

The Times

Twin Falls, Idaho/97th year, No. 346

Thursday, December 12, 2002

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy today and tonight, high 46, low 32.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Let it snow: Look for the daily regional snowpack report, beginning today.
Page C1

WEST



Fighting fires: The Bush administration's plan to prevent forest fires by cutting brush and trees includes a forest near Pocatello.
Page C4

MONEY

Ethanol effects: A new study paints a positive economic picture for alcohol plants in Idaho.
Page D1

OUTDOORS



Hounds and Hens: Bird hunting bliss doesn't necessarily mean bringing home many birds.
Page E1

SPORTS

TV time? Teen-aged high school hoops star will be showcased by ESPN tonight.
Page B1

OPINION

The Western View: The reason national media fall short of covering the West is more than bias, today's editorial says.
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COMING UP

It's here
Part 2 of the much-anticipated 'Lord of the Rings' series opens.
Friday in The Times-News

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Preparing for the worst



Paramedics rush a pretend patient with smallpox into the emergency room at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center on Wednesday afternoon. The drill was designed to gauge the hospital's and community's response to a bioterror situation in the Magic Valley.

Hospital workers conduct smallpox drill

By Mark Heinz
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - It took only three people Wednesday to disrupt the entire routine at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and put the hospital's staff on full alert.

When three people apparently suffering from smallpox were brought into the emergency room, face masks had to be

About smallpox - A2

other diseases as biological weapons, practice is vital, officials said.

"This is fine. This is a learning experience for us all," said Tom Machala, a spokesman for South Central District Health.

The health district would be one of the first agencies alerted in the case of a real outbreak, he said. That in turn would start the mobilization of officials and agencies ranging from the local level

all the way up to the national Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, he said.

In a case like the hypothetical infection at Magic Valley Regional, the CDC could have smallpox vaccine on site within 12 hours, he said. Ideally, there's a four-hour window to get the possibly exposed people vaccinated before a smallpox outbreak.

Please see SMALLPOX, Page A2

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Elizabeth Forrester, a Vanderbilt University student in Nashville, Tenn., shows her smallpox vaccine Wednesday.

U.S. plans vaccinations for all

Combined wire reports

WASHINGTON - President Bush will make the smallpox vaccination available to all Americans as a precaution against a possible bioterror attack, a senior administration official said Wednesday.

In a policy to be announced Friday, Bush also will order the vaccination of about 500,000 military personnel and set the stage for the inoculation of another 500,000 front-line health-care workers - the public health teams who would investigate smallpox cases and the doctors, nurses and hospital support personnel who would probably be the first to treat patients.

The general public is not expected to have access to the vaccine

Test subjects say they're feeling some unpleasant side-effects

until early 2004, when sufficient doses have been fully licensed by the Food and Drug Administration.

While news of the president's long-awaited decision appeared to answer, for now, the question of who would have access to the smallpox vaccine, it is also likely to heighten public awareness of the perceived bioterror threat and could sharpen U.S. allegations against Iraq, which is believed to possess the deadly virus.

"We are generally concerned

about the potential that terrorists or certain states might have illegal stores of the smallpox virus and might use it," said the administration official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"World events play a role in this - concerns about Iraq, concerns about other countries," Jerome M. Hauer, acting assistant secretary of the Health and Human Services Department, said earlier Wednesday.

Bush had been weighing the decision for months, carefully considering both intelligence information and scientific data, Hauer said.

The key factor complicating the president's decision was the dan-

Please see VACCINES, Page A2

Report: Al-Qaida gets Iraqi weapon

Analysts suspect nerve agent was smuggled out through Turkey

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The Bush administration has received a credible report that Islamic extremists affiliated with al-Qaida took possession of a chemical weapon in Iraq last month or late in October, according to two officials with firsthand knowledge of the report and its source. They said government analysts suspect that the transaction involved the nerve agent VX and that a courier managed to smuggle it overland through Turkey.

If the report proves true, the transaction marks two significant milestones. It would be the first known acquisition of a nonconventional weapon other than cyanide by al-Qaida or a member of its network. It also would be the most concrete evidence to support the charge, aired for months by President Bush and his advisers, that al-Qaida terrorists receive material assistance in Iraq. If advanced publicly by the White House, the report could be used to rebut Iraq's assertion in a 12,000-page declaration Saturday that it had destroyed its entire stock of chemical weapons.

On the central question whether Iraqi President Saddam Hussein knew about or authorized such a transaction, U.S. analysts are said to have no evidence. Because Saddam's long-picked Special Security Organisation, run by his son Qusay, has long exercised tight control over concealed weapons programs, officials say they pre-

Please see REPORT, Page A4

Bush to bypass Congress on faith charities

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON - President Bush on Thursday will issue a sweeping executive order directing federal agencies to let religious charities compete for social-service grants and contracts, bypassing Congress on a sensitive church-state issue.

With his "faith-based" initiative stalled in the Senate, Bush will push his agenda forward with the stroke of a pen at a conference of religious charities in Philadelphia. Administration officials said the order would help clear the way for govern-

Please see CHARITIES, Page A2

Tougher seat-belt law would cut costs for all, advocates say

Requiring only youths to buckle up isn't enough, they contend

The Times-News and The Associated Press

TWIN FALLS - A coalition of safety and health groups is complaining that Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's Blue Ribbon Task Force on government efficiency fell short when it only recommended mandatory seat belts for vehicle passengers under 18.

"By requiring only occupants under 18 to be buckled up, the task force missed most of the staggering price tag that comes with Idaho's low buckle-up rate," said Dave Carlson of the Idaho chapter of the American Automobile Association.

Promoting seat belt use

To kick off a year-long campaign aimed at increasing seat belt use in south-central Idaho, several local agencies are sponsoring an event from noon to 2 p.m. Saturday at Main Street Plaza at 132 Main Ave. S.

A Christmas tree has been decorated with seat belt safety-themed ornaments. It is on display at the Historic Old Towne Twin Falls office at 132 Main Ave. S.

The event will include a tree-lighting ceremony followed by activities for children and hours of giveaways.

Phyllis Smith, director of community advocacy organization Seat Belt Awareness for Everyone, will speak, and representatives from the sponsoring organizations will be on hand to talk about the importance of seat belt use and to answer questions.

For more information, call South Central District Health at 734-5900, Ext. 215.

In 2001, 37 fatal automobile crashes in south-central Idaho where seat belts were not used cost nearly \$112 million, according to a joint news release from the Twin Falls Police Department, Magic Valley Safe Kids Coalition and South Central District Health. That's more than \$3 million per crash.

Statewide, the economic cost of traffic crashes in Idaho last year was \$1.5 billion, just \$400,000 short of the total general tax budget for the state, and eight of every 10 victims were 18 or older.

"Many of the costs of not buckling up are passed on to every Idahoan through taxes, insurance premiums and increased charges

Please see BELTS, Page A2

SEPT. 11 PROBE



Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., right, and Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., the top lawmakers on the Senate Intelligence Committee, discuss the results of their probe into the Sept. 11 attacks Wednesday in Washington. They recommended the creation of an intelligence czar and called for the release of documents into possible Saudi financial ties with U.S.-based terrorists. Please see page A3.

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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: A new light showers possible earlier in the day, otherwise mostly cloudy and breezy at times. Highs in the 40s.
Tonight: Continued mostly cloudy, with mild temperatures. Lows in the upper 20s to the lower 30s.
Tomorrow: Unsettled with continued cloudy skies and a chance for mixed precipitation. Highs in the 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: A mix of rain and possibly some light snow, otherwise breezy to brisk and overcast. Highs in the 40s.
Tonight: Warmer-than-average with lingering light showers. Lows in the mid 20s to near 30.
Tomorrow: The chance for showers continues, along with light winds at times. Highs in the 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
As most air and weather disturbances continue to move through the atmosphere, the chance for mountain snow showers and valley rain will continue for the next several days.

BOISE
Today Highs: 28 to 40. Tonight's Lows: 17 to 30.
A low rain shower and perhaps a snow flake or two are not out of the question for the rest of the week. At the very least, it is expected to be on the cloudy side with breezy conditions at times.

NORTHERN UTAH

A light rain or snow shower with mostly cloudy skies will round out the weather for the rest of the week.



Yesterday's State Extremes - High: 44 at Highgate; Low: 15 at Starley. Wind: strong, w-southw; pc: partly cloudy; mo: mostly cloudy; oc: cloudy; in: thunderstorms; su: showers; r: rain; sn: snow; B: blizzard; w: wind; m: misting.

Every Thursday In The Times-News Call Today 733-0931 ON 677-4042

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for various Idaho cities.

Table with 2 columns: Sunrise and Sunset, U.V. INDEX. Includes sunrise/sunset times and UV index.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Forecasts for cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Forecasts for cities like Atlanta, Chicago, Denver, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Forecasts for cities like Asuncion, Athens, Auckland, etc.



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Forecasts for Canadian cities like Calgary, Edmonton, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Group calls for cardinal to resign

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) - A group of lay Catholics called for Cardinal Bernardini's resignation Wednesday, joining a growing chorus of dissent against the leader of the scandal-plagued Boston Archdiocese.

diocese in need of new leadership. "There is a state of spiritual and moral crisis in the Archdiocese of Boston," said Jim Post, president of Voice of the Faithful. "In my judgment, the Archdiocese of Boston has effectively been without a bishop."

Charities

Continued from A1
ment assistance to religious organizations that serve the poor. The order is intended to make sure that faith-based groups can retain their religious identities, including the right to hire workers based on religion, while accepting federal tax dollars.

Feds cite firm in mine accident that killed 13

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. (AP) - Federal regulators cited a mining company Wednesday for numerous safety violations in an accident that killed 13 coal miners last year, the worst U.S. mine accident in more than a decade.

Belts

Continued from A1
for medical care," said Connie O'Marra, health education specialist and injury prevention coordinator for South Central District Health. "Almost one-fourth of the crashes in southern Idaho were paid for by Medicaid, Medicare, or other taxpayer-funded sources."

Vaccine

Continued from A1
ger of the vaccine itself, which contains live viruses. Scientists estimate that at least 15 of every 1 million persons vaccinated will suffer life-threatening side effects, such as encephalitis, leading to tissue destruction or inflammation of the brain, and roughly one of those will die.

Lawmaker quits panel

WASHINGTON (AP) - Citing a reluctance to quit his law firm, former Sen. George Mitchell on Wednesday withdrew from the new commission that will investigate the Sept. 11 attacks.

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

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IDAHO LOTTERY Wednesday, Dec. 19. 6 12 14 22 30 PM: 21

IDAHO LOTTERY Wednesday, Dec. 13. 6 12 14 22 30 PM: 21

IDAHO LOTTERY Wednesday, Dec. 11 9 0 0. 6 12 14 22 30 PM: 21

About amoxicillin Amoxicillin is a broad-spectrum antibiotic designed for oral, intravenous, and intramuscular use.

Smallpox

Continued from A1
break can spread, he said. "One thing to learn is to not get too excited about it and get hysterical about it," he said.

usually form first on the face and then spread to the extremities and trunk. Other ailments: Extreme fever, nausea, diarrhea, vomiting and respiratory problems.

Shutting down the building's ventilation system would be one of the first steps taken to prevent more infections, she said. And depending upon the level of risk, some employees might have to be quarantined until the threat had passed.

logical warning, there has been renewed concern over smallpox and a call for some limited vaccination.

exactly when or what it would be," she said. Times-News reporter Mark Heinz can be reached at 735-3238 or by e-mail at mheinz@magicalcity.com.

CORRECTION The Times-News reported Wednesday the incorrect date for the opera "A Little Princess" at West Milwau School in Rupert. The event was held in November. The Times-News regrets the error.

Intel panel calls for more detail on Saudis

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Leaders of the congressional panel that investigated the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks Wednesday accused the administration of refusing to disclose information about possible Saudi Arabian financial links to U.S.-based terrorists because the material would be embarrassing and would heighten political tensions with the desert kingdom.

"At a news conference where the panel's final report on the intelligence agencies' performance

Lawmakers also recommend intelligence czar

before the attacks was released, Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, and Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., the vice chairman, said the information on Saudi Arabia should be made public to inform the American public about a continued source of support for anti-American terror groups. Doing so also would put more pressure on the U.S. government to force the Saudis to sever their financial links to charities and

individuals who support terrorism, they said.

The joint panel, which was convened in February to investigate how U.S. intelligence agencies handled information about the hijackers and their plot, released 19 recommendations for improving the spy system — most of which have been made public in recent days — and 19 findings, most of which emerged during public hearings this fall. Many of the joint committee's findings

remain classified.

The key recommendations include a proposal to create a Cabinet-level intelligence czar with budget control over all 13 U.S. intelligence agencies. CIA director George Tenet, who is also director of central intelligence, is supposed to have that authority now. But Sen. John McCain, Donald Rumsfeld, not Tenet, has control over about 80 percent of the intelligence budget, and the intelligence agencies have devolved into separate, often competing fiefdoms.

Lott moves to quell furor over remarks

The Washington Post



Sen. Trent Lott

WASHINGTON — Senate Republican leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., under pressure from fellow Republicans, Wednesday launched a new effort to quell a growing controversy over comments that implied support for past segregationist policies in the South, calling his words "terrible" and "insensitive" and asserting that "I don't accept those policies of the past at all."

With some Republicans privately warning him that his own political future was at stake, Lott made his first public comments on a controversy that has built steadily into a serious problem not only for the leader himself but also for efforts by President Bush and other Republicans to portray their party as compassionate-and-inclusive to minorities.

As some Democrats called on Lott to step down as Republican leader, several Republican senators rose to his defense. But a longtime friend and ally, former housing secretary Jack Kemp, called Lott's remarks "inexplicable, indefensible and inexcusable" and warned that, until he does more to repudiate them, the party will suffer long-term damage.

Lott remained under fire Wednesday from African American elected officials as well as from conservative commentators for a statement last week in which he said the country "wouldn't have had all these problems over the years" if Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., had been elected president in 1948.

Thurmond ran for president that year as the nominee of the segregationist Dixiecrat Party. Lott's comment was nearly identical to one he made at a political rally

in an interview with conservative radio talk show host Sean Hannity, Lott said his remarks "conveyed an impression that is not accurate." He said that his reference to the country being better off was not about race and segregation but about Thurmond's support for "a strong national defense-and-economic-development and balanced budgets and opportunity."

Lott said last week's comment, made during a 100th birthday party for Thurmond, was "a mistake of the head and not of the heart." He said that his reference to the words and I'm sorry that I used words that were insensitive.

It was the second apology in three days by Lott. On Monday, as the controversy was beginning to grow, he issued a short, written statement, but when that failed to contain the damage, he yielded to the advice of other Republicans to make a more aggressive effort, which included both the radio interview and an appearance Wednesday night on CNN's "Larry King Live."

Justice finds voice during racial case

WASHINGTON (AP)—Normally stoic and silent during arguments, Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas found his voice Wednesday, condemning cross burning as a symbol of oppression during "100 years of lynching" in the South by the Ku Klux Klan.

The subject also evoked strong emotions from his white colleagues, who joined in expressing concern about violence and racism during arguments in the second cross-burning case to reach the Supreme Court in a decade.

Justices are considering how far states may go to discourage the Klan and others from burning crosses, a provocative practice rooted in racial hatred but still given some free-speech protections. At issue is the constitutionality of a 50-year-old Virginia law that bans cross burning.

The arguments produced an unusually candid look at the justices, particularly Thomas, who generally speaks only once or twice a year during oral arguments.

"This was a reign of terror, and the cross was a symbol of that reign of terror. Isn't that significantly greater than intimidation or a threat?" Thomas asked a Bush administration lawyer who supported the law.

The Supreme Court historically has been protective of First Amendment rights of the most controversial of groups, including burners of the American flag and even cross burners.

Michael Dreeben, the deputy solicitor general defending the Virginia law, said crosses have been used to intimidate minorities and that more than a dozen states have laws punishing the crime.

Thomas, who was raised in segregated Georgia, said burning crosses were "intended to cause fear and terror."

We had almost 100 years of lynching and activity in the South by the Knights of Camellia and the Ku Klux Klan," Thomas said.

Sickness hits more troops in Kuwait

KUWAIT CITY (AP)—More than 250 U.S. military personnel have been treated for food poisoning after eating at a camp south of Kuwait City, and 13 of them are hospitalized, an American military spokesman said Wednesday.

Most of the 271 Army soldiers, Navy sailors and Marine aviators were treated Monday for symptoms of food poisoning at the Oraifijan installation and "released back to work within 24 hours," Sgt. First Class David Hines said.

"We don't know at this point what it is," Dismukes said, declining to say if terrorism was suspected. He said laboratory test results of the water they drank were negative. Test results from the food were expected today.

Thirteen soldiers were still being treated for "a food-borne gastrointestinal illness," Dismukes said.

U.S. contractor Brown and Root provides food to the facility, about 35 miles south of Kuwait City.

There are around 12,000 U.S. military in Kuwait, a major ally of Washington in the Gulf. More are involved in exercises under a defense pact signed after the 1991 Gulf War that liberated Kuwait from a seven-month Iraqi occupation.



Weapons trade opens arms to all who can pay

WASHINGTON (AP)—No one's an outcast at the global weapons bazaar.

Countries with little in common, or even on opposing sides of alliances, come together in the arms trade, whether they do so openly, under the table or — as in the case of an intercepted missile shipment from North Korea to Yemen — hidden amid a cargo of cement.

With all but the most advanced weapons, arms experts say, if you've got the cash, you can get what you want.

And their only surprise when the transaction between North Korea and Yemen was uncovered was that the United States did something to stop it.

"They say politics makes strange bedfellows," said Lon Wolfenthal, an authority on non-proliferation at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "The international arms trade is no different."

U.S. officials decided

U.S. lets missiles continue to Yemen - D6

Wednesday to let the unflagged cargo ship carrying the Scud missiles sail on its way to Yemen after concluding they had no legal basis to seize the shipment.

Intelligence officials shadowed the ship for weeks and the Spanish navy stopped it Monday off the Arabian peninsula.

North Korea is an ambitious exporter of ballistic missiles, but not alone in offering its military weapons to practically all corners.

The U.S. government has warned for several years about leapfrogging advances in missile technology throughout the developing world. More small countries, using equipment and expertise from Russia, China and North Korea, are no longer just customers, but weapons exporters in their own right.

Tax-cutting advocates launch drive

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Bush, who shook up his economic team in an effort to get better salesmen for new tax cuts, drew fire Wednesday from conservative Republicans upset that the new team may not have sufficient tax-cutting fervor.

The debate echoes a battle that has raged in the Republican Party since Ronald Reagan's days and highlights the political minefield Bush will have to navigate in selling Congress on his new stimulus proposals, expected to include as much as \$300 billion in new tax cuts.

It is a battle between GOP supply-siders, who believe that tax cuts can actually spur government revenues by increasing incentives to work, and fiscal conservatives, who take the more traditional economic view that cutting taxes without matching cuts in government spending can lead to exploding budget deficits.

"Clearly, there is a struggle for the soul of the Republican party," said Stephen Moore, a supply-side economist and president of the Club for Growth.

The conservatives had expressed some concerns about past statements of Treasury Secretary nominee John W. Snow, who chaired an anti-deficit commission of business leaders in the mid-1990s. But they were mollified by Snow's endorsement of further tax cuts when Bush on Monday announced his selection to replace Paul O'Neill.

But the supply-side camp is still unhappy with Stephen Friedman, Bush's choice to replace Lawrence Lindsey as head of the president's National Economic Council, and they are conducting a furious lobbying campaign to get the decision reversed.

Magic Valley Mall

DEC 8	DEC 9	DEC 10	DEC 11	DEC 12	DEC 13	DEC 14
Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Sunday
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NATION

Stem cell project draws fire

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Stanford University has reignited the debate over the use of stem cells with a top scientist saying the school intends to experiment with cell nuclear transfer technology, an effort many consider to be cloning.

"Our avowed goal is to advance scientific research," said Stanford medical professor Dr. Irving Weissman, who will direct the work. "For any group to stay out of the action and wait for someone else to do it because of political reasons is wrong."

Much of the institute's research will be geared to treating cancer. Weissman and Stanford emphatically denied that the project involves cloning embryos. He said that the university's work would involve taking DNA from diseased adult human cells and transferring them into eggs, then growing them in the lab for a few days to produce stem cells, which many scientists believe can be used to treat myriad illnesses.

"Creating human stem cell lines is not equivalent to reproductive cloning," the school said in a statement released Tuesday night.

The first step in the process of creating a stem cell line involves transferring the nucleus from a cell to an egg and allowing the egg to divide. This is the same first step as in reproductive cloning. However, in creating a stem cell line, cells are removed from the developing cluster. These cells can go on to form many types of tissue but cannot on their own develop into a human.

Many other researchers dismiss such a distinction, saying that this kind of nuclear transfer, which would create an exact genetic replica of the adult cell donor if allowed to grow, is in fact cloning.

Similar research has already been done at the University of California, San Francisco, although it closed down its program when its lead researcher moved to England, where stem cell research is more accepted. It's also been done at Advanced Cell Technology in Worcester, Mass., which was roundly criticized after announcing preliminary research results.

PATRIOTIC COLORS



A fall-colored leaf sticks to the window of a car as a U.S. flag in the background is reflected in rain drops Tuesday in Fort Walton Beach, Fla.

Report

Continued from A1
sume it would be difficult to transfer a chemical agent without the president's knowledge.

Knowledgeable officials, speaking without White House permission, said information about the transfer came from a sensitive and credible source whom they declined to discuss. Among the hundreds of leads in the Threat Matrix, a daily compilation by the CIA, this one has drawn the kind of attention reserved for a much smaller number.

