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Panel backs death penalty fix

Legislation aims to meet requirements

BOISE - The Senate Judiciary Committee unanimously endorsed legislation on Friday adapting Idaho's death penalty to requirements imposed last summer by the U.S. Supreme Court.

"Unless we pass this or something like it, we don't have a death penalty," said Deputy Ada County Prosecutor Roger Bourke, the only prosecutor in Idaho to witness the execution of a man he convicted of murder.

The legislation, which still needs approval of both the Senate and House, was prompted by June's high court ruling that juries, not judges, must determine the aggravating factors that lead to imposition of a death sentence. Idaho had been one of only a handful of states that did not involve the jury in any phase of sentencing in capital murder cases.

Magic Valley has one of the 21 inmates on Idaho's death row. Jimmie Vuorel Thomas, 58, was convicted of first-degree murder for the Nov. 14, 1997 shooting death of 38-year-old Steven Louder at the home Louder and Thomas's ex-wife were sharing near Eden.

Officials from the state attorney general's office have said only Thomas's case and five others were truly called into question by the Supreme Court ruling, because the true crux of that case concerned the determination of aggravating and mitigating fac-

tors. But Senate Judiciary Chairman Don Darrington, R-DeLo, and the state's prosecuting attorneys have pushed for legislation to bring Idaho's law in line with the ruling for future cases as well.

Please see PENALTY, Page A2



Jimmie Vuorel Thomas

No funds might kill online program

By Robert Mayer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - When Adam Pullin transferred into Camas County High School, he lacked math credits from his previous school.

Catching up at his new school proved to be difficult, however, for the 15-year-old sophomore. After all, the 70-student school is limited in its course offerings.

"It is next to impossible to make up credits in this district," said Principal Mary Kren. "We want to get him credits before he gets too far behind."

Thus, Kren informed Pullin of the Idaho Digital Learning Academy, the state's online educational system. Celebrating its one-year birthday, the academy now has 613 students statewide - 123 in the Magic and Wood River valleys alone - signed up for a total of 1,408 classes this spring semester.

But no sooner had it graduated from its pilot phase than the academy's future became uncertain. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's proposed budget denied the academy's request for \$400,000 to operate next year.

The governor's press secretary, Mark Smider, said it comes down to economics.

Given the state's poor economic climate, there was minimal room for "enhancements." Most of those funded were already required by law. Kempthorne's proposals that received funding in his budget were an additional \$1 million in needs-based college scholarships, \$5 million in technology, and \$2 million for assessments.

"Aside from that there are really no enhancements," Smider said. "There are a lot of worthy programs that the governor could fund. This is one of them."

The 2001 Legislature created the academy but didn't fund it. The J.A. & Kathryn Albertson Foundation stepped in, providing a one-year \$1 million grant to get the academy started.

To keep functioning, the academy needs \$600,000 in operating expenses to continue.

Smider noted that the legislation which created the academy also allows for the program to seek other funding. One option, suggested Smider, was for school districts to contribute.

Please see PROGRAM, Page A2

BASQUES COMPLETE CENTER



Peggy Gorecacevarria, a board member for the Gooding Basque Association, looks over the new Basque Cultural Center in Gooding with pride. "I can't say enough about this place," she said. The center will have its grand opening tonight at 6 p.m. with refreshments and a silent auction.

Grand opening festivities are tonight in Gooding

By Mickey Walker
Times-News correspondent

GOODING - It's a place to belong, to meet and to practice native dance.

Sitting on a knoll overlooking the city, the Basque Cultural Center is now complete, and Helen Faulkner couldn't be more excited.

"We want to invite everyone to come out and see our building and enjoy some wonderful food," said Faulkner, the president of the Gooding Basque Association.

Basque food such as lomo, which is pork loin with pimiento, chorizos and more. A no-host bar will also be available.

There is no admission charge and appetizers such as tapas will be served.

"Even though I've only been a member for the last four years, I think it's always been a goal to have a central place to gather, meet and keep all our things," Faulkner said.

Association members plan to promote the Basque culture through the study of language, dance, food, costume and a variety of other activities.

The Gooding club was given \$20,000 from the Basque government in Spain to help promote

the culture. A computer program on the Basque language was included in the donation.

Many of the older members who grew up and came from Spain speak Basque, Faulkner said.

"However, we don't want the culture to die out with that generation," she said. "But I don't envision that learning about this culture is just for our members, it's for anyone who's interested in learning the language."

The center is holding its grand opening from 6:30 to 9 tonight. It's at the site of the former tuberculosis hospital, and its new address is 285 Euskadi Lane, meaning "Basque country."

A silent auction and raffle will take place throughout the evening. Members will be selling

Proceeds from tonight's auction and raffle will be used to get the program up and going.

The membership had fallen to about 150 members but has risen to 170 with the completion of the center, Faulkner attributes the rise to having a place to meet, a home.

"This center I think has given us a sense of belonging, a boost to our self-esteem," she said. "I think culture is real important and it's too easy to lose it."

To help pay back the \$240,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture-Rural Development loan that helped build the center, the facilities are available to the public for rent. The 6,400-square-foot building sits on about 3 acres and has a full commercial kitchen, walk-in cooler and bar, large restrooms and a small and large meeting room.

From 6 to 9 p.m. on the first Friday of each month, starting Feb. 7, the center will be serving Basque meals.

The club will hold its 22nd annual Basque Picnic on July 20, at the same location as in years past, the Gooding Country Fairgrounds. The club will have a dance the Saturday night before at the cultural center.

Defiant Saddam uses Gulf War anniversary to say he'll stay to fight

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq - Brushing aside any hint of compromise, Saddam Hussein proclaimed Friday that Iraq is ready for war with the United States and warned that his enemies would face "suicide" at the gates of Baghdad.

Saddam's strong words added to an atmosphere of urgency that followed the discovery Thursday of 12 empty chemical warheads in Iraq - a find described by U.S. officials as "troubling and serious."



Iraqi boys in military uniforms protest in front of senior Ba'ath Party members in Baghdad during a rally Friday to mark the 22th anniversary of the Gulf War.

U.S. has plans to declare Iraq non-compliant

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON - Secretary of State Colin Powell said Friday that the Bush administration expected to declare in two weeks that Iraq was not cooperating with U.N. weapons inspectors, and might offer fresh public evidence to prove it.

Powell's remarks, matched by hardening rhetoric from U.S. officials, were the clearest indication to date that President Bush is rejecting appeals by European allies and chief weapons inspector Hans Blix to give the inspectors more time before considering military action against Iraq.

regarding Iraq's compliance with a resolution demanding its disarmament of chemical, nuclear and biological weapons.

"We believe a persuasive case will be there at the end of the month that Iraq is not cooperating," Powell said in an interview with foreign journalists. A transcript of the interview, which took place Thursday, was released Friday.

A senior U.S. official said Powell's remarks were meant to signal that Washington wanted to quickly shift the international debate after Blix's report to what steps to take next, possibly including an invasion to topple Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Blix is due to report to the U.N. Security Council on Jan. 27

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: A quiet, sunny start to the weekend. Highs in the 40s.

Tonight: Clear skies. Lows in the 20s.

Tomorrow: A mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 40s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy skies, not too cold. Highs in the 40s.

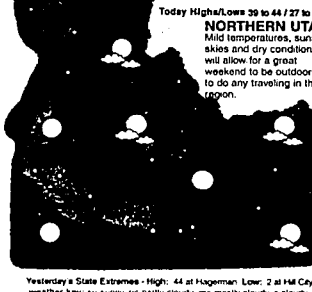
Tonight: A few scattered clouds. Lows near 20.

Tomorrow: Partly sunny and dry. Highs in the lower to the mid 40s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. It should be a great weekend to be up in the High Country with just partly to mostly cloudy skies and rather pleasant temperatures.

Today Highs 23 to 40 Tonight's Lows -1 to 9 BOISE The weather looks like it will cooperate for the weekend and bring in more sunshine and near-average, comfortable temperatures for January.



Yesterday's State Extremes - High: 44 at Hagerman. Low: 2 at HI City. Weather key: su-sunny; pc-partly cloudy; mc-mostly cloudy; c-cloudy; m-much overcast; sh-showers; r-rain; sk-snow; fl-floes; w-wind; m-missing.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE DAY FORECAST

Weather forecast for Twin Falls showing Today, Tonight, Sunday, and Monday with icons for sun, clouds, and rain. Includes a 'High 43 - Low 24' and 'ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS' section.

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Moonrise and Moonset, Snowpack, and ALL V. INDEX sections.

REGIONAL FORECAST and WORLD FORECAST tables listing cities and their respective weather conditions.

CANADIAN FORECAST table listing Canadian cities and their weather forecasts.

No one disturbs 'graceful' mystery of Poe visitor

BALTIMORE (AP) - The annual winter ritual requires the stealth of a cat burglar, an iron will and the tacit complicity of an entire city. In the middle of a January night, for the last 53 years, a man clad in black has crept into a deserted graveyard in a gritty section of downtown Baltimore and raised a birthday toast to Edgar Allan Poe.



Jeff Jerome, director of the Poe House and Museum, stands near Edgar Allan Poe's grave Dec. 29 in Baltimore.

nearby Westminster Hall, a former Presbyterian church, rapt with excitement, waiting for the visitor. After the man's toast, which usually happens sometime between midnight and 6 a.m., the group hastens down to examine Poe's grave and discuss the visit. Jeff Jerome, director of the Poe House and Museum, stands near Edgar Allan Poe's grave Dec. 29 in Baltimore. "No one disturbs 'graceful' mystery of Poe visitor"

Iraq

Continued from A1 He dismissed Baghdad's claims that it had previously reported the rockets and said they were not listed in Iraq's 12,000-page declaration, in which it was required to account for all components of its banned weapons programs. "The burden is on them to show the world what page it is on," Fleischer said.

to carry out their search. Despite growing U.S. impatience with Saddam, the top nuclear inspector Mohamed ElBaradei said it would be worth "a few more months" to avoid war. With a second Gulf War looming, a defiant Saddam used the 12th anniversary of the first conflict to tell the world he would defend Baghdad against the United States - despite reports that Arab leaders were trying to persuade him to choose exile instead.

Penalty

Continued from A1 And over objections from the Catholic Church, the American Civil Liberties Union and defense attorneys, the committee voted to turn the sentencing decision in death penalty cases over to juries, require a life prison sentence without parole in cases where the death sentence is not imposed and make sure the new procedure applies to all 21 convicted killers already on death row.

promised to sign the bill. The latest public opinion survey by Boise State University found 80 percent of those polled support the death penalty. The bill enacts the additional safeguards the high court ordered for defendants and also eliminates the delay of typically a year between conviction and sentencing in a capital case. The seemingly endless delays were a major issue with many of the bill's supporters, including the mother of Samantha Mabher.

the committee. "Someone like that deserves death and deserves it fast." Her daughter's convicted murderer, Darrell Edward Payne, is appealing his death sentence. Idaho has executed only one convicted murderer since it reinstated the death penalty in 1977. Double murderer Keith Eugene Wells, prospected by Bourne, dropped all his appeals and demanded to die. He was executed in January 1994. Two men - Charles Fain and Donald Paradis - were released from death row after courts determined that they were wrongly convicted of murders, and Thomas Gibson was freed on parole two weeks ago after his 1981 capital murder conviction was overturned and he pleaded guilty to a lesser charge.

sentences voided for a variety of reasons and have been resented to lengthy prison terms. "We in the state of Idaho need to take some serious consideration as to whether this is the way we should act as a society," defense attorney Tom McCabe said. He is defending yet another former death row inmate, Donald Fetterly, whose death sentence was thrown out by the state Supreme Court and because of last summer's federal court ruling. "I question whether we, as human beings, can do a good enough job to be comfortable about taking a human life," he said.

Program

Continued from A1 districts to chip in some dollars to keep the program alive. After all, they receive average daily attendance dollars for every child signed up for online classes. The zero-fund didn't sit well with State Superintendent of Public Instruction Marilyn Howard. A proponent of the academy, Howard plans to pitch to the state legislature Monday the need to fund online education. "The (Idaho Digital Learning Academy) is a well-thought-out process. This is a way for the state to deliver education across the state in an efficient way," Howard said. "It's absolutely essential that we move forward with online education." The online courses provide an alternative educational opportunity for students needing to make up courses or wanting to graduate early. They also allow students, such as Hans Amen, a Gooding High School senior, to attend classes while serving at the area. Amen, who is serving at a page in the state senate in Boise for six weeks is taking an online economics class. "It's perfect for me, it's working out really good," Amen said. "Otherwise I'd have to do this class through correspondence with my economics teacher."

Foundation money only to have it killed a year later. But Kempthorne's proposal is just that: a proposal, Jones said. Much can happen in the upcoming months. "We're a heck of a long way from the end of the budget process," he said. The Albertson Foundation decided to not weigh in on this issue, said spokeswoman Chris Litter. She did offer: "Our role is to help fund innovation. I don't think that's something that the state can always do." Kren said the academy is perfect for smaller school districts such as hers. As such, she has nearly 10 percent of her student body signed up for classes. Game registration time, when a student has a scheduling conflict, she informs the student of the academy option. "This really increases our ability to get the classes to the students," Kren said. Not that these are pushover classes. Far from it, as Pullin can attest after taking an online algebra class. "They're not easy at all. They're very challenging, he said. Moreover, Kren said she believes such classes are essential as Idaho moves into a new phase of higher standards. Not everyone learns at the same rate or in the same manner, she said. The academy is perfect for those who need an alternative learning method. "If it doesn't (receive funding) we'll have to go back to the drawing board," Kren said. "It would be a shame to lose it at this point. It's worth a lot to us." Times-News writer Robert Meyer can be reached at 735-3231 or by e-mail at rmeyer@magicvalley.com.

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Homeland Security struggle

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation faces a long struggle against terrorists, Tom Ridge said a Senate panel that on Friday, Friday approved his nomination to head the new Homeland Security Department.

Lawmakers said the fight should not come at the expense of civil rights or the free flow of commerce. Ridge spoke of the "enormity of our task" of bringing together 22 federal agencies with 170,000 employees to lead the security campaign. The new department, he told the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, "will not in and of itself be able to stop all attempts by those who wish to do us harm."

The committee later voted unanimously to approve Ridge, a former congressman and governor of Pennsylvania who since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks has been President Bush's chief adviser on homeland security. Full Senate confirmation was expected to come quickly as Ridge would be in place when the department is officially established next week. While there was no dissent over Ridge's qualifications for the job,



Homeland Security Secretary-designate Tom Ridge goes over notes prior to testifying at his confirmation hearing before the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee Friday on Capitol Hill.

senators used the four-hour hearing to question the administration's anti-terrorism policies and ask how the focus on homeland

security could affect civil liberties. "Overall it's been too weak," Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., a

presidential hopeful, said of the administration's record on homeland defense. "His vision has been too blurry and his willingness to confront the status quo, including with resources, has been too limited."

Lieberman's comment came a day after the Senate rejected a Democratic attempt to add \$5 billion to this year's budget for homeland security, primarily to fund programs at the state and local levels. "I hope that this administration will not give us a hollow homeland security," Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., said at the hearing.

Ridge said there would be additional money in the 2004 budget for first responders and others on the ground floor of the fight against terrorism.

Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, who on Friday formally took over from Lieberman as chairman of the committee, also expressed concern that the law creating the new department did not assure coordination and communication between the federal agency and the 2 million firefighters, police and other first responders across the country.

Senate rejects efforts to add to spending bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate rebuffed Democratic efforts to add billions to a mammoth \$390 billion spending package on Friday as Republicans banded together behind President Bush in a drive to keep the bill's costs from ballooning.

A pair of 52-46 votes demonstrated anew the GOP's ability to hold its slim majority — so far — against Democrats trying to increase spending for a range of programs. Bush wants to limit the bill's price tag as the country battles terrorists, an economic slump and renewed federal red ink.

In a reminder that Bush and congressional Republicans don't always see eye to eye, the White House sent lawmakers a letter supporting passage of the bill but warning that a final House-Senate version would be vetoed unless it contains several restrictions that current law places on federal aid for abortion.

The Senate has long had a more moderate stance on abortion than the House, but the White House will have a strong voice in how the final bill treats the issue.

In one vote Friday, the Senate rejected a Democratic bid to restore \$11 billion that Republicans trimmed from every program in the bill to make room for added funds for farmers, schools and modernizing local election systems. Republicans said that even with those cuts, the legislation would boost spending for every department over last year's budget.

"I am carrying the president's torch. The president's torch is 'Remember the deficits,'" said Senate Appropriations Com-

mittee Chairman Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, chief author of the legislation. "The president says remember the deficit. I say remember the \$1.6 trillion tax cut," said Sen. Robert Byrd, D-W.Va., referring to the 10-year tax package Bush won in 2001 that Democrats blame for reborn budget shortfalls.

The Senate also rejected a bid by Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., to add \$500 million to the measure for the Byrne grants program for local police departments.

Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., abandoned his amendment seeking to add \$150 million for equipment for detecting nuclear weapons that might be smuggled into ports. The Senate instead accepted a compromise by voice vote that would set aside \$150 million for the initiative out of the \$24.7 billion already in the bill for domestic security.

In one crack in their solidarity with Bush on Thursday, Republicans joined Democrats in a voice vote to push subsidies for Amtrak to \$1.2 billion, \$374 million more than the bill had included. The financially ailing passenger railroad has said it would be forced to shut down by spring if it got less than \$1.2 billion.

Republicans said one provision of the bill raising Medicare reimbursements for rural hospitals and doctors would cost \$400 million less than originally estimated, leaving room for the Amtrak funds without raising legislators' overall cost. But they and Democrats said the Amtrak amendment was popular enough to have passed anyway.

Testimony: Pilot was under orders not to fire

BARKSDALE AIR FORCE BASE, La. (AP) — A U.S. pilot charged with involuntary manslaughter in the accidental bombing deaths of four Canadians in Afghanistan was under orders to hold fire when he dropped the bomb, a fellow airman testified Friday.

Maj. John Milton testified in a hearing to determine whether two members of his Illinois National Guard squadron should be court-martialed for the friendly fire incident last spring. Maj. Harry Schmidt and William Umbach face up to 64 years in a military prison if convicted.

On a videotape of the bombing played by Air Force lawyers on Friday, a flight controller is heard saying "hold fire" after Schmidt requests permission to fire his 20 millimeter cannons. Schmidt had spotted fire on the ground and thought Umbach was under attack.

Milton testified that the order meant Schmidt must refrain from attacking. Four seconds after the order, Schmidt dropped the guided bomb, killing the four Canadians, who had been performing anti-tank exercises with live ammunition. Eight other soldiers on the ground were wounded.

Five of the survivors have testified at the hearing that they were not firing into the air at the time. Under cross examination, Milton later indicated that a hold fire order does not apply when a

pilot believes he is under attack and that Schmidt likely wanted to use the cannon to "suppress" the enemy fire, not destroy ground troops.

Straffing at night with a cannon "is a technique, it's not prohibited," he said. Milton, who has flown similar missions over Afghanistan, was not involved in the April 17 incident. He was called as a government witness to explain, as a pilot, how he understood the order. He has testified he "is biased" in his colleagues' favor.

Defense attorneys have said that the pilots thought they were under fire from the Taliban or al-Qaida and that a breakdown in communications prevented the pilots from knowing allied troops were in the area.

The proceeding is akin to a civilian grand jury hearing. In testimony Thursday, an Air Force commander testified that Schmidt and Umbach had received standing orders warning that allied troops would intermittently use live ammunition.

Col. Lawrence Stutzriem said it was "very clear" the live-fire maneuvers could be held on a firing range called Tarnak Farm, about three miles from the Kandahar airfield. Stutzriem said U.S. pilots were required to read air combat orders, which included information about the live-fire activities of coalition ground forces. While questioning Stutzriem,



U.S. Air Force Maj. William Umbach, right, and his wife, Mariene, walk into his Article 32 hearing, Friday at Barksdale Air Force Base, La. Major Umbach is one of the two U.S. airmen charged in the mistaken bombing of Canadian soldiers, killing four of them, last April in Afghanistan.

defense attorneys played a videotape of the accident to try to show the pilots believed the military had placed no restrictions on the use of weapons in the area. The defense has also contended

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defense attorneys played a videotape of the accident to try to show the pilots believed the military had placed no restrictions on the use of weapons in the area. The defense has also contended

Columbia's U.S.-Israeli crew settles into laboratory

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Space shuttle Columbia's U.S.-Israeli crew settled into its 180-mile-high laboratory Friday and started work on dozens of experiments on such things as spiders, flowers and cancer cells.

"We're having a great time and starting to get things squared away where we can move around and start being settled in," commander Rick Husband said one day into the 16-day flight.

The astronauts turned on a pair of Israeli cameras to measure desert dust in the atmosphere over the Mediterranean and Atlantic. Tel Aviv University scientists are interested in learning how migrating plumes of dust affect climate.

"All the best and regards to Israel," Ilan Ramon, the first Israeli in space, called down. Besides eight Australian "astrospiders" — garden orb weavers known for their perfect and well-

kept webs — Columbia is carrying ants, carpenter bees, fish embryos, silkworms, mealworms and rats. All were reported in good shape.

Also along for the ride: an American hybrid miniature rose and Asian rice flower, flat roots, wildflower and tomato seeds, bread for a mold study, crystals, bacteria, fungi and human prostate cancer cells.

Most all of the animals are part of student experiments, as are the seeds and bread.

The flowers, on the other hand, could blossom into big business. International Flavors & Fragrances Inc. wants to better understand how light, water and nutrients — and a lack of gravity — determine a flower's fragrance and how flowers interact with each other. Video beamed down from Columbia's mini-greenhouse on Friday showed the red rosebuds still closed.

Police: Fifth-graders tried to poison girl's drinks; seven suspended

DENVER (AP) — Police said a group of fifth-graders tried to poison a schoolmate by putting pills, glue, lead and chalk in her drinks.

Officers planned to ask prosecutors to file reckless endangerment charges against two 10-year-olds they said led the plot at Harrington Elementary in north-eastern Denver.

Police learned of the case Tuesday after the 11-year-old complained to teachers that she had found the items in her water bot-

tle and soda over three days. Five girls and two boys, all in fifth grade, were suspended for five days, and some face possible suspension.

Investigators declined to elaborate on why the group allegedly targeted the 11-year-old.

"They said that they didn't like her and that they wanted to hurt her," school principal Sally Edwards said Thursday.

Police haven't identified any of the children.

Representative will push for balanced budget amendment

WASHINGTON (AP) — With near-record deficits on the horizon, a senior House Republican says he will push for a constitutional amendment that would force Congress to balance the federal budget.

"Without that kind of discipline, I'm afraid that we'll have deficits as far as the eye can see," said Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner of Wisconsin. His amendment would include an exception for war or national emergencies.

Although even allies view his effort as a long shot, Sensenbrenner plans hearings to help flesh out details such as a reasonable deadline for a balanced budget.

The White House projected this week that budget deficits will total \$200 billion to \$300 billion in each of the next two years. Those projections assume

passage of President Bush's proposed \$674 billion tax cut over the next 10 years.

Sensenbrenner, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and one of the most fiscally conservative members of Congress, argued the budget could be balanced by cutting back on spending. A prominent economist questioned the feasibility of that. "I don't see how you can possibly do it in the foreseeable future without raising taxes or without major cutbacks in defense spending," said David Wessel, chief economist at Standard & Poor's. Latham said, would be a mistake.

Sensenbrenner, who supports the president's tax cut plan, takes the administration's view that the tax cuts will stimulate the economy and increase government revenue. Democrats argue the plan will swell deficits.

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NATION

Missionaries: Anti-Islam statements put them at risk

RICHMOND — A group of Southern Baptist missionaries working in Muslim countries has asked the U.S. leaders of their denomination to tone down their harsh criticism of Islam for safety reasons.

The missionaries said denigrating Islam puts them at risk as they work to spread Christianity under dangerous conditions overseas.

In December 2001, a suspected Islamic militant killed three workers at a Southern Baptist hospital in Yemen — the latest in a series of attacks over the last year on American religious workers abroad.

"We are not sure if you are aware of the ramifications that comments that malign Islam and Muhammad have — not only on the message of the gospel but also upon the lives of our families as we are living in the midst of already tense times," the missionaries said in the Jan. 10 letter.

The statement was signed by "a group of Southern Baptist workers in the Muslim world," who did not give their names. The two dozen missionaries were from 10 countries in the Middle East, North Africa, East Africa and South Asia.

Several Southern Baptist leaders have condemned Islam since the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Senators hope to reschedule trip to find out more on pilot

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — A group of U.S. senators hoping to learn the fate of missing Navy pilot Scott Speicher postponed a trip to the Middle East on Friday because of unfinished Senate business.

The senators will organize another trip to look into the fate of Speicher, whose plane was shot down over Iraq on the first night of the 1991 Gulf War, said Dan McLaughlin, a spokesman for Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., who was to be part of the delegation leaving Saturday.

Speicher, an F-18 pilot from Jacksonville, was originally declared killed in action but was later reclassified as missing in action. Recent intelligence reports, Nelson said, indicate Speicher might be alive.

Some of the information that Speicher might be alive and still in captivity came from interviews with Iraqi defectors and a 1995 analysis of the wreckage of Speicher's plane and flight suit.

Cardinal Law agrees to interview with lay panel

NEW YORK — A month after resigning as Boston archbishop over his handling of clerical sex abuse cases, Cardinal Bernard Law has agreed to be interviewed by a special church panel that is investigating the nationwide crisis.

The National Review Board, a group of 13 lay Catholics charged by the U.S. bishops with monitoring the hierarchy's response to the scandals, said Friday that Law agreed to meet with members in late February or early March.

Board members plan to interview as many as 100 people, including other bishops, and issue a report next year on what caused the crisis. The report is one segment of an ambitious effort to make a thorough accounting of the sex abuse situation, past and present.

If the board's schedule holds, the Commission will be a June survey showing the statistics and patterns of abuse cases, a December audit of abuse policies in each of the 195 U.S. dioceses, the report on causes of the crisis, and then a long-term psychological and sexual study of the Catholic priesthood.

Nation in brief

Study shows women have fewer sex problems

INDIANAPOLIS — A new study suggests sex researchers have been overestimating the prevalence of sexual problems in women for years — perhaps because they have been looking at things from a man's point of view. The Kinsey Institute study found that a quarter of American women are significantly distressed about their sex lives — far less than the 43 percent a 1999 study labeled as suffering from sexual dysfunction.

Research on the topic has tended to focus on physical aspects of sex, such as orgasms and arousal. But the new study found that the best predictors of a woman's sexual satisfaction are her general emotional well-being and her emotional relationship with her partner.

"This study emphasizes the importance of non-physiological components of sexuality as well as the general importance of mental health," said John Bancroft, director of the Indiana University-based Kinsey Institute. "It's not conclusive, but it counterbalances what I believe to be the rather extraordinary conclusion that 43 percent of women suffer from sexual dysfunction."

Bank robbery suspect locks keys in car, shoots his leg

PORT ROYAL, Va. — First he left a telling trail of \$100 bills as he tried to stuff the money in his pockets and, when this bank robber reached his getaway car, he found the keys had been locked inside.

It didn't get any better Wednesday for the masked man who entered the Union Bank & Trust north of Richmond. Police said the suspect, 61-year-old Edward Butler Blount, fled on foot after beating on the car window with a piece of wood. Bystanders then began to chase him, police said.

When the bystanders caught him, Blount tried to shoot them, but instead shot himself in the leg, Caroline County Sheriff Homer Johnson said. One of the men also shot him as they continued to struggle.

Blount was charged with eight felonies, including robbery and two counts of attempted murder, Johnson said.

Police arrest man in Texas massacre that killed six

EDINBURG, Texas — A man has been arrested on a capital murder warrant saying he was one of the gunmen who invaded two houses and killed six men in a bad of bullets.

