

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/99th year, No. 4

Sunday, January 4, 2004

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Cold with possible flurries. Tonight, very cold and clearing.
High of 23, low of 12.
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MAGIC VALLEY

Repairable: Officials say the Bliss Bridge can be saved.
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MONEY

Down with debt: With help, some despairing debtors beat the burden.
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River dries up: When workers completed Milner Dam 99 years ago, developers' dreams became reality.
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A school in suspense



Kelye Whiteman-Vera stands next to the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind in Gooding. Whiteman-Vera disagrees with the way Angel Ramos has run the school and his actions addressing her concerns about her daughter's education at the school.

Superintendent's case reveals division at school

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

GOODING — To some, Angel Ramos' first name says a lot about him.
"We've seen the good work that he's done, and we're eager to see him back at the campus working," said Judge Gooding, owner of the Gooding Hotel and a longtime supporter of the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, where Ramos is superintendent, but on administrative leave.
Others see him as the lead cause of fundamental problems at the school.

"There's a total lack of communication at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind," said Kelye Whiteman-Vera, parent of a student at the school.
The divergent views of Ramos illustrate a deep divide over the direction of the nearly century-old institution, which is charged with educating Idaho's deaf, hard of hearing and visually impaired students. The dispute also involves disagreement in the deaf community over whether deaf children should be taught to use speech in addition to sign language.
Ramos has been on administrative leave since July 30 and will be the subject of a hearing in Boise this week, after which the State Board of Education will decide his fate. In Gooding, students and those close to the school remain in

A hearing to help decide whether Angel Ramos remains as superintendent of the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind begins at 9 a.m. Monday at the Len B. Jordan Building, 650 W. State St. in Boise.
The hearing, conducted by former Idaho Supreme Court Justice Charles McDewitt, is open to the public, although public comment will not be taken. It's expected to last at least a week.

turmoil waiting to find out if Ramos will return.

Loyal supporters

Controversy at the school centers on the management style of Ramos and several programs he instituted since he became superintendent in August 2001.
Ramos' arrival was praised by many because he is the first deaf superintendent at the school and one of the first deaf Hispanics to obtain a doctorate.
"He was amazing," said Shannon Taylor, a former ISDB teacher who now teaches at the Ohio School for the Deaf in Columbus. "I had never experienced a more hands-on boss in my life."
June Flannery, president of the Idaho Registry for Interpreters for the Deaf, said Ramos was the



Angel Ramos, superintendent of the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, signs his new book, 'Triumph of the Spirit,' for some friends at a recent book signing in Gooding.

U.S. will begin transfer of power to Iraqis this week

The Washington Post

After eight months of debate and delay, the United States this week will formally launch the handover of power to Iraq with the final game plan still not fully in place.
The United States begins the complicated political, economic and security transfer with a general framework and a June 30

More casualties — A8
Possible 'stop-loss' expansion — A9

deadline for completion. But critical details are still being negotiated between the Iraqis and U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer, some of which could determine whether the new Iraqi govern-

ment is ultimately embraced by the majority of Iraq's 22 million people.
"We're open to refinement, and we're waiting to hear what people have suggested or will suggest," Secretary of State Colin L. Powell said in an interview. "What Ambassador Bremer and all of us have been doing in our conversations is listening and hearing and (saying), 'Are there better ideas

that would make the plan more refined, better and more acceptable to a broader group of individuals and leaders within Iraq?"
Besides figuring out who will rule in Saddam Hussein's wake, Iraqis over the next two months will have to answer a host of deferred and potentially divisive questions: What kind of government will Iraq have? What will be the role of

Please see IRAQ, Page A2

Rover lands on Mars

The Associated Press

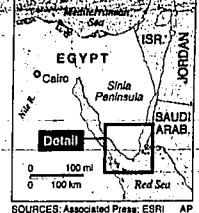
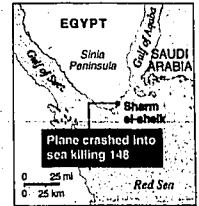
PASADENA, Calif. — A NASA rover plunged through the atmosphere of Mars and bounced down upon its rocky surface Saturday night, beginning a mission to roam the Red Planet in search of evidence that it was once suitable for life.

Radio signals received on Earth minutes after the landing suggested the Spirit rover survived, prompting mission controllers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory to let out whoops of delight.

The Spirit rover is the first of two identical robots that will roam the planet's rocky surface if all goes as planned.
The gravity of Mars had already begun to tug on the spacecraft earlier Saturday from a distance of 59,000 miles, project manager Pete Theisinger said.

Spirit had appeared on track to make a "bull's-eye" landing within a cigar-shaped ellipse inside Gusev Crater, a Connecticut-sized indentation just south of the

Please see MARS, Page A2



SOURCES: Associated Press; ESRI AP

Egyptian charter jet crashes, killing 148

The Associated Press

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt — A charter jet full of French tourists returning home from Egyptian vacations crashed into the shark-infested Red Sea early Saturday, killing all 148 people aboard. Officials blamed mechanical failure.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher said the crash, which came as nations heightened security at airports and canceled flights because of terror threats, was "not related to any terrorist act."

The Civil Aviation Ministry said the crash was an accident apparently caused by a mechanical problem.

French officials also said the crash appeared accidental. Deputy Transportation Minister Dominique Bussereau told

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<p>7 days, 7 reasons to read</p> <p>The tao of tai'chi An ancient Chinese martial arts form may hold the key to better health.</p> <p>Monday</p>	<p>Singing for charity Janitor makes some beautiful music.</p> <p>Tuesday</p>	<p>What's the beef? A Wendell cook is still whipping up her award-winning beef dishes.</p> <p>Wednesday</p>	<p>Ski or board? The great mountain debate of whether to ski or snowboard.</p> <p>Thursday</p>	<p>Dear Abby Widower reads late wife's diaries; what he finds stuns him.</p> <p>Friday</p>	<p>Recognition Meet an Immanuel Lutheran School grad who's being honored.</p> <p>Saturday</p>	<p>Winter-proofing How to keep your family, your home and your car in good shape during the worst weather of the year.</p> <p>Sunday</p>
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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cold with flurries possible. Highs near 23. Tonight: Very cold and clearing. Lows near 12.

Tomorrow: Cloudy and relatively dry. Highs near 21.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of snow. Highs in the lower 20s.

Tonight: Relatively dry with some clearing. Lows in the lower teens.

Tomorrow: Mostly dry, cold and cloudy. Highs in the lower 20s.

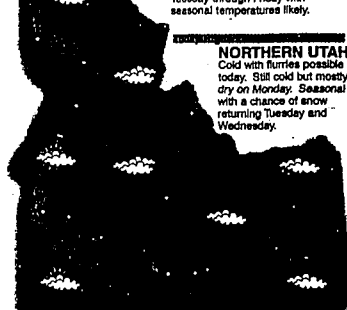
IDAHO FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Cold with snow and brisk winds probable today and Monday.

BOISE Cloudy, relatively dry and cold today and Monday. Rain and snow chances returning to the outlook Tuesday through Friday with seasonal temperatures likely.

NORTHERN UTAH Cold with flurries possible today. Still cold but mostly dry on Monday. Seasonal with a chance of snow returning Tuesday and Wednesday.