"The way we gleaned the information makes us feel confident it is accurate," said one official whose responsibilities are directly involved with the report. "I throw about 99 percent of the spot reports away when I look at them. I didn't throw this one away."

Like most intelligence, the reported chemical weapons transfer is not backed by definitive evidence. The intended target is unknown, with U.S. speculation focusing on Europe or and the

United States.

At a time when President Bush is eager to make a public case linking Iraq to the United States's principal terrorist enemy, authorized national security spokesmen declined to discuss the substance of their information about the transfer of lethal chemicals. Those who disclosed it have no policymaking responsibilities on Iraq and expressed no strong views on whether the United States should go to war there.

Even authorized spokesmen, with one exception, addressed the report on the condition of anonymity. They said the principal source on the chemical transfer was uncorroborated, and that indications it involved a nerve agent were open to interpretation.

"We are concerned because of al-Qaida's interest in obtaining and using weapons of mass destruction, including chemical, and we continue to seek evidence and intelligence information with regards to their planning activity," said Gordon Johndroe,

spokesman for Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge. Johndroe was the only official authorized by the White House to discuss the matter on the record.

"Have they obtained chemical weapons?" Johndroe said. "I do not have any hard, concrete evidence that they have." Pressed on whether the information referred to a nerve agent, Johndroe said "there is no specific intelligence that limits al-Qaida's interest to one particular chemical or biological weapon over the other."

One official who spoke without permission said a sign of the government's concern is its "ramping up opportunities to collect more, to figure out what would be the routes, where would they be taking the material, how would they deploy it, how are they transporting it, what are the personnel?" The official added: "We're not just sitting back and waiting for something to happen."

Analysts rank the U.S. as worst water waster

LONDON (AP) — Some of the world's richest countries — including the United States and Japan — lag behind some developing nations in making the best use of water, according to a new grading system published Wednesday.

The United States was rated the world's most wasteful user of water by the first Water Poverty Index.

Finland was ranked as the most efficient on the index, which grades 142 countries according to resources, ecology, capacity, use, and environmental impact. The other nine most efficient were Canada, Iceland, Norway, Guyana, Suriname, Austria, Ireland, Sweden and Switzerland.

The 10 countries at the bottom of the index were all from the Third World: Haiti, Niger, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Malawi, Djibouti, Chad, Benin, Rwanda and Burundi.

due to be discussed in March at the World Water Forum in Japan.

"The links between poverty, social deprivation, environmental integrity, water availability and health become clearer in the (index), enabling policy makers and stakeholders to identify where problems exist and the appropriate measures to deal with their causes," said Caroline Sullivan, who led the team developing the Water Poverty Index at the Center for Ecology & Hydrology — Wallingford, England. The center is part of the British government-funded Natural Environment Research Council.

A fifth of the world's population in 30 countries faced water shortages in 2000, a figure that will rise to 30 percent of the population, in 50 countries, by 2025, according to the World Water Council based in Marseilles, France.

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Sub-Saharan children lagging behind

The U.N. Children's Fund report called on governments to expand access to education for children and give them more of a voice. Still lagging behind in access and lifespan are those children living in sub-Saharan Africa.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	MIDDLE EAST		LATIN AMERICA / CARIBBEAN	CEECS/ALIZED STATES	INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES		
	NORTH AFRICA	SOUTH ASIA / PACIFIC					
Population under 18 (in millions)	325.3	155.3	584.7	601.3	193.8	127.0	190.3
Infant mortality under 5 (per 1,000 births)	173	61	98	43	34	37	7
Life expectancy at birth	48	67	62	69	70	69	78
Primary school enrollment/attendance, 1995-2001 (Percent)	57%	60%	71%	81%	83%	88%	87%

NOTE: All statistics for 2001 unless otherwise indicated.
*Central Eastern Europe/Commonwealth of Independent States

SOURCE: UNICEF

UNICEF calls on leaders to help give children a voice

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Governments around the world must give children more of a voice because millions of young people feel disconnected and distrust political institutions, the U.N. Children's Fund said in a report Wednesday.

The 2003 edition of the annual State of the World's Children report called on governments to teach children democratic values and expand access to education and participation in government.

"If we fail to promote child participation from an early age, we are missing an amazing opportunity to deepen democracy and human dignity around the world,"

UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy said in a statement. "That failure leaves young people with a sense of powerlessness and exclusion from society — and that can carry a great cost."

Bellamy and President Vicente Fox formally presented the report in Mexico City on Wednesday accompanied by dozens of children of all ages.

In a heartfelt speech, Azurduy urged world leaders to end the exploitation of children and fight to eradicate AIDS.

The UNICEF report praised Latin America and Mexico in particular for including children in government programs.

Four employees face theft charges

OLYPHANT, Pa. (AP) — Four former employees of a plant that makes DVDs and CDs have been charged with stealing more than \$100,000 in gold dust used in the manufacturing process.

The men worked for WEA Manufacturing Inc., a subsidiary of AOL Time Warner.

Paul Wood, 32; Jeff Hosie, 36; and Daniel Oset, 41, appeared in court Tuesday and were released on their own recognizance. John Tomczyk, 33, has been cooperating with prosecutors and is expected by police to turn himself in.

Gold dust was taken from 1998 through 2001 from machines that

apply small amounts of the metal to DVDs and CDs, according to court documents.

Prosecutor Andy Jarbola said the investigation is continuing to determine exactly how much gold dust was taken but estimated its worth at more than \$100,000.

WEA officials did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Tomczyk and Hosie admitted their involvement to a grand jury, court papers show. Oset did not immediately return a message left on his answering machine. No one answered the phone at Wood's home Wednesday morning.

Girl, 4, brings gift of marijuana to teacher

HOLYOKE, Mass. (AP) — The Department of Social Services is looking into a possible case of child abuse after a 4-year-old girl brought her teacher a small bag of marijuana as a gift.

When Head Start Early Childhood Center teacher Iris Galvez asked where she got the

gift Monday, the girl said she got it "from her mommy," according to a police report obtained by the Union-News of Springfield. The girl's mother, Shelin Colon, 32, said she doesn't have any drugs in the house and doesn't know where the girl might have gotten the marijuana, police said.

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EDITORIAL

Understanding the West is a challenge for media

Just as early American settlers strove to leave oppression behind them in Europe, Western third-century either scorned their Eastern brethren or were scorned by them.

disappointingly short of their reporting tasks.

Some of this is intentional, some of it isn't. But national media outlets need to move beyond the stereotypical stories casting Westerners as a posse of forest-cuttin', boot-scootin', gun-totin', subsidy-collectin' cowpokes.

Our view: National news media are naturally handicapped in understanding Western perspectives.

What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

That divide was one of the main themes of the journalism symposium hosted last week by the Andrus Center for Public Policy at Boise State University and local media in Idaho.

Media gatherings like this typically don't aim for mutual consensus or solutions that pinpoint who is right and who is wrong.

Most major media are on the East Coast. They are driven mostly by Eastern issues, due to both politics and economics.

The environmental movement is massive, and it is funded primarily in high-population areas.

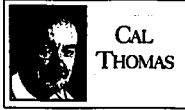
The "civic journalism" trend sweeping the country is all about news organizations listening to local communities.

NEWS ITEM: TRENT LOTT EATS WORDS THAT MANY BELIEVE WERE DEFENDING THE SIM CROW REGIME OF '48



Lott's 'humor' damages GOP

The buzz at Vice President Dick Cheney's Christmas reception Tuesday (Dec. 10) was about remarks by Sen. Trent Lott (R-Miss.) at a 100th birthday celebration for Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.).



Lott said, "I want to say this about my state. When Strom Thurmond ran for president, we voted for him. We're proud of it. And if the rest of the country had followed our lead, we wouldn't have had all these problems over all these years, either." Lott was referring to Thurmond's 1948 presidential candidacy as a "Dixiecrat," a party formed to promote segregation and forestall the nascent civil rights movement.

once opposed the civil rights movement under the banner of "States' rights." Democrats ignored one of their own, Sen. Robert Byrd of West Virginia, who once belonged to the Ku Klux Klan. Byrd used the "N" word in an interview last year with Tony Snow on "Fox News Sunday." In 1993, President Bill Clinton awarded the former segregationist Sen. J. William Fulbright his fellow Arkansas Democrat—a Presidential Medal of Freedom and lauded him, saying, "The American political system produced this remarkable man, and my state did, and I'm real proud of it."

LETTERS

Stop overcrowding before building new jail. Let me tell you about Twin Falls County Jail. Twin Falls County Jail says it's full and overcrowding, so they transfer inmates to other jails in different counties. I was convicted of a misdemeanor for driving without privileges for which I was on probation in the first place in Twin Falls County. Well, Twin Falls County Jail sent me to Bonneville County Jail, which is a state holding facility. If that's the case, why do they send misdemeanors to Bonneville instead of keeping inmates doing county time in the county facility.

It seems to me that ever since Twin Falls County was denied funds for a new jail, they have been trying to find excuses to try and get a new jail built.

President should slow efforts toward war

This is a letter we have sent to President Bush and members of Congress. It deplores a possible unprovoked attack on Iraq, we encourage you to contact your elected officials in order to make your voice heard.

The Times-News

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

Political correctness, secularization confuse Christmas meaning

Diane Boldt of Upper Gwynedd Township, Pa., thinks of herself as a multi-cultural sort of person. She speaks a smattering of Yiddish, taught to her by her father, who learned it from Jewish colleagues at work. She puts Kwanzaa stamps on her Christmas cards because she likes the idea and loves the colors.

JANE EISNER

gious traditions, but arrive at the same point of disgust at the commercialism and homogenization of these distinct communal celebrations. The confation of Christmas, Hanukkah, and now Kwanzaa has reached such a point that it seems they are morphing into one big, fat indistinguishable holiday. And Americans—so nobly anxious not to offend anyone—have taken to using the benign greeting of "Happy Holidays" so frequently that it's quickly becoming as meaningless as "Have a nice day!"

Those are marvelously admirable national impulses. To some degree, they make it easier to be the other at this time of year. We who do not celebrate Christmas no longer have to feel like a lost boy with nose pressed to a frosty window for a glimpse of a real Frank Capra-like moment. Lights can draw us in another direction, or not at all. If this were just a matter of semantics, of language, then I am certain that Diane Boldt and I would not feel as assaulted. But mix in the potent ingredient of rampant commercialization, and we reach our limit.

believe in the birth of Christ and all the surrounding religious rituals should be allowed to practice and have reindeer on the roof. It should not be all glitter and snowflakes. We should be able to have religious feelings about Christmas and not have to hide them. And there, in her mannerly way, Baldridge has touched the real nerve. The secularization of Christmas and the elevation of Hanukkah do a disservice to both, robbing them of their identity and mistaking their messages.

Druid!" is on par with the heavenly melodies of Christmas carols. This isn't a competition. I've gotten melodies in my head from holidays that are genuinely holy days, with far more spiritual resonance. And to those who are afraid that I, a Jew, will be offended if you wish me Merry Christmas, I say: Please don't worry. True, Letitia Baldridge says that we should wish Merry Christmas to those we are sure are Christian, and Happy Holidays for the question marks. But if those of us on the receiving end of such greetings are mistakelously identified, we should graciously accept the wishes for what they are. An attempt to share a joyous spirit.

Doonesbury



Mallard Filmore



By Bruce Tinsley



Saddam's crimes override concerns for respecting borders

In this country and throughout Europe, antiwar organizations cite international law in urging President Bush not to overthrow Saddam Hussein. The National Council of Churches and other religious groups warn Bush that military action would heighten concern in other countries about American respect for their integrity as nations, as well as for international law. The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament in Britain threatens to haul Prime Minister Tony Blair into court and backs up its threat with long briefs and many footnotes.

All perfectly understandable; no one wants a world in which powerful countries feel free to go about smashing into weaker ones. The groups' reading of the law—that the United States and its allies would have no right to take action without another Security Council resolution—may well be correct.

And yet, given that they have taken on Saddam Hussein as their client, you have to wonder whether, if their reading of the law is right, there isn't something peculiar, something out of whack, about international law itself. Yes, national borders should be respected. But why should a gangster who has maintained power only by violating every norm of morality and law—including international law—be permitted the sanctuary of those borders? Why should his regime be entitled to the same protection as a government that represents its people?

No one, not even the most dovish of the doves, maintains that Saddam is the legitimate representative of the Iraqi people. He rules by means of a brutal secret police using murder (of thousands and thousands of innocent people over the years) as its tool. The British government last week issued a brief report on Saddam's crimes that listed some of his favored methods of torture, in addition to the usual beatings and fingernail extractions: eye gouging, piercing of hands with electric drill, suspension from the ceiling, electric shock, sexual abuse, mock executions, acid baths. Wives are raped to extract confessions from husbands, while children are made to watch. Prisoners "are kept in rows of rectangular steel boxes, as found in mortuaries, until they either confess to their crimes or die."

Westerners who agitate against war are aware of all this, of course. "Understanding that Mr. Hussein poses a threat to his neighbors and to his own people," the Rev. Robert Edgar and his colleagues write, "we nevertheless believe it is wrong, as well as detrimental to U.S. interests to take such action."

"We have no illusions about the behavior or intentions of the Iraqi government," the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops said in a statement last month. "The Iraqi leadership must cease its internal repression, end its threats to its neighbors, stop any support for terrorism, abandon its efforts to develop weapons of mass destruction and destroy all such existing weapons."

Perhaps in their own realm the bishops are used to being obeyed. But on whose say-so they expect Saddam to "cease his internal repression" the bishops do not explain.

The opponents of war often claim to be speaking for the Iraqi people. In any dictatorship, it's impossible to gauge how the people feel, particularly in one as brutal as Iraq. Two years ago the Revolutionary Command Council added "amputation of the tongue" as an approved punishment for anyone who speaks ill of Saddam or his family.

Still, there are clues. About

FRED HIATT

one in seven Iraqis has left the nation rather than live under his regime, as the British report pointed out. And last week, the nonprofit International Crisis Group (ICG), which conducts research in troubled regions in an effort to encourage wise policy, issued, to

little notice, a compelling report entitled "Voices From the Iraqi Street." The ICG researcher, interviewing ordinary Iraqis for the sixth time in recent years, found them more open than ever before. This in itself might be seen as an initial success of Bush's policy; the ICG attributed it to "the feelings shared by many Iraqis that some kind of political change is now unavoidable."

More remarkable, the interviewer found an "overwhelming sentiment ... of frustration and impatience with the status quo. People want change, are willing to say so and, "if such a change required an American-led attack, they would support it."

This was almost too much for the ICG itself to swallow. "It was striking and unexpected to find how much willingness there is to embrace a U.S.-led war as a

scenario for change," said Gareth Evans, ICG president and a former Australian foreign minister. "But that doesn't in itself mean that war is either advisable or inevitable."

But why not? The peace groups, the religious organizations, the human rights advocates want the moral high ground of always condemning repression—and always opposing the use of force. They may have international law on their side. Whether the

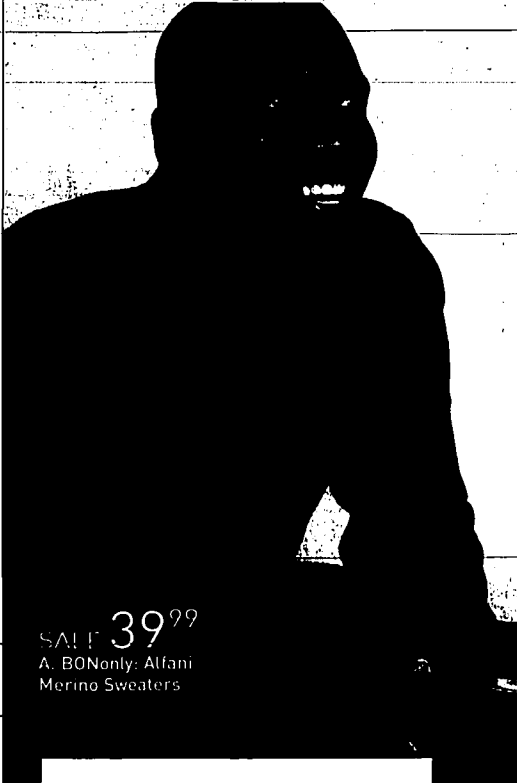
interests of the Iraqi people are there too is a harder question.

Fred Hiatt is editorial page editor of The Washington Post.

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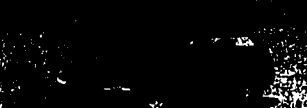
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Iowa quarterback Brad Banks is making a run at the Heisman.

Local sports B2
YourSports B4
Community B5

Sports Editor: Kevin Hall, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

The Times-News

Thursday, December 12, 2002

Section B

MORNING LINE

SPORTS QUOTE

It all starts with Pete (Rose). He's got to come clean. He's got to make it right.

Rose's former teammate, Joe Morgan.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High school girls basketball
Camas County at Bliss, 6 p.m.
Carey JV at ISDB, 6 p.m.
Hansen at Hagerman, 6 p.m.
Goings at Declo, 6 p.m.
Jerome at Burley, 6 p.m.
Kimberly at Filer, 6 p.m.
Dietrich at Richfield, 6 p.m.
MVC at Murtaugh, 4:30 p.m.

High school boys basketball
Cqmas County at Bliss, 7:30 p.m.
Carey at ISDB, 7:30 p.m.
Dietrich at Richfield, 7:30 p.m.
Hagerman at Raft River, 6 p.m.
Hansen at Oakley, 6 p.m.
MVC at Murtaugh, 7:30 p.m.
Madison at Minico, 7:30 p.m.
Castelford at Twin Falls JV, 6 p.m.
Burley at Bonneville, 6 p.m.
Wood River at Wendell, 7:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

BSU gives football coach new deal

BOISE, Idaho — The State Board of Education on Wednesday approved a new contract for Boise State University football coach Dan Hawkins.

The five-year deal will pay Hawkins about \$300,000 a year, with an additional \$350,000 bonus if he stays through the 2007 season.

That is far less than what Hawkins could have netted at other schools that have shown interest in hiring the coach.

The University of Utah in Salt Lake City and Baylor University in Waco, Texas, both considered Hawkins for coaching positions, and Baylor was rumored to be prepared to pay between \$750,000 and \$1.5 million a year.

Still, the Boise State contract is a record high for Idaho. There is a \$100,000 buyout clause if Hawkins leaves before the deal expires.

Hawkins is 19-5 in two seasons at Boise State, including 11-1 this year. The Broncos won the 2002 Western Athletic Conference championship, going undefeated in conference and earning a spot in the Dec. 31 Humanitarian Bowl.

Group releases

All-NC football team

RUPERT — Burley running back Joe Thomas was recently named Mini-Cassia football player of the year and Raft River's Randy Spaeth was named coach of the year.

Here is the rest of the team:

Quarterbacks — Matt Mitchell, Burley; Quinn Harper, Raft River; Kunning Tucker — Joel Thomas, Burley; Nathan Kinner, Raft River; Kenneth Milton, Oakley; Jordan Ragwell, Declo. **Wide receivers** — Billy Allison, Burley; Adam Martin, Burley; Baylor Washington, Minico; Kody Cole, Minico; Eric Williams, Declo; Dan Stuck, Burley; Darrington, Declo; Ben Gibby, Declo; Tyrell Thomas, Raft River; Derryk Barrett, Raft River; Ryan Wilson, Burley; Eddie Escobedo, Burley; Brent Burton, Burley; Aaron Kirk, Burley; Jeremy Rowman, Minico; Neil Clark, Minico.

Defenses

Linebackers — Gerardo Vega, Burley; Mac Erickson, Raft River; Robert Mendenhall, Declo; Jacob Brown, Declo; Joey Vall, Minico; Sean Spivack, Oakley; Linares — Brady Matheson, Declo; Adam Howard, Declo; Brock Nelson, Burley; Cole — Michael, Burley; Mike DeLano, Burley; Josh Wilson, Burley; Mike DeLano, Burley; Matt Schenk, Minico; Jacob Malmgren, Minico; Deryk Barrett, Raft River; Zaki Iyye, Raft River; Defensive backs — Quinn Harrison, Raft River; Jesse Cervino, Burley; Ryan Taylor, Burley; Brian Hain, Tracy; Mico, Raft River; Mico; Terry Darrington, Declo; Spencer Harris, Declo.

Special teams

Kicker — Joel Thomas, Burley; **Placekicker** — Joseph Villagomez, Minico; **Brady Johnson, Minico.**

Burley youth hoops

BURLEY — The Burley Lions Club fifth- and sixth-grade basketball signups are tonight from 5 to 7 in the front foyer at White Pine School. The fee is \$15 or \$5 plus a good used coat.

'Passage of time' changed Selig's mind about Rose

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — There were standing ovations at World Series games and chants of "Petel Petel" at Cooperstown.

But time itself — 13 long years — may have done more to change Bud Selig's mind about ever talking to Pete Rose and possibly ending the hit king's lifetime ban from baseball.

The negotiations between Rose and the commissioner have been going on for more than a year, according to a high-ranking baseball official.

The talks, which had been

secret until this week, became public following a meeting between Rose and Selig last month in Milwaukee.

Several baseball officials, all speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the sides appeared to be working their way toward a deal in recent weeks, but no agreement had been reached to end the ban, which Rose agreed to in August 1989 following an investigation of his gambling.

Selig wants Rose to admit he bet on baseball as part of any agreement, and Rose has been pushed to make the admission by



Bud Selig
Hall of Famers Joe Morgan and Mike Schmidt. At the meeting last month, Schmidt was among those in attendance. Selig had long opposed an end

to the ban but allowed talks to start around the time of the 2001 World Series, the high-ranking baseball official said. Asked what triggered the change, the official said it was "just the passage of time."