The Texas Rangers and local police arrested Marcial Bocanegra, 25, of Brownsville, on Thursday morning, Cmdr. Abraham Delgado said. Bocanegra was scheduled to be arraigned Friday on six capital murder counts, police said.

The shootings happened Jan. 5 at two ramshackle houses that shared a lot in this semirural community about 15 miles from the Mexican border. The massacre led to speculation that the killings were drug related and that some attackers had fled to Mexico.

A week after the killings, police said they had no clues and offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to a conviction. Edinburg Police Chief Quirino Mulnoz said the arrest was not a result of the reward.

— compiled from wire reports

Fans celebrate Marconi centennial

WELLFLEET, Mass. (AP) — One hundred years ago today, a young Italian inventor named Guglielmo Marconi stood on a sandy bluff on Cape Cod and sent a 54-word greeting from President Theodore Roosevelt across the ocean to England's King Edward VII. A few hours later, the king responded, completing a dialogue that at the time seemed like pure magic.

Marconi had launched the era of global wireless communications. "It rivals the Wright brothers at Kitty Hawk," says Bob Doherty, president of the Marconi Radio Club. "Marconi's experiments evolved into radio as we know it today. The events of 100 years ago paved the way for today's other wireless tools, including cell phones and pagers."

To mark the centennial, members of the club have been staging a weeklong radio marathon, communicating with other amateur radio enthusiasts around the world from an old Coast Guard post not far from the site of Marconi's original radio station. Working under the clock, the radio hams expect to log more than 10,000 transmissions by week's end.

The event culminates Saturday night with the worldwide transmission of a message from President Bush. Marconi's daughter, Princess Elettra Marconi, will



Marconi in 1901

be on the Cape, while her son, also named Guglielmo Marconi, will be at the family's ancestral home in Bologna, Italy, to receive the message from his mother.

Marconi, who was 28 at the time of the breakthrough, "had everybody against him," says the princess, who is in her early 70s and gained her title by marrying an Italian nobleman. "He was so young and all the big scientists, like Edison, were saying it wasn't possible. He had the intuition. He knew he could succeed. And he succeeded."

Each summer thousands of tourists visit the beach that now bears Marconi's name. Yet few

realize that this was the place where modern communications were born.

Today, the site is under water because of erosion. At very low tides, a few remnants of its concrete foundations are visible beneath the surface. The events of Jan. 18, 1903, are commemorated with a small monument high on the sandy bluff.

"Every time you dial your cell phone, every time you turn on the car radio and hear a reporter broadcasting live via satellite from Saudi Arabia — all of that was made possible by what Marconi did," says Maria Burks, superintendent of the Cape Cod

National Seashore. "That's how far we've come in 100 years." Marconi's first radio was at the Cape. In 1901, he sent a four-minute message from the four 210-foot masts built there from the dunes and back to grass. He built a similar station in Cornwall, at England's southernmost tip, and one on Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia.

Using Morse code, Marconi tapped out Roosevelt's message, which was relayed through Nova Scotia and on to Cornwall via radio waves.

The invention was crude by contemporary standards, but actual voice was transmitted. But up to then, telecommunication consisted of telegraph transmissions that required a cable.

Marconi had conducted similar experiments over shorter distances. And in 1901, he made his first successful trans-Atlantic radio transmission, broadcasting the letter "S" in Morse code from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Cornwall.

But his early work was largely regarded as "crackpot technology," says Burks. That changed with Marconi's broadcast from Wellfleet. He won the Nobel Prize for physics in 1909.

The Wellfleet radio station, operated until 1918, receiving perhaps its most compelling message in 1912, when its operator received a transmission from the Titanic just hours before it sank.

White House OKs Medicaid coverage limits

WASHINGTON (AP) — Poor people on Medicaid seeking emergency care may have a more difficult time getting coverage by managed care organizations under a new policy by the Bush administration.

The new guidelines, outlined in a recent letter to state Medicaid directors, narrow standards set out in a 1997 law and set of rules issued by the Clinton administration and more recently, by the Bush administration in June 2002.

The 1997 law allowed states to put participants in Medicaid into cost-cutting health maintenance organizations and other managed care plans, but it required that these plans include certain patient protections.

Among them: Medicaid HMOs must pay for emergency room visits. A "prudent layperson" would consider the health problem to be an emergency. As a result, HMOs and case managers could not arbitrarily limit the number of visits of Medicaid enrollees to the emergency room.

The change of policy, reported first by The New York Times in its Friday editions, allows states to place certain limits on coverage of emergency services.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Friday that the change was not meant to reduce benefits for anyone. "The issue here is to make sure emergency rooms are used for emergencies" and not for primary care, he said.

One of three accused of killing sheriff pleads guilty

SOMERSET, Ky. (AP) — A man charged in the politically motivated assassination of a Kentucky sheriff at a political rally pleaded guilty to murder Friday in a deal expected to spare him the death penalty.

Danney Shelley, 31, the alleged triggerman in the slaying of Pulaski County Sheriff Sam Catron, also agreed to testify against former sheriff's candidate Jeff

Morris and campaign helper Kenneth White.

Morris, 35, and White, 55, are charged with conspiracy to murder a police officer. Both have pleaded innocent.

Investigators say the killing was part of a plot orchestrated by Morris and White in hopes of getting the heavily favored Catron out of the sheriff's race. Catron, 48, was running for a

fifth term as sheriff when he was shot minutes after delivering a reelection speech at a political rally and fish fry April 13. He was struck in the head by a single bullet fired from a nearby hillside.

Sentencing for Shelley was scheduled for March 3. Under the plea deal, the state agreed to recommend a sentence of life in prison, without parole for at least 25 years.

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YOUR WEEKEND

'The Mood'

What: The Friends of CSI Players will present "The Mood." Where: The Lamphouse Theatre in Twin Falls' Old Towne. When: 7 p.m. today. How much: Tickets, which are \$10 at the door and \$8 in advance, are available at the Lamphouse, the CSI Community Education Center, or by phoning 732-6288.

The Lamphouse Theatre

What: "Bowling for Columbine" will be shown. Where: The Lamphouse Theatre, 223 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls. When: 4:30, 7 and 9:15 p.m. today and Sunday. How much: \$6.50 for adults, \$4.50 for seniors and students and \$4 for matinees.

Foreign Film Festival

What: The Magic Valley Arts Council's 15th Annual Foreign Film Festival will open with Raja Amari's "Satin Rouge." Where: The Lamphouse Theatre, 223 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls. When: 1:30 p.m. Sunday. How much: Festival tickets are \$7.50.

Faulkner Planetarium

What: The Faulkner Planetarium will present "Larry Cat in Space." When: 2 p.m. today. Where: Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. How much: Tickets, which are \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens 60 and over, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, are available at the door. Children 4 and under are not admitted.

Herrett Center art

What: The Herrett Center for Arts and Science will host the Albertson Figures, a collection of a from Albertson College of Idaho that includes works by Goya, Hogarth, Lichtenstein, Picasso and Andy Warhol. Where: The Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. When: 1:9 p.m. today. How much: Admission is free.

Antique motorcycle show

What: An antique motorcycle show will continue. The Idaho Vintage Motorcycle Club is displaying about 18 motorcycles in the shop, including an original Vincent and a 1941 Schwinn. Where: Cycle City on Idaho Highway 24, south of Rupert. When: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. today. How much: There is no cost to see the motorcycles.

Jazz in the afternoon

What: The Chapter 2 Jazz Quartet, featuring Brian Cridder, Steve Cox, Jeff Coffe and Jake Smith, will perform. Where: The Coffee Cafe in the Lynwood Mall. When: 10 a.m. to noon today. How much: No cover charge.

Karaoke contest

What: A karaoke contest will be held. Where: Mr. Bill's, 101 N. Alder, Jerome. When: 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. today. How much: No cover charge.

For more Your Weekend

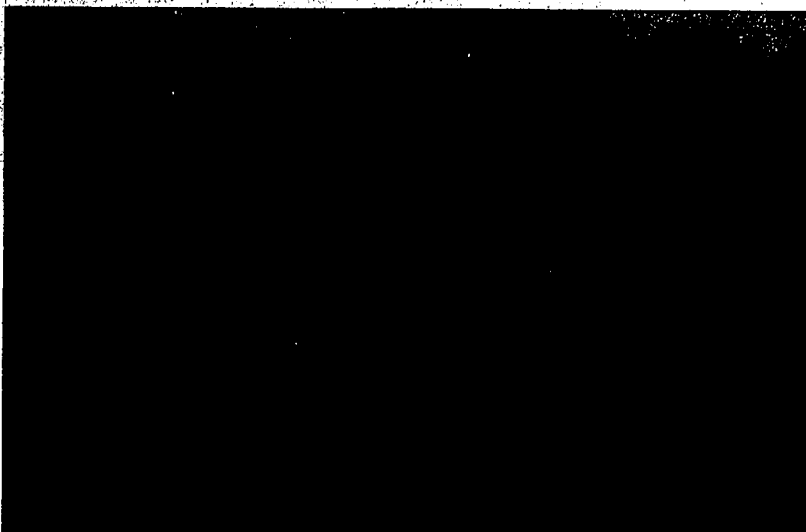
Please see page A-7.

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak**
Upper Snake River	72%	38%
Salmon Fork	65%	24%
Bellevue	85%	44%
Oakley	56%	29%
Big Wood	90%	52%
Little Wood	124%	62%
Boysys Fork/Teton	71%	37%
Big Lost	110%	54%
Little Lost	72%	37%

As of Jan. 17. **A comparison of 1999 average on this date with 1999 average.

BUHL SEWAGE SPILL KILLS FISH



Doug Scott surveys his pond near Buhl, where a blockage in the city wastewater system sent raw sewage into the pond, killing many rainbow trout. Scott says the fish in the pond were just for fun, but he knows that his grandchildren, friends and many community members will be disappointed that the pond has been ruined.

Officials don't yet know extent of damage

By Chad Baldwin Times-News writer

BUHL - Three years ago, Doug Scott built a diversion dam across the J Coulee, creating a settling pond intended to reduce the amount of sediment he discharged from his small farm just outside the city.

Because there was some water flowing into the pond year-round, he decided to stock it with 600 trout to give his

grandchildren and friends a place to do a little fishing. It proved to be excellent habitat for the fish, some of which have grown to 3 or 4 pounds.

On Tuesday, he found many of those fish floating dead on the water's surface. And he learned that his little pond - about 50 feet wide and 300 feet long - probably won't support any aquatic life for some time to come.

About 8 p.m. Monday, a city

of Buhl wastewater line backed up, sending raw sewage out a manhole on the west side of town, Mayor Barbara Gietzen said. An estimated 250 gallons of wastewater per minute poured out of the city sewer system until the flow was halted early Tuesday morning, and some of it went into Mud Creek, eventually reaching the J Coulee.

"We had crews who worked on it all night long, and they

contained as much as they could," Gietzen said Friday. "We don't know what damage there is downstream at this point, if any."

Scott said he isn't certain about the extent of the damage in his pond, either. But he knows a good number of his fish are dead, and he was told by Mike Green of Blue Lakes Trout Farm that even if some of the trout did survive the spill, "they

Mother faces charge of injury to baby

By Shelley Riderow Times-News writer

RUPERT - The mother of the first baby born at Mindoka Memorial Hospital in 2003 has been charged with felony injury to a child in connection with allegations that she used methamphetamine while she was pregnant.

Valerie Mulligan, 36, of Paul was charged with the felony Monday in Magistrate Court in Mindoka County. She was served notice of the criminal complaint Tuesday, but court officials wouldn't release the complaint until Friday when sheriff's office personnel returned the paperwork which showed Mulligan had been served.



Alexander Lee Salamandor was the first baby of 2003 born at Mindoka Memorial Hospital. He's shown the day of his birth with his mother, Valerie Mulligan, who has been charged with felony injury to a child for using methamphetamine while she was pregnant with him.

They could neither confirm nor deny if the baby is in their custody.

Mulligan received a pile of gifts for having the first baby of the year, including a car seat, a night's stay in a motel, free meals,

a haircut and tan, free car washes and gift certificates.

Her baby was born at 11:51 a.m. Jan. 1. He weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long. He was born two weeks before his Jan. 17 due date.

Water department will relocate water meters

BUHL - The city water department will begin relocating water meters Monday as part of Buhl's downtown revitalization project.

Businesses will be notified before their meters are relocated so they will know when their water service will be interrupted.

Traffic might be diverted periodically for safety in the immediate work area. The meter relocation is expected to take two to three weeks.

Some offices, businesses will shut down Monday

TWIN FALLS - Here's a list of offices and facilities that are open and closed Monday for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

- Twin Falls City Hall will be closed.
- College of Southern Idaho offices will be closed. Classes for the spring semester will begin Tuesday.
- Public schools are in session.
- County and state government offices will be closed.
- The post office will be closed.
- The Twin Falls Public Library will be closed.
- A sampling of banks indicated they would be closed.
- The Twin Falls City Municipal Pool will be open from 1:3 p.m. and 6-8 p.m.

Criminal cases steal through T.F. courts

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Four recent criminal cases moved through Fifth District Magistrate Court in Twin Falls early Friday, and a judge agreed to delay a fifth.

- Shawn Bradshaw, 29, of Twin Falls was charged with robbery in connection with a heist last month at North's Chuck Wagon at 1859 Kimberly Road. Magistrate Judge Kevin Cassidy after a preliminary hearing Friday ruled that his case should be heard over to district court. No date was set as of Friday for Bradshaw's arraignment in district court.
- Billy Crisp, 45, of Twin Falls, was charged with robbery in connection with that same crime. He waived his right to a preliminary hearing, but no date was set Friday for his arraignment in district court.
- Billy Clayton, 39, of Twin Falls faces burglary and robbery charges stemming from several recent crimes in Twin Falls. He also waived his right to a preliminary hearing, and no date had been set as of Friday for his appearance in district court.
- Patrick Michael Austin, 26, faces burglary and robbery charges in connection with a number of those same crimes. He also agreed to waive his hearing, and no date was set for him to appear in district court.
- Jared Kristofer Shewfelt, 20, of Twin Falls faces two counts of discharging a firearm at an occupied building, a charge of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Those charges stem from a shooting in Twin Falls earlier this month. Cassidy agreed to delay Shewfelt's preliminary hearing until Feb. 14.

Magic Valley in brief

- The Magic Valley Mall will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- The Social Security Administration office in Twin Falls will be closed.
- Airport advisory group gets new chairman
- HAILEY - City Councilman Rick Davis has been elected the new chairman of the Blaine County Air Transportation Advisory Group.
- The group, a subcommittee of the Sun Valley Ketchum Chamber and Visitors Bureau, was organized to increase commercial air service into the Sun Valley area while discussing the impacts of airplane noise and gas fumes on the community.
- Davis replaces outgoing Chairman Tom Blanchard who led the advisory group from the start and helped accomplish a number of projects, including the recently awarded federal grant for a new non-stop flight between Sun Valley and Los Angeles.
- Jim Bell, area leader for Idaho Power Co. was appointed to represent the city of Hailey in Davis' place.

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Cassia planning, zoning commission revises CAFO definitions

By Nate Johnson Times-News writer

BURLEY - The size of an animal farm is relative. On Thursday the Cassia County Planning and Zoning Commission revised its opinion that any confined animal feeding operations with more than 10 heifers, or an equivalent number of animals, should be defined as a "large" CAFO, allowing the county to regulate the operation.

Instead commission members decided the definition of "large" should vary depending on which zone a farm sits in, Cassia County Administrator Kerry

McMurray said.

In the residential and agricultural zone, 10 animals make a large CAFO, commission members decided. In the agricultural and residential zone - for more intensive agriculture than the residential and agricultural zone - 50 animals make a large CAFO. In the multiple use and prime agricultural zones, 100 animals make a large CAFO, they said.

The eight counties in the Magic Valley

might not have the authority to regulate confined animal feeding operations because county ordinances don't define "large CAFOs," as required by state law.

Earlier this week the Mindoka County Planning and Zoning Commission agreed to suggest to commissioners that commercial and industrial animal farms be defined as "large CAFOs."

By defining all CAFOs with more than

10 animals as "large," as was proposed by the Cassia planning commission a week ago, the county could regulate dairies and feedlots as it has always done. But the number didn't have anything to do with a true definition of "large."

Commission members thought the definition should ease the levels in which animal farms should be regulated in each zone.

"They felt it needed to be something you could rationalize," McMurray said. McMurray will draft the suggestion in amendment form and bring it back to the commission members for review. If there

Commission members decided the definition of "large" should vary depending on which zone a farm sits in, Cassia County Administrator Kerry McMurray said.

By defining all CAFOs with more than

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Man confesses to crash, gets prison time

RENO, Nev. (AP) — A retired California firefighter who admitted that he was drunk and under the influence of marijuana when he caused a crash that killed five members of a Utah family was sentenced Friday to up to 80 years in prison.

Stephen Scharosch, 52, will serve a minimum of 26 years before he's eligible for parole.

"He's not a young man and he's not in good health. It's very not a life sentence, it's very, very close," Deputy District Attorney Dan Greco said.

Scharosch admitted in May that he was drunk and had been smoking marijuana before the May 13 crash on Interstate 80 east of Reno that claimed the lives of five people, four of them children.

He entered additional guilty pleas Friday to charges of felony driving under the influence causing substantial bodily harm.

The family was returning to West Jordan, Utah, from a 50th wedding anniversary celebration in San Jose, Calif., when Scharosch, driving the wrong way on eastbound lanes, slammed his red 1989 Ford Mustang head-on into their minivan.

Fernando Meza-Arriaga, driving the van, received minor injuries. His daughter Alejandra, 7, and two sons, Tito, 3, and Marco, 9 months, died at the scene, as did his sister, Gloria Meza-Arriaga, 38.

His sister's 4-year-old daughter, Gloria Destiny Vasquez, died a few hours later at Washoe Medical Center in Reno.

His wife, Maria Avelar-Mejia, 29, and 2-year-old niece, Liliana Vasquez, were injured critically.

"I lost everything," Fernando



Stephen Scharosch cries as his wife testifies during his sentencing hearing Friday in Reno in connection with a crash that killed five members of a Utah family. One of his attorneys, Jennifer Lunt, watches.

Meza-Arriaga testified on Friday.

"After May 13 I just lost like half my life. Since then, nothing is good to me," he said during testimony that was interrupted several times while he composed himself.

"Every second of my life is just thinking about what happened May 13," he said.

Maria Avelar-Mejia was also in the courtroom. Though she did not testify, a letter from the woman was read in which she asked the judge to impose the maximum sentence for the deaths of her children.

"Without them, everything is sad, without color, very cold ... and I will never be able to see them again and that's not right. I just count the days until God allows us to reunite."

Washoe District Court Judge James Hardesty sentenced Scharosch to the maximum of 20 years on all seven counts, with four to be served consecutively and three concurrently.

He also was fined \$2,000 on each count and ordered to pay at least \$310,909 to cover the survivors' medical bills.

Scharosch's wife, Lynn,

appealed for a more lenient sentence, saying her husband was a man who made a mistake.

She also said that after a second DUI arrest seven years ago, she adamantly refused to drive after drinking. However, she said he had an alcohol-triggered blackout last January while the two of them were visiting Reno for their anniversary.

"I'm not a monster. I'm responsible for a terrible tragedy," he said. "I would gladly trade places with them."

Lottery chief says no dividends to me

BOISE (AP) — The acting director of the Idaho Lottery told legislative budget-writing lawmakers that the agency is operating as efficiently as possible and will provide increasing dividends in the coming years.

Steve Woodall told the Joint Finance & Appropriations Committee that ticket sales for the 12 months through June should match the previous year's record \$2.6 billion to produce a dividend exceeding last summer's \$18 million.

Woodall said the dividend could approach \$19.5 million, a sharp increase from the \$15 million provided for state and school construction projects two years ago. It would return the dividend to the levels of the late 1990s.

He also said the lottery intends to shave at least \$400,000 from its \$10 million operating budget that can be included in future dividends.

Woodall conceded that in the past, the office has been too aggressive in projecting future dividends, trying to increase the paycheck to the state by \$1 million a year even though ticket sales could not support the higher amounts.

That had forced the Lottery to draw on profits from the coming year to finance the payment on the previous year's dividend. That was the case two years ago when the dividend would have sunk to recording a low of \$12 million had \$3 million not been borrowed from the following year to pad the payment.

He said, however, that the agency is abandoning that tactic

and scaling back on some commitments to levels that can be met on current year sales activity.

Senate Finance Chairman Dean Cameron of Rupert pressed Woodall about the Lottery's Commission's seeming reluctance to open up to competitive bid the computerized ticket sales contract it has had for 15 years.

Rhode Island-based GTECH.

GTECH also provides the computerized licensing service for the state Fish and Game Department, which is taking bids on a new system in the coming year.

The Lottery is exempt from state laws requiring competitive bidding on contracts.

Scientific Games Corp. of New York has advised Gov. Dick Kempthorne that it could provide a system that would cost \$1 million less than the more than \$3 million the state is now paying GTECH. If given the contract, Scientific Games also promised to move its computer center to Boise.

But Woodall said the Lottery's analysis of the offer indicates that during a four-year period it would be more expensive than the GTECH contract, which comes up this year for extension for up to four more years.

IDAHO LEGISLATIVE LOG

By The Associated Press

Introduced in Senate

SB1010 (Transportation) — Clarifies that car owner, not necessarily the driver, can furnish proof of financial responsibility.

SB1011 (Transportation) — Establishes a Motorcycle Safety License Plate Program.

SB1012 (Transportation) — Makes seat belts mandatory for all vehicle occupants.

SB1013 (Transportation) — Waives state park fees for resident disabled veterans.

NAMPA (AP) — A Nampa police officer has been fired and charged with sexual battery of a minor for allegedly being involved with a 17-year-old girl in the department's volunteer Explorer program.

Police officials said Paul Irwin had a relationship with the teen that was uncovered during an investigation last fall.

Irwin, 35, turned himself in at the Canyon County jail Wednesday and was released without bond. He is set to appear in court on Jan. 29.

"If we held the public accountable for a law, then we've got to follow the same law," Police Chief Curtis Homer said. "I just hope people will not judge us the wrong way because one employee made the wrong choice."

In October, Ada County detectives posing as teenage girls in Internet chat rooms as part of a separate investigation arrested a suspect trying to solicit sexual

Police officer faces charges in sex case

favors. When detectives seized and searched his computer, they found an intimate self-portrait of the girl that she had emailed to several people. One of the email addresses suggested it belonged to a law enforcement officer.

Ada Undersheriff Gary Raney said that after several interviews, investigators obtained Irwin's identity and enough evidence to believe a crime had been committed. Raney turned the information over to Homer on Nov. 1.

Homer suspended Irwin that day and began an internal investigation with the help of the Idaho State Police.

Though the internal investigation took several weeks, officers gathered enough information by Nov. 4 to show Irwin had acted inappropriately, Homer said. He fired Irwin that day, and ended the Explorer program five days later.

The program was designed to give teens an opportunity to learn more about law enforcement.

A criminal investigation began in December.

Irwin worked on the department's traffic-enforcement team, said Homer.

Though Irwin was not associated with the Explorer program, Homer said, he may have worked with the teen during Idaho County.

The girl — a member of the Nampa Police Department's Explorer program — moved out of state to go to college in September and turned 18 in mid-October.

Irwin could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Homer said he cannot remember any officers being fired for similar offenses in the 15 years that he's worked at the department.

"We have 115 honest, dedicated, professional people working here," Homer said. "We've got a good department."

DEATH NOTICES

Jean Marie Dunne — HAILEY — Jean Marie Dunne, 76, of Hailey died Thursday, Jan. 16, 2003, at her home following a lengthy illness.

Arrangements will be announced by Wood River Chapel of Hailey.

Alice H. DeVaney — TWIN FALLS — Alice H. DeVaney, 90, of Twin Falls died Wednesday, Jan. 15, 2003, in Twin Falls. At her request, no services will be held. Cremation and arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Dismissed
Annette Nelson of Jerome

OBITUARIES

LATTA, S.C.
Col. (Ret.) Merrill S. (Alex) Alexander
Col. (Ret.) Merrill S. (Alex) Alexander died at Marion Medical Center, Marion, SC on Monday, December 30, 2002. He was 89 years old. Born and raised in southern Idaho, he left home for service in World War II seeing combat in Europe. He was awarded the Silver Star and Bronze Star for valor during the Normandy campaign. He was married for 53 years to the late Vida Springs Alexander of High Springs, Florida, who he met before leaving for service in Europe. Col. Alexander served in the U.S. Army for 31 years and retired to Latta, SC to be with his daughter. He was an avid golfer, a member of the International Order of the Eagles, and a past president of the 30th Infantry Division Association.

KENNEWICK, WASH.
Blanche Furniss Whitaker
Blanche Furniss Whitaker, 97, of Kennewick passed away January 14, 2003 at her home.

She was born September 17, 1915, in Sammamish and Alice E. (Stinger) Blumfeld in McGrawton, Idaho.

Blanche grew up in Parlatelli, Idaho and met her husband, Vern Furniss of 53 years. They moved to Kennewick in 1978 to be near their children, of which there were nine. She was preceded in death by Vern April of 1993.

While playing pinchhit and attending dances at the Kennewick Senior Center, she met and later married John Whitaker. John pre-

ceded her in death in May 2002. Blanche was an active member of the Kettlecrackers Singing Group of the Kennewick Senior Center.

Blanche is survived by her daughters, Beverly Fennie of Salt Lake City, Utah, Bonnie and Lee Peacock of Kennewick, Gloria and Neil Potter of Elkhorn City, Kentucky, Mary and Ken Gardner of Kennewick, and Shirley and Donald Beliste of Yakima, Washington and Carolyn Furniss of Kennewick and Dick and Joyce Furniss of Lodi, California, a sister, Norman and Gerald Frazier of Pocatello, Idaho, 36 grandchildren, 57 great-grandchildren and 7 great-great-grandchildren.

Blanche was preceded in death by her son, Stephen and daughter, Barbara.

A gathering of family and friends was held Thursday, January 16, 2003, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Mueller's Tri-Cities Funeral Home, 1401 S. Union in Kennewick.

Graveside services were held Friday, January 17, 2003, at Jerome, Idaho Memorial Contributions can be made to the Kennewick Senior Center.

Trapper declines coyote-killing contract

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — A Montana trapper awarded a contract to kill coyotes is not taking the job, in part because of the controversy surrounding the project, state Department of Fish and Game Director Steve Huffaker said.

John Graham, a veteran coyote hunter, was hired to kill the predators living east of Idaho Falls. Huffaker told the Idaho Fish and Game Commission on Thursday that Graham said there was too much public scrutiny of the project for him to do the job properly.

Efforts to reach Graham, who lives in Jordan, Mont., were unsuccessful Thursday.

Graham also had problems with the two-year contract, said Huffaker. The contract calls for him to trim 75 percent of the coyote population in the Willow Creek drainage.

The effort was created last year by the Legislature, and it authorizes Fish and Game to spend \$300,000 to increase the number of deer in the famed hunting area.

Huffaker said the commission has three options to avoid now has three options to avoid the contract: to remain behind Dave Morelli, to delay the project indefinitely or to rewrite the contract to appease Graham.

Morelli, who runs a business called Pesky Varminits, said he would come to eastern Idaho if asked.

"My plan all along was to do it," he said. "I suppose I would still do it, even if I was asked second."

During Graham's first visit to the area to study the feasibility of the project, he shot a coyote while in the company of Fish and Game Commissioner Roy Moulton, even though he did not have a hunting license.

Graham said he was invited to the state to show off his talents and he assumed Fish and Game had taken care of licenses and other requirements.

Five days after the incident

was reported, Regional Supervisor Bob Saban issued a special permit to cover Graham's actions. The move riled some hunters who believed Fish and Game was trying to cover up the incident.