Weather key: s=sunny, partly cloudy, pc=partly cloudy, o=cloudy, th=thunderstorms, sh=snow, r=rain, ar=snow, fl=flurry, w=wind, m=missing



Yesterday's State Extremes: 52 at Seale. Low: -6 at Starley. Weather key: s=sunny, partly cloudy, pc=partly cloudy, o=cloudy, th=thunderstorms, sh=snow, r=rain, ar=snow, fl=flurry, w=wind, m=missing

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset.

Table with 2 columns: Yesterday's Low, Month to Date, Yesterday's High, Today's Forecast.

Table with 2 columns: Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset.

Table with 2 columns: U.V. INDEX, Sunrise and Sunset.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists cities like Bonners Ferry, Grange, Elko, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists cities like Atlanta, Billings, Boston, etc.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists cities like Athens, Bangkok, Beijing, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists cities like Cranbrook, Kelowna, Regina, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP showing weather fronts across the United States.

'Fast-casual' Mexican food stays popular

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - McDonald's Corp. scaled back its investments in several partner restaurants last month but held onto Chipotle Mexican Grill Inc., a telling sign of the strength of fast-casual Mexican food chains.

Since the world's largest fast-food chain invested in Chipotle in 1997, rivals have made other acquisitions: Wendy's International Inc. bought the parent company of Qdoba Mexican Grill.

for a piece of the fast-casual niche that offers a higher-quality menu than fast-food outlets but without the table service and higher prices of sit-down restaurants. The Mexican part of that niche is particularly appealing because Mexican food remains the nation's third-most popular ethnic cuisine, just behind Italian and Asian.

from siphoning market share from full-service, Mexican sit-down restaurants - two of which filed for bankruptcy protection in October. The parent company of Chi Chi's Inc., which popularized the Mexican sit-down segment, and Chevy's Inc., parent of Chevys Fresh Mex and Rio Bravo.

Mars

Continued from A1

know to do to ensure these missions will be a success," said Charles Elachi, director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

The \$820 million NASA project also includes a twin rover, Opportunity, which is set to arrive on Mars on Jan. 24.

"We see these intriguing hints Mars may have been a different place long ago," Squyres said. The rovers were built to look for

evidence that liquid water - a necessary ingredient for life - once persisted on the surface of the planet. A direct search for life on Mars is at least a decade away, NASA scientists said.

Together, the twin rovers were launched in the most intensive scientific assault on another planetary body since the Apollo missions to the moon. Spirit and its twin in hopes they would become the fourth and fifth U.S. spacecraft to survive landing on Mars.

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Iraq

Continued from A1

Islam? How much local rule will be ethnic, tribal or religious groups have? The deadline is Feb. 28.

U.S. officials say Washington plans to resolve many of these remaining questions in negotiation with the Iraqi Governing Council, whose initial incompetence precipitated the delays that forced the United States to design the Nov. 15 agreement.

Seven weeks after the accord, however, the council has been unable to close the wide divergences of opinion among rival Iraqi leaders, ranging from Grand Ayatollah Ali Sistani to the Sunni community since protected by Saddam.

Sistani, a Shiite Muslim cleric who has a larger public following than any other Iraqi, has demanded elections to pick Baghdad's post-occupation government.

Iraqis, who like to note that they have less time than the U.S. founders fathers did to come up with a constitution and new government, are already worried - and predicting problems.

Egypt

Continued from A1

reports at Charles de Gaulle airport outside Paris that the pilot detected problems on takeoff and tried vainly to turn back. Flash Airlines Flight FSH604 took off from the popular tourist resort of Sharm el-Sheikh bound for Paris after a stopover in Cairo.

A French Foreign Ministry spokesman said there were 133 French tourists on the flight. 10 Egyptian crew members also were on the flight, Egypt's Civil Aviation Minister Ahmed Shafiq said.

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news of their loved ones. French Prime Minister Jean-Pierre Raffarin declared the nation in mourning and said investigators will go to Egypt to shed light as quickly as possible on this catastrophe.

Engineers from the national carrier EgyptAir rushed in to help with the investigation and the United States also was sending an accident investigator, said Keith Holloway, a National Transportation Safety Board spokesman in Washington. He said Egypt requested the help.

At the Flash Airlines office in Cairo, a man who came to check on his daughter, a 30-year-old flight attendant on the plane, walked out in despair 15 minutes later, supported by relatives.

"Samir Samir!" he wailed. Next to him, his wife screamed, "My daughter! My daughter!" Family members began to pick up passengers at the French airport early Saturday were discreetly pulled aside by authorities and taken by shuttle bus to a nearby hotel.

nationwide week of Iraqi graduation this political of an Iraqi currency, completion of the new currency exchange, the first cell phone system.

"This is the month, we have a thousand things going on. We're drinking out of a fire hose," a senior U.S. official in Baghdad said.

Washington wants to begin transferring specific duties to Baghdad so that inexperienced Iraqis do not suddenly find themselves assuming total responsibility in six months.

In a step pivotal to the transition, Iraq will once again be the focus of debate at the U.N. Security Council on Jan. 19, when the Iraqi council will appear for the members of the U.S.-led Coalition Provisional Authority, may not attend the meeting, despite a personal summons by Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Respectfully burned at the United Nations on Iraq, Washington wants the Iraqis to make their own case to the United Nations this time, U.S. officials say.

"It's time that Iraqis begin re-presenting themselves - and that the world recognizes that fact," a State Department official said.

Looking pale and shaken, a couple in their 50s arrived at the terminal, where the man asked an airport official: "My children ate at Sharm. How do I find out if they were on the plane?"

Most of the passengers were on a tour organized by the FRAM, one of France's largest travel operators. FRAM said it had 125 people - mostly families or groups of friends - on the flight and some were children.

Speaking to reporters at the airport in Sharm el-Sheikh, Shafiq said the plane checked out fine before takeoff.

"The first indications suggest a technical fault," he said, saying the last communication with the plane was at 5,300 feet.

According to the radar images, the plane turned left as normal after takeoff, then suddenly straightened out and turned right before plunging into the sea, one minute after its last turn, Shafiq said.

The Times-News Information Line 735-3350. Ski, Lottery and Weather Information are just a phone call away! Includes buttons for Ski Information, Lottery Information, and Weather Information.

IDAHO LOTTERY. Saturday, January 3. Includes Wild Cards, Mega Millions, and other lottery games.

Fed chief defends economic strategy

Greenspan: Interfering with the 1990s market 'bubble' would have been bad for the economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan defended himself Saturday against a criticism of his tenure, saying "policy-makers would have damaged the economy in the late 1990s had they tried to burst that era's speculative stock market bubble."

"The notion that a well-timed incremental tightening could have been calibrated to prevent the late 1990s bubble while preserving economic stability is almost surely an illusion," Greenspan said in a speech to the American Economic Association's annual meeting in San Diego. A copy of his remarks was distributed in Washington.

Greenspan previously has defended the Fed's handling of the high-flying stock market late in the Clinton administration. In Saturday's speech, he said the Fed correctly focused policies on trying to mitigate probable damage from the eventual bursting of the bubble of stock market speculation.

"There appears to be enough evidence, at least tentatively, to conclude that our strategy of addressing the bubble's consequences, rather than the bubble itself, has been successful," Greenspan said. "Despite the stock market plunge, terrorist attacks, corporate scandals and wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, we experienced an exceptionally mild recession" in 2001.

Some critics have argued that the central bank made a major policy mistake by failing to curb stock prices as they soared. The bubble finally collapsed in the spring of 2000, wiping out trillions of dollars in paper wealth.