Reinstatement would make Rose eligible for the Hall of Fame and that mere possibility angered Hall member Bob Feller, a fellow Ohioan who has been vocal in his opposition to ending the ban.

"It's a publicity stunt by him and his people," Feller said Wednesday. "I'm tired of talking about it. I'm fed up. He's history."

Feller was among a group of Hall of Famers who threatened to walk out of ceremonies at Cooperstown in 2000 if Cincinnati Reds broadcaster Marty Brennaman had used his induction speech to campaign for Rose.

In addition to becoming eligible for the Hall of Fame, an effort to do that would allow the former Cincinnati manager to work for a team.

Rose raised the possibility of managing the Reds again in June when a Hamilton County

Please see ROSE, Page B2

KING JAMES

High school hoops star goes prime-time on ESPN2 tonight

By Scott Fowler

AKRON, Ohio — There is basketball. There is hype. And flying in midair between the two there is LeBron James — a 17-year-old Ohio high school star who is so good and so well-publicized that it's impossible to tell where the hoops stop and the hype begins.

I went to see "King" James — one of LeBron's nicknames — play a high school game in Akron earlier this month. It was like watching Serena Williams serve it up for the high school girls' tennis team or Billy Joel pound the keyboard for the high school band.

James was strikingly better than everyone else on the court, but it was still hard to tell whether he's the next Michael Jordan or the next Ronald Curry. Undeniably cocky, James is an outrageous leaper and pre-co-



Akron St. Vincent-St. Mary's LeBron James, right, blocks a shot by Warrensville Heights' Rian Powell on March 13 at Gund Arena in Cleveland. LeBron-James is going prime time. LeBron James, the most hyped high school basketball player ever, will make his national TV debut tonight against the nation's No. 1 team.

Please see LEBRON, Page B2

Heisman hopeful Palmer turns groans into cheers

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Carson Palmer rolled to his right, as he has done dozens of times as the Southern California quarterback.

But on this occasion, his receivers were covered.

So he decided to run — not a pretty sight.

With the fans roaring, the 6-foot-6, 210-pounder rumbled down the sideline before diving toward the end zone as UCLA cornerback Ricky Manning — some nine inches shorter and 50 pounds lighter — dived at his legs.

Palmer spun like a helicopter propeller before crashing-landing at the 1-yard line, eliciting a collective groan from USC fans among the crowd of 91,084 watching in the Rose Bowl.

But he quickly bounced to his feet after the 20-yard gain, turning the groan into cheers, and the Trojans scored a touchdown on the next play en route to a 52-21 victory over the Bruins on Nov. 23.

That was a signature moment for Palmer, who heard a lot more groans than cheers in his first years at USC. But it's a different story this season. He's a leading contender for the Heisman Trophy, which will be awarded Saturday night in New York.

"It's definitely been a struggle, so many seasons where you haven't gotten to where you want to go," Palmer said. "You hear of so many USC quarterbacks who did this, did that, guys like Pat Haden and Rodney Peete. Hopefully this will be my legacy."

Please see PALMER, Page B2



Southern California quarterback Carson Palmer passes during the first half against Oregon State in Los Angeles in September. Palmer is a contender for this year's Heisman Trophy, to be awarded Saturday in New York.

Walton injures his ankle again

The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Luke Walton's senior season already was off to a frustrating start.

Now the pre-season All-American re-injured his right ankle, and he probably will miss top-ranked Arizona's game Sunday against No. 8 Texas.

"I really feel bad for him," teammate Rick Anderson said. "He's the man, you know?"

Walton was hurt in practice Monday, when freshman red-shirt Chris Dunn accidentally stepped on his foot. The diagnosis was sprained ligaments and strained tendons, and the forward is listed as doubtful for the home game against the Longhorns, the first big test of the season for the Wildcats (4-0). Walton was wearing a protective boot Wednesday, when the team didn't make him available to reporters.

"It's really frustrating to him," coach Lute Olson said. "You could see him getting back into playing shape and all of a sudden it hits him again."

It's the third time Walton injured the ankle this year, and he also sat out his freshman season with a stress fracture in his right foot. The NBA career of Walton's father, Bill, was severely limited by ankle and foot problems.

The younger Walton first injured the ankle this season in an intrasquad game Nov. 1. He sprained it again, although mildly, against Northern Arizona on Nov. 27.

Team trainer Justin Kokoskie said the first two injuries had fully healed when the latest one occurred.

The injury problems and subsequent missed practice time affected Walton's early season play. He started all four of Arizona's games but is averaging just five points on 33 percent shooting (7-for-21). The Pac-10 assist leader last season, Walton does lead the Wildcats in that category at 4.5 per game.

"You have to have lift on your shot or you're not going to be very effective," Olson said. "He had just gotten back to the point where his shot was looking good, and he was getting good lift on the jump. So that will take some time again, I guess."

Olson said he doesn't know whether this could be a nagging problem all season for Walton.

"Ankles are always a problem once somebody sprains them," he said. "A lot of times they don't really heal up until after the season is over."

Arizona is loaded with young talent, and freshmen Andre Igoudala and Hassan Adams will split time at Walton's forward spot if the senior can't go. But Walton would be sorely missed.

"He's so critical to us, so vital to us in so many different ways: his leadership, his passing," Olson said.

Salim Stoudamire, last season's Pac-10 freshman of the year, also has been bothered by a lingering sore ankle. Considered the best outside shooter on the team, he is just 3-for-12 from the field, 2-for-9 from 3-point range.

Stoudamire said he expects to play Sunday, though.

"It feels better every day," he said Wednesday. "I just hope it doesn't linger into Pac-10."

The Wildcats have 16 games remaining before the conference season begins. After facing Texas, they play at LSU on Dec. 21, then return for a pair of games as host of the Fiesta Bowl Classic Dec. 28 and 30.

The Pac-10 opener is a big game — at No. 5 Oregon on Jan. 2.

Finalists come from same school

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Top-ranked Miami's Ken Dorsey and Willis McGahee are Heisman Trophy finalists, the first time since 1994 that teammates were among the top five in the voting.

Iowa quarterback Brad Banks, Penn State running back Larry Johnson and Southern California quarterback Carson Palmer also were invited Wednesday for the award's presentation.

The winner of one of the most widely-open Heisman races will be announced Saturday night at the Yale Club in New York.

The last time two players from the same school finished in the top five was eight years ago, when Penn State's Ki-Jana Carter was second and Kerry Collins fourth.

McGahee, a tailback who wasn't even supposed to start this season, would be the first sophomore to win the award given to college football's most outstanding player.

Palmer is trying to become the first West Coast player to win since USC's Marcus Allen in 1981.

YOUR SPORTS

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SPARRING CHAMP

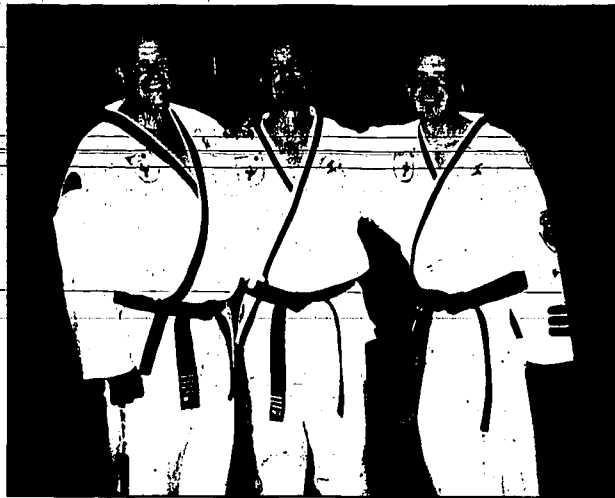


Photo courtesy of BOB WOOD

Terry Robinson, center, is congratulated by his fellow Twin Falls martial arts friends after he was crowned the national sparring and forms champion for his division in men's third- and fourth-degree black belts. With Robinson are instructors Don Rider, left, and Matt Jolley, right.

Robinson reaps taekwondo awards

TWIN FALLS - The Hwa Rang Taekwondo Federation crowned Terry Robinson, an electrical engineer from Amalgamated Sugar, as national sparring champion for the second year in a row. Robinson, 44, defeated all of his opponents in the forms division, garnering a national

title for that as well. Robinson keeps his martial arts skills sharp during the year by competing in various local tournaments and training at Master Hartwell's Intermountain Martial Arts along with wife, Dana. The HTF nationals, hosted

every June in Lynnwood, Wash., draws competitors from all over the United States and Canada. Nearly 450 entrants competed at the June function. Robinson was promoted this year to the rank of third-degree black belt by the Hwa Rang Taekwondo Federation.

TWO-TIMING RODEO CHAMP



Photo courtesy of BOB WOOD

Jori Fleming, 10, of Wendell won the Pee-Wee Girls All-Around Champion for the second consecutive year at the Bull Pee-Wee Rodeo. The rodeo are sponsored by the United Dairywomen of Idaho. Fleming is pictured with her parents Curtis and Susie Fleming.

SERIOUS RAQUETEERING



Photo courtesy of ANDREW CRANE

The Men's Senior League Tennis Team members, from left to right, Sean Timoney of Twin Falls, Bob Ewing of Boise, Al Stevenson of Boise, Ron Blake of Mountain Home, Andy Crane of Twin Falls, Chris Burke of Boise, Bubba Bennett of Boise and Lon McDonald of Jerome recently competed in several championships.

Tennis team wins district championship

TWIN FALLS - The Men's Senior League Tennis Team recently competed in several championships. The team won at the District Championships in Boise on Sept. 7 and 8, defeating the Pocatello team 2-1. The team then went on to represent Idaho at the Intermountain Championships from Sept. 20-22

where they defeated teams from Utah, Colorado, Nevada and Montana and won the right to represent the Intermountain Section at the National Championships in Tucson, Ariz. from Oct. 18-20. At that championship, the team defeated the Pacific Northwest Section representative 2-1, but lost to the

Southern Section 1-2 and the champions, Mid-Atlantic Section 0-3. The players are Sean Timoney of Twin Falls, Bob Ewing of Boise, Al Stevenson of Boise, Ron Blake of Mountain Home, Andy Crane of Twin Falls, Chris Burke of Boise, Bubba Bennett of Boise and Lon McDonald of Jerome.

DOING SWIMMINGLY



Several area swimmers received medals and ribbons at the Thanksgiving Invitational in Boise. Pictured, from left to right, are: front row, Andrew Layton and Jake Johnson and back row, Stevi Haugeberg, Jessica Layton, Michael Shea O'Donnell and Paige Johnson. Not pictured is Brandee Potts

Swimmers qualify for regional tournament

BOISE - Several area swimmers recently attended the Boise 2002 Thanksgiving Invitational from Nov. 22-24 at the Boise City Aquatic Center. There were 17 participating teams with the majority being from Idaho, albeit a few clubs came from Nevada, Utah and Oregon. The seven swimmers from the Ruper/Burley area who swam with the Magic Valley Marlins were: Andrew Layton, Jessica Layton, Michael Shea O'Donnell, Stevi Haugeberg, Brandee Potts, Paige Johnson and Jake Johnson. Medals were given in individual events for first through eighth place and ribbons for ninth through 16th place. Relay teams received ribbons for first through fourth place. The final event of the weekend was the 1650 yard freestyle, which is one mile, or 66 lengths. This event was only

offered to ages 13 and up. The seven area swimmers mentioned above did not qualify based on age. Two swimmers, Michael Shea O'Donnell and Jessica Layton, did qualify for YNCA Regionals which will be held in March.

Results of the Thanksgiving Invitational:
Age Group 8 and under 200 yard butterfly 1st place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly 1st place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 1st place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 2nd place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 3rd place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 4th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 5th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 6th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 7th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 8th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 9th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 10th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 11th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 12th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 13th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 14th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 15th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 16th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 17th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 18th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 19th place
Age Group 12 and under 200 yard butterfly relay 20th place

Kansas rights ship, knocks off Hurricane

TULSA, Okla. (AP) - Nick Collison had 26 points and 12 rebounds as No. 20 Kansas regained its winning touch, beating Tulsa 89-80 Wednesday night. The Jayhawks (4-3) had lost three of their past four games, and had their hands full against the Golden Hurricane (4-1). But Collison and Wayne Simien were too much up front for Tulsa, which got 23 points from forward Kevin Johnson, who excelled despite foul trouble. Simien and Keith Langford scored 19 each for Kansas. The Golden Hurricane led by seven early in the second half after a 3-pointer by Dante Swanson, and then Langford got going. He scored three baskets in close during a 12-0 run that turned a 45-36 deficit into a 50-45 lead. Johnson set for a pass of that time after getting his third foul.

Langford scored six in a row moments later - a base-line jumper, two free throws and a fastbreak dunk - and Collison scored inside to give Kansas a 60-52 lead with 10:32 to play. The teams essentially traded baskets for the next few minutes. A driving shot by Swanson got Tulsa within 69-65 with just under six minutes to play, then Kansas sealed it with a 10-1 run that included four points from Collison. Tulsa got no closer than six in the final two minutes. Johnson scored 13 in the first half, despite playing just 13 minutes due to foul trouble. He got his third foul about a minute into the second half, picked up No. 4 at the 7:42 mark and fouled out with just over a minute to play. Tulsa played on even terms throughout the half despite getting just one point from Swanson, the team's second-leading scorer with a 16-point average.

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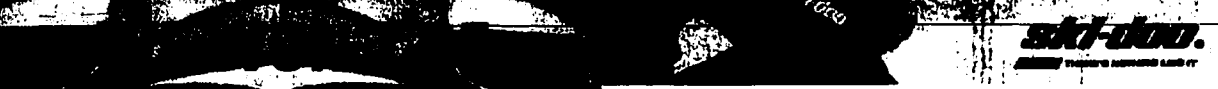
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Jerome girl wins trip to Washington D.C.

JEROME — A Jerome girl is one of two Idaho students to win a trip to Washington, D.C., to attend the signing of the Pentagon's first Christmas tree.

Kristina Pierce, a fourth-grade student at Central Elementary School leaves today for the nation's Capitol. She was one of 5,000 Idaho students who made ornaments for the tree, said Central Elementary School counselor Debbie Walsh.

Every child who made an ornament was then entered into a drawing, and two students were selected to attend the ceremony in Washington. A boy from Fort Hall also won the drawing.

Both students will accompany U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, and U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld in lighting the tree Friday, according to Craig's Web site.

The tree itself is a Grand fir from the Clearwater National Forest and is the first holiday tree the Pentagon has ever had, Craig's Web site said.

Medical center looks for Baby Faire vendors

TWIN FALLS — Magic Valley Regional Medical Center is inviting local vendors and exhibitors to participate in the Fifth Annual Baby and Children's Faire to be held from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Jan. 25 at the Magic Valley Mall.

The faire will feature health information, fun activities and interactive demonstrations designed for children age 13 and under and their families. The faire is a unique opportunity to focus on family parenting and learn about the latest information and services available for expectant parents and young families, according to a hospital news release.

A limited number of booths are available to interested businesses and organizations which have products or services to promote to expectant parents, parents and children. A nominal registration fee will be charged. For more information, call Judy Ashby at 737-2056.

Rotary Club helps with playground equipment

TWIN FALLS — The Blue Lakes Rotary Club recently presented a check to the city of Twin Falls for nearly \$3,500 to help purchase and install new playground equipment at Dierke's Lake Park, according to a Rotary news release.

The money came from proceeds from the Rotary Club's "Dine-Out for Dierke's" dinner held in November.

"We've been working on improving the playground equipment at city parks for many years," said Dennis Bowyer, director of the city's parks and recreation. "The donation from the Blue Lakes Rotary Club will help us make enhancements at Dierke's Lake, a well-used city park."

Bowyer said the total cost of the equipment, including delivery and installation will be about \$15,000. But half of that cost is being offset by a grant from the equipment manufacturer. The city received a matching grant from Game Time to help pay for the equipment. It should be installed sometime in spring 2003 with the help of Blue Lakes Rotary Club members, the news release said.

The Blue Lakes Rotary Club meets at 7 a.m. Tuesdays at the West-Coast Hotel in Twin Falls. Guests are always welcome.

Compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak**
Upper Snake River	63%	18%
Snake Falls	90%	17%
Salmon	46%	12%
Oakley Basin	80%	11%
Big Wood	67%	10%
Dark Wood	68%	17%
Big Lost/Park/Teton	82%	16%
Big Lost	66%	17%
Little Lost	81%	14%

**Based on 1998-99

Source: Bureau of Reclamation

Dairy neighbors ask for air regs

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Neighbors tired of waiting for relief from strong dairy odors asked Twin Falls County commissioners Wednesday to consider adopting county air quality regulations.

Cedar Draw neighbors Ginny Gunn, Laurie Warren and Betty Sifer told commissioners that their neighborhood still stinks — even during recent cold weather.

"We still have a tremendous odor prob-

lem," Gunn said.

Commissioners and Prosecuting Attorney Grant Luets said they must check whether Idaho counties legally may craft air-quality regulations, which in Idaho are governed at the state level.

Commissioners Gary Grindstaff and Bill Brockman didn't immediately support or reject the idea, but they said it wouldn't provide an immediate solution to odor problems faced by Cedar Draw neighbors.

Another round of new agriculture regulations would spawn another lengthy bat-

tle, said Grindstaff, who agreed an odor problem remained in the Filer area. He talked about fixing the Cedar Draw problem now, rather than working on more laws.

"We've got to fix the problem that's out there, for the dairy industry's sake," he said.

Hank Haflinger's Desert Rose Farms dairy near Filer has been working with the Idaho Department of Agriculture to reduce manure odors.

Haflinger told *The Times-News* in October

he feels that he has made progress. Steps taken include the emptying of one major waste lagoon during the irrigation season. The waste water is spread on cropland. The other major waste lagoon has been capped with a gas-permeable cover.

About four weeks ago, the same time Gunn says she began to smell a strong odor again, the emptied lagoon was in use for the winter because the waste water can't be spread on frozen ground.

While neighbors say the smell isn't as

Please see DAIRY, Page C3

Farm alternatives brew at CSI

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Reducing the cost of fueling up the tractor or pumping irrigation water is part of a new "sustainable energy" curriculum offered by the College of the Southern Idaho.

Students Wednesday filled a still with beer to make ethanol, a fuel that can be home-grown from fermented crops. It took a permit from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms before CSI assistant professor Ross Spackman could bring the project into the classroom.

And the alcohol, he tells his class, is off-limits for student consumption. The M.V. ethanol finished product contains D1 methyl alcohol, which can cause blindness or death if swallowed.

Besides making fuel, Spackman's class this semester has installed a 30-foot windmill and solar panels, other alternative fuel sources.

CSI's new Agriculture, Consumer, and Environmental Science Department — formerly the Agriculture Department — is shifting its focus toward "sustainable agriculture." It doesn't focus on high yields to make a profit but on finding markets geared toward small and mid-sized growers.

It's driven by economic necessity, Spackman said.

"This is an attempt to respond to consumer demand," he said.

And finding alternative fuel sources is part of that.

"We have been moving toward more of a sustainable agriculture curriculum," he said. "If you grow your own fuel, you can become more sustainable."

Students Jake Patterson of Bliss, Dusty Danos of Jerome, Jimmy Llerman of Gooding and Katie McFarland of Salmon all grew up on farms and ranches and plan futures in agriculture. These were new ideas on the farm but now are the future of farming, the students said.

As Spackman develops his curriculum, his class eventually will convert the fuel systems of a Jeep, donated by student Lillian Dupras, and a motorcycle, donated by Mac's Motor Sports of Salmon, to ethanol systems to test their home-grown fuel.

Muggers Brew Pub donated the beer this time, since the students' fermenting grain hadn't yet reached a high enough alcohol content to concentrate into ethanol. With an alcohol content of about 6 percent, it will take about 12 gallons of beer to concentrate into 1 gallon of fuel.



Ross Spackman, left, adjusts the cooling water on a distillery in an agricultural, consumer and environmental science class at the College of Southern Idaho on Wednesday. Spackman believes that alternative energy sources such as ethanol fuels and wind energy can be profitable for some farmers.

Public lands panel questions wind farm

By Nate Johnson
Times-News writer

BURLEY — The Cassia Public Lands Committee wants wind-power developers to think about birds and loss. Bird and loss. Bird and loss. Bird and loss.

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management to investigate all those concerns before it builds turbines on Cotterell Mountain, said Mike Heckler, Windland's director of marketing and development.

Windland is currently working on an environmental impact statement with the BLM for the project. If approved, the company will build 130 turbines, each 20 stories tall. The turbines would generate about 200 megawatts, Heckler said.

Though the blades of the turbines turn too slowly to hurt birds, they will die just from running into the towers, said Carl Assin.

The impact to birds, along with the visual impact of the project, will be the most intensive investigation issued in the environmental impact state-

ment, said Theresa Hanley, manager of the BLM Burley Field Office. Many birds migrate over the mountain on their way to and from Lake Walcott, Hanley said. Wildlife biologists are now monitoring the birds above the mountain, she said.

Any kind of structure in a place where birds fly will kill birds, said Committee Vice President Stan Lloyd, quoting an article in "Electric Coop Today." Studies have shown that when turbines are shifted 75 feet back from the top of the ridge line there is a significant reduction in bird mortality and little loss of wind power, he said, quoting the article.

Members of the public lands committee asked a few questions on the equipment's ability to handle rough weather. The turbine blades may have beveled edges to reduce ice buildup, Heckler said. In some cases the turbines may throw ice, he said.

Earl Warthen asked if Heckler was confident the wind would not blow the towers down.

"We've never recorded gusts that cause us concern," Heckler said.

Heckler responded to questions on land impact by saying there would be disturbance to the ground. Windland would repair this disturbance, he said.