The Idaho State Police investigated the shooting for Fish and Game, and no charges were pressed. Huffaker said there was no physical evidence a violation occurred.

Huffaker's decision prompted Lemhi County Magistrate Judge Jerry Meyers to drop charges against a Washington man who was ticketed for fishing without a license. Meyers said he could not penalize the angler because he believed Fish and Game officials were engaging in selective enforcement.

Some biologists and hunters also have challenged the claimed effectiveness of killing coyotes to help deer. They believe the \$300,000 would be better spent on buying or restoring winter range for deer.

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There just aren't adequate words to express our thankfulness for the outpouring of love, prayers, generous memorials, beautiful floral tributes, food, lovely comforting cards with personal messages and clippings in the loss of

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(our loving husband, Father, Grandfather & Great Grandfather) — it was overwhelming. Special thanks to Rev. Mark Latham & Rev. Gary Beneditz for a special, beautiful and comforting service. Our sincere appreciation to Lois Spreier for the beautiful music and Tom Terry, the soloist, for the two beautiful songs he sang. Our heartfelt appreciation and thanks to the LWL ladies of St. John's and Farmers National Bank for the delicious dinner that was served after the service — it warmed our hearts and soothed our souls. We are grateful for each and every act of kindness and thank you all for being there for us.

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Marshall & Peggy Schroeder & Family

Richfield board looks at discipline program

By Jenette Chambers
Times-News correspondent

RICHFIELD — The school district's disciplinary program, called into question by parents last month, has been compared to similar programs in other districts and found to be right on track, the superintendent said this week.

Superintendent David Hocklander updated the School Board this week concerning the Focus Center, where teachers at the elementary and high schools send disruptive students. Some parents expressed concerns in December that the program was not accomplishing what it had set out to do.

Parents said teachers were using the center as a crutch, sending students there for frivolous reasons. Parents also said that student responses to questionnaires intended to help the students were not being addressed.

Since then, school staff have participated in additional training to increase the effectiveness of the program, Hocklander said.

In addition, modifications have been made to the questionnaire, which students must fill out following the incidents that landed them in the Focus Center.

The questionnaire requires a student to describe what happened, what caused the incident, and how he or she will solve the problem.

A letter explaining the purpose of the center and outlining its rules and regulations is also being sent to parents.

Other School Board business

this week included:

- **Policy handbook** — Hocklander said the district policy handbook currently lacks a non-certified salary schedule and that one is needed. Hocklander himself drafted one and presented it to the board for approval. The schedule puts in place the wages for non-certified personnel and possible incremental increases.

- **New title** — The title of bus manager was created for Mac Crowther, a retired bus driver of many years. The position requires the manager to give the buses a pre-routine inspection, get them started and warmed up, and make sure they are clean, fueled and generally in good repair. The position attempts to relieve the regular bus drivers of these time-consuming duties.

- **Unsafe dugouts** — Two old and neglected dugouts which have been determined unsafe, due to rotting boards and sharp metal edges, will be removed this summer.

- **Student database** — Board chairwoman Brenda Farnsworth discussed a state project called Student Information Management System in which all students in the state are entered into a single database, making it easier to keep track of students moving to different districts.

- **The computer software** involved is costly, but the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation is providing a \$15 million grant to the state to set up the system. The system will also feature online resources for parents, teachers, students, school leaders and the public.

YOUR WEEKEND

'Forever Plaid'

What: The Sun Valley Resort production of Stuart Ross' "Forever Plaid" will be held.

Where: The Boiler Room.

When: 8:30 p.m. today.

How much: Tickets, which are \$18 for adults and \$12 for kids 12 and under, are available at the door.

Evening of Jazz

What: The Great Rift Jazz Society, in association with the CSI Jazz Studies Program, will present Jazz Sunday. The jazz

quintet will play jazz classics and standards, show tunes, modern jazz and the Blues. Students and families are invited.

Where: Gertrude Beck Open Cookhouse, 402 Second Ave. S., Twin Falls.

When: 4:30 p.m. Sunday.

How much: No cover charge.

Hailey residents recycle trees

The Times-News

HAILEY — Twenty-four tonhull fields of Christmas trees stocked to the end were recycled at the Ohio transfer station north of Hailey this year. Wood River Rubbish, Clearwater Landscaping, the

Environmental Resource Grants and Southern Idaho Solid Waste District teamed up to provide tree recycling dropoffs for more than 1,500 Christmas trees. Rather than end up in the landfill, the trees were trucked into a recycling plant that can be purchased from the transfer station for gardeners.

Zoning

Continued from A5

are no substantial changes, the proposal will be discussed at a public hearing along with other suggested amendments on the rules governing how animal farm developers must notify their neighbors, McMurray said.

County commissioners must approve any changes to the definition before the changes are effective. Planning commission members said they thought developers in the CAFO overlay, multiple use and prime agricultural zones should notify all those who own property within one mile of a proposed CAFO, but not people who live in the CAFO's waste management area. They also suggested

those notices be sent by first-class mail and that developers sign affidavits swearing they had sent the letters to the neighbors.

McMurray plans to write a policy to govern planning and zoning site visits. In the past the planning commission has discussed a pending permit at a site visit without making a written record of the discussion.

"We just need something so we have a better framework for operation, so we don't create a problem," he said.

Times-News writer Kate Johnson can be reached at the newspaper's Miss-Cassia Bureau at 727-2042. Ext. 637, or by e-mail at kjohnson@magicvalley.com.

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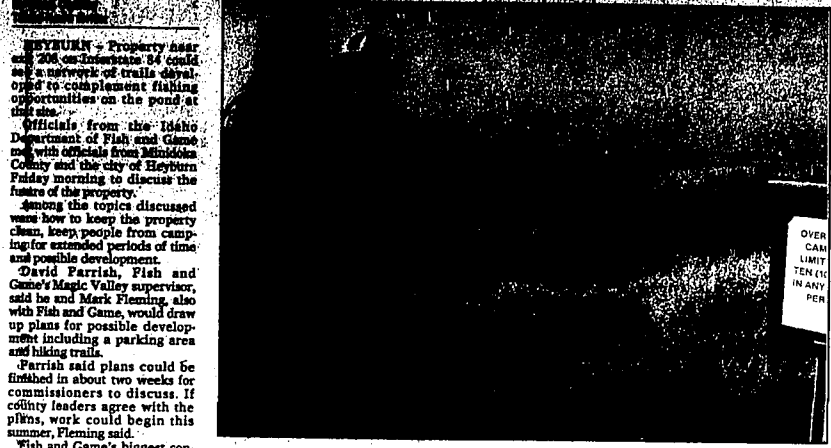
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Trail exit



Minidoka County Commissioners Dave Teeter, left, and Marvin Bingham look over county-owned property near Interstate 84 exit 208, which includes the pond in the background and an area of wetlands.

trails through the wetlands. Minidoka County Prosecuting Attorney Rick Bollor asked about money to build trails. Fleming said money could come from Fish and Game.

"I'm pretty sure we could come up with the money," Fleming said.

The Fish and Game easement and Corps of Engineers wetland designation would go with the property if commissioners sell it, Parrish said.

Commissioner Marvin Bingham said the county may try to sell only part of the 55 acres because some property would be easier to develop separate from the wetlands and pond.

Fleming said the pond and wetland area, being close to commercial property, could be a benefit.

"That's not always a detriment to the sale," Parrish said. "It can be valuable as well."

Hebun Mayor Cleo Cheney raised some concerns about people living at the site and the amount of trash in the area. Because the land is in Hebun's city limits, it is under city code, he said.

Parrish said Fish and Game officials pick up trash on the property occasionally.

The department also posted signs stating camping is not allowed for more than 10 consecutive days in a 30-day period.

Weed control would help the area look better, those at Friday's meeting agreed. Fish and Game could provide some money to help control the weeds in the area.

Lovell Turner also attended the meeting and suggested the mitigation of land at Interstate 84 exit 216 far land at exit 208. Officials weren't sure if that was an option.

Times-News writer Shari Cheney can be reached at the newspaper's Miss-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042. Ext. 638, or by e-mail at schenay@magicvalley.com.

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Board grants parole to murderer despite publicity

BOISE (AP) — Despite a publicity campaign waged by his aunt's family, convicted murderer Gary Hawkins will be released in one day, the parole board has decided.

Hawkins was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to life in prison in 1986 after he pleaded guilty to beating and suffocating 72-year-old Anna Christensen of Lewiston. Hawkins and Wayne Boyer also spent \$230 from Christensen's apartment. At that time, Hawkins was 17 and Boyer was 15 years old.

The case drew public attention last year when Christensen's family began campaigning to keep him in prison. They used billboards, newspaper advertisements, letters and telephone calls

in their efforts.

But despite the campaign, the Idaho Commission on Pardons and Parole on Thursday gave Hawkins a parole date of Jan. 15, 2004.

Hawkins told the board has spent his time in prison learning life skills and wants to give back to society.

"If I get out, I can give something back instead of sitting here soaking up taxpayer dollars," he said. "I am not a menace to society. I'm someone else have the best space who needs to be rehabilitated like I have."

Christensen's family called the release a travesty.

"(Hawkins) is a killer that has led repeatedly," said Michael Finney, Christensen's nephew. "I think this was the parole board's

plan all along. It's just outrageous. A year from now, you will have a predatory murderer walking the streets of Boise."

Hawkins, who admitted during a 1999 parole board hearing that he killed Christensen, got defensive when asked by Commissioner Russell Newcomb why he has since changed his story and insists he did not kill her.

"I have always struggled with that," he said. "Everyone wants to hear me say I beat her to death... I never happened."

Christensen's family members told the board that Hawkins' change of story proves that he cannot be trusted in society.

"She didn't die by osmosis," said Steve Christensen, another nephew of Christensen. "She

didn't die because he was in the house — she was brutally murdered, and (Hawkins) murdered her."

"He is doing everything he needs to do to appear pro-social for this hearing," said Finney. "The only way the state of Idaho can control him is to put him in a cage."

Commission President Olivia Craven said Thursday the parole board followed the recommendation of its hearing officer to put Hawkins on parole in 2004.

Hawkins was first eligible for parole in 1996 and has had several parole hearings before winning parole Thursday.

As part of his parole, Hawkins will not be allowed to enter Nez Perce and Idaho counties, Craven said.

Utah senator again seeks amendment to outlaw flag burning

WASHINGTON (AP) — For the fourth time, Sen. Orrin Hatch is sponsoring legislation to amend the Constitution to allow Congress to ban burning and desecration of the United States flag.

"The American flag serves as a symbol of our great nation," Hatch said Thursday as he introduced the bill. "The flag represents, in a way nothing else can, the common bond shared by an

otherwise diverse people. Whatever our differences of party, race, religion, or socio-economic status, the flag reminds us that we are very much one people, united in a shared destiny, bonded in a common faith in our nation."

In 1989, the Supreme Court ruled in the case of Texas v. Johnson that burning the flag was a protected form of speech. The day after the ruling, efforts

began in Congress to amend the Constitution, initially with Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., and Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., leading the effort.

Since then, dozens of flag-protection measures have been introduced in the House and Senate. Hatch introduced a proposed constitutional amendment in 1995 and has done it in each session of Congress since.

This time, Hatch has a bipartisan

coalition of 40 senators cosponsoring the amendment bid, including California Democrat Sen. Diane Feinstein.

The last Senate vote on the flag burning amendment came in March 2000, when the measure narrowly failed 63-37.

It takes two-thirds of both the House and Senate and ratification by three-fourths of the state's legislatures to amend the Constitution.

Fish

Continued from A5

would not be of usable value." He also expects it won't be a place for his grandchildren to go fishing for a while.

"My concern is not replacing the fish as much as it is cleaning up the pond and getting aquatic life back into the water," he said.

"They actually had to break the pipe to get it going," said Gietzen, who noted that crews from the city, the Twin Falls Highway District and a city contractor were all working to contain the spilled sewage and make the repair. State Department of Environmental Quality officials were notified and were on the scene.

Trucks were brought in from Boise to haul sewage from the blocked line to the sewer lagoon, she said, and that prevented further discharges while repairs were being made. The pipe is now sealed and working properly.

He noted that city crews were using chemicals to kill any bacteria in spill areas.

South Central District Health officials said Friday they hadn't been notified of the spill.

"It's serious, in that we don't want it to occur again. Neither does it," Anderson said. "They're working on making it right. Our big concern is that we don't have to go through this again."

and pumping and hauling sewage — estimated at between \$15,000 and \$50,000.

Meanwhile, Scott said he hopes to see an effort to clean up the damage. He said he spent several thousand dollars building his pond, which created habitat for fish and other wildlife.

In addition to the rainbow trout, he had two 5- to 6-foot-long sturgeon in the pond, and he wonders if those fish will survive.

"It wouldn't matter what I did, nothing will be sustained in there because there's no feed," Scott does credit Buhl officials for warning him about the oncoming sewage. He said he had gotten a call from Public Works Director Gary Winn saying the problem with the sewer line would likely send untreated wastewater into the coulee, as there wasn't a way to divert the water. The city also has been working to assess the damage, Scott said.

Gietzen said city officials aren't sure what clogged the 3,000-foot concrete pipe that gathers waste and delivers it to the city sewer lagoon. But fixing the problem was difficult, because the manhole was some distance from the site of the blockage.

Gietzen said normal flow through the pipe is 350 gallons a minute.

The pipe was never completely blocked, and 100 gallons per minute continued to flow to the treatment plant while repairs were being made.

But before the use of pumps and trucks halted the spill, about 250 gallons per minute left the sewer system — perhaps tens of thousands of gallons in all.

Dave Anderson, DEQ's regional engineering manager, said Friday he didn't know how much sewage spilled. But he didn't think there was any threat to public health, and he said the agency is satisfied the city is adequately handling the problem.

Gietzen said the city has notified its insurance company and is set up to handle reports of damage.

"We'll just wait and see, and monitor as time goes on to see what has to be mitigated," she said. "At this point in time, we don't know."

She does know, however, that the bill she has to find money for the city budget to cover at least part of the cost of repairing the pipe

on Thursday night, there wasn't a duck to be seen.

"The loss has already happened, so there's no use crying about it," Scott said. "But I certainly hope there's some type of cleanup situation."

Times-News City Editor Chad Baldwin can be reached at 735-3234, or by e-mail at cbaldwin@magicvalley.com.

IDAHO/WEST

Victim's dad awaits killer's sentencing

BOISE (AP) — The father of a Pocatello girl raped and killed by death row inmate James Edward Wood said the court debate on executions is painful for him to hear.

Wood, 55, pleaded guilty to kidnapping 11-year-old Jerilee Underwood as she was collecting from customers on her newspaper route and then molesting, murdering and dismembering her. He threw her body into the Snake River.

Wood was convicted and has spent nearly a decade on death row for the crime.

"It seems like yesterday," Jeff Underwood said. "They talk about justice being served, but it's not."

The U.S. Supreme Court last summer ruled that juries, not judges, must invoke the death penalty, calling Idaho's law into question.

The Legislature is considering a bill to revise Idaho's statute in light of the Supreme Court's ruling.

Outgoing Illinois Gov. George Ryan last week commuted death sentences of all the state's death row inmates, to the dismay of many victims' families.

"These legislators and governors and whoever else is involved with pardoning these people on death row — I would like to have them placed in my position of

seeing their loved one abducted, raped and murdered and see how they feel," Underwood said.

The death of Underwood's daughter strengthened his support for capital punishment.

Still, Underwood has doubts. He believes the current system takes too long to carry out a sentence, if ever.

"Why have it? If Wood was in the general prison population, he would have been killed by now," Underwood said. "Had he been let out among the prisoners, they would see him as the low-life scum of the earth and he wouldn't have lasted this long."

Underwood said he recognizes the appeals process for a death row inmate can cost taxpayers more than imprisoning someone for life. He wonders if that money would be better spent compensating victims' families.

However, state officials say the spending is unavoidable when a life is on the line.

"I think that would be a worse thing if death penalty cases were done on the cheap," said Bob Cooper of the Idaho attorney general's office.

"Wood's execution would be closure for us," Underwood said. "In our family, we talk about having the ability to forgive him. I work with that. It is tough to forgive someone who has taken your loved one away."

Wyoming leads nation in avalanche deaths

CASPER, Wyo. (AP) — Three of the nation's eight avalanche deaths this winter have occurred in Wyoming, despite near-record warmth and little snow, putting the state at the top of the list for avalanche fatalities.

The nation's five other avalanche deaths occurred in Idaho, New Hampshire, Nevada and Washington.

Wyoming's first avalanche death this season occurred Dec. 26, when a Colorado man was buried while snowmobiling. On Jan. 4, a backcountry snowboarder died, and another snowmobiler died in an avalanche the following day.

The state's recent dry spell could be part of the avalanche problem, since freezing weather without new snow creates unstable snowpack with weak "sugar snow-type crystals" at the surface, said Knox Williams, a forecaster for the Colorado Avalanche Information Center.

Doug Meyer, administrator for Teton County Search and Rescue, said this season's death toll could be even worse if not for some quick reactions from outdoors.

"I personally know of three

incidents where people were numerous and they had been dug out that we have not been involved with — that were dug out blue, had to be resuscitated and were able to get themselves out of the backcountry."

Snowmobilers have become particularly vulnerable to avalanches. Today's more powerful and efficient machines have led to an increasingly popular practice called "high marking," when snowmobilers try to climb steep slopes. The practice can trigger avalanches.

Many backcountry visitors also have a flawed perception of what is dangerous, said Paul Blackman, a restoration planner for the Medicine Bow-Rout National Forest, mistakenly believing avalanches occur only on steep slopes.

"It can happen anywhere on a small hillside," he said. "The recent death that we had, I think they determined it was a 100 foot by 200 foot area, which is relatively small. It's not like a whole mountain calling its snow cover. The dangers are present everywhere."

Major ports begin using secure-container system

SEATTLE (AP) — Eleven of the world's busiest ports have started using an electronic secure-container system that was developed to help the U.S. military keep track of food, ammunition and other items it wanted to ship overseas.

The technology, created by Savi Technology of Sunnyvale, Calif., relies on electronic seals on container closures. Using radio signals, the seals can transmit information about where the container is, what's inside and whether it's been opened — all crucial in preventing smugglers or terrorists from taking advantage of legitimate commerce, maritime trade experts say.

"There has been, up to now, no means of tracking and tracing containers," said John Meredith, managing director of Hutchison Port Holdings, a subsidiary of the world's largest port operator, Hutchison-Whampoa Ltd. "This way, you can know that what's said to be in the box is actually in there."

The system, called "Smart and Secure Tradelanes," was expected to be a big topic of conversation Friday, when people involved with ports — from ship-owners to U.S. Customs officials — meet in Seattle to discuss security.

So far, the system has been rolled out modestly. About 100 containers equipped with the seals have been shipped from Hong Kong and Singapore to Seattle, Los Angeles and Long Beach, Calif., over the past two months. A similarly small num-

ber have been shipped from Europe to East Coast ports.

But organizers expect the use of this system or similar ones to skyrocket as everyone involved becomes more familiar with the technology.

"It makes good business sense to have knowledge of what you have moving through the ports," Meredith said Thursday. He was in Seattle for Friday's meeting. "We just haven't had the technology until now."

Several million cargo containers — about 95 percent of U.S. international trade — enter the United States every year through its 361 sea and river ports. Since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, many people have worried that terrorists might use the 40-foot-long containers to sneak biological or other weapons into the country.

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LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL



Willard Gilasmeier, owner of Gilasmeier Tire Store, sits inside a row of tires Tuesday in Ogden, Utah. The 53-year veteran of the tire business will be closing his store at the end of the month and retiring.

Crooks prey upon Utah Mormons

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Utah's trusting Mormon culture has made the state a playground for con artists who find it easy to fleece investors of their life savings, government investigators said Friday in charges against seven people operating independently.

Those cases and other "affinity" frauds peddled inside church circles and still more cases under investigation in Utah have taken more than \$100 million from mum-and-pop investors and even doctors, lawyers and accountants, the law enforcement agencies said.

The most common fraud promises returns of up to 100 percent a month on the rapid buying and selling of discounted notes from the world's top banks. No such "prime-bank" market exists, FBI

Prosecutors: Scheme costs Utahns millions

agents said, but criminals duped early investors by making monthly "interest" payments from the proceeds of other investors until the pyramid scheme collapses.

"This is a growing problem here in Utah," U.S. Attorney Paul Warner said at a news conference also attended by federal and state securities regulators, an IRS criminal investigator and other agencies trying to spread the word about the prevalence of fraud in Utah.

In this Mormon dominated state, Warner said, fraud mostly spreads in social circles among members of the Church of Jesus

Christ of Latter-day Saints, which recognizes the problem and says it has a strict policy against the use of church property or functions to promote business or investment deals.

The latest cases are mostly characterized by defendants and victims who are members of the church.

They can be tough to crack because "you have to prove they meant to steal money and defraud people," said Chip Burrus, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Salt Lake City division. He said the "greed factor" also was at work among victims "getting creamed" by ambitious thieves.

"Four parents are losing their life savings," Burrus said.

Inmate says jail guard forced her into sex

SANDPOINT (AP) — A female jail inmate that accused a former deputy of forcing her into sex and has filed a \$1 million tort claim against Bonner County.

Brenda Booth, 34, of Oldtown, has been in the county jail since October for a probation violation. She failed to complete a mandated drug treatment program, court records say.

Booth claims that in November she was sent to "lock down" for 15 days and was compelled to perform "sexual favors" for Sheriff's Deputy John Strickland, a jail guard.

"I had no means of protecting myself because I was incarcerated and had to suffer this humiliation in silence," she wrote in her claim. Strickland cut work on Dec. 20.

He would not comment on the reason for his resignation.

Booth said she filed a complaint against Strickland, but authorities did not believe her and installed cameras in the cell without her knowledge. She said she was being ridiculed by other jailers.

Her complaint has been referred to the Idaho State Police for investigation.

Woman gets chance to make discrimination case

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A black woman who says she was harassed by co-workers wearing Ku Klux Klan outfits will get a chance to make her case against rocket maker Thiokol.

The U.S. 10th Circuit Court of Appeals issued a ruling in the case on Thursday that reverses a lower court's decision to toss out the claim on its technicality.

In her lawsuit, Michele Boyer, a 17-year employee of Thiokol, which is now known as Cordant Technologies, says she was subjected to ongoing racial and sexual harassment after she was hired in 1982.

She filed a civil rights complaint in August 1997, but lawyers for the northern Utah company successfully argued that a 300-day time limit for such claims had expired.

In her appeal, which she handled herself, Boyer argued that although many of the racist incidents happened before the 300-day time limit, the discrimination was part of an ongoing pattern.


In the early 1980s, she claims, co-workers wearing white hoods paraded through her work area. Racist jokes were left on her desk. In the mid-1990s, she says a male co-worker repeatedly sub-

jected her to overt and unwanted sexual talk.

In the Thursday opinion, the 10th Circuit notes that the Supreme Court has clarified how the time limit should be applied since the lower court dismissed Boyer's suit, and her claim does meet the deadline.

The case will now go back to the district court for a possible trial. In its original ruling, the lower court said it was dismissing the claim because the time limit had expired, and the acts Boyer complained of "reek of disrespect, even bigotry."

Darryl J. Lee, an attorney who represented Thiokol, said on Friday that he hadn't yet seen the ruling or had a chance to discuss it with his client.



Happy 50th Birthday!
To My Darling Daughter Deb Love, Dad

Gov. orders quarantine Nevada birds

LAS VEGAS (AP) — The federal government has approved quarantine restrictions on birds in southern Nevada on Friday as state officials doubted the number of chickens believed infected with a deadly avian virus in the Las Vegas area.

Agriculture Secretary Alan Veneman signed an order expanding a federal quarantine from Southern California over the state line into Nevada, said Larry Cooper, spokesman for the Exotic Newcastle Disease Task Force in Los Alamitos, Calif.

"No birds can be moved out of that area," Cooper said. "Birds that have been exposed have to be euthanized."

Even as Nevada and federal agriculture officials said they hoped to stem the spread of the highly infectious Exotic Newcastle Disease, they increased the number of chickens believed infected in two backyard flocks near Nellis Air Force Base from 30 to 78.

The disease is caused by a virus found in the droppings, breath and eggs of birds. An infected bird can pass the disease onto another bird by being in close proximity. The disease is harmful to humans but fatal.

In the 1970s, an outbreak of the disease in California threatened the nation's poultry and egg supply and led authorities to destroy nearly 12 million chickens. Eradicating the disease cost \$55 million.

"This disease is highly infectious, there is no treatment and no vaccine," said David Thain, the Nevada Department of Agriculture veterinarian heading the response and eradication effort, he said should grow within days to about 200 people.

The sale of dressed chicken and other poultry products is unaffected by the quarantine order.

"The sparrow in the backyard is not going to infect somebody's 3-year-old," Thain told about 40 animal control and wildlife officials in a morning briefing in Las Vegas.

But he said the discovery of the disease in Nevada increases the threat to a \$3 billion California-based international poultry industry.

Within hours of Thursday's discovery in Nevada, Utah slapped a quarantine on eggs, poultry and birds from Nevada, Thain said. Nevada has no commercial poultry industry.

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Don't give up the ship

IF JANUARY 18TH IS YOUR BIRTHDAY — people often judge you, feel you are materialistic. In truth, you side with the underdog and participates in humanitarian projects. You will never stop search for true love. Asking, "Libra natives play major roles in your life, could have these letters in names: I, R. During this cycle, you could change residence or marital status. February will be a month of testing, challenge and recognizing love when it appears.

HOROSCOPE

Sydney Omar

House; attention will be placed on home, restoration of domestic tranquility. You will learn something that had been kept secret.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): A relative needs your help, emotional and financial. Do what you can, but know when to say, "Enough!" Love relationship heats up; you can run, but you cannot hide. Capricorn involved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Full Moon in Cancer places emphasis on home repairs and repair of a broken relationship. You are going to argue; it without pangs of guilt. Libra plays major role.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will be at right place; take initiative, highlight original thinking. Your home will truly become your palace. Shine bright lights. Leo, Aquarius figure in scenario.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): What lies beyond the unknown will prove fascinating. Family membership, at first suspicious will cooperate. You will thrive on adventure of the paranormal. Cancer native is featured.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You who feared will turn out to be laughing matter. You win friends and influence people; your major wishes come true. Elements of luck ride with you; stick with number 3.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your value will be acknowledged; you will be presented with unique honor. Revise, review and rebuild; you have energy to produce "perfect product." Scorpio plays dramatic role.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You will get your way as result of support from higher-up. Be ready for change, travel and a variety of experiences. Being in love will lend spice. Virgo plays serious role.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Attention revolves around home, marriage, decorating and remodeling. Question of cost will be raised by partner or mate. Make intelligent concession, but don't abandon principles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Play waiting game, time is on your side. Question concerning marital status will loom large. There will be false reports, need for details. Pisces plays mysterious role.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Those who feel they have you cornered will be in for disappointment. You get what you want because this is your power-play day. Love relationship intensifies—it's hot and heavy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You will be urged to abandon project; don't do it, don't give up the ship! You will be dealing with people in foreign lands; you can arrange profitable trade agreement.

Weather Channel hops on the reality TV bandwagon

By David Bauder
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — You know reality TV is entrenched as a genre when The Weather Channel — the most conservative network this side of CBSAN — is hopping on the bandwagon.

The Weather Channel debuts back-to-back episodes of its nightly series, "Storm Stories," on Mondays.

Don't worry. This won't be "When Halitosters Attack" or "Weathercast Idol." Although, when you think about it, some version of "Fear Factor" with an angry public confronting soggy meteorologists whose predictions of a sunny weekend were washed out could be fun.

"Storm Stories" is exactly as its name suggests: It's exactly as if some video footage and some arduous recitations, how they were caught in severe weather.

What we've really been missing is the human element and the demonstration of what these powerful weather events can do to people," said Terry Connolly, the network's senior vice president for programming.