For the Fed to have influenced the level of stock prices significantly during the boom, Greenspan said, short-term interest rates would have had to be ratcheted up high enough to risk severe damage to the economy.

Greenspan did not address in his speech the future course of



Alan Greenspan
Defends central bank's policy

short-term interest rate policy or the direction of the U.S. economy.

"Essentially I think this speech says 'We have learned much about monetary policy-making, and we have applied our lessons well,' said economist Ken Mayland, president of ClearView Economics.

Greenspan, in answering questions after the speech, downplayed the potential risk of a new stock price bubble emerging now that

the economy is getting stronger.

"My own sense is that we don't have to worry too much about the emergence of real bubbles again for a while because I think it takes a number of years for the trauma of the collapse to wear off," Greenspan said.

Amid signs the economy is gaining traction, economists believe Fed policy-makers will hold a key short-term rate at a 4.5-year low of 1 percent at their first meeting of this year on Jan. 27-28. Some analysts believe the Fed could begin to nudge rates upward as early as June. Others believe, however, that rates will stay where they are into 2005.

Many economists also believe the Fed's credit-easing campaign that started in January 2001 and saw the last cut in June 2003 probably has ended.

Greenspan said the Fed had been able to cut short-term rates so aggressively because inflation posed no threat to the economy. In fact, as the economy struggled to recover in the first half of last year, Fed policy-makers worried more about prices moving down, into deflation, rather than up, into inflation.

Enthusiasm for states' rights wanes

GOP leaders tread outside traditional Republican roles

By Jim Abrams
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Traditionally the champions of small government and states' rights, President Bush and his allies in Congress have aggressively pursued policies that expand the powers of Washington in the courtroom, the courthouse, the home and the doctor's office.

Sometimes over the objections of states — and often at the behest of business — Republicans have passed or are promoting legislation and regulations that make Washington the final arbiter on environmental standards, class-action lawsuits, medical malpractice cases and Internet taxes.

The extent to which this administration has subordinated states' rights in carrying out its political agenda is "somewhat breathtaking," said Michael Greve, who heads the Federalism Project at the conservative American Enterprise Institute.

Federal power has always been associated with Democrats, creators of the New Deal and supporters of the 1937 Supreme Court decision that gave Congress, with its authority to regulate interstate commerce, wide berth in entering areas that normally are the prerogative of states.

When Newt Gingrich led Republicans to a majority in the House in 1995, he stressed that "we are committed to getting power back to the states, we are committed to breaking out of the logjam of federal bureaucrats controlling how we try to help the poor."

But Gingrich's commitments often came with a catch requiring states to fall in line with federal policy: Some of the money available under the massive 1996 wel-

fare law, for instance, was tied to states starting abstinence-only education programs, and states seeking money for new prisons under a big crime bill had to show that criminals were serving 85 percent of their sentences.

George W. Bush, the former governor of Texas, ran as a strong states' rights advocate until the Florida election dispute, when it was Al Gore arguing before the U.S. Supreme Court that the Florida state supreme court should have the final say on a recount. Bush insisted that the highest federal court step in.

Bush has since significantly increased the federal government's reach with two of his biggest legislative achievements. The "No Child Left Behind" education act inserts federal testing requirements and progress reports in an area that has always been under state and local control. The "Patriot Act," a result of the Sept. 11 terror attacks, has given federal law enforcement greater authority to supersede states where necessary in investigations and prosecutions of criminal activity.

The education act, said Greve, was "really a big, big marker in many ways, and a big, big turnaround."

Republicans have recognized the dilemma of being both proactive legislators and pro-states' rights.

"I am essentially a states' rights person... I believe the federal government often usurps a lot of states' rights," Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., said this year in attempting to explain why his proposal to limit federal highway money to states that provide legal aliens with drivers' licenses is a federal rather than a state issue.

David Boaz, executive vice president of the Cato Institute, which advocates limited government and individual liberties, said there are inevitable tensions when conservatives try to use federal power to override the actions of more liberal state governments.

Activists laud new wind farm

BIRDS LANDING, Calif. (AP) — Environmentalists say the dozens of turbines that rise more than 300 feet over wheat fields and herds of sheep here represent the future of wind energy and a model for overcoming the shortcomings that have kept wind from threatening the dominance of fossil fuels.

The High Winds Energy Center, completed in December in the rolling hills between San Francisco and Sacramento, features turbines that can swivel with the direction of the wind, produce energy even if the wind is blowing less than 8 mph and generate 20 times more energy than earlier machines.

This new wind system, along with similar ones being built around the country, promises to produce electricity at competitive prices — all without disturbing surrounding farms and wildlife, two of the obstacles for wind power today.

The 90 turbines at High Winds can generate 162 megawatts of electricity, enough to power about 75,000 homes, according to Florida-based FPL Energy, which owns and operates High Winds along with 30 other wind facilities in 10 states.

"This is the future of wind power," said Ralph Cavanagh, energy program director for the Natural Resources Defense Council. "The wind farm is becoming a productive part of the local community. It's not an interloper that threatens them."

Environmentalists have championed wind power for decades because wind is a free renewable resource that doesn't pollute the air or water.

But since the first large wind facilities were built in the early 1980s, they have run into technological, economic and political barriers. Early versions didn't produce electricity efficiently enough to compete with oil, coal and natural gas. Communities complained that small forests of turbines marred the landscape, and environmentalists fretted that the blades were killing birds.

The new wind farms set in the Montezuma Hills above six farms and ranches just north of the Sacramento River, has overcome such issues, environmentalists say.

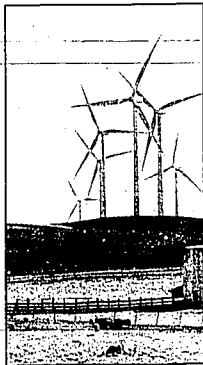
"High Winds' turbines are taller, more powerful and more efficient than older generation turbines, which means they can generate more energy with fewer machines. Each turbine generates 1.8 megawatts, 18 times more than the 100-kilowatt turbines built two decades ago.

On a recent morning, the towering turbines' blades were tilted slightly with surprisingly little noise, in wind of about 10 mph.

Older turbines can't rotate from side to side — and they only operate at maximum efficiency when the wind blows in a particular direction, so they often remain idle. High Winds' turbines can



An old windmill, right, shares space with newer state-of-the-art windmills in Birds Landing, Calif., on Nov. 11. A forest of 300-foot-high turbines spins electricity for a half a dozen California cities on the wind farm in rural Solano County, between San Francisco and Sacramento.



Donkeys and sheep graze on a farm as windmills tower in the background in Birds Landing, Calif., Nov. 11. With turbines nearly 20 times more powerful than earlier generation machines, the wind farm produces electricity at competitive prices and doesn't disturb the surrounding farms and wildlife.

those at High Winds, whose turbines were developed by Denmark-based Vestas Wind Systems.

High Winds hasn't run into the kind of opposition plaguing other wind energy projects, such as the offshore towers proposed near Massachusetts' Cape Cod, where residents worry that 40-story turbines would harm ocean views, seabirds and tourism.

In fact, local landowners in the agricultural Montezuma Hills welcomed the extra income — FPL pays between \$2,500 and \$4,000 a year to lease the space for each turbine, while the surrounding land can still be used raise animals, grow crops and other activities.

Birds Landing farmer Ian Anderson said the turbines and the roads built to service them take up about 2 percent of his farmland, leaving the remaining 98 percent available for raising sheep and growing wheat, barley and safflower. He calls the project "good for sope."

"It's more difficult to farm around (the turbines and roads), but it's not overwhelming. It's doable," he said. "We're still farming the same as before the wind generators came in."

And unlike the wind farm in the Altamont Pass east of San Francisco, where smaller, low-power turbine blades have killed an estimated 22,000 birds, High Winds' turbines rotate more slowly, so few birds get caught.

Projects like High Winds have benefited from government incentives such as federal tax credits. About a dozen states, including California, require utilities to increase their use of renewable sources such as wind, solar and geothermal energy.

Environmentalists hope that the incentives and improved technologies will boost wind from its status as a minor player in the

U.S. energy markets. Even in California, which leads the nation in use of wind power, less than 2 percent of the state's electricity came from wind in 2002, according to the California Energy Commission.

"With improvements in technology, wind power is becoming cost competitive with any other form of electrical generation," said Jan Johnson, a spokesman for FPL Energy, an energy wholesaler that has already sold two-thirds of High Winds' output to cities including Anaheim, Pasadena, Glendale and Sacramento.

PPM wouldn't disclose specific energy prices it charges its customers.

But Johnson noted that wind prices are far less volatile than those for fossil fuels. And unlike with natural gas, PPM can offer energy contracts as long as 25 years because wind has no fuel costs.

"If you have a choice between any form of electrical generation," she said, "are you going to choose one that generates greenhouse gases or wind power?"

NASA awaits more photos from spacecraft near comet

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — NASA on Saturday was hoping to receive the last of dozens of close-up photographs a spacecraft took of a distant comet, but officials did not expect to release more photos to the public until Monday.

The Stardust spacecraft took 72 images of the dark nucleus of comet Wild 2 during a derring-do flyby Friday that occurred 242 million miles from Earth. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration hoped to receive the last of the black-and-white images by late Saturday.

NASA so far has released a single black-and-white photo of the comet nucleus, thought to be just 3.3 miles across. It showed what looked like a giant frozen meatball pocked with sinkholes.

The spacecraft swooped within 149 miles of the frozen ball of rock and ice to collect samples from its glittering halo of dust and gas and bring them to Earth.

Stardust recorded bursts of particles spewed by active jets on the surface of Wild 2 and pronounced Wild 2 as it flew through the gossamer cloud that envelops

the comet. The spacecraft also snagged an untold number of the minuscule specks of dust, believed to be primitive leftovers from the formation of our solar system, for later study on Earth.

Although Stardust was expected to collect less than a thimbleful of dust, which the spacecraft is scheduled to jettison back to Earth when it swoops past our planet in January 2006.

Scientists want to return samples of the dust particles to Earth for study because they represent pristine examples of the building blocks of our solar system dating back 4.6 billion years.

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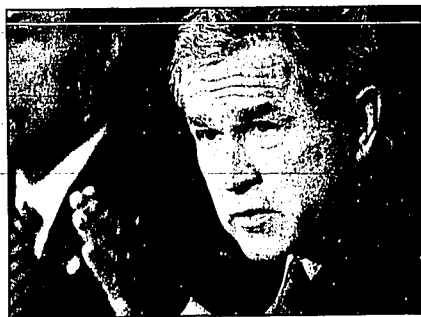
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NATION



President Bush talks about Iraq after a cabinet meeting at the White House in Washington in this Dec. 11 file photo. President Bush's re-election team is bracing for a general election campaign against Democrat Howard Dean.

BUSH VS. DEAN



Democratic presidential candidate Howard Dean addresses the Florida Democratic Party convention in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., in this Dec. 6 file photo.

Texan Rep. becomes a Republican

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — After nearly a quarter-century as one of the most conservative Democrats in Congress, Texas Rep. Ralph Hall switched parties to become a Republican and said he expects support from the White House.

"I've known (President Bush) since he was a young boy. He's a Godly man. He's a Texan and he was the governor and he's our friend," Hall told The Associated Press Friday.

Bush praised Hall's decision, welcoming him to the Republican Party.



Rep. Ralph Hall

Hall is a close friend of the Bush family. He is a well-respected leader of the highest integrity, and a tireless advocate for the people of Texas," Bush said.

Hall, 80, made the move Friday, the final day for candidates to file to get their names on the ballot for Texas' March 9 primary.

Hall's switch follows a GOP-led drive — bitterly contested by Democrats — to remake Texas' congressional districts over to their liking. Party strategists contend they can gain five or more seats through a mid-decade redistricting change that could greatly strengthen their grip on power in the House.

Democrats and some minority groups objected to the plan, saying it violates minority rights, and challenged it in court. A three-judge federal panel was evaluating the districts and expected to rule soon.

Before Hall's move, the House had 228 Republicans, 205 Democrats, 1 Democrat-leaning independent and 1 vacancy.

Hall said he would have resigned if the old redistricting map had been overturned, but when no ruling came from the court, he decided to run as a Republican.

"I think I can get re-elected much easier if I run as a Republican," Hall said.

He told The Associated Press that he's always said that if being a Democrat hurt his district, he would switch or resign. He said GOP leaders had recently refused to place money for his district in a spending bill and "the only reason I was given was I was a Democrat."

He also said he did not agree with "all these guys running against the president."

House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas, said Democrats are "reaping what they've sown."

"Their leaders have lined up behind Howard Dean's brand of angry, intolerant politics. They've made their message clear: 'moderates need not apply' and that's a sad trend for a once-great party," DeLay said.

Bush campaign team shows increased caution over Democratic front-runner

By Tom Ramm
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush's re-election team is bracing for a general election campaign against Democrat Howard Dean while Republican advisors welcome the matchup, they are not so cocky about the prospects as they once were.

The former Vermont governor has shown an ability to mobilize volunteers and raise cash, making him a formidable political force, Bush supporters acknowledge.

By most accounts, the 2004 contest will be close, perhaps decided by a few industrial states.

"I don't think there's anybody who wins in a landslide," said GOP strategist Charles Black.

"Dean has proven himself to be a pretty darn effective campaigner, so I don't want to take anything away from him," Black said. "I think Dean can consolidate the Democratic base, and that gets him up to 46 percent. If we do a good job, the president wins by a

few points, but it's not going to be huge."

Such caution runs counter to initial euphoria among some Republicans that Dean represented an easy target because of his force anti-war rhetoric, his liberal positions on many issues, an eagerness to roll back all Bush tax cuts and his reputation for testiness.

"So the comparisons made by many analysts of Dean's candidacy to the unsuccessful campaigns of George McGovern in 1972 and Walter Mondale in 1984 may be premature."

The Bush campaign is spending most of its time preparing for a race against Dean, campaign advisors said, laying the groundwork to start spending the estimated \$200 million that is being raised for the primary season. A Democratic winner is expected to emerge by early March.

Dean's momentum has slowed. His Democratic rivals have ganged up on him for suggesting that Americans were no safer with Iraq's Saddam Hussein in captivity

and for Dean's implied criticism of some former Clinton initiatives. Still, he remains the clear favorite in the Democratic field.

And those same polls show Dean as a substantial underdog in a prospective race against Bush.

Many Democrats hoped a victorious Dean eventually would be able to reposition himself to the center. But his unyielding war opposition may have made that harder.

Bush campaign officials are expected to step up their groundwork and pour money into television spots and into direct mail appeals. They plan to rely heavily on e-mail and the Internet, hoping to beat Dean at his own game.

"One Bush campaign strategist says that the e-mail data base that the Bush-Cheney team is developing is at least twice as large as Dean's prized list of names."

But Dean's use of the Internet has extended to more than just generating names and e-mail addresses. It has given him a structure for campaign activity and lifted him to near-cult status

among his supporters.

Dean's followers get together via the Web site MeetUp.com and regularly attend rallies and meetings, and even write Democrats in Iowa and New Hampshire urging them to back Dean.

Bush's chief political adviser, Karl Rove, reportedly at one point had told Republican activists that Dean was the dream candidate for the Bush campaign.

But Rove and Bush re-election campaign manager Ken Mehlman have been far more guarded in their recent assessments of the Dean challenge, according to those close to the campaign.

Republicans worry that in the face of continuing job losses in industrial states, many of the "Reagan Democrats" who supported Bush in 2000 may return to the Democratic fold. Bush's constant revisits to the Midwest and his fleeting support of steel tariffs reflect this concern.

GOP strategists hope Dean will be too liberal for these pivotal blue-collar workers.

Bush generally has avoided

commenting on Democratic hopes.

He made an exception when he told reporters that Dean made an "absurd insinuation" in raising questions about whether the president had advance knowledge of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Mehlman, in a recent fund-raising, e-mail accused Dean of "reckless charges."

Some Bush supporters look forward to Bush-Dean debates, suggesting Dean could easily lose his temper or flub a foreign policy question.

But University of Virginia political scientist Larry Sabato says "either one could lose their temper. They both have tempers. There's a chance that Dean would impress people as the more knowledgeable of the two. There's also a chance that Dean may come across as a know-it-all."

Meanwhile, the Democratic party chief hopes party ranks can close quickly once a winner is chosen.

"Let's keep our eyes on the prize," Terry McAlluff said. "This is about beating George Bush."

Records show Dean's administration was ill-prepared for disaster

The Associated Press

Presidential hopeful Howard Dean, who accuses President Bush of being weak on homeland security, was "warned" repeatedly as Vermont governor about security lapses at the state's nuclear power plant and was told the state was ill-prepared for a disaster at its most attractive terrorist target.

The warnings, according to documents obtained by The Associated Press, began in 1991 when a group of students wanted to excavate a nuclear area of the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant without proper screening. On at least two occasions, a gun- or mock terrorists passed undetected into the plant during security tests.

During Dean's final year in office in 2002, an audit concluded that despite a decade of repeated warnings of poor safety at Vermont Yankee, Dean's administration was poorly prepared for a nuclear disaster.

The lack of funding and overarching coordination at the state level directly impacts the ability of the state, local and power plant planners to be "adequately prepared for a real emergency at Vermont Yankee," state Auditor Elizabeth M. Carson wrote in a study issued five months after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Security was so lax at Vermont Yankee that in August 2001, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission staged a drill in which three mock terrorists gained access to the plant. The agency gave Vermont Yankee the worst security rating among the nation's 103 reactors.

The NRC has primary responsibility for safety at Vermont Yankee. But Vermont laws required an active state role by creating a panel to review security and performance and requiring plant operators to set aside money for the state to use in the event of a nuclear disaster.

Dean's campaign said Saturday it ultimately was the federal government's responsibility to ensure security at the plant, but that he badgered Vermont Yankee's operators and the NRC to make improvements during the 1990s.

"After September 11, Governor Dean decided the best steps here in terms of security and personally ran this effort, creating a Cabinet-level agency," spokesman Jay Carson said.

Carson acknowledged there were weaknesses before 2002 in Vermont's nuclear preparedness, and Dean moved quickly afterward to place state troopers and National Guardsmen at the plant, distribute radiation pills to civilians, demand a federal no-fly zone over the plant to prevent an aerial attack, and increase emergency preparedness funding.

"As many have said before, hindsight is 20-20 and no one could have predicted what could have happened on a terrible day in September 2001," Carson said.



Vermont Auditor of Accounts Elizabeth M. Carson speaks at a news conference in Montpelier, Vt., in this Feb. 4, 2003, file photo.

"In no other country could have been safer. The important thing is after Governor Dean recognized these vulnerabilities, he took swift, bold steps to make things better," Carson said.

State Auditor Ready, a Democrat and Dean backer, agreed things improved after her critical 2002 report and that security tests this year showed Vermont Yankee was safer. "Once Governor Dean got that report there was swift and thorough action," she said.

But even after Ready's report recommended the state's nuclear preparedness spending triple from \$400,000 to \$1.2 million, Dean budgeted only half the increase.

That led Dean's state emergency management director, Ed von Turkovich, to tell the Legislature in 2002 that the increase to \$800,000 "does not cover the expenses related to the program" and that Vermont's nuclear preparedness was "in trouble, grossly underfunded, under-resourced and has been for years."

The lack of preparedness was blamed in the 2002 audit on inadequate funds. "Vermont receives the least amount of funding for its Radiological Emergency Response Plan, in total dollars, of any New England state that hosts a nuclear power plant," the audit disclosed.

The audit was not the first warning to Dean, documents show.

On Feb. 14, 2000, von Turkovich wrote Dean's top deputy, Administration Secretary Kathleen Hoyt, expressing concern the state was not forcing Vermont

Yankee, which was up for sale, to set aside more money for preparedness.

"We are sympathetic to the utility's concern for cost rolling with respect to the pending sale of the plant and have committed to expend additional state and federal resources to subsidize this program in the coming year," von Turkovich wrote.

"However, I believe in the near future, the present or new owners will need to broaden their level of support for preparedness activities that need to be accomplished on behalf of the communities that reside in the Emergency Planning Zone," he wrote.

The documents contrast with Dean's position as a presidential candidate who has portrayed himself as more concerned about nuclear security than Bush.

"Our most important challenge will be to address the most dangerous threat of all: catastrophic terrorism using weapons of mass destruction," Dean said in his speech in Los Angeles last month.

"Here, where the stakes are highest, the current administration has, remarkably, done the least."

Dean also has suggested Bush was unprepared before and after Sept. 11 to fight terrorism. "We are in danger of losing the war on terror, because we are fighting it with the strategies of the past," the Democratic candidate said.

The Vermont documents show Dean and his top aides received numerous warnings about Vermont Yankee.

In August 1991, an aide sent a handwritten memo to Dean saying there was a "security error" at Vermont Yankee that was "not public."

A group of students "on a tour were taken into a secure area without checking through security first," the aide wrote, saying the matter was minor but would be disclosed to federal regulators. Dean initiated the memo, indicating he read it.

In 1992, the NRC provided information to Dean about "declining performance at Vermont Yankee in three important areas: plant security, engineering/technical support and safety assessments/qualification verification," documents show.

Dean responded by writing the head of the plant that the problems could "have an impact on the health and safety of the people of Vermont" and "it is my expecta-

tion that you will do all in your power to correct this declining trend." It was one of several such letters he wrote.

Just months later, the Vermont Nuclear Advisory Panel, a state panel, reported that it was concerned about two nuclear fuel mishandling incidents at the plant. The panel finds it unacceptable that the fuel handling incidents occurred as a result of component operator and management actions," the panel reported.

Environmental groups sent Dean repeated letters about the plant's security and safety. During a 1998 federal security test, mock

terrorists sneaked a fake gun past security and six times scaled, undetected, the plant's security perimeter fence.

