Morrey said.

Businesses can determine the level of adoption they wish. One lady this fall, who owns a knitting business, knitted all the Head Start children sweaters, Morrey said.

Ty Jones, assistant principal at Jerome High School, said the Jerome Student Council adopted three families through Head Start and the South Central Community Action Agency this year and is financing the adoptions with "penny wars."

Four jars, one for each grade, are set up. The pennies in each jar add up like points, but any silver or paper money stuck into a jar subtracts that many points from the total of that jar.

Last year, the student council collected more than \$2,500 that way, Jones said.

"Our adopted families this year need clothing and appliances. Any money that is left over will go for hams or turkeys to be donated to the Salvation Army for gift baskets," Jones said.

Times-News correspondent Dixie Thomas Reale can be reached in Jerome at 324-3670.

Group hopes legislators will stop burning

SANDPOINT, Idaho (AP) — Foes of grass burning gearing up to wage war on the practice during the legislative session.

Last weekend, Christmas shoppers at Coldwater Creek in Sandpoint were greeted at the door by Patti Gora, director of Safe Air For Everyone.

After only a week of the membership drive, Gora said she had more than 400 members. Her goal is 1,000 by Jan. 1.

Gora has installed displays around Sandpoint with postage-paid enrollment cards for residents to sign and send in.

"A lot of people in the community have stepped up to the plate and offered to help," Gora said. "One lady called and said she's going to send in her 55 after she gets her Social Security check."

The organization is counting on broad-based support and compelling evidence to convince legislators that the time has come to end field burning.

"It's a medical issue and a public health issue," said Dr. Scott Burgstahler, a Sandpoint internist and one of the founders

Opponents of burning may have a new, powerful ally this year — Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. Kempthorne has directed the Department of Agriculture to look at alternatives to agricultural burning.

of the group. "There are alternatives... We hope people see the light and that it just doesn't make sense to burn grass."

The group has hired Boise lawyer Roy Eiguren to lobby for it.

Eiguren has represented the interests of Boise Cascade Corp., Amalgamated Sugar, Verizon Wireless and Idaho Allied Daily Newspapers.

Where political persuasion may fail, the group is planning on legal action as another way to achieve its goal. With that in mind, the group has retained a

Washington, D.C., law firm, Arnold & Porter, to explore legal avenues to ban grass burning.

"We needed some heavy hitters in this area," Burgstahler said. "As physicians, we try to stay out of the legal battles. But, unfortunately, I think it could come to that."

Most legislators see the grass burning as a nuisance, Burgstahler said.

"They're trying to come down on the side of 'Gee, we don't want to put somebody out of business. Let's split the baby down the middle. We say, 'It doesn't work that way,' Burgstahler said.

Opponents of burning may have a new, powerful ally this year — Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. Kempthorne has directed the Department of Agriculture to look at alternatives to agricultural burning.

Kempthorne spokesman Mark Snider said the governor is trying to balance the economic needs of farmers with the concerns of people affected by smoke.

teers do not ask for gas reimbursements. Many of the responders pay for their own training, a bill of about \$500. They also donate significant amounts of time, 120 hours up front, then 50 hours every three years for training alone, but they don't seem to mind.

"It's donate, donate, donate, but all you have to do is save one life or relieve the suffering of one person and you don't think about the cost," Mullen said.

"When a father comes to you when his son has been in a traffic accident and says, 'Thank you for getting here so quick,' that's the reward you get," Searle said.

Aspiring quick responders can reach Mullen at 431-3451 for more information.

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

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

Center offers animal tracking workshops

The Times-News

KETCHUM — Nine animal tracking workshops will be offered this winter through the Environmental Resource Center in Ketchum.

Longtime animal tracker and naturalist Ann Christensen will lead the hikes.

The workshops will focus on animals tracks, how animals move, what they eat, where they hang out during winter and other intriguing clues.

Times are from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays beginning Dec. 29, continuing through January on Jan. 5, 12, 19 and 26 and then through February on Feb. 2, 9, 16 and 23.

The four-hour classes begin at 10 a.m. Participants should take snowshoes, poles and sack lunch. Classes are \$20 for non-members and families of three or more.

They're free for ERC members and children under 12.

To sign up, call 726-4333 or e-mail Melissa@ercsv.org.

University honors former superintendent of schools

BOISE (AP) — A former State Superintendent of Public Instruction was recently recognized for his service to the state's educational system.

"Always an eloquent voice of reason and calm, Jerry Evans was uncompromising in his desire to improve Idaho's educational system," Boise State University President Charles Ruch, who presented the award,

said. "Every Student in every Idaho school continues to benefit from his service."

Evans was awarded Boise State University's highest honor on Friday.

Since leaving office, Evans has worked as an executive with a local insurance agency and now serves as the executive director of the Idaho School District Cooperative Services Council.

Units

Continued from A4

organized two years ago. As the units have grown, they have refined their communications techniques and received grants to improve their equipment.

Searle and Mike Butler have worked to build a digital paging system that informs the volunteers of the location and description of accidents. Responders carry radios to receive further information and to call for support.

Radio and paging systems are not cheap. The quick response units receive equipment and funding from a variety of organizations: county commissioners give the quick response units grants and the Twin Falls and Burley festivals of trees each donate \$1,000 to every unit. Local communities raise money for their units, and individuals have remembered them in their wills.

Money buys better equipment. The quick response units

Trees

Continued from A4

sparse trees to be able to decorate more, men and children like the big, full trees, Serr said.

Everyone chooses their trees differently, Serr said.

Joyce Bringerst, who works at Hutchison's tree lot, agreed. Some people want Charlie Brown trees; some want a lot of branches, she said.

Some want a tree that smells good.

Hutchison has enough varieties to meet everyone's needs. Bringerst said they started out with about 200 lodgepole and Alpine trees and another 200 pines from Nevada. Some Douglas firs, Balsam and Alpine were cut in Montana and brought in; Hutchison also flocks trees.

Bringerst said her lot has

sold about 500 trees, but in a town of 8,000 that isn't many. Serr guessed she had sold about 200 trees.

Even through the shortage, Hutchison and Serr still had trees on Friday.

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

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“ Maybe I’ll put on the sunglasses and fake mustache.

”

—New England coach Bill Belichick, who has some unexpected free time for Christmas shopping after his Patriots locked up a playoff berth

IN BRIEF

Issel in limbo after leave of absence

DENVER — It has been the most turbulent two weeks in Denver Nuggets’ history, and it might not be over yet. Rather than return to the bench after a four-game suspension for a profane and ethnically insensitive outburst at a fan, coach Dan Issel took an indefinite leave of absence that left many to wonder if he will ever be back. “I hope he does come back,” acting coach Mike Evans said, “but I want what is best for him.” No timetable was set for Issel’s return, though general manager Kiki Vandeweghe said Saturday night he believed Issel would need only a day or two to make a decision.

USA Boxing builds complex in the South

PINEVILLE, La. — Evander Holyfield thinks this is just the thing — a place for boxers to train in the South. When the four-time heavyweight champion was on the Olympic team in 1984 and the national team in 1983, he had to go to Colorado Springs, Colo., to train. “The majority of good fighters are from the South,” said Holyfield, who is from Atlanta. “Now, this facility here will give people in the Southeastern part of the country the perfect place where they can come and train and not have distractions.” The USA Boxing center is expected to be ready by September. It is to be built on a 31-acre site donated by Calvin Malone, co-owner of a fishing lures company and brother-in-law of Holyfield’s trainer, Kenny Weldon.

Compiled from wire reports.



SALT LAKE 2002



Countdown to the Salt Lake Olympics

46 days until Opening Ceremony

The Torch Tour: The Olympic torch arrived Sunday night in Manhattan, where it will stay at Rockefeller Center until the day after Christmas. Fourteen people — police officers, firefighters and relatives of Sept. 11 victims — held the torch on a ferry from Queens to Manhattan.

March to the Medals: There were Olympic trials in speedskating and bobsled this weekend. Short-track athlete Shani Davis became the first black to qualify for the U.S. Olympic speedskating team. And pilot Jean Rocco set a track record at Utah Olympic Park, where women’s bobsled makes its Olympic debut.

Olympic torch warms hearts in New York

The Associated Press

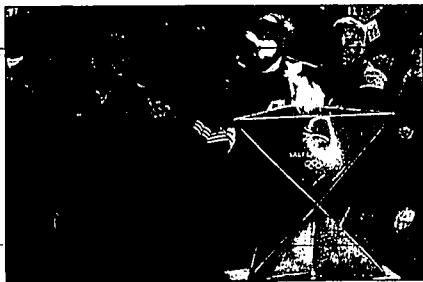
NEW YORK — The Olympic torch paused for a solemn ceremony in front of the Statue of Liberty on Sunday night before Mayor Rudolph Giuliani carried it on the final leg in New York. Citing emergency workers killed while trying to save others on Sept. 11, Giuliani said, “I carry this flame as a representative of these wonderful people.”

Thousands crowded Rockefeller Center to watch as Giuliani, wearing a New York Police Department coat and Fire Department of New York hat, used the torch to light a cauldron under a large statue of the Greek god Prometheus. The cauldron will keep the flame burning until Wednesday, when the torch will head for Connecticut and Rhode Island on its 65-day, 13,500-mile journey to

the Feb. 8-24 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. The flame arrived in midtown Manhattan after a ferry carried it from Queens past the Statue of Liberty.

Fourteen people — police officers, firefighters and relatives of Sept. 11 victims — each held the torch as the ferry pushed in front of the statue.

Please see TORCH, Page A9



New York City’s Mayor Rudolph Giuliani lights the cauldron with the Olympic torch during the 2002 Salt Lake Olympic Torch Relay Sunday at New York’s Rockefeller Center. The torch will stay in New York for the next two days.

The big easy

Buccaneers plunder Saints in must-win matchup

By Don Hammack
Knight Ridder News Service

TAMPA, Fla. — Tampa Bay not only took control of the NFC wildcard spot, the Buccaneers kicked the stew out of the New Orleans Saints for good measure Sunday.

The Buccaneers administered a 48-21 beating before a Raymond James Stadium crowd of 65,526. The Saints tied a team record for the third-most points allowed.

“They dominated us on offense and defense,” said Saints safety Sammy Knight, who had 17 tackles in the losing effort. “They’re a good team. They can be one of the best teams in the league or one of the worst. Today, they were one of the best.”

The Buccaneers (8-6) took out the Saints (7-7) quickly. Tampa Bay’s Aaron Stecker set a team record by returning the opening kickoff 86 yards to the New Orleans 14. He broke five tackles on his determined run downfield. “It wasn’t necessarily the return itself, it was the attitude during the return,” Bucs linebacker Derrick Brooks said. “He could have had an 86-yard return without getting touched, but it was Aaron breaking tackles, it was guys finishing their blocks. It was just the whole nature of the return.”

Karl Williams caught a 14-yard pass from Brad Johnson for the first score.

Please see BUCS, Page A8



Buccaneers fullback Mike Alstott slips past Saints linebacker Keith Mitchell to score on a first quarter 1-yard touchdown run Sunday. Alstott finished with 101 yards and a touchdown as Tampa Bay defeated the Saints 48-21.

Bucks hand Spurs rare home loss

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Sam Cassell scored 33 points and Glenn Robinson added 30 to lead the Milwaukee Bucks to a 101-91 victory over San Antonio on Sunday night, snapping the Spurs’ 10-game winning streak.

The Bucks trailed 73-70 after three quarters, but used an 8-0 run to start the fourth to take a lead they would never relinquish. The loss was just the second at home for the Spurs (20-5).

Tim Duncan scored 22 points and had 18 rebounds, David Robinson added 21 and Steve Smith 20 for the Spurs, who are still off to the best start in franchise history.

Michael Redd started Milwaukee’s go-ahead spurt with a 10-footer in the lane and a 3-pointer. Tim Thomas followed with a 3-pointer to give the Bucks a 78-73 lead with 9:44 remaining.

San Antonio pulled to 78-76 on David Robinson’s three-point play. But Cassell and Glenn Robinson controlled the game from there.

The two took turns hitting jumpers on five straight possessions, and two free throws by Cassell gave Milwaukee a 96-88 lead with 2:48 to play. Tony Parker cut into the lead with a

Please see NBA, Page A9



San Antonio’s Malik Rose, left, and Milwaukee’s Darvin Ham turn toward the loose ball during the first half of their game at the Alamodome in San Antonio Sunday. The Bucks beats the Spurs 101-91 to snap San Antonio’s 10-game win streak.

Irish eye Husky coach Neuheisel

By Richard Rosenblatt
The Associated Press

Washington’s Rick Neuheisel has emerged as a leading candidate to become the next coach at Notre Dame, according to a report by ESPN.com.

The Fighting Irish were working on a package that could be worth as much as \$2.5 million annually, according to the report on ESPN’s Web site.



Rick Neuheisel

The report, posted Saturday night and citing unidentified sources, said a contract offer could be presented to Neuheisel as early as next week.

However, the Huskies’ coach said earlier Saturday he was out of the running to take over at Notre Dame.

“It’s over,” Neuheisel said in San Diego after a team practice for the Holiday Bowl against Texas on Dec. 28. “I think that got nipped in the bud rather quickly. It never really got started.”

He was not available Sunday to comment on the ESPN.com report.

Neuheisel’s father and agent, Dick Neuheisel, said: “My belief is he’ll stay at Washington.”

The elder Neuheisel then added: “I have a talented son. I can see him in most any position in the country. With him, nothing shocks me.”

Bob Davie was fired by Notre Dame the day after the Irish finished 5-6, and a week later athletic director Kevin White hired Georgia Tech’s George O’Leary. But O’Leary resigned five days into the job for lying on his resume about his academic and athletic credentials.

Texas gambles with volatile free agents

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — While the rest of the baseball world wonders whether John Rocker and Carl Everett can coexist on the Texas Rangers, the team’s reigning leaders are happy to have them as teammates.

“I love giving people a second chance,” shortstop Alex Rodriguez said. “Who knows, John might be the nicest guy in the world. We’ll just have to wait and see. I’m excited to see him and greet him. The same goes for Carl. I think these guys are going to help us win.”

“I think things are going to be OK,” first baseman Rafael Palmeiro said. “They’re getting new life here in Texas. This is a great place to play. I know they’re both hungry to come out here and help us.”

“We’ll keep them under control if we can, but it’s going to be really up to those guys. It’s their responsibility, not ours.”

Rodriguez and Palmeiro were at The Ballpark in Arlington on Saturday night for a news conference introducing yet another new teammate, Chan Ho Park. Texas gave Park a \$65 million, five-year



Carl Everett Chan Ho Park

deal to be their top starting pitcher.

“To bring in someone like Chan Ho Park, a bona fide No. 1 starter, is obviously something this organization needed with some major urgency,” Rodriguez said. “To have that at 28 years old, the prospect of having him for the next five years is pretty exciting.”

As much as the Rangers sorely needed Park, new general manager John Hart wanted to sign him until filling other holes — such as bringing in Everett to play center field and adding Rocker to a revamped bullpen. Hart also signed pitchers Dave Burba, Todd Van Poppel and Jay Powell, and got rid of starters Rick Helling and Darren Oliver.

Please see RANGERS, Page A8

SPORTS

American Football Conference

Table with columns for AFC teams (New England, Miami, NY Jets, Indianapolis, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Tennessee, Cleveland, Jacksonville, Cincinnati) and their stats (W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA, Home, Away, AFC, NFC, Div).

Sunday's NFL leaders

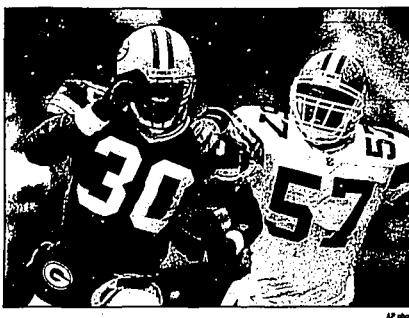
Passing: Chris Chandler, Falcons - threw for a career-high 431 yards and two touchdowns. Rushing: Marshall Faulk, Rams - rushed for 202 yards and two touchdowns. Receiving: Jimmy Smith, Jaguars - eight receptions for 124 yards.

National Football Conference

Table with columns for NFC teams (Philadelphia, NY Giants, Arizona, Washington, Dallas, Chicago, Green Bay, Tampa Bay, Minnesota, Detroit, St. Louis, San Francisco, Atlanta, New Orleans, Carolina, San Diego) and their stats (W, L, T, Pct, PF, PA, Home, Away, NFC, AFC, Div).

Packers whitewash Cleveland

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) - Brett Favre threw three touchdown passes as Green Bay ended a two-year postseason drought by beating Cleveland 30-7 at cold, snowy Lambeau Field.



Green Bay running back Ahman Green breaks away from Browns linebacker Dwayne Rudd for a 27-yard run during the first quarter Sunday.

Favre, who completed 18 of 28 passes for 139 yards and no interceptions, extended his NFL record with his sixth 30-touchdown season.

Green Bay (10-4) remained a game behind Chicago in the NFC Central. If the Packers gain a game on the Bears in the last two weeks, they own the tiebreaker and would get a home playoff game with the division title.

The victory kept the Browns (11-3) in first place in the AFC Central. Coupled with Tampa Bay's 48-21 victory over New Orleans, the Redskins (6-8) were eliminated from playoff contention with their third straight loss at home.

Warner threw for 217 yards and two touchdowns, Faulk ran for 212 yards and two scores and Holt had five catches for 86 yards for St. Louis. The Rams rolled up 412 yards.

Jaguars 33, Vikings 3 - MINNEAPOLIS - Stacey Mack rushed for two touchdowns and 111 yards in Jacksonville's rout of Minnesota.

The Vikings lost another quarter to injury, going without a touchdown for the second time in the last three home games and dropped to 5-9.

Mike Hillis kicked four field goals for Jacksonville (6-8). Jimmy Smith caught eight passes for 122 yards, and Mark Brunell was 17-for-24 passing for 217 yards.

Ravens 16, Bengals 0 - BALTIMORE - Ray Lewis had two of Baltimore's three interceptions off Jon Kitna, and the Ravens overcame a 127-yard rushing performance by Corey Dillon to defeat Cincinnati.

Terry Allen scored the game's lone touchdown, and Matt Stover kicked three field goals as Baltimore (9-5) enhanced its wild-card hopes with its first shutout of the season.

Dillon ended Baltimore's string of 50 straight games without allowing a 100-yard rusher, but it didn't stop the Bengals (4-10) from losing their seventh straight game or from being shut out for the third time.

Falcons 33, Bills 30 - ATLANTA - Jay Feely made all four of his field-goal attempts, including a 52-yarder on the final play, and Chris Chandler passed for a career-high 431 yards to keep Atlanta in the playoff race.

Before Sunday, Feely was 11-for-18 at the Georgia Dome and 12-for-12 on the road. The game-winning drive was his second-longest kick of the season; he had a 55-yarder at Atlanta.

Chandler threw two touchdowns in the half - by making a tackle. Williams bobbed a swing pass right into Barber's hands but managed to tackle him as time expired. The was the only thing that kept the 30-0 halftime deficit even worse.

Barber set a team record with his third interception at the two-minute warning, scoring on a 36-yard return. Brooks threw a career-high four interceptions.

Chiefs 20, Chargers 17 - KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Tony Richardson's 1-yard touchdown run with 48 seconds left for Kansas City handed San Diego its eighth straight loss.

Chargers strong safety Rodney Harrison was called for roughing the passer in the Chiefs' last-minute drive, wiping out Leonardo Carson's interception and giving Kansas City a first-and-goal from the 4.

Then Harrison was whistled for denying a holding against Tony Gonzalez, then Richardson followed with his TD run for the Chiefs (5-9).

Cardinals 17, Cowboys 10 - TEMPE, Ariz. - Dallas and Emmitt Smith dominated Arizona everywhere but the scoreboard as the Cowboys clinched at least a tie for last in the NFC East.

Dallas had a 21-1 advantage in first downs and led 343-209 in total yards, but Smith's 80th career 100-yard rushing game couldn't overcome Dallas' mistakes against Arizona (6-8).

Smith, who said this week he wants more carries, got his wish with 128 yards in 26 attempts for the Cowboys (4-10). Smith, 4th No. 2 NFL career rusher behind Walter Payton, is 16 yards short of 16,000, and he needs 182 for the 11th straight year.

Jets 29, Colts 28 - INDIANAPOLIS - Vinny Testaverde has become the master of the comeback.

For the second straight week, Testaverde found Anthony Becht for the game-winning score in the fourth quarter. This time it was a 6-yard pass with 58 seconds left Sunday night, giving New York a 29-28 victory at Indianapolis.

The Jets stopped the Colts on downs on the next series to preserve the victory - and eliminated Indianapolis, Denver, Tennessee and Cleveland from playoff contention.

NFL SUMMARIES

Summary for Jacksonville vs Vikings 33-3. Jacksonville 17, Vikings 16. Jacksonville leads 17-0 at halftime. Jacksonville 33, Vikings 3.

Summary for St. Louis vs San Francisco 12-20. St. Louis 12, San Francisco 20. St. Louis leads 12-0 at halftime. St. Louis 12, San Francisco 20.

Summary for Dallas vs Arizona 17-10. Dallas 17, Arizona 10. Dallas leads 17-0 at halftime. Dallas 17, Arizona 10.

Summary for New Orleans vs Tampa Bay 16-27. New Orleans 16, Tampa Bay 27. Tampa Bay leads 16-0 at halftime. New Orleans 16, Tampa Bay 27.

Summary for Tampa Bay vs Carolina 48-21. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21. Tampa Bay leads 48-0 at halftime. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21.

NFL SUMMARIES

Summary for Cleveland vs Green Bay 7-30. Cleveland 7, Green Bay 30. Green Bay leads 7-0 at halftime. Cleveland 7, Green Bay 30.

Summary for Cincinnati vs Baltimore 16-0. Cincinnati 16, Baltimore 0. Cincinnati leads 16-0 at halftime. Cincinnati 16, Baltimore 0.

Summary for Tampa Bay vs Carolina 48-21. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21. Tampa Bay leads 48-0 at halftime. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21.

Summary for Tampa Bay vs Carolina 48-21. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21. Tampa Bay leads 48-0 at halftime. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21.

Summary for Tampa Bay vs Carolina 48-21. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21. Tampa Bay leads 48-0 at halftime. Tampa Bay 48, Carolina 21.

Bucs

Continued from A8 Three plays later, New Orleans punter Aaron Brooks threw an interception right to Ronde Barber, who returned it to the Saints' 12. Tampa Bay's Mike Alstott gave a preview of things to come by churning across from the 1-yard line for a touchdown just over five minutes into the game.

Martin Gramatica kicked a 20-yard field goal with 3:38 left in the first quarter for a 17-0 lead. The Buccaneers eclipsed 13 games of first-quarter scoring

in the half - by making a tackle. Williams bobbed a swing pass right into Barber's hands but managed to tackle him as time expired. The was the only thing that kept the 30-0 halftime deficit even worse.

Barber set a team record with his third interception at the two-minute warning, scoring on a 36-yard return. Brooks threw a career-high four interceptions.

Backup quarterback Shaun King added insult to injury by scrambling for the two-point conversion.

Rangers

Continued from A8 Oliver went to Boston for Everett. Helling, a former 20-game winner, wasn't offered arbitration in a money-saving move aimed at bringing in Park Rodriguez and Everett also reworked their contracts to help Texas pay for Park.

All told, it's a pretty big shake-up, but one that was probably needed. The Rangers finished last in the AL West the past two seasons, even after giving Rodriguez

a \$252 million, 10-year deal last December. "We're a contender again," Palmeiro said. "Going into spring training, I think we're all going to be excited. We've got a chance to win every night. We didn't have that last year."

The Rangers made news this month when they traded first for Everett, who has a history of runs in with everyone from umpires to his own managers, then for Rocker, who continues to deal

with the fallout from remarks he made about gays and ethnic groups in a magazine interview two years ago.

Hart's goal this winter was to make Texas a contender again by 2003. Now that the bulk of his work is done, he doesn't expect to wait that long.

"I think we've put ourselves in a position to compete. And if you can compete in the short term, you can win in the short term," said Hart, who was hired Nov. 1.

EDITORIAL

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight.

The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus; but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

"Dear editor:

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says "If you see it in The Sun, it's so!" Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West 95th Street"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds.

All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect - an ant - in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable the existence. We

Nearly a century ago, young Virginia O'Hanlon sent the editor of The New York Sun a question that still perplexes parents: "Is there a Santa Claus?" Her letter was turned over to Francis P. Church, and his eloquent reply was published that Christmas of 1897. The Times-News is pleased to reprint its wisdom on yet another Christmas Eve.

inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen.....Publisher

Clark Walworth.....Managing editor Mike Smith.....Advertising director

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



Social Security reform, tax-cuts top wish list

ERIC V. SCHLECHT

With the holiday season upon us, children have already prepared their wish lists to send to Santa. But what would their parents hope to find under the tree?

After talking to a lot of anxious adults, the National Taxpayers Union has sent a taxpayer "wish list" to the North Pole with carbon copies to the White House and Congress - in hopes that the spirit of St. Nick could prevail upon Uncle Sam to help taxpayers. Maybe elected officials should include these items in their New Year's Resolutions too.

Here, Dear Santa, is all we taxpayers want for Christmas:

-Tax Reform. Our current tax code is a leviathan of loopholes, complexities and inequities that only a tax lawyer could love. How about a nice flat tax? Or, maybe a retail sales tax. Just be sure it's a consumption-based tax that doesn't punish us for working hard.

-Tax Cuts. While the IOU's for tax cuts the government gave us this year were a nice thought, what good is a present you can't use for several years? A permanent reduction in the personal and corporate income and capital gains taxes, along with repeal of the Alternative Minimum Tax and Death Tax, would be great starts.

-Real "Social Security." The sooner we make the move toward personally controlled retirement accounts, the sooner our children's future will be secure, and the better we'll sleep. After all, if private choice is good enough for countries like South Korea and Panama, shouldn't it be

good enough for America?

-School Vouchers. About 40 percent of the children of congressmen and 49 percent of senators' children go to private schools. It's time to help tax-strapped parents who don't make a six-figure congressional salary provide the same quality education for their kids.

-Fiscal Responsibility. Could you please ask Congress to quit spending so much of our money? Total federal outlays in 1995 were \$1.51 trillion. In 2001 they are scheduled to be \$1.86 trillion. That is an increase of 22 percent. Average inflation during that period was only 2.5 percent per year. On their way out of town in the year 2000, lawmakers voted to bust the budget caps by a whopping \$52 billion over the previous year's caps and \$26 billion over the inflation adjustment.

-Protect the Internet. Adding more taxes on the Internet would be complicated, unfair and destructive for our ailing economy. The last thing government should do is kill the goose that might lay the golden egg - one that feeds a recovery. The moratorium on discriminatory Internet taxes should be made permanent, and online shopping - which is already burdened by telephone and shipping taxes - shouldn't be slapped with more sales taxes.

-Tax Limitation Amendment and Balanced Budget Amendment. Even with the recent tax cut, taxes are at record levels and Congress has already spent

\$105 billion more this year than last - leading to what the Congressional Budget Office predicts will be future deficits. If you give us constitutional protections that made it harder to vote for higher taxes and debt, those budget-busting bullies in Congress couldn't take and spend as much of our money.

-Expose Hidden Taxes. Every year the government takes at least \$657.5 billion in hidden taxes - \$2,462 per person. Gas taxes, telecommunication taxes, payroll taxes, travel taxes and utility taxes - to name just a few - are all collected while we're not looking. We deserve to be told when we're being taxed and by how much.

-Medical Savings Accounts. Every year health care costs continue to rise as Congress tries to drag us closer toward the failed Canadian health care system. We thought we made it pretty clear back in 1993 that we knew better than to follow that garden path. MSAs would give us personal control over how we spend our health care dollars, creating competition among providers that could drive costs down.

If it seems a little childish to ask Santa Claus for presents like these, remember that elected officials don't always act like responsible grown-ups in the first place. They've spoiled special interests rotten for years with our tax dollars, and it's about time those of us who've been good for goodness sake get our reward.

Eric V. Schlecht is director of congressional relations for the National Taxpayers Union (www.ntu.org).

Monopoly will be economic folly

May I congratulate your editorial writer and your paper for the thoughtful editorial in the Dec. 16 Sunday issue.

While an argument certainly can be made for savings to the community by not having to buy more than one each of multimillion-dollar diagnostic and/or therapeutic equipment, a perhaps even stronger argument can be made for a monopoly in any business, resulting in higher prices for the products or services provided. As you clearly elucidated, a monopoly in hospital services is exactly what Twin Falls will have after the buyout.

It will be interesting to see in three or four years if you will be editorializing on the economic folly of this acquisition by the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

DR. WENDELL PETTY
Twin Falls

Reader offers ticket to oppression

To Russell L. Foren regarding his letter of Dec. 18:

It's almost never that I read a letter to the editor, although I have written a few

myself in defense of a just cause, but the caption the letter editor used to identify your misguided pronouncement of the current state of affairs in the world caught my attention and prompts me to respond:

Once upon a time, after communist thug Daniel Ortega had taken over the government of Nicaragua, we had a local young priest here whose physical body had grown to full size but his intellect had faltered at about high school sophomore level who wrote numerous letters condemning America and praising Ortega's communist cause, much to the chagrin of the local Catholic community.

During that time, the communist regime in Poland murdered a young priest for no reason except that he was a Christian, prompting me to respond to our local young priest in the medium of his choice, making him an offer considering his love for communism, that I would buy him an airline ticket to Poland, inasmuch as our form of government was intolerable to him.

Now, your intellectual level appears to be about the same level as our young priest, and it hurts me to see you suffer

LETTERS

under our system, but my situation is somewhat changed in the sense that money is tight and I just cannot afford the cost of an airline ticket for you, but I can take off enough time to take up a collection to buy you a ticket to North Korea, Iraq, China or whatever repressive torrid regime of your choice.

L.S. "TIP" TIPPETT
Twin Falls

We can know God if we seek Him

Puppy eyes! It looks at you and cocks its head just a bit. Big, brown and cute. And don't you see just the hint of a smile on its fat, furry face? Or maybe in its eyes? My grandma loved Christmas. She used to smile with her eyes. Philip, smile with your eyes, she would tell the little child in me. Windows to the soul, she would add.

Her favorite story was the Christmas morning, she and four of her siblings slid out of the same bed. They slept puppy style, all curled up as a litter of kid. Puppy poor. They found an orange and a handful of peanuts at each place around the family table. Couldn't eat, though - not until after Mass. But they could wait.

Ever put a bone in front of a puppy and say, "you can't eat?" Doesn't work. Not in their nature. What makes us humans different? Puppies follow you everywhere. They get under your feet, and when you stumble over them, they wag their bodies with the tails and look into your eyes. Little kids do the same thing. What makes us different?

What if God were one of us? Just a kid as one of us? Would it look into your eyes and smile, that cute, dumb little puppy smile? Or maybe we are to God as puppies? Crawling around, following him, under foot. And smiling that cute, dumb "hi" smile. And God said, "Quit chewing the furniture, quit pooping in the house, quit yelping. Time for you to go outside!"

To draw the contrast is to just barely begin to appreciate the deepest of all human truths Christmas tries to teach! God and we are created of the same stuff! Puppies will ever be able to truly know their master. Through faith and reason, we are capable of knowing ours (not simply knowing about him).

Dare I risk! Believing something too good to be true? I look into the eyes of the Christmas child and hear in my

soul, "I can't do without you? What a wondrous honor! And he looks into my eyes with a soul-deep smile and hears my words, "I cannot do without you."

Perhaps to follow him "as a little child follows" takes on new meaning this Christmas?

PHIL AUSTH
Berger

Let hens rule the hen house

Your Dec. 18 editorial should be titled, "Down with democracy, up with monarchy." I thought our government was for and by the people, not if we don't like the people's vote, we get a handful of elected people to just over-throw hundreds of thousands of voters' votes.

Why don't you just set up a king, then the people won't have to go to all the trouble of voting. I don't care if you think the people's vote was wrong; if they voted it in, then they should have the right to vote it out.

When the fox takes over the hen house, then we're all in trouble.
ROY DAVENPORT
Buhl

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

Reflections on post-September 11 priorities reveal past trivial pursuits

September 11 has changed everything, including the way we look at this Christmas. The daily portraits in *The New York Times* of lives lost in the attacks reads like a yearbook of sadness and unrealized hopes.

The shopping malls, our temples to secular society and altars of conspicuous consumption, are less populated and less prosperous now, while many churches are full of people and richer in hope. Some radio stations broadcast traffic reports on Sunday morning because more cars are on the road, destined for places where their passengers hope to discover ultimate reality.

Before 9/11 is consigned to the history books and, like Pearl Harbor, the generation that lived (and died) through it has to explain to succeeding generations what it was like to be there. Perhaps we should consider what differences the terrorist attacks have made.

Chief among them must surely be that things which seemed important pre-9/11 are less important, or even trivial now. One definition of the word trivial offers



CAL THOMAS

perspective: "of little worth or importance."

Oh, the things we consider important, especially in Washington, D.C. and as portrayed in films and on TV: fame, wealth, power (or the presumption of power; the two are not synonymous), position, pleasure, things. Post 9/11, when none of us knows — or can ever know — what today will bring, much less tomorrow, all these pursuits seem so trivial, meaningless and a chasing after wind.

No relative of anyone who died in the 9/11 attacks is looking at life today the way he or she did before. Who wouldn't give everything they have to buy back the life of a loved one who was lost?

None of the firefighters, police officers and others who escaped with their lives from the World Trade Center or the Pentagon is expressing ingratitude this Christmas.

An acquaintance writes to tell of nearly losing her baby daughter to a cancerous tumor. Surgery was successful but she and her husband will view this Christmas and every future Christmas in a different way. A man tells a Washington, D.C. radio talk show host that he called the airlines to get lists of laid-off workers at area airports. He says he's giving them the money he would have spent on presents. His family approves. 9/11 has changed him.

Great social transformations occur when large numbers of people individually decide to live differently. It's too early to tell whether people will commit to their families in ways beyond making money and buying stuff, but 9/11 gives us permission to make, or renew such commitments without societal disapproval. One newspaper has reported it's now "in" to be square. Those who always thought square was "in" didn't chase the trends and simply stayed in one spot, waiting for culture to come to return to the place they never left.

In the film "It's A Wonderful Life," the angel tells George Bailey he's been given a gift — the

chance to see what the world would have been like had he not lived. What has 9/11 given us this Christmas? In both a secular and religious sense, it has shown us that properly used, power is important if our way of life is to be preserved. It's also shown us that evil exists and must be opposed. To some, that's obvious. 9/11 has given us something else. It's reminded us that the best things are small things — a

touch; a kind word; an assurance of love, an act of forgiveness, a kindness to a stranger, a trip to visit a someone in a prison or hospital, a note to a lonely person, a visit to a baby in a manger.

That baby is a rebuke to the way humans think. His contemporaries wanted a political deliverer. They were offered deliverance from a greater oppressor. They got nothing that they wanted — but everything that they needed.

Cultures, civilizations, leaders and threats change, but the message of Christmas doesn't. It isn't about reindeer, a fat man and material things. It's about a miracle baby and eternal things.

As the Christmas card says, "Wise Men Still Seek Him." Post 9/11, more apparently are seeking and that is a valuable gift to all who do.

Cal Thomas is a columnist for the Los Angeles Times.

LETTER

Overhaul retirement program

Recently, there has been discussion about early buyouts in the Idaho Public Employees Retirement System. It didn't surprise to me that Idaho PERSI executives opposed it.

It is difficult to rally support for any public retirement reform. You have to change laws. You have to educate legislators, an over-taxed public and PERSI itself. You have to overcome misconceptions and attitudes of lazy government workers. You have to care. You have to want to improve your standing in national ranks that consistently mark Idaho's education near the bottom. You have to want to attract public employees who are good and passionate about what they do. You can't do that with poor salaries and a retirement system like ours. Smart people, the ones you want to attract, will

never come and never stay; better opportunities lie in just about every other state.

The system appears confusing to people who are not in it. It actually works on a simple premise. You and your employer throw in a ton of money, upward of 20 percent of your annual salary for a minimum of 29 to 35 years, and then when you only have a couple of marbles rolling around in your head, medical problems (many due to your occupation) and a couple of years left, you get half of your annual salary. Those who get in early, say at 21, work 30 years and are eligible to retire but they can't (police and firefighters). They have no health insurance and, like most of the country, have to continue working to age 65 or perhaps longer now to qualify for Medicaid. PERSI makes no bones about this; they will tell

you that you need additional retirement savings. No kidding. So you simply don't retire or you find a job that pays those \$500 a month premiums for health insurance, and you don't really retire anyway. The law allows employees to opt out of this system; some have, and I am surprised that more have not done so.

Offering early retirement from PERSI is easily accommodated. It would save money. It would allow employees the freedom to move on if they were so inclined. It would be a little progressive and allow employees a little freedom over their money and lives. This retirement system is a small piece of a much bigger puzzle. Eventually, it will be overhauled. I just hope I have a few marbles left when it happens.

JEFF GUNTER
Hailey

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Limits

Continued from A1

America's "term limits" on mayors and councilmen. Of the largest 100 cities, 47 have municipal-term limits. But information on term limits on county officials throughout the nation is only anecdotal, leading those who have followed the movement to say there is no trend toward term limiting county officials.

Idaho voters limited the number of years most elected officials in the state can hold office in 1994, and the Idaho Supreme Court upheld the decision recently. Not affected by the law are federal office-holders, judges, city council members who run for office "at large," and board members who sit on canal, cemetery, highway and library boards. Public school board members are term limited.

The law limits the service of county commissioners and school trustees to six years in any 11-year period. All other state, county and city officers are limited to eight years of service in any 15-year period.

Some lawmakers say they believe the term limits initiative passed as a result of dissatisfaction with politicians primarily at the state and federal levels. They question whether voters really intended to crack down on local elected officials.

"I think the way it was presented it sounded really good," said Rep. Celia Gould, R-Buhl. "I can see why people voted for it, but why turn someone out who has spent her whole life being a county clerk and is doing a good job at it?"

Some school board members will be affected by term limits as soon as this coming May. One is Pnhl School Board Chairman Armand Eckert, who will be term limited after 15 years of service. Eckert served two years as president of the Idaho School Board Association and recently was a finalist for a position on the State Board of Education.

Eckert has echoed the arguments of many elected officials. He said school districts will lose the wisdom and accumulation of knowledge that come from years of training and serving. What districts will gain, instead, will be more expense in training neophytes and the danger, for example, of greenhorns coming up against highly trained professional negotiators when it comes time to renew teacher contracts, some school board members say.

"There is simply no substitute for experience," Eckert said. "School members don't do it for the love of power," said Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome.

"Those are the folks people love to hate," she said. "They really take the brunt of a lot of bad feelings. After all, it's people's children they're dealing with."

Eckert said many of Idaho's smaller districts will be hard pressed to find replacements for their departing board members.

Jerome School District's business manager, Mike Gibson, pointed out that even though it is one of the valley's larger districts, with more than 3,000 students, it is still hard to find enough people willing to run for school board. For example, well-qualified business people shy away from the job because it has the potential to run off business, he said.

Those are hollow arguments, said Don Morgan, a Post Falls stockbroker who chairs the Citizens for Term Limits Idaho Campaign. He said incumbent school members who have put in their six years in districts that are hard pressed to find people who will serve can still file for candidacy.

"If he's the only one who files—no one runs against him—then the school doesn't even print a ballot or hold an election, and he continues to serve," Morgan said. "They already know that. They just don't want anyone else to know it."

If someone does decide to run against an elected official who is up against term limits, "The incumbent can run an aggressive write-in campaign," he said.

Elected officials insist that write-in campaigns are expensive and largely ineffectual.

Tousley is one of them. Out of his past three campaigns that cost \$26,000 to run, he paid \$11,000 himself. He cringes at the

Losing their positions

Termed out in May 2002

School board members:

Blaine: Stan Standa, Tom Faulkner
Buhl: Armand Eckert
Cassia: Dave Smith, Keith Hulse
Dietrich: Jeff Weber
Hagerman: Ray Wade, Deb May
Hansen: Chad Urie
Jerome: Dr. Ron Hendrickson
Kimberty: Jim Wright
Minidoka: Greer Copeland
Murtaugh: Bob Widmark, Daniel Cummings
Twin Falls: Chad Hafer

County officials gone at the end of their terms:

County clerks
Carnas: Rolfie Bennett
Cassia: Darrell Roskelley
Gooding: Helen Edwards
Jerome: Cheryl Watts
Minidoka: Duane Smith
Twin Falls: Bob Fort

County coroners
Blaine: Russ Mikel
Carnas: John Gick
Cassia: Paul Young
Jerome: Gerald Oster
Twin Falls: Gene Turley (resigned)

County commissioners
Blaine: Mary Ann Mier
Cassia: Paul Christensen
Gooding: Tom Faulkner
Lincoln: Lawrence Calkins
Minidoka: Don Handy, Larry Harper
Twin Falls: Marvin Hempleman

County assessors
Cassia: Mary Holland
Gooding: Patty Bauscher
Minidoka: Max Vaughn
Twin Falls: Gerald Bowden

County treasurers
Blaine: Vicki Dick
Cassia: Gayle Erickson
Lincoln: Cathy Quirogo

County sheriffs
Blaine: Walt Felling
Gooding: Shaun Gough
Jerome: Jim Weaver
Lincoln: Stephen Southwick
Minidoka: Paul Fries
Twin Falls: Wayne Tousley

County prosecutors
Carnas: Calvin Campbell
Gooding: Phil Brown
Minidoka: Rick Bolter
Twin Falls: Grant Loeb

Source: Idaho Association of Cities

NOTE: The Idaho Association of Cities has not yet collected data on who would be affected by term limits. However, as a general rule in the Magic Valley and Wood River Valley regions, mayors and council members occupying numbered seats are affected by the eight-year term limit. However, the vast majority of small towns have council members who run "at large," which means those with the most votes get to sit on city council. They are not affected by term limits.

idea of having to spend considerably more.

Morgan, who moved to Post Falls in 1992 from Los Angeles, said the argument isn't about money; it's about who has the right to say how long politicians will hold office.

With term limits, more people will be encouraged to get involved in the political process, he said. It will also rearrange the balance of power in Idaho Legislature, he said, explaining that rural Idaho has too much power because of the current seniority system.

But most critical, Morgan said, concerns who constitutes the ruling class: career politicians or the people.

"The key question is, 'Do politicians have some divine right to their jobs?'" he said. "The Supreme Court said the citizens of Idaho have a right to set the rules."

But Bell said she can't see anything positive to be gained from running off elected county officials who are using the office as a career path.

"What about the county sheriffs, the assessors, the treasurers, the coroners?" she said. "I think there's a bigger picture here."

Times-news writer Julie Pence can be reached at 735-3241 or by e-mail at jpence@magicvalley.com.

Christmas

Continued from A1

tice as idolatrous.

Some Christians have opposed the very idea of Christmas: The captain of the Mayflower wrote in the ship's log under Dec. 25, 1620: "At anchor in Plymouth harbor; Christmas Day, but not observed by these colonists, they being opposed to all saints days."

Yet the repression was short-lived, as were all similar attempts to get rid of Christmas. Its story is too powerful to suppress.

The Roman poet Virgil sang it several decades before Jesus' birth. In the dark winter of human experience, Virgil forecast, a child will be born to free the world from the evils adults have created:

The jarring nations he in peace shall bind,

And with paternal virtues rule mankind.

Almost 2,000 years later,

Charles Dickens penned another version of the story: In 1843, both Dickens' and Christmas' fortunes were at low ebb. People were moving off the farms and into big cities, and it wasn't easy to take holiday traditions along. Yule logs are native to forests, not metropolises. Caroling is natural on a village square, less so in urban tenements.

Desperately short of money, Dickens needed a best-seller. So he quickly composed "A Christmas Carol." Additionally, he desired to awaken a social consciousness in the British upper class.

Reading his own words, Dickens said, he "wept and laughed and wept again."

Others did too. The first edition was sold out in a day. Readers responded to the story of Ebenezer Scrooge: A man with wealth but poor in spirit until cured by a child large in spirit though crippled in limb.

The book's last line became a benediction: familiar even to those who never set foot in church: "And so, as Tiny Tim observed, God bless Us, Every One!"

When Dickens went on a reading tour, audience members were moved to tears. More than one was cured of Scrooge's affliction. A Vermont factory owner said, "I feel that after listening to Mr. Dickens' reading of 'A Christmas

Carol' tonight I should break the custom— I have hitherto observed of opening the factory on Christmas Day."

Dickens' message—you can't put a price tag on love—became a permanent addition to our understanding of the holiday. Those who have gone from rags to riches often remember with unequalled affection the impoverished Christmases of their youth.

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ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS A DECENT NIGHT'S SLEEP!
Face it: As long as you have children living at home, your dream of sleeping in on Christmas morning, eating a large, leisurely breakfast, and casually opening presents sometime around noon is never going to happen. Sadly, there's really nothing we can do to help you avoid the inevitable 5:30 a.m. poking and pouncing, but with impressive savings on all kinds of cold cereal, we can make sure you get a fast, nutritious breakfast that can be wofled down before, after, or even during your pre-dawn gift opening session. So this week, stock up on your favorite cold cereal at Swenmart. And find out what it feels like to open your Christmas gifts on a full stomach.

SEE OUR NEW YEARS SALE AD IN WEDNESDAY'S PAPER

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• CORN POPS 15 Oz.
• FROST LOOPS 15 Oz.
• FROSTED FLAKES 20 Oz.
• RICE KRISPIES 18.5 Oz.

General Mills CEREALS 2/\$4
• CINNAMON TOAST CRUNCH 14 Oz.
• CINNAMON TOAST CRUNCH 14 Oz.

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Falls Brand Old-Fashioned Bone-In SMOKED HAMS \$1.59 Lb.
Falls Brand Thick Sliced BACON \$4.59 Lb. Pkg. For

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Cream O Weber EGG NOG Quart **99¢**
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Barbisol bandit was neatly shaven

We continue to see evidence of an alarming decline in the quality of our nation's criminals.

Consider the man who attempted to rob a mini-mart in the town of Vernon, Conn., as reported in a Journal Inquirer story sent in by alert reader Dan Thompson. The robber elected to wear a disguise, which was a good idea, since he was a regular customer of the store. The problem was the particular disguise he picked.

Shaving cream.

Yes. According to police, the man walked into the store with his face lathered in shaving cream, apparently believing that this made him unrecognizable. Of course the only place where that disguise would work is Metro-polis, the city where Super-man lives. The citizens there are so stupid that, in 50 years, they have not figured out that Clark Kent is actually Superman wearing eye-glasses. They would be totally baffled by shaving cream.

BRAIN TEASER: Suppose that, one day in Metropolis, Clark Kent loses his glasses. What can he do to prevent the citizens from realizing that he is Superman?

ANSWER: He can announce: "I'm wearing contact lenses!"

But getting back to the attempted robbery in Vernon: Despite the disguise, the storeowners instantly recognized the shaving-cream bandit, who ran away and was later captured by the police. The story does not say whether he tried to make himself invisible by putting his hands over his eyes, but we would not be surprised.

Another example of a criminal not being the sharpest quill on the porcupine was reported in an Associated Press story sent in by an alert reader. The story concerns a man who was arrested for robbing a restaurant and two banks. The police figured out who he was because, while he was waiting for a bank teller's line to shorten, he filled out a credit application.

Our point is that the nation's criminals are becoming so incompetent that pretty soon they will need some kind of federal subsidy to stay in business. But this does not mean that we citizens should not be vigilant. For an excellent example of citizen vigilance, we turn to an amazing story from the Oklahoma City, Okla., Oklahomaan (photo: "Located in Oklahoma").

This story, written by Ryan McNeill and sent in by alert legal attorney Jim Webb, describes a crime spree by a man who robbed three businesses by threatening cashiers with an ax. The third business was a Wal-Mart, and when the man entered the store, he was spotted by a Wal-Mart employee.

We all wonder how we would respond if we faced such a situation and we just hope that we would show the presence of mind of this employee, who, without regard for personal safety, walked up to this man and put a sticker on the ax. This was to show that the man had the ax when he entered the store. If not for this display of quick thinking, there could have been a major misunderstanding during the robbery, as we see by this hypothetical scenario:

ROBBER (brandishing the ax): Hand over the money!

CASHIER: Wait a minute! Did you steal that ax as well?

ROBBER: Not! I had it when I came!

CASHIER: Oh, really? Then where is your sticker?

ROBBER: Dang! (He leaves, empty-handed.)

We also include our National Crime Report with the following police blotter item from the July 3 issue of the Tomahawk, Wis., Tomahawk Leader, sent in by alert reader Sylvia Linton, which we swear we are not making up:

"An elderly Merrill woman stated that a bear on a bicycle had vandalized her boyfriend Friday. She suspected that the bear, described as big, had fled from the circus because an ordinary bear could not ride a bicycle so well."

So if you own a boyfriend, be on the lookout for a bicycle-riding bear described as "big." Of course, all bears are off if it gets hold of shaving cream.

Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami FL 33132.



HUMOR
Dave Barry

11th hour Shopping at the



Scott Hymas does a little last-minute shopping for his wife's present at the Twin Falls Target store with his daughters, Tawny, 7, and Brittny, 4 (not pictured).

Up against a deadline? Examine options

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Today is the day that separates the power shoppers from the wimps. Christmas Eve. If you haven't started your Christmas shopping yet, or if you haven't finished it, here are some options from a tour of Twin Falls-area retailers last week:

Picture frames

A last-minute gifting staple. Available in materials ranging from wood to silver, and priced from \$15 to \$250, frames come in an amazing variety of sizes. Better still, put a photograph inside the frame - local photo-processing businesses can still handle that for you today, if you get the film, the negative or the slide to them early enough.

Diamond earrings

Elegant, stylish and darned near fool-proof, even for a guy who doesn't know

carats from beans. \$100 to \$4,000.

By the way, a 1998 pre-Christmas survey of women by the Opinion Research Corporation International for Zales, the jewelry company, reported that 30 percent wanted diamonds from their inamoratas.

Do-it-yourself gift baskets

Ad-hoc Christmas basket-making is a fun and relatively cheap alternative when you've run out of other ideas. The baskets themselves are available in a variety of sizes and materials from \$10-\$40, and they can be filled with anything from cosmetics to beer to candy. Rule of thumb: Buy more basket than you think you're going to need, because you almost certainly will.

Sewing supplies

Market research has shown that there's a sewer in one-third of Magic Valley households. Think basic: Scissors (\$10-\$45), magnifiers (\$7-\$13), baskets (\$15-

\$50) sampler threads (\$15-\$40), DMC floss, beads and buttons.

Books

The all-purpose last-minute gift, if you know the recipient's taste in literature. If not, consider one of the now-ubiquitous gift cards, available up to \$100.

Phone cards

Classic stocking-stuffer fodder, and available in any amount just about anywhere - include some local car washes.

Automobile storage bags

They fit against on the back seats of your vehicle and are handy for toys and the stuff kids take along on trips. Available in auto-part stores for about \$10.

Tire sealant

The stuff that comes in a can and blows air and a sticky chemical into a flat tire,

sealing the leak and inflating the tire in the process. \$3-\$7.

Wind chimes

They come in all sizes and a variety of materials, intended for use both inside the house and out. \$6-\$120.

Coffee mug filled with stuff

The mug will cost you \$3-\$5. The stuff - teas, hot chocolate mixes, coffees - probably less than that.

A virtual dog

Super Poo-chie (\$15-\$50), Tekno the Robotic Puppy (\$15-\$250), iCybie the Robotic Dog (\$100-\$200), and their kin transcend gender and age. Everybody wants a robotic dog - except perhaps real dogs.

Game Boy sticker

If the sticker shock of Xbox (\$300) and
Please see GIFTS, Page B2

Web site calculates cholesterol

Consumer Reports, the independent rater of products and services, has posted on its web site a handy interactive tool that spares you from having to calculate your cholesterol. The calculator presents a small window asking for seven pieces of information: gender, age, smoking status, total and HDL cholesterol numbers, systolic blood pressure and whether your blood pressure is being treated. The site filters your data through the federal standards and kicks out a raw score and a percentage estimate of your likelihood of having a cardiac event in the next 10 years. Click again and the site takes you to an area that helps you match your scores with a treatment plan. To find the tool, go to www.consumerreports.org, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Check Your Cholesterol Risk." When you arrive at Step 1, scroll down a bit until you find a line that says, "For an interactive version of the test, click here."

Arthritis jitters

A new study links decaf coffee with rheumatoid arthritis. The research finds that older women who down four cups or more daily of decaf are more than twice as likely as non-decaf drinkers to develop the crippling disease. The 11-year study looked at 31,336 Iowa women, 55 to 69 years old. This isn't the first time researchers have linked coffee to rheumatoid arthritis, which affects 2.1 million Americans - most of them women - according to the National

Health notes

Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. A team of Finnish researchers recently reported a link among coffee consumption, blood markers for rheumatoid arthritis and subsequent diagnosis of the disease. But that study was not as scientifically rigorous as the Iowa project and didn't distinguish between regular coffee and decaf.

A poor barometer?

A new home test - approved by the Food and Drug Administration and claiming to be the first to help baby-boomer women learn if they've hit "the change of life" - is being called unreliable by some menopause experts. The Menopause Test, which began selling last month in packages of two for \$59.95 via the Internet, measures urine levels of follicle stimulating hormone (FSH) on a small, absorbent, chemically treated pad. FSH levels that reach 25 International Units create a pink/purple band on the pad, suggesting that a woman may be approaching, or well into, menopause. The trouble, experts say, is that while FSH levels tend to stay elevated in older women who have not had a menstrual period in a year or more, they also often spike in younger fertile women, typically just before ovulation.

- compiled from wire service reports

Embellish older garments

The holiday season presents occasions for dressing up more than usual.

If there's no time to shop or to sew, why not embellish something already in your wardrobe? The process can be quick and easy, but the effects are unique.

Lucky Weddigen, a sewing teacher at Haberman Fabrics in Royal Oak, Mich., offers some tips for successful embellishing.

"Whatever design or trim you add to your garment should blend in color and feeling, creating a subtle look rather than a harsh contrast. It should also be appropriate to the fabric in weight and texture."

Small details can change garments in a big way. Consider these ideas from Weddigen:

- Add purchased fringe to the sleeves and bottom of a pullover sweater. Or do self-fringe on any garment of loosely woven fabric. Just pull out the horizontal threads along edges at least an inch. Try this on skirt hems, pockets or collar edges.
- A plain cardigan sweater becomes special if you add grosgrain ribbon along front edges. If the knit has enough weight, try a fancy rhinestone zipper.
- Add pieces of lace to a classic blazer for a feminine look. Or make a lacy camisole to wear under a tailored jacket for a touch of the unexpected.
- Purchase sequined appliques to tack onto sweaters, blouses or jacket lapels. Remove them later if desired.



SEWING
Barbara Gash

Some other ideas:
• Change buttons from ordinary to dressy.

• Machine embroider motifs on solid colors, being careful of placement. To draw attention upward toward the face, concentrate the design near one shoulder, or make it linear to frame a neckline. Avoid placements in "personal zones." Create flattering optical illusions by using angled or vertical lines.

• Try your hand at fabric painting or stamping. Practice on samples to get the hang of it. Embellish further by adding beads or sequins.

Designs that involve applique, dense stitching or beading may require a backing so the fabric doesn't stretch. Remember to plan your placements before starting any embellishment.

Barbara Gash writes about sewing for the Detroit Free Press. Write to her at the Free Press, P.O. Box 828, Detroit, Mich. 48231, or send e-mail to compuzca@aol.com

HEALTH & FASHION

Center offers infant CPR class

Infant cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 9:30-3 p.m. Thursday in the Sage Room of the Education Center at Mack Valley Regional Medical Center, 650 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls.

Topics will include child safety, choking and prevention of injury. New parents, grandparents and children are encouraged to attend.

The class is free. Preregistration is not required.

The Pill turns 50 and it's as controversial as ever

The Orange County Register

It has been 50 years. Of course, that's if you accept a particular date and a particular time as the definitive one, which some do and some don't, which makes sexual its conception controversial.

Which is apt. Because nothing about it has been uncontroversial since.

Oh, you could go way back, to the 1920s, when Margaret Sanger begged a nation to consider the health of its poorest women and their legions of children. Or you could trace its origins a few years later when a rich woman named Katherine McCormick put her money where her mouth was and got scientific types to think about the idea of the first pill.

But you could also date the whole enterprise as being a later invention. "That would be when it became available to the masses in 1960.

Or you could go with Oct. 15, the day that Carl Djerassi, an ambitious chemist in an obscure little lab in Mexico, working from a substance found in the wildly improbable foot-tall wild yam synthesized, for the first time ever, a female hormone. What he had in his test tube was pure crystalline progesterone.

And he figured it'd be a swell thing for women with menstrual problems and recurrent miscarriage because, hey, it suppressed ovulation.

After this time, we're still not sure if we like what that means or not. Some women were sure that they liked it; then they didn't, now they do again. Some did not and will never. Others liked it so much that they defied their faith daily to take it.

Some, of course, trustingly took it and learned, too late, that doctors didn't always know what was best for them.

And some - a lot actually - don't even think about it anymore because they simply take it and live their lives oblivious to the debate.

But rest assured, a lot of women took it. In fact, 80 percent of American women born after 1945 have, at one time or another, taken the Pill. It is still the most popular reversible method of birth control among

To do for you

For more information, call 737-2900.

Childbirth class

Prepared childbirth classes will be offered from 7:30-9 p.m. Thursdays, beginning Jan. 3 through Feb. 7, 2002, at the St. Benedict's Health Education Center, 115 Fifth Ave. W.,

Jerome.

The second class of the series will be a refresher course for mothers who have previously taken the childbirth classes.

The sessions, taught by a registered nurse, emphasize preparation for labor and birth, changes during pregnancy and newborn care. Participants are asked to bring two pillows and a blanket to each class.

The classes are free for those who will be delivering at St.

Benedict's Family Medical Center. To register, call 324-4301.

To do for you is a calendar listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Health & Fashion. Mail notices to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or deliver to our office at 132 Third St. W.

Why America can't seem to get to sleep

Los Angeles Times

The "slumbering giant" of the United States has awakened, all right. But now many of us can't get back to sleep.

In the days after Sept. 11, 44 percent of Americans reported trouble falling asleep, 48 percent said they had more awakenings, and 50 percent said they woke up unrefreshed, according to a nationwide survey released last week by the National Sleep Foundation. A spot survey by the Pew Research Center after the attacks put the rate of sleep problems at 33 percent - about the number of Americans who typically report having insomnia symptoms over a given year. Under typical circumstances, these difficulties would resolve quickly, researchers have found.

But there is nothing typical about this season, sleep doctors said: The simmering stew of terrorism, war, job cuts and holiday stress has tormented poor sleepers and spoiled nights for many across the country.

"I wasn't sleeping very well before September, and 9-11 sure didn't help," said Constance Ebright, 66, a travel agent in Glendale, Calif., who has begun seeing a sleep specialist.

That's the riddle of insomnia. While most of us return to normal after one or two restless nights, there are anywhere between 5 million and 10 million Americans who do not. Their bodies somehow fail to reclaim the one commodity they need most, slumber, even as they become more exhausted and desperate. Part of the underlying problem may be mental; doctors have long known - for instance, that chronic sleeplessness is linked to psychological anxiety, such as depression and distress.

Sleep researchers now are finding evidence that nagging sleep problems are often due to measurable, physical differences.

"One of the common misconceptions about insomniacs is that they're all crazy, depressed or anxious, and I think this message just upsets those who have problems sleeping," said Michael Bonnet, a sleep researcher at Wright State

Do's and don'ts

Many doctors who treat insomnia believe that the best therapy over the long run is behavioral change, that is, altering one's habits to create optimal conditions for sleep. It's also important, they say, to stick to the routine. Here are some do's and don'ts:

- Don't drink caffeine after 2 p.m.
• Avoid nicotine bedtime to five hours before bedtime.
• Don't drink alcohol later than three to five hours before bed.
• Avoid eating heavy meals an hour or so before bed.
• Try not to watch TV, listen to the radio, or read or do work in your bed.
• Try not to nap during the day.
• Exercise regularly; the best time is in the morning or afternoon.
• If you can't fall asleep, get out of bed, no matter what time it is, and don't go back to bed until you feel sleepy.
• Establish a regular time for getting out of bed each morning, regardless of how many hours you've slept.
• Minimize the amount of light and noise in your bedroom; and keep the temperature moderate - neither too hot nor too cold.

—Source: Dr. Daniel Buysse, University of Pittsburgh; Los Angeles Times

School of Medicine in Dayton, Ohio. "But what we're discovering now is that a lot of them have an underlying physical disorder that makes them more prone" to restless nights.

Sleep problems tend to progress in a familiar pattern, doctors said. First, comes a trigger - an argument with a spouse, an important speech or test, a bad cold, a 9-11 flashback - that ruins a night's sleep. "The next night is often just as bad because in the back of our minds, we're thinking, 'Oh, no, I had a lousy night. I'd better sleep well tonight,'" said Dr. Daniel Buysse, a sleep researcher at the University of Pittsburgh. The pressure itself interferes with sleep - and the pattern is repeated night after night.

Down through the years with the Pill

Some important dates in the 50-year history of the Pill:

- Oct. 15, 1951 - Carl Djerassi synthesizes the first pure crystalline female hormone, progesterone, into a substance he calls norethindrone. He, at first, does not realize its potential as a contraceptive agent.
• 1953 - Alfred Kinsey publishes "Sexual Behavior in the Human Female," which suggests that women are sexual beings.
• 1955 - G.D. Searle, an American pharmaceutical company, is granted the first patent on a similar synthetic hormone. (It differs only in the location of one of its carbon double bonds.) This is the chemical used in the production of the first commercial pill.
• 1957 - C.H. Roph writes about the scientific quest for "The Pill." It's the first time the now common accepted euphemism appears in print.
• Aug. 18, 1960 - That first pill, now Enovid 10, is licensed by the Food and Drug Administration and made available in the United States.
• 1962 - Helen Gurley Brown writes

"Sex and the Single Girl," which purports that single women have the right to sex and that acceptance of one's body as sexual is healthy.

• 1962 - The Diapnak, that package that aligned the pills in order and offered placebo on off days, was patented; 28 cases of death and thrombotic disease in women who take the Pill are reported.

• 1963 - Betty Friedan writes "The Feminine Mystique," which implies that true equality will never take place without complete reproductive freedom.

• 1970 - The AMA counsels doctors to give their patients every available piece of information about the benefits and risks of the drug. The advent of packaging inserts is resented by doctors as an intrusion on their authority. Lengthy, complicated, in tiny print, the inserts are eventually criticized as serving more to protect the manufacturer from liability than the patient from side effects.

• 1972 - The Supreme Court effectively extends the right of birth control to unmarried couples.

American women. In 76 countries, it is the most popular of any kind of birth control.

And 50 years after we could, for the first time ever, scientifically, physiologically and biochemically alter women's bodies so that sex could be separate from reproduction, we are chafed at the Pill for that?

That is, did the Pill loosen the biological confines on women's lives, or did it just loosen our moralists? Is it responsible for a culture that allows each of us glorious space to grow and flourish? Or is it responsible for a culture that has destroyed manhood, the family and women in the process?

Did it create a drug culture that wanted chemicals to fix our lives instead of to merely heal us?

Did it make women go to the doctor more, or trust them less? Did it ultimately play to our human strengths, or to our weaknesses?

One famous philosopher - his name is Ashley Montagu - calls

its manufacture as important as the discovery of fire and the invention of tools.

An evolutionary anthropologist - his name is Lonel Tiger - argues that the Pill has alienated men from their own role in reproduction, and with less control over their own sexuality, they lost control altogether. All of which has led to the evolutionary triumph of the female psyche.

Oh, my. It was supposed to end overpopulation, you know. But 76 million new bodies are still added to the Earth every year.

It was supposed to end unwanted pregnancy. Yet 56 percent of all pregnancies in the United States are still unplanned ones.

It didn't end abortion. The ambitious chemist Carl Djerassi lives in Northern California now. He writes plays and owns great art and, by the way, did not get rich because of the Pill, but because of other things. He makes no apologies for being an ambitious chemist. He is sorry only that it wasn't a

woman chemist who made this thing it would have been easier, he said, if it didn't seem like men had foisted the whole thing upon women somehow.

There are gains and losses to be summed here. We asked some prominent folks to tell us what they thought the cultural impact of the Pill has been.

We also note that no less than John Updike has weighed in on the debate. Wrote he, in The New Yorker, in a piece that neither defies nor demonizes the Pill.

"The sideways glance, the glimpse of underwear, the whiff of perfume, the perhaps accidental touch, the intimacy achieved bit by bit, like a painstaking mapping of the heavens - all this would be forfeit in a Platonic act of consummation in demand. We value what we need to fight for. We risk allowing sex to seem paltry."

And lastly, know that in recent years, the Food and Drug Administration has considered making the Pill available without prescription. That debate also continues.

Gifts

Continued from B1. Game Cube (\$200) give you pause, consider Nintendo's son of Game Boy - small, portable and, by comparison, relatively cheap (\$90-\$100). Lots of games available, \$30-\$45.

Cell phones

These ubiquitous instruments aren't bigticket items anymore - \$25-\$475, and usually less if you sign up for a calling plan. Ericsson, the world's second-largest cell phone manufacturer, is even giving some of its phones away in some U.S. markets.

Wristwatch

\$15-\$150 for the everyday design, in every conceivable variety and color.

Dinner at a restaurant

Most locally owned and franchised restaurants in the Twin Falls area sell gift certificates.

Stoneware

A wide variety of prices depending on manufacturer and quality, the beauty of this gift is that you can find a piece - be it four place settings or a cream

pitcher - to match your budget.

Breakfast in bed

It'll cost you a bottle of orange juice (\$2) and a box of corn flakes (\$2.50), and you'll have to make your own gift certificate. But the customized gift - however simple - is often the best last-minute gift of all.

Flowers

Don't bet on it. By this stage in the holiday season, many florists have more orders than they can handle and refuse new ones. Besides, getting them delivered by quitting time on Christmas Eve is dicey.

As an alternative, consider making your own floral arrangement.

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Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at crump@magical-ley.com

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NATION

Gas prices tumble to lowest level in three years

CAMARILLO, Calif. (AP) - Gasoline prices fell an average of 3 cents a gallon nationwide in the last two weeks to their lowest level in nearly three years.

But motorists shouldn't expect the trend to last much longer. Pump prices could bottom out as early as January, as retailers try to halt sliding profits, oil prices continue to rise, and major oil-producing nations implement an expected production cut, said Tribby Lundberg, an industry analyst, in a report issued Sunday.

Prices have fallen the past 15 weeks, tumbling 44.61 cents a gallon since Sept. 7, when the national average weighted price for all three grades was \$1.56 a gallon.

On Dec. 21 the weighted average was \$1.12, according to the national Lundberg survey.

In March 1999, gasoline averaged \$1.08 a gallon, unadjusted for inflation.

The ongoing decline has amazed some analysts because the cost of crude oil has risen steadily the last five weeks. Normally, gasoline and crude oil prices move in tandem.

Factors beyond the price of crude are in play.

There's an unusual glut of gasoline in the market, and the weaker economy is forcing gas stations to compete more heavily for drivers' business.

By January, supplies should be closer to normal, and although economic conditions aren't expected to improve much in the short term, retailers will be forced to raise their prices shortly if they expect to stay profitable, Lundberg said.

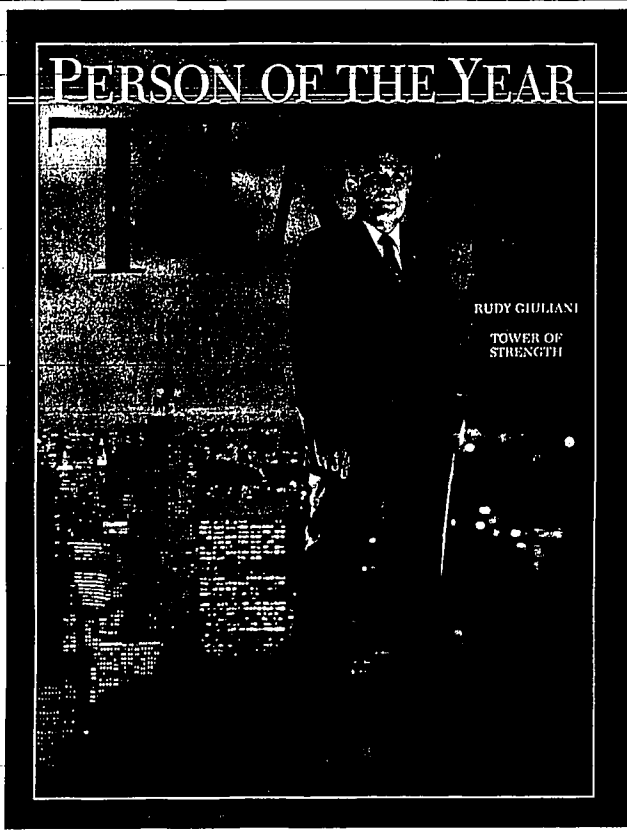
Sale of TV station highlights media's growing pains

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The explosion of Hispanic and Chinese populations in the United States during the past decade has been a boon for ethnic media that cater to people with limited English. But now the two are coming into conflict.

In the San Francisco Bay area, the nation's largest Spanish-language network, Univision, is expanding and plans to buy the city's primary Mandarin-language station, KPST. That would leave Chinese residents with just one viewing option, the primarily Cantonese-language KTSF.

The Chinese immigrant community is separated by language, with many people from Beijing and Taiwan speaking Mandarin and those from Hong Kong and southern China largely speaking Cantonese.

So the planned media buyout isn't welcome news for people like Cheuk-Wah Chan, an elderly



New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani was named Time magazine's Person of the Year in this cover picture released on Sunday.

immigrant from Hong Kong who lives in San Francisco's Chinatown.

"With the language factor, she would have a hard time," said her son-in-law, Albert Wang, a Fremont physician.

Several community groups and politicians have asked the Federal Communications Commission to require Univision to maintain KPST's 4 1/2 hours of Chinese programming, which includes news, variety shows and soap operas.

"There is a very strong dependence on those programs for news and information about everything ranging from the current war to more local issues," said Diane Chin, executive director of San Francisco-based Chinese for Affirmative Action.

Spanish-speaking immigrants appear to be the biggest beneficiaries of the surge in ethnic media: Hispanic networks

Univision and Telemundo Communications Group Inc. are growing exponentially, with viewers quadrupling since 1990, according to analysts.

To a lesser extent, Chinese have also benefited. The number of Asian media outlets has risen approximately 250 percent since 1990, to about 600 across the country, according to Jimmy Lee of Los Angeles-based Imada Wong Communications Group.

But while the Chinese immigrant community is divided by Cantonese and Mandarin, Spanish-language television can reach immigrants from Peru to Mexico with equal effectiveness.

Univision, which says it reaches 93 percent of Hispanic households in the United States, announced plans earlier this year to buy KPST and more than a dozen other stations in an effort to launch a new Spanish-language network, Telefuturo.

Report: Group asks Muhammad Ali to film announcement

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Muhammad Ali has been recruited by a Hollywood entertainment industry group for a public service announcement explaining America's war on terrorism to Muslims around the world.

The boxer, who converted to Islam in the 1960s and refused to serve in the military when drafted during the Vietnam war, has been asked to film a one-minute spot to be aired on international networks, said Hope Boonshaft, executive vice president of external affairs for Sony Pictures Entertainment.

"He has agreed in concept," said Boonshaft, who heads the international committee of the so-called Hollywood 9/11 group of

studio executives, producers, directors and writers trying to aid the war effort.

Final details about the content of the video have not been worked out. A final agreement is not expected until the 59-year-old Ali reviews the final concept, Boonshaft said.

Ali's spokeswoman, Jill Siegel, did not immediately return calls on Sunday.

"Ali's name kept coming up when we considered people who are credible, well known around the world and can deliver the message that this is not a war on Islam but a war on terrorism," Boonshaft said.

The public service announcement would be the first

Hollywood 9/11 project for overseas consumption. The group overseen by the Motion Picture Association of America has dispatched entertainers and filmed messages to Americans at home and serving abroad since its formation last month after a meeting with Karl Rove, a senior adviser to President Bush.

Ali appeared on a Sept. 21 entertainment industry telethon to raise money for attack victims and their families. Boonshaft said that appearance had an impact on his choice for the video.

During the telethon, Ali told the audience, "Islam is peace. It's against killing, murder, and the terrorists, and the people doing that in the name of Islam are

wrong. And if I had a chance, I'd do something about it."

The announcement would be designed to air in several languages over networks like Al Jazeera, the Middle East Broadcasting Centre and the Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation. The stations have not yet been contacted by the Hollywood group.

The group hopes to complete the video by late January.

Time names Giuliani 'Person of the Year'

NEW YORK (AP) - Heralded for his steadfast response to a grief-torn city after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani on Sunday was named Time magazine's Person of the Year.

"I was stunned, a little," Giuliani said at a news conference Sunday. "It was really strange. It's hard to think of yourself that way."

The magazine's editor chose Giuliani "for having more faith in us than we had in ourselves, for being brave when required and rude where appropriate and tender without being trite, for not sleeping and not quitting and not shrinking from the pain all around him."

The mayor shared the praise with New Yorkers.

"I get all the credit resting on the shoulders of these people that have had one of the most heroic three months I think any people have ever had," he said.

The award's criteria was set by Time founder Henry Luce. "The person or persons who most affected the lives of our lives, for good or ill, this year."

Managing Editor Jim Kelly said he knew on Sept. 11 that the Person of the Year would have some connection to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Editors spent hours debating whether to name Osama bin Laden, the prime suspect in the terror assault, for the spot, Kelly said.

But bin Laden was "too small a man to get the credit for all that has happened in America in the autumn of 2001," the magazine said. "It is what came after his men had finished their job that has come to define this year."

Giuliani agreed with that judgment.

"I think it's much better that I was selected as a representative of the people of New York City

rather than him," the mayor said at his news conference. "His ultimate objective was obviously not just to kill people, his objective was to destroy the spirit of America. The spirit of America is now stronger than it has ever been before."

The Person of the Year package includes an oral history of Sept. 11 as told by Giuliani and his aides. The issue hits newsstands on Monday, one week before Giuliani's last day in office after eight years.

Giuliani was barred by term limits from seeking a third consecutive term - Michael Bloomberg will be sworn in as mayor at midnight on Dec. 31.

Giuliani, 57, departs amid an outpouring of praise that contrasts with the period prior to Sept. 11, when newspapers were full of tidbits about his divorce and accounts of his angry public outbursts.

Giuliani had his share of difficulties - from a series of fatal police shootings of unarmed black men in which he reflexively defended the officers, to a losing battle with the Brooklyn Museum of Art over what he labeled "indecent" art.

But in the span of a few days, Giuliani's unusually gentle handling of a city in despair after the attacks vaulted him from being regarded as a grumpy lame duck politician who had run out of ideas to a civic saint mentioned for the Nobel Prize.

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Argentina gets a new president

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — Adolfo Rodríguez Saá, a provincial governor, was inaugurated as Argentina's interim president Sunday, saying he will suspend payment of a crushing foreign debt — a move that risks the biggest sovereign default in history.

The announcement by the 54-year-old leader, who was sworn in days after deadly riots drove predecessor Fernando de la Rúa from power, prompted a rousing ovation from Congress. Minutes earlier, it had voted 169-38 to appoint him as caretaker president following a night-long debate and wrangling.

Rushing to fill the term vacated last week by de la Rúa during a popular rebellion, Rodríguez Saá is to rule pending the results of a special election on March 3.

"Let's take the bull by the horns. We are not to talk about the foreign debt," Rodríguez Saá said in his inaugural address. "The Argentine state will suspend the payment of the foreign debt."

"All the resources allocated in the budget to pay the foreign debt will be dedicated instead to create jobs while debt payment remains suspended," Rodríguez Saá added. "The social emergency is Argentina's most serious problem."

"Argen-Ti-na, Argen-Ti-na!" legislators and the public chanted as he spoke.

But the new president made clear that suspending payments on the \$132 billion debt does not mean repudiating it and that his interim government will seek an early dialogue with creditors.

Argentina's situation is very difficult, I ask for help," Rodríguez Saá said three days after deadly rioting and looting forced de la Rúa to resign. Twenty-seven people were killed and hundreds injured.

Rodríguez Saá said his priority would be to help pull Argentina out of a four-year recession that has left nearly 40 percent of the 36 million population in poverty. Some 18 percent are out of a job.

The measures announced by Rodríguez Saá mark a radical shift, bringing the country closer to an all-out default on the foreign debt and threatening to plunge Argentina back into inflationary chaos.

He ruled out a devaluation and dismissed calls to replace Argentina's currency, the peso, with the U.S. dollar. Instead, he announced without elaboration plans to introduce a new "third currency."

He also vowed to distribute food among poor families and to create 1 million jobs. "Whatever an Argentine family exists without a job, that will be our priority," he said.

Rodríguez Saá's announcement on suspension of the foreign debt payment won widespread support, especially from his Peronist Party, now returning to power after two years in opposition.

Support also came from ordinary Argentines, who often complained they were paying a stiff price for de la Rúa's policies and the restrictions he imposed in order to pay the debt.

The restrictions including a partial freeze on access to bank accounts — a measure expected to be lifted soon.

"It did the right thing in not paying foreign debt now," said Franco Cordero, a diplomat in Rome. "We've got to get things in order. There is a lot of poverty."



Prime Minister Tony Blair holds his son Leo as he stands outside 10 Downing Street in London earlier this year.

British prime minister's son gets caught in vaccine debate

LONDON (AP) — Leo Blair doesn't know he's in the middle of a political tussle, but his dad the prime minister is seething at opposition lawmakers and media he accuses of trying to invade the 19-month-old's privacy.

Tony Blair lashed out over the weekend at critics demanding to know if his youngest son has received a childhood immunization that some fear may be linked to autism. The Blairs have always tried to protect the privacy of their four children.

Blair refused to answer on the grounds it infringed his son's privacy as the issue rapidly dominated national news headlines. Several national newspapers sharply criticized Blair for not answering the question.

But the prime minister did say he and his wife, Cherie, believe the advice given to the government — that there is "overwhelming" evidence that the combined measles, mumps and rubella, or MMR, vaccine is safe.

Britain's national health system

recommends all children get the shot.

The vaccine is generally given to children at around age 2. At least one study on the vaccine has linked it with an increase in the incidence of autism, a severe neurological disorder.

Children with autism generally have difficulty communicating, may become obsessed with repetitive motions, such as head rolling, and often are intolerant of changes in their environment. They also may have learning difficulties.

In an April study, the U.S. Institute of Medicine, part of the National Academy of Sciences, concluded that while "the evidence favors rejection" of a connection to autism, it "does not exclude the possibility that MMR vaccine could in rare cases contribute" to autism or related disorders in a small number of children.

In a statement, Blair said: "The suggestion that the government is advising parents to have the

MMR jab whilst we are deliberately refraining from giving our child the treatment because we know it is dangerous, is offensive beyond belief."

Blair said parents, including himself and his wife, did not have to rely on the advice of the government's chief medical officer alone about the vaccine but could draw on the "overwhelming" advice from virtually every reputable independent source, including the World Health Organization and Britain's Royal College of Pediatricians.

"They can rely also on the again overwhelming research that has found the alleged link between autism and MMR to be unfounded," he said.

Opposition Conservative lawmaker Julie Kirkbride, who challenged Blair in Parliament over the issue, told the BBC: "We are politicians and we tell the public what to do, and I think the public have a right to know whether we apply those same standards in our own lives."

Israeli, Palestinian leaders draft peace plan

The Washington Post

JERUSALEM — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres and Palestinian parliament speaker Ahmed Qureia have drafted a new middle East peace plan that calls for Israel to recognize a Palestinian state within eight weeks, Israeli newspapers reported Sunday.

Publicly, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat dismissed the proposal as the fantasy of two old dreamers, moonlighting with no one's approval. But privately officials on both sides

noted the proposal's reference to an "interim agreement" of a Palestinian state on 42 percent of the West Bank and most of Gaza — the area now controlled by the Palestinian authority — exactly the language he used four months ago.

Palestinian spokesman Yasser Abd-Rabbo said in an "interview," "there is nothing in it; it is a very stupid idea" devised by "that crazy Sharon." Abd-Rabbo said that calling the proposal entity a state "does nothing" except excite the imagination.

"Does he want us to go through language tunnels?" he said of Peres. "He has a verbal solution for everything."

Under the reported plan, a Palestinian State would be established in two months in areas already under Palestinian Authority control. Other issues, such as Jewish settlements, resettlement of refugees and the status of Jerusalem — would be settled later.

Sharon and Arafat knew about the meetings between Peres and Qureia, the same duo whose secret talks led to the 1993 Oslo peace accord.

And in the current atmosphere, even the tiniest hint of a breakthrough counts as something.

Under the reported plan, a Palestinian state would be established in two months in areas already under Palestinian Authority control. Other issues, such as Jewish settlements, resettlement of refugees and the status of Jerusalem — would be settled later.

Sharon said raising such a proposal now "causes serious damage to Israel," and called reports that he knew about the meetings "unfounded fantasy." Other members of Sharon's Likud party said Peres should cease negotiations immediately or resign, and proposed passing a resolution reiterating that no negotiations could begin until Arafat enforces a ceasefire.

But Nahum Barnea, a columnist for the Yediot Ahronoth newspaper who was leaked the draft proposal, said it was "highly improbable" that Sharon did not know about the talks — although it was possible he did not think the proposal would work in the current atmosphere.

Eran Lehrman, a former Israeli intelligence official who now heads the Jerusalem office of the American Jewish Committee,

A Palestinian official speaking anonymously said Qureia and Arafat had discussed the proposal, and Arafat had asked him to try to win better terms, particularly in concessions on Israeli troop withdrawal from certain West Bank towns.

Throughout the day, Arafat was much more consumed by Sharon's announcement that the Israelis would not let him travel to Bethlehem for Christmas Eve celebrations, which he has attended since 1995 when the town came under the control of the Palestinian Authority. Arafat has been effectively confined to the West Bank town of Ramallah since Israeli security forces destroyed his helicopter and airstrip earlier this month. He said Sunday he would show up at the Caladiah checkpoint — the only exit from Ramallah on the road south to Jerusalem and Bethlehem — to see what the Israelis would do. The Israeli-tightened security at the checkpoint.

In the meantime, residents of Bethlehem prepared for Arafat's arrival. They set up a helicopter pad, and welcomed his security forces to sweep through the town.

By some accounts, the decision was bucking on the Israelis. The European Union and the U.S. Embassy urged Sharon to change his mind. Peres and other Labor party leaders also objected.

Arafat says he will defy Israel's order barring him from Bethlehem

JERUSALEM — Yasser Arafat vowed Sunday to defy an Israeli order barring him from Christmas Eve celebrations in Bethlehem, declaring he would make his annual pilgrimage to Jesus' birthplace even if he has to walk to the stone plaza in Manger Square.

Arafat and the Israelis appeared headed for a showdown Monday evening that seemed to capture the convoluted nature of the conflict: the Jewish state banned Arafat, a Muslim, from attending a Christian religious service in a town that is under Arafat's control.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's Security Cabinet voted 8-6 to slap the restriction on Arafat, saying he had failed to "dismantle Palestinian terror groups or stop terror attacks against Israel."

Arafat, who has effectively been confined to the West Bank town of Ramallah in recent weeks, said, "no one has the right to prevent us from fulfilling our

World in brief

duty to God, despite all kinds of weapons and M-16s that (the Israelis) have."

Suspicion grows that ship might have been spy vessel

TOKYO — The label on a life jacket and the writing on a candy bag found Sunday added to suspicion that a trawler sunk in a clash with the Japanese coast guard may have been a North Korean spy ship, Japanese officials said.

The bodies of two crew members were recovered near the spot where the vessel sank Saturday. One man was wearing a life jacket with a Korean label, Japan Coast Guard official Shigehiro Sakamoto told a news conference Sunday. An empty candy bag with Korean writing was found in the other man's pocket.

It was not immediately known

whether the articles were manufactured in communist North Korea or democratic South Korea, which share the same language.

Autopsies were planned for Monday to determine whether the men committed suicide to avoid capture — a characteristic of past North Korean intelligence operations.

South Korean president apologizes to country

SEOUL, South Korea — President Kim Dae-jung apologized to his nation Sunday for the arrest of his former presidential secretary on bribery charges.

"President Kim Dae-jung feels regretful and is very sorry to the people," chief presidential spokesman Oh Hong-keun told reporters.

Former aide Shin Kwang-ack was arrested Saturday on charges of taking \$14,000 in bribes from Choi Tae-gon, a ruling party official,

last year. Shin, who resigned as the vice justice minister last week, has denied the charges.

The arrest was another blow to the Kim government's popularity ahead of next year's presidential election.

Prosecutors said Choi, a ruling Millennium Democratic Party official, bribed Shin on behalf of a businessman seeking influence with politicians and government officials.

Cable cars begin operating at site of Alpine tunnel fire

VIENNA, Austria — New cable cars went into operation Sunday at the Alpine resort town of Kaprun, where 155 people died last year after the cable car they

were riding caught fire.

The cable car was heading up the mountain and into a tunnel on Nov. 11, 2000, when smoke began pouring out of the rear of the car.

Once inside the tunnel, the cable car came to a standstill and the electric doors failed to open, trapping people inside. Twelve people survived by breaking through a window.


Investigators traced the disaster to a defective and illegally installed space heater that caused hydraulic brake oil in nearby pipes to overheat.

Most of the victims were from Austria and Germany; eight were Americans, and the rest came from Japan, Slovenia and Croatia.

— compiled from wire reports

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SYMPTOMS

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Woman who passed up teaching offers advice



DEAR ABBY
Abigail VanBuren

DEAR ABBY: I am 29 years old and have been reading your column since I was 10. Becoming a high school teacher was always my dream. I graduated from college with a degree, but not in secondary education. I needed to begin working full time to support myself, so I never considered going back to school to certify.

Because I admire the field of education, I offer this tiny contribution for teachers everywhere:

Teacher-Parent Agreement
I will teach your child to read - if you teach your child to have an open mind.

I will show your child how to solve a math question - if you show your child how to solve higher problems.

I will tell your child about war and its aftermath - if you tell your child to treat others with equality.

I will introduce your child to Shakespeare - if you introduce

when people feel they have a calling, they should follow it.

It's never too late to realize your dream. With your degree, perhaps you could begin working now as a substitute teacher. There is a great need. It could serve as a giant step toward getting you back on track. Please consider it.

DEAR ABBY: I am 100-plus pounds overweight. My husband has repeatedly asked me to lose weight but I have not. We no longer make love.

My husband is cordial and continues to provide beautifully for me and the kids - he's a great dad.

Do you think it's fair that he is withholding sex from me? I think he expects too much, as I love to eat. Now he has moved to another bedroom and claims he is turned off sexually.

-FRUSTRATED WIFE

DEAR WIFE: Although everyone has the "right" to weigh whatever he or she wishes, your weight gain has jeopardized your marriage.

By moving to another bedroom, your husband has given you an important message: Your marriage is in serious trouble. If you think it is worth saving, ask your doctor for a referral to a registered dietitian so you can begin to lose the extra pounds you have put on.

Next, consult a psychotherapist. The fact that you have chosen your love for food over your love for your husband needs to be addressed.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: Have a Merry Christmas, but please keep in mind: If you're drinking, don't drink.

ACROSS

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- 4 Bandwidth
- 11 Further/more
- 14 Tombstone inscription
- 15 Smoked salmon
- 16 Floral noisette
- 17 Author of "Our Game"
- 18 Pointed
- 20 Deuce topper
- 21 Middle East oil gulf nation
- 22 Photo finish
- 24 Hot tub
- 26 Full of energy
- 31 Restaurant
- 37 Remain floating
- 39 Supreme
- 41 Under discussion
- 43 Counterfeit a
- 44 Bristle
- 45 Body of water - formed in 1905
- 46 Bay
- 47 Knot of the head
- 48 Proficient
- 50 Whop
- 51 Instruments with curved bows
- 52 AOL, e.g.
- 53 Heartbreak
- 57 Threat in favor
- 60 Supply of BB's
- 64 Micro push
- 66 Distinct studio
- 68 Hit a bit
- 69 S and so on
- 70 Daydream
- 71 Elixir tuber
- 72 Keep it quiet!
- 73 Trappers

DOWN

- 1 Bombard
- 2 Mimic

Saturday's Puzzle Bolded

MONDAYS	ERIEA	SIER
ROGIA	LESE	RYLE
ANTITIS	MASE	LELL
LOS	ONESH	ITRI
SWAT	TE	RENURS
GLYT	RUM	TEACH
REV	AL	TISSE
GARDEN	REIER	PRUJO
S	ONER	PLATE
OOT	UTAH	SUTURE
PLASTERED	DURE	S
TI	LI	ELIGHT
STEW	SETH	DAITS

Your family will make this evening worthwhile, Gemini

IF DECEMBER 24TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you have unusual vision, are spiritual and at same time physically attractive. You can make up for many faults by being close to family; you can be counted on to help out in times of emergency. Taurus, Libra and Scorpio individuals play major roles in your life, could have these letters in names: F, O, X. You've done a splendid job at work in 2002; you continue to dispense services and will enjoy compliments, appreciation.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Gifts exchanged will show mark of originality. You will be ultra-pleased; expect appreciation without being obsequious. Taurus, Scorpio figure prominently.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Be ready for change, travel and variety of experiences. Keep options open; your presence will be requested by twins, Gemini, Virgo and Sagittarius play roles.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You'll enjoy this Christmas Eve by including family and remaining close to home. Christmas noels tug at your heart; realize you can do just so much. Music plays!

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't take promises too literally; maintain aura of mystery and get in the spirit of the holiday. Pisces, Virgo persons play significant roles. Don't be overly sentimental.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This will be a memorable Christmas Eve. Visitor from "distant city" will appear and add to festivities. Turn on charm and power. People rely upon you to dispel mystery of holiday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A sort of "quiz show" will prevail.

HOROSCOPE

Sydney Omar

Humor helps in understanding "the greatest story." Look beyond the immediate. Help others to understand this holiday.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Do not mind remaining in background; people sense your power and appreciate that you play behind-scenes role. Imprint style, have much to do with making this evening enjoyable.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Like Libra, remain in background as much as possible. Surprise engagement announcement could top festivities. Accept gifts graciously; songfest will be in your honor.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Diversity, utilize innate artistic talent to decorate and remodel. You will receive numerous compliments, most of them sincere. Gemini will play dramatic role.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Scorpio individual will live party. Don't let others upstage you, but remain modest. A Christmas wish will be fulfilled; this will come as genuine surprise. Leo plays engaging role.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You could be asked to play "Santa Claus" role. You will receive reading material that proves fascinating and educational. Gemini, Virgo and Sagittarius lend assistance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You will be urged to "come out of hiding place." Be close to family member who has financial information to disclose. Taurus, Libra and Scorpio figure in dynamic scenario.

M & M's got a start in the military

To that lengthy list of commodities that got their start with sales to the military, please add M & M's candy, offered in 1940 as a "quick energy" ration.

Q. Kings have had harems of women, but have any queens had harems of men?

A. A few. One Queen Kahena, a Berber in Northwest Africa, kept on her premises 400 male gigolos. Most queens have not found it necessary to house their playmates behind locked doors, however. That's only necessary, if said playmates are inclined to run away.

Q. Where do lady nudists put their makeup?

A. All over. Do you mean where do they keep it? Most carry purses.

Client suggests: If you think the hand is quicker than the eye, try getting dollie's worth of gas out of a self-service pump. Approximately twice as many women as men have an extra rib. It's close to the neck, usual.

Florida man faces charges after allegedly biting police dog

Knight Rider News Service

MIAMI - And now for something completely different: Man bites dog.

A. Margate, Fla., man, intoxicated and hiding out in a junked car after a hit-and-run accident, allegedly grabbed Vader, a Broward Sheriff's Office canine, and bit him on the back of the neck and around the right eye late Wednesday, law officers say.

"Soon as I saw him pull the dog into the car, I knew it was a bad situation for the dog," said Sheriff's Deputy Frank Maio, Vader's handler.

It turned out to be a bad situation for the suspect - 28-year-old Dana Michael Murphy - as well.

Murphy suffered bites from the 96-pound German shepherd and was treated at North Broward Medical Center. Then he was hauled off to jail. He faces eight charges, includ-

REVISITED

L.M. Boyd

ly. Sometimes it causes pain in the shoulder and arm. One out of every 167 people are so endowed.

Q. When does your hair start growing?

A. About six months before you're born.

That phrase "pleased as punch" alludes to the Punch and Judy puppet.

In the matter of automobiles, it has been said, women buy chassis, men buy motors. Our Love and War man concurs, but notes that's not true of men and women in their consideration of each other, wherein the opposite holds: Men buy chassis,

women buy motors. An ordinary drinking glass is called a "tumbler" because early cups had round bottoms.

Dialogue: Sweet Young Thing to Artist: "Would you like to paint me in the nude?" Artist to Sweet Young Thing: "Okay by me, but I'll have to wear socks. I need a place to put my brushes."

It's claimed cable has changed TV from a vast wasteland to a vast toilet.

A New Yorker in a big shiny car pulled over to the side of a Vermont road to watch an old-timer plow the rockiest field in miles. Finally, the New Yorker said, "Man, how can you make a living on land like this?" The oldtimer said, "Mister, I'm not as poor as it looks. I don't own this place."

Q. What's McGovern's Law?

A. "The longer the title, the less important the job."

LAMPHOUSE THEATRE

223 S. IVINS ST. • 735-8690

CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Log on to www.magicvalley.com



Send some Holiday Cheer to our U.S. Military. Greetings To and From Armed Forces Personnel

Submit a Holiday Message to a specific person or unit, or to the Armed Forces in general.

or you can mail your greeting to: "Holiday Home Front Greetings" P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 and we will post it online for you.

For more information call Pat @ 735-3288.

Applications available for seasonal fire fighting jobs on Sawtooth National Forest

...are now taking applications for 20 fire crew positions for the upcoming fire season.

Job locations are in Stanley, Ketchum, and Red Rock Creek (South of Stanley), (Twin Falls, Malta and Halley.)

Applicants must be 18 years old, a U.S. citizen and be able to pass a physical fitness test.

Locally, applications may be picked up at the Forest Service Office at 2647 Kimberly Road East in Twin Falls. You may call 737-3200 Monday-Friday, 8 am-5 pm, to get an application mailed to you.

Electronic applications are available through the Internet at fsjobs@fed.us. For more information call 1-877-813-3476

MOVIES

Historic Orpheum

100 Main Twin Falls 735-3300

Will Smith is ALI (R) STARTS DECEMBER 25TH 2:00 - 7:30

Jerome 4 Cinema

918 West Main Jerome 735-2400

Majestic (PG) TODAY 1:00 - 3:15
Joe Somebody (PG)
Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45
Jimmy Neutron (G)
Today 12:45 - 2:55 - 5:05
Lord of the Rings (R) Today 12:30

the ODYSSEY 6

Inside Magic Valley Mall North Entrance
Today 12:00 - 12:30

Black Knight (R)
Today 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50
Oceans II (R) Today 1:00 - 3:10
Out Cold (R) Today 12:15 - 3:30 - 5:30

How High (R)
Today 12:30 - 2:40 - 4:50
No Greater Love (R)
Today 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:10
The Heat (R) Today 1:00 - 3:30

Twin Cinema 12

1000 Main Twin Falls 735-2000

Jimmy Neutron, Boy Genius (G)
Today 12:30-2:45-5:00
Spy Games (R) Today 4:45
Harry Potter, Sorcerer's Stone (PG)
Today 12:30 - 12:50 - 3:30 - 4:00
Lord of the Rings (R)
Today 12:00 - 1:00 - 2:00
Vanilla Sky (R) Today 12:30 - 3:30
Maidie (PG) Today 12:30 - 3:30
Shallow Hal (R) Today 4:45
Joe Somebody (PG)
Today 12:00 - 2:15 - 4:30
Monsters, Inc. (G) Walt Disney
Today 12:00 - 2:15 - 4:30

Special Holiday \$100 Movies
Max Keeble's Big Move (R) 2:00 - 4:30
Walt Disney's Atlantis (R) 2:00 - 4:30

COMICS

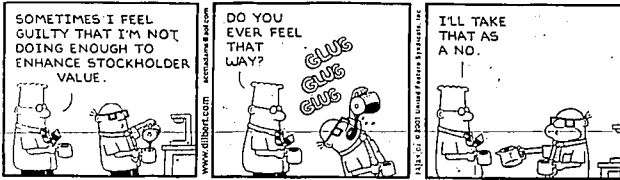
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



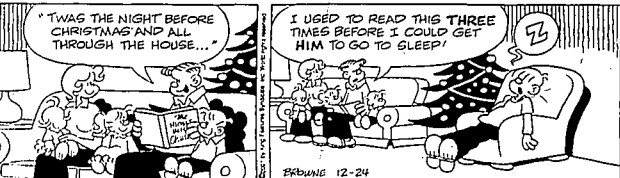
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hi and Lois

By Chance Brown



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



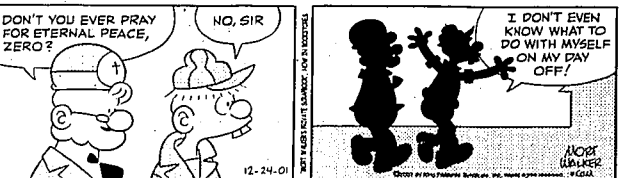
Hagar the Horrible

By Chis Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



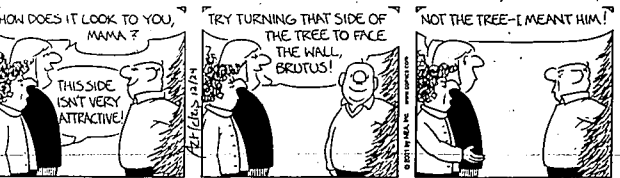
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crandall

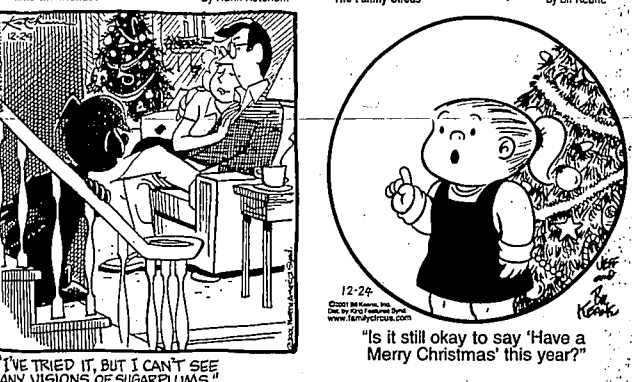


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



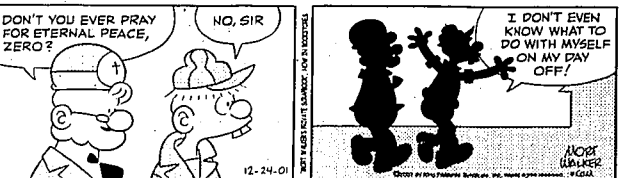
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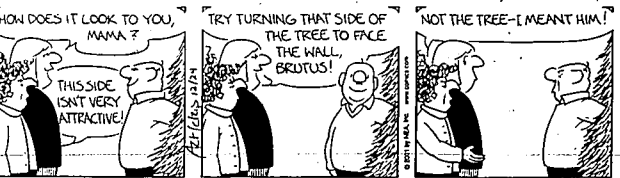
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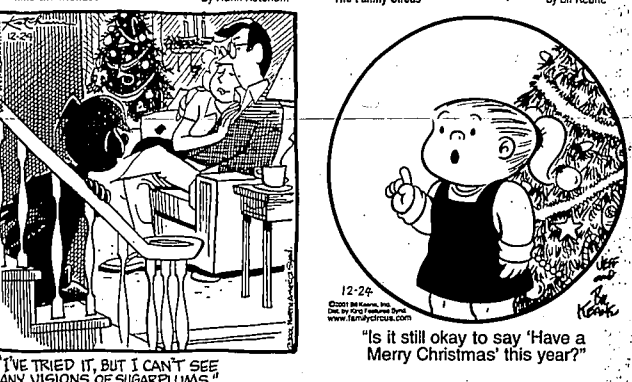


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans



Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



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Table with columns: PUBLICATION DAY, DEADLINE, DAY. Rows include Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

Payment Options



THESE FINE CARDS, CASH, CHECK AND MONEY ORDERS ARE ACCEPTED FOR PRE-PAYMENT.

Policies: All advertising is subject to the newspapers' standards of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, decline or properly classify any ad.



Grid of classified ads including categories like LEGAL, FINANCIAL, REAL ESTATE RENTALS, EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT, AGRICULTURE, MERCHANDISE, RECREATION, and COUNSELOR.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing will be held before the Twin Falls County Planning and Zoning Commission...

A CONDITIONAL USE LAND DIVISION by Richard Murphy on property consisting of approximately one hundred and sixty (160.0) acres in Section 25, Township 11 South, Range 18 East, B.M. and addressed approximately 3050 North 4400 East...

A CONDITIONAL USE LAND DIVISION by Don Smith on property consisting of approximately one hundred and eighty (180.0) acres in Section 17, Township 10 South, Range 16 East, B.M. and addressed 2428 East 3600 North...

A CONDITIONAL USE LAND DIVISION by Dean Moyle on property consisting of approximately forty-five (45.0) acres located in Section 1, Township 10 South, Range 16 East, B.M. and addressed 2600 North 2500 East...

Notice is further given that a Public Hearing will be held before the Twin Falls County Planning and Zoning Commission on the 19th day of January 2002...

PUBLISH: December 24, 2001

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On March 14, 2002 at the hour of 10:00 A.M. of said day at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

The default for which this sale is to be made is: Failure to pay the monthly payment due April 1, 2000 of principal, interest and impounds and subsequent instalments due thereafter...

PUBLISH: December 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2001

NOTICE OF PROPOSED SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Minidoka County Highway District proposes to ratify the proposed written agreement...

We are working to make our free of any errors.

Please check your ads for any mistakes the first day that it runs. After that time The Times-News will not be responsible for any mistakes.

FOUND Little girls wallet

Call to identify 736-7666.

LOST Madonna & Child canoe

Call 644-9052

LOST 2 dogs

Call 731-7362

PERSONALS

\$100 REWARD For information or return of my missing bike from my front porch. CALL 328-5690.

LOST male Golden Retriever

Collar & tags. Lost in Hagerman area. Reward: 324-8040 or 324-2375.

LOST male Siamese X cat

Vicinity of 11th Ave. E. Twin Falls. Call 734-5344.

LOST male Vizsla, (Rusty)

3 yrs. old, last seen TF area. Reward: 736-7660.

CARD OF THANKS

Reynolds Funeral Chapel and White Mortuary Thank you for the Christmas Goodies...

PERSONALS

SINGLET Ages 25-50. Pro brochure: 1-800-949-0411, www.HCentros.com

SPECIAL NOTICES

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 208-733-8300 & 726-4650

FAX YOUR AD

TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538 or 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!

ABORTION ALTERNATIVES

PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER FREE TESTS. Always Confidential. 734-7472

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

BANKRUPTCY Affordable & fast. Accidents, divorce & criminal matters. Brad Rice at 734-3387

BANKRUPTCY Competitive rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcies. Jeff Baker at 734-8452

LAW OFFICE Chapter 7 \$345. Uncontested divorce, \$295. Other services, 888-255-2398 days/eve.

THE HANDYMAN CAN Repair, Rubulid, Replace or Remove. Jim 326-4150

HEALTH & WELLNESS

GIFT OF HEALTH Complete health analysis, toxins and minerals from hair. Report and nutrition/supplement recommendations. By mail. \$55 (208)352-1146 www.inbliss.org

LEARN HOW TO LOSE 40 LBS. and keep it off!

Relieve 8am, 10 yrs old. Collar & tags. Lost in Hagerman area. Reward: 324-8040 or 324-2375.

CHILD CARE SERVICES

ADVENTURELAND DAYCARE Now has a few openings. All meals included, home environment. 734-3716

CASYS KIDS

Have 4 full time openings. Licensed, ICCP, CPR, meals incl. 732-5774

EMPLOYMENT MESSAGE

Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission...

ASKING QUESTIONS

Contact public opinion polls over the telephone. ABSOLUTELY NO SALES. Strictly research. \$7.00 to \$9.00 per hour. Casual work environment. Flexible hours, days & weeks. 15-30 hrs per week. Great part-time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more info, call 735-285311111111

AUTOMOTIVE

Full-time detailer with or without experience. Mechanically inclined is a plus. Call 1-324-1457 or apply in person at Country Auto in Jerome

CLERICAL

ABLE to handle multiple phones, exc. custom service. Exp. in Word & Excel. Bookkeeping skills req. Call 734-6452

DAIRY

Experienced milker needed. Housing available for right person. Apply in person. 3 1/2 miles South of Kimberly at 3332 North 3500 East Kimberly, ID

DRIVER

Overwanted to drive cattle truck. Some local, mainly out of state. Jerome, Idaho. Only experienced livestock drivers need apply. Call 208-324-7207 or 208-590-2888.

DRIVER

Now hiring for mixer driver/ laborer, full time, benefits. Class A CDL & T&N endorsement req. Apply at: Kleeper Inc. 751 Madrona St. South Equal Opportunity Employer

COUNSELOR

needed for the Mini Casla area. CADs required. Call 734-4200.

DAIRY

Exp. dairy herdsperson/ dairy feeder. 536-6512

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 21 days. Male/female, 21 years old, no high school diploma required. \$500-\$800 weekly. Medical, dental, 401K. No money out of pocket if qualified. On the spot job placement with tuition. Classes starting soon in Twin Falls. Call Now 800-900-0586.

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 21 days. Male/female, 21 years old, no high school diploma required. \$500-\$800 weekly. Medical, dental, 401K. No money out of pocket if qualified. On the spot job placement with tuition. Classes starting soon in Twin Falls. Call Now 800-900-0586.

Advertisement for 'Right now, someone in your area is looking for a dinner companion...' featuring photos of a man and a woman.

Let Heart 2 Heart help you meet someone special in your area.

Call 1-800-422-9283 to record your voice greeting from which a print ad will be created. Then, pick up the responses to your ad, all absolutely FREE.