The Weather Channel has created a solid reputation among those who are serious about the weather. But it has been outflanked by networks like Discovery and PBS when it comes to real-life stories about life-threatening storms.

"Storm Stories" is an outgrowth of the network's now-defunct newsmagazine, "Atmospheres." In feisty groups, viewers said their favorite element of that series was the "storm stories."

Connolly said The Weather Channel wanted to avoid overly hyped stories — like other networks' "The Wrath of Nature" or "Savage Skies" — that cheapen the genre. He calls these series "disaster TV."

Indeed, some early episodes of "Storm Stories" are clunky in their conservatism.

"As you can imagine, it was a night they will always remember," says Jim Cantore says in introducing an episode about a tornado that damaged Hixson, Kan., and ripped apart a family's home on their son's prom night.

Well, duh.

But there are some compelling stories, and the series doesn't shy from modern production techniques. In the tornado episode, producers use a shaky camera — almost like MTV! — to approximate the chaos of the whirlwind overhead. And when talking about the prom family's experience, only a snapshot of their daughter is shown until the end. The simple trick builds suspense about whether or not she survives.

One interesting episode interviews survivors of a World War II disaster in which 750 sailors died when their ships were caught in a typhoon off the Philippines. A reenacted sailor, Archie Bedekewen, returned being tossed from his ship into rolling waters and surviving a harrowing night, only to see fish circling him at daybreak.

Happy parenthood leads to miserable marriage

DEAR ABBY: After three years of marriage, my husband, "Jeff," and I decided to have a child. I became pregnant immediately.

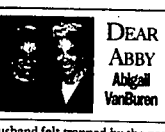
What I thought would make us both happy and bring us closer actually did the opposite. I had a miserable pregnancy and felt abandoned. Jeff grew emotionally distant and stopped communicating completely except for our constant battles.

Our son is now 16 months old and the apple of my eye. Jeff has "a new job with a good future. We bought a house and live in a great neighborhood, but he is still distant and picks fights constantly. He agrees counseling might help, but refuses to go. I have tried to improve our relationship, including private counseling, but it's not working.

Jeff is a great father but a lousy husband. We both changed with my pregnancy — he went from a helpful, happy husband to a miserable, frustrated man. Divorce is expensive — financially and emotionally — and a battle will most likely ensue over our son. Where can I get help?

DEAR ABBY: I am an 11th-grade girl. Our student handbook states that "public display of affection is discouraged at school and could result in disciplinary action." If this is true, shouldn't a student also get in trouble for sexual harassment?

A guy in one of my classes has been touching, grabbing and pinching me. I told some of my girlfriends, and two of them said he does the same thing to them. We hadn't wanted to tell each other, but now we're glad we did.



DEAR ABBY
Abby VanBurken

husband felt trapped by the pregnancy — and his subsequent behavior is the result of feeling pushed into fatherhood he didn't feel ready for.

Where you go from here depends upon how much longer you're prepared to tolerate your living situation. One thing is certain, nothing will change until you both have laid your cards on the table. If your husband refuses to go to counseling, perhaps your next step should be to consult a lawyer about what your options are. There are worse things than divorce. A contentious marriage like yours is one of them.

We went to the assistant principal's office with our complaint. He gave the boy one day of detention. After that, things got worse. The creep is still picking on us, and our school isn't doing anything to make him stop.

What do we do now, Abby? Were we wrong to tell? If not, how come nobody is doing anything to protect us? School is supposed to be a safe place, right? Please help us.

-THREE GIRLS FROM ZANESVILLE, OHIO

DEAR GIRLS: Document each instance — date, time and place — in order to establish a record. Tell your parents what's going on. It's time for your parents to discuss this matter with the school principal. If that does not stop the harassment, take it up with the board of education. They need to know what's going on before it's necessary to take legal action.

Readers, here is a gem. It was submitted by Tom Berillit of Silver Spring, Md.

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, Claire, told my 5-year-old grand daughter, Hanna, "We plan to remodel the kitchen and dining room, and move the walls from here to there." Trying to include her little girl in the project, she asked, "And what would Hanna like?" Hanna's reply: "Take away the time-out corner!"

SS agents can fill in at the fire department

Sir, did you ever propose marriage to a woman who turned you down? If so, how did she say no? Our Love and War man reports the most common refusal line is: "I think marriage would ruin our friendship." Or some variation.

Q: Do retired people have dandruff?

A: Not much. Even less at age 75. Hardly any at age 85.

What would your village look like if its building code were to ban any structure higher than the tallest tree in town? A seaside resort in Tunisia so decreed, and everybody there likes it.

"Factory Whistle" is what one bartender calls his new drink. "One blast and you're through for the day."

Look at that fold of skin around the base of your fingernail. If it weren't there, the fingernail would grow straight up.

The United States Coast Guard was plan red flag of ships carrying disease was the skull and



REWASTED
L.M. Boyd

crossbones. Pirates thought the disease emblem might scare off unwanted boarders so they took it for their own.

Q: You said most people never attend high school reunions. Any more?

A: Inconvenient. That's Reason No. 1. Reason No. 2 is many find too little pleasure in teenage reminiscence.

Q: You said most people never attend high school reunions. Any more?

A: Only women were queried in this particular poll. Asked: What qualifies make a good marriage? Four answers came out on top, in order: 1. Love 2. Romance 3.

Sense of humor 4. Sex said John T. Note how women make the distinction between love and romance, says our Love and War man. Men are less inclined to do that.

Q: More has been written on three literary topics than all others: the sea, the Bible. Another is Shakespeare. What's the third?

A. Sherlock Holmes.

Most of the phone calls from Japan to the United States seem to have machines.

Do your doodles signify anything about your personality? None other than the response of Dr. Carl Jung: there are people who don't doodle, to represent them is to masturbate mentally.

You know Jung. He was the psychologist who created the concept of "introverted" and "extroverted."

Lightning has been reported to cook potatoes in its path. A Secret Service agent once managed to fight fire.

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Is principle of affirmative action needed?

Yes

Racism is still alive in the U.S.

SHIRLEY J. WILCHER

than tolerate the sexual harassment. When I asked the CEO for an explanation, he attempted to minimize the problem and even suggested there were very few Klan members among the staff. This is only one of a dozen egregious discrimination cases we posted on our Web site during the past several years to remind America that equal opportunity was not yet a reality. The Lort affair clearly underscores this point and unfortunately brings it into this century. Affirmative action constitutes steps employers, colleges and officers take to promote equal opportunity and to remedy or prevent discrimination. It means recruitment and outreach, adding diversity to the pool of qualified candidates. It means eliminating barriers and providing equal pay. It is not quotas or preferences; it does not require hiring, promoting or admitting the unqualified,

and it is not reverse discrimination. Critics argue that race should not be considered in awarding contracts, making hiring decisions or admitting students to college. However, as Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, recent candidate for Maryland's governorship, declared: "Slavery was based on race. Lynching was based on race. Discrimination was based on race. Jim Crow was based on race. And affirmative action should be based on race." I think she's got it.

Shirley J. Wilcher is executive director of Americans for a Fair Chance.

No

Preferences don't fix problems

ABIGAIL THERNSTROM

Supreme Court.

Do you believe in judging people by the color of their skin? Or do you think that precisely such judgments have been at the heart of America's ugly racial past and should play no role in our nation's life today? That is the question that the affirmative-action case involving the University of Michigan's undergraduate college and law school has placed squarely before the

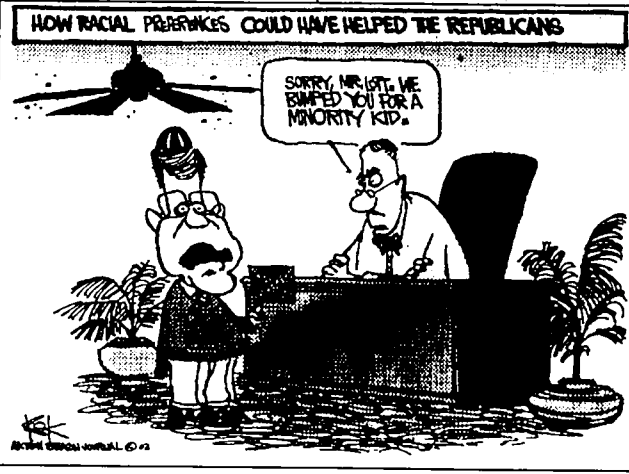
A black or Hispanic applicant to the college gets a lot of extra points just for being, well, black or Hispanic. In competitive college admissions, members of certain racial or ethnic groups are privileged. Asian-Americans are not among them, though. Asians are a race, according to the U.S. census, but when it comes to admission to highly selective colleges like

Michigan, they're white. Or, rather, they're treated like whites by admissions offices. Neither Asian nor white applicants are eligible for automatic extra points, whatever disadvantages they may have experienced. The white or Asian-American teen-ager whose single parent works a minimum-wage job is not considered disadvantaged. But competitive colleges drop their admissions standards significantly for black and

Hispanic students. Black and Hispanic underperformance in the K-12 years is a national catastrophe. Racial preferences in college admission, by seeming to level the playing field, are just fool's gold. They do nothing for students who need no pass — a waiver — but a basic education. Real equality will come only when black and Hispanic youngsters learn as much as whites and Asians before they get to college. The civil rights groups should be taking to the streets once again. But not in the name of racial preferences — privilege based on skin color.

Good schools for all children should be their cause. They're making or break for America's non-Asian minority kids.

Abigail Thernstrom, of the Manhattan Institute, is co-author of "America in Black and White" and a member of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission. She wrote this for the New York Daily News.



Those of us who entered college in the late 1960s and beyond understand what is at stake. The recent Trent Lott affair and the nationwide debate it sparked reminded me why affirmative action is still desperately needed. Discrimination in America is alive and well. While serving as deputy assistant secretary at the Labor Department in the 1990s, I traveled to meet the CEO of a company that repaired equipment for the federal government. I wanted to know how the company could have tolerated the raffish of a Ku Klux Klan knife by members of its repair shop. Compliance officers discovered this behavior during a routine review of the company's affirmative action program. The contractor had signed an agreement to run the program in exchange for the privilege of doing business with the government. In addition to the Klan raffie, we found racist and sexist graffiti on the walls of the lavatories. Blacks said the N-word was used profanely. Women had resigned rather

PAUL K. DRIESSEN

Affluent activists condemn poor to live a life of squalor

Three intertwined doctrines — are all the rage among corporate, environmental, government and religious activists these days — and unfortunately all are condemning the world's poor to a life of squalor. The first, called corporate social responsibility, argues that companies should conduct their business with more concern for activists' pet causes than making a profit for shareholders. The second, known as sustainable development, says companies must restrict themselves only to activities that "meet the needs and aspirations of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs." The third, dubbed the precautionary principle, requires companies to halt any activities that may threaten "human health or the environment" even when

there is no documented cause-and-effect relationship. All of that may sound noble at first, but the truth is that radical activists from affluent Western countries created these buzz phrases to promote their own socialist agendas. They — and they alone — define what is "responsible" in a way that blocks any development that doesn't meet their exacting environmental demands, even though it may mean locking the world's poor into a hopeless life of chronic hunger and poverty. For people in the Third World, the three doctrines are dangerous, and even deadly. They impose the loftiest of developed world standards on developing nations, while ignoring the needs

and aspirations of people who struggle daily just to survive. For instance, few of the more than 2 billion Africans and Indians living today have access to electricity. Half a billion women and children in Africa, Asia and Latin America currently spend their days collecting firewood, or squatting in mud-laced with animal feces and urine to collect, dry and store manure for use as fuel. Few attend school. Millions die every year from preventable lung diseases and dysentery caused by indoor air pollution and filthy drinking water. Ironically, the poor in the teeming slums of New Delhi have the same aspirations for themselves and their families as Sierra Club members in gated communities in the Hamptons, La Jolla and Sausalito. Above all, they want to live in modern

homes, determine their own destinies, and enjoy electricity, safe water and other basics that Westerners take for granted. "We don't want to be encased like a museum," one Indian woman plaintively told a television news crew. They also want to protect their environment. "If people don't have electricity," points out Gordon Mweziye, a senior official in Uganda, "they will cut down trees, and Africa will lose its wildlife habitats and the health and economic benefits that abundant, reliable, affordable electricity brings." Dams in Uganda and Gujarat Province, India, could provide electricity and safe drinking water. But First World radicals oppose their construction and are pressuring international aid agencies to withdraw funding. These countries shouldn't make

the same "mistakes" we did by building mammoth hydroelectric projects, the activists insist. They should opt for wind turbines, or solar panels on huts. They mustn't dam up good kayaking rivers or use fossil fuels. An additional 14 million Africans face imminent starvation. Modern science could reduce their anguish — through seeds and crops that have been genetically modified, to make them resistant to drought, salt and insect pests, reduce the need for pesticides, and save wildlife habitat by enabling farmers to grow more food on less land. The U.S. has shipped African countries thousands of tons of genetically modified corn — the same corn that Americans have been eating safely for years. But environmental radicals and the

European Union are screaming "genetic pollution" and threatening to withdraw aid and ban agricultural exports from any countries that plant or distribute the grains. One can only wonder if the activists' cars will soon be festooned with solar bumper sticker slogans as: "Such huts — and huts forever" or "Sustainable insects: expandable people" or perhaps, "Better dead than (ad)." For the sake of the world's poor, it's time to ask the eco-activists, bureaucrats and media elites exactly how their anti-energy, anti-biotech and anti-people policies are moral, compassionate, sustainable or socially responsible. Paul Driessen is a senior fellow at the Committee for a Constructive Tomorrow (www.cfact.org).

Evolution has too many empty conclusions

The article, "Board rejects evolution disclaimer," focuses on evolutionists from Louisiana debating whether or not biology textbooks should be flagged with a disclaimer that the theory of evolution is just that — a theory, not a fact. However, evolutionists need to go beyond alluding to the "theory" of evolution and present the facts that unsubstantiated theory. Evolution, or more appropriately, the "slime, time and chance" theory, is an insult to science and our intelligence. It is a poor theory that falls apart when scientific

laws are applied to it as it contradicts the first and second laws of thermodynamics. It represents poor science, suggesting the pretense of "spontaneous generation," a theory that was disproved by Louis Pasteur's experiments. And there is disregard of observed data in the fossil record which suggests a rapid appearance of species over a short time period and no proof of intermediate "missing links" between species. Evolution cannot begin to explain where this "slime" came from, nor can it explain how order and increasing complexity developed by chance. (Evolutionists test our gullibility in trying to make us believe that order came

by way of a huge explosion, akin to a "tornado going through a junk yard and coming up with a '74 airplane.") And it doesn't really matter how many "billions and billions" of years they want to add to their equation of "slime and chance," as science suggests that the universe, without directed and intelligent design and input, would move farther and farther away from an ordered universe, not closer to it. To those who espouse evolution theory, don't try to make me conclude that slime plus time plus chance equals the world as we know it. Perhaps if these proponents of evolution theory, could even produce one basic living organism, or even the building

blocks of living matter under controlled conditions, gathering existing matter and using directed energy (much beyond simple chance), there would be support for the equation of one plus one plus one equals three. But don't ask me to put faith in evolution theory where zero plus zero plus zero is supposed to equal millions. And don't have the audacity to require our children to put their faith in such an absurd equation either. Maybe we should consider putting God back in the equation. "Religion without science is lame, but science without religion is blind" (Albert Einstein). GREG HEGGMAN Twin Falls

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Doctors sit in on exams

Patients and children are involved. Some question whether parents can adequately represent their children's wishes.

The American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry plans to raise the issue at the AMA's annual meeting in June in Chicago.

Dr. David Fassler, a Vermont psychiatrist and member of the academy's governing council, said he wants the AMA to come out against the practice unless patients have "full knowledge and informed consent."

"It seems quite inappropriate to have non-clinical personnel present during therapy sessions," Fassler said in an interview this week. "I'm also concerned that patients may not always feel free to say no when asked by their doctor if something like this would be OK."

The AMA does not have policy on shadowing, but one is needed - especially if doctors are being paid, said Dr. J. Edward Hill, chairman of the AMA Board of Trustees.

"I would be extremely concerned about that being an ethical behavior," he said. He added: "We don't want anybody interfering with the patient-physician relationship, whether it's a pharmaceutical representative or anybody. That's such a sacred trust."

While the extravagant freebies that drug companies have lavished on doctors have come under increased scrutiny in recent years, the industry's presence in examining rooms is less well-known. But some recent cases have raised concern among doctors and prompted calls for an end to the practice.

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Promoting peace

Protesters urge nonviolent end to crisis with Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) - Fearing war could start in weeks, protesters are massing in Washington and cities around the country to press for a peaceful way out of the crisis with Iraq and an end to America's own weapons of mass destruction.

The weekend demonstrations coincide with America's military buildup in the Persian Gulf region and a time of remembrance for the nonviolent struggle embodied by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. Even as U.S. military personnel ship out, protesters are packing Washington-bound buses and organizing local marches and vigils from Tampa, Fla., to San Francisco.

"We are attacking a poor country that has enough problems," said Al Vitvick, a retired pile driver and World War II veteran who will be rallying in Pittsburgh next week. "It is unjust."

The largest crowds are expected in the nation's capital, where President Bush and many in Congress are united on the move toward war and protest leaders hope they can draw tens of thousands, at least, to march in dissent.

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said Bush will be at his Camp David presidential retreat over the weekend, but has no problem with the protests.

"The president welcomes the fact that we are a democracy and that people in the United States, like Iraq, are free" to protest, he said. "The fact of the matter is the people who support the president are not going to take the streets" and demand Saddam to disarm.

Police said Friday they will be ready for trouble but don't expect much. They've been in close touch with demonstrators.

"They say it's going to be peaceful and our hopes and goals are not to make arrests," said Sgt. Joe Gentile, speaking for the force. "We've met with the organizers. They don't plan any civil disobedience."

Nonviolent civil disobedience was pledged by other demonstrators in a smaller rally planned Sunday outside the White House.

Gentile said a "few arrests" were likely in that event.

The organization International ANSWER planned the national rally Saturday in Washington and one in San Francisco, exhorting war opponents everywhere to "stop the Bush administration from threatening and killing the people of the world who are not our enemy."

Police suggest Americans are not in step with the anti-war movement but also are not sold on Bush's arguments for war.

In a Pew Research Center survey out Thursday, 53 percent of respondents said Bush has not explained the stakes that justify using military force against Iraq. Yet 76 percent said they would support him if nuclear, biological or chemical weapons were uncovered.

The protesters' focus is on America's weapons of mass destruction, not the ones inspectors are looking for in Iraq in a possible prelude to conflict.

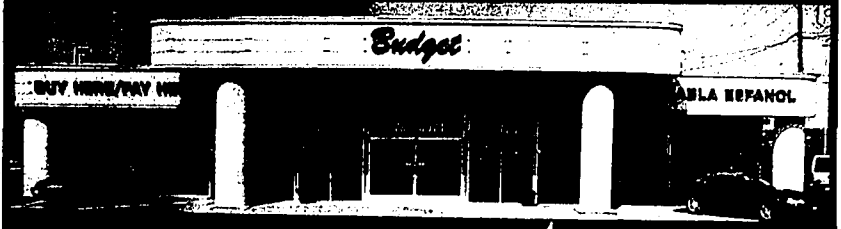
The sense that war is close spurred the determination of many activists to get to Washington, despite snowy weather en route followed by a week-end of subfreezing temperatures in the capital.

Gerald Rudolph, director of a South Carolina group that sent one busload to the last large Washington rally, in October, said about twice as many people were going from his area this time.

"It's starting to reach visibility," he said of the anti-war movement. "Should we go to war, I think it'll just explode at that point." He leads the Carolina Peace Resource Center.

Nearly 500 people from Wisconsin signed up for bus travel to Washington. So did several hundred from upstate New York.

Ambitious weekend rallies were planned in Phoenix, in Portland, Ore., and in Tampa, where protesters planned to gather outside the headquarters of the U.S. Central Command, the arm of the Pentagon that would direct the Iraq war. In Pittsburgh, activists were hoping to draw several thousand to Jan. 24-26 protests.



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<p>1999 Honda Accord LX AT, Loaded!</p> <p>\$11,795</p>	<p>1998 Ford Escort SE Wagon AT, Loaded, Only 26K Miles!</p> <p>\$6,895</p>	<p>1999 Chrysler LHS Leather, Power Sunroof, Loaded 47K Miles!</p> <p>\$13,995</p>

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Sunday in *The Times-News*

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SPECIAL FINANCING AVAILABLE

Saturday, January 18, 2003

is, Clijsters advance, Safin withdraws

The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — One embarrassing swing-and-miss aside, Serena Williams is steadily sharpening her game as she draws within four victories of a "Serena Slam."

Williams needed only 46 minutes to beat Thailand's Tamarine Tanasugarn 6-1, 6-1 Saturday and advance to the fourth round of the Australian Open.

She hit 27 winners, but her eight errors included a complete miss on an overhead smash in the second set's first game.

Kim Clijsters, considered one of the most likely to stop

Williams from winning a fourth consecutive Grand Slam tournament, won 6-2, 6-1 in 55 minutes against Tatiana Poutchek. She has lost just six games in six sets.

If she and Serena keep advancing, they would meet in the semifinals.

Meanwhile, Marat Safin, last year's runner-up, withdrew with a wrist injury from a fall in his first-round match. The 2000 U.S. Open champion's withdrawal sent No. 31 Rainer Schuttler into the fourth round.

Safin, who had been coming back from a shoulder injury, said

an injection helped him through his second-round victory over Spain's Albert Montanes but afterward his left wrist swelled up badly.

Safin, a right-hander who hits a two-handed backhand, said it was diagnosed as a cut ligament.

Williams won the French and U.S. Opens and Wimbledon last year.

She was expecting a hard year "because a lot of people are after me, namely Venus, who wants to be No. 1 again."

Older sister Venus is in the other half of the draw, and could



Please see AUSTRALIA, Page B2

Now the Redskins' defensive coordinator Marvin Lewis has become the Bengals' head coach, maybe Johnnie Cochran can get him off by pleading temporary insanity.

”

—Chicago Sun-Times columnist Elliot Harris

CSI can't stop streak

Home dominance continues for Dixie

By Kevin Hill
Times-News writer

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Just another number. The College of Southern Idaho men became victim No. 61 at Burns Arena, falling to No. 12 Dixie State College, 82-73, in St. George, Utah on Friday.

Dixie guard Mike Hall scored a game-high 24 points, Chris Huber added 12 points and 7-foot reserve Steve Castleberry added 10 points to lead the Rebels (19-2, 6-1 Scenic West Athletic Conference), who haven't lost in St. George, Utah since January, 2000.

Yakhouba Diawara led CSI with 19 points and Jaison Williams added 11 to lead the Golden Eagles (15-3, 2-3), who saw their three-game winning streak end.

Despite trailing by nine at halftime, the Golden Eagles sliced the margin to a basket at 50:48 with just over 13 minutes to go. But CSI failed to connect on three straight trips while giving up easy buckets in transition to push the lead back to six with 12 minutes left.

Castleberry scored on a back-breaking putback and a free throw, which he made, for the 59-51 lead with 11:12 to go.

From there, the game stayed around six to 12 points the rest of the way as CSI struggled to find any rhythm.

CSI coach Guy Beach said it came down to Dixie having too many answers at crucial times.

"We were there and we tried to do too much at some times and they ended up getting some quick opportunities and some breaks to get it back to six or seven," Beach said. "And it was pretty much there for the rest of the game."

Sani Ibrahim, who picked up back-to-back fouls in the first 3 minutes of the game, said the Eagles, who are 0-3 on the road this season, are playing scared. He finished with 10 points and seven rebounds in 15 minutes.

"Guys don't play hard. I played three minutes in the first half," Ibrahim said. "In the second half, people keep coming at me but all the guys have to step up. We weren't tired, we just needed to play hard."

And that's exactly how the Rebels played.

"We just had unbelievable energy," said Castleberry, who transferred from Marist University over the summer. "We just had more at the end."

"I was surprised by Steve Castleberry. 10 points, six rebounds and a couple of blocks for a guy that shouldn't be getting those numbers," Beach said. "I thought we did a great job on Terren Harbut (two second-half points) and Charles Johnson (no second-half points), especially in the second half taking them out of the game. Mike Hall did a great job."

Hall said the Rebels came out better prepared.

"I just thought it was preparation," Hall said.

"I was just trying to take the shots that were going to be in."

Hall downplayed beating CSI, which recruited the talented guard over the summer.

"It was just another win over a good team," he said.

Please see CSI, Page B2



The College of Southern Idaho's Sani Ibrahim shoots over two Dixie State defenders in the second half Friday at Burns Arena in St. George, Utah.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- Men's college basketball
CSI at S. Nevada, 8:30 p.m.
- Women's college basketball
CSI at S. Nevada, 6:30 p.m.
- High school boys basketball
Ruff River at Sho-Ban, 7:30 p.m.
The Community School at Richfield, 7:30 p.m.
Cassas County at Castelford JV, 7:30 p.m.
Wendell at Hagerman, 7:30 p.m.
Valley at Filer, 7:30 p.m.
Gooding at Buhl, 7:30 p.m.
Jerome at Wood River, 7:30 p.m.
Highland at Minico, 7:30 p.m.
- High school girls basketball
Century at Burley, 1 p.m.
The Community School at Richfield, 6 p.m.
Gooding at Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Pocatello at Twin Falls, 7:30 p.m.
- High school wrestling
Spring Creek Invitational, Elko, Nev., 9 a.m.
American Falls Invitational, TBA

IN BRIEF

Jerome boys hoops camp opens Monday

JEROME — The Jerome High School boys basketball program will host a hoops camp for boys grades 1-3 from 10 a.m. to noon Monday, Martin Luther King Day, and another camp for boys grades 4-6 from 1 to 3 p.m.

Registration for the younger kids is at 9:30 a.m. at the high school gym and 12:30 for the older boys.

The cost for each child is \$15 and includes a T-shirt and admission to Tuesday's Twin Falls High School boys varsity basketball game at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 837-6497 and leave a message.

Former CSI standout faces assault charges

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Missouri guard Ricky Clemons, the second leading scorer for the No. 11 Tigers, was charged with second-degree domestic assault and held Friday night on \$5,000 bond, police said.

Clemons was accused of choking a woman at his home Thursday night and preventing her from leaving. He turned himself in to authorities Friday afternoon.

Clemons, 22, was suspended from the basketball team. He will not play in Missouri's game Saturday at No. 24 Oklahoma State, though it remains unclear how long his suspension might last, Missouri sports information director Chad Moller said.

"We know he won't play (against the Cowboys), but beyond that we don't know," Moller said.

In a statement issued Friday night, Missouri coach Quinn Snyder said Clemons has denied that an altercation took place, as well as taking part in any violent act against his accuser.

Police said the victim — identified only as a 20-year-old from Columbia — told them Friday she had been assaulted by Clemons about 9:30 p.m. Thursday. Clemons surrendered to Columbia police after investigators called the Tigers' basketball office and asked that he do so.

Clemons, a junior college all-American last season at the College of Southern Idaho, has started all 12 games this season for Missouri (10-2). He is averaging 17.2 points and 32.8 minutes a game.

The 5-foot-11, 172-pound junior from Raleigh, N.C., leads the Tigers in assists (57 averages) and steals (16) while shooting 47 percent from the field, 81 percent from the free-throw line and 45 percent from 3-point range.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE PLAYOFFS

Bucs must stop Eagles' blitz AFC teams overcome four-game losing skids

By Rob Maaddi
Associated Press writer

Tampa Bay at Philadelphia
Kickoff: Sunday, 1 p.m., Fox

PHILADELPHIA — Everywhere Brad Johnson turned, there was a sea of green in his face.

Darwin Walker sacked him on the last play of the first half. Corey Simon fell on him for a 4-yard loss on his next passing attempt. N.D. Kalu drilled him for a 9-yard loss seconds later.