The 1998 test was alarming because seven months earlier, protesters had managed to breach the same security by scaling the fence or rafting down an adjacent river. The 2001 security test again penetrated Vermont Yankee's security.

Ready's audit in 2002 questioned why, with so many warnings about safety, Dean's administration had significantly fewer people committed to nuclear emergency planning than neighboring states.

"Unlike its nearest counterparts, Vermont's Division of Emergency Management has only one full-time and two part-time staff to support" its emergency response program, she wrote.

"New Hampshire has nearly 20 full- and part-time staff as well as consultants, while Massachusetts has more than 20 full-time staff to carry out" its program.

... hindsight is 20-20 and no one could have predicted what could have happened on a terrible day in September 2001.

— Jay Carson, Dean spokesman

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PEGASUS

Parents: Gooding school discourages speech

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

GOODING—In a hearing-room and the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind, children with partial hearing are often pulled in two directions.

For the Clars family, the way to escape that struggle was to leave. Eric and Patty Clars moved to Everett, Wash., in February so their 5-year-old son, Jason, could attend the private Listen and Talk school in Boise and learn to speak and hear using a cochlear implant.

When they found out their son was deaf, they got him hearing aids and started learning sign language, Eric Clars said. His son started preschool at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind when he was 3 years old. He had a terrific teacher, Emma Lozada, who is deaf.

After a lot of thinking, the Clars got their son a cochlear implant about a year ago. The family went to the Gooding school and put together an individualized education plan. It required speech therapy five times a week; reimbursing Entry Clars to drive their son to Boise for it and it providing for an interpreter to speak in the otherwise silent classroom.

Eric Clars said the interpreter was not all that great. They soon felt they could not wait for a full-time speech therapist to come to the Gooding school.

"Our story is just a struggle to get an appropriate education for our son," Clars said.

Geoff Egler of Gooding is Patty Clars' father, and he said he knows of several other families who have also left the state so their children could get an oral education—where students are encouraged to use what hearing they have to speak and lip read.

In practice, Clars said, ISDB is an American Sign Language-only school. School officials grudgingly make concessions for oral learning, Clars said. The school is good for those who want a sign language education, but sign language students are often lacking in English skills.

June Flannery, president of the Idaho Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, said Angel Ramos, the school's superintendent who is on administrative leave, supports speech for deaf students because he uses it himself.

Disability or not?
The Clars family is just one example of the challenges in educating the deaf and hard of hearing.

Many debates in deaf education center around how deafness is viewed—as a disability or an orientation. Many deaf people consider it a cultural difference because hearing is the only thing the deaf don't have.

Deaf culture with a capital "D" has its own language—American Sign Language—with traditions and history centered around events such as the Deaf President Now protest movement in 1988 at Gallaudet University, which serves the deaf, hard of hearing and hearing impaired.

Deaf culture with a lowercase "d" has its own language—American Sign Language—with traditions and history centered around events such as the Deaf President Now protest movement in 1988 at Gallaudet University, which serves the deaf, hard of hearing and hearing impaired.

At the same time, there is a backlash among many culturally deaf people who fear the loss of that culture and resist the use of new technologies, even at the Gooding school.

Egler said the philosophy at the school is, "You're deaf, be proud of it, don't learn to talk."

Egler said cutting deaf people out of the mainstream life is by far the cheaper option, but many deaf people would prefer not to be in the mainstream.

"This makes the civil rights movement in the 1960s look tame," Egler said. "Angels and demons fight for their deaths against any technology for these people to learn to

Educating the deaf and hard of hearing

There are several popular approaches to deaf education, each reflecting a different philosophy as to how the deaf should live:

- **Sign language approach**—Students are encouraged to be fluent in American Sign Language and not necessarily speak.
- **Oral approach**—Emphasis is on reading and writing whatever amount of hearing a student may have to understand speech. Students are taught to vocalize for themselves. Students in this track are typically given speech therapy and sent to hearing schools.
- **Total communication approach**—Calls

for students to learn to speak and sign. This is what the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind uses, although the school was lax about requiring people to sign before Angel Ramos became superintendent, said June Flannery, president of the Idaho Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, who spoke for herself and not her organization.

• **Bilingual/cultural approach**—Uses both signs and speech, but emphasizes that although deaf people live in hearing culture, they also have their own culture.

hearing and learn to speak." Egler said he even heard stories that the ridicule from students and teachers was so strong that students would lose or throw away their hearing aids.

"The real big issue is the politics with the staff and students," he said. Clars said that the Deaf community believes in signing, not lip reading.

Clars said it is foolish for people to wait for a deaf child to be able to choose for himself or herself whether to get an implant because it becomes much more difficult for them to learn speech after age 5. Clars compared it to sending children to school when they would rather play hooky. The implants work best when people get them early in life.

Clars said Ramos can't be all things to all people, but since the school is supported by tax dollars, it should support all types of learning.

"The Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind could really step up to the plate and be a resource," Clars said. It could serve the students with cochlear implants who are growing more numerous all the time.

Their son is now 5 and a half years old and is making progress with speaking and understanding sounds. Patty Clars said they would love to move back to Idaho if they felt their son could get a good education here.

The school does have an oral education preschool in Boise that started this year, but there are no plans for an oral kindergarten. Those children will either go the Gooding campus or continue in regular school districts, said Mary Dunne, the school's director of outreach for the deaf and hard of hearing. The

preschool added an oral class that started this fall because of parental demand to serve hard of hearing and cochlear-implanted pupils. Dunne said Ramos supported it.

Meeting their needs
David Meraldo, director of education of the hearing impaired at Idaho State University in Pocatello, is a hearing person who has worked with the deaf since 1968. He also taught Ramos when he was a student at the State University of New York.

Meraldo wrote in an e-mail that he supports all sorts of approaches to educating the deaf. If schools are being paid by the state, they should do everything possible to help children and parents make choices about whether to sign or speak.

Susan Arler, a professor of pediatric audiology at Northwestern University, said in an e-mail that whether a child should learn to speak or sign depends on many factors, such as implants and what sort of communication they will receive most often at home and at school. Those with implants benefit from being in classrooms where they can hear sounds and from being encouraged to speak.

Whatever the methods, the outcomes aren't always good. Deaf and hard of hearing students typically reading at a third- or fourth-grade reading level, Jane Kelleher Fernandes said in a speech presented at Gallaudet University in 1995.

At a book signing in Gooding last month, Ramos said deaf and blind students don't perform as well because of inadequate support for their needs. He said the majority of the students at the Gooding school started at other schools and failed at them. Those students are already behind, and the school has to bring them up to grade level.

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The Ramos case

Here's a timeline of developments in the case of Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind Superintendent Angel Ramos:

- Aug. 1, 2002: Ramos named superintendent.
- Summer 2002: Ramos starts recruiting parents for an advisory board.
- March 6, 2003: Parent advisory board opens forum.
- May 2003: Employees and parents meet with Gary Stivers of the State Board of Education.
- May 22, 2003: Ramos absolved of wrongdoing at State Board of Education meeting.

- June 2003: Maria Ramos resigns as developmental director of the school's fourth station.
- June 10, 2003: Corrective action plan approved by State Board of Education.
- July 22, 2003: Emergency meeting of parent advisory board in Boise.
- July 26, 2003: State board puts Ramos on paid administrative leave.
- Oct. 20, 2003: Students protest at school.
- Oct. 23, 2003: State issues audit on internal financial controls at the school.

Ramos writes book about protest

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

GOODING—A small crowd buzzed with speech and sign language in the cozy breakfast room of the Gooding Hotel, where Angel Ramos autographed his new book, "Triumph of the Spirit."

Ramos' book details the 1988 Deaf President Now movement at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C.

Students opposed the selection of Elizabeth A. Zinser, yet another hearing president of the university that serves the deaf, hard of hearing and hearing. The protests shut down the university for a week until Zinser resigned and I.

King Jordan was selected as the first deaf president. Ramos was chairman of the Deaf President Now fund during the protests.

After a dozen people on Dec. 20 came to the Gooding Hotel to get books signed and show their support for the superintendent of the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind who was on administrative leave awaiting a hearing this week.

Ramos spoke or signed with the people he talked to, depending on what they understood. Ramos' experience with deafness began when he was 9 years old. He woke up one morning and



Angel Ramos, left, laughs with then-high school senior Dora Lynn McClain while pulling files for a fund-raising project in this November 2001 photo.

he got master's degrees in education of the deaf from State University of New York and educational administration from California State University; then a doctorate in special education administration from Gallaudet University.

Ramos was also a Fullbright Scholar and founded the National Hispanic Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing in Washington, D.C.

Before he came to the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind in 2001, he was employed at Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, as director of the Hispanic Deaf Education Project. He managed a federal grant that trained Spanish speakers to become teachers of the deaf.

Ramos' book was published Dec. 11.

School

Continued from A1

first superintendent to welcome staff and students into his home and is able to converse with people wherever they are comfortable. In addition to the normal load of paperwork and negotiating with legislators, he got to know staff and attended their meetings.

Ramos is not a "yes man," and he was hired to get things done at the school, said Flannery, who spoke for herself and not her organization.

She was dean of students at the school's residential department from 1997 to 2001.

"Even when people disagree with him, Ramos does not stop trying to convince them, Flannery said. The result is that people are passionate about what he has done at the school, and leaving them in limbo is making things worse.

"The students are absolutely in turmoil," Flannery said. They aren't learning anything, and staff members are against each other.

Ramos' supporters formed the Save Our Superintendent committee to raise money for his legal fees. And some students protested at state board actions by refusing to attend class for several days in October.

A more deaf-friendly school
Ramos' changes gave the deaf community a greater feeling of ownership of the school.

"There's been an increased awareness of the possibilities for our deaf graduates to be in leadership roles," said Mary Dunne, the school's director of outreach for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Student Peter Forsman, 18, said earlier this year that Ramos was an inspiration to deaf students.

"We thank God we have a deaf person as superintendent for the deaf school," he said. "People will say, 'Wow, deaf people can do it.'"

About the school

Some facts about the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind:

- **Establishment:** Founded around 1906. It is written into Idaho's constitution.
- **State Board of Education:** Is responsible for operation of the school.
- **Enrollment:** It has an average about 80 students at the Gooding campus and

grouped together deaf and blind students in different classes. Students could be in different parts of different projects such as the Christmas play.

• **Where students live:** Some commute by bus from nearby cities, and about half stay in six cottages on campus and go home on weekends. They have a kitchen, a bathroom, a gender and have house parents to look after them.

• **Other issues:**
The State Board of Education's case against Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind Superintendent Angel Ramos includes these issues:

• **Optical school**
One of Ramos' projects that started in February 2001 was OptiSchool, a program meant to allow communication between parents and students all over the state and provide lessons via computer. The school budgeted about \$20,000 for the project, but by June 2003, the school had spent \$80,000 and it was still not implemented, according to a legislative audit.

Ramos supporter June Flannery said the program was ready to go before it was shut down.

• **Foundation and finances**
The ISDB Foundation was established in 1993 to handle donations to the school. For a long time, it was a spunky entity that held no fundraisers. Foundation board members would meet once a year to decide how the money would be used. Ramos' wife, Maria Ramos, started as a

direct contact with students, and Flannery said some people didn't like that.

Lundgren said some of the staff cannot sign well, and for some classes, "It's just not appropriate."

Taylor said people who were at the school for a long time were disgruntled with all the changes Ramos made and felt their toes were stepped on. "A lot of people were used to having power when they shouldn't have," Taylor said.

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Taylor said a bunch of little things snowballed to create unrest at the school. People on the parent advisory board were unhappy with things that Ramos did not cause, such as the principal's performance, the lack of a speech/language pathologist and a lack of communication with parents. Taylor said Ramos created the board far too early, and when Ramos did not want to participate in the mudslinging, parents turned against him.

Administrative leave

In May, Whiteman-Vera said, about 47 employees and 12 parents met with Gary Stivers of the State Board of Education to express their dissatisfaction with Ramos. She said the board that wasn't represented was the interpreter.

The school was represented by the state and Ramos was cleared of wrongdoing, but in June, the state issued a corrective action plan to improve how the school was run. In the July version of the plan, Ramos

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Ramos was put on administrative leave July 30, before the deadline for many of the changes, and Harry Lyter took over as acting superintendent.

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Ready for resolution

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Student Valerie Whitely, 19, said earlier this year the dispute has hurt the school.

"We want good teachers," she said. "Teachers and staff have a lot of conflict, and conflict makes them perform worse."

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NATION

Note-passing keeps robbers rich

N.Y. bank robberies increased in 2003

NEW YORK (AP) — The city's 400th bank robbery of 2003 required no safecracking. No hostages taken. Not even a drawn gun.

The robber simply walked into an HSBC branch in Manhattan on Tuesday, produced a threatening note demanding money and left with an undisclosed amount of cash.

The remarkable formula has been the hallmark of a remarkable series of city bank robberies in 2003. There were reported by New Year's Eve, up 64 percent from 249 in 2002.

The robbers, which include five blacks, just over an hour this past week, defied a dip in the city's bank robbery rate and outpaced robberies nationwide, especially at police and bank officials.

"I can't tell you why it's happening... It's just a rash," said Eric Hausdorf, director of security for North Fork Bank, hit by more than three dozen robberies in 2003.

The vast majority of stickups by armed robbers working solo were drug addicts desperate for easy cash, who used no more than a baseball cap and sunglasses as disguise.



A robber passes a note to a teller demanding money at a branch of the Valley National Bank in Midtown Manhattan in this image taken from a video surveillance camera Dec. 26. There were at least 402 bank robberies in New York City in 2003, compared to 244 the year before.

Their ranks even included women and children. In August, a 12-year-old boy handed a teller a note that read "I have a gun. Give me \$30,000," and then made off with cash. Police arrested the boy's mother and the teller, alleging it was an inside job.

The banking industry long ago abandoned armed guards to avoid the risk of gunplay that could threaten customers. Tellers tend to hand over a few thousand dollars rather than risk calling a bandit's bluff.

Under pressure from police, some banks have bolstered security, installing bulletproof glass "bandit barriers" and surveillance cameras.

"I think the banking industry has to do more," Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said this past week.

Kelly backs a pending City Council bill to require bandit barriers. Police also advocate wider use of exploding cash packs that coat robbers with a bright dye.

But the New York Bankers Association opposes mandatory bandit barriers, saying they don't deter robbers. It instead favors "vigilant surveillance," silent alarms and tougher sentences.

As the robberies have increased, so have arrests — 137 through Dec. 28, compared to 64 over the same period last year.