The trucks carrying turbine heavy parts would damage county roads, said Nick Rokich.

Heckler acknowledged that trucks would have some impact on roads. Heckler was quick to follow up on this point with the fact that the project would also increase the tax base in the county by about 25 percent.

"But I want to know what makes you think this thing is going to work," Rokich said. "You're not building Ferris wheels up there."

The project is well researched, Heckler assured Rokich. The project is also privately funded, and the BLM will probably require a closure bond to remove turbines if the project failed, Heckler said.

Other committee business included.

Heyburn electric rates go up

By Shari Chaney
Times-News writer

HEYBURN — Electric rates in Heyburn will be on the rise beginning Sunday.

The council approved the following rates at its meeting Wednesday:

- Residential — 5.372 cents per kilowatt hour, up from 4.412 cents per kilowatt hour; customer charge of \$10.06 per month remains the same.

- Single phase commercial — 5.223 cents per kilowatt hour, up from 4.818 cents per kilowatt hour; customer charge of \$12.40 per month remains the same.

- Three phase commercial — 3.324 cents per kilowatt hour, up from 3.178 cents per kilowatt hour; demand charge of \$5.05 per kilowatt per month, up from \$4.83 per kilowatt hour; customer charge of \$17.79 per month stays the same.

- Other rate increases include: • Yard lights — \$7 per month, up from \$3.50.

- Deposits — \$200 for residents who receive electricity from the

city along with other services, up from \$100. For those who receive electricity from outside the city but receive other city services, the deposit increases from \$50 to \$100.

- Irrigation water — .0035 cents per square foot of lot serviced, up from .0023.

Three people spoke at the public hearing that took place before the council approved the rate increases.

City residents Delores White and Stacey Stube said they blamed the city for running J.R. Simplot Co. out of town.

The city should not have entered into a legal battle with a man with more money than the city, White said, referring to Jack Simplot. Increased rates are the council's own fault for getting into litigation with Simplot without asking the people what they wanted, she said.

"I can't understand why you run Simplot out of town," Stube agreed. "All you can think about is raising rates."

Councilman Dee Ray Bailey said the council did not run

Please see DRUGS, Page C3

IDAHO/WEST

Bush moves ahead on forest thinning

Target areas include forest near Pocatello

WASHINGTON (AP) - With Congress stalled on President Bush's forest fire-prevention plan, his administration was moving ahead on its own Wednesday to try to thin timber, remove brush and reduce other fire hazards in the nation's forests, where 7.1 million acres have burned this year.

The administration was taking steps to streamline environmental reviews that precede thinning, and to identify 10 areas that need thinning immediately.

Idaho Sens. Mike Crapo and Larry Craig and Rep. C.L. "Butch" Otter, R-Idaho, support the plan.

"President Bush's Healthy Forests Initiative is good policy for the environment and for people who live near our forests," Crapo said. "A 100,000-acre plan in the Pocatello area will be part of the pilot programs for this initiative through the Portneuf Fuels Reduction Project."

Overgrown stands of juniper around Pocatello will be thinned in about 100,000 acres in the Mint Creek area, Crapo said.

The areas targeted for thinning will each have a mandatory initial environmental analysis, but not be the comprehensive environmental impact statement that is currently required for such thinning projects, according to administration and congressional officials. Cabinet officials who oversee natural resources have proposed narrowing the framework for environmental impact statements.

The reviews will take into account both the environmental and economic consequences of thinning the forest. This gives additional weight to the potential costs related to lost hunting and



Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, left, answers a question Wednesday with Secretary of the Interior Dale Norton during a news conference at the White House regarding the Bush administration's plan to thin timber, remove brush and reduce other fire hazards in the nation's forests.

Fire-prone areas

The 10 areas the Bush administration has identified as fire-prone regions where it will test new rules meant to speed thinning of brush and timber:

- Oregon
 - Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery, Fish and Wildlife Service, northern Washington
 - Mendocino National Forest, northern California
 - Eldorado National Forest, northeastern California
 - Huron-Manistee National Forests, northeastern Michigan
 - Sam Houston National Forest, southeastern Texas
- Forests near the Pocatello field office of the BLM, southeastern Idaho
- Forests near the Fillmore field office of the Bureau of Land Management, southwestern Utah
- Dixie National Forest, southwestern Utah
- Forests near the Las Vegas field office of the BLM, southeastern Nevada
- Forests near the Medford district office of the BLM, southwestern

recreation seasons.

The initiative builds on a program first used by the Clinton administration to establish a class of exclusions from National Environmental Policy Act reviews for all federal land management agencies, which allowed some thinning projects

to go forward.

Under Bush's move, which will be subject to public comment, the areas to be thinned would not be in wilderness areas or regions where there are threatened or endangered species.

The steps announced Wednesday drew sharp criticism

from Mike Francis, a forest specialist with the Wilderness Society.

"These are nothing more than administration's typical desires to cut the public out of forest decisions," Francis said. "This administration doesn't like what the public wants to do with their forests."

Making categorical exemptions "seems to be nothing more than trying to enact their Healthy Forest Initiative without having Congress decide if they want to loose environmental review on land decisions for things such as logging that can be very damaging," Francis said.

He said opening up roadless areas, even for the temporary roads needed for thinning, is against the law and can damage the environment forest.

"They just can't help themselves. At every opportunity the White House is working overtime to get the public out and invite the logging companies into our national forests," said Robert Dewey, a spokesman for Defenders of Wildlife.

The move Wednesday came two weeks after the administration proposed to give managers of the nation's 155 national forests greater leeway to approve logging and commercial activities with less examination of potential environmental damages.

The administration said Clinton administration rules were too complicated, and moved to turn more of the decision-making over to regional forest managers. Environmentalists have complained that regional foresters often develop close ties with local timbering interests.

That proposal also would eliminate specific standards and procedures for maintaining and monitoring wildlife populations that foresters had to comply with, substituting broad goals in their place.

School drops tuition rates, reduces aid

CALDWELL (AP) - Troubled Alberson College of Idaho is reducing its tuition to draw more students while cutting the amount of financial aid it offers.

Administrators announced Tuesday the Caldwell campus is dropping its tuition by 10 percent to \$13,900 from \$19,800 for students enrolling next fall for a liberal arts education.

"We think our sticker price is scaring people away," President Kevin Learned said.

Most Alberson students do not pay the current published tuition, officials said. They pay an average of \$11,000, and the balance is made up by grants or financial aid from the school.

Facing a shortfall of more than \$4 million, Alberson last month announced it would lay off about 20 employees and conduct a fund drive.

The idea for reducing tuition came up last year, said sophomore Linnea Nelson, a member of the board that put the tuition plan together.

The school can serve up to 1,000 students while maintaining a low student-teacher ratio, Learned said. Officials were shooting for 900 students this year, but enrollment is 827.

But there will be fewer scholarships.

Lori Banducci, enrollment director, said more than 90 percent of returning students qualify for various merit-based scholarships offered by the college.

Under the new plan, only 50 or 60 percent of the returning students would need merit scholarships to pay their tuition.

"Some of the best and brightest students aren't staying a second look because they think we're too expensive," Banducci said.

Officials charge man stole from widow

MIDVALE, Utah (AP) - A man who helped raise nearly \$50,000 in charity for a widow and her four children has been charged with taking more than \$27,000 of the money.

James Bradley Cook, 38, also was accused by the Utah attorney general's office of taking more than \$10,000 he collected for the family of a neighbor, Seth Wertz, 21, who died.

Wertz family never received any money. Cook and a church leader collected money for Lisa VanValkenburg after her husband, Brian, died May 8, 1997. They raised \$45,837.

Social activists claim the rich fail to pay their fair share of state taxes

BOISE (AP) - Social activists attacked Idaho's tax policy on Wednesday as favoring the rich and argued Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and lawmakers to consider alternatives to equalize the state and local tax burden.

"Like most Idahoans, I am more than willing to pay my fair share for schools, for health care and for other public services, but I think that everyone should pay their fair share," Roger Sherman of United Vision for Idaho said.

But while Sherman released a study to support his claim, another analysis presented exactly the opposite picture. Both are feeding the evolving debate on taxes and spending as the January legislative session nears and Kempthorne officially launches his second four-year term.

With a deficit of \$160 million and possibly more looming in the 2003-2004 budget, policymakers must either slash spending that the Republican governor said has already been cut to the bone or raise taxes - something many in the Republican legislative opposed during the campaign last fall.

Kempthorne said last week that further cuts are out for education, health care for the poor and public safety programs, and

Kempthorne said last week that further cuts are out for education, health care for the poor and public safety programs, and hinted at eventual support for some kind of tax increase.

While withholding details of his plan until January, he suggested that the alternative to higher taxes is "eliminating entire programs or departments."

A moderate Republican and a freshman Democrat have drafted the first major tax bill of the debate. Rep. Tom Trail of Moscow concedes the plan he and Democratic Rep. Alan Andersen of Pocatello are pushing is really there to stimulate the debate.

They want to extend the state sales tax to about a third of the transactions currently exempted and then lower the tax rate from 5 percent to 4 percent. The state currently taxes less than half the more than \$35 billion in annual transactions.

Their bill also would repeal key income tax breaks for corporate equipment and other investments, technology donations to schools and investments in energy efficiency.

Other lawmakers have talked privately about repealing nearly all the exemptions, lowering the rate and using some of the additional revenue to increase the income tax credits tax on food.

But they have been generally intimidated by the onslaught of opposition from the interests, many of them politically influential, whose tax break would be lost.

While there is no consensus yet on resolving the worst state financial crisis in decades, some officials believe it will eventually occur on an increase of a cent or two in the sales tax rate.

United Vision for Idaho released an analysis showing that in 2000 the richest 1 percent in Idaho paid an average of just 6.3 percent of their income in state and local taxes while the poorest 20 percent - those making under \$14,000 - paid an average of 10.5 percent.

Middle income taxpayers - those making \$25,000 to \$42,000 - paid 9.4 percent. Idaho's average annual wage is \$30,000.

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TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY

NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 14th day of January, 2003. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 am in the Fine Arts Auditorium at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

Directors from District 1 (Murtaugh, Hansen and Kimberly) and District 5 (Castledorf) will be elected for three-year terms.

Petitions of Candidacy for Director must be filed by December 1, 2002.

Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2003 water supplies, water quality issues, Snake River Aquifer studies, the Endangered Species Act, the SRBA, and other matters of interest.

Notice is given that a stock vote will be taken to amend the By-Laws of the Company to provide for the realignment of the five (5) director districts to create more uniform and clearly defined districts. Copies of the full text of the proposed amendment to the By-Laws are available for the stockholders to review at the Company Office, 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, during regular business hours.

The corporation books will close for the transfer of stock on January 3, 2003.

The polls shall be open at the office of the Company at 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm on January 14, 2003.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company office on or before January 10, 2003.

DATED this 18th day of November 2002.

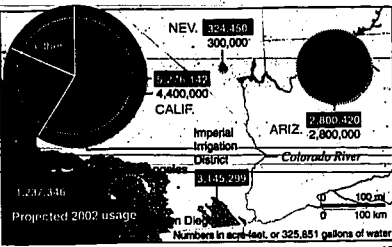
TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY
Chris Sitons, Assistant Secretary

IDAHO WEST

Failed water deal threatens access

The Interior Department plans to stop California from drawing more than its share of Colorado River water on Jan. 1. A proposal that would have shifted water between two districts to help reduce the state's consumption was defeated on Monday.

Water draw from the lower Colorado River



SOURCES: Associated Press; U.S. Bureau of Land Reclamation

Court official admits shooting boyfriend's home

MOSCOW (AP) — A Washington state court official faces a Jan. 27 sentencing after admitting she fired a rifle into her estranged boyfriend's Princeton, Idaho, home.

Virginia Jo Walker of Whitman County, Wash., pleaded guilty Monday to the unlawful discharge of a firearm into an inhabited dwelling. It carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$50,000 fine.

Walker, 47, will retain her job as a court recorder and office manager in Pullman. County Court Administrator Marilyn Markley described Walker as an exemplary employee for the past 16 years and said the county has no policy against employing a convicted felon. Latah County Prosecutor William Thompson told 2nd District Judge John R. Stegner an investigation into the Nov. 6 incident showed that Walker was nervous when she fired the rifle but did not intend to hurt anyone. No injuries were reported.

Water is all residents of Imperial Valley have

EL CENTRO, Calif. (AP) — For residents in the southeast corner of California, the issue is simple: Water is all they have. About a trillion gallons of Colorado River water is poured across the baking Imperial Valley each year, and the result is one of the richest farming areas in the world.

But when it came to selling off some of its water, the state's poorest county refused to bend to the pressure from the state's most powerful. And lowly Imperial County may just have started the West's next water war.

"Water is our livelihood," Stella Mendoza, a cantaloupe picker's daughter who heads the Imperial Valley's water board, said Wednesday. "And I'm not willing to give it up without a fight."

Earlier this month, California was on the brink of a historic pact to curb its overuse of water from the Colorado River so that six other Western states could draw their fair share.

The deal hinged on Imperial Valley agreeing to sell a portion of its Colorado River allotment to Los Angeles and San Diego. Under pressure from residents bent on preserving jobs and tradition, Imperial water officials defiantly refused to do so.

The move riled water officials throughout the West and in the Bush administration, who say Imperial delivered a death blow to a water deal carefully negotiated over several years.

"They look like a bunch of Keystone Cops," said Pat Mulroy, general manager of the Southern Nevada Water Authority, which desperately needs Colorado water. "There's really no choice but to cut California off."

The Interior Department, which oversees the lower Colorado, is moving to do just that, saying that at the start of the new year it will withhold from California enough river water to supply 1.6 million households. Southern California water officials say they have enough reserves to offset the cut for the region's metro areas for at least two years.

The poor cousin of Southern California, Imperial County is a flat expanse of desert sandwiched between two mountain ranges east of San Diego. The county seat, El Centro, is a dreary grid of low-slung stucco buildings peppered amid lush rows of lettuce, alfalfa and other crops.

Half of all jobs here are tied to

agriculture, many of them held by Latino farmworkers. Several of the folks who showed up for a raucous public comment period before Monday's vote wore work boots caked with farm mud.

A lone voice in the crowd wondered if tiny Imperial was picking the wrong fight. "Can we afford to take on San Diego, Los Angeles and Southern California?" asked Dilda McFadden, a county worker who lives in El Centro. "Can we win that war?"

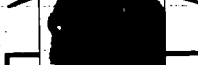
McFadden was roundly jeered. Imperial has little in the way of money, people or jobs. The county's 145,000 residents have the state's lowest median income and the highest unemployment rate. What they do have are massive amounts of land and water. About 70 percent of the state's draw from the Colorado flows through the valley.

Imperial sees the water of the Colorado as its birthright. Valley farmers in the 1900s were the first to tap the river, using mule teams to dig canals that brought life to the desert.

Today, Imperial is the nation's largest irrigation project, producing about \$1 billion worth of cattle and crops each year.

"We don't want to be a dust bowl," said Valerie Lee, a 38-year-old mother from Holtville who showed those of her five children to the meeting. "What makes this a decent place to live are the farms. Without them, we're just a dusty border town."

Pet of the Week



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Coming Sunday ...

How does your pay compare?

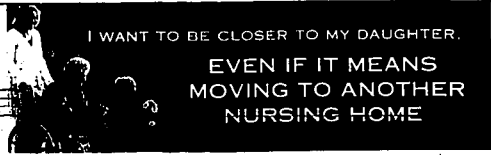
On Sunday, we'll publish a local economist's survey of this year's average hourly wages in the Magic Valley's most common occupations. Here's a sampling:

A look at local labor



- Dental assistants -- \$10.47
- Bank tellers -- \$8.32
- Motel housekeepers -- \$5.90
- Concrete finishers -- \$11.71

Read Sunday's Money section for the rest.

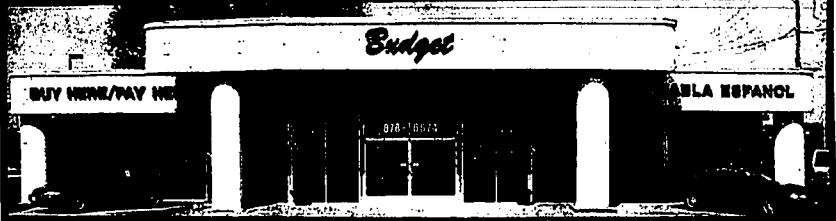


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- Visit nursing homes. Speak with staff and residents, and ask questions.
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- Call National Eldercare Locator, (800) 673-1116, to find out more about local resources for seniors.
- Check out the resources and information about nursing home quality on the Medicare Nursing Home Compare Web site at www.medicare.gov, or call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).

This material is prepared by Quality Health under contract with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. The opinions presented do not necessarily reflect those of HHS or CMS.



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U.S. DISTRICT COURT

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS—Recent civil filings in U.S. District Court include the following:

Western Watersheds Project and Committee for the High Desert vs. K. Lynn Bennett, Director, of Idaho State Office, Bureau of Land Management, Edward Guerrero Jarbidge Field Manager, Bureau of Land Management, and Bureau of Land Management, an agency of the United States, Robert Vaughn, Forest Service Supervisor, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, U.S. Forest Service, an agency of the United States, seeking that the court order, declare, and adjudge that defendants are violating the Endangered Species Act, National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, National Forest Management Act, Administrative Procedure Act and the Reorganization Act, order defendant to comply with said acts; that the court enter such temporary, preliminary, and/or injunctive relief as sought by plaintiffs, attorney's fees and costs.

Plaintiffs allege that the defendants are in violation of the Endangered Species Act and other laws by authorizing illegal grazing, water diversions and other land management activities. Plaintiffs allege that the lawsuit is the first time in the history of the Jarbidge River watershed.

Demetris Arvelo and Lourdes Arvelo, individually and as natural parents of Brandy Arvelo, a minor child, deceased vs. Arvelo A. Cortes M.D., Family Health Services, U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and John Doe and Jane Doe, husband and wife, through "X" and business entities through "X". Plaintiff demand jury trial. Seeking judgment against the defendants for special and general damages in amounts to be proven at trial; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as the court deems just. Plaintiff alleges that on Dec. 8, 2000, their newborn daughter died as a result of grossly negligent and/or reckless medical care; substandard medical management and/or breach of the standard care of Lourdes Arvelo's proprietary labor and home delivery at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. 1:02-CV-549.

Guyton C. Alfred vs. The Prudential Insurance Company of America, a New Jersey corporation and Does 1 through 50. Section 502 actual damages in an amount to be proven at trial; treble damages; liquidated damages; attorney's fees and costs; other relief as the court deems just. Plaintiff states that he was employed by the defendant and that he was involved in a car accident which rendered him disabled and unable to continue to work. Plaintiff alleges that he was discriminated against by the defendant because of his disability and retaliated against by defendant on account of his request for benefits and protection which he was entitled. Plaintiff's termination included termination of plaintiff's employment, wrongfully withholding compensation and benefits of employment and denial and misadministration of his request for family and medical leave. Plaintiff demands jury trial. 1:02-CV-549.

- GOODING COUNTY COURTS -

The Times-News

GOODING—Recent activity in 5th District Court in Gooding County included the following:

Misdemeanor sentences
Johnnie J. Smith, 28, 901 Utah St., Gooding, driving without privileges, 100-day driver's license suspension, \$75.50 court costs; three years suspended probation, 30 days in jail, 28 suspended; Magistrate Justice Kevin P. Cassidy.
And Karl Kramer, 19, 711 E. 3600 N., Caldwell, leaving the scene of an accident and failure to provide information regarding fatal injury on an accident; \$63.50 court costs, 10 days in jail; Magistrate Justice Kevin P. Cassidy.

use dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Justice Barry Wood.
Terry L. Jones, 50, 17408 W. Colfax, Caldwell, two counts possession of controlled substance; first count, \$1,000 fine, \$68.50 court costs; three years' determinate probation; five years' indeterminate sentence, dismissed by prosecutor; use of possession of drug use apparatus, when court dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Justice Barry Wood.

Civil filings
ACS Inc. or Idaho vs. Patrick Taylor, Seeking \$1,199.60, plus \$465.55 interest; \$300 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that the defendant failed to pay for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Child support cases
Brenda Johnson vs. Robert A. Eersdorf, Seeking determination the petitioner is the mother, and the respondent is the father, of three-year-old Johnnie Pearl Eersdorf and Teddy Kurtiss petitioner to be granted sole legal and physical custody of the children; that the respondent be awarded supervised visitation, respondent pay \$279 monthly support; respondent shall provide or maintain medical, dental, optical or other health insurance.

Divorces
Maralee Rae Hansen vs. Stobie Burnell Isbell

Felony arraignments
Dustine A. Green, 23, 601 G Main Drive, Kamela, possession of a forged check, theft by receipt/possessing stolen property, pretrial conference Jan. 14, jury trial Jan. 25; Magistrate Justice Barry Wood.

Felony sentences
David Alexander Fisher, 33, 444 Main St. A.P., Rex, Gooding, manufacture of a controlled substance, \$1,000 fine, \$68.50 court costs; three years' suspended probation; two years' determinate probation; three indeterminate sentences; drug stamp tax violation; use of possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to sell; Magistrate Justice Barry Wood.

- MINIDOKA COUNTY COURTS -

The Times-News

MINIDOKA—Recent activity in 5th District Court in Minidoka County included:

Misdemeanor dismissals
Jose Urna, 26, 203 First St., Rupert; one count aiding in misdemeanor; one count invalid driver's license; Magistrate Justice Barry Wood.
Robert Artegaun Gurman, 30, 510 E. D. St., Rupert; misdemeanor; court; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.

two years' determinate probationary time, three years' indeterminate probationary time, time credited, probation revised, sentence remainder imposed; District Judge John M. Melanson.
Bartolo R. Martinez, 38, 635 Miller Ave., Burley; probation violation, pleaded guilty; District Judge John M. Melanson.

Deferred prosecutions
Frank Dean Aragon, 23, 519 Oneida, Rupert; frequenting a place where controlled substance is used; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.
Wanda Wilcox, 28, 309 Fishburnery, No. 12, Rupert; battery; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.
Gonzalo Cecil Castillo, 70, 206 Lovene Lane, Rupert; indeterminate sentence; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.

Juvenile sentences
Rachel M. Hingolow, 15, 711 Fifth St. N., Rupert; invalid driver's license, pleaded guilty, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Justice Roy C. Holmway.

Misdemeanor sentences
Benna L. Grewery, 33, 102 Maywood Circle, Rupert; driving without privileges, misdemeanor; one count invalid driver's license, \$68.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs, 10 days in jail, 10 days suspended; one month probation, 30 days in jail, 28 suspended; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.
Steve Thomas Livingston, 67, 292 W. Varsity Drive, Rupert; battery; one count battery; \$68.50 court costs, 30 days in jail, 28 suspended, 12 months' probation; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.
Luis C. Chavez, 22, address unknown; invalid driver's license, pleaded guilty, one day in jail, time credited.

Driving under the influence sentences
Abel Ramon Sanchez, 31, 113 S. F. St., Rupert; misdemeanor, pleaded guilty, \$300 fine, \$68.50 court costs, 30 days in jail, 28 days suspended, six months' probation, 180 days' driver's license suspension, time credited; Magistrate Justice Larry R. Doh.
Robert Lee Miller, 44, P.O. Box 603, Rupert; misdemeanor, pleaded guilty, \$300 fine, \$300 suspended, \$78.50 court costs, 30 days in jail, 28 days suspended, 12 months' probation, 180 days' driver's license suspension, time credited, one day Mini-Cadua work in lieu of jail; Magistrate Justice Michael R. Crabtree.

Felony dismissals
Willy P. Madrid, 50, 228 A Madison St. N., Twin Falls; probation violation, \$6,161 restitution; District Judge John M. Melanson.

Felony sentences
John Robert Mason, 26, 623 S. Second St., Rupert; probation violation, pleaded guilty.

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MONEY

Spud growers face challenges

POCATELLO (AP) - Potato prices may be recovering from disastrously depressed levels of two years ago, but the presence of the Pacific Northwest potato growers has a challenge to unite producers. "The most overriding issue right now is to make sure we have more members," Karen Koopman of American Falls said following an executive committee meeting this week. The organization that restructured itself in 2001 gained two dozen members so far this year but has lost 10. Officials put the membership at just over 300 of the 500 commercial growers. The organization has a \$55,000 deficit, Koopman said, and needs either another 30 members or higher dues to erase the red ink.

Executive Director Keith Espin said the growers have taken a broad perspective, getting involved in the market outlook, crop reports, Canadian exchange rate, closure of J.R. Simco Co.'s Heyburn processing plant, trade pesticide re-registration and water supplies. U.S. Sen. Larry Craig told growers this week in Pocatello that they will be getting some additional influence on Capitol Hill next year with the formation of a bipartisan potato caucus.

Craig said he is tentatively set to be a co-chairman of the group that will include members from at least nine potato-growing states, and growers spokesman Keith Frank said Congressman Michael Simpson will probably be involved in setting up a similar caucus in the House. They both would deal with trade and other issues as they arise in Washington, D.C. "This will give us real clout," Frank said. But Agriculture Director Pat Takusagi warned growers to keep their sights trained closer to home, where state lawmakers will be looking for ways to erase a \$160 million budget deficit this winter. With education, health care and other programs in the forefront of that budget debate, Takusagi said farm programs could be overlooked in the competition for limited cash. "You need to be wary of what they're doing in Boise," he said.

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"You need to be wary of what they're doing in Boise," he said.

Kmart digs for clues to its fall

Knight Ridder News Service

DETROIT - Kmart has spent millions of dollars investigating former executives, scouring corporate flight and expense records, and prowling around the Caribbean as its lawyers try to pin blame for the century-old retailer's financial ruin.

An invoice buried in its bankruptcy case describes in detail and for the first time since the company began its so-called stewardship review in May - just what Kmart's lawyers are talking to and the kinds of potential fraud they are investigating.

Written in snippets, the invoice describes how Kmart's lawyers have been meeting with the company's former chief executive, Chuck Conway, private investigators, an FBI agent and a sergeant - with the Oakland County Sheriff's Department.

The invoice also lists some of the records they've been sifting through, including manifests for the company's jets and an executive's expenses on a ski trip to Utah and travels in Asia.

Kmart - which closed a Burley store but still operates one in Twin Falls - and its lawyers have steadfastly declined to comment on the company's so-called stewardship review, which is expected to be completed this month. The findings, however, may not become public until February.

The FBI and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission are also looking at Kmart, and like Kmart have said little about their work. The House Energy and Commerce Committee is conducting a fourth investigation focusing on the role of the board in Kmart's collapse.

The invoice from Kmart's law firm, Skadden, Arps, Slater, Meagher & Flom, gives a snapshot of what has been happening behind the scenes. It is part of a \$13.7 million bill from the lawyers for their work on both the stewardship review and Kmart's bankruptcy in May, June, July and August.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Susan Pierson Sonderby will review those fees and expenses - and more than \$12 million in bills

from Kmart's other advisers, creditors and shareholders' committees - at a Dec. 19 hearing in Chicago.

Kmart filed the largest retail bankruptcy in U.S. history on July 22 in Chicago, just weeks and months after 25 executives received more than \$28 million in loans that they wouldn't have to repay, even if they were fired.

Those loans - and allegations of accounting improprieties that hid Kmart's growing losses last year - touched off the various investigations.

The company's chief lawyer, Jack Butler, said that the 1,335-page bill and invoice for four months of work are "tangible evidence of how thorough and deliberate that investigation has been. There is no stone unturned."

The invoice suggests Kmart's lawyers are investigating on several fronts: the loans to Conway, his top lieutenant, Mark Schwartz, and 23 others; the use of the company's fleet of jets by executives and the Caribbean where Kmart had planned a major expansion.

Ethanol

Continued from D1 selecting a spot in Magic Valley for a large-scale ethanol plant. The two companies by that time had screened eight properties throughout south-central Idaho for infrastructure to support ethanol production.

The FBI International assessment considered using other crops for production, including sugar beets, potatoes and dairy wheat. However, they were considered too expensive to be considered a primary feedstock.

The study also ranked the counties with the highest potential for production based on the availability of the crops.

They are: Blaine, 10.3 million gallons; Cassia, 8.1 million; Power, 7.3 million; Latah, 6.8 million; Lewis, 5.7 million; Canyon, 5.4 million; Bonneville, 5.3 million; Nez Perce, 5 million; Jefferson, 4.5 million; and Twin Falls, 4.3 million.

Stocks advance despite Kimberly-Clark outlook

NEW YORK (AP) - Wall Street ended a tepid trading session Wednesday with a moderate advance after a disappointing outlook from Kimberly-Clark left investors questioning prospects for a solid business recovery in 2003. Stocks struggled for much of the session to claim their gains.

Trading paled by comparison with Tuesday, when the market rose sharply after the Federal Reserve issued a rather positive assessment of the economy and left interest rates unchanged on the belief that economic conditions are strengthening.

After falling as much as 86 points earlier, the Dow Jones industrial average closed up 14.88, or 0.2 percent, at 8,589.14. The Dow rose 100.85 the previous session.

The market's broader gauges were also higher. The Nasdaq composite index rose 5.83, or 0.4 percent, to 1,396.59. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 0.51, or 0.05 percent, to 904.96.

Wall Street was pressured by Kimberly-Clark, which dropped \$1.15 to \$46.78 after lowering its fourth-quarter and 2003 earnings outlook. The news was upsetting to investors who know that consumer products companies typically are among the safest havens in difficult markets due to a steady demand for their products.

Despite Kimberly-Clark's news, the market fought to climb higher, which analysts attributed to investors believing the future looks a lot more positive.

The SEC presses ahead on disclosure plan

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The Securities and Exchange Commission attempted to project a business-as-usual attitude Wednesday, moving ahead with new disclosure requirements for the \$6.2 trillion mutual fund industry a day after the White House announced its replacement of outgoing Chairman Harold Callahan.

At the next to last public meeting of the year, the members composed each other and the SEC staff for their hard work during what Pitt dubbed "the difficult recent past."

Both Republican and Democratic commissioners publicly praised Pitt for taking the lead on reforms that would benefit investors, giving the meeting the appearance of a pep rally and retirement party.

President Bush on Tuesday named Wall Street insider William Donaldson to replace Pitt, who announced his resignation last month after a series of political missteps.

"Even during this transition period, we are committed to an aggressive course to assure the utmost integrity in our markets," Pitt said, reading from prepared statement. "The American investor deserves no less."

The changes the SEC proposed Wednesday are designed to help shareholders of mutual funds get more detailed information about where their money is being invested and to get it faster.

The proposal would require mutual funds to disclose their complete portfolio holdings in filings with the agency four times a year instead of twice a year as it now required.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like ACE, AIG, AMZN, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table with columns: NY, ANEX, NASDAQ. Includes sub-sections for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Indices.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various NASDAQ stocks like AIG, AMZN, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

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

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining market report symbols and data points, including a table for market indicators like S&P 500, Dow Jones, etc.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

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

Large table at the bottom of the page containing various stock listings and market data.

CLOSING FUTURES

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

BEANS

Table of bean prices, including soybean meal and soybean oil, with prices and changes.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices, including corn, soybeans, and wheat, with prices and changes.

POTATOES

Table of potato prices, including Idaho potatoes, with prices and changes.

SUGAR

Table of sugar prices, including raw sugar and refined sugar, with prices and changes.

LIVESTOCK

Table of livestock prices, including cattle, hogs, and sheep, with prices and changes.

Table of metal and currency prices, including gold, silver, and various currencies, with prices and changes.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table of fossil fuel prices, including oil, natural gas, and coal, with prices and changes.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table of metal and currency prices, including various metals and exchange rates, with prices and changes.

Birch

Continued from D1. Trudy Carlson of Birch Grove in Eagle-River, 10 miles north of Anchorage, concocts toffee, lollipops, a birch-glazed popcorn with pecans and hazelnuts.

Birch Producers in Haines, the only commercial producer in southeast Alaska, has attracted an international clientele for its array of syrups and toppings.

The Easts started tapping trees on their homestead in 1950. They started with 200 trees. This year they tapped 2,000.

Using snowmelt, they haul in 14,000 to 20,000 pounds of supplies, including about 3,000 pounds of sugar for syrup making.

"We are sucked in," East said. "If we could get out of it and have a simpler life, we would do it (but) the business is growing."

"We have people call all the time and ask about getting into the birch syrup business. A lot of people have tried. They thought it would be easier than what it was. They thought they would make a lot of money."

Montague, of Knik Birch Syrup Co., agrees. "I would say you could start with \$10,000, but you would be better off starting with \$20,000, and then you would realize you need more money," she said.

But birch syrup producers also enjoy the fruits of their labors. "We really like what we are doing," said Humphrey, in Haines. "It's fun. Since we are also a good number of our husband does all the work for our labels. It's fun to make a food product into a work of art."

Farm

and said his comments were directed at people who place entire farms in the program, move away and supplement their retirement savings with the federal program.

"That's wrong," he said. "We're taking our farmland out of production, and in other countries, land is being ripped up and sold."

Jim Fitzgerald, state director of the federal Farm Service Agency, acknowledged the criticism but defended the program as one that Americans are willing to back.

Without such programs, Congress would be less likely to appropriate billions of dollars in farm subsidies every year, FSA officials say.

Gus Huhns, state conservationist, said most of the reserve land in Washington state is defensible as good wildlife habitat or at risk of severe erosion.

What growers also were critical of a Bush administration policy that has forced wheat prices down in recent weeks.

Tom Mick, chief executive of the Washington Wheat Commission, said a policy shift in the U.S. Department of Agriculture contributes to falling prices.

The USDA's Commodity Credit Corp. dumped 3 million to 4 million bushels of wheat reserves from the Bill Emerson Humanitarian Trust on an already soft market last week.

So far this year, the government has sold about 24 million bushels of wheat. The price rallies and hurting small grain elevators that rent storage to house government reserves.

The commodity commission keeps grain cashers that can quickly be shipped to alleviate famine, or sold on the market to raise cash to purchase other goods.

Less than two weeks ago, a bushel of soft white wheat grown in the Pacific Northwest and shipped to Portland, Ore., was fetching better than \$4.40 a bushel.

On Tuesday, that bushel was worth \$4.18. The seemingly small change actually costs farmers thousands of dollars.

MUTUAL FUNDS table listing various mutual funds, their assets, and performance metrics.

COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz

AND DID YOU BUY WHOLE COMIC BOOK COLLECTION TO GET THE MONEY?
SURE I SOLD MY WHOLE COMIC BOOK COLLECTION TO GET THE MONEY.
THEN I MET HER IN THE STORE, AND SHE SQUEEZED ME THE NEW PAIR OF GLOVES SHE'D JUST BOUGHT!
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING TO GIVE HER THE PAIR YOU BOUGHT?
WHY GIVE HER SOMETHING SHE ALREADY HAS?
WELL, AT LEAST THEY DIDN'T GO TO WASTE.

Dilbert

By Scott Adams

THE REPORTER FROM MONEYBAGS MAGAZINE IS HERE.
SEND HIM IN.
ARE YOU PLANNING TO ASK MY EMPLOYEES IF MY CLAIMS ARE TRUE?
NAH, TOO LAZY.
I CREDIT MY SUCCESS TO THE FOOT MESSAGES I PERSONALLY GIVE TO EACH EMPLOYEE.
COVER STORY!

B.C.

By Johnny Hart

win-some
WILEY'S DICTIONARY
THE SECOND WORD OF A CONCESSION SPEECH
WILEY'S DICTIONARY

Garfield

By Jim Davis

Dear Santa, This is Garfield.
Gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme, gimme.
HOW'S THAT?
ONE MORE "GIMME" OUGHTA DO IT.

Hi and Lo

By Chance Browne

DO YOU HAVE AN OLD SET OF FALSE TEETH I COULD BORROW?
WHAT FOR?
I WANT TO PUT THEM UNDER MY PILLOW AND SEE HOW MUCH MONEY THE TOOTH FAIRY LEAVES ME!

The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT CALLING IT QUITS?
CALLING WHAT QUITS?
I GUESS NOT.

Nagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne

WE COULD PROBABLY JUMP OVER THERE IF OUR LIMBS DEPEND ON IT.
AND THAT'S A DISTINCT POSSIBILITY!

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker

HERE'S SOME SNAIL MAIL FOR YOU.
MORE WALKER COMIC.
WHAT DO I DO WITH IT?

Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves

RAIL DENIED---THE DEFENDANT POSES A SIGNIFICANT FLIGHT RISK.

The Born Loner

By Art Sansom & Chip

DECK THE HALLS WITH BOUGHS OF HOLLY...
FA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA LA...
THE PROBLEM WITH THAT SONG ISN'T KNOWING WHAT TO SING, BUT WHEN TO STOP!

For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston

I WISH YOU AND MICHAEL WOULD MOVE CLOSER TO US SO WE COULD COME OVER EVERY DAY AND HELP WITH THIS BABY!
THERE'S A NICE APARTMENT I LOOKED AT, YOU COULD LIVE RIGHT DOWN THE STREET!
I SEE LIKE WHERE WE ARE, MOM.
ONE-- IT'S CLOSE TO MIKE'S WORK, TWO-- THE RENT IS REASONABLE, THREE-- WE LIKE THE NEIGHBORHOOD. (BUT YOU'RE SO FAR AWAY FROM ME!)
THAT'S FOUR...

Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake

HOW COME YOU'RE SO LATE?
I HAD TO MEET WITH THE BOSS.
WAS IT SO IMPORTANT THAT HE CALLED AND HAVE WAITED UNTIL TOMORROW?
HE SEEMED TO THINK SO.

Pickles

By Brian Crane

YOU'RE GIVING DAD A COLONOSCOPY FOR CHRISTMAS?
THAT'S RIGHT.
ISN'T THAT A LITTLE... I DON'T KNOW... CLINICAL?
PERHAPS, BUT I THINK HE'LL APPRECIATE IT IN THE END.

Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum

I LOVE TO SEE DENNIS COMING...
...IN TIME TO LOCK THE DOOR.
HAVE YOU BEEN A GOOD BOY?
"Why? What have you heard?"

Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SIBETTE.
THANK YOU.
DAD, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME IT WAS MOM'S BIRTHDAY?
I DID.
I LEFT REMINDER NOTES ALL OVER YOUR ROOM AND EVEN SENT YOU E-MAILS WITH GIFT SUGGESTIONS.
AND YOU EXPECTED ME TO PICK UP ON SUBTLE HINTS LIKE THAT??

Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SIBETTE.
THANK YOU.
DAD, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME IT WAS MOM'S BIRTHDAY?
I DID.
I LEFT REMINDER NOTES ALL OVER YOUR ROOM AND EVEN SENT YOU E-MAILS WITH GIFT SUGGESTIONS.
AND YOU EXPECTED ME TO PICK UP ON SUBTLE HINTS LIKE THAT??

Luann

By Greg Evans

I HOPE BERNICE DOESN'T GET CARRIED AWAY WITH HER MASSAGE THING.
IT'S GOOD THAT ZANE'S GONE AWAY. THEY WERE GETTING TOO HOT 'N' HEAVY.
YEAH.
ALTHOUGH I PERSONALLY WOULDN'T MIND SOME HOT 'N' HEAVY.
WELL, HERE'S A NICE FLEECE-LINED LEATHER COAT.

Strange Brew

By John Deering

WOULD YOU CARE TO SNIFF THE TRASH CAN LID?
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR LAWYER SAID, THEY'RE NOT CALLED THE TEN RECOMMENDATIONS.

Non Sequitur

By Wiley

I DON'T CARE WHAT YOUR LAWYER SAID, THEY'RE NOT CALLED THE TEN RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Times-News

Thursday, December 2, 2002

Standing tall on her own

Rupert woman battles many challenges in life

By Corren Hart
Times-News correspondent

RUPERT—Mary Williams has a lot of respect for Irma Ortiz. "As far as a young single mom, the thing I usually admire is that she provides for her two little girls," said Williams, the secretary for St. Nicholas School in Rupert. "When they started to attend, they came in the front door holding hands and skipping. They were so happy. They feel good about themselves."

Irma Ortiz also feels good about herself. But it took a long journey to that point, and the trip is not over yet. She said she was raised in a good home with loving, hard working parents. She met Jesse Ortiz when they were both 19. It didn't take long to fall in love. After two months, Jesse asked her father for her hand in marriage. Against his misgivings, her father agreed.

In less than a year, a car accident killed her father's life, and her marriage began to deteriorate. Ortiz also gave birth to two daughters, Jasmine and Jessica. When her marriage problems escalated, something in Ortiz decided she needed to stand on her own, she said. She called her former boss,

explained her situation and asked for her old job five years after she quit. The woman told her to start the next day.

Flushed with relief, Ortiz walked to work at 4 a.m. "I really ran most of the way," she said.

With her first paycheck, she got a car so she wouldn't have to walk in the dark. She got two more part-time jobs - as aides at Minico High School and St. Nicholas School. She got help with child care from Idaho Child Care, her family and St. Nicholas. She applied for housing and was approved. During the summer, she worked at the Idaho Migrant Council as head cook. Later, she was hired as a teacher's aide.

"I thought I was never going to make it on my own," Ortiz recalled. "I thought the whole world was falling on my head."

This year, she's only working as a teacher's aide in the Spanish-language program at Minico High School. She's learned how tough it is for new immigrants to fit in to the new country, and it has given her a terrific drive to continue her education.

"I want to go to college and get a degree," Ortiz said. "I want to be an ESL teacher and help the new kids learn their way around."

"She tries very hard. She want-

ed the students to succeed so much she probably did too much for them. She really has a good heart for teaching," said Gary Mittelstaedt, who worked with her in an English as second language program.

Ortiz has furnished her apartment and is caught up on her bills. That's not easy on her salary of \$693 per month, but she takes pride in her accomplishments, which is reflected in her dress for work.

"You should have seen me before," she said. "Just T-shirts, jeans. Now, I feel better about myself."

As if she hadn't taken enough blows, she was robbed of \$900, she said.

"I was going to pay my mother for babysitting, and the teller said, 'You've only got \$100 in here.' I was in tears. I told her there had to be a mistake. But very soon we found out what had happened," Ortiz said.

The bank reimbursed her for the loss and is prosecuting the suspected thief.

The challenges continue, including her relationship with her husband, who is in prison, she said.

"It's hard for me to trust anyone right now," Ortiz said. "I've been hit pretty hard. I'm standing on my own two feet right now. I don't know how easy it will be to give that up."



Irma Ortiz, with daughters, Jessica, right, and Jasmine, is standing mostly on her own two feet these days, despite a rocky start. She's hoping her experiences will help other young women make solid decisions.

But at age 26, she's proud of the woman she has become. She can care for her daughters. She can dream of an education, she said. Mary Williams is proud to know

Irma. "She's giving her children something that money can't buy," Williams said, "I really do admire her."

Times-News correspondent Corren Hart can be reached at 436-1186, or by email at jimrvee@afelink.net.

Internet cafes give Mexican youth easier access to lots of information

By Brendan M. Case
The Dallas Morning News

CHALCO, Mexico - Just off the bumpy streets of this gritty Mexico City suburb, Lucila Flores pays \$1.20 an hour for a daily lifeline to the outside world.