In a span of seven plays, including three runs, the Philadelphia Eagles sacked Johnson three times in a convincing 20-10 victory over the Tampa Bay Buccaneers earlier this season.

Johnson finally left the game after breaking his ribs after his fifth sack. Rob Johnson finished

up, getting sacked once.

The Buccaneers (13-4) know they must do a much better job of protecting their quarterback to have a chance in Sunday's NFC championship game against the Eagles (13-4) at Veterans Stadium.

"We need to run the ball, avoid turnovers, and give Brad time. That's the biggest thing," right tackle Kenyatta Walker said.

In his first year in Jon Gruden's offense, Johnson proved to be one of the top quarterbacks in

the NFL. He completed 281 of 451 passes (62.3 percent) for 3,049 yards, 22 touchdowns and only six interceptions. His rating of 92.9 led the NFC.

But after changing Michael Vick all over the field last week, the Eagles are glad to see Johnson, no matter how well he's played. Johnson is one of the slowest QBs in the league. And he's struggled against Philadelphia. In his last three starts against the Eagles, Johnson has thrown six interceptions and no TDs.

"Playing against Michael Vick, you have to worry about him running every single play. It kind of takes away from the other things you're doing on the field," said linebacker Carlos Emmons, who

Please see NFC, Page B5

By Eddie Peils
Associated Press writer

Tennessee at Oakland
Kickoff: Sunday, 4:30 p.m. CBS

OAKLAND, Calif. — Raiders offensive lineman Lincoln Kennedy practically shuddered when the dreaded top streak.

The four-game losing streak. It's a month of misery punctuated by long practices and second guessing — four straight weeks of failure, when a game became a job, and self doubt starts to feel as familiar as stripping on shoulder pads.

Oakland endured in this season. So did the Tennessee Titans. They meet in the AFC title game Sunday, a statement as much

about the resiliency of the teams as the forgiving nature of a league built for parity.

"Some teams would have caved at it," Kennedy said. "We had a lot more respect for our game than that. We knew it came during a part of our season we could recover from. We just kept coming back to work and pushing forward."

As with any breakdown of that magnitude, almost anything that

Please see AFC, Page B5

SPORTS

Carey wins battle of Northside unbeaten

CAREY - The Northside Conference's undefeated teams, Carey (11-2, 6-0) and Shoshone (6-6, 5-1), met Friday night and Carey walked away still undefeated, downing Shoshone 57-49 in Carey.

Shawn Hennefer scored 23 points, including three 3-point goals. Teammate John Saiti added 12 points and nine boards.

Panther coach Dick Simpson said the team had to make the decision to win.

"We were down by three at half. We just decided that we had missed easy shots and that we could take this," he said. "We stepped up our defensive pressure and really got into it."

Indian Phillip Royal scored a team-high 22 points. Carey visits Dietrich Tuesday.

Local sports

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Knights of Columbus plans free throw contest

TWIN FALLS - The annual Knights of Columbus free throw contest will be held from noon to 3 p.m. Feb. 26 at the St. Edward's Catholic Church parish hall...

Sen. Ted Stevens act to make job of the USOC more accountable to the American people and Congress.

Wreck kills Yale baseball player, injures others

FAIRFIELD, Conn. - A sports utility vehicle carrying players on Yale's baseball and football teams slammed into a tractor-trailer on a snow-slick highway...

Both said they quit because they believe an ethics board report was whitewashed so that Ward would be able to keep his job on Monday when the USOC executive board met to debate allegations he tried to steer USOC business to a company headed by his brother.

Outland Trophy winner considers pro career

SPOKANE, Wash. - Dealing another blow to a program already rocked by a coaching change and a Rose Bowl loss, Washington State junior defensive tackle Ron Long reported he has made himself eligible for the National Football League draft.

The outland Trophy winner and first team All-American sent the necessary paperwork to the NFL this week, but could still change his mind...

Two other motorists were injured, but not seriously. The crash near Bridgeport led to a postponement of Friday night basketball games between the schools until Saturday.

Mike McDaniel, a freshman on the football team, said he believed the victims were all members or pledgers of the Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity.

Canadiens fire coach Therrien, hire Julien

MONTREAL - The Montreal Canadiens fired coach Michel Therrien on Friday after hockey's most storied franchise won just two of its last 12 games.

He was replaced by Claude Julien, coach of the Canadiens' AHL affiliate.

The firing came after losses in Atlanta and Philadelphia this week in moved to the NHL. The Canadiens scored just one goal and were outshut badly in both games.

The Canadiens are fourth in the Northeast Division at 18-19-4-5 and in 10th place in the Eastern Conference.

Therrien is the sixth coach to lose his job in the NHL since Jason Suter of the Atlanta Thrashers.

Julien, 45, is a former NHL player who played for the Montreal Canadiens from 1982 to 1990.

Julien was named head coach of the AHL's Philadelphia Phantoms in 1997.

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

Baseball: SportsCenter at Pittsburgh, ESPN, 10 a.m. College, II, Chicago at Detroit, ESPN2, 10 a.m.

College, Duke at Maryland, ABC, 11:30 a.m. College, Notre Dame at Kentucky, CBS, noon

College, Michigan St. at Minnesota, ESPN2, noon College women, Baylor at Texas, FSPT, noon

College, Arizona at UCLA, ABC, 1 p.m. College, Utah at San Diego St., Fox, 3 p.m.

College women, Oklahoma St. at Texas Tech, FSPT, 3 p.m. College, Illinois at Indiana, CBS, 2 p.m.

College, S. Illinois at Creighton, ESPN2, 2 p.m. College, Connecticut at North Carolina, ESPN, 3 p.m.

College, Xavier at Massachusetts, ESPN2, 4 p.m. College, Oregon St. at Oregon, FSPT, 4 p.m.

Bulls at Heat, WGN, 6 p.m. Football: Senior Bowl, at Mobile, Ala., ESPN, noon

Figure skating: U.S. Championships, part I, at Dallas, ABC, 2 p.m. U.S. Championships, part II, at Dallas, ABC, 6 p.m.

Golf: European PGA Tour, Dunhill Championship, third round, TGC, 7 a.m. PGA Tour of Australasia, New Zealand Open, final round, TGC, 4 p.m.

PGA Tour, Sony Open in Hawaii, third round, ESPN, 5 p.m. Hockey: College, Minnesota State at Denver, FSPT, 7 p.m.

Tennis: Champion Kiyoshi Tsuya (29-1-1) vs. James Lee (43-5-2), for WBC/WBA/SF Super lightweight championship, SHO, 6 p.m.

Area ski report: Powder Day - The 4.5e snow 18 degree peaked powder 54- 81 base 10 of 20...

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Friday's NBA Scores

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Boxing

Champion Kiyoshi Tsuya (29-1-1) vs. James Lee (43-5-2), for WBC/WBA/SF Super lightweight championship, SHO, 6 p.m.

ON THE RADIO

CSI men at Southern Nevada, KLVX 11.0 AM, 8 p.m.

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Alaska Senator calls USOC on carpet

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Senator whose legislation gave the U.S. Olympic Committee control over America's Olympic movement believes it might be time to make changes in the organization.

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SPORTS

Yao, Rockets stuff Shaq

Dixie cold-shooting CSI

HOUSTON (AP) — All it took was 3 minutes for Yao Ming to show Shaquille O'Neal that this would be no mismatch.

Yao blocked O'Neal's first three shots, altered Kobe Bryant's attempt at the end of regulation and dunked with 10.2 seconds left for the biggest basket of the night as the Houston Rockets defeated the Los Angeles Lakers 108-104 in overtime Friday night.

The game turned out to be worthy of all the hype it received for being the first meeting ever between the 7-foot-6 rookie center from China and the 7-foot, 360-pound three-time defending champion.

O'Neal finished with the better statistical line — 31 points, 13 rebounds and four assists to Yao's 10 points, 10 rebounds and six blocks.

But it was the Rockets that walked off with a victory — their season-high fourth in a row — while ending the Lakers' longest winning streak of the season at five games.

Steve Francis led the Rockets with a career-high 44 points, and Cuttino Mobley added 29.



Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal, left, is defended by Houston center Yao Ming during the first quarter Friday in Houston.

Suns 107, Mavericks 102

PHOENIX — Stephen Marbury had 41 points and 11 assists, and committed no turnovers in 46 spectacular minutes as the Phoenix Suns rallied to give the Dallas Mavericks their second loss in a row, 107-102 Friday night.

The Suns sank 10-of-19 3-pointers — 4-of-6 by Marbury — to win their 11th straight at home. It's their longest winning streak since March of 2000.

Bucks 99, Sixers 95

PHILADELPHIA — Ray Allen scored 17 of his 21 points in the second half, leading the Milwaukee Bucks to their fifth straight victory, 99-95 over the Philadelphia 76ers on Friday night.

Tom Cassell scored 12 and Tim Lincecum and Tomi Koucky each added 11 for the Bucks, who are within one game of 500 at 19-20.

Philadelphia's Eric Snow had a chance to tie it with three free throws with 2.4 seconds left, but he missed his first attempt.

Nets 88, Raptors 77

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Jason Kidd scored 18 points and added five assists as the New Jersey Nets beat the Toronto Raptors for the fifth straight game.

"Greg Maddux personally reviewed all the information, studied all the pitchers and told me where he thought he placed himself among the pitchers today," agent Scott Boras said. "He just wanted to do something very fair, something very reserved in my mind."

The Braves countered with a \$14.5 million offer, leaving them with the biggest spread between any player and team.

"We submitted our number in arbitration and they submitted theirs," general manager John Schuerholz said. "Both sides, when it's done, feel like they can defend their number."

Celtics 98, Pacers 93

BOSTON — Paul Pierce scored 31 points and made two key baskets in the fourth quarter on Friday night as the Boston Celtics ended the Indiana Pacers' five-game winning streak.

Pistons 99, Knicks 82

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Cliff Robinson scored 22 points in three quarters as the Detroit Pistons pulled away from the New York Knicks.

Spurs 106, Hawks 93

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan scored 27 points as the San Antonio Spurs never trailed in defeating the Atlanta Hawks.

The Spurs broke the game open with a 9-0 run to open the fourth quarter. They led 80-62, following two free throws by Duncan with 10:48 left.

Hornets 90, Bulls 83

NEW ORLEANS — David Wesley scored a season-high 34 points and Jamal Magloire added 15 points and 14 rebounds, to help the New Orleans Hornets snap a five-game losing streak.

Jalen Rose scored 21 and Donyell Marshall had 14 points and 12 rebounds for Chicago.

The Pistons turned the game into a blowout with a 16-0 run toward the end of the third quarter to take an 84-59 lead. The huge cushion allowed coach Rick Carlisle to rest his starters in the final quarter.

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Dozens of baseball players settle arbitration

NEW YORK (AP) — Greg Maddux asked for \$16 million in arbitration Friday, and Torii Hunter got the biggest deal among the dozens of players who settled their cases, agreeing to a \$2 million, four-year contract with Minnesota.

"Yesterday it happened so fast, I was like, 'We're going to get this deal done,'" Hunter said. "They came to where I felt it was fair for both sides. I commend them for getting there. Thank you."

Maddux's request fell short of last year's \$18.5 million record request, but was still the largest among the 41 players left in arbitration.

"Every week, they put in an IV and away you go," he said. "You lay there for a couple of hours and they pump poison into your body."

"There is one good thing — and only one good thing, he emphasizes — about the treatments. So far," he said, "I'm still here."

Charles achieved the ultimate goal of a 16-year career as a college soccer coach when the sixth-seeded Pilots downed powerhouse Santa Clara 2-1 in double overtime last month to claim the College Cup.

But his battle with his health continued.

Charles, 51, has fought prostate cancer for nearly two years, all while coaching both the men's and women's teams at the University of Portland. He underwent weekly chemotherapy treatments to keep the cancer,

Soccer coach wins title, but faces greater battle



University of Portland women's soccer coach Clive Charles, left, is cheered by the team at a national rally in Portland, Ore., Dec. 9 as the team arrived home with the NCAA national championship.

which is in remission, at bay.

His form of cancer, he said, is treatable but not curable. Chemotherapy has thinned his once-full head of hair and he now sits during practices, watching from a chair perched on the edge of the field.

Charles began playing when he was just a teenager in his native England for West Ham United. His pro career as a defender spanned 17 years, including stints with the North American Soccer League's Portland Timbers and

with the Expos offering \$6 million; outfielder Carlos Beltran asked for \$6.95 million from Kansas City, with the Royals offering \$6 million; and Seattle All-Star starter Freddy Garcia asked for \$6.875 million, with the Mariners offering \$5.9 million.

Pitcher Danny Graves settled with the Cincinnati Reds on a \$17.25 million, three-year contract after exchanging figures.

The Florida Marlins settled three cases Friday, agreeing on one-year contracts with first baseman Derek Lee (\$4.25 million), starter Brad Penny (\$1,875,000) and reliever Armando Almanza (\$5,000).

Pittsburgh Spirit. It ended in 1982 with the Los Angeles Lakers of the Major Indoor Soccer League.

Charles joined the University of Portland, a school with a student body of about 3,000, in 1986 as coach of the men's soccer team. He added the women to his duties in 1989.

The affable Englishman has come close to winning a national title before, but the College Cup remained just out of reach.

Two years ago, the Pilots lost 1-0 to UCLA in the semifinals. In 1996, Portland went 21-0 before losing 3-2 to Notre Dame in the Final Four.

In 1995, a year he took both his teams to the Final Four, the women made it to the championship game but lost to Notre Dame. The men were ousted in the semifinals by Wisconsin.

After they finally captured the Pilots' history of near-misses prompted Santa Clara midfielder Aly Wagner to offer her praise — even in light of the Broncos' loss.

"I am glad it was Portland. Of course, we wanted to win, but you can't take anything away from them," he said. "This has been long overdue for them."

By Kevin Van Dyke Times News writer

ST. GEORGE, Utah — Maybe she ought to sit the league's leading scorer more often.

With Aya Trane benched for four fouls and the 11th-ranked Dixie State College leading by just a point, the College of Southern Idaho women found themselves in prime position to pull off the upset.

Instead, the Lady Golden Eagles went cold, hitting just 2-of-12 during a 4-minute stretch against Dixie's zone defense, and the Rebels capitalized, taking a 54-45 lead en route to the 65-50 win at Burns Arena on Friday.

CSI finished the second half shooting just 23 percent (8-of-34) and 30 percent for the game. Dixie finished at 40 percent on 22-of-55.

As poorly as CSI shot, it was a 43-43 Scenic West Athletic Conference game on a basket by Mellanne Halaufia. But Samantha Moy's jumper from the baseline off the pick-and-roll broke the tie and sparked an 8-0 run that CSI never recovered from.

Assi Ndoye scored 17 points and hauled down 13 rebounds and Jamey Tanner added 17 points including four straight 3-pointers in the first half to lead Dixie State.

CSI head coach Randy Rogers said the Rebels responded strong with Trane on the bench.

"I felt their team played better with her out because they weren't looking for her," he said.

Kristi Hill led CSI with 12 points — all in the first half — but she played only eight minutes in the second half by giving up some easy buckets on defense, Rogers said.

Hill, who had 11 rebounds since a 10-point effort in Salt Lake Community College on Dec. 5, said she just needs to bounce her defense.

"It's hard coming off a couple games with an injury but it was a step in the right direction," she said.

CSI leading scorer Camille Porter went just 1-of-11 and missed several open layups off the fast break. Diane Chavez added eight points off the bench and Angie Layton had seven.

The Rebels towered over CSI, with four 6-footers on the floor most of the game. That advantage led to a 54-35 advantage on the glass.

"They got so many offensive rebounds, so many easy buckets, right at the rim," Rogers said. "And we went through a dry spell, that I've never seen before."

Dixie coach Dexter Irvin said his team responded well in Trane's absence.

"We switched defenses (a 2-3 zone) and that was significant," he said. "It forced them to go outside and they weren't hitting anything."

CSI takes on Community College of Southern Nevada today at 6:30 p.m. MST. There is no radio broadcast for the women's game.



First round co-leader Retief Goosen coaxes his putt into the second hole at Waialae Country Club for a birdie during second round play of the Sony Open in Honolulu Friday.

Baddeley, Goosen tie for Sony Open lead; Els lurks

HONOLULU (AP) — Aaron Baddeley earned the right to play in this PGA Tour event and he played like he belonged Friday, shooting a 6-under 64 to share the lead with Retief Goosen through two rounds of the Sony Open.

The 21-year-old Aussie made birdies on three of his last five holes at windy Waialae Country Club and looked like he was ready to live up to the hype he earned by winning the Australian Open twice as a teenager.

He still has plenty of work left. Baddeley will be in the final pairing Saturday with Goosen, a former U.S. Open champion and the fourth-ranked player in the world.

Both finished at 10-under 130 on a Waialae course that puts a premium on accuracy because of the tight, winding fairways and tiny greens.

And if that's not enough, both might have to contend with the Big Easy.

Ernie Els, coming off a record performance last week at Kapalua when he won by eight strokes set a PGA Tour record at 31 under par, showed no signs of letting up.

Despite missing two birdie puts inside 6 feet on his back nine, Els shot a 65 and was one stroke behind, along with Chris DiMarco (66) and Peter Lonard (65).

Patterson, Downes lead New Zealand Open

AUCKLAND, New Zealand — Australia's Chris Downes shot a 2-under 70 in windy conditions Friday and countryman Alan

Goif

Patterson had a 71 to share the second-round lead in the New Zealand Open.

Downes and Patterson had 7-under 137 totals on the Auckland Golf Clubs Middlemore course.

New Zealand's Gareth Paddison (69) and Australia's Craig Jones (72) were a stroke back, and New Zealand's David Smart (70) was 5 under with countryman Mahal Pearce (70) and Australia's Brendan James (70). New Zealand's Grant Watie was three strokes back after a 69.

Dredge of Wales leads Dunhill by a stroke

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Bradley Dredge of Wales shot a 4-under-par 72 Friday and held a one-stroke lead over Mark Roe of England halfway through the Dunhill Championship.

Dredge, bidding for his first European Tour victory, had four birdies in five holes and was at 11-under 133 after two rounds.

Roe shot his second straight 67 and was at 134 with countryman Richard Bland (65).

Denmark's Anders Hansen had two eagles and shot a 65. He and South Africa's Richard Sterne (67) are tied at 135.

Belgium's Nicholas Vanhoopem had a 64 for the day's best round. He is at 136 with five others.

Defending champion Justin Rose of England improved on his first-round 73 with a 67, leaving him seven strokes off the lead.

Porter emerges as big threat in Oakland offense

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — Jerry Porter quickly processed his coach's prediction that the Raiders receiver would catch 80 passes a year if he was the featured man in Oakland's offense.

How many?
"I would get you 120 if you throw it to me," said Porter, perhaps the most confident man among the Silver and Black. "They're both probably right," quarterback Rich Gannon said. "But that's just not the way it is right here right now. That doesn't mean that's the way it'll stay. He's a great player and has really emerged and come on this year as a go-to type guy."

Porter patiently answers the endless questions about how much he's learned from future Hall of Famers Tim Brown and Jerry Rice. Just like he patiently waits behind them to become the top receiver for the Raiders.

When someone inquired this week about what it's like being behind Brown and Rice, Porter flashed a giant smile and said: "Where are you from? I answer that one all the time."

Bold and brash, Porter is always one to speak his mind. His teammates keep an eye on him.

"Did you say anything stupid?" linebacker Eric Barton asked Wednesday as the Raiders prepared for Sunday's AFC championship game against the Tennessee Titans.

Leading into the playoff game against the New York Jets last week, Porter made sure most every member of the media saw a certain quote on the bulletin board. It was from Jets offensive lineman Dave Scott, uttered after the Raiders' 26-20 Monday night win over the Jets last month.

It read: "I think if you look at that game, we just ran out of time. It's not like they clearly beat us."

Porter had a little fun with those comments when the Raiders ended the Jets' season

for the second straight year, 30-10. "We didn't beat them, they ran out of time," he said, chuckling and rolling his eyes.

Porter is having a ball this season now that he's an integral part of the offense. Winning doesn't hurt either.

The 24-year-old Porter had a personality conflict with previous coach John Gruden and played a limited role during the game in his first two NFL seasons. He's started 15 this season, primarily as the slot receiver in the Raiders' new three wide receiver formation.

Porter got his chance when Gruden left for Tampa Bay and Bill Callahan came aboard. Just after Callahan was promoted from offensive coordinator, the rookie head coach called Porter into his office and told him he would now get his shot to shine.

"I really felt Jerry Porter could contribute to this offense," Callahan said. "Seeing is believing. As a coach you've got to earn the respect of your players. You can say things verbally, but you have to back them up."

Porter has taken advantage of his opportunities. He leads the team in touchdown catches with nine and has made 51 receptions for 688 yards. By comparison, the 40-year-old Rice has 92 catches for 1,211 yards and seven TDs, and Brown has 81 for 930 yards and two scores.

Porter grew up emulating the moves of Brown and Rice. He never chose to wear the jersey number of either because he didn't feel he was the same type of receiver.

When people ask Porter how it feels to be the Raiders' future, he quickly points out that he's the present, thank you.

But he would just as soon see an opposing defense forget about him.

"If teams are going to play man-to-man across the board, they're going to be in trouble," he said.

Porter is such a threat once he catches the ball. He's among the fastest players on the team — he ran track at West Virginia. He's also a physical 6-foot-2 and 220 pounds, allowing him to easily shake off defenders. They seem to bounce off him.

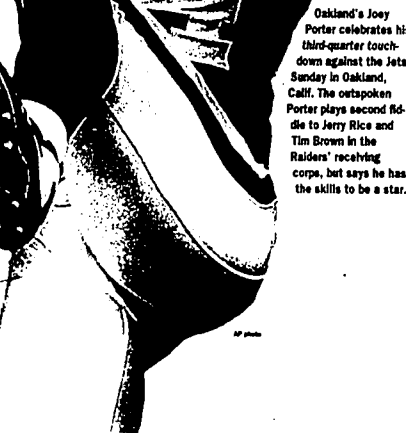
"The big thing about Jerry Porter is he's elevated his game in the sense of understanding it,

knowing it, working at it, and making the big play when it counts," Callahan said. "And of course with Jerry and Tim giving him some assistance now and then doesn't hurt."

He could be a No. 1 on most teams in this league. He's an unselfish guy and knows his role and he plays it well. All those factors combined have helped him emerge."

"I would get you 120 if you throw it to me."

—Joey Porter



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Eagles fans, Vet scare tour away

Bucs tour operator nixes trip to Philly

By Mitch Stacy
Associated Press writer

TAMPA, Fla. — One Florida newspaper labeled Veterans Stadium "a stinking, hostile dump," and Philadelphia Eagles defensive tackle Darwin Walker called it "nasty."

Tampa tour operator Dennis Pfeiffer only knows that he doesn't want any part of it.

Pfeiffer, owner of BucFanTours, fears Philadelphia's crumbling, rattle-infested stadium, the site of Sunday's NFC title game between the Eagles and Tampa Bay Buccaneers. He cares even less for Eagles fans, who have a reputation as being among the meanest, most hostile crowds in the NFL.

So, Pfeiffer and at least one other Florida tour operator refused to send Buc fans to the City of Brotherly Love for the game.

"The potential for problems and client injury has our insurance agent lying awake at night," said the posting on the BucFanTours.com Web site.

"There is a portion of the fans who are — by Philly's own admission — horrible," Pfeiffer said. "They're terrible, they're rude and obnoxious. That's a known fact."

"I made a business decision that I don't want to send my clients to Philadelphia. I never have and I never will. It's the worst of all of them."

The reputation of the stadium and Eagles fans, along with the difficulty buying blocks of tickets, also kept John McCormick from sending Buccaneers fans to Sunday's game.

McCormick's S & G Tour, based in Clearwater, usually does big business booking trips to

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—Dennis Pfeiffer,
Tampa tour operator

Tampa Bay's away games. "I leaned away from it, and I told clients that I wouldn't highly recommend going," said McCormick, who might reconsider when the Eagles move into their new stadium next year. . . .

"It's a tough crowd, it's a hostile stadium, and it's a tough ticket," he said. "They've got a jail right in the stadium, so that kind of tells you what the crowd's about."

Walker painted an even more menacing picture of his home field.

"Nobody wants to come to the Vet," he said. "That's why I love it. It's dirty, it's nasty. I think of it like a ghetto. Nobody wants to walk into a ghetto. But it's our ghetto."

Fan Mike Dearing, a 32-year-old welder, will be at the game Sunday and says he's not intimidated by the stadium or Philly fans.

"We're fun loving," he said at a downtown pep rally for the Bucs on Friday afternoon. "The only ones who get beat up are the bed liquent ones."

He usually dons an orange vest, paints his face and totes a skull on a stick for Bucs home games. "I'll show up at the Vet in a toned-down costume."

"We're fun loving," he said at a downtown pep rally for the Bucs on Friday afternoon. "The only ones who get beat up are the bed liquent ones."

Johnson wants the ball, but will settle for a Super Bowl

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Keyshawn Johnson leaned forward and smiled to emphasize his point.

The Tampa Bay Buccaneers receiver was frustrated at times this season because he wasn't playing a bigger role in coach John Gruden's offense. But he would have thought he was one victory away from the Super Bowl.

Certainly not Keyshawn.

"I thought it would be the best season I've had," Johnson said. "It didn't go as planned, so it became a little disappointing. But at the end of the day, in all the disappointment, there's success and happiness when you're sitting in the NFC championship game."

"If people don't see me as happy, then whatever. My goal is to try to win a Super Bowl."

Johnson led the Bucs with 76

receptions for 1,088 yards and five touchdowns. He averaged a career-best 14 yards per catch and scored four more TDs than he did in 2001, when he led the NFC with 106 catches.

Still, the seventh-year pro thought he could have done more, especially in the West Coast. When the Green brought in Tampa Bay from the Oakland Raiders.

"You just thought that because of the system that you would be more involved at all times. It didn't happen that way," Johnson said.

"So you almost set yourself up for failure by believing in something and then it doesn't happen. But you still wind up going to the NFC championship game. It's a better story, a better feeling."

Johnson insists he doesn't have

a problem with Gruden, who shrugs off questions about the receiver's so-called unhappiness.

"If he's unhappy, I don't know why. He's our first option on almost everything we do," Gruden said. "He's our leading receiver, we're in the playoffs and we need him."

Johnson caught a team-high five passes for 85 yards in Tampa Bay's 31-6 second-round playoff victory over the San Francisco 49ers. Considering the success he's had against Philadelphia in the playoffs the past two years, he expects to be heavily involved again.

In Sunday's NFC Championship game.

One of the keys Sunday will be Tampa Bay's ability to handle Philadelphia's pass rush, particularly when the Eagles blitz.

more demoralizing than Oakland's because they hadn't already won four games. Then, there was the fact that they kept getting worse as the losing progressed.

Loss No. 3 was 52-25 to the Raiders, a game in which they fell behind 21-0 after six minutes.

No. 4 was a 31-14 embarrassment at home to Steve Spurrier and the Redskins. The Titans fell to 4-1 after that game, and owner Bud Adams publicly wondered whether Jeff Fisher was getting outcoached.

"We weren't startled at all," George said of the reaction to Adams' comments. "Pretty much, not only his job was in question but a lot of jobs were in question around here. So we just had to buckle down, win some games and see what happens."

The Titans (12-5) got back on track with a 23-14 victory over the Jacksonville Jaguars. It was the start of an 11-1 stretch

Johnson is annoyed when he hears predictions that the Bucs will not be able to handle the pressure, in part, because Tampa Bay's receivers will not be able to consistently break free from Bobby Taylor and fellow Pro Bowl cornerback Troy Vincent.

"Look, the Eagles have a great secondary. They have three deserving Pro Bowlers, so they must be good," Johnson said.

"But you think Keenan McCardell played 11 years in this league and caught over 600 balls by being unable to get separation?" Adams says many years as I have been in his league, with the kind of numbers I have put up, you don't think I can get separation? Same with Joe.

"Some people don't know what they're talking about."

Tennessee carries into the AFC title game.

In that span, the Titans found two pass rushers — Kevin Carter and Carlos Hall — to fill the role of the then-injured Levon Kearse.

McNair became an MVP candidate, on his way to a career-high 3,387 yards. His offense became multidimensional, able to spread teams out when needed instead of just grind.

The Titans won games in just about every way imaginable: High-scoring shootouts (34-31 OT over Pittsburgh last week), late comebacks (32-29 OT over the Giants), boring blowouts (28-10 over Jacksonville) and even on days when they weren't playing their best (13-3 over Houston).

"We just have more confidence now," Titans safety Lance Schulters said. "We're borderline cocky. We feel like we can't lose. Coming back from 1-4, I mean, who would have thought it?"



Philadelphia Eagles fans watch the action during an Eagles playoff win over Atlanta Saturday at Veterans Stadium in Philadelphia.

NFC

Continued from B1

had two sacks against the Bucs in October. "A pocket passer gives you a better sense to know where the quarterback is going to be and now you can concentrate more on coverage and trying to keep him from getting the ball in the air."

The Eagles, who led the league with 56 sacks, rely heavily on the blitz to harass quarterbacks. But their defensive line, led by three-time Pro Bowl defensive end Hugh Douglas, also generates a lot of pressure.

Defensive coordinator Jim Johnson is known for his confusing blitz schemes and willingness to send just about any player at any time, making it difficult for offenses to plan against the Eagles. Eight of Philadelphia's sacks this year came from its secondary.

"They definitely do some things that are unorthodox," Walker said. "That's what makes them so special. The challenge is on us. It's not pressure. I think they are the ones with the pressure on them. We are underdogs."

Philadelphia blitzes frequently because it has three Pro Bowl players in its secondary, including cornerbacks Troy Vincent and Bobby Taylor and free safety Brian Dawkins. Vincent, Taylor and nickel cornerback Al Harris are strong in man-to-man coverage, allowing the safeties to go after the quarterback.

"And if the cornerbacks who are blitzing, Dawkins, a two-time All-Pro, is excellent in coverage. Strong safety Blaine Bishop, a for-

"The Eagles, who led the league with 56 sacks, rely heavily on the blitz to harass quarterbacks. But their defensive line, led by three-time Pro Bowl defensive end Hugh Douglas, also generates a lot of pressure."

mer Pro Bowl player, also had a solid season.

Though Tampa runs a version of the short-backs, which features the short-backs, the Bucs throw downfield more than other teams in this style of offense. They've had 37 passing plays of more than 20 yards.

Johnson caught a TD pass in last week's 31-6 win over San Francisco, and has become more of a threat late in the season.

"It's going to be a tough task for us," Taylor said. "We feel like we can match up well against them, but that doesn't promise us we're going to have success. We know we're going to have to be on our A game to do some of the things we want to do."

AFC

Continued from B1

could go wrong did during Oakland's four-game slide.

The 28-13 loss to St. Louis: Overconfident from a 4-0 start and the prospect of facing first-time starter Mark Bulger.

San Diego 27, Oakland 21 in OT: Two costly early breakdowns inside the Chargers' 20.

A blocked field goal and a Jerry Rice turnover doomed them in a 20-10 loss to Kansas City. The capper came a week later, when the defense let the 49ers control the ball for 15 straight minutes — seven in regulation and eight in overtime — in a 23-10 loss.

The Raiders (12-5) finally snapped out of it with a 34-10 win in Denver in a Monday night game. Rich Gannon completed 21 straight passes as Rod Woodson returned an interception 98 yards in what might have been their best performance of the season.

"We stayed the course, didn't

flinch, didn't press," coach Bill Callahan said. "We focused on the opportunity to get better."

That was easier said than done. In the NFL this season, 15 teams combined for 17 losing streaks of four games or longer. Only the Raiders, Titans and Jets came back to make the playoffs.

Those three teams got through their streaks before the second half of the season began — proof that while it's not impossible to recover from such a string in a league filled with evenly matched teams, the timing is crucial.

"In a situation like that, you have the tendency to come unglued a little bit," Rice said. "This team, we just fought through it. Bill Callahan pretty much left it up to the players, saying, 'It's up to you guys to get the job done.' That's what we did."

So did the Titans. Their streak was probably

more demoralizing than Oakland's because they hadn't already won four games. Then, there was the fact that they kept getting worse as the losing progressed.

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Notes on the economy

County-by-county sales

Here are county-by-county sales results for all industries for Dec. 1 through Dec. 31. Total sales include both taxable and nontaxable.

County	Total Sales	Taxable Sales
Blaine	\$69,463,704	\$37,790,550
Camas	\$1,114,426	\$520,908
Cassia	\$47,477,304	\$14,847,865
Gooding	\$12,349,785	\$3,551,034
Jerome	\$42,865,207	\$22,660,022
Lincoln	\$1,747,722	\$1,442,545
Minkinka	\$25,704,633	\$7,182,481
Twin Falls	\$193,015,649	\$58,379,392
TOTAL	\$393,738M	\$246.374M

These exclude sales by some businesses that have locations in more than one county, (if those companies each list just one sales tax return, they aren't included in county-by-county numbers.) Also excluded from county totals are sales by businesses headquartered outside of Idaho.

Source: Idaho State Tax Commission

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

CSI offers investment class on Wednesdays

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho is offering the investment class "Getting Started in Technical Analysis" from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 29 through Feb. 12, in Shields 104 on the CSI campus. Cost is \$90.

The class is designed to teach the basics of technical analysis of stocks and commodities to help students sharpen their investing skills. No previous experience is required. Instruction will be in Dow theory, charting techniques, trend identification, support, resistance, channels, breakouts and patterns of price movement. Information will cover filters, stops, momentum indicators, risk management and the importance of knowing personal investing styles. The class will discuss blending technical analysis with fundamental analysis to ensure more profitable investment decisions. Organizers say.

T.F. chamber plans speaker at banquet

TWIN FALLS - For the first time in something like a decade, the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce plans a featured speaker at its annual banquet. Twin Falls native Arlo D. Luke, chief of a Pocatello-based national cleaning company, will speak at the chamber's 34th annual meeting Tuesday. The event begins with 6 p.m. cocktails at the Furf Club in Twin Falls, with dinner following at 7 p.m. For \$37 tickets, call the chamber at 733-3574.

During Luke's years studying pharmacy at Idaho State University, he and Don Astet developed and managed a regional cleaning company composed of college students. Varsity Contractors Inc. of Pocatello now employs more than 5,000 people in 46 states, with Luke as president and chief executive, the company said. To thousands of facilities, building sites and grounds, it provides construction, cleaning, waste management, security, grounds and landscape maintenance, snow removal, energy maintenance and other services.

The Bon Marche parent company will close stores

CINCINNATI - Federated Department Stores Inc. - parent of The Bon Marche in Twin Falls - plans to close 11 stores and cut nearly 2,000 jobs this year as it expects its fiscal 2003 sales and earnings will be flat. The Cincinnati-based retailer said it will consolidate its Rich's and Macy's department stores in the Atlanta area, resulting in the closing of seven Macy's stores in April and the elimination of 1,500 jobs. It also plans to close Lazarus stores in Bloomington, Ind., and Indianapolis, a Golden Thread store in Memphis, and a Macy's store in South Brunswick, N.J.

Compiled from staff, wire reports

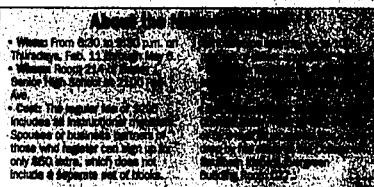
Class targets entrepreneurs

By Virginia S. Hirtelina
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Forklift driver Louis Gonzalez, soon to be laid off from J.R. Simplot Co. in Heyburn, dreams of an auto-body business of his own. Spud trimmer Tony Cuellar, who already lost his job in Simplot's cutbacks, hopes for his own little business, working from home.

Local business leaders figure there might be other would-be entrepreneurs among Mini-Cassia's displaced and soon-to-be displaced work force.

So the College of Southern Idaho's Small Business



Development Center plans a 12-week business planning course that will run from February to May in Burley. The N-Level training program helps potential and existing entrepreneurs learn the skills to create, develop and strengthen successful business ventures, organizers say.

The fee is \$295, but some participants will receive full scholarship.

"We are offering this specifically in the Mini-Cassia area in response to the Simplot layoffs, and the scholarship monies which have been generously provided by Bechtel (BWXT Idaho LLC) are targeted toward that group of people as well as other displaced workers, minorities and women in business," said Sherry Rust, training coordinator at the Idaho Small Business Development Center. "Simplot layoffs will have first preference in the scholarship awards."

Please see NLEVEL, Page B7

Bank asks T.F. for help with renovation

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - A bank which will occupy the mostly empty building at downtown's central intersection is asking a city agency for help with renovation costs there.

Magic Valley Bank plans to create date its three Twin Falls branches operations into the former Bank of Wells Fargo building at 113 Main Ave. W., as the primary tenant for that building's new office.

Wells Fargo sold its former office September to the new Perrine Partnership LLC, a group of local business people who are directors of Magic Valley Bank-Perrine Partnership, which will rent more than half of the structure to Magic Valley Bank. Bank is renovating structure inside and outside.

Magic Valley Bank has presented Twin Falls Urban Renewal Agency with a breakdown of costs for the \$500,000 renovation. The McAlindin, City Hall's economic development director, said Friday. At a meeting Tuesday, the agency will hear a pitch for Urban Renewal dollars toward some of those costs.

The agency's rule of thumb over the years has been to contribute up to 10 percent of a landowner's new property-taxable investment for renovation in Twin Falls' urban renewal area, McAlindin said. Some of this project's cost - landscaping for \$65,000 or sidewalk for \$25,000, for example - would qualify for the public assistance if Urban Renewal so chooses.

The Tuesday meeting starts at noon in the city fire department's training room at 345 Second Ave. E. The meeting is open to the public, center through the fire department's front door.

Also on Tuesday's agenda is Twin Falls attorney Paul Smith, who is affiliated with several historic preservation organizations. Smith will urge Urban Renewal to accept an Oregon consultant's proposal to look at ways of preserving the historic silos in Old Town, McAlindin said.

In other business, Urban Renewal recently decided to pay off \$300,000 of a \$500,000, five-year note with the tax receipts it will receive in February, McAlindin said. The early payment is intended to save interest cost and free up additional money for spending later.

IDACORP, Idaho Power declare stock dividends

TWIN FALLS - Directors of IDACORP Inc. declared a common stock dividend of 46.5 cents per share, payable Feb. 28 to holders of record at the close of business Feb. 5.

Directors of subsidiary Idaho Power Co. declared quarterly dividend on 4-percent preferred stock of \$1 per share, payable May 1 to holders of record April 15.

Directors also declared dividend on 7.68 percent serial preferred stock, first series, \$100 par value, of \$1.92 per share, payable May 15 to holders of record April 25.

They also declared dividend on 7.07 percent serial preferred stock, without par value, of \$1,675.00 per share, payable May 20 to holders of record April 24.

CSI offers class on Geographic Information Systems

TWIN FALLS - Employees of businesses and agencies that use statistical and geographical data have an opportunity to learn Geographic Information Systems, known as GIS, at the College of Southern Idaho in the spring semester. The course is called Introduction to GIS (GEOL 199).

The software program allows the student to manage information data and link it to geographic locations such as address, parcel numbers, census tracts, agricultural properties, transportation corridors or archaeological sites.

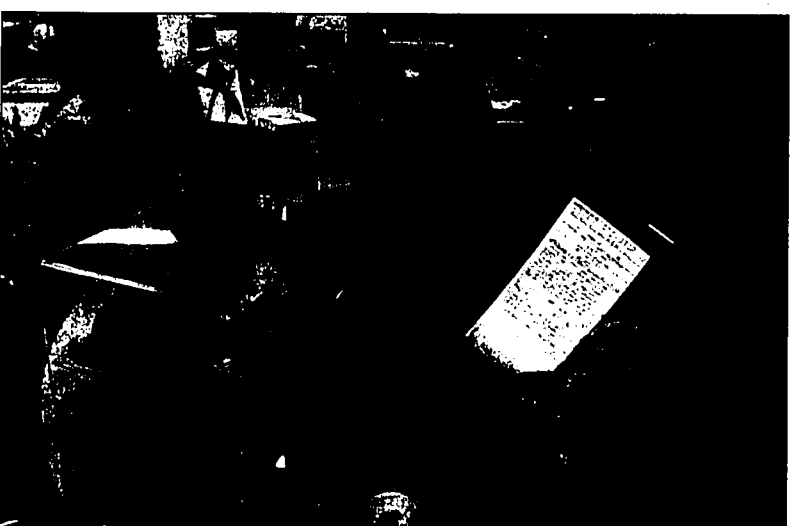
CSI physical geography professor Nancy Jonsson-Byler said the GIS television program "The District" is a good example of how the Washington, D.C., police department uses GIS to show patterns of crime within the city. Many other businesses and government agencies have incorporated GIS in the past decade.

The class will use the Arc View program and be taught by Jo Dodds. Students will create maps with single and multiple themes and will learn to search databases about selected themes. Jonsson-Byler said no geographic mapping experience is required, but familiarity with Windows software is important.

The two-credit class will meet from 4:30 to 6:20 p.m. Tuesdays, starting next week, in CSI's Canyon Room 124C. The text for the class comes with a compact disk that contains GIS exercises. For information, contact Jonsson-Byler at 732-6421 or by e-mail at njonsson@csi.edu.

Compiled from staff reports

No bounced checks



Express Cafe cashier Melissa Meyer holds a customer's check that she had just run through the restaurant's new electronic check system Thursday in Meridian. The new system drastically reduces the number of bad checks by automatically deducting the amount of the check from the customer's bank account. After the check has been run through, it is returned to the customer to dispose of.

New system improves payment process at restaurant

The Associated Press

MERIDIAN - At Express Cafe, hungry diners often write checks for their \$5.75 omelet and waffle combos. But they take the checks with them when they leave, because the cafe converts them into electronic payments.

The system leaves some customers confused, said supervisor Chris Hargrove, but it saves the popular Meridian cafe the high costs of bounced checks.

"The number of bad checks we got has really gone down since we started using the new system," Hargrove said. "We posted signs explaining the change to people, which I think

has helped more than anything. It makes people more aware that we're not going to take bad checks."

The signs sit at every table, surrounded by serving-size containers of jam. They explain the process for electronic check acceptance.

The method is similar to using a debit card, Hargrove said. Customers write a check, and the cashier runs it through a small machine, which checks the information against a national database maintained by companies like TeleCheck.

If the customer has bounced checks within the last 30 days, the check will be declined. The check will also be turned down

if it has been reported lost or stolen.

Otherwise, the receipt is printed on the back of the check, the front is marked with "VOID," and it is given back. The customer signs another receipt authorizing an electronic funds transfer for the purchase.

Most people are confused when they get their checks back, Hargrove said.

"People ask me all the time what they should do with the check? Whatever they want, I suppose. Most banks don't send people their canceled checks anymore, so it's not like they can just put it with the others," she said.

Jeff Fowler, spokesman for electronic check acceptance company TeleCheck, said that analysis have predicted a check-free society for years. Despite the speculation, he said, checks are still the most-used method of payment in the nation.

"We think it parallels the growth of debit card transactions, and as more and more merchants begin using the service consumers will become more comfortable with it," Fowler said.

Amy Stauffer ran into the electronic check acceptance system for the first time as she

Please see CHECKS, Page B7

Nevada bets on outdoors tourism

Casinos can cash in on Tahoe visitors

The Associated Press

RENO, Nev. - Ferenc Szonyi was introducing one of the speakers at Nevada's 19th annual tourism conference last month when he noted the heavy snow falling in the neighboring Sierra range.

And then the president of the Sands Regency Casino & Hotel uttered something traditionally taboo in a tourism market heavily dependent on San Francisco Bay area gamblers driving over the mountains. Snow, he said, was a good thing.

Szonyi is among the Reno casino operators still getting used to the idea that what's good for Lake Tahoe ski resorts an hour away is good for them, too.

With 11 states offering some form of casino-style gambling - 29 if tribal gambling is included



Morning dawns on Reno, Nev., Jan. 8. The state is looking more to outdoors tourism as more and more other areas compete for gambling dollars.

and growing threats from Indian casinos in neighboring California and Arizona, Nevada tourism officials are increasingly placing their bets on a strategy that emphasizes skiing, golfing and other outdoor recreation as the best way to attract

the traveler of the future. In their latest campaign promoting the "Wildest Adventure State in the Lower 48," they portray blackjack dealers, slot machines and fine dining as

Please see NEVADA, Page B8

H-P tops Dell in PC sales for Q4

Knight Ridder News Service

AUSTIN, Texas - Hewlett-Packard Co. retook the title of world's largest seller of personal computers during the fourth quarter, slipping ahead of Dell Computer Corp.

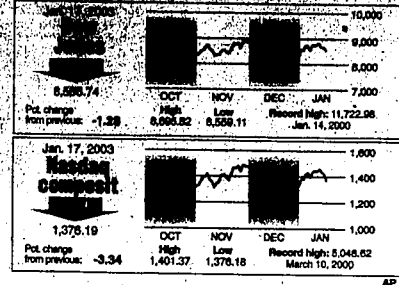
New data from research firms IDC and Gartner Inc. point to a pitched battle at the top of the personal computer food chain, indicating the see-saw battle between Dell and H-P is likely to continue.

Twin Falls employer Dell, which lost the title when H-P bought Compaq Computer Corp. in May, took back the crown in the third quarter. But H-P finished the fourth quarter with 16.1 percent market share worldwide, compared with

Please see PC, Page B8

IBM outlooks

Microsoft will pay first dividend in company history



The Dow Jones Industrial average declined 111.13, or 1.3 percent, to close at \$58,749.30 for a three-day loss of nearly 256 points. The broader market also finished sharply lower. The Nasdaq composite index dropped 47.56, or 3.3 percent, to 1,376.19, the largest decline since Dec. 9, when it fell 555 points. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 22.82, or 1.4 percent, to 901.78.

Microsoft will pay its first dividend in company history. The Redmond, Wash., software powerhouse said it now expects revenue in the fiscal year ending revenue in the fiscal year ending June 30 from \$3.9 billion and \$32.1 billion, down from the projection of \$3.2 billion to \$32.6 billion it gave last quarter.

IBM fell \$4.75 to \$81.30 after company profits and serve as a road map for growth, they said. Ruedel's analyst session focuses on a different element of business - ranging from planning and research to finance planning and managing growth.

Microsoft's announcement of a dividend, the announcement failed to take the edge off Microsoft's waning after markets closed that revenue for the next year and a half would be hurt by slowing sales growth for the money-losing Xbox home entertainment systems and the

NxLevel

Organizers said NxLevel provides a practical hands-on approach to developing a small business. Participants attending the 12 three-hour sessions and completing the homework assignments will produce a comprehensive business plan in increase

ness in Cassia County at 7 percent and in Minidoka County at 7.5 percent - both substantially higher rates than a year ago.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or at virginia@magickvalley.com.

Microsoft will pay first dividend in company history. Microsoft shares fell \$1.72, or 3.1 percent, to \$53.63 in after hours trading following a 92-cent dip in NASDAQ trading to \$55.35.

Checks

People have had mixed emotions about the system, she said. "About half our customers seem to like it and half hate it. I don't think people understand that it still takes about two days to come out of their account, the same amount of time as a check does," she said.

New York Stock Exchange

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, Volume, High, Low, Open, Close, Bid, Ask, Spread, etc. Lists various stocks and their performance.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Includes sections for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Diary.

INDEXES

Table showing various market indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones Industrial Average, etc., with their current values and changes.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ national market data, including various stock prices and market activity.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, %Chg, Volume, High, Low, Open, Close, Bid, Ask, Spread.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

How to read the market report. This section explains the symbols and data used in the market report, such as NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange data, including various stock prices and market activity.

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Table listing American Stock Exchange data, including various stock prices and market activity.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Mon, Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various commodities like Corn, Soybean, Wheat, etc.

BEANS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various bean types like Soybean, etc.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various grain types like Corn, Soybean, etc.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various sugar types like Sugar, etc.

WHEAT

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MARKETS

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

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LIVESTOCK AUCTION - Producers' Livestock in Sale

Table with columns: High, Low, Settle, Chg. Lists various livestock auction data.

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Nevada

Continued from B6
part of the glamorous night life that complements the hiking, biking and rock-climbing that makes Nevada unique...

But she's confident it is the right way to go and points to cable sports network ESPN's recent decision to televise its Great Outdoor Games from the Reno area in July...

"It's a perfect fit," she said. Jeff Beckelman, president and chief executive of the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority...

"We're using adventure travel as the hook," Beckelman said. "We're trying to capitalize on what the people who live here love the most..."

"It's a challenging world for tourism. We need innovation, risk and adventure in our marketing approach if we are going to maintain Nevada's position in the industry," he said.

PC

Continued from B6
Dell's 15.7 percent share, according to IDC. Dell remains the No. 1 PC seller in the United States, however, with 29 percent of the market...

"The first quarter tends to be heavy on commercial buying, which might benefit Dell, so we could see a change again," H-P's shipment is between the third and fourth quarter...

Something missing?

We're able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock, mutual fund, or commodity that's not in our report, just call us...

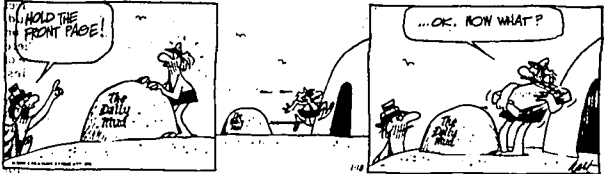
MUTUAL FUNDS table listing various fund names, categories, and performance metrics.



The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



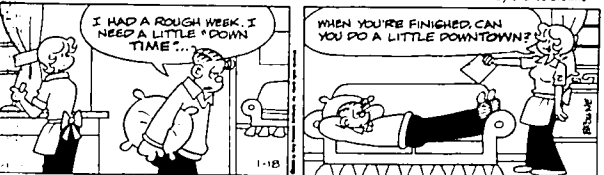
Garfield By Jim Davis



Hill and Lotz By Chance Browne



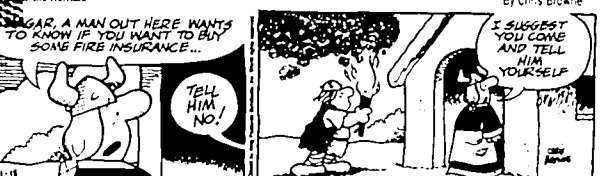
The Family Circus By Bil Keane



Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham



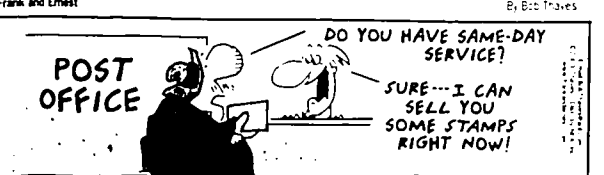
Rose Is Rose By John Esty



Zits By Martin Walker



Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip



Strange Brew By John Esty



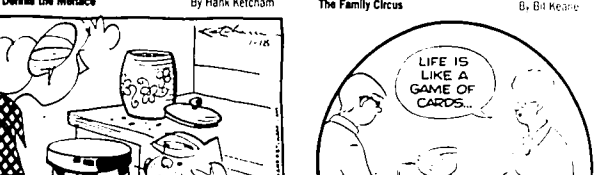
Pickles By Brian Crane



Moose By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Family Circus By Bil Keane



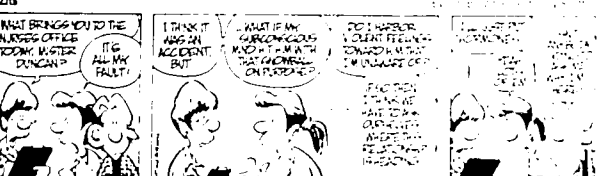
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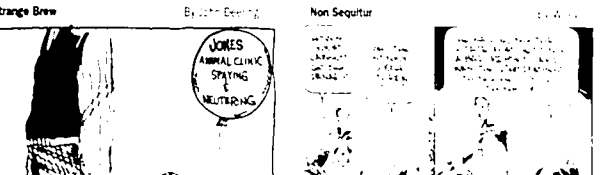
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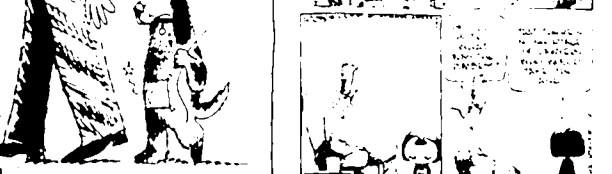
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WORLD

S. Korean leader urges negotiation

Knight Ridder News Service

SEOUL, South Korea — Asserting a new diplomatic role for his nation, South Korea's incoming president said Friday that his country should persuade the United States to hold diplomatic talks with North Korea, and he promised significant aid to Pyongyang if it gives up its nuclear development program.

Roh Moo-hyun told a group of European and American business leaders that he thought North Korea was "sincere about wanting to open up and reform, because they have no other choice." In his first major address since being elected in December, he urged Washington to go back to the negotiation table, something the United States has refused to consider until North Korea halts its nuclear program again.

Roh's views and policy recommendations are at odds with those of the Bush administration. The administration has insisted that it won't reward Pyongyang for abandoning a nuclear program it had promised to scrap. Roh's promise of aid could under-

South Koreans gather for a candlelight protest against the United States Friday near the U.S. Embassy in Seoul.

cut that policy.

While Roh has gone out of his way to express support for the U.S.-South Korean military alliance, his divergent views on policy toward the North present an opponent and takes office Feb. 25. He expressed optimism that any deepening of the confronta-

"I would like to persuade the United States to engage actively in dialogue with North Korea," said Roh, (pronounced "No") who won a close election in December against a conservative opponent and takes office Feb. 25. He expressed optimism that any deepening of the confronta-

tion could be easily averted. "I don't think there is a reason to worry about the North Korean nuclear issue so much," Roh told a ballroom full of corporate executives Friday on your business. I was sure they learned that the U.S. had struck North Korea," which, he warned, would have devastating economic consequences.

South Korea's reluctance to confront the North was underscored Thursday night, when former President Kim Young-sam, a conservative who was in office during the first Korean nuclear crisis, in 1994, told a Seoul news conference that he strongly opposed a Clinton administration plan, which was never acted on, to bomb the North Korean nuclear reactor at Yongbyon. Kim said he warned Clinton that South Korea's military would not mobilize to support such an attack.

Roh's comments came after the North Korean government on Wednesday rejected a U.S. proposal that it unilaterally give up its nuclear development program before negotiations could start.



Izet Abou-Amara, a telecommunications engineer from Kuwait, watches a live speech by Saddam Hussein from a business lounge in downtown Kuwait City on Friday. Friday marks the 12th anniversary of Operation Desert Storm, the U.S.-led invasion that liberated Kuwait from Iraq.

Kuwaitis fear new war but want Saddam out

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Twelve years after U.S.-led forces liberated this oil-rich Persian Gulf nation, many Kuwaitis find themselves torn between a desire to see Saddam Hussein go and fears of what could happen if war breaks out in their giant neighbor. Those mixed feelings have led to mixed signals: Kuwait's leaders have spoken out against launching war in Iraq without U.N. approval, even their borders to thousands of U.S. troops who would spill ahead of any attack.

The Americans "played a great role to liberate Kuwait," said Khalid Al-Jarrahil, under-secretary of the Foreign Ministry. "The whole of Kuwaitis welcome the Americans here and are ready to cooperate with the Americans," he told The Associated Press.

The gratitude most Kuwaitis feel toward America makes them something of an anomaly in the Muslim world, where both anti-U.S. sentiment and opposition to war in Iraq are running high.

Officials here are careful not to offend the sensitivities of their Arab neighbors. Al-Jarrahil was quick to add that more needs to be done to help the Palestinians and that any war in Iraq should be "under the umbrella of the United Nations."

Yet diplomats and other observers here believe the Kuwaitis would be euphoric if U.S. led forces ousted Saddam. As long as the war goes quick, relatively clean and without excessive civilian casualties that would inflame passions throughout the Muslim world.

The country has allowed the deployment of some 17,000 U.S. troops, with tens of thousands more expected in anticipation of a possible attack — something U.S. officials will soon take place unless Saddam finds his end of all weapons of mass destruction. A fresh contingent of Marines was arriving Friday. Iraq denied having any chemical, biological or nuclear weapons.

Kuwait is critical for any U.S. invasion of Iraq because of its location along the gulf shores at Iraq's southern border.

Friday was the 12th anniversary of the launch of Operation Desert Storm, which began Jan. 17, 1991, with an attack against Baghdad and other Iraqi cities and ended

six weeks later with the liberation of Kuwait from Iraqi occupation. Fiegerhater Amin Karam's cousin and two of his friends were seized by Iraqi troops shortly after Saddam's military invaded on Aug. 2, 1990. They are among the 605 Kuwaiti prisoners of war whose fates remain unknown.

Karam, 37, said he hopes a second Gulf War will finish off Saddam and bring his people back.

"We pray to God that they will come home," he said, sitting on his motorcycle at a seashore beside Kuwait City's postcard mall.

Still, he said, "We are scared, for ourselves and for our children." Frightened, too, is 42-year-old merchant Hani Yusuf. "I think Saddam got nuclear weapons when the Soviet Union broke apart," he said.

Kuwait's leaders have ordered 2 million gas masks to protect the population against a chemical or biological attack. In recent weeks, civil defense organizations have staged mock chemical attacks and bomb drills to prepare Kuwaitis for the worst.

After Iraqi troops were driven out in 1991, the government set out to rebuild Kuwait exactly as it had been before the invasion. The shopping malls and government palaces are as sleek as ever. Lamborghini cruise wide, tree-lined avenues and hundreds of thousands of guest workers perform Kuwait's menial labor.

Yet reminders of what took place 12 years ago are everywhere. Photos in the lobby of the Sheraton hotel in downtown Kuwait City show the building in ruins. A sign at the Kuwait Towers — a giant, futuristic shaft with breathtaking views of the Persian Gulf — reads: "The Iraqi invaders made a beautiful oasis a dead land."

"We know that today is the anniversary," said Um Abdullah, a Bedouin woman peering at the view on Friday. "We thank God and we thank the allies that liberated us."

But a 55-year-old owner of a gun shop, who identified himself only as Al-Shamoud, said he thinks the U.S.-led coalition drove Saddam out of Kuwait for purely selfish reasons and that America's motives are no more noble today.

"Saddam is only an excuse," he said. "It's because we have oil here."

Prosecutors produce dossier of Stalin's henchman, secret police chief Beria

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian prosecutors on Friday presented a criminal dossier on former Soviet secret police chief Lavrenty Beria, including a list of hundreds of women he had allegedly stalked and raped. The Russian Ministry of Prosecution presented Beria's 47-volume criminal case, which ended with a death sentence and a quick execution in 1953. The dossier will be opened to the public only after 25 years. Russian television stations reported. They said that prosecutors had presented the Beria files to divorce media reports that they had been stolen. Prosecutors allowed the cameramen to film some documents, which included a list of women that was confiscated from his aide. Soviet-era investigators accused him of stalking and raping women. RTR state television said the handwritten list contained hun-

Euro continues rally amid concerns about Iraq

BERLIN — Europe's common currency rose to a new three-year high against the dollar Friday, powering toward the \$1.07 level in a rally fuelled by concern about the impact of a possible war in Iraq on the economy of the United States.

The euro rose as high as \$1.0677, after breaking through \$1.06 on Thursday. The euro last traded higher on Oct. 26, 1999, when it reached \$1.0694.

The joint currency shared by 12 European Union countries has gained more than 20 percent against the dollar in the past year, as worries about the U.S. economy and stock markets turned to alarm at threats of a conflict that could drive up oil prices and dry up investment.

"I'm sure this will go on in the short-term," said Michael Schubert, an economist at Commerzbank in Frankfurt. "And the main cause is most certainly the fear of war."

The euro has climbed steadily since November, topping \$1.06 Thursday after U.N. weapons inspectors found empty rocket warheads that could be used to carry chemical agents. Iraq claims the warheads are old and were listed in earlier disclosures of the country's weapons.

Venezuela's leader wants recognition from 'friends'

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Hugo Chavez welcomed foreign help to end a crippling seven-week strike but said Friday his government won't be forced into negotiating with what he called a "coup-plotting, fascist" opposition.

Several countries, including the United States, Mexico, Brazil and Spain, agreed to create a "Group of Friends of Venezuela."

World in brief

This week to seek solutions to the work stoppage that has brought the country's economy to a standstill.

Chavez cautioned, however, that his government "won't accept any restrictions from the Friends" group and warned other nations not to legitimize the opposition.

"Each country must make a great effort to understand what is happening in Venezuela," Chavez said in his annual state of the nation address to Congress. "This is a democratic government, a democratic republic, confronting fascists, confronting terrorists, confronting coup plotters."

Congo rebel leader supports tribunal to look into abuses

NAIROBI, Kenya — A Congolese rebel leader on Friday supported a tribunal to investigate human rights abuses, including claims his own troops were involved in cannibalism.

But Jean-Pierre Bemba, leader of the Congolese Liberation Movement or MLC, said any tribunal should investigate all abuses that have occurred in Africa's third-largest country since 1996.

There have been two civil wars in Congo in the past seven years, with the latest erupting in 1998 and dividing the country into government- and rebel-ruled zones.

The MLC controls parts of northern Congo where U.N. investigators found evidence of cannibalism, rape, killing and torture, and accused Bemba's forces of involvement.

Under a power-sharing deal signed in December to end the war, Bemba's movement will have a top role in a transitional government meant to lead the country to democracy.

Marine general takes over as NATO commander

CATEAU, Belgium — U.S. Marine Corps Gen. James L. Jones took over Friday as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, as the military alliance considers what role it might play in a new Iraq war.

Jones replaces U.S. Air Force Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, who held the post for more than two years.

"These are exciting times and difficult times for NATO," Jones said. He said the alliance must meet "the demands of a new, more complex, yet equally dangerous security environment."

On Wednesday, the United States formally requested limited help from NATO if war breaks out. It may be asked to protect alliance member Turkey, which borders Iraq and may be used as a launch pad for U.S.-led strikes against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Officials said NATO may also be asked to contribute surveillance planes, guard bases in Europe and send peacekeepers to Iraq if Saddam is ousted.

Jordanian officials close paper, detain journalists

AMMAN, Jordan — The government closed a weekly newspaper and detained three journalists for an article that discussed the sex life of the Prophet Muhammad, an editor at the paper said Friday.

The newspaper Al-Hilal, or the Crescent, published an article

Tuesday that focused on the Muhammad's sex life with his favorite wife, Aisha, an extremely sensitive subject in the Muslim world.

Officials detained the paper's editor-in-chief, Nasser Qunah, a senior assistant editor, Roman Haddad, and the writer of the article, Muhannad Mbdahidn, for 15 days late Thursday, the official Petra news agency reported Thursday night. Petra also said Al-Hilal had been closed.

The paper's chairman, Ahmad Salameh, was also detained but was released on the personal guarantee of the head of the Jordan Press Association, another editor at the paper said on condition of anonymity.

Trial of Saudis accused of plotting attack resumes

CASABLANCA, Morocco — The lawyer for three Saudis accused of plotting to attack U.S. and British warships argued Friday they were wrongly detained and said there is no evidence to support the case against them.

The three were arrested May 12 in an alleged plot to sail a dinghy loaded with explosives from Morocco into the Strait of Gibraltar to attack U.S. and British warships. Prosecutors said they were also in a cell of the al-Qaida terror group.

"This dossier is empty. There is no material proof," said Khalil Idrioui, one of a dozen defense lawyers.

He said they were held illegally for a month, and that their arrests and interrogation "were carried out in flagrant violation of penal procedures and international conventions on human rights."

The newspaper Al-Hilal, or the Crescent, published an article

— compiled from wire reports

One Israeli, one Palestinian die in attack on settlement

JERUSALEM (AP) — Two Palestinian gunmen infiltrated the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba on Friday, killing an Israeli man as he opened the door of his home and wounding three other people. One gunman was shot and killed in the attack.

Army troops were searching the settlement and nearby town of Hebron for the other gunman, who escaped, the army said. The Islamic militant Hamas group claimed responsibility for the attack in a leaflet distributed in Hebron.

The attack began after dark when the gunmen knocked on the door of the home, shooting to death a man who answered and slightly wounding a 4-year-old girl and two young men inside, the army said.

Another person inside the house shot and killed one gunman, who was masked and armed with an M-16 rifle and a pistol, while the other attacker fled, the army said.

Hamas said the attack was in retaliation for Israeli military occupation of Palestinian towns. Israel says the troop deployments in seven of the eight major West Bank towns are necessary to prevent suicide bombings and attacks. Tensions have been high since Nov. 16, when 12 Israeli security forces were killed in an ambush by Palestinian gunmen between Kiryat Arba and Hebron. But the region has been relatively calm recently.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat called last week on militant groups to abstain from attacks in order not to influence the Israel's Jan. 28 election. Israel has tried not to ignite the situation so as not to distract world attention from a possible U.S. offensive against Iraq.

Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians marched Friday in support of Saddam Hussein in Gaza City, while Israelis waited in lines to receive gas masks in case of chemical or biological attack by Iraq.

Also Friday, the Islamic militant group Hamas claimed it was behind a foiled attack with a booby-trapped raft on the dinghy, causing a large explosion off Gaza's northern coast. Hamas did not say what the target was, but several Jewish settlements are nearby.

About 3,500 Palestinians filled the narrow streets of Gaza City with burning Israeli flags and pictures of Saddam. Some chanted, "Our beloved Saddam, strike Tel Aviv," reviving a slogan from the 1991 Gulf War.

Flanked by three guards with submachine guns, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, a Hamas leader, told reporters the march was evidence of strong Palestinian support for Iraq. "The Palestinian people and Iraqi people are in the same trench of resistance against the aggression and against injustice," he said.

Abortion Battlefronts

Though both sides in the abortion debate expect the procedure to remain legal for the foreseeable future, they are engaged in numerous skirmishes over initiatives that might restrict access to abortions.

Sunday in The Times-News

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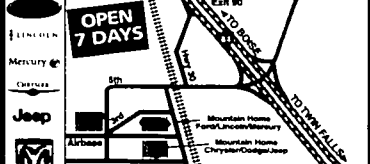
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Remember to express your gratitude

I'm not exactly sure why I gave the necklace to Kayla.

I had an extra necklace. Kayla was sitting in front of me at church. It just seemed like the thing to do.

Now I'm in mind that I'm talking about a candy necklace here - nothing special at all. It was just a string of elastic with multi-colored candies strung around it. I had given them to the 10-year-olds to whom I have been teaching Old Testament stories for the past year. (What? You don't see the connection between candy necklaces and the Old Testament?)

And I had an extra one. (Well, actually I had an extra three, but my two youngest children, Jon and Elizabeth, were already wearing two of them around their respective necks, with candy fragments already glistening on their respective lips).

Kayla, on the other hand, is quite special indeed. She has long dark hair. Gorgeous eyes. A beautiful smile. The sweetest voice you've ever heard. And she's 6. In all the world, there is nothing so wonderfully adorable as a 6-year-old girl.

Which is probably why I gave the necklace to her. I'm a sucker for that stuff.

When I slipped the necklace into her hand, she smiled that beautiful smile of hers, and I considered myself adequately thanked. Then I settled back to enjoy the church meeting.

As enthralling as church was that day, I did notice a couple of things about Kayla. For one thing, although she wore that candy necklace around her neck, I didn't see her actually eating the candy.

By way of comparison, Jon had his necklace consumed and was asking for more before we sang the final "Alleluia" in the opening hymn.

The other thing I noticed was that she seemed quite intent on something she was drawing.

From my vantage point, I couldn't see what it was. But whatever it was, it certainly had her attention - so much so that she paid almost no attention to the candy strung around her neck.

The candy I had given to her. When the service ended, I stepped to her and noticed something small and cute in the aisle beside me. It was Kayla. She didn't say a word to me. It was the picture that she had been working on throughout the meeting. It showed a tall stick-figure man with glasses and most of his hair, holding a candy necklace in his hand. Next to him was a shorter stick-figure girl with long dark hair, gorgeous eyes and a beautiful smile. Over her head was a cartoon balloon with these words: "Thank you."

It was a lovely gift, and a marvelous work of art - far more valuable than the candy bauble I had presented to her. As I thanked her for her gift, I noticed that she was finally starting to tuck the candy that I had given to her.

"It looks like your daddy wouldn't let you eat your candy until after church," I observed.

She shook her head seriously. "I could eat it," she said, shyly. "I just wanted to say thank you first."

I was touched by her gesture and inspired by her message. It was so important to her to say thank you that she couldn't really enjoy the treat until she had expressed her gratitude.

That's why there's a new piece of art in the gallery that is beginning to fill the nooks and crannies of my office. Kayla's picture is the first to be so enshrined that wasn't created by one of my offspring. I'm including it as a way of reminding me to be grateful.

Joseph Walker is a freelance writer from American Fork, Utah.

VALUESPEAK Joseph Walker

Agape Foursquare Church says love is in its moniker

By Joan Bean
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Agape Foursquare Church used to be Foursquare Christian Center. Its pastor, the Rev. Jim Sommer, says the name change better represents who the congregation is.

He said the new name describes a group of loving, caring people who are reaching out to the community through the Agape School and Child Care, as well as the church.

"Agape," he explained, is a Greek word that speaks of the highest form of love - the kind of love that God has for his people.

"In 1 Corinthians, the apostle was writing to the church of Corinth, and he talked about the agape love feasts that they had, which was actually a time when the church would come together for the breaking of bread and sharing of the cup," Sommer said.

"It was supposed to be the time of sharing love, not only for God, but for one another."

Sommer said his church has a very loving congregation, accepting of people from all sorts of backgrounds, races and cultures.

He said the people desire to come to know Jesus Christ and walk with him.

The church is Pentecostal, Sommer said, meaning the people believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit and all of the gifts of the Holy Spirit spoken of in Scripture and primarily in 1 Corinthians, Chapter 12. These include the gift of knowledge, the gift of the word of wisdom, prophetic words and the gift of leadership.

As a part of its ministry, the church has a food bank. Some who receive the food are traveling through the area, while others live here when out of work or, for other reasons, are without sufficient means to feed their families.

"We've been able to help people, sometimes with a plentiful amount of food around holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas, or if they suddenly find they don't have money to buy food for their family, their babies or even elderly people," Sommer said. "We have a good ministry that reaches out to folks in those areas of need."



Alexie Evans tucks in Valerie McDougal while they play house at the Agape daycare center. The church recently changed its name to reflect its connection to the daycare center and the school.

Agape Foursquare Church
 WHERE: 181 Morrison St., Twin Falls
 WHEN: Sunday School 9:30 a.m., Sunday services 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. (7 p.m. summers), Wednesday Bible study 7 p.m.
 FOOD BANK: Open 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. weekdays

The food bank is kept supplied through donations of food and money. Orders are placed with the Idaho Food Bank in Boise.

This past fall and into winter, Sommer said, he started seeing a large number of people coming in for food.

"Maybe some of it had to do with early onset of cold weather," he said.

"I don't know, but we did have more people than we had previously."

The new sign with the new name has been installed at the church site, 181 Morrison Street in Twin Falls.

InterVarsity runs afoul of college policies

Group prefers conservative Christian student leadership

By Richard M. Ostling
The Associated Press

After 65 years of work on American college campuses, the respected InterVarsity Christian Fellowship has been battling with administrators at several dozen schools.

At issue are university rules that forbid recognized on-campus student organizations from discriminating on the basis of religion or sexual orientation.

InterVarsity believes students who lead its chapters - though not the other participants - should adhere to its eight-point doctrinal platform, and the traditional Christian teaching against same-sex behavior.

"A person's religious convictions are a relevant factor when selecting him or her to lead a religious organization," undergraduate leaders of an independent but InterVarsity-related Christian fellowship at Harvard said in a recent statement.

InterVarsity seeks to settle such disputes privately, says the group's attorney, David French. It. Please see LEADERSHIP, Page C2



Melnie Humphrey, right, joins in the prayer at the Jan. 9 meeting of the InterVarsity Christian Fellowship on the Chapel Hill, N.C., campus of the University of North Carolina. The Christian group has been involved in conflict with administrators at several dozen schools.

Lottery winner's promise brings tithing to public eye

By Helen T. Gray
The Kansas City Star

When the Latest Powerball Lottery winner announced that he was tithing from his millions in winnings, some who knew what that meant might have been amazed. Those who didn't might have been perplexed.

What Andrew "Jack" Whittaker Jr. was saying was that he intended to give 10 percent of his lump-sum payout of \$170 million to three churches. That's \$17 million.

He was following a practice that has its roots in the Old Testament. Tithing comes from a Hebrew word that means "10" or "tenth part" and, simply stated, means giving God 10 percent of one's earnings, said Albert F. Bean, professor of Old Testament and Hebrew at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. "It was how the people of God were to express their appreciation and recognition of God's ownership. It was not so much a tax but an offering, but a required offering."

The first biblical mention of giving a tenth is in Genesis 14:20, where Abraham gave a tenth of what he had captured in his campaign to free his nephew Lot, said

Joseph Coleson, pastor of Old Testament Seminary. Abraham gave the title to Melchizedek, the king of Salem, also identified as "the priest of the most high God."

In ancient times the tithe was not a concept exclusive to the Hebrews. "Across the Middle East and Mediterranean world, in every corner of civilization and among nomadic peoples, the concept of the tithe, as a person's obligation to deity, is sometimes to the king, reverenced as a deity, prevailed," according to The Dictionary of Bible and Religion. The Assyrians, Babylonians, Romans and Hebrews all knew and practiced, in various ways, the tithe."

In Jewish tradition, the giving of 10 percent of one's goods was mandatory from about 1200 B.C.E. until 70 C.E. when the second temple in Jerusalem was destroyed, said Rabbi Herbert J. Mandel of Kehillath Israel Synagogue in Overland Park, Kan. Today Jews pay dues to their synagogue, based on their income, and give to charity.

Among Christians today, some church or denominations teach and practice tithing, and some

Clergy wrestles with life or death issues

By Collette M. Jenkins
Sharon Beacon Journal

CLEVELAND — The Rev. Richard Izard has been at the bedside of a parishioner's loved one who is dying.

"There are machines beeping and screens showing things, and you don't know what they mean," said Izard, associate director of Lutheran Chaplaincy Services in Cleveland. "The family is looking to you as an authority figure. They're saying to you that the doctors have said they've done all they can do or they think they've done all they can do and they ask: 'Should we turn off the life supports?' All of a sudden, you're faced with a whole new dimension of the experience."

But ministers in Northeast Ohio soon may have guidance in dealing with difficult moral

issues in health care, such as decisions about life-sustaining treatment, effective use of living wills, hospice care and patient and family rights.

The Department of Bioethics of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine and MetroHealth Medical Center, in collaboration with St. Vincent Charity Hospital and the Hospice of the Western Reserve, have developed a training program called the Clinical Ethics and Ministry Project.

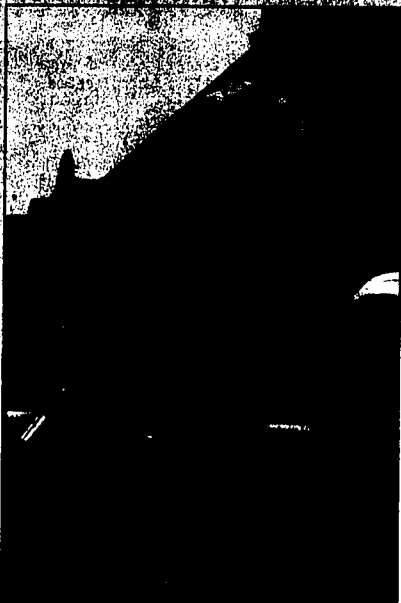
It is designed to teach clergy of various religious traditions about the law and hospital policies. The project, the first of its kind and potentially a national model, begins next month and is funded by the Sisters of Charity Foundation of Cleveland, St. Luke's Foundation of Cleveland and Mount Sinai Health Care

Foundation. Dr. Stuart Youngner, chairman of the department of bioethics at Case, will direct the project.

Finally, the training will be offered to more than 15 clergy who have been recommended by the project's advisory committee. The course will likely be open to other clergy in the fall.

"We have no interest in telling anybody what's right or wrong," Youngner said. "We simply want to empower clergy to be helpful to patients and their families, in and outside the hospital. With all the technical advances, things have become increasingly complicated — especially end-of-life decisions — and care can be so fragmented in large institutions. Clergy can serve in an advocacy role for families."

The long-term goal is for the project to become ongoing and to be duplicated in other places.



The Rev. Robert Bullock, pastor of a parish in Sharon, Mass., attended a meeting of the Boston Priests Forum Leadership Group in Newton, Mass. The group met in response to Cardinal Law's resignation as Archbishop of Boston.

Priests take a vow of obedience to their bishop, and disputes between clergymen and prelates are usually settled privately. The priests' public effort to oust the cardinal was unprecedented. Even with Law's resignation, the archdiocese still faces more than 400 lawsuits filed by alleged victims of abuse, which the archdiocese has pledged to settle, and the release of more documents on priestly conduct.

In the past couple of months

alone, more than 11,000 pages of archdiocese personnel files on more than 80 priests were released, detailing a range of allegations, from a priest who beat up his housekeeper to another who seduced young girls studying to become nuns by telling them he was the "second coming of Christ."

The Boston Priests Forum estimates it has 250 of the archdiocese's 550 active priests as members.

found spirituality I have ever confronted or have felt while painting."

Shielded by Plexiglas and watched by guards, the portrait has moved from the cathedral to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, where it will remain on display through Feb. 2.

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Some kitsch aims to support faith

By Jeffrey Weiss
The Dallas Morning News

Somewhere in a demilitarized zone between reverence and irony we find: A translucent bar of soap with a tiny statue of the Virgin Mary inside. The board game Kosherland.

You want to have some fun with your faith? Or even with someone else's faith? Buy an "official" ticket to heaven. Or a "Jesus action figure."

Americans are big on religion. Almost 60 percent of us say religion is very important in our lives, according to a recent poll taken by the Pew Research Center for the People & The Press. The poll, of people in more than 40 countries, showed that religion is much more important to Americans than to residents of any other affluent nation.

Americans also love tchotchkes, trinkets, gewgaws and gimcracks. That's no secret to anyone whose mailbox has been stuffed by mail-order catalogues since before Halloween. So how shocking should it be that kitschy items with faith-linked themes are big sellers?

Browse the Internet or wander the mall. It's easy to find examples.

The Mexican folk art "protection packet" covered in glitter, tiny images of Jesus, Mary and other religious figures and a sticker on the back that says Buena suerte, which means "good luck."

Even Satan gets his due: A grinning red-devil wall clock with a swinging goatie pendulum.

Bibleopoly, a Christianized version of Monopoly in which the prime boardwalk and Park Place real estate is occupied by Jerusalem and Bethlehem.

Minority faiths are well represented in kitsch-land. Hindu night lights, Jewish scholar "trading cards," American Indian sacred items.

Even Satan gets his due: A grinning red-devil wall clock with a swinging goatie pendulum. Red plastic hair picks with a devil head on one end.

Some of the items are entertaining, but intentionally supportive of faith. Kosherland, for instance, is a board game that substitutes the images of traditional Jewish food for the sweets on the familiar Candyland game board.

Others are just as intentionally pushing the envelope into offensiveness. You can find on the Internet, for instance, under-shirts emblazoned with religious symbols.

And then there's the stuff that sits square on the line. Consider the "Ticket to Heaven" The Web site that sells the "ticket" offers answers to some obvious questions.

"Are you affiliated with a certain Church or Religion? No we are not and in fact we support all faiths and beliefs that share in the same spirit of helping humanity and being true to your own personal faith and belief."

"Who gives you the right to sell Tickets To Heaven? We all have a constitutional and civil right to pursue any and all LEGAL business opportunities."

Here comes the disclaimer: "The parties acknowledge that this is a statement of intent and belief and is not intended as a contract for services, transportation or the supply of goods. The ticket issuer makes no warranties or representations as to the state of existence implied by the term 'Heaven' or the duration, permanence and conditions thereof."

Arlo J. Pignotti of Austin, Texas, has a prime location used for the more commercial aspect of faith. He's an atheist who collects what he considers serious but odd religious products. He gave a presentation of some of his favorites in Boston this year at the annual convention of American Atheists.

He said that he has found no links between faith and patriotism in the past year — an American flag with a cross at the top of a Jesus wearing a cap with a flag emblem.

"One of the strangest things I've ever found was a poster with George W.'s Bush's face, but it's a mosaic made of smaller pictures," he said. "Oh Jesus!"

New papal portrait draws the faithful

By David O'Reilly
The Philadelphia Inquirer

PHILADELPHIA — He stands in white and gold vestments, luminous before the great altar of St. Peter's Basilica, beckoning with his right hand and gazing, it seems, into your soul.

To some in the art world, the realistic new portrait of Pope John Paul II by Bucks County, Pa., artist Nelson Shanks may seem like a throwback. But to the many Catholics who came to see it at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter and Paul in Philadelphia, the painting is timeless — even mystical.

Unveiled to the public recently, the formal portrait was commissioned by the patrons of the Vatican Museums in Rome, its ultimate home, but sat on a plain wooden artist's easel just behind the marble communion rail.

Shanks, a world-renowned artist whose many commissions include Presidents Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton, Princess Diana, and opera star Luciano Pavarotti, spent about 500 hours on the portrait. While not a Catholic, the 64-year-old Shanks has said that he counts the John Paul portrait among his most important works, and that it "represents ... the most pro-

Chapel in Harvard tries to hang on

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — For more than a century, the tiny Swedenborg Chapel has been located in the middle of the stately environs of Harvard University. If it doesn't make a \$2 million payment by the end of March, it may be absorbed by them.

The church must raise more than three-quarters of the payment after 21 months of trying. If it fails, the 40-member congregation will likely cease to exist and the property will be placed on the open market. The \$2 million payment is required as part of a two-year mortgage agreement between the congregation and the Swedenborg House of Studies, a seminary belonging to the same denomination that owns the property. The deal was struck to give the congregation a last chance to own the chapel.

The Swedenborg church has just 7,000 members nationwide and 30,000 worldwide, and the Cambridge chapel is perhaps its most prominent landmark. The Swedenborg church, also called The Church of the New Jerusalem, believes Jesus is God's son and the redeemer of the world, but that salvation can be found in any montheistic religion that teaches loving your neighbor as yourself.

Religion in brief

Financial burden is issue in preservation fight

PITTSBURGH — The City Council should reject a proposal that would bar residents from nominating churches, synagogues and other religious buildings for historic status, the city's Historic Review Commission said.

Councilman Bob O'Connor introduced the amendment after clergy said the current system created financial burdens for cash-strapped congregations. When a building is deemed historic, its owners must seek permission from the panel for demolition or exterior changes. Sometimes, the plans the board approves are more expensive.

Now, anyone who has lived in the city for more than a year can make a nomination. O'Connor wants to change the rule so only the owners of the houses or worship can do so.

— compiled from wire reports

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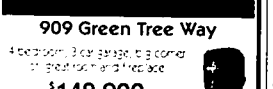
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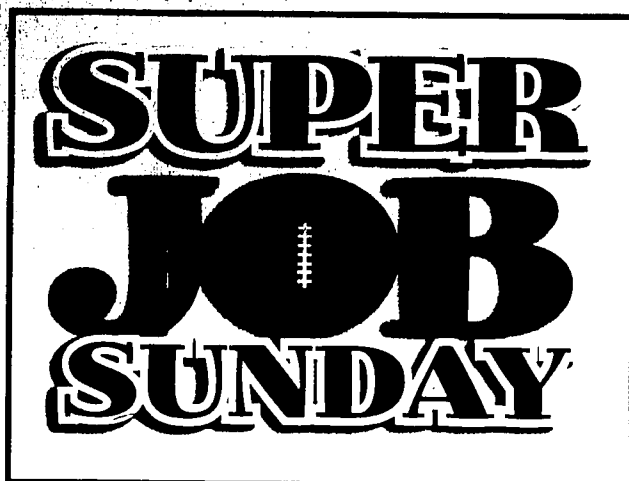
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 Part-time, must be proficient with QuickBooks Pro. Send resume to PO Box 427 Burley, Idaho 83318

BOOKKEEPER
 Accepting applications for FT Bookkeeper. Must have professional accounting knowledge of A/R & A/P, Full term, 40Hr & paid vacations. Apply in person at: Magic Valley Title, 30 W. 100 S. Jerome

CHILD CARE
 We are looking for individuals who enjoy working with children and parents. Duties include a variety of behavioral modification activities. Training is provided. Minimum requirements: BS degree in social work, family services or other related field. Apply in person at: Eric F. Jones or Jason Smith 735-7186

CLERICAL
 PT energetic, good phone skills & computer exp. Send resume to P.O. Box 87, Hanson, ID 83334

CONSTRUCTION
 Alstair Construction is looking for equip. operators & skilled laborers in the Buhl area. Fax resume to 801-583-3373. For more information call 801-706-0405

CONSTRUCTION
 Opportunity - South Central Community Action has openings in our Weatherization Program for construction individuals with experience in residential construction. Duties include the installation of wall, attic and floor insulation, vinyl windows, and exterior siding. MUST have ID drivers license. FT. 40 hrs/wk. Rate of pay is \$16.00 per hour by experience. Benefits offered. Applications and job descriptions are available at SCCAA 726 Shoshone St W Twin Falls, ID SCCAA is Drug Free EOE

COOK
 Experienced dependable line cook \$8.50/hr. DOE. Great benefits. Apply in person at Diner, 2001 MVRMC or call 737-2043

DRIVER
 Delivery - Sun Valley Location. This position is a full-time position with potential. Candidates must have a good driving record, work history and attitude. Pre-employment drug testing is required. We offer competitive wages, medical, dental 401k and more. Applications can be picked up at your local Job Service or at 250 Northwood Way, Ketchikan, AK 99901. No phone calls please. Must attach a current copy of your driving record when applying.

DRIVER
 Dispatcher (at least 4 yrs dispatching) for small trucking company in the Magic Valley area. Dispatching the 11 western states. Please resume to Box 32277, Co Times News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls ID 83303

DRIVER
 Needed tractor driver and shop mechanic. Call 539-5494 or 432-5212

DRIVER
 Twin Falls to Boise and return Tues-Sat. Loading & unloading required. Class A. Current medical, clean driving record. Must be bondable. (208)846-8835 9am-4pm. Interview only. Please place your checkered at the results take a bit longer. No phone calls please

DAIRY
 PT milker wanted. Please send resume to 8310 or 325-6310

DRIVERS
 Flatbed, w/ at least 1 yr. OTR exp. needed. Operate such as: home. Exc. benefits + bonuses. Then home every 6 weeks. Average pay is \$40,000 - 600-453-2227

DRIVERS
 Come join our team. Enjoy excellent benefits such as: home time, good pay, vacation pay, health insurance and multiple safety bonuses. Team. Solo or Relief. New equip. 888-806-5785
 - Steven Sam-5pm

DRIVERS
 Class A CDL needed. Tankers. Local milk haul. Call 643-8044

DRIVERS
 Clearly Building Corp. seeks a flatbed driver for delivering pre-engineered building materials throughout the Northwest. At home out weeks and nights and away weeks. Starting pay commensurate to experience. Wages based on a sliding scale. Full benefits, paid vacation and holidays, and drug testing program. Apply at: Clearly Building Corp., 2281 E. 1010 S, Hazelton, ID 83335

DRIVERS
 FT/mile needed OTR. Riders. Western States, Canada. \$500 sign on bonus. Fuel & safety gear provided. Home frequently. 888-285-7600

DRIVERS
 P T S I Boise, looking for own operators, flatbed, great lease. Fast settlements. Call Mike Kimball at 800-289-0113

EDUCATION
 Shoshone School District is accepting applications for (1) 3/4 hours per day in 6th high school Special Education Paraprofessional. Applicants must have completed two years of college or have an Associate's Degree. Closing date January 30, 2003. 21 a relief bus driver. The District will pay for required CDL license and physical. (3) Substitute in all areas (teachers, paraprofessionals, clerical, custodial, etc.) Contact Sharon Korner 886-2338

EDUCATION
 Substitute Teacher. Starting Jan 2003 Standard Secondary with appropriate background and credentials. Certified Salary according to the district salary schedule. For more information contact Michele Faulkner, Clark Biss School District #234, P.O. Box 115, Biss, Idaho 83314 (208)352-4447 EOE

FARM
 Farmworker Turf. Kimberly, ID 3/1/03 to 12/15/03 \$7.43 per hour. Will irrigate, harvest, assist in the production of soil. Single worker housing for those who cannot return to their residence the same day. Utilities, workman's compensation, work boot allowance, subsistence reimbursement at 50% of contract & paid upon completion of contract. For out-of-state area workers 1 yr exp and references is required for referral. Contact Agency Job Service Office

GENERAL
NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED
 Direct Care \$7 to start PAID TRAINING Flexible shifts Great benefits Assist persons with developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence. Apply in person at Inclusion South, Inc. 450 Fall Ave, #101 Twin Falls ID No phone calls please

WENDELL school district
 accepting applications for ESL. For application call Don Fowler 886-3100

MANAGER
 The Times-News is accepting applications for a full-time mail specialist. This position will manage various mailing lists of The Times-News and facilitates the generation and preparation of mail labels, postage reports, and other distribution tasks in the circulation department.

Local candidates will possess a working knowledge of Periodicals and Standard Mail rules and regulations and understand mail sortation levels. They will be computer literate, have good attention to detail, and work well independently.

Interested applicants should apply at:
 The Times-News
 133 3rd St. W.
 Twin Falls
 ID
 Drug Free Workplace

For a lowest classified ad today, call 735-0031.

MECHANIC/Helper
 for heavy equipment shops. General knowledge of mechanics required. Welding and fabrication, exp. a Plus, EOE and resume to P.O. Box C, Shoshone, ID 83352. Application accepted until 01-24-03

MEDICAL
 2 full-time RN's in growing regional hospital. Rotating weekends. Opportunity for professional growth. Excellent benefit package, tuition assistance, and competitive pay. Part-time and for PRN RN's. Call Gail at 208-634-4433 Ext. 138

POSTAL WORKER
 Full-time housekeeper/day. 7:30am-3:30pm. Please call 886-3100

PERSONNEL
 Personnel services available for all businesses. Call 735-5305

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Freeway RV

YOUR NEW YEAR OFF WITH THE RECREATIONAL VEHICLE OF YOUR CHOICE!

218 2nd St. W. Twin Falls, ID 83301
 218-282-1111

Freeway RV

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218 2nd St. W. Twin Falls, ID 83301
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SUNSEEKER CLASS C MOTORHOME 30'
 WAS \$64,995 NOW ONLY \$49,888 #01P06

NEW BOADTRIC 20' MOTORHOME
 WAS \$64,298 NOW ONLY \$44,888 #00005

NEW WILDERNESS 21J
 WAS \$17,533 NOW ONLY \$11,995 #1P008

NEW STAR CRAFT TENT TRAILER
 WAS \$8,695 NOW ONLY \$6,495 #10125

NEW WILDERNESS 252 TRAVEL TRAILER
 WAS \$16,262 NOW ONLY \$10,995 #10119

NEW LANCE CAMPER
 WAS \$19,995 NOW ONLY \$15,995 #21003

ATV & SNOWMOBILES

USED FIFTH WHEELS

NEW 700 POLARIS 700 SPORTSMAN 4X4
 NOW ONLY \$6,798 #3PU06

NEW 500 POLARIS 500 SPORTSMAN 4X4
 NOW ONLY \$6,080 #3PU52

1991 25' ALPENLITE
 WAS \$11,995 NOW \$7,295 #9G002-2

1989 KOMFORT 32' DIAMOND EDITION
 WAS \$12,995 NOW \$6,795 #0HR03-3

1992 KIT SUNCHASER 23RT
 WAS \$8,995 NOW \$3,995 #1HR08-3

1995 STARCRAFT 210SK 21'
 WAS \$8,995 NOW \$4,995 #72010-0

1992 HITCHIKER CHAMPAGNE EDITION 34' W/ SLID
 WAS \$14,995 NOW \$9,995 #0H115-4

Adults, Youth, Retirees EARN EXTRA CASH!

The Times-News is accepting applications for Walking Routes in Twin Falls. These positions are 7-day, early-morning delivery positions and can be a source of additional income while you get paid for your morning walk.

Stop by The Times-News at 132 3rd St. West in Twin Falls or call 733-0931, ext. 302.

In Burley, go to The Times-News office at 1263 Overland, or call 677-4042.

GARY'S FREEWAY PARTS & ACCESSORIES

Your complete Recreational Destination

Polaris Clothing
 Jackets, Bibs & Fleece **40% OFF**

Simmons Flex-Skiis
 Ride the Best!
 List \$429 NOW \$365

Extreme Snow Boots
 Waterproof, 70° Below
 List \$119.99 NOW \$69.95

50% Selected
 Off Survival Gear

A Member of the Gary's Westland Family of Dealerships. EXIT 182 OFF INTERSTATE 84 TWIN FALLS 1-800-826-3335 or 208-733-6756 • 2nd RV Dealer to the left • Tipperary Road

RECEPTIONIST
 Receptionist for a busy office. Must be able to handle multiple lines and have excellent communication skills. Salary commensurate with experience. Call 735-3900 for an application.

Care Center
 Has the following job positions open:
 • CNA's
 • All Phlebotomists
 • Billing Personnel
 • Eligible in Medicare & Medicaid
 Please Apply at 500 Park St. E. Columbus, ID 83041 502

WOMEN
 An opening available at Conagra Beef Company in Idaho. Full benefits, 401K plan, insurance. Please call 208-645-2221. Conagra Beef Company, Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Equal Opportunity Employer. No discrimination prior to employment.

MCELLANBOUS
 Conagra Beef currently has a job opening for a Meat ID Processor. Full benefits, 401K plan, insurance. Call 645-2221. Conagra Beef Co. is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. A drug screen is required prior to employment.

MCELLANBOUS
 The YMCA is looking for people who are energetic, patient, and willing to train and coach. Will train selected applicants. Drop in resume at the YMCA 251 Eraketh Blvd.

MCELLANBOUS
 We have immediate openings for the following positions:
 • Laborers
 • Warehouse Workers
 • All shifts
 • Clerical
AMERICAN STAFFING
 1025 Shoshone St. N. 734-6422

MCELLANBOUS
 Production needed. FT/PT, send resume to PO Box 708, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

ENGINE OPERATOR
 The Times-Herald is looking for an experienced or entry-level press worker with desire to learn an urban press. Color press, camera work and plate development and registration.
 Must be knowledgeable on working around heavy machinery safety and be familiar with mechanical maintenance and adjustment. Additionally, the ability to work well with others to lift 85 lbs. to stand and walk the majority of the work shift, and climb ladders if necessary. Hours of work are primarily 6 pm to 3 a.m.
 We offer an excellent benefits package which includes a medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, holidays and vacation.
 To apply, please fill out an application at The Times-Herald 125 Park St. N. Twin Falls, Idaho. (Attn: Mary Kagan)

PERSONAL
 The Journal of the Burley Chamber of Commerce is looking for a person with vocational training. Develops jobs, trains, assists in the plant experience and/or sales, good language skills, a driver's license, a written English exam, computer skills. 15, 17th, Central Hwy. For information or copy at any BCO office.
 Detailed ads are a great medium for reaching your business. Give us a call today. 735-0811

WANTED
 Wanted for hire: experienced welder with 10+ years experience in all types of welding. Must be able to weld pipe, plate, and structural steel. Salary commensurate with experience. Call 735-3900 for an application.

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SECRETARY
 Must be organized, work independently, computer literate. Bilingual a +. Send resume & salary req. 643 2nd Ave. S. Twin Falls, ID 83301 Attn: TN.
 Placing an ad in the classified columns is a piece of cake. Call 735-0301

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We have something for everyone.

The Tim Room to Rent

READY FOR THE FUTURE
 with the Complete Suzuki Line!!

Interest for 48 Months

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WAS \$19,699
\$16,699
 OR **\$249**

VITARA

WAS \$19,699
\$16,699
 OR **\$249**

AERIO SX

WAS \$15,994
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VITARA XL-7

WAS \$21,914
\$17,988
 OR **\$277/17**

VITARA JLS

WAS \$17,489
\$13,988
 OR **\$199.35**

AERIO SEDAN

WAS \$14,094
\$12,988
 OR **\$198.57**

IMPORT HOME OF THE LOW PRICED CARS

10% APR 60 months, 1.9% APR 72 months GAC, 7.9% for 84 months. Dealer retains all factory incentives.

CON Says...

3 Million Dollars of Inventory Must Go!

NEW!

Mazda 6 Sports Sedan

Experience the joy of a sporty sedan with:
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 • Power Windows
 • Power Locks
 • Cruise Control
 and more...

Now Only... \$299 per month!

RECEIVE A DELL COMPUTER WITH ANY VEHICLE PURCHASE!

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 1250 Blue Lakes Blvd. E.
 735-3900

CATTLE Black Angus 1st calf heifers, bred to light birth weight bulls, \$680. Call 300-0692/300-0890.

CATTLE Holstein steers, 10 at 350 lbs. 544-2810 or 420-2710.

CATTLE Registered Polled Hereford cows and bulls. Boss family. Call 655-4248.

COWS 19 mixed bred, will calve Feb/Mar. \$750. Call 734-4627 or 731-5218.

COWS Running Age cows, Cross bred, will calve Feb. Mar. April. \$37-6881.

FEEDERS Turn tires, different sizes, good for horses or cattle. Call 886-2289.

HORSE 35 granddaddy of Dry Spac A Pepper bred to son of Doc's Remedy for 03 foal. \$1500. Call 620-4475 or 543-4191.

HORSE TRAILER 74, 2 horse, ramp, mats, hood/escape doors, removable divider, tack/waddle trees, new 6 ply tires. \$1300/call for. 678-3678.

MARES (2), open, Siro Boeckh, Grand Siro, Poppy Shadow, Wako offer. Call 487-2514 evenings.

SADDLE Bronc, Association line, 16" seat, great condition, \$700/call. Call 655-4250 or 420-9777.

SHOSHONE SALE YARD INC. Selling Mon. Jan. 20TH 60 head of mixed aged bred stock cows. Plus regular run of feeder cattle. Selling approx. at 1pm. 886-2281 or 886-2843.

702 FARM & RANCH SUPPLIES

BEEF SHARES for rent, 200 acres, TF District. 544-2622 or 539-2622.

FEATHERLITE '98 tire 18" spooler/walk rack room. \$23-3500 evenings.

SADDLE used, big horn, 16" A fork, 7/8 drop plate right hand. \$800. Call (208)308-1800. Used very little.

SHARES (400) Of major beefs. Call 431-6480.

SUGAR BEEF Steers, 90 acres for sale. Call 431-5811.

WANTED older dual cut or front range leader to 14-16" 100 to 1200 lbs. w/ab. Wanted older hydraulic gravel dump truck 1-2 cu yd. Call 324-5658/404-9371.

703 CUSTOM FARM SERVICES

HAULING Have a load that's too big for your pickup, but too small for a trailer. Call me! I can haul up to 12 tons. 208-300-0515.

707 PETS

BOXERS AKC, 1st litter, \$400. Call 745-0168.

CHIHUAHUA puppies, many colors. \$125 each. 1 female. Call 679-0454.

CHINESE PUG puppies AKC reg. 4 max litter. \$400. 1 black male. \$500. Call 734-8929.

CORGI Pembroke Welsh AKC puppies, 2 males, 1 female. \$150 each. \$200. Call 775-1338-5500 or 775-934-9291 (EVEN).

FREE Black lab 2 1/2 yrs old with training, insured. Call 621-2222.

FREE German Shepherd puppy. Call 439-3367.

FREE Australian Shepherd/Border Collie X, 9 months old, bio tested male. Call 439-3367.

FREE Blue Heeler, Border Collie, Australian Shepherd X, needs border to run. Call 543-4702.

FREE German Shepherd AKC, female, 3 yrs old, good with kids. 436-3360.

GERMAN SHEPHERD Pups, purebred, pure line, 1st litters. \$380. Call 208-366-7272.

GERMAN SHEPHERD AKC reg. dewclaws, shots, 11 wks old, black, black tan. \$175. 862-3371.

GOLDEN LAB beautiful pups, purebred, females, \$125. 2 males, \$150. 536-6473 or 531-6473.

GOLDEN RETRIEVER AKC, 2 years old female. \$150. Call 326-6694 or 212-3134.

GOLDEN RETRIEVERS AKC registered, 5 males, 1 female, 6 wks old, 1st litters. \$250. 404-6495. 543-8838 eves.

IGUANA 2 yrs old, \$25 or with accessories. \$350. Call 934-5199.

LAB AKC puppies, great bloodlines, (1) yellow, (4) chocolate, all males. \$350. Call 435-245-5265.

LAB AKC reg. puppies, yellow, chocolate and black, dewclaws & great disposition. Some deliveries \$200. 208-560-2599.

LAB pups, black AKC reg. chocolate already yellow, dam, on site, exc. hunters, 2 male/1 female. \$250/call. 986-7472.

LABRADOR RETRIEVER AKC Reg. 6 wks old, 1st litter, 2 males, 1 female, removed, black, yellow, chocolate. \$350. Parents on site. Call 324-5651 or 539-0525.

MALAMUTE/WOLF puppies, Adorable & cuddly. \$200 & up. Call 733-0753 leave msg.

MINI-DACHSHUND Purebred puppies, immediate sale. \$250. 678-9533 or 431-5700.

PEMBROKE WELSH Corgi pups, 3 males, 1 female AKC, shots/dewclaws removed. 208-420-8650 ask for Kim.

PIT BULL/ROTWEILER X puppies, look like Pit Bulls, 2 males, 1 female. \$335-9581 or 404-9515.

PIT BULLS puppies, 1 male, 1 female, ready to go. \$250. Call 423-4633.

POMERANIAN pups AKC, 7 wks, 1st shots, peach & cream. 2 females, 1 male. \$375. Call 423-4633.

RAT TERRIER RESCUE has several nice dogs for adoption to approved homes. 208-420-8650 ask for Kim.

ROTWEILER cross puppies, adorable, born 12/1/02, \$75, will be small dogs. Call 423-4633.

SHIH-TZU 6 wks old puppies 2 girls and a boy. \$250. Call 829-5354.

SHIH-TZU puppies AKC, shots, 5 males \$300, 1 female \$350. 423-9748.

708 HAY, GRAIN & FEED

FEEDER HAY 800 bales, 1800 lbs. Tests & delivery avail. Call 508-834-2626.

HAY 120 bales 2nd feeder \$65 a ton. 829-5184 or 731-2120.

HAY 1st & 2nd feeder hay, out hay, big bales, 35ft per load. \$657 delivered. 934-4030 or 539-1030.

HAY 1st & 3rd cutting, good quality, close to Twin, sell any amount. 733-2520.

HAY 1st cutting, grass hay mix, small bales. 3rd cutting, ton bales. Call 733-0741 or 326-4270.

HAY 1st, 2nd and 3rd cutting. We deliver with a retriever. Approx. 4.5 ton per load. Prompt service. Call 886-7570.

HAY 3rd cutting, no rain, excellent quality & color. Small bales, covered. 40 ton. Call 543-6065.

HAY 3rd, bright green, heavy, bales, 2000 lb. 3 string bales. \$9/bale. You pick up. 324-7148.

HAY 450 ton of prime alfalfa, ton bales. \$15. 167-5757 or 431-5278.

HAY 500 ton bales, 1st and 2nd cutting. Loading and/or delivery available. Please call 423-6836.

HAY Dairy quality, tested 144-1 ton bales. Call 520-5248 or 420-1121.

HAY Feeder, 700 bales, 1 ton. \$50-\$70/ton. 300 bales dairy. \$85/ton. Call 438-5348. 438-2400. 431-5342.

HAY For sale, tapered good quality, 2nd and 3rd cutting, 2 string, 1000 lbs. \$1800 or 420-1121.

HAY Prime alfalfa, 2000 lb. bales, 2 string, OK. \$24.50/2 or 308-0073.

HAY dairy, Feeder, & oats. 1000 lbs. Call 731-3471 days • • • 734-3589 eves.

HAY HAY 1000 ton bales. Call 438-8215.

SILAGE 2000 Ton For Sale. \$20/ton or call 586-5867.

STRAW 1/2 ton bales, \$20 each. Call 934-8034.

T.S.C. Hay Retriever Call 423-4133 or 280-0839.

711 AG EQUIPMENT

JOHN DEERE 8630 tractor with 12' dozer blade, tons good. \$10,500. Call 733-0761 or 280-0498.

LOADER A-64 Ford 2 1/2, 3rd Buck, good condition. \$13,300. Call 733-0761 or 280-0498.

TRACTOR Case 7420 4605 hrs dual tires. Call 539-5441.

TRACTOR Kubota 6580 4x4, shuttle loader, quick attach bucket & backhoe. 731-2297.

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...has a 20-club lead and a five-trump lead, but essentially a balanced hand. West is in no good position to open from dummy, and East has a hand where a fit in either major could well be right. Note that three no-trump does indeed go down on a club lead followed by careful defense. Once the heart fit comes to light, it is easy for North to raise to game.

West's natural lead is the spade jack, and declarer wins it in hand with the queen and bashes out the ace and king of trumps, forcing East into a rather awkward discard. Let us say he guesses correctly to part with the diamond two, and declarer next tests spades by leading the ace and a small one. West correctly discards on this trick, and declarer takes dummy's spade king, ruffs a spade, and exits with a trump to West.

What is West to do now? A club is immediately fatal to the defense of course, and a low diamond (or the nine) also fails to do the job. South simply covers in dummy, and East's goose is cooked. Whatever he does, South can play the diamond suit for no losers. But what if West exits with the diamond queen (the right card whether or not he has the nine)? Try it, and you will see that South must lose a diamond trick, and his contract, whatever he does.

WEST
 ♠ J 10
 ♥ Q 9 8
 ♦ Q 3 2
 ♣ A 4 3 2

EAST
 ♠ 9 8 4 3
 ♥ A K J 9 3
 ♦ K 8 5
 ♣ Q 10 9 8

Vulnerable: Neither
 Dealer: South

The bidding:
 South West North East
 3 NT Pass 4 Pass
 3♥ Pass 4♥ All pass

Opening lead: Spade Jack

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds:
 ♠ 9 8 4 3
 ♥ 2
 ♦ J 4 3 2
 ♣ Q 10 9 8

South West North East
 3♥ Pass 4♥ All pass

ANSWER: Bid four clubs. Your opponents can surely make slam; the more you bid, the more you will encourage them to bid hearts. But a gentle raise to four clubs (stealing the opportunity for LHO to make a cue-bid) may tempt your opponent into bidding only four hearts, and who knows, that may end the auction!

If you would like to contact Mike Wolf, e-mail him at Wolf@magvalley.com
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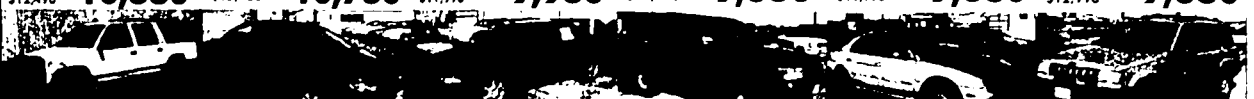
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 • Loaded
 RETAIL PRICE ***4988**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***1988**
\$4988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$99 MO.
 Stock #6617, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 CHEVY MONTE CARLO
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Power Windows, Locks • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise
 RETAIL PRICE ***6988**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2988**
\$6988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$119 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



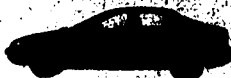
1987 NISSAN ALTIMA
 • 5-Speed Transmission • Cruise Control
 • Power Windows, Locks • AM/FM Cassette
 RETAIL PRICE ***6984**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2878**
\$5988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$119 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 CHEVY MONTE CARLO
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Power Windows, Locks • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise
 RETAIL PRICE ***6872**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2824**
\$5988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$119 MO.
 Stock #6617, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1987 GMC 1500
 • 5-Speed Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise Control
 RETAIL PRICE ***6138**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2138**
\$5988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$119 MO.
 Stock #4000, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 SATURN SL
 • 5-Speed Transmission
 • Air Conditioning • AM/FM Cassette
 RETAIL PRICE ***6478**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***1688**
\$6988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$139 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 CHEVY MONTE CARLO
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Power Windows, Locks • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise
 RETAIL PRICE ***6988**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2988**
\$6988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$139 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 HONDA ACCORD
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Power W, L • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise
 RETAIL PRICE ***11768**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2788**
\$8988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$159 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



2001 TOYOTA COROLLA
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Power Windows • CD
 RETAIL PRICE ***12628**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2636**
\$9988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$179 MO.
 Stock #10131, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



2000 FORD RANGER 4x4
 • 5-Speed Transmission
 • Air Conditioning • CD
 RETAIL PRICE ***12768**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2788**
\$9988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$179 MO.
 Stock #2313, 66 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1987 JEEP WRANGLER 4x4
 • 5-Speed Transmission
 • CD • Sport
 RETAIL PRICE ***13284**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2288**
\$10988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$179 MO.
 Stock #6617, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 DODGE 2600 4x4
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning • Cruise
 • Power Windows, Locks • Cassette • V8 Engine
 RETAIL PRICE ***14887**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2878**
\$11988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$199 MO.
 Stock #6617, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1988 GMC 1500 4x4
 • 5-Speed Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Cruise Control • AM/FM Cassette
 RETAIL PRICE ***14283**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2245**
\$11988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$199 MO.
 Stock #10131, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



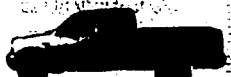
1987 JEEP WRANGLER 4x4
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning • Cruise
 • AM/FM Cassette • Sahara
 RETAIL PRICE ***16834**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***2848**
\$12988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$219 MO.
 Stock #10131, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



2001 CHEVY MALIBU
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • Cruise Control • Power Locks • CD
 RETAIL PRICE ***18686**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***3687**
\$12988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$219 MO.
 Stock #10131, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



1987 ISUZU TROOPER 4x4
 • Automatic Transmission
 • Loaded
 RETAIL PRICE ***20484**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***5488**
\$14988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$249 MO.
 Stock #10131, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.



2001 FORD F-150 4x4
 • Automatic Transmission • Air Conditioning
 • AM/FM Cassette • Cruise Control
 RETAIL PRICE ***18788**
 LATNAM DISCOUNT ***3780**
\$15988 OR
\$0 DOWN \$269 MO.
 Stock #6617, 72 months at 5.9% APL, DAC.

Tax, Title \$8.00 and Dealer DOC Fee \$131.00 Are Not Included In Sell Price or Payments. O.A.S. and other restrictions apply.

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