But in May — on the very afternoon Kelly passed out his awards to four banks lauding their security records — three Manhattan branches belonging to other banks were robbed in less than an hour.

Even the suburbs have not been spared in the outbreak of bank heists.

In Westchester County, a riding coach was accused of hitting six banks in just two days with notes that made unverified claims she was a victim of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"You listen good," one of her notes allegedly read. "I went through the Sept. 11 attack and I'm very angry today. Don't make a sound or everyone is going to die."

Girls do service, earn badges behind bars

By Jodi S. Cohen
Chicago Tribune

UNION GROVE, Wis. — The 16-year-old stole cars, shoplifted and landed in a maximum-security juvenile facility for beating a rival gang member. Now, as a member of arguably the nation's most unusual Girl Scout troop, she raises her right hand at least once a week and vows to change her life.

"I will do my best to be honest and fair, friendly and helpful, considerate and caring, courageous and strong, and responsible for what I say and do," she says, reciting the Girl Scout Law from memory. Raising their hands along with her are teenage girls convicted of murder, drug dealing, assault and other crimes.

Unlike the 2.8 million Girl Scouts worldwide who recite the same pledge, these approximately 80 girls do it behind a chain-link fence topped with razor wire. Instead of wearing traditional sashes and pins, they wear blue and white inmates' uniforms at the Southern Oaks Girls' School, where Girl Scouting is as mandatory as going to school or getting drug treatment.

For nearly a decade, this has been the only juvenile detention facility in the country with a Girl Scout troop. By next fall, Troop 344 hopes to make history again by having an inmate earn a Gold Award.

Each year, about 3,500 Girl Scouts nationwide receive the award, equivalent to the Eagle Scout rank for Boy Scouts. To get it, they are required to spend more than 50 hours organizing community service programs.

"I don't think anybody would have ever thought that a girl who is incarcerated could start earning a Gold Award," said Kimberlie Oates, director of the Southern Oaks Girls' School, which works with Troop 344. "This is something unprecedented in Girl Scout history."

The girls typically range in age from 12 to 19 and stay an average of 90 months in the state's only female juvenile correctional institution. More than 30 of them agreed to participate in the Gold Award program when it was announced last month.

"It's going to be kinda hard. I'll probably get it started in here and then I'll try to join a troop on the outs," said the girl from Baraboo, Wis., who led the others in the pledge. Her name and the names of other Scouts weren't used in this story because they are juveniles.

Like most of her fellow inmates, the teen says her enthusiasm for Girl Scouting is far different from her attitude when she was sentenced in March to Southern Oaks, about 20 miles northwest of Kenosha, Wis.

The troop was started a few months after the prison opened in 1994, when an official with the Girl Scouts of Racine County read about the new facility.

She suggested the idea of a prison troop to Southern Oaks superintendent Patricia Ogren, who agreed it seemed ideal for an inmate with girls similar to those the Girl Scout was developing a potential, relating values and contributing to society.

The Scouts have stuffed empty lipstick tubes with information about domestic violence, chanted infant booties and made Easter baskets for the Veterans Emergency Shelter and sent hundreds of cards to soldiers overseas. — For those activities, they've earned the community service badge.

And just like other troop nationwide, they survive financially by selling cookies.

Six years after the troop started selling cookies to other Wisconsin prisons, sales this year brought in a record \$2,361, money used to pay for the badges, \$10 membership fees and supplies.

Since the girls can't sell the cookies at grocery stores or anywhere else in the community, Wisconsin Department of Corrections officials agreed to let them sell to inmates in the state's other prisons. Last year, they sold cookies to 12 prisons.

A 16-year-old from Madison, Wis., convicted of assaulting a teacher, is planning a Gold Award project related to music. "When you're in a place like this, you can look out there and it doesn't feel good to know there is a fence all around us. It will give us something to look forward to," she said.

Lawyer says Limbaugh unfairly targeted

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Palm Beach County prosecutors investigating — Rush Limbaugh for his prescription drug abuse have filed "doctor shopping" charges against one person in the past five years, according to a review of court records.

Limbaugh's lawyer said the review by the Palm Beach Post in September's editions offers more evidence that the conservative radio commentator is being unfairly targeted.

"Rush Limbaugh has been singled out for special prosecution because of who he is," Roy Black

said in a written statement provided to the newspaper. "We believe the state attorney's office is applying a double standard."

State Attorney Barry Krischer denied Limbaugh was unfairly targeted, saying, "whether Mr. Limbaugh is subject to prosecution for any crimes is still under investigation."

Investigators obtained Limbaugh's medical records in November after discovering he received more than 2,000 painkillers, prescribed by four doctors, at a pharmacy near his home. Limbaugh's former maid told investigators she had been

supplying him prescription painkillers for years.

Limbaugh's attorneys had argued that the seizure of the medical records violated their client's privacy and that the investigation was politically motivated. He recently admitted his addiction, saying it stemmed from severe back pain, and took a five-week leave from his afternoon radio show to enter a rehabilitation program.

The Palm Beach Post review found only one other case in which the county filed charges of illegally acquiring overlapping prescriptions. The defendant

died before trial.

Doctor shopping, punishable by up to five years in prison, is duping at least two doctors into prescribing the same controlled substance in a 30-day period.

Two other doctor shopping cases were transferred from other counties and prosecuted in Palm Beach County, the newspaper found. One woman was convicted and received 18 months probation; another case has not yet gone to trial.

A telephone message left Saturday at Black's offices was not immediately returned.

Authorities search N.Y. offices of international food giant's attorney

PARMA, Italy (AP) — U.S. authorities searched the New York offices of an attorney for Parmalat as Italian prosecutors pressed their investigation of the international food giant, an official said Saturday.

Authorities have detained the lawyer Gianpaolo Zini, in Milan in connection with the collapse of the company.

"We heard that in New York they have some useful documents that they got from searching the office and residence of Zini," said a judicial official working on the case. The search was on Friday, the official said on condition of anonymity.

The daily newspaper Il Sole-24 Ore reported that police, acting at the direction of the Manhattan District Attorney's Office, took documents from Zini's Park

Avenue law office.

A spokesman for the District Attorney's Office declined comment.

Officials also searched offices of the Banco Di Monte in the northern Italian city of Parma, an official said.

Prosecutors say Parmalat's chief executive Calisto Tanzi has admitted diverting up to \$620 million from Parmalat to his family's tourism businesses.

The financial troubles at the multinational firm emerged on Dec. 19 when Bank of America revealed that it was not holding nearly \$5 billion for a Cayman Islands subsidiary of the company as Parmalat had claimed.

Tanzi, who is under arrest, has said the hole in the company's balance sheet may be as large as \$12.5 billion.

Guitarist says his New Year's Eve arrest in hotel scuffle was unfair

NAPLES, Fla. (AP) — The lead guitarist for the rock band Rush said his arrest at a New Year's Eve party was unfair.

Alex Zivojinovich — known on stage as Alex Lifeson — was arrested for what police described as drunken, violent behavior at the Naples Ritz-Carlton hotel. He faces six charges, including four felonies, the most serious of which carries a maximum sentence of 30 years.

"This gives new meaning to dinner at the Ritz," Zivojinovich, 50, said as he left jail Friday on \$14,500 bond, wearing the same black suit he wore to the New

Year's Eve bash.

Zivojinovich said he didn't believe his arrest was fair. "They didn't like the way we were dancing, apparently," he said.

Also arