

# The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/97th year, No. 331

Wednesday, November 27, 2002

50 cents

## GOOD MORNING



### COMING UP

**A feast for readers**  
You'll want to get up early for our biggest paper of the year. You'll find local news in eight sections, including:  
• The Thanksgiving Survival Guide.  
• A ski season preview.  
• Your guide to holiday charities.  
• Community, Comunidad, Sports and Money.  
Plus a bushel of shopping inserts and lots of special features.

Thursday in The Times-News

### WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny and cool.  
High 42, low 20.  
Page A2

### MAGIC VALLEY

**Return to normal?** Idaho Power customers might see lower rates in the spring.  
Page C1

### MONEY

**Look ahead:** Albertson's CEO sees further consolidation in the grocery industry, and more high-tech shopping.  
Page D1

### SPORTS

**Significant step:** The CSI men's basketball team made a big bound in the latest poll.  
Page B1

### OPINION

**Losing the wheel:** Idaho state government agencies need more detailed accounts of car fleets, today's editorial says.  
Page A10

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**MILLIONAIRE MONEY INSIDE!**



# STEPPING UP



Leanne Trappen gets a load of turkeys to give away at the South Central Community Action Agency in Twin Falls on Tuesday. The agency gave away the makings for complete Thanksgiving dinners to more than 600 needy families.

## Food, cash donations mostly keep pace with needs

By Staff Writer  
Times-News writer

**BURLEY** - The consensus seems to be that more Magic Valley residents need assistance this holiday season, but some people have stepped up and met those needs by donating more.  
In fact, it's in communities where layoffs and shutdowns have occurred that donations this year exceed donations made a year ago.  
"It's been an interesting year," said Chris Curry, the northern counties program manager for the South Central Community Action Agency.  
In Jerome, nearly 60 people lost their jobs in October when the Tele-Servicing Innovations call center closed its office in that community to consolidate its

### How to help - A2

operations to a single call center in Burley. The Burley center closed - reportedly temporarily - Tuesday.  
But on Tuesday, Curry said both cash and food donations for the Thanksgiving food boxes are "very up." More donations than ever before, including more turkeys, have been made to the South Central Community Action Agency.  
Of course, there are more people applying for food assistance, Curry said. About 20 or 30 more applications have been submitted this year than last year. So far this year, some 67 applications have been filed, and people are still coming in, Curry said.

The same phenomenon is evident in Mini-Cassia, where Kraft, the J.R. Simplott Co. and TSI have laid off workers.  
The need for food assistance is increasing, said Becky Smith, South Central's program manager in Burley, but donations are up from last year too.  
One of the biggest donations this year came from the employees at Horizon Dairy in Paul, she said. All 80 employees donated the \$25 gift certificates for Thanksgiving groceries the company had given them to the South Central Community Action Agency.  
About 300 Mini-Cassia families applied for turkeys and all the fittings for a holiday meal, Smith said, and only about 75 of those requests will have to be filled with donations from the Twin

Falls South Central Community Action office. The Mini-Cassia community is taking care of its own, Smith said.  
Leanne Trappen, community service director in South Central Community Action Agency's Twin Falls office, said food donations increased in November. Local food drives sponsored by Smith's and Mix 103 Radio helped greatly. The "60 Hours to Fight Hunger" event sponsored by Mix 103 resulted in more than 1,500 turkeys for South Central Community Action Agency.  
"We're looking pretty positive," Trappen said. "The community really does step up to the plate when we need them to."  
Cash donations are still down. Trappen attributes that to more

Please see HELP, Page A2

## Burley call center closure puts 51 out of work

### Business will keep doors closed at least through holidays

By Virginia S. Hutchins  
Times-News writer

**BURLEY** - When Tele-Servicing Innovations Inc. employees showed up to work Tuesday, they learned the company is closing its Burley call center over the holidays, and perhaps longer.

Effective immediately. Workers were sent home without touching the phones Tuesday. They said the layoffs came as a surprise.  
"Just stunned. Just like anybody would be," said TSI employee Donald Quinn of Burley. The temporary layoffs affect all 51 of the call center's workers.

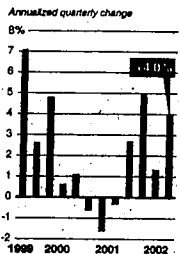
They hit Mini-Cassia in the wake of this fall's 168 permanent layoffs from J.R. Simplott Co.'s Heyburn potato-processing plant, and almost 50 at Kraft Foods North America's Rupert cheese plant.  
Factor in the possible cutbacks elsewhere as indirect effects of those layoffs, and the job-loss

total could easily approach 300. Right before the holidays.  
"That definitely hurts. And it hurts the families that are hit with the layoffs," said Idaho Department of Labor economist Greg Rogers.  
Some families will rethink Thanksgiving and Christmas plans.  
"We're stressing over how

Please see LAYOFFS, Page A2

### GDP

Here is a look at the gross domestic product, which measures all goods and services produced by workers and capital located in the United States, regardless of ownership.



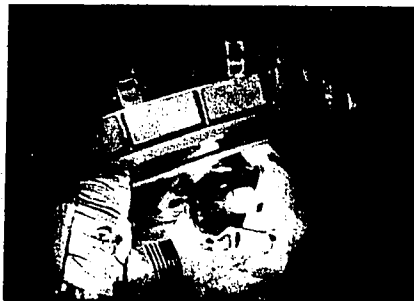
## Consumer confidence makes gains

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** - Consumers' confidence in the economy rebounded in November after sinking to a nine-year low, raising hopes that the holiday shopping season will see more Santas than Scrooges.  
Other reports on Tuesday also suggested the economy can get through its rough patch without sliding into a new recession: The economy grew more briskly in the summer than previously thought and new-home sales slowed in October but still posted the third best month on record.

Please see ECONOMY, Page A2

### GIRDING UP



Astronaut John Herrington works on a newly installed girder on the International space station Tuesday in this view from TV. See story on page A4.

## CSI fades in national tourney

The Times-News

**WEST PLAINS, Mo.** - No. 8 will have to wait.  
Defending national champion Miami-Dade Community College defeated the College of Southern Idaho with a 30-18, 30-20, 30-21 victory in the semifinals of the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Volleyball Championship on Tuesday in West Plains, Mo.  
A win would have given CSI (32-5) a chance at its eighth national championship. The Golden Eagles will play Lee College for third place today. Miami-Dade (31-0) meets host Southwest Missouri State-West Plains for the title today at 5 p.m. MST.  
For more on the tournament, see page B1.



## Bush keeps pressure on Saudis

The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** - The Bush administration is stepping up pressure on Saudi Arabia to block the flow of money to terrorists, and working groups throughout the U.S. government are considering ways to tighten controls worldwide.  
"The president believes that Saudi Arabia has been a good partner in the war against terrorism, but even a good partner like Saudi Arabia can do more," White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Tuesday.  
The U.S. drive, which extends beyond Saudi Arabia to several other countries, is being taken with care. The administration wants support from the Arab monarchy in the event of war with Saudi Arabia's neighbor Iraq, and two senior U.S. officials said the Saudis agree to "with a wink and a nod" - to help, provided use of its territory was limited.  
"We are working continually to find ways to help nations to do more and are exploring concrete ways to do it," Fleischer said.  
The working groups are focusing on drying up financial support for terror, but they have not settled on specific recommendations, and one has not yet been approved, another senior official said.  
"But it's appropriate to have a broad group look at a number of options, so it's helpful to have ideas kicked around," Fleischer said.

At the same time, the administration is pressing Saudi Arabia to monitor Islamic charities to make sure that contributions do not go to terrorists, another senior official said.

In Mexico City for talks, Secretary of State Colin Powell said the Saudis understand U.S. concern, considering most of the Sept. 11 terror suspects came from the Arab kingdom.

"But we should not in our concern and our desire to protect ourselves go to the point where we rupture relations with a country that has been a good friend of the United States," Powell said at a news conference.  
No action against Saudi Arabia was being considered, he said, but the Bush administration has told Saudi Arabia of U.S. misgivings about financing of charitable organizations that result in money going to suspect individuals.

The flow of money from Saudi Arabia and other countries to extremists in Yemen and elsewhere was confirmed, meanwhile, by Abd al-Kareem al-lyani, special adviser to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

"No Arab government supports extremists," al-lyani said in a luncheon at the Brookings Institution. "But there is money in the world coming to these people."

The Yemeni official said Saudi Arabia and other Arab countries have limited banking systems and cannot keep track of the contributions. He stressed the financing problem was far bigger than just Saudi Arabia.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny skies, light winds and seasonal temperatures. Highs in the lower 40s.

Tonight: Just a few patchy clouds and dry. Lows near 20.

Tomorrow: A little warmer than normal and sunny skies. Highs in the middle 40s, lows in the upper teens.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly sunny skies and cool. Highs near 40.

Tonight: Mostly clear skies and calm winds. Lows in the upper teens to lower 20s.

Tomorrow: Slightly warmer and mostly sunny. Highs in the lower 40s, lows in the upper teens.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Brisk temperatures and mostly dry for today. However, mountains just to the east will likely see a little bit of light snow or flurries. Conditions across the region will be dry for Thanksgiving Day and Friday.

Today Highs 25 to 30. Tonight's Lows 2 to 12. Cool temperatures, generally cloudy, increasing clouds and sunshine and dry conditions for today through Friday. Clouds will increase for the weekend and a few light snow showers will be possible.

BOISE

Today Highs 25 to 30. Tonight's Lows 2 to 12. Cool temperatures, generally cloudy, increasing clouds and sunshine and dry conditions for today through Friday. Clouds will increase for the weekend and a few light snow showers will be possible.

NORTHERN UTAH

Dry, sunny and cool for today through Thanksgiving. On Friday and Saturday conditions will be mostly cloudy and a little bit of snow is possible.

Today Highs 10 to 15. Tonight's Lows 0 to 5. Dry, sunny and cool for today through Thanksgiving. On Friday and Saturday conditions will be mostly cloudy and a little bit of snow is possible.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 7 columns: Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Almanac section including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, Snowpack, and U.V. INDEX.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for cities including Boise, Idaho Falls, Kellogg, and others.

NATIONAL FORECAST

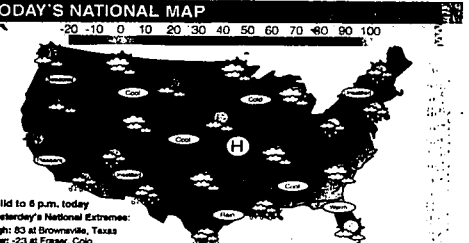
National forecast table for various US cities like Denver, Chicago, New York, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table for international cities like London, Tokyo, Sydney, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table for cities like Toronto, Vancouver, Montreal.



Comunidad advertisement with phone numbers 733-0931 and 677-4042.

Help

Continued from A1. Families living paycheck to paycheck and not having anything extra to give. Requests for assistance in many of South Central Community Action Agency's programs have increased this year.

Chairwoman of Operations Cecile Griffith. Christmas needs are expected to be at least 10 percent higher than last year, Patterson said. So far donations are close to last year.

Layoffs

Continued from A1. We're going to make it through the holidays, how we're going to make it through December, said TSI employee Cheyenne Blauer of Declo.

Anti-abortion group wins victory over ads

WASHINGTON (AP) - A federal judge blocked the government Tuesday from enforcing new campaign finance restrictions that would have kept an anti-abortion group from airing political ads in upcoming special congressional elections in Hawaii.

Pilots foresee carrying guns in the cockpit

WASHINGTON - Commercial airline pilots could start carrying guns into the cockpits as early as this spring as protection against terror attacks. But fewer than half are expected to do so.

Economy

The latest batch of economic news indicated that consumers - the main force keeping the economy going this year - will keep their pocketbooks and wallets open wide enough to prove the economic recovery from falling out, economists said.

Help

Continued from A1. Throughout southern Idaho, businesses and community organizations are providing for the needy this holiday season. Here's a list of some of them.

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INSPECTING IRAQ



An Iraqi security U.N. employee welcomes inspectors at the entrance of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad Tuesday. Weapons inspectors arrived in Iraq Monday and will begin their mission today to check if Iraq has any weapons of mass destruction.

Bush signs bill to protect insurers from terror

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush signed legislation Tuesday that will "get our economy back on its feet" should another terror attack saddle the insurance industry with catastrophic costs.

Under the bill, the government wouldn't step in on any claims less than \$5 million. Insurance companies would pay a deductible in 2003 equal to 7 percent of the premiums they received the previous year. The deductible would rise to 10 percent in 2004 and 15 percent in 2005. The federal government would then cover 90 percent of everything above the deductible with insurance companies paying the other 10 percent.

The president bowed to Democratic demands for unlimited punitive damages in civil lawsuits related to terror attacks, which many Republicans consider a boon to trial lawyers usually allied with Democrats.

Feds, ACLU reach accord

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government agreed to tell the American Civil Liberties Union by Jan. 15 which documents it would release about increased surveillance in the United States under a law passed in response to the terrorist attacks.

In response to a suit brought by the ACLU and other groups, the Justice Department also said it would supply a list of documents that it would keep confidential, citing national security concerns. The ACLU could challenge the decision to withhold

any documents. The agreement was reached Tuesday before U.S. District Judge Ellen Segal Huvelle, who is hearing the case growing out of an Aug. 21 request filed under the Freedom of Information Act. The civil liberties group wants to know how the government is carrying out the USA Patriot Act, passed in response to Sept. 11. The new law gives the government new powers to obtain personal information about U.S. citizens in an attempt to stop future terrorist attacks.

Teams gear up for first inspections

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — International arms inspectors, "fully conscious" of their responsibility, are ready to fan out over Iraq with the latest detection gear in search of mobile labs, underground factories or other signs the Iraqis are still committed to the deadliest of weapons, top inspectors said Tuesday.

The U.N. team mounts its first field missions today in what is expected to be months of difficult, detailed inspections of hundreds of Iraqi sites. Its first targets will be installations inspected and "neutralized" in the 1990s.

The future of peace in the Middle East may hinge on the outcome of the search. The United States, steadily reinforcing its military in the region, has warned it will disarm Iraq by force if the inspections fail.

In Washington, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said President Bush "hopes the inspectors will take their responsibilities very seriously, and he

knows they will, to find out whether Iraq has indeed disarmed. And the president thinks this is a healthy process."

If Iraq does not cooperate, Fleischer said, "the president has said he has a policy of zero tolerance, and Saddam Hussein will have to figure out exactly what zero tolerance means."

The monitors are back after a four-year break under a new mandate from the U.N. Security Council to test the Baghdad government's contention that it has

no arsenals of weapons of mass destruction, or programs to build them.

Earlier teams of U.N. experts, in seven years' work ending in 1998, destroyed large amounts of chemical and biological armaments and longer-range missiles forbidden to Iraq by U.N. resolutions after the Gulf War, in which an Iraqi invasion force was driven from Kuwait. The inspectors also dismantled Iraq's nuclear weapons program before it could build a bomb.

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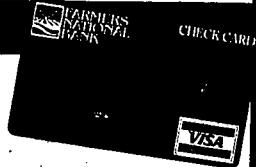
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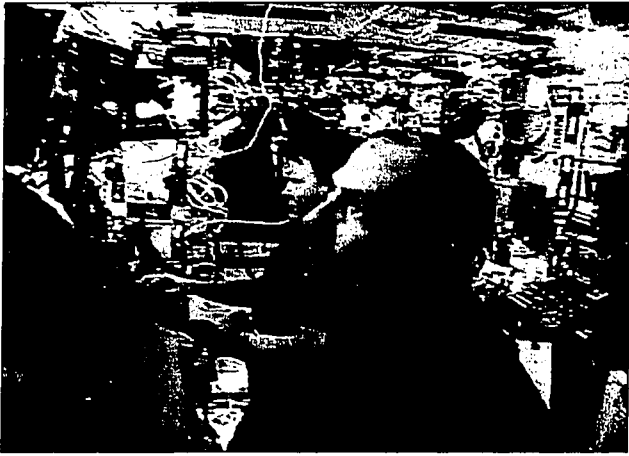


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NATION

LATEST ADDITION TO SPACE STATION



Astronauts Peggy Whitson, background, and Don Pettit work at the International space station's robotic arm workstation in the Destiny module in this view from TV, Tuesday. The two used the arm to move the station's newest component, a \$390 million girder that flew up on the shuttle, into place.

Astronauts step outside to install girder

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Astronauts attached another pricey new piece of latticework to the international space station Tuesday, then floated outside to hook up the power.

It was the first of three spacewalks planned this week to install the \$390 million girder.

The crews of the space station and the docked shuttle Endeavour used the robot arms of both vehicles to hoist the girder into place.

Once the massive aluminum beam was securely linked to two others on the orbiting outpost,

Endeavour astronauts Michael Lopez-Alegria and John Herrington — the first American Indian in space — got the go-ahead to step outside. They marveled at the view 250 miles below.

"You've got a happy control room down here," Mission Control radioed once the girder was latched into place.

The 14-ton girder, an aluminum beam crammed with wiring and loaded with a rail cart and radiators, increased the mass of the entire space station to almost 200 tons.

With the latest 45-foot addition delivered by Endeavour, the framework stretched 134 feet. By the time eight more girders are connected over the coming year, the backbone of the space station will exceed the length of a football field and support giant solar wings.

Endeavour will remain at the space station until next Monday, giving the three new residents of the orbiting complex time to settle in and get briefed by the outgoing crew. The two crews swapped places late Monday following the shuttle's arrival.

U.S. issued visas to men on watch list

WASHINGTON (AP) — Visas were issued to 105 foreign men who should have been prevented from entering the United States because their names appeared on government lists of suspected terrorists, congressional investigators have found.

The visas had been revoked by the State Department. A federal law enforcement official, speaking Tuesday on condition of anonymity, said the revocation prevented 100 of the men from entering the United States, while three others were turned away at the U.S. border. Two made it into the country but have since left without incident, the official said.

Officially, the Justice Department said it was reviewing the matter "to verify the status of each of the visas in question."

Under a security system first created in November 2001 called "Visas Condor," State Department applications for visas to enter the United States from certain national groups were to be checked against possible terrorist names in FBI and CIA databases. Men in these groups between 16 and 45 had to wait up to 30 days for the check before a visa could be issued.

However, the GAO found, until recently the name check system did not work properly as respon-

sibility it shifted between the Justice Department and FBI, the CIA, the State Department and the multagency Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task Force formed by President Bush in October 2001.

Few names initially forwarded by the State Department, known as "cables," were checked by either the CIA or FBI, congressional investigators said.

By April 2002, when the terror task force assumed control of the

system, the FBI had a backlog of some 8,000 unchecked names from the State Department. Of the 38,000 "Condor" applications subsequently processed through Aug. 1, 2002, about 280 names turned up on the anti-terrorism lists.

The State Department was given a refusal recommendation for 200 visa applicants, but that came after the 30-day hold had expired — meaning the visas had already been issued.

Tax increases loom as states face budget woes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Despite draining rainy-day and other reserve funds, state governments still could face a collective budget shortfall of \$40 billion or more next year, the nation's governors say.

State lawmakers have responded with the largest tax increases in a decade, but may have to raise taxes even further or cut higher education and other state programs already scaled back in current spending plans.

"We don't have an estimate of the total shortfall because states are going back now and re-estimating revenues in budgets," said Raymond C. Scheppach, executive director of the National Governors Association. "But my sense is, probably, we have a shortfall of at least \$40 billion now. That's going to be a drain on the economy going forward."

State budgets are in their worst shape since World War II, and soaring health care costs and a sputtering economy that hurt tax collections are to blame, said a report the governors association released Monday.

States have enacted \$8.3 billion in tax hikes for the fiscal year that began for most states on July 1. That was the largest dollar increase since 1992, when \$15 billion in tax hikes were enacted, the association reported.

The report found that 23 of 49 states raised taxes; Florida did not participate in the survey.

Cigarettes and other tobacco products saw the biggest tax hikes, \$2.9 billion, followed by sales taxes, \$1.4 billion; corporate income taxes, \$1.2 billion; and personal income taxes, \$1 billion, according to the report.

Alcohol and gasoline were

among other items that saw tax increases. More than a dozen states also raised various fees, including those for emergency services, driver's licenses and filing of court records.

"It's a pretty dire outlook for states," Scheppach said.

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# Influential political philosopher dies at age 81

Los Angeles Times

John Rawls, a political philosopher who shaped late 20th century notions of social justice with ideas that guided debates over topics from affirmative action and welfare to physician-assisted suicide, has died. He was 81.

A Harvard University professor, Rawls died Sunday of heart failure at his home in Lexington, Mass., according to a statement from the university. Rawls had suffered a series of strokes, beginning in 1995, but continued to publish until last year.

Rawls' 1971 book, "A Theory of Justice," revived the idea of the social contract, the concept that society is a cooperative venture from which everyone should

expect to benefit.

Social contract theories - the subject of works by Thomas Hobbes, John Locke and Jean Jacques Rousseau - had been neglected in the 20th century by philosophers preoccupied with the study of logic, linguistics and the philosophy of science.

Rawls asserted in his writings that one's opportunities in life are influenced by, among other factors, social and economic status. One's prospects, therefore, are largely shaped by luck, but luck is in turn shaped by political, social and economic systems.

Rawls' idea of social justice, wrote philosopher Thomas Nagel, gave it "the form that it has in contemporary discussion."

Indeed, Rawls' ideas on equal-

ity and ways to achieve justice have transformed not only philosophy but also other academic fields. Rawls' work not only remains a staple of undergraduate classes but is evoked directly or indirectly in courtrooms, legislatures and houses of worship.

"His ideas had an electric effect on other people," Princeton University Professor Charles Beitz, a Rawls scholar, said Monday. "No political philosopher in memory has had the influence Rawls has had over fields such as law, eco-

nomics and sociology."

Beitz said Rawls' profound effect on public policy debates is ironic because the professor never sought attention outside the world of professors and philosophers. "He never sought to write op-eds or testify before Congress," Beitz said.

Rawls did, however, take stands on issues through his academic writing. In "A Theory of Justice," written during the Vietnam War, he argued that a just society must provide the

opportunity for true conscientious objection to combat service.

In 1997, Rawls joined five other philosophers in submitting a brief to the U.S. Supreme Court that argued for a right of dying patients to choose to die. Later that year, the court refused to grant Americans a constitutional "right to die," but it did not preclude states from establishing laws that would establish such a right. The ruling was considered a victory by some advocates of physician-assisted suicide.



Elizabeth Norton's 1938 watercolor 'Comedians Party,' is part of an exhibit at Washington's National Gallery of Art, entitled 'Drawing on America's Past.'

## Display highlights American folk art

WASHINGTON (AP) - When President Franklin Roosevelt's Works Progress Administration launched a project to illustrate American folk art, it ended up with 18,527 water colors of quilts, weather vanes, old tavern signs and merry-go-round animals - an outsize art gallery in itself.

Now 80 of the artworks and 37 of the original objects are going on display as the National Gallery of Art celebrates the 60th anniversary of its acquisition of that collection. The show opening Wednesday, "Drawing on America's Past," will be on view through March 2.

Visitors will learn about life-size sculptures that adorned shops in the 1800s. There were not only cigar store Indians, but cigar store Turks, a figure advertising lunch who may have been Mike "King" Kelly, a baseball star of the 1880s, and a comic carving of Captain Jinks of the Etofoe Marines, known from a Civil War song for feeding his horse corn and beans.

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WORLD

# Women account for half of HIV cases

LONDON - For the first time in the 20-year history of the AIDS epidemic, as many women as men are infected with HIV, a United Nations report says.

The report, presented Tuesday in London, paints a dismal picture of a disease invading regions of the globe where it had for many years trickled experts into believing some populations might be less susceptible, or even immune, to infection.

The virus is spreading most rapidly in eastern Europe, where nearly every country is experiencing a major outbreak. It has also marched wilyly across Central Asia and into China, where it was almost nonexistent a few years ago.

But there are signs of hope. The AIDS Epidemic Update, an annual report by the World Health Organization and UNAIDS, says prevention programs appear to be working in the few areas where they have been set up.

## UN: U.S. ranks near bottom on best schooling list

GENEVA - South Korea has the most effective education system in the world's richest countries, with Japan in second place and the United States and Germany near the bottom, a United Nations study said Tuesday.

The ranking "provides the first 'big picture' comparison of the relative effectiveness of education systems across the developed world," the UNICEF study said. "It is based not on the conventional yardstick of how many students reach what level of education, but on testing what pupils actually know and what they are able to do," UNICEF said.

It said it based the study on five different tests of 14 and 15 year olds to determine their abilities in reading, math and science.

## Malaysia arrests men suspected of attack plans

JAKARTA, Indonesia - Malaysia has arrested four Islamic militants who'd been planning a suicide attack against Western targets in Singapore, including the United States and other embassies, officials in Kuala Lumpur said Tuesday.

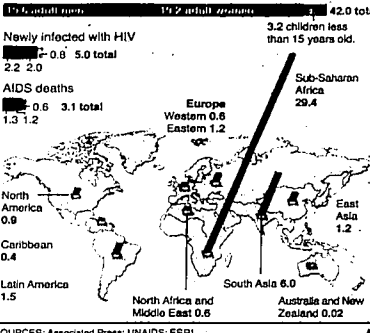
Malaysian police arrested the men between Nov. 16 and 20 in the state of Johor, which borders Singapore, and identified them as three Malaysians and a Singaporean.

The announcement of these arrests comes amid mounting concern in the region about whether militants are turning toward suicide attacks, a tactic that's become frighteningly common in the Middle East and South Asia but remained unacceptable in Southeast Asia. While acts of great brutality aren't without precedent in Southeast Asia, Muslim leaders have long prided themselves on practicing a moderate form of Islam that wouldn't sanction suicide attacks.

## Women climb in rank among HIV positive

A new U.N. report found that for the first time since the AIDS epidemic began, a disease originally of homosexual men, women now account for nearly 50 percent of the total 42 million people worldwide living with HIV.

People living with HIV/AIDS end of 2002 estimates, in millions



SOURCES: Associated Press; UNAIDS; ESRI AP

## Cricket-playing boys are latest victims in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India - Three schoolboys mistook a live grenade for a cricket ball, hitting it and blowing themselves up Tuesday. The incident raised the death toll to at least 50 in the latest surge of bloodshed over the contested state of Kashmir.

Violence over the past four days set off a row between the government of Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and the newly elected state government of Kashmir, which recently released several Islamic militants from jails.

Frocing the prisoners was part of the new regime's promise to bring a "healing touch" to the embattled Himalayan region. More than 61,000 people have been killed in the past 13 years of violence, in which militants seek either Kashmir's independence or merger with Pakistan.

## Canadian who called Bush a moron resigns

TORONTO - Prime Minister Jean Chretien's communications director resigned Tuesday over a controversy caused by her private comment last week that President Bush is a moron.

Francoise Ducros, who initially offered to quit but was kept on by Chretien, is leaving the prime minister's office after all, according to a statement issued by Chretien's chief of staff. In a letter of resignation to Chretien, Ducros wrote: "It is very apparent to me that the controversy will make it impossible for me to do my job."

The comment made in a discussion with a radio reporter last week at the NATO summit in Prague, Czech Republic, has dominated Canadian media, and opposition politicians have called for her resignation.

- compiled from wire reports

## Flu outbreak kills hundreds in Congo, officials say

KINSHASA, Congo (AP) - The World Health Organization confirmed Tuesday an outbreak of flu in rebel-controlled northern Congo, and the country's health minister said more than 500 people have died.

Deaths have been recorded in a number of towns - including Bosobolo, Gbadolite and Gemena - in the north of Equateur province, near the border with Central African Republic, Health Minister Mashako Mamba said.

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WORLD

Report: Trafficking, forced prostitution flourish in Bosnia

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina - Traffickers who force thousands of women and girls into prostitution in Bosnia rarely face justice, and some even serve with the U.N. peacekeeping force, Human Rights Watch said in a report released Tuesday.

Iran prosecutor warns death verdict may be final

TEHRAN, Iran - Iran's chief prosecutor warned Tuesday that a history professor's death sentence for questioning hard-line rule will be final if he continues to refuse to appeal. Four students who led protests against the sentence were arrested.

On Tuesday, four organizers of the demonstrations were arrested, including two who were beaten up before being hauled away, a fellow student said.

Muslim official calls for death of woman writer

LAGOS, Nigeria - The deputy governor of a largely Islamic state in northern Nigeria has called on Muslims to kill the Nigerian woman who wrote a newspaper article about the Miss World beauty pageant that sparked deadly religious riots.

Iran's late revolutionary leader, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, issued a 1989 fatwa - or religious edict - against him for allegedly insulting Islam in his best-selling novel, 'The Satanic Verses.'

In 1998, the Iranian government declared it would not support the fatwa, but said it could not rescind the edict since, under Islamic law, that could be done only by the person who issued it. Khomeini died in 1989.

While state officials in Nigeria

World in brief

cannot issue fatwas, the deputy governor, 'His-Allah Mustafa, considers the death sentence against Daniel as 'a reality based on the teachings of the Quran.' Zamfara state Information Commissioner Tukur Umar Dangaladima said Tuesday.

Six face arrest after gun-smuggling allegations

DUBLIN, Ireland - Northern Ireland police arrested six peo-

ple on Tuesday suspected of involvement in a 3-year-old plot to smuggle firearms from Florida to the outlawed Irish Republican Army.

The four men and two women arrested in Belfast and the Catholic village of Dunloy were being interrogated on suspicion of involvement in the 'illegal importation of firearms by republican terrorists,' a police statement said.

Detectives said those arrested were suspected of helping to finance the purchase of scores of handguns and other firearms in Florida gun stores in 1999 and

2000. They said the six - who under British anti-terror laws could be interrogated for up to a week - weren't suspected of helping to smuggle any recent supplies.

The IRA, which killed about 1,800 people from 1970 to 1997, has scrapped a few of its hidden weapons dumps in the past year in support of the peace agreement.

But police say the IRA remains by far the best-armed of Northern Ireland's myriad illegal groups, retaining at least 20 tons of armaments supplied by Libya in the mid-1980s.

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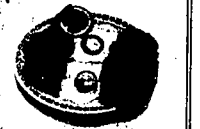
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SALT LAKE CITY

# Church may offer to pay for easement

**SALT LAKE CITY (AP)** - After federal court said the Mormon church cannot ban demonstration on the Main Street block it chased from the city, the church said it might be willing to pay for the public easement as a way to restrict pedestrians' access.

Deer Lodge, B. Wickman, the church's general counsel and a spokesman for the church, said Monday there were no concessions.

The specific amount the church would pay the city for the easement would have to be negotiated, Wickman said. The funds - a

"gesture of good will" - would be on top of the \$8.3 million the church paid in 1999 for the block of Main Street between North Temple and South Temple.

"What I'm trying to communicate is that we're willing to have a discussion with the city about the conditions for extinguishing the easement," Wickman said.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints also said it would give up its own right to proselytize on the property.

But Mayor Rocky Anderson on Tuesday said no amount of money could convince him to give up the easement, which

guarantees passage across the plaza. He also doesn't support the church giving up its right to proselytize.

"I would say that any restriction on the LDS church exercising religious freedom on its own property would itself be a violation of the First Amendment guarantee. I won't be a party to that," he said.

The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on Oct. 9 that the easement guarantees free-speech rights on the area, formerly a 660-foot section of Main Street in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City.

*The 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on Oct. 9 that the easement guarantees free-speech rights on the area, formerly a 660-foot section of Main Street in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City.*

# Task force looks at judicial campaigns

**BOISE (AP)** - A special task force is recommending that the state create a broad-based committee to consider how Idaho judges are elected.

The panel on judicial campaign financing also suggested on Monday that independent expenditures on behalf of candidates in excess of \$1,000 be reported to the secretary of state's office within 48 hours if they come in within the last two weeks of a campaign.

The task force of legislators, judges and attorneys was created to find a possible solution to the financial concerns raised by the several Supreme Court elections.

Gov. Butch Otter, then-District Judge John Eismann, who benefited from the term limits activity, urged Supreme Court Justice Robert Black in the most partisan

court race in more than a generation.

Last spring, an unidentified group funneled \$173,500 through The Ada County Property Owners Association and then Idahoans for Tax Reform in an unsuccessful bid to oust Chief Justice Linda Copple Trout.

While public financing offers a way to control spending by candidates themselves, Trout said, there is "virtually no ability to stop independent outside groups from doing what they want to do."

Fred Hoopes, the Idaho Falls attorney who heads the Idaho Bar and serves on its two-year-old Judicial Independence and Integrity Committee, said attorneys statewide believe a judicial campaign conduct committee and public financing of judicial elections should be considered.

# Boise mayor's side trip to Broadway draws fire

**BOISE (AP)** - City Council members say Mayor Brent Coles' poor judgment in spending public funds to take the city attorney and his wife to dinner and a Broadway show in New York City was the expenditure was outrageous to city employees for services he personally repaid the cost.

This is the first I've heard of council member Paula Forney Monday. "At some point, we need to revisit that whole bonus concept."

Nov. 12, Coles and Chief of Staff Gary Lyman left a U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Chester, N.Y., to fly to New York City for the night.

They met up with City Attorney Sam Mimura and her programs manager, Andrea Dietrich.

Coles asked Mimura and Dietrich to leave Boise a day earlier than originally planned for a separate meeting on relations with local government in Japan,

*'At some point, we need to revisit that whole bonus concept.'*

- Paula Forney, City Council member

Mimura said.

Coles then surprised the pair in New York with tickets to "Oklahoma." The four tickets, at a cost of \$580, were intended as Mimura's annual bonus, said Tod McKay, a Coles spokesman. After the play, the group had a \$185 dinner.

The dinner and show tickets came out of Coles' \$4,000 budget for bonuses for city department heads.

Council members plan to hold a closed meeting to probe the issue, and will discuss details afterwards.

...Times-News... pages to see how your favorite team is doing. It's section B today.

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Any Questions call 735-2210

EDITORIAL

State agencies need to speed up on car reports

In the depths of a persistent tax-revenue malaise, the idea of frittering away millions on unneeded state cars is infuriating.

Back in 1998, the Office of Performance Evaluations criticized state agencies for driving a high percentage of their vehicles less than 6,000 miles a year.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and the Legislature need to conduct a deep and careful analysis, in response to a report that suggests some state agencies are asleep at the wheel.

Last week, a legislative panel learned that agencies have responded poorly to attempts to improve fleet management.

Our view: State government needs a more detailed accounting of state auto fleets. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Concerns about state-owned cars aren't new. Back in 1996, the Legislature unwisely agreed to let some Health and Welfare Department workers use unmarked state cars.

That report should have prompted some oversight and perhaps some judicious trimming of agency fleets. But now the evaluation office reports that the state's vehicle fleet has grown 17 percent since the previous report.

The decision overrode concerns from some quarters (including this one) that unmarked cars would invite misuse.

Obviously, there's enough blame to spread around. The main point is, vehicle fleets are skidding out of control, and state leaders need to grab the wheel.

Ironically, the current problem doesn't involve cars being driven too much, but rather too little. The basic issue, though, is the same: accountability.

Idaho taxpayers work hard for the money that supports the state budget. They can't afford to watch it dribble away like oil from a leaky head gasket.

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher; Clark Walworth, Managing editor; Mike Smit, Advertising director

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words.

Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication.

Getting in touch

Want to make your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how: Sen. Mike Crapo; Sen. Larry Craig

1292 Addison Ave., E. Twin Falls, ID 83301; 734-6780, Fax 734-3905

Look closer at who is defending your freedom

Before my son became a Marine, I never thought much about who was defending me.

FRANK SCHAEFFER

In 1999, when the barrel-chested Marine recruiter showed up in dress blues and bedazzled my son John, I did not stand in the way.

It had been hard enough sending my two older children off to Georgetown and New York University. John's enlisting was unexpected, so deeply unsettling.

"But aren't the Marines terribly Southern?" asked one perplexed mother while standing next to me at the brunch following graduation.

When John graduated from three months of boot camp on Farris Island, 3,000 parents and friends were on the parade deck stands.



that a lot of parents could not afford the trip. We in the audience were white and Native American. We were Hispanic, Arab and African-American and Asian.

Have we wealthy and educated Americans all become pacifists? Is the world a safe place? Or have we just gotten used to having somebody else defend us?

My car asks me how John is doing. I know he means it. His younger brother is in the Navy.

LETTERS

Understand differences between theory and fact

I'm writing in response to recent letters to the editor regarding scientific theories and facts.

In American vernacular, "theory" often means "imperfect fact" or part of a hierarchy of confidence which progresses from guess to hypothesis to theory to law or fact.

In science, facts and theories are different things, not rungs in a hierarchy of increasing certainty. Facts are the world's data. Theories are structures of ideas that explain and interpret facts.

there is no longer a compelling reason to keep testing or looking for examples.

... Laws are generalizations that describe phenomena, whereas theories explain phenomena. For example, the laws of thermodynamics describe what will happen under certain circumstances; thermodynamics theories explain why these events occur.

Laws, like facts and theories, can change with better data. But theories do not develop into laws with the accumulation of evidence. Rather, theories are the goal of science.

Theory does not mean guess or hunch or hypothesis. A theory does not change into a scientific law with the accumulation of new or better evidence.

For example, there is the phenomenon of gravity, which you can feel. It's a fact that you can feel it, and that bodies caught in a gravitational field will fall toward the center.

Mallard Fillmore

By Garry Trudeau

Relativity replaced the less-accurate gravity theory of Sir Isaac Newton, in this century, but apples didn't suspend themselves in midair, pending the outcome.

J.R. STANDEF Twin Falls

Sonnichsen will return as candidate in '04 election

On behalf of the Election for Controller Campaign, I would like to thank the hard-working staff, volunteers, contributors and 130,000 voters who supported me in this past election.

While I traveled the state of Idaho, I found support from Sandpoint to Homedale, Payette to Rexburg. Idaho voters have a tremendous love for our state and want the assurance that their elected officials will work to preserve our natural resources and the jobs they provide for future generations.

a priority of our incoming elected officials.

Idaho had a terrific slate of candidates this election cycle. All of us wanted to use our professional backgrounds to improve Idaho's economy and most importantly, our children's future.

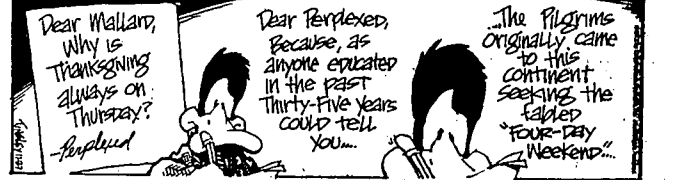
I congratulate my opponent and I know how proud his parents and family are of his achievement. To echo, I ask you to wait patiently for the next election to occur.

Bob SONNICHSEN Boise

(Editor's note: Bob Sonnichsen was the Democratic candidate for state controller in the recent election.)

Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Doonesbury



OPINION



Class-action lawyers should leave party

I love an invitation, invite me to a party, a wedding, a grand opening or to speak about one of my favorite subjects - lawsuit abuse in America. But please, don't invite me to be a party to a class-action lawsuit that results in giving me a coupon while a bunch of wealthy lawyers pocket more than \$3 million.

That's what I got the other day - an invitation from a personal-injury law firm that invited me, as a customer of FedEx, to join a class-action lawsuit settlement against the company. My reward for my troubles: a discount coupon.

According to the law firm, between Feb. 3 and June 30, 1997, FedEx breached its contract with customers and shippers by assessing a 2 percent fuel charge on U.S. domestic shipments without incurring the higher fuel costs that would warrant the surcharge. The suit also charges that FedEx did so without proper corporate authorization, and didn't apply the surcharge in an "equitable" manner.

FedEx says it did nothing wrong and indeed, after four years of litigation, a court decided FedEx did get corporate approval, but refused to dismiss any of the other claims by the plaintiffs.

So now we get to my invitation. Because it's a class-action lawsuit, I'm already part of the party, unless I act to get "dis-invited." As for my door price, FedEx will look at my records and determine how much I'm owed.

So the lawyers who are supposed to be representing me - even though I never hired them - are saying it's OK for the company who allegedly wronged me to determine how much I'm owed. Did I miss something here?

Once it's determined how much I'm owed, it will be provided to me in the form of a certificate for FedEx products. For example, a \$17 FedEx package entitles me to 35 cents. Not cash, just a certificate to use the products of the

MICHAEL VALLANTE

same company "my" lawyers say cheated me. What's the point? The point is the \$3.2 million that the lawyers stand to get from this case. That's part of a little section in my invitation called Attorney's Fees and Expenses. They get \$3.2 million while I get a \$1 certificate. Welcome to Civil Justice 101 - American Style.

Class-action lawsuits usually are created by and for a certain group of lawyers who use the courts as their playground for profit. They seek to make money, while claiming to represent the interests of "clients" who never hired them.

File a lawsuit, get as many people in on the class-action claim as possible, and shake down the business to settle. If they don't negotiate a settlement, force them to spend millions of dollars defending itself in court. Most settle. This is the worst kind of lawsuit abuse.

It produces nothing. It benefits no community. It's a strategy used by lawyers to extort money from productive businesses that employ Americans, stimulate the economy and pay taxes.

Why wouldn't FedEx want to settle? How many customers are going to use the certificates? And if it costs the company more money, who pays? FedEx's customers, that's who - the people using the certificates actually pay for them through higher rates FedEx must impose to pay off the lawyers. The lawyers who walk away with \$3.2 million are the only winners.

Worse, lawyers who practice this way never tell us, their clients, how much time they individually spent on the case or why their fee is justified. They don't provide us with the court dockets, records, time sheets, meetings and out-of-pocket costs they expended so I would get my penny-saver of a

certificate. I think they should.

So here is what I am doing with my invitation. I'm accepting it. And I'm asking my lawyers to provide for me and every single person they mailed this lawsuit to a complete written detail of how much time they spent on this case, their time sheets as a firm and as individuals, meeting information, court documents related to the case, and most especially how much per hour their settlement equates to.

Hey, I didn't ask to be invited, but I was. And what if the lawyers say no? Well then I guess I will consider filing a class-action lawsuit against them by everyone involved in the FedEx suit, and this time I won't settle for a certificate for the use of their legal services.

Michael Vallante is the executive director of the Las Angeles chapter of Citizens Against Lawsuit Abuse (www.caala.com).

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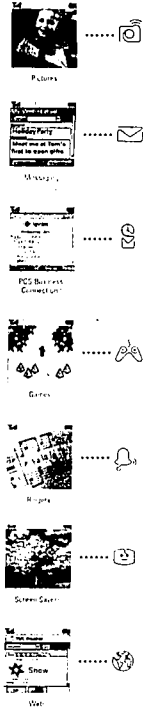
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IDAHO/WEST

# Coeur d'Alene: Get lost, Spokane

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - The Coeur d'Alene City Council has sent a message to Spokane: Take your Combined Statistical Area and go home.

The council on Monday voted unanimously that it did not want to combine with Spokane County into a single metropolitan area for the purposes of government statistics-keeping.

Council members forwarded that message to Idaho's congress-

sional delegation, which has a Friday deadline to recommend to the federal Office of Management and Budget whether the merger should proceed.

The Coeur d'Alene City Council found no reason to support linking with its neighbors 30 miles west, Mayor Sandi Bloem said.

"There was a strong, unanimous feeling not to move ahead with a combined statistical area,"

she said. Also opposing the designation are the Greater Coeur d'Alene Area Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Hayden/Hayden Lake Chamber of Commerce. The city of Post Falls, Idaho, and the Post Falls Chamber of Commerce support the CSA designation.

The issue largely involves arcane record-keeping, and would not affect the sovereignty of either community.

# Wendover leaders say they want cities to merge

WEST WENDOVER, Nev. (AP) - Leaders of the two Wendovers say they won't give up the fight to merge into one Nevada city, and hope they get support from their congressional delegations.

At a joint meeting on Monday, officials on both sides of the Utah-Nevada state line vowed not to give up on annexation, thus keeping faith with their constituents who said "yes" to a merger in a nonbinding referendum earlier this month. Wendover City Council members, who could not vote at Monday's meeting on Nevada soil, are expected to follow suit when they meet Dec. 4 on the Utah side of the border. Wendover's leaders hope that a

member of Utah's or Nevada's congressional delegation will reintroduce the enabling legislation that gives federal approval for the merger.

The first bill - co-sponsored by GOP Reps. Jim Hansen of Utah and Jim Gibbons of Nevada - passed the House but stalled in the Senate.

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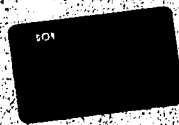
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SPORTS

SCORES AND STATS

Heat hand Shaq, Lakers sixth straight loss on road

MIAMI (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal was held to 15 points in his third game since returning from surgery...

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

- Basketball: College, Great Alaska Shootout, Oklahoma 5 vs. Alaska Anchorage, ESPN2, 9:30 p.m. Golf: PGA Grand Slam of Golf, final round, TNT, 6 p.m.

ON THE RADIO

- Women's college basketball: KSI at Treasure Valley CC, 1450AM, 6:21 p.m. Men's college basketball: CSI at Treasure Valley CC, 1310AM, 11:11 p.m.

HARRAH'S ODDS

Table with columns for Favorite, Underdog, and Odds for various sports events.

Area ski report

Area ski report: Snow conditions, lift operations, and resort news for local ski areas.

High Schools

Table listing high school sports events, dates, and locations.

Football

Table showing football game results, scores, and statistics.

Hockey

Table showing hockey game results, scores, and statistics.

NFL

Table showing NFL game results, scores, and statistics.

West Coast Hockey League

Table showing West Coast Hockey League game results, scores, and statistics.

Transactions

Transactions: Player movements, trades, and roster changes across various leagues.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

Table showing NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

Western Conference

Table showing Western Conference NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

Eastern Conference

Table showing Eastern Conference NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

NBA Games

Table showing NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

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NBA Games

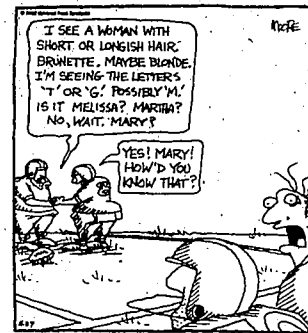
Table showing NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

NBA Games

Table showing NBA game results, scores, and statistics.

NBA Games

Table showing NBA game results, scores, and statistics.



'Well, there you have it. The intuitive, almost psychic connection between a quarterback and his favorite receiver.'

Text accompanying the cartoon illustration.

NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball

Table showing NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball game results, scores, and statistics.

NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball

Table showing NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball game results, scores, and statistics.

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NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball

Table showing NCAA Women's Div. I Basketball game results, scores, and statistics.

Continued from B1

Continued from B1: Further details on sports events and news.

Polis

Polis: Local news and community events.

NFL

NFL: News and updates on the National Football League.

Shoulder surgery will take Ravens' Lewis out of season

Shoulder surgery will take Ravens' Lewis out of season: News about player injuries.

COMICS

Classic Peanuts



By Charles M. Schulz

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Blonde



By Dean Young & Stan Drake

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Pickles



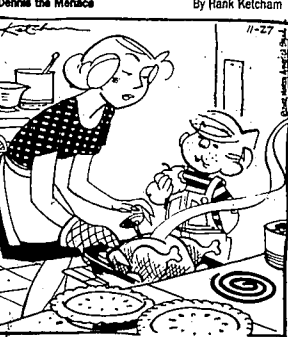
By Brian Crane

Garfield



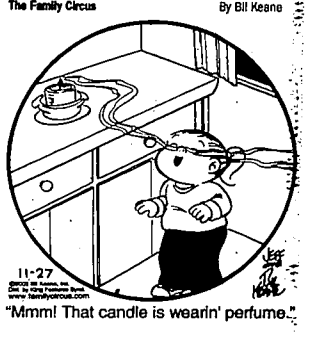
By Jim Davis

Dennis the Menace



By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus



By Bill Keane

Hi and Lois



By Chance Browne

The Wizard of Id



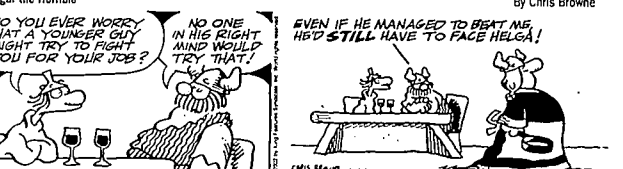
By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

How to Succeed in Business



By Pat Brady

Hagar the Horrible



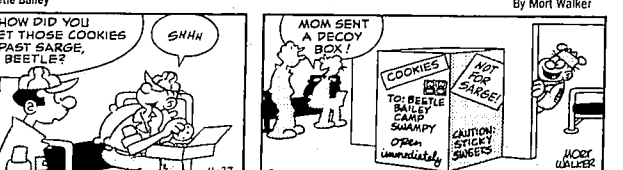
By Chris Browne

Zits



By Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Beetle Bailey



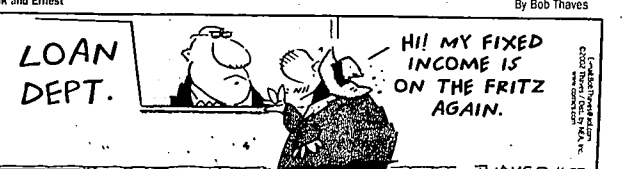
By Mort Walker

Luann



By Greg Evans

Frank and Ernest



By Bob Thaves

Strange Brew



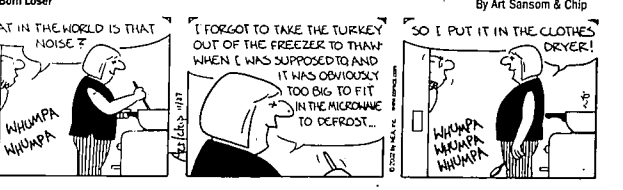
By John Deering

Non Sequitur



By Wiley

The Born Loser



By Art Sansom & Chip









# MORNING BREAK

**ACROSS**

- 1 Col. common
- 5 Foolish
- 9 Rajah's wives
- 14 Biblical proposition
- 15 Bunker or Jackson
- 16 Ham it up
- 17 Holy Roman
- 18 Sandwich cookie
- 19 Fat precursor
- 20 Small crowns
- 22 Sett. determination
- 24 Poetic contraction
- 25 Recognized authority
- 27 Type of doctor?
- 28 Provo resident
- 32 Playable board game
- 35 JFK director
- 39 Angry look
- 42 Not taken in by
- 43 First Occer-
- 44 Jannings
- 46 Means of transport
- 47 Eschewed a big wedding
- 49 Ance
- 51 Banana cousin
- 54 Numero —
- 57 Critic
- 60 Clergyman
- 62 E
- 63 Pledges
- 65 Consumes
- 66 Lit
- 67 Blunted sword
- 68 "A Death in the
- 69 Saintly author
- 70 Agitation
- 72 Groomsmen nine
- 71 Phrase

**DOWN**

- 1 Except
- 2 Pull the bow
- 3 Fragrant oil
- 4 Means of access
- 5 False TV images
- 6 Jordan's sobriquet
- 7 Gather gradually
- 8 For all to hear
- 9 Answers
- 10 Corrective
- 11 Contender
- 12 News piece
- 13 Lolita-ish
- 14 European wiper
- 23 Greek letter
- 26 Old womanish
- 27 Most contentious
- 28 Sharpen
- 29 Freeze from?
- 30 Light gas
- 31 Lint into
- 32 Screen star
- 34 Flight school
- 36 Start of an era?
- 37 Winter Jong
- 41 Piano curves
- 42 Yields
- 48 Espied
- 50 Santa, CA
- 52 At no time
- 53 Figure of speech
- 54 Customary practice
- 55 Music units
- 56 Beginning
- 57 Collegiate cheer
- 58 North Carolina college
- 59 8 on a sundial
- 61 Phase
- 64 Marry

## Check out first film of James Bond

Tribune Media Services

Wednesday

"Secrets of the Dead" — Examining the origin of the fire that ravaged the city of Rome on July 19, 64 AD, and whether

emperor Nero was responsible. (CC) (TVPG) PBS, 7 p.m. "Dr. No" — Secret agent James Bond uncovers an evil scientist's plans to divert missiles launched by the United States. (CC) (TVPG) THE NASHVILLE NETWORK, 7 p.m.

Thursday

"Dinotopia" — Two brothers and their father try to adapt to living on a lost continent where dinosaurs and humans live together in harmony. (CC) (TVPG) ABC, 7 p.m.

"Star Wars: Episode I — The Phantom Menace" — A Jedi master and an apprentice named Obi-Wan Kenobi meet a slave boy who may be the fulfillment of an ancient prophecy. (CC) (TVPG) FOX, 7 p.m.

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

12/27/02

A	P	E	D	S	P	R	E	E			
O	A	T	L	A	V	A	P	R	E	N	
P	E	L	L	M	E	L	M	O	O	N	
E	N	S	L	A	V	E	S	O	F	I	E
C	A	R	A	T	O	N	O	C	R	A	D
A	G	E	N	A	B	E	E	A	C	M	E
C	I	E	T	R	O	O	S	T	E	A	D
W	O	D	D	A	T	H	E	R	E	S	T
E	A	S	E	O	R	A	P	H	A	N	I
A	R	I	E	T	C	A	M	P	I	D	E
A	R	I	E	T	C	A	M	P	I	D	E
M	A	D	E	R	P	E	T	E	E	L	S

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## Final Day!

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\$5,000

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Promotion ends Nov. 30, 2002. No purchase necessary. For Millionaire money, send handwritten SASE to Millionaire Auctions, The Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303 within 3 days of publication of money.

## Teddy was first president in a submarine, airplane

Teddy Roosevelt rode in a submarine. No other president had. He rode in an airplane. No other president had. He rode down Broadway in a ticker-tape parade. No other president had.

Do you buy the contention that the average woman kisses 79 different men before she marries? A checkout counter tabloid so reports. Our Love and War man doesn't quarrel with the claim, exactly. But he can't figure out how any woman can go on keeping score after the first couple dozen.



REVISITED  
L.M. Boyd

The grownup female kangaroo might weigh 60,000 times as much as her newborn baby. Young lady, if that were the ratio between you and yours, you'd weigh about 420,000 pounds.

Q. I know what a dime is, but what's a trim?

A. A U.S. silver 3-cent piece minted from 1851 to 1873.

A fifth of the earth's land area is water.

Q. Underwater films of sharks always seem to show them wagging their heads from side to side as they swim. Why?

A. They zero in on their prey by smelling the water. The nostril that gets the stronger odor points them in the right direction.

Albert Einstein timed how long it took his hat to dry when he came in out of the rain. He also timed how long it took his hair to dry when he didn't wear his hat on a rainy day. His hair dried more quickly. So he didn't wear his hat in the rain anymore.

### AUCTION CALENDAR

THROUGH DEC. 7

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 27, 6:00PM  
Twin Falls  
Household • Estates • Tools  
Antique • Collectibles  
Taking Consignments Daily  
HUNT BROTHERS AUCTIONS  
734-2548

THURSDAY, DEC. 5, 9:00AM  
Asphalt Hot Mix Plant Surplus  
Liquidation • Reareval, UT

SATURDAY, DEC. 7, 9:00AM  
Gov. Heavy Equipment Surplus  
Liquidation • Solt Lake City, UT  
Times-News Ad: 12-1  
www.infoauction.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 7, 11:00AM  
Bicycle Shop Reps & ATVs, Heyburn  
Motorbikes • Bikes • Brake Parts  
Bike Access., Tools • Office Equip.  
Times-News Ad: 12-5  
U.S. AUCTION  
www.us-auctioneers.com

SATURDAY, DEC. 7, 11:00AM  
Block Swan Interiors Closeout, Twin Falls  
Living & Dining Room Furniture  
Area Rugs • Accessories • Wall Decor  
Times-News Ad: 12-5  
JMA AUCTIONEERS  
www.jmauctions.com

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AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

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Today 7:30 - 9:00  
Thurs - Sun 1:00 - 3:00 - 5:00 - 7:00 - 9:00  
Walt Disney's Treasure Planet (PG)

Daily 7:15 - 9:15  
Thurs - Sun 1:15 - 3:15 - 5:15 - 7:15 - 9:15  
Adam Sandler & Jimmy Kimmel (R)

Thurs - Sun 12:30 - 4:00 - 7:30 pm  
Harry Potter & Chamber of Secrets

Thurs - Sun 1:00 - 3:00 - 5:00 - 7:00 - 9:00  
Walt Disney's Treasure Planet (PG)

ODYSSEY THEATRE  
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ALL SEATS BEFORE 5:30 PM ONLY \$1.50

Today 1:00 - 3:10 - 5:20 - 7:30 - 9:40  
ISPY (13) or Friday after Next (R)

Today 12:45 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30  
Emmanuelle Beaulieu (R)

Today 12:30 - 1:30 - 3:30 - 4:20 - 7:00 - 7:30 - 8:40 - 9:55 - James Bond 007 Die Another Day (13)

Today 1:20 - 4:20 - 7:20 Half Past Dead (13)

Today 9:55 Salma Hayek Frida (R)

TWIN 12 CINEMA  
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ALL SEATS BEFORE 5:30 PM ONLY \$1.50

Today 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:30 - 9:45  
My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG)

Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30  
The Ring (13) or Solaris (13)

Today 12:00 - 2:15 - 4:30 - 7:10 - 9:20  
Sweet Home Alabama (13)

Today 12:00 - 12:45 - 2:00 - 3:30 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 7:45 - 9:00  
Harry Potter Chamber of Secrets (PG)

Today 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:40 - 9:50  
R. Cray's Night (13)

NOW AT THE ODYSSEY 6  
**ISPY**

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## WORK OUT TO WIPE OUT HUNGER

### Thanksgiving Day

8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Put the turkey in the oven and come help us raise money to buy turkey dinner for the less fortunate.

Donate for your chance to win

- Overnight stay and show at Cactus Petes.
- Honeymoon Suite at the Comfort Inn
- Free mammogram from MYRMG.

The entire event is free, but all donations will be given to S.C. Community Action Agency to buy the trimmings for Thanksgiving dinner to feed 500-600 families.

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MORNING BREAK

Man considers military career to pay for college

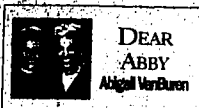
**DEAR ABBY:** I am a 25-year-old man with a good career, but I have not finished college. I have no children and own my own home.

Over time I have considered joining the military, and I am now making a decision. The service could provide me with a technical skills plus I could finish my education without having to take out a hefty loan. Overall, the experience sounds appealing. However, the truth is, I don't know what's going on in the world. Even so, I still want to serve.

My family and friends have the same idea. They think I've lost my mind, and say it's the worst thing I could do with my life right now. I am really stuck. The recruiter is pressuring me to "decide" now or never, and my family and friends say I'll be making a mistake that could kill me or make me miserable for the next four years.

Please help me to decide, Abby. My mother always said you spoke the truth and gave good advice.

**NOT IN BOOT CAMP YET**



**DEAR ABBY**  
Abby Cadabby

**DEAR NOT IN BOOT CAMP YET:** There are no easy answers to your question. This isn't something anyone else can answer for

you. Yes, there ARE risks. There are also rewards. I urge you to investigate thoroughly before you sign anything and do not allow yourself to be pressured.

**DEAR ABBY:** Last summer, my boyfriend and I attended the out-of-town wedding of a friend. When I danced with the groom, he began running his hands all over me! I was shocked and tried to pull away. My boyfriend saw everything.

Since my return home, the groom has been sending me inappropriate e-mails. I keep e-mailing him back telling him to stop or I will tell his bride. I do not want to lose her friendship, but she should know what he is doing. What would you do?

**- FELT UP IN PHILLY**

**DEAR FELT:** Since he has not heeded your warning, forward the e-mails - all of them - to his wife.

**JUGGLE MANIA**

Special Weekend Shows with Rhys Thomas  
One of the Northwest's Premier Jugglers!

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Noon, 2:00 pm & 3:00 pm  
Sunday, December 1  
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Look behind the scenes, Gemini

**IF NOVEMBER 27TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY** - people are drawn to you with their problems. On many occasions you are better at helping others than in promoting your own cause. You are emotional, romantic and passionate in love. Aries, Libra could have these letters in names: I, R. During December, a relationship could begin or end; it's surprising, but not necessarily negative. January and October most memorable for you in 2003.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

**ARIES** (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Some people will claim you are striving for the impossible, perfection. Continue to strive, as an Aries nothing is completely out of reach for you. Places plays critical role.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20-May 20): Your position highlights creativity and a variety of experiences. You receive backing from superiors. Focus on organization, recognition of priorities. Capricorn involved.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): Look behind scenes. Complete vision that has spiritual overtones. You will battle fear, doubt, suspicion and superstition. Aries will play substantial role.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Define objectives. You are serious, make fresh start in new direction. Love relationship "size" of imprint style, do not follow others. You could be in the news, making news.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You will be more "comfortable" at home. Family will lend support; this helps you hit financial jackpot. What was lost 48 hours ago will be recovered tonight, including money.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Celebrate! Cycle high; you will be at right place at special time. Circumstances turn in your favor; you get proverbial "lucky break." In matters of speculation, stick with number 3.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Restrictions are temporary; you beat the odds and possibly beat the game. What had been a revolving door will be transformed into "straight ahead." Scorpio figures prominently.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Read and write, get thoughts on paper. Take notes of dreams; tonight will be "sensational." Foundation lends spice, could prove sensitive; Gemini, Virgo play dominating roles.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You gain recognition not only at home but also in faraway places. Advertise and publish; open lines of communication. You will receive proposals, including love and marriage.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Gain valid hint from Sagittarius message. What apparently was an obstacle will be transformed into reality. Define terms you be in driver's seat; Pisces is in picture.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You will be handsomely rewarded for efforts; pressure is on due to added responsibility. Line up priorities, proceed accordingly. Mystery of where the money is solved tonight.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Look beyond the immediate; perceive mental and emotional about focus on legal affairs, public relations and marital status. Aries, Libra persons play fantastical roles.



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Wednesday, Dec. 4 ..... Festival Gala 6:00 PM- 10:00 PM  
Thursday, Dec. 5 ..... 12:00 Noon-9:00 PM  
10:00 AM- 12:00 PM SENIOR CITIZENS/PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED  
Friday, Dec. 6 ..... 10:00 AM-9:00 PM  
Saturday, Dec. 7 ..... 10:00 AM-9:00 PM

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Dinner • Entertainment/Dance • Santa Auction  
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IDAHO/WEST

A Coos Bay, Ore., firefighter climbs the ladder of an engine Monday, battling a blaze at an auto supply store where three firefighters were killed.



### Three firefighters die battling Oregon blaze

COOS BAY, Ore. (AP) — A fire at an auto body shop in downtown Coos Bay killed three veteran firefighters Monday and led to the evacuation of downtown businesses.

The fire blazed for about 1 1/2 hours, said Coos Bay Police Department Captain Eura Washburn. The blaze paralyzed downtown Coos Bay, where power was shut off, telephone lines were tied up and businesses were evacuated.

Linda Dufner, a nursing supervisor at Bay Area Hospital, said one of the firefighters, 33-year-old Robert Charles Hanners, of Coos Bay, died after he arrived at the hospital.

The two others, both Coos Bay residents, died inside the building, after the roof of the building caved in while they were on the second floor. Their names were not released Monday night.

Coos Bay Mayor Joe Benetti said it appeared that the fire was accidental. Police said that Kim Macfee, the owner of the body shop, smelled an unusual odor, climbed on the roof to investigate

and discovered the fire.

The Oregon State Fire Marshall is investigating the incident.

Benetti said the scene at the fire was a solemn one, with the firemen who escaped the blaze in mourning and in shock.

### Cops nab alleged drug supplier

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — A California man accused of hauling vegetables and drugs to Idaho for at least five years has made his last run, investigators say.

Gregory L. Kelly was arrested earlier this month after he helped bring methamphetamine to Idaho Falls.

The 34-year-old man known as "Mr. G" and his associates allegedly sold undercover investigators \$40,000 in drugs over the past year. He brought them north in his semi-tractor trailer.

Kelly faces three counts of trafficking methamphetamine. Investigators said Kelly and 11 people he had ties with were arrested over the past two weeks.

Authorities seized about \$200,000 worth of meth and marijuana.

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**Franklin** is supplying paint, carpeting, cabinetry (if needed), vinyl/laminates up to a value of \$1000/room Franklin Building Supply is also supplying a consultant.



**Wilson Bates** is supplying furniture, appliances, or accessories up to a value of \$500/room Wilson Bates is also supplying a designer.



**TARGET** is supplying linens and accessories up to a value of \$250/room.

### Applicant Rules

1. Participants must live within the Magic Valley area
2. You must either own the property or have written permission from the owner.
3. Each home must have a "team" of two people - spouses, parent and child, siblings, and friends are all welcome. All participants must be at least 16 years old.
4. The room must be at least 14' x 14'
5. The room must already have furniture in it. Any furniture that should not be touched can be removed beforehand, but the room cannot be empty.
6. You and the other participating party must both be able to take the same two days in January 2003 out of your schedule. If additional days are needed, both parties must agree on the specific day. The project must be concluded within three days total.
7. Participating party must have a friend or relative that they can stay with for the duration of the project (up to three days).
8. Invasive work into walls, floor or ceilings is not allowed. New lighting fixtures are allowed.
9. Interested groups should fill out an application, available at the following sponsoring businesses: Franklin Lumber in Twin Falls, Gooding, Jerome, and Burley; Wilson Bates in Twin Falls or Burley; The Times-News in Twin Falls and Burley; or on-line at [magicvalley.com](http://magicvalley.com) - click on the "It's A Switch" button. Applicants must also include photos showing all angles of the room to be transformed, a picture of themselves, and the exterior of their home. Pictures may also be mailed, with applications, to The Times-News, PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303, Attn: It's A Switch
10. Employees of The Times-News, Franklin Building Supply, Target, or Wilson Bates or their immediate families are ineligible to enter.

Applications and pictures are due to The Times-News, all Magic Valley Franklin Lumber locations, or the Twin Falls or Burley Wilson Bates locations by November 29, 2002. Winning applicants will be announced on December 8th in The Times-News. Work will need to be completed by January 30, 2003.

A complete follow-up section on the two rooms featured will appear in The Times-News Spring Home section on March 5, 2003.

### Entry Form

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Teammate's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Teammate's relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_

Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Address (if different from yours): \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Room to be transformed: \_\_\_\_\_ Measurements: \_\_\_\_\_

Why have you chosen this room? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own your home? \_\_\_\_\_

When was your home built? \_\_\_\_\_

What style is your home? \_\_\_\_\_

Who else lives with you? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever tried decorating before? \_\_\_\_\_

Tell us a little about yourself (30 words or less): \_\_\_\_\_



Entry Forms and pictures are due to The Times-News, all Magic Valley Franklin Lumber locations, or the Twin Falls or Burley Wilson Bates locations by November 29, 2002. Winning applicants will be announced on December 8th in The Times-News. Work will need to be completed by January 30, 2003.

LEGAL NOTICE - In conformance with Idaho Code, Pines Storage will sell on December 7, 2002 at Hunt Brothers Auction Service, 165 Eastland, Twin Falls, ID the stored contents of Becky Lewis, Leanna Pulizzi, Paul Wynneke, Cindy West John Batten, Linda Bean and Elve Thuren.

LEGAL ADVERTISING - Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING, The Times-News, P.O. Box 540, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication...

FOUND 11/24 black & brown mixed breed dog, intact reaction of 2141, 6 Hwy. 30, call 433-4683 or 420-2323.

LOST Black male cat, white tummy, 4 white paws, yellow eyes. Vicinity of West Point area, Wendell. Call 639-2268.

Want to meet single mom. Financially secure rancher, businesswoman, wants to meet a single mom. 22 to 40 yrs. Possibly looking for a partner in the future...

119 10 YRS. Exp. stay at home Mom. Openings reasonable rates. 733-9600.

ACCOUNTING - Elvish Grain, Feed and Seed Co., Report, ID, Accounting, Payroll, Bookkeeping, Computer Software, etc.

COLLECTION/CUSTOMER SERVICE - Friendly w/office culture, communicate well in person & on the phone. Organized & able to balance multiple tasks.

DRIVERS - Hiring Drivers & Owners Operators. No experience. 78R COLLEGE... We offer: Excellent Pay & Benefits, Tuition Reimbursement, Stability, We Pay Up to 10 yrs verifiable CDL Experience. 688-1900-6345

PUBLISH: November 27 and December 7, 2002. LEGAL NOTICE - T & S Storage will sell contents of Unit #11 belonging to Mary Weber, last known telephone number is 410-5864. Contents will be sold on November 30, 2002 for payments due.

LOST AND FOUND - In our effort to make our classified section free of any errors, please check your ad for any mistakes the first day that it runs.

LOST Black Lab, SE of Murtaugh, Missing since 11/20/02, any info please call 432-5272.

LOST leather med-size day planner in or near Kimberly on 11/25. Reward for papers inside planner. Will be out of town please call 423-6389.

108 FAX YOUR AD - TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-733-5538 or 208-677-4543 (Burley)

PUBLIC SERVICE - 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, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Anti-Fraud Center, 1-800-876-7060.

ADMINISTRATIVE - Satellite office in Twin Falls needs an energetic self starter, property management background a plus.

CONSTRUCTION - Experienced framer, your ground work. Benefits possible. Wage DOE. Call: 208-244-444, 733-7828.

DRIVERS - Come join our team! 800-828-8285. We offer: Excellent pay, flexible schedule, good pay, vacation pay, health insurance and multiple safety bonuses.

PUBLIC NOTICE - Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing.

104 PERSONALS - Attention Verizon customers: If you've had disputes without bill who contact us we'd like to hear from you. Looking for unwanted Millionaire Bucks. Will pick up. Call 530-7035.

104 PERSONALS - Attention Verizon customers: If you've had disputes without bill who contact us we'd like to hear from you. Looking for unwanted Millionaire Bucks.

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Convenient\*

\* 1. Suited to comfort or to easier performance. 2. Handy. 3. Classified's consistent, easy availability for both advertisers and readers.

The Times-News Classifieds 733-0931 677-4042 www.magicvalley.com

Payment Options - MasterCard, VISA, Discover, American Express. THESE FINE CARDS, CASH, CHECK AND MONEY ORDERS ARE ACCEPTED FOR PRE-PAYMENT.

Ad Deadlines - PUBLICATION DAY DEADLINE: SUNDAY 4 PM FRIDAY 4 PM FRIDAY 4 PM MONDAY 2 PM MONDAY 2 PM TUESDAY 2 PM TUESDAY 2 PM WEDNESDAY 1 PM THURSDAY 1 PM FRIDAY 1 PM

LEGAL - 301 Business Opportunities, 302 Money to Loan, 303 Money Wanted, 304 Investments, 305 Contracts & Mortgages, 306 Financial Services.

FINANCIAL - 516 Vacation Property/Time Shares, 517 Condominiums, 518 Mobile Homes, 519 Cemetery Lots, 520 Real Estate Wanted, 521 Manufactured Homes.

REAL ESTATE RENTALS - 601 Furnished Houses, 602 Unfurnished Houses, 603 Furnished Apts./Duplexes, 604 Unfurnished Apts./Duplexes, 605 Rooms For Rent, 606 Mobile Homes, 607 Office & Retail Rentals, 608 Commercial Property, 609 Condominium/Time Shares, 610 Storage/Utility/Rental, 611 Farms For Rent, 612 Pastures For Rent.

AGRICULTURE - 701 Livestock, 702 Farm/Ranch Supplies, 703 Cattle/Small Farm, 705 Irrigation, 706 Farm Seed & Fertilizer, 708 Hay, Grain & Feed.

MERCHANDISE - 801 Antiques & Collectibles, 802 Appliances, 803 Bazaars & Crafts, 804 Building Materials, 805 Cameras & Equipment, 806 Children's Items, 807 Clothing, 808 Communication Equipment.

COMPUTERS - 809 Computers, 810 Firewood, 811 Furniture/Carpet, 812 Heating & Air Conditioning, 813 Auctions, 814 Jewelry & Furs, 815 Lawn & Garden, 816 Exercise Equipment, 817 Miscellaneous For Sale, 818 Musical Instruments, 819 Office Equip./Supplies, 820 Pets & Supplies, 821 Stereo/Radio/CDs, 822 Tools & Machinery, 823 Variety Food & Services, 824 Video Equipment, 825 Wanted To Buy, 826 Camping Equipment, 827 Garage Sales, 828 Medical Supplies, 829 Flea Markets.

TRANSPORTATION - 900 Boats & Accessories, 904 Campers & Shells, 905 Guns & Rifles, 906 Hot Tubs & Pools, 907 Motor Homes & RVs, 908 Snow Vehicles & Equipment, 909 Sporting & Hunting Equipment, 910 Travel Trailers, 911 Utility Trailers.

The Times-News Classifieds

Office Hours: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. 733-0931 Extension 2 Twin Falls Burley



DRIVERS... Professional Truck Driver... Largest Class A School in Magic Valley 734-5586

DRIVERS... Need to know farm hand... Full time position... 734-5586

MECHANIC... Truck/Tractor... general knowledge... 734-5586

MICROCELLANEOUS... We have immediate openings for... Warehouse Workers... 734-5586

SUPERINTENDENT... Highway District... Full time position... 734-5586

Please check your ad for correctness on the first day it runs, as the Times-News is not responsible for errors after the first day.

BHOSHONE (5) \*\*\* The Times-News is currently looking for independent newspaper carriers for the Shoshone area... 734-5586

INVESTMENT CORP. Cash for Deeds of Trust... 734-5586

THE TIMES NEWS Classified Department... 734-5586

DRIVERS... Need to know farm hand... Full time position... 734-5586

GENERAL GEM STATE STAFFING... IDAHO'S QUALITY STAFFING PROVIDER... 734-5586

OFFICE MANAGER... Seeking an Office manager for progressive real estate company... 734-5586

PROFESSIONAL... Work w/ disabled, Reg. BA or BS in Social Sciences... 734-5586

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE... RT. 716... RT. 717... 734-5586

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DRACO... Cash for Deeds of Trust... 734-5586

TWIN FALLS... Tutoring for all subjects... 734-5586

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MONEY

Stocks fall on lower consumer confidence

NEW YORK (AP) — A worse-than-expected consumer confidence report jolted Wall Street Tuesday, prompting investors to cash in some profits from two weeks of gains on fears of a tepid holiday season.

Analysts said stocks were already expected to pull back somewhat on lighter trading in

advance of the Thanksgiving holiday, when the market is closed. The consumer sentiment news simply gave investors another reason to sell.

"People want to see a strong confidence number, especially with the holiday season coming up," said Stephen Kar, principal and head of equity trading at The

Williams Capital Group. "If you don't see that, it doesn't bode well."

The Dow Jones industrial average declined 172.98, or 2 percent, to close at 8,564.42, after gaining 44 points Monday. It was the Dow's biggest drop in two weeks, since the blue chips fell 178 points on Nov. 11.

Albertson's

Continued from D1  
AP: There's been a lot of consolidation in the industry in recent years, including Albertson's purchase of American Stores. Do you see that continuing?

Johnston: What's interesting is that the business is still done by small mom-and-pop, regional chains and independents. So over the next 10 to 20 years, you're going to see pretty dramatic consolidation in this industry as local players decide they want to monetize their family assets.

It's also not globalized... The only company that has made much of a foray is (the Dutch firm) Royal Ahold. They're on the East coast with Stop & Shop, Giant Food.

So I think if you look at the industry, you're going to have U.S., North American and global consolidators, and we plan to be one of them.

AP: Talk a bit about your new Super Stores in Los Angeles. Johnston: We have a big push on diversity in our company, inside and outside. We want our associate population to mirror our customer population at every level, from the executive suite all the way to the retail floor.

In the marketplace, basically what I want to do is draw a concentric circle around every one of our 2,300 stores, and I want the assortment in that store to match the ethnicity of the neighborhood it's in.

Some neighborhoods are all Hispanic, so we can put in a full Hispanic format. That's what Super Saver is... All the signage is in both languages, English and Spanish, and it's a 100 percent Spanish-speaking staff in the store.

AP: How has the slumping economy affected your business? Johnston: We do see, as all retailers do, the effects of the tougher economy. For instance, we see people trading down from

steak to hamburger or to poultry, or from seafood to poultry. We see them buying more private-label products... instead of buying a branded water, like an Evian, they'll buy our store water.

We also see their shopping patterns change. The average consumer visits a grocery store between two and three times a week. But during a recession or a tough economic period, the trips become less frequent, and they stock up at the beginning of the month. They're trying to plan it out.

AP: Still, holidays can be strong sales periods for grocers, right? Johnston: Between Thanksgiving and New Year, we'll have 2 million customer trips to our stores. We'll sell over 3 million turkeys. We'll sell over 4 million pumpkins.

We'll sell over 32.7 million asparagus spears, and then measure New York's Macy's parade route. It's 2 1/2 miles. We will sell enough pumpkins to route a truck around the perimeter seven times. And our fruit and veggie sales will be up 40 million navel oranges — with a combined total of zero seeds, I might add.

AP: How do you compete with the growing competition from Wal-Mart and warehouse clubs like Costco? Johnston: I think these supercenters and these warehouse clubs are excellent competitors. Their strength is in their purchasing leverage, which they can obtain because of their sheer size. And they have some great technology.

I guess what's different about them from us is that these are destination retailers, where our primary focus is on price. Thirty-five percent of the people who walk into a grocery store mention price as the No. 1 reason they buy.

Interestingly, that's not the No. 1 reason overall. The No. 1 is convenience. So while price is important, it's not the most important factor. And we have local stores. We're all over the place.

AP: You're a big promoter of technology. When you're looking at kinds of things are you looking at? Johnston: There probably aren't retailers that use technology more effectively than grocery and drug-store companies. The first scanning activity started in grocery stores years ago.

When I joined the company, we trailed most of our competitors in the Internet retailing space... We've already begun to narrow the technology gap between ourselves and what I'd call best-in-class competitors. I believe we're actually leading in the Internet retailing space. You can order online. Then, for \$9.95, we deliver to your home. For \$4.95, you can drive right up to the store and we'll put it in your truck. When you give me your profile in the beginning, which you put into your computer at your leisure at home. And you'll automatically be routed through the store. We'll automatically bring up your shopping list, which you've put into your computer at your leisure at home. And you'll automatically be routed through the store. We'll automatically bring up your shopping list, which you've put into your computer at your leisure at home. And you'll automatically be routed through the store.

Rosen

Continued from D1  
help set some realistic expectations for gift giving. Get out the scissors and marking pens and let your kids start cutting and circling.

"A trip through the catalogues that come in the mail or inserts in the paper is fun for the kids as well as a lesson in the price of things," said Letia Young, a Corvallis, Iowa, author of "The Money Book for Kids."

If your younger kids' lists are stuffed, set some guidelines, said Judith Briles, a family money author in Aurora, Colo. Your son or daughter might place a star next to three or four favorite items. Older kids on the other hand, tend to be a bit more selective with their lists — though, in my limited experience, there's no correlation to price.

You might even read the little ones "The Berenstain Bears Get the Gimmies," by Stan and Jan Berenstain, in which Brother and Sister Bear deal with the "galling, greedy gimmies" until they learn to do with less.

Encourage your kids to clean out their rooms of toys, games, books or stuffed animals that are no longer used but still are in good shape. Take the items to a homeless shelter or other community service agency to be given away. The message: If you give something new, you need to get rid of something old.

"It keeps them from being conspicuously consumptive and overwhelmed by stuff, and it helps them understand that there are loads of kids out there who have far fewer toys and amenities," said Maureen Dolan Rosen, a

Child Hill, N.C. author of "Kapsel's Cash Management for Kids."

If you're faced with an overabundance of gifts for the kids from family and relatives, experts suggest putting away some of the presents to be saved and opened on a cold or snowy winter day.

The gimmies can be cured. Remember, you have the gimmes, so what gets purchased for the holidays.

If you have some suggestions on how deal with the gimmies, let me know. I'll publish the responses in an upcoming column.

With a question or column idea, call Steve Rosen of The Kansas City Star at (816) 234-8789 or send an email to smosen@kcstar.com.

Tech

Continued from D1  
"As we get the infrastructure in place, we will probably increase by 10 to 20 percent a year for many years to come," he said.

The school's Idaho Accelerator Center, GIS Training and Research Center and an information systems center are gaining national prominence, he said, as the Institute of Rural Health. All are beginning to generate jobs.

Idaho State is working with the Department of Defense and expects the accelerator center will get a significant special congressional appropriation to fund work on detecting explosives and contraband.

Corey Schou, who runs the school's information systems center, is a special consultant with the White House.

House recently consulted with the FBI's regional data center, the Institute of Rural Health, all are beginning to generate jobs.

Idaho State is working with the Department of Defense and expects the accelerator center will get a significant special congressional appropriation to fund work on detecting explosives and contraband.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Lists various stocks and their performance.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Most Active, Most Active (by volume), Most Active (by value). Gainers, Losers, Diaries.

INDEXES

Table with columns: High, Low, Name, Last, %Chg, %YTD, %Chg. Includes Dow Jones Industrial, S&P 500, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists local stocks like Albertson's, American Stores, etc.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists NASDAQ national market stocks.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange. Includes instructions on how to read the report.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, YTD. Lists American Stock Exchange stocks.

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MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table listing futures contracts for various commodities including Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, and Oil. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

Table listing futures contracts for various commodities including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and Corn Meal. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

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Before you start holiday shopping, make a budget

By Albert B. Crestshaw, The Washington Post

As the holiday shopping season opens, consumers seem to be feeling cautious but a bit more confident about their spending than they were just in the wake of the terrorist attacks.

In a study that will bring some solace to retailers, most consumers report that they plan to spend the same (61 percent) or more (15 percent) than they did in 2001. The number who plan to spend less - 21 percent - was down sharply from the 28 percent of a year ago.

The report by the Consumer Federation of America and the Credit Union National Association suggests that burdensome debt left by the recession is a factor that many consumers exhibited. It found a notable uptick in concern among consumers about their ability to handle their non-mortgage debt payments.

Despite plunging interest rates in many parts of the economy, Federal Reserve figures show that consumer debt remains stubbornly high at 66 percent of disposable household income. Although down from the 1980s, when debt service ate up more than 8 percent of such disposable income, it is still at 7.8 percent.

Nearly a third of the consumers surveyed described themselves as "very concerned" about their ability to make their monthly non-mortgage debt payments - up from 16 percent a year ago - and 16 percent said they are "somewhat concerned." Not surprisingly, then, 40 percent said, when asked what they'd do if they got a \$5,000 windfall, that they'd pay down debt.

These are serious issues for families going into the holidays. The pressure to overspend between Thanksgiving and New Year's is almost as intense as the pressure to overspend - and both can have

Commentary

long-term consequences. So now is the time to begin planning and to start a system to stay within your means. Don't violate what one Washington was recently called the "First Law of Holes: When you're in one, stop digging."

Experts recommend drawing up a strict budget and sticking to it. Make a list of the people you expect to buy gifts for, figure the amount you want to spend, and then add it up. If the list is too high, revise.

If you have trouble restraining yourself, try a strategy Fairfax, Va., financial planner Richard Edelman often recommends: Leave your credit card at home and take cash when you go shopping. When you're out of cash, you're done, so you have to be careful.

This also helps with your planning. If you can't lay your hands on enough cash to cover your budget, that's a message to revise your list or to find ways to do for some folks, or maybe Aunt June will be just as happy with a cotton sweater as a wool one. And if you must use credit, put yourself on a strict payment schedule in January to get the debt paid.

That means paying more than the minimum asked by the bank. As they report put it: "If you only make the minimum required monthly payment, you probably will never pay off the debt."

And finally, if you chronically have problems with holiday spending, consider a resolution plan to help. Start with a budget account - open a separate bank account if you have to - and make regular contributions. If you can't get through the year repeat the borrowing, and then repeat the pressure in subsequent years, you not only will have stopped digging your financial hole, you'll be on your way to filling it in.

BEANS

Table listing bean futures contracts including Soybean Meal and Soybean Oil. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

CHEESE

Table listing cheese futures contracts including Cheddar and Swiss. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table listing potato and onion futures contracts. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table listing metal and currency futures contracts including Gold, Silver, and various currencies. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

Mills

She considers her family lucky, because they also have had income as a mail carrier. Still, it has forced a change in their spending habits. "We don't go out and eat as much as we would like. We don't buy our children as many things as we would like. We just stay home," Andrew Fossen said.

On Nov. 1, the company began a four-week shutdown for the Moyie Springs mill and a six-week shutdown at the Bonners Ferry mill. A glut of cheap lumber, making it tough for area lumber mills to compete.

Boundary County's unemployment rate was 7 percent before the shutdown, above the 5.5 percent state average. "We certainly expect it to go double-digit," said Kathryn Tacke, a Department of Labor analyst. It's been more than five years

since millworkers at Moyie Springs were last laid off. Dave Mosley, a 26-year-old millworker, said he couldn't remember the last time he drew unemployment.

Together, the mills account for 8 percent of the \$78.5 million annual payroll in Boundary County. Louisiana-Pacific is the second-largest private employer in the county, next to the Idaho Department of Labor.

Larry Cousins, who owns a family barbershop in Bonners Ferry, figures haircuts will be the first thing to pass up as they exercise control over their household budgets.

"We already have a high unemployment rate here and lower-paying jobs are the backbone of our economy. Really gets rocked when this happens. It's like a shock wave through the community."

GRAINS

Table listing grain futures contracts including Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

CHEESE

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CHICAGO (AP) - Futures trading on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Table listing futures contracts for various commodities including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and Corn Meal. Columns include contract name, price, and change.

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Large table listing various mutual funds with columns for fund name, share price, and other details.