Flores researches her homework on the Internet, thanks to the five public computers at a local stationery shop. Then she prints up her assignments and writes them out at a cost of 25 cents per page.

The 18-year-old high-schooler also browses the pages of the World Wide Web, relying on both U.S. and Mexican sites. Lacking a machine at home, she typically spends \$2.50 each day on computer use - and sometimes quite a bit more.

"We have a lot of homework right now, so we spent all of last weekend here," said Flores, peering at an assignment on a computer screen with two friends. "These days, you need the Internet to do your homework



work and to know what's going on in the world."

In a Mexican family can barely afford a telephone line, let alone an Internet-equipped computer, and few schools are wired.

So millions of youngsters are flocking online, thanks to an army of small-time entrepreneurs who have set up thousands of Internet cafes.

The trend represents the triumph of what theorists might someday dub the "one-peso-a-time" business model.

The arrangement plays a crucial role in spreading new technologies such as mobile phones and the Internet to Mexico's 100 million people, especially its 43 million citizens below the age of 20.

veys by Mund America, a market research firm in Mexico City, they view such "cyberliteracy" as a key to social mobility, right up with owning a car.

But in a nation of low wages, a local-telephone monopoly and a dysfunctional banking system, the ranks of would-be Web surfers far exceed those who can afford a computer and a phone line. As a result, the number of Internet cafes has exploded from almost nothing a few years ago to thousands now.

Students, with their huge computer needs and empty pockets, rank among the greatest customers.

"The student base is more than half of the total customers of cybercafes," says Daniel Lund, the president of Mund America. He estimates the number of such establishments at 5,000 to 10,000 nationwide.

"For them, it's key," he says. "In the absence of having schools wired, and in the absence of having a laptop, this is the connecting point."

Farhana Hibbert, 556 S. 6th Ave. in Pocatello.

The social will be held from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. with the scholarships awards ceremony starting at 3 p.m.

Idaho State University students Jose Fernandez and Marco Antezana are 5500 Leadership scholarship winners.

There will be refreshments. RSVP by Dec. 18 to Farhana Hibbert at idaoh@unido.com or 234-7383 or E. Worley at worlebe@isu.edu.

Reporte de Mexico

Scholarship helps abuse-counseling career

BOISE - The Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs is offering an Hispanic Substance Abuse Prevention Scholarship program to bilingual/bicultural people interested in obtaining their certification in alcohol and drug counseling.

There is a tremendous need for bilingual/bicultural drug counselors throughout the state of Idaho, according to the commission. The Commission on Hispanic Affairs offers the scholarship under a grant with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare, Division of Family and Community Services, Bureau of Mental Health and Substance Abuse to address the continued education of bilingual/bicultural alcohol and drug counselors.

Candidates interested in learning more about the scholarship program, may contact Margie Gonzalez at (208) 334-3776 or mgonzalez@icha.state.id.us for more information.

La Familia entertains at La Copa this weekend

TWIN FALLS - La Familia will play at 9 p.m. Saturday at La Copa, 127 South Park Ave. Admission for men is \$5 and for women, \$2.

INS announces Case Status Online service for immigrants

The Immigration and Naturalization Service announced the implementation of Case Status Online. Customers who have a receipt



number for an application or petition filed at an INS Service Center. She can check the status of their pending case online through the INS Web site, and avoid protracted waits on the phone or at a local office, the INS reported.

"We shared the frustration of customers and employees who complained that there was no easy way to check the status of a pending case," INS Commissioner James Ziglar said. "It also allows local field offices to focus on providing services that are only available by appointment or in-person visits." Customers who do not have a receipt number will continue to receive information about their case by calling the National Customer Service Center at 1-800-375-5283 or 1-800-767-1833 (TTY for the hearing impaired) or by visiting their local INS field office.

For more information, check out the INS Web site at www.ins.gov. Forms can be downloaded from the site, or requested by calling 1-800-870-FORM.

Noticias

Image De Idaho Del Sudeste Scholarship social is set

POCATELLO - The 10th annual Image De Idaho Del Sudeste Scholarship Social will be held Dec. 21 at the home of Monte and

J.Lo has biggest CD debut yet

By the New York Daily News

She may draw hisses from critics, but commercially J.Lo just lit a new high.

Her fourth album, "This Is Me...Then," sold 314,132 copies in its debut week, giving the star her biggest opening ever.

That's nearly double the starting sales for Lopez's last CD, "J to the Lo," which began with 156,049 in sales in February. (That album collected remixes rather than fresh tracks, accounting for its smaller numbers).

Lopez's previous top seller was "J Lo," which bolted out of the gate with 272,252 copies two years ago.

"If you scratch the surface of her records (there's) not much of anything there," says Blender magazine's music editor, Craig Marks. "But there's no reason to do that. The surface of her music is dazzling."

The singer, who touts herself in her new single as just "Jenny From the Block," and has a movie, "Maid in Manhattan," opening will celebrate her success with a homecoming performance recently at her old after-school hangout in the Bronx, the Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club. It will be televised by the "Today" show.

While Lopez's new figures would easily take the No. 1 slot on the Billboard Top 200 Album chart during many weeks of the year, in this super-competitive pre-Christmas season, they landed her at only No. 6.

Owner promises to strengthen newspaper

Aldana told The Associated Press he intends to revive the failing newspaper by paying its debts and investing in its expansion and recovery. "We want to unify the Excelsior family," he said. Excelsior started as a private newspaper, but in 1932 it became an employee-owned cooperative. Like Mexican papers of its time, Excelsior followed the political line of the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI, which ruled the country for 71 years until its defeat in 2000 by President Vicente Fox.

In the 1970s, when Excelsior tried to become independent, President Luis Echeverria sponsored a group that stopped the movement.

Two years ago, as circulation dwindled, Excelsior offered its support to losing PRI presidential candidate Francisco Labastida.



Let the office complain, but J. Lo has a new hit album.

Owner promises to strengthen newspaper

By Eloy O. Aguilar
Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY - A former student spy, law enforcement agent, drug suspect and son of a Mexican general who fought with Pancho Villa is taking over what was once Mexico's most influential daily newspaper.

Miguel Aldana Ibarra, a 57-year-old businessman, struck a \$150 million deal for the troubled Excelsior newspaper and most of its assets. The paper owes \$70 million in taxes and other debts.

Aldana, whose father who fought in Villa's army during the Mexican revolution at the beginning of the 20th Century, retired from law enforcement in 1984 as head of Interpol in Mexico and set up a law firm and an industrial promotion office. He also became president of the national bar association.

Sleepless nights with Sasquatch

"Do you think there's any Bigfoots up here Dad?" asked my 13-year-old son, Zack. We had just arrived at a small lake in the Sawtooths after a short hike. How could I resist playing with that one? After all, his mother wasn't around.

"Not too many," I replied, "they're mostly further north, but keep an eye on the edge of the meadow over here. If there is one around, this is the time he'd come out to feed."



COUNTRY LARKS
Sam Hutchins

At that, Zack's younger sister Katie burst out, "Oh, Daddy! There's no such a thing as Bigfoot -- is there?"

Zack quickly retorted, "Katie! Be quiet, I'm trying to ask Dad a question!" Then turning to me he asked, with a touch of apprehension, "Dad, what do Bigfoots eat?"

"Well, son, it depends on the season. I would imagine that by this time of year they're eating a lot of berries, along with any fresh meat they can get a hold of, to put on fat for the winter."

At this Katie clapped her hands over her ears and I, in a stroke of belated good judgment, changed the subject.

We spent a little time exploring. Later I made some hot chocolate. The evening chill came in a sharp rush just as the sun slipped behind the Sawtooth Mountains. As the stars came out, we had a stimulating discussion on astronomy and I fielded a few more questions about Bigfoot. Again, I couldn't help but season my answers with a little imagination. Finally it was time for bed.

For Zack and Katie, this was the part that sealed our little outing as a genuine adventure. It was just us three, in a tent, way back in the woods, with bears and wolves and snakes and bigfoot prowling around out there, and Mom miles away. They giggled with pure piddiness.

Eventually, we all drifted off to sleep. Around midnight, I was jolted awake by a shriek of terror and a simultaneous kick in the head. Katie was thrashing and screaming wildly. Bigfoot had her and she was doing her best to fight him off. I calmed her down and reinstated her into her sleeping bag, and then I discovered that the zipper on her bag was jammed. She was already back to sleeping soundly so I tucked her in as best I could and went back to sleep. An hour later she awoke me again. Her thrashing had flopped open her sleeping bag and she was now shivering. There was only one solution. I traded sleeping bags with her.

I stretched out on the tent floor and tried my best to keep the edges of the bag tucked under me. I found if I remained very still and somewhat rigid I could seal out most of the cold air.

I wasn't getting much sleep, which was probably a good thing because it didn't take me long to respond when the Bigfoot grabbed Zack. I got up to calm him down, losing the meager amount of warmth I had collected in the process.

I had plenty of time to think that night, as I lay there shivering and alternately responding to my children's nightmares, about how cheap sleeping bags are a crime against outdoors people and about the importance of being honest with your kids. No, it could be just a story, but some folks claim that Old Man Hatcher still calls these mountains home. He's too big and mean to live in town and he . . .

Dog days of winter

Bird hunting in cooler months has its own rewards

By Bill Studebaker
Times-News correspondent

A flurry turns whir, Chukars beat from the sage braking over a basalt ledge. With the help of gravity, strong flight feathers, and a shot of adrenaline, they reach speeds upwards of 50 mph.

The nimble hunter reflexively follows with a keen eye and true shot that Natty Bumppo, famed hero of the Leather-Stocking Tales, would envy. A couple chukars fall into the dinner skillet.

Well, that's how it's supposed to work. But hunting is always a mixed bag.

It's a mixture of successes, experiences, and species. For those who hunt the South Hills regularly, this is a familiar formula. Over the years, these ingredients take on equal proportions. Some years, the skillet's full. Others years, it's only greased once or twice.

Whether the seasons are bountiful or meager, there are more than enough memories to go around. I remember when a friend, Jim Woods, and I hunted so hard that we'd wear out a dog a day. We compensated. We found ourselves a team of pointers. Some were older. Some were younger. We wanted them stacked deep so we'd never run

out of experienced dogs and dogs on the way up.

But that was a while ago. Now, a little bit older and a little bit smarter, our success is higher with less effort. We know the hills better. The dogs we team up with hold point longer. We get closer to the birds before they flush, hopefully, over a snow-covered horizon.

If I could have an ideal day, and I did a month or so ago, the hills would be covered with snow. The sun would be strong behind a little cloud cover. The wind would be slight, but blowing steadily. My dog would catch scent. Her head would come up. She'd walk steadily forward, then freeze on point.

That's what happened when Travis Bailor and I hunted the foothills overlooking Rock Creek. When the covey of birds exploded, trapped between Axel and BB, they were fair game and fine food. The coveys we found that day were mixed. They were a mixture of chukar partridges and Hungarian partridges. I'm not sure, but it may have been the early snow that brought them together and the sudden need for shelter and sun.

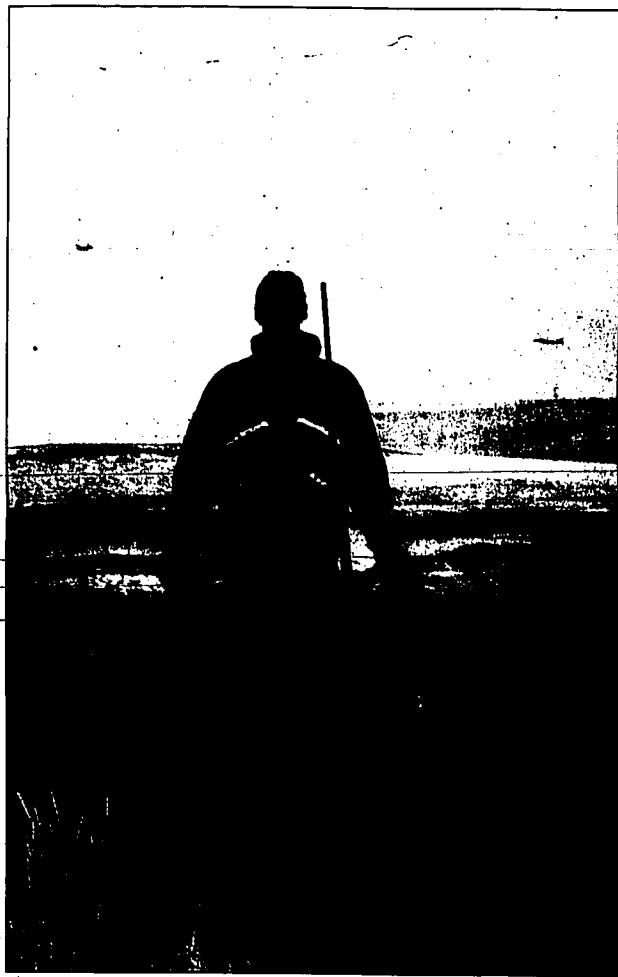
Normally, chukars hang out below and atop the rim rock where chest grass and small red tubers abound. Huns are, more frequently, out from the rim, scattered over the large flats of sage or tucked among the stone-strewn outcroppings.

As I said, hunting is always a mixed bag. Last week, Jim Krusch and I set out to stalk the

Please see HUNTING, Page E2



Bill Studebaker (left) and Jim Woods, in earlier days, kneel with a string of rested pointers.



Travis Bailor standing over Rock Creek, birds in hand, with canine sidekicks Axel and BB at heel.



BB rests after a day that produces some quail and Hungarian partridge.

Housekeeper bags moose near Island Park

Don't let this 125-pound single professional housekeeper who drives a blue Hyundai car with elk plates fool you.

She is a sharpshooter and a professional bowhunter. She has killed and hunted moose, elk, antelope, bear, coyotes and numerous birds for years.

I put in on this draw for the first time, and I drew. How exciting for me! So I started planning for my trip.

It paid off after I killed this four-point bull moose with a 35 3/4-inch spread measured by the Fish and Game on Nov. 6.

My hunting trip started out on Nov. 2 of this year, up at Island Park, and saw not many moose probably due to the drought conditions.

The first day out along the side of the road, I saw one ragnhorn bull and passed it up. The following days, I tracked on foot and only saw three cows. Then on Wednesday, Nov. 6, I was traveling on North Hatchery Road and there he stood.

The bull took off running through the lush forested forest. I tracked him on foot for one-eighth of a mile. There he stood looking at me for about five seconds. I raised the 7mm Ackley rifle without a rest and scoped him in and shot him through both lungs. He ran about 20

CALLS FROM THE WILD

Sandra Olsen

"Calls from the Wild" features first-person experiences submitted by Times-News readers about their outdoors adventures. To submit your Call from the Wild, contact Outdoors editor David Cooper at 733-0931, ext. 246, or email him at dcooper@magvalley.com.

yards and fell over dead. He was approximately 100 yards away when I took aim and fired. He was about the size of a full-size dairy cow.

I never practiced, not one time, with the 7mm Ackley rifle.

The head is being mounted by a local taxidermist and will be hanging on my wall next fall.

My next plans are to kill a caribou in Alaska.

I want to thank my ex-husband, Richard, for teaching me how to shoot a gun; my best friend, Freda Aslett Weisenburger, Bob Weisenburger, and other friends for giving me the time off to kill my trophy of a lifetime in the great outdoors of Idaho.



Sandra Olsen shows off the four-point moose she killed near Island Park.

OUTDOORS

Expert will speak to M.V. fly fishermen

Nationally-renowned fly fisherman, Denny Rickards, will present a program entitled, "Fly Fishing Stillwaters of the West" at the Magic Valley Fly Fishers annual Christmas party Tuesday, December 17, 2002.

The party will be held at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seastrom, in Twin Falls. There will be a "wet-fly" hour starting at 6 p.m. followed by a potluck dinner at 7 p.m. The program will start at 8 p.m.

Denny Rickards is a full time guide on Upper Klamath Lake in Oregon and spends over 250 days a year guiding, writing, tying flies, conducting fly fishing schools, and testing and developing tackle manufacturer's products. His simplistic approach and techniques on fly presentation have accounted for catching browns over 20 lbs., cutthroats to 15 lbs., and rainbows in excess of 16 lbs. As a professional fly tier, his suggestive patterns have appeared in various magazines and some are on display at Cushman's Fly Fishing Museum in Florence, Ore.

Based on past reviews, his first book and companion video, "Fly Fishing Stillwaters for Trophy Trout," are now considered the "bibles" for fly fishing lakes. His knowledge and ability to teach others were a prerequisite to establishing his fly fishing schools and clinics which have become a priority for anglers seeking the ultimate from their angling experiences.

Outdoors in brief

Anglers nab high number of hatchery-bred steelhead

LEWISTON — Most of the 204,000 steelhead that have returned above Lower Granite Dam this year are hatchery-bred fish.

Nearly three quarters of the total are hatchery-bred, yet the fish that anglers are catching are about 40 percent wild.

Those statistics have anglers scratching their heads.

Outfitter Don Vogel of Lewiston estimated just under half the fish caught by his clients have been keepers.

Stu Waters of the Waters Edge tackle shop at Clarkston says between half and 60 percent of the fish he catches can't be kept because they have intact adipose fins.

According to preliminary statistics from Idaho Department of Fish and Game steelhead angler surveys, 57 percent of the steelhead caught on the Clearwater River have been hatchery fish and the rest wild. On the Snake, a whopping 42 percent of the steelhead caught have been wild, compared to 58 percent hatchery fish.

But of the 204,000 steelhead over lower Granite Dam, about 25 percent of fish caught are wild.

Anglers are debating their own theories on the phenomenon.

Some think hatcheries are doing an inadequate job of clipping adipose fins. Others believe

a Nez Perce Tribe fisheries program, to boost wild numbers is skewing the catch ratio. The number of wild fish returning to the Snake River system is on the rise, and that could be part of the explanation.

Ed Schriever, regional fisheries manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game at Lewiston, has his own idea. He said that as more hatchery fish are caught and more wild fish are thrown back, the ratio of hatchery-to-wild fish changes.

And many of the thrown-back wild fish are being caught more than once, said Larry Barrett.

"I think a lot of these fish are being recycled, especially in a place like Heller Bar," Barrett said.

But hatchery steelhead also may be recycled, as anglers catch more than they can legally keep.

Hatchery and wild steelhead also behave differently, many believe.

The wild steelhead may move into the flowing sections of the Snake and Clearwater rivers sooner, and the hatchery steelhead may tend to spend more time in the reservoirs. So while there is a 25 to 75 ratio of wild fish to hatchery fish in the region, the ratio could be much higher in flowing sections where much of the fishing takes place.

Wyoming Fish and Game won't close areas to hunting

LANDER, Wyo. — The Wyoming Game and Fish Commission has again declined

to close part of the state to antler hunting during the winter and early spring.

The 3-3 vote this week marked the second time the commission has refused to close 15 deer hunting areas in southwest, west and south-central Wyoming from Jan. 1 to May 1.

Commissioners Kerry Powers, Gary Lundvall and Linda Fleming questioned how the closure could be effectively enforced, expressing a preference to use the existing wildlife harassment regulations to attack any problems more broadly.

The other three commissioners backed the closure as a way to reduce stress on big-game animals during the winter and spring.

Lundvall said without a statewide strategy the closure plan would just increase pressure on other areas.

Terry Cleveland, assistant chief of the department's Wildlife Division, said while public opposition remains there appeared to be some emerging support for restrictions, based on the public comments submitted so far.

Antlers and horns are often sold as decorative items or used in furniture. Antlers are ground into aphrodisiacs that are sold in some Asian countries.

Game and Fish biologists say antler hunters can push big game off winter range when it is critical for animals to conserve energy for survival.

— compiled from staff, wire reports



Gregg Betts, Ski Patrol director, presents Shawn Metts with a season pass to Pomerelle Ski Resort. This was one of two passes awarded from the Ski Patrol's annual ski swap held Nov. 8-9. Amber Widmer was presented the other pass by Ski Patrol Treasurer Alan Mohman.



The Magic Valley Bass Masters took first place at the 2002 Idaho State Snow Bowl fishing tournament held at C.J. Strike Reservoir. The team won with a stringer of 55 pounds. Front, from left to right: Dale Jarrell, Pat Callen, Ron Haffner, Scyler Hill. Back: Lou Probasco, Kerry Kirchnerwitz, Tom Schlemmer, Ryan Schlemmer, Lanca Luper, Brent Compton. Second place team with 44 pounds was Magic Valley Bass Hunters. Third place team with 38 pounds was Mini-Cassia Bassers.

Hunting

Continued from E1
wily chukar. Unlike the snowy day Travis and I experienced, Jim and I set out on a clear dry day. The snow of a month past had melted. The ground was frozen, and the air was nippy.

We hunted hard. The dogs wore out pads. The webbing between their toes was pink and nearly bleeding from playing across sharp scree. We saw chukar and fawn sign, but that was it. We had excellent dog work on a small flock of sage

grouse, but the season was closed. We and the dogs stood still as the big birds lumbered into flight.

Even though my dogs work better now than when I was so eager to run up the hills, they don't understand seasons. After the house wore out of sight, after I had stood still, not raising my shotgun and firing, BB turned her head toward me and looked at me in amazement. "What's up with you?"

What's up with me is the

delight in teaming up with a dog that's both hunter and friend — even if she doesn't understand all the rules. At the end of the day, she always sniffs my hunting vest and sticks her nose into the game pocket-checking our success.

Well, Krunich and I came home empty handed. No need to bring out the skillet. Some days I have to be content with a long hike and good companionship. Other days, I get to take a snapshot of a buddy standing proudly — partridges in hand.

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Canal doesn't mean hunters can trespass

Question: I am a landowner living along the High Line Canal in Twin Falls county. I own property on both sides of the canal and the Twin Falls Canal Company has an easement across my property to maintain the canal. I would like to know what special rules bird hunters have that allow them to hunt on my property along the canal?

ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

Answer: I'm not aware of any laws that allow trespassing onto private property without permission from the landowner, for bird hunting or anything else. I understand the Twin Falls Canal Company does have an easement on the High and Low Line Canals for official business such as maintenance and repair of the water control structures. They have no authority to regulate public access on the canal roads. In many cases the canal companies have posted signs along the canal roads indicating they are not open to the

public. In addition, many landowners have posted no trespassing signs on the canal roads where they cross private property. Fish and Game conservation officers or the county sheriff's office can handle trespassing along canal roads crossing private property. A landowner must obtain enough information to help officers identify the subject for prosecution. Information such as a license plate and a description of the subject is helpful for officers. If the subjects are hunting there are Idaho laws that prohibit trespassing to hunt, fish or trap. If the subjects are not hunting, and the property is prop-

erly posted they can be prosecuted for a criminal trespass. A one-year hunting license revocation is mandatory for subjects convicted of hunting in violation of no trespassing signs. The magistrate may also require restitution for damages caused by the subject be paid to the landowner.

Large canals on the north side of the Snake River such as the Richfield, Northside, or Milner-Gooding canals cross large expanses of public land, most of it administered by the Bureau of Land Management. Federal law enacted in 1866 allowed the canal companies to develop and maintain waterways and canals for agriculture. This law conveyed management authority to the canal companies for the property along the canal corridor.

The public has been allowed access for years along many of these canals. This is because the canal companies have allowed the public to use roads built and

maintained by the companies. The Fish and Game Department tries to discourage use on those roads during inclement weather when road damage is likely. Canals and maintenance roads crossing private property are under an easement with the landowner without permission by the landowner is a trespass.

In summary most canal roads across private property are easements for official canal company business. Unsanctioned use by the public without permission by the landowner is a trespass.

Reference Idaho Code 18-7008, 18-7011, 36-1602, 36-1603.

Gary Hompland is a regional conservation officer at the Subject Valley Regional Office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Call him at (208)324-4350 or e-mail a question at the Fish and Game web site at www2.state.id.us/fishgame.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Club news

The Times-News welcomes announcements and other news from outdoor clubs. Address your news to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twinnews@trionet.net or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office. Be sure to include a contact name and phone number.

Address your story to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twinnews@trionet.net or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office.

Your beat shot
Did you bag a big buck this year? Did you reel in a whopper?

If you have an anaphot, The Times-News would like to publish it as part of our new "Trophies" feature. We want your photos of hunting, fishing or other outdoor scenes.

Address your photo to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twinnews@trionet.net; or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office. Be sure to include your name, address and phone number.

Share your adventure

Do you have a personal story of an outdoor adventure? If so, The Times-News would like to print it as part of our new "Calls From The Wild" series. We welcome readers' true stories about hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Please write your story in the first person, keeping it under 500 words. Photos are a plus. Be sure to include your phone number.

Ginkgo may help avoid altitude sickness

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — This spring, 100 test subjects are expected to be driven up the slopes of Hawaii's Mauna Kea volcano to try to pin down whether an inexpensive herbal extract can protect climbers, skiers and other outdoor enthusiasts from the debilitating effects of high altitude.

Ginkgo biloba, an extract of the leaf of the ginkgo biloba tree, seemed like the answer to mountaineers' prayers after a 1996 French study showed it provided remarkable protection against altitude sickness for climbers on a Himalayan expedition.

Two U.S. researchers, inspired to study ginkgo after reading the French study, have not duplicated the startling results, but are intrigued enough to continue investigating.

In the French study, researchers divided a group of 44 climbers, who all had experienced altitude sickness on previous expeditions, into two groups. One group received 160 milligrams of ginkgo extract daily while slowly climbing to a base camp of 14,700 feet and making further ascents to various altitudes. The other group took a placebo.

Only 14 percent of the climbers

who took ginkgo experienced one or more symptoms of altitude sickness, compared to 82 percent in the placebo group. None of the ginkgo group developed the full symptoms of acute mountain sickness, while 41 percent of those taking placebo did.

The ginkgo group, which happened to contain two smokers and three ex-smokers, also had fewer cold-related vascular problems. There were no smokers or ex-smokers in the placebo group.

When Janer Onopa of the University of Hawaii told a class of first-year medical students that the findings of the extraordinary French study — which no one was using — could easily be replicated in Hawaii, a student volunteered to help do just that.

"I'm a climber," he told Onopa after the class. "I get sick. I will work my butt off on it, if you are willing to do it."

Onopa, the student and others studied whether ginkgo would help during rapid ascent. Their subjects started taking ginkgo a day before they were driven from sea level to the 13,796-foot summit of Mauna Kea. In the ginkgo group, just 17 percent developed acute mountain sickness, while 64 percent of the placebo group did. But the small number of sub-

jects — a total of 26 in both groups — prevented the researchers from drawing definitive conclusions.

The climbing student has been testing the use of ginkgo in a study in Nepal, but the results don't look as promising, Onopa said.

"Research is like that," she said. Ginkgo, commonly prescribed by homeopaths as a treatment for Alzheimer's disease, may still be an altitude panacea, "but until we get large numbers, we just don't know. It will take another 50 years to sort it out because it's a complicated compound."

Onopa's next study, to be conducted in the spring on Mauna Kea with 100 subjects, will compare the use of ginkgo to the sulfonamide drug acetazolamide, marketed as Diamox, which is used to accelerate acclimatization.

Meanwhile, Onopa has no hesitation in using ginkgo herself. "It's side-effect profile is very benign and it's very inexpensive," she said.

Those taking aspirin and blood thinners should avoid taking ginkgo, as is thought that ginkgo could induce internal bleeding, although bleeding has not occurred in trials.

Drought proves devastating to Sonoran pronghorn

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Drought is being blamed for the poor state of the endangered Sonoran pronghorn in southern Arizona.

An aerial survey completed last week confirmed that fewer than 33 Sonoran pronghorns survive in an area between Tucson and Yuma.

"We have definitely hit a red flag in terms of urgency," said Elizabeth Stown, spokeswoman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

A lack of winter rain in 2001, followed by no spring rain and a late-arriving monsoon, combined to kill off not only fawns but full-grown pronghorns, said John Heverly, a wildlife program manager for the Arizona Game and Fish Department.

"I was actually concerned that every single one of these animals would be dead," Heverly said. "Fortunately, we just got lucky that it rained at the end of August and early September and saved the few we did have."

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Janine... Still hanging in there at **50!** Love you! Jim

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<p>REGAL VICTORIAN PEDESTAL LAV 1200W/POUR. 1.5" x 4" center. Double. Available in white or chrome. 26" x 22". White only. 96⁹⁵</p>	<p>REGAL VICTORIAN STYLE CONSOLE LAV 1200W/POUR. 1.5" x 4" center. Double. Available in white or chrome. 32" x 24". White only. 399⁹⁸</p>	<p>AQUA GLASS TUB AND SHOWER 870004 Microban™, exclusive with AquaGloss. As installed in the finish for the ultimate owner of the contractor. 60" x 30" x 78". Right or left drain. White. (Features not included). 284⁴⁰</p>	<p>AQUA GLASS ACRYLIC SOAKING TUBS Better quality—no more money if you get the ultimate owner of the contractor. You're working on. Complete installation. (Features not included). 547286-WHT 72" x 36" 89⁹⁸ 548022-WHT 60" x 32" 88⁹⁸</p>	<p>AQUA GLASS ACRYLIC JETTED TUBS 800000-0001. Choose quality of a builder and you'll get it. 60" x 32" x 78". Right or left drain. White. (Features not included). 412⁵⁰</p>	
<p>POLISHED BRASS CHANDELIER 4286 PB. Five 60 watt bulbs. Medium base. (Bulbs not included). 3126</p>	<p>WHITE CHANDELIER 4286 WH. Five 60 watt bulbs. Medium base. (Bulbs not included). 3466</p>	<p>COMPACT FLUORESCENT BULBS 10,000 hour life. Energy Star listed. UL listed. 13" approx 60 W 6.99 16" approx 75 W 7.99 19" approx 90 W 8.99</p>	<p>BRASS AND GLASS SEMI-FLUSH MOUNT 52-4026-AB Antique brass finish with clear and frosted combination glass. Semi-flush mount. 14" high. (Bulbs not included). 39⁹⁵</p>	<p>BRASS AND GLASS CHANDELIER C-88079-AB Antique brass finish with clear and frosted combination glass. 27" wide x 14" high. 99⁹⁵</p>	<p>OUTDOOR LIGHTING We carry the widest variety of outdoor lighting. Call today for a free catalog.</p>
<p>CEILING FAN CXL 824R, CXL 824P. Premium quality. Dual capacitor motor. Permanently lubricated bearings. 52" or 48" blades. 10 year warranty. Available in polished brass. Also available in white. (Light not included). 89⁷⁵ Other models from \$29.99</p>	<p>CEILING FAN TX107 series. 7" or 9" blades. 3 speed reversible motor. 10 year warranty. (Light not included). TX107 Polished brass, oak blades 88.99 TX107 White, mahogany/black blades 88.99 TX107 Brushed nickel, maple blades 88.99 TX107 Brown oak, white blades 88.79</p>	<p>REDEEM YOUR ENERGY STAR SAVINGS COUPONS HERE! Converts good household energy products featuring the Energy Star logo. All Grower's we stock high quality lighting fixtures at low, everyday prices.</p>	<p>PORTABLE BASEBOARD HEATER KPH188. Cord-retracted cast and aluminum. No moving parts. Heat by convection. Safety switch. 120 volt, 1000 watt. Works with regular thermostat. 49⁹⁹</p>	<p>PIC-A-BUILD WALL HEATER LPW481. Eight wattages 2250 to 4500. 240 volt. Commercial quality sheet aluminum. Oil soaked motor. Five year warranty. Includes thermostat. 235³³</p>	<p>SMOKE DETECTOR Pre-wired, pre-punched. Lifetime checked cell structure. May be direct buried 6' lengths. 1/2" SMO1 1/2" wall 7.99 3/4" T801 3/4" wall 1.79 1" T101 1" wall 3.99 1" SMO1 3/4" wall 4.32 3/4" T801 3/4" wall 6.49 1" T101 3/4" wall 8.99</p>
<p>DELTA KITCHEN FAUCET Classic. Inset-hole valve cartridge. Metal hand handle. Solid brass construction with chrome plating. 10" spout. No spray ET8101CH 88.99 Chrome PGF-W5-CH 108.99 WSP spray ET8101CV 88.99 White PGF-W5-CWH 118.99</p>	<p>DELTA KITCHEN FAUCET Single handle with spray. Ceramic cartridge. 10" spout. Solid brass construction with chrome plating. 10" spout. Inset-hole valve cartridge. 139⁰⁰</p>	<p>DELTA KITCHEN FAUCET 476. Polished chrome. Inset-hole valve. Ceramic cartridge. 10" spout. Solid brass construction with chrome plating. 10" spout. Inset-hole valve cartridge. 139⁰⁰</p>	<p>WE DO THAT — 7 DAYS A WEEK!</p> <p>GROWER 1344 Columbia 208-778-1573</p> <p>Monday-Friday 8:00-6:00 • Saturday 8:00-5:00 • Sunday 9:00-4:30</p> <p>Some items limited to retail sales. Certain items may not be readily available at all locations. Special order and rainchecks gladly given. Prices effective through December 18, 2002.</p>		

MORNING BRAK

ACROSS 1 Tibetan priest 5 Highway exit 9 Sausages 14 Satchel 15 Heavy 16 Singer/Gorman 17 Fixation 18 Incom 20 Tranquilized 21 Cocaine 23 Hurricane's heart 24 Stopped 25 Celestial 26 Delate 27 Dole (out) 28 MacGraw (of "Love Story") 29 Photographer 30 Photographer 31 Drunkard 32 French river 33 Stagnated 34 Poole 35 Gout 36 Fable monster 37 Off it wrong 38 Mod. actor 39 Always, to 40 Stagnated 41 Always, to 42 Always, to 43 Always, to 44 Always, to 45 Always, to 46 Always, to 47 Always, to 48 Always, to 49 Always, to 50 Always, to 51 Always, to 52 Always, to 53 Always, to 54 Always, to 55 Always, to 56 Always, to 57 Always, to 58 Always, to 59 Always, to 60 Always, to 61 Always, to 62 Always, to 63 Always, to 64 Always, to 65 Always, to 66 Always, to 67 Always, to 68 Always, to 69 Always, to 70 Always, to 71 Always, to 72 Always, to 73 Always, to 74 Always, to 75 Always, to 76 Always, to 77 Always, to 78 Always, to 79 Always, to 80 Always, to 81 Always, to 82 Always, to 83 Always, to 84 Always, to 85 Always, to 86 Always, to 87 Always, to 88 Always, to 89 Always, to 90 Always, to 91 Always, to 92 Always, to 93 Always, to 94 Always, to 95 Always, to 96 Always, to 97 Always, to 98 Always, to 99 Always, to 100 Always, to

WEDNESDAY'S PUZZLE ANSWERS 1. TIBETIAN 2. HIGHWAY 3. SAUSAGE 4. SATCHEL 5. HEAVY 6. SINGER 7. FIXATION 8. INCOM 9. TRANQUILIZED 10. COCAINE 11. HURRICANE 12. STOPPED 13. CELESTIAL 14. DELATE 15. DOLE 16. MACGRAW 17. PHOTOGRAPHER 18. PHOTOGRAPHER 19. DRUNKARD 20. FRENCH 21. STAGNATED 22. POOLE 23. GOIT 24. MONSTER 25. WRONG 26. MODERN 27. ALWAYS 28. STAGNATED 29. ALWAYS 30. ALWAYS 31. ALWAYS 32. ALWAYS 33. ALWAYS 34. ALWAYS 35. ALWAYS 36. ALWAYS 37. ALWAYS 38. ALWAYS 39. ALWAYS 40. ALWAYS 41. ALWAYS 42. ALWAYS 43. ALWAYS 44. ALWAYS 45. ALWAYS 46. ALWAYS 47. ALWAYS 48. ALWAYS 49. ALWAYS 50. ALWAYS 51. ALWAYS 52. ALWAYS 53. ALWAYS 54. ALWAYS 55. ALWAYS 56. ALWAYS 57. ALWAYS 58. ALWAYS 59. ALWAYS 60. ALWAYS 61. ALWAYS 62. ALWAYS 63. ALWAYS 64. ALWAYS 65. ALWAYS 66. ALWAYS 67. ALWAYS 68. ALWAYS 69. ALWAYS 70. ALWAYS 71. ALWAYS 72. ALWAYS 73. ALWAYS 74. ALWAYS 75. ALWAYS 76. ALWAYS 77. ALWAYS 78. ALWAYS 79. ALWAYS 80. ALWAYS 81. ALWAYS 82. ALWAYS 83. ALWAYS 84. ALWAYS 85. ALWAYS 86. ALWAYS 87. ALWAYS 88. ALWAYS 89. ALWAYS 90. ALWAYS 91. ALWAYS 92. ALWAYS 93. ALWAYS 94. ALWAYS 95. ALWAYS 96. ALWAYS 97. ALWAYS 98. ALWAYS 99. ALWAYS 100. ALWAYS

Letter to Virginia sustains timeless spirit of Santa

DEAR ABBY: Before we know it, Christmas will be upon us, and my oldest child will again be asking me if there really is a Santa Claus. With all the traumatic events happening in our world today, I do not want to take anything away from him... and yet I realize he needs to know the truth. A few years ago, there was a beautiful letter in your column from a mother who said it was dreadful way of telling her child the truth about Santa without causing any damage or making the child feel let down. I am truly at a loss as to how to tell my little one the truth in a loving manner. Thank you, Abby. - MOM IN CRYSTAL LAKE, ILL.



DEAR VIRGINIA: Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are alike. "In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence

capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge. "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus. It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. "There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The external light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished. "Nor believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies. You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if you did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus.

"The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fishes dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nor can you conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in this world. "You tear apart the baby's rattle to see what makes the noise inside, but there is a well covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. "Only faith, poetry, love, romance can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else so real and abiding. "No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and lives forever. A thousand years from now - now, Virginia, say 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to meet glad the heart of childhood.

DEAR MOM: The piece, "Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus," is a classic. It was written in 1897 by Francis P. Church, the editor of the now-defunct New York Sun. He wrote it in response to this letter:

DEAR VIRGINIA: Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are alike. "In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence

Those big poultry outfits gather eggs four times a day

Q. How often do the big poultry outfits gather eggs? A. Four times a day. That's typical. Q. Of all the sorts of people in U.S. prisons, which sort would represent the least threat to society if they were all let out? A. Young mothers. The original canoe with an Indian kneeling below the water line was the safest vessel on the river. When a more modern boat builder raised the center of gravity above the water line by putting in a seat, he made it the most dangerous vessel on the river. So say the experts.



REVISITED L.M. Boyd You don't think of O. Henry as a writer of westerns, but he is indeed the fellow who created it. In the matter of which artist's work has been most widely seen in the United States, how about Gilbert Stuart? It's his painting of

George Washington that's depicted on the \$1 bill. Kansas has enough salt, it's said, to supply the whole nation for 100,000 years. Q. How many people have won Nobel Prizes posthumously? A. None. You want to make some money? Sell whirligigs to fishing tackle shops. A whirligig is a stick with a propeller on it. Put it into the ground when the wind is up and it will vibrate as it spins. That brings earthworms to the surface. A good whirligig can get you all the bait you need. Simplest animals with nerves

are jellyfish. There are an estimated 20,000 restaurants in Hong Kong, and those who purport to know say none of them has ever served a fortune cookie. Quick, what export item is Colombia famous for? Try again. I was thinking of emeralds. From there the world gets 95 percent of same. Q. Do cheetahs hunt at night? A. Only if there's a full moon. You know how a moose and sheep's horns grow into a circle? A beaver's front teeth do that, too. If it didn't chew them down, they'd curl up under its ears.

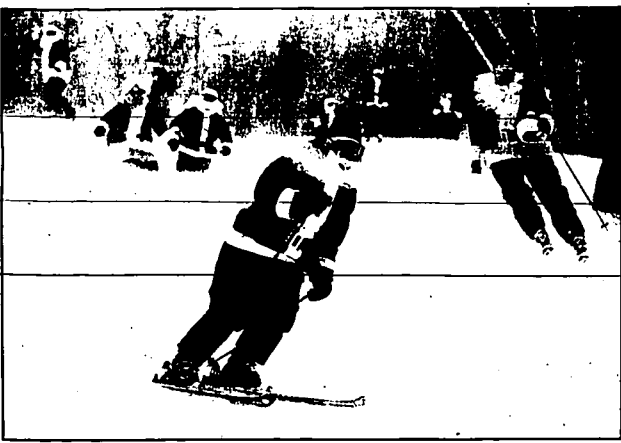
It's OK to be in love, Virgo, but watch out

IF DECEMBER 12TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you are versatile, and your sense of humor often becomes a "saving grace." You have knowledge concerning people and can suggest you to that subject. You are a pleasure to be with; others instinctively are aware of this. Gemini, Sagittarius natives play active roles in your life; could these letters in names: C, L, U. Marriage will play prominent part next year. Your most significant months will be June and November.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

deceive yourself; you do not have complete story. It's OK to be in love, but keep at least one eye open. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You get backing from those in positions of authority. Question of marriage looms large; by tonight you will know in which direction to go. Capricorn, Cancer natives play mysterious roles. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Employment picture changes; you benefit as result. Individual you admire will seek your counsel. Do what you can, but - know - who - say - "Enough!" Aries will figure prominently. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Vigor returns; you will be asking, "Is this love or lust?" You find the answer tonight - it's possibly a blend of both. Wear bright colors, let people know you are alive and kicking. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't sign away rights; you deserve a fair share and will get it if you refuse to quit. Romantic relationship lends spice, could prove a blessing. Cancer native, another Capricorn plays roles. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You might have difficulty deciding whose invitation to accept. During social engagement, you could meet one destined to play major role in your future. Yes, give romance another chance. PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): What you lost will be recovered, including money. Opposition is overcome: You beat the odds and win the game. Bold Scorpio will whisper romantic phrases. Enjoy, but do not commit.

SANTAS ON THE SLOPES



Skiers and snowboarders dressed as Santa Claus head down the slope Sunday at Sunday River in Newry, Maine. About 250 skiers turned up dressed as Santas to ski and raise money for the Bethel (Maine) Rotary Club's Annual Dinner for Families in Need.

Billy Barto helps little people's lives

Today "Biography" - Actor Billy Barto works to improve the lives of people with dwarfism. (CC) TVG ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, 5 p.m. "Animals of the Nativity" - Animals play a special part in the Christmas story and in the Holy Land today. (TVG) THE MALL PLANET CHANNEL, 6 p.m. "Drop Dead Gorgeous" - A beauty contest turns ugly as a camera crew documents some small-town Michigan teen quest for a coveted title. (CC) (TVFG) FOX, 7 p.m.

Friday

"The Santa Trap" - Disbelieving parents send Santa Claus to jail after he is caught in their daughter's snare. (TVFG) KTWB, 6 p.m. "Biography" - This profile of the von Trapp family, the inspiration for "The Sound of Music," includes interviews with several of the family's children. (CC) (TVG) ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT, 6 p.m. "Smoking and the Bandit" - A man hired to high-tail it to Texas for an illegal gun run picks up a little girl and angers a stubborn sheriff. TURNER CLASSIC MOVIES, 8 p.m.

Saturday

"Meet Joe Black" - Death assumes human form and uses a powerful media blitz to guide him through the material world. (CC) THE USA NETWORK, 6 p.m.

Axl acts up; Guns N' Roses tour gets axed

Thanks to Axl Rose's bizarre behavior, Guns N' Roses had the pull plugged on the band's first tour in almost a decade, reports The New York Post. ClearChannel, the band's promoter, halted the long-anticipated tour after the band canceled Friday's concert at Philadelphia's First Union Center because Rose never showed up.

The night before, Rose told fans at Madison Square Garden the tour was a reunion because "I managed to get enough of myself together to do this." The concert cop-out came less than a month after Rose skipped the tour opener in Vancouver, sparking riots between enraged fans and cops. An announcement at the Philadelphia venue said the show was halted because of "health

issues" of a band member. But ClearChannel attributed the tour's failure to Rose's eccentricities - which include traveling with a psychiatrist to coax him onstage. "He was still in New York during the Philly show," says an insider. "He never even got on the plane. The promoter put him on notice after what happened in Vancouver." Ticket refunds are available at original points of purchase.

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CITY OF KIMBERLY FOURTH QUARTER SEPTEMBER 30, 2002 GENERAL FUND Fund Balance \$309,931 Revenues To Date 332,382 Expenditures To Date \$259,915 Fund Balance \$312,398 Percentage Revenues to Budget 62.4% Percentage Expenditures to Budget 62.4% PROPRIETARY FUND Fund Balance 651,498

LEGALS TWIN FALLS Case No. CV-02-3032 SUMMONS RISK MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVES, INC. vs WENDY MARIE WALSH (Plaintiff) vs DEFENDANT(S). NOTICE TO THE ABOVE PLAINTIFF: YOU HAVE BEEN SUMMONED BY THE ABOVE-NAMED PLAINTIFF TO APPEAR IN COURT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE. UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 30 DAYS, READ THE INFORMATION BELOW.

LEGALS CURRIE MCCOMAS Date of Birth: 9/29/55 A Petition by Catherine C. McComas born 9/29/55 in Bend, State of Oregon now residing at 1044 Warm Springs Place, Twin Falls, Idaho, proposing a change in name to Cathleen Ann McComas has been filed and is now on file with the County of Idaho and in FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS Case No. SP-02-1193 NOTICE OF HEARING IN RE: CATHLEEN CURRIE MCCOMAS

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Continued from previous page
proper form, including the Case Number, and paid any required filing fee...

and witnessed before a Notary Public. Your failure to register can result in your being barred from your maintaining an action to establish paternity of the said child and constitute a prima facie case of the above-named plaintiff's attorney at 527 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, Idaho 83402.

after service of this Summons on you, if you fail to so respond, the court may enter judgment against you as demanded by the Plaintiff in the Complaint.

TWIN FALLS, ID 83301
NOTICE IS HEREBY NOTIFIED that in order to defend this lawsuit, I, the undersigned, have filed a response...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On the 28th day of March, 2003, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
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PUBLISHED: November 28, December 5, 12 and 19, 2002
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Donald O'Donnell has been appointed personal representative of the above-named decedent.

Case No. CV-02-4160
SUMMONS
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
HUBBOLD LUMBER CO., INC. an Idaho corporation; WALL, CONNOR, INC., an Idaho corporation; LYLE F. PRADLER and TOMI N. TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

Case No. CV-02-4160
SUMMONS
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
HUBBOLD LUMBER CO., INC. an Idaho corporation; WALL, CONNOR, INC., an Idaho corporation; LYLE F. PRADLER and TOMI N. TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

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ADVERTISMENT FOR BID
Sealed proposals for the State of Idaho, Department of Parks and Recreation, 5857 Warm Springs Ave., Boise, Idaho, 83718 or via mail State of Idaho, Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0005 will be received...

ADVERTISMENT FOR BID
Sealed proposals for the State of Idaho, Department of Parks and Recreation, 5857 Warm Springs Ave., Boise, Idaho, 83718 or via mail State of Idaho, Department of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720-0005 will be received...

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TWIN FALLS BURLEY
twinod@magicvalley.com
mclass@magicvalley.com

Classified Line Ads
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Add a photo for only \$10
Twin Falls, Idaho
Phone: 733-0931 ext. 2 Phone: 677-4042
Fax: 734-5338 Fax: 677-4543
132 3rd St. W. 1263 Overland Ave.
TWIN FALLS BURLEY
twinod@magicvalley.com
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2002 Chevrolet Blazer 4x4 4 Door \$18,900
2002 Buick Park Avenue Sedan \$21,995
2002 Cadillac DeVille Sedan \$28,995

Continued from previous page
must contain admissions or denials of the separate allegations of the complaint and other defenses you may claim...

To mitigate consumptive use in the future as needed. Approval of existing uses of uncontracted storage water at Black Canyon Dam is sought as a precautionary measure...

A complete description is on file with the Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Administrator at City Hall, 321 Second Avenue East, 735-7207.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On the 12th day of March, 2003, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of Public Trustee in the County of Twin Falls, Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States, in the Office of Twin Falls, Title & Escrow, 805 Shoshone Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States, in the Office of Twin Falls, Title & Escrow, 805 Shoshone Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 12, 13, 20, 2002 and January 2, 2003

Permits will be subject to all prior water rights. Protests may be submitted based on the criteria of Sec. 42-202A, Idaho Code.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice-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...

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the sale of the property...

Bidders must be prepared to tender the trustee the full amount of the bid at the time of the sale, or a cashier's check drawn on a state or federally insured savings institution...

The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code, Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the street address of 316 FANNIN DRIVE, KIMBERLY, ID 83341-6106 is sometimes associated with said real property...

LEGAL NOTICE
The following application(s) have been filed to appropriate the public waters of the State of Idaho.

Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho, that an appeal meeting/public hearing will be held on December 31, 2002, at a Tuesday, at the hour of 12:00 noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday, noon on Saturday for Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby at 735-3324.

LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Times News
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548
Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday, noon on Saturday for Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby at 735-3324.

LEGAL NOTICE
Notice of proposed designation of critical habitat for bull trout within the Columbia and Klamath River District Population Segment...

LEGAL NOTICE
The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code, Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the street address of 167 HEYBURN AVENUE, TWIN FALLS, ID 83301 is sometimes associated with said real property...

LEGAL NOTICE
The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Idaho Code, Section 60-113, the Trustee has been informed that the street address of 316 FANNIN DRIVE, KIMBERLY, ID 83341-6106 is sometimes associated with said real property...

US DEPT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
1150 N. CURTIS RD
STE 100
BOISE, ID 83706-5165
Point of Diversion: L1 (S/N) 522 T 07N ROWI GEM COUNTY, SAGE PAYETTE RIVER TRIBUTARY TO SNAGGE RIVER
Use: Irrigation Storage 0101 TO 1231 30721 AFA
Date Filed: 06/31/2001
Remarks: Applicant agrees

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HOME OF THE LOW PRICED CARS
2002 GRAND VITARA 12,988 OR \$188 MO
1998 PONTIAC LEANS SEDAN 2,995 New \$888
2000 CHEVROLET METRO 6,995 New \$4,988
1992 FORD EXPLORER XLT 7,995 New \$5,988
1998 DAEWON NUBIRA SEDAN 5,988
2002 VITARA 13,988 OR \$199 MO
1997 TOYOTA CELICA LIFTRACK 6,988
2002 KIA SPECTRA LS 10,995 New \$8,988
1997 MAZDA B2306 PICKUP W/CAMPER SHELL 11,995 New \$9,988
1996 ISUZU RODEO 4X4 12,995 New \$9,988

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice of proposed designation of critical habitat for bull trout within the Columbia and Klamath River District Population Segment...

On November 29, 2002, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), under the authority of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, proposed to designate critical habitat for bull trout (Salvelinus confluentus) in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. The total area being proposed as critical habitat includes approximately 185,000 acres of riparian habitat, 200,000 acres of stream channel and floodplain, and 532,721 acres of lake and reservoir surface area. Degradation and loss of habitat resulting from water diversions, dams, levees, road building, agriculture, logging, mining, grazing, agricultural practices, invasion of nonnative fish, and degraded water quality currently threaten bull trout.

We solicit data and comments from the public on all aspects of the proposed critical habitat, including data on economic and other impacts of the designation. We now review the proposed rule prior to the final designation to address new information received during the comment period. Comments from all interested persons or organizations must be received by January 26, 2003.

Public hearings will be held at:
Wenatchee, WA, on January 7, 2003, at the West Coast Wenatchee Center Hotel, 201 North Wenatchee Avenue
Polson, MT, on January 7, 2003, at the Yakima Valley Center, 303 US Highway 93
Salmon, ID, on January 7, 2003, at the Salmon Valley Center Meeting Room, 200 Main Street
Spokane, WA, on January 8, 2003, at the West Coast Grand Hotel, 303 West North River Street
Lawson, ID, on January 9, 2003, at the Red Lion Hotel, 521 21st Street
Boise, ID, on January 14, 2003, at the AmeriTel InvoSuite Spectrum, 7499 West Overland Road
Twin Falls, ID, on January 14, 2003, at the Hilton Eugene and Conference Center, 66 East Sixth Avenue
Pendleton, OR, on January 16, 2003, at the Red Lion Hotel, 304 S.E. 5th Street
Klamath Falls, OR, on January 22, 2003, at the Shilo Inn, 2500 Almond Street

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The Middleknuff Group Ford Blue Ribbon
NEW INVENTORY JUST ARRIVED!
90 Chevrolet Corsica 11,977
99 Pontiac Sunfire 2-Door 12,977
86 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab 2,977
93 Chevrolet Suburban 4X4 10,977
87 Ford Tempo 4-Door 2,977
94 Ford F-250 Ext. Cab 4X4 10,977
85 Nissan Pickup 2,977
96 Ford Explorer 4-Door 4X4 10,977
91 Ford Taurus 4-Door 2,977
99 Mitsubishi Galant 11,977
91 Ford Aerostar 2,977
98 Plymouth Voyager 12,977
91 Plymouth Acclaim 4-Door 2,977
95 Jeep Cherokee 4X4 12,977
88 Suzuki Samurai 2,977
01 Ford Mustang 14,977
87 Chevrolet Blazer 4X4 3,977
00 Jeep Wrangler 4X4 14,977
89 Ford Ranger 3,977
00 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab 15,977
88 Honda Accord 3,977
98 Cadillac Deville 4-Door 15,977
92 Chevrolet K2500 4X4 3,977
01 Honda Accord 15,977
91 Mazda MPV 4,977
99 Chevrolet Tahoe 4-Dr. 4X4 17,977
93 Ford E-250 Cargo Van 4,977
00 Nissan Xterra 4X4 19,977
93 Mitsubishi Mighty Max 4,977
99 Ford F-250 Crew Cab 4X4 19,977
94 Mercury Villager 4,977
99 Chevrolet Suburban 4X4 21,977
92 Chevrolet Lumina 234 4,977
99 Ford F-350 Ext. Cab V10 24,977
95 Ford Windstar 4,977
00 Toyota 4-Runner 4X4 24,977
89 Plymouth Grand Voyager 4,977
02 GMC K1500 4X4 26,996
93 Ford F-150 Ext. Cab 7,977
01 Ford F-250 Ext. Cab 4X4 27,977
96 Ford Taurus 7,977
99 Ford F-250 Ext. Cab 4X4 28,977
97 Ford Ranger 4X4 8,977
00 Ford F-350 Crew Cab 4X4 29,977

"We'll Do Whatever It Takes, I Guarantee It!"

600 THROUGHOUT AMHS, HURLES... TWIN FALLS Clean-up studio... W/D available... \$275/mo + \$100 dep.

604 UNFINISHED APPTS. EXP. HERE... "SHARE OUR EXCITEMENT!"... We love living here... \$400-425/1000

BUIH, Aesthetics, clean... BUIH, Senior Citizen... Rental assistance... \$450-469/95, h.m.s.g.

CASTLEBROOK 1 and 2... FILER 1st 1/2 month... FILER Large, clean 2 bdrm... \$450-469/95, h.m.s.g.

GOODING Low income... JEROME Nice 2 bdrm... \$300-315/1000

SHORECRE 2 bdrm... TWIN FALLS 1035/week... \$375/mo. Quiet, microwave, etc.

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Need your horse trailer... BATHTUB clawfoot good... DRY SINK (commode) turn...

BATHTUB clawfoot good... DRY SINK (commode) turn... EARTHWARE Rod Apple...

EARTHWARE Rod Apple... APPLIANCES... DISHWASHER Whirlpool...

DISHWASHER Whirlpool... DRIVER, Gray Lady... FREEZER older, am. cu...

FREEZER older, am. cu... RANGE Frigidaire, gas... HOOD & LATCH...

HOOD & LATCH... WATER RIGHTS SHARES... WHEEL LINES (2) 5 1/2...

WHEEL LINES (2) 5 1/2... WHEEL LINES (3) Wade... BUILDINGS...

BUILDINGS... ALL STEEL BUILDING... CHAIN SAW Husqvarna...

CHAIN SAW Husqvarna... COAL Stoker & Lump... FIREWOOD cut split &...

FIREWOOD cut split &... FIREWOOD dry, cut & split... FIREWOOD good pine...

FIREWOOD good pine... FIREWOOD good pine... FIREWOOD good pine...

600 THROUGHOUT AMHS, HURLES... TWIN FALLS Clean-up studio... W/D available... \$275/mo + \$100 dep.

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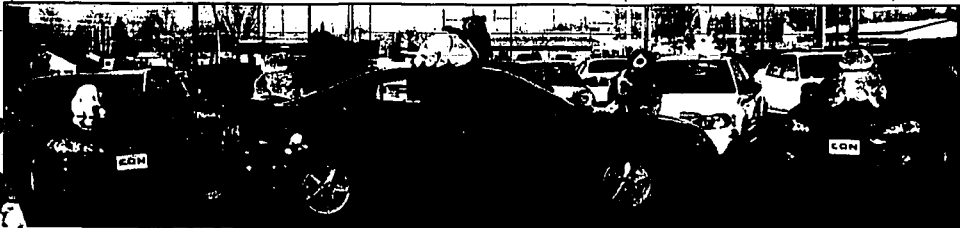
Business & Service Directory: ACUSTICAL & DRYWALL, CARPENTRY, DOG BOARDING, HANDY MAN WORK, ROOFING, SHARPENING SERVICE, TREE SERVICE, etc.

CON *Says...* Here's an offer too GOOD to pass up!

RECEIVE A GIANT
STUFFED ANIMAL
WITH EVERY NEW
& USED VEHICLE
PURCHASE!

Brand New 2003 GRAND AM 4 DOOR SEDANS

Rear Deck Spoiler • 4 Wheel ABS Brakes • Chrome Tech Wheels • A.C. • Power Windows, Locks



Factory priced at over \$21,000

CON *Says...*

Why Buy Used with Prices Like These?

\$14,988*

6
AT
THIS
PRICE!

Brand New 2003 CHEVY & GMC TRUCKS

Choose 4 Door, 4 Wheel Drive, Made for the USA and Loaded with Options



Factory priced at nearly \$33,000

CON *Says...*

Hurry In While supplies Last!

\$24,988*

7
AT
THIS
PRICE!



NEWS FLASH!

0%

Financing for **5** Full Years!

CHECK OUT OUR GREAT SELECTION OF USED VEHICLES!

1991 Mitsubishi Mirage Hatchback	AUC242A	was \$2,999	NOW \$1,999	2002 Pontiac Grand Am 4C 4D SE1	7UC551B	was \$10,999	NOW \$10,499
1992 Chevy Corolla V-6 4D Sedan	AUC248A	was \$3,999	NOW \$2,499	1998 Honda Civic 4D Sedan EX	440000A	was \$13,999	NOW \$10,999
1994 Oldsmobile Corsica V-6 4D Sedan S	AUT265A	was \$4,999	NOW \$3,499	1998 GMC Yukon 4WD SLE 5.7L V-8	4130061A	was \$12,999	NOW \$10,999
1995 Oldsmobile Corsica V-6 4D Sedan SL	AUT266A	was \$4,999	NOW \$3,999	2002 Suzuki Grand Vitara XZ7 4WD	AUT257A	was \$14,999	NOW \$13,499
1997 Mercury Cougar XZ7 V-6 Coupe	AUC247A	was \$7,999	NOW \$6,999	2002 Mazda Millenia 4D Sedan	AUC261B	was \$17,999	NOW \$17,499
2002 Chevy Cavalier 4C 4D Sedan	AUC260Z	was \$9,999	NOW \$7,999	1998 Chevrolet Tahoe 4WD LS V-8	AUC2627A	was \$21,999	NOW \$19,999
1994 Ford F-150 4WD S.L. V-8 X-Cab XLT	4P24171A	was \$9,999	NOW \$8,799	1998 Chevrolet Tahoe 4WD LT V-8	AUT257B	was \$21,999	NOW \$20,999
1998 Chevy Venture FWD S-AL V-6 Van	AUC247A	was \$10,999	NOW \$8,999	1998 Chevy Silverado 4WD X-Cab	AUC2627A	was \$23,999	NOW \$20,999
2000 Mazda Protege 4D Sedan LX	AUC200A	was \$10,999	NOW \$9,999	2002 Trailblazer 4WD LT 4.2L	AJ13709A		SAVE THOUSANDS
2000 Hyundai Tiburon Sports Car 2D	AUT267A	was \$11,999	NOW \$9,999	2000 Hyundai Tiburon Sports Car 2D	AUT267A		SAVE THOUSANDS



2002 CHEVY BLAZERS
Sticker new nearly \$39,000

\$19,999

4

A SHORT DRIVE WILL SAVE YOU THOUSANDS.

CON

901 S. Lincoln
JEROME
800-287-7000
324-3900

Steve Johnson
Sales Manager



ROB GREEN



GMC

We promised you

December to Remember

AND WE ARE SERIOUS

All New Pontiacs,
All New Buicks
All New GMC's

2 DAYS LEFT!

ZERO% Financing Available on ALL New Vehicles
ZERO Cash Down
ZERO Payments up to 90 Days

\$99900

Appraisers on hand to give you top dollar on your trade-in

Below Factory Invoice

ALL MAKES ALL MODELS Absolutely Nothing Held Back

This Week Only

Thru Close of Business • Fri. Dec 13, 2002

PLUS YOU KEEP THE REBATE OR WE WILL GIVE YOU

UP TO **\$4000** IN CHRISTMAS CASH!

There Will Never Be A Better Time to Purchase A New Pontiac, Buick or GMC

ZERO% Financing up to 60 Months AVAILABLE (ON SOME MODELS)

PLUS A HUGE SELECTION OF TRUCKS, REG CABS, EXT CABS, CREW CABS, 4X4'S, SPORT UTILITIES, DIESELS & LUXURY CARS

PONTIAC BUICK GMC

ROB GREEN

733-1223 T-800-833-2219 TWIN FALLS, ID

Zero or low financing may not include Dealer's Actual Cost. Price includes sales tax, title or dealer documentation fee. Dealer's actual price may vary. Dealer's actual price may vary. Dealer's actual price may vary. Dealer's actual price may vary.

LATHAM'S 4-DAY

THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY

Receive A . . .

\$500 PLUS

COSTCO GIFT CARD

With Any Vehicle Purchase**

Receive A . . .

\$500 PLUS

PRE-PAID VISA

GOOD ANYWHERE

With Any Vehicle Purchase**

**OPEN
SUNDAY
11-5**

Receive A . . .

With Any Written Offer OAC

1 Per Household, Please. Adults 18 Years Or Older With Valid Driver's License.



**2003 CHRYSLER
PT CRUISER**

Stock #197C-011 Color: Pocket Blue • Air Conditioning • Power Windows • Power Locks • AM/FM CD • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$23,450
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$6,762

\$16,688

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$219 MO. PLUS \$1,500 CASH BACK TO YOU!



**2003 JEEP
WRANGLER 4x4**

Stock #33WR-021 Color: Stone White • 5-Speed Transmission • AM/FM Cassette • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$20,745
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$3,757

\$16,988

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$219 MO. PLUS \$1,000 CASH BACK TO YOU!



**2003 DODGE
CARAVAN**

Stock #33TC-042 Color: Betase Blue • Air Conditioning • Tilt Steering • Cruise Control • Power Windows • Power Locks • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$25,095
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$4,107

\$20,988

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$289 MO. PLUS \$2,500 CASH BACK TO YOU!



**2003 DODGE DAKOTA
CLUB CAB 4x4**

Stock #33TD-032 Color: Bright White • Air Conditioning • Tilt Steering • Cruise Control • Power Windows • Power Locks • Keyless Entry • AM/FM Cassette • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$29,135
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$5,847

\$23,288

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$279 MO. PLUS \$2,000 CASH BACK TO YOU!



**2003 DODGE 1500
QUAD CAB 4x4**

Stock #33T1-101 Color: Bright White • 5-Speed Transmission • Air Conditioning • Cruise Control • Tilt Steering • Power Windows • Power Locks • AM/FM CD • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$34,590
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$8,002

\$26,588

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$309 MO. PLUS \$2,000 CASH BACK TO YOU!



**2003 DODGE
DURANGO 4x4**

Stock #33DR-007 Color: Bright White • Air Conditioning • Cruise Control • Tilt Steering • Power Windows • Power Locks • AM/FM Cassette • 7 Year 70,000 Mile Power Train Warranty • 24 Hour Roadside Assistance • Dual Air Bags

WAS \$34,140
LATHAM DISCOUNT \$7,052

\$27,088

NOW OR LEASE FOR \$0 DOWN \$349 MO. PLUS \$2,500 CASH BACK TO YOU!

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• DODGE TRUCK • JEEP

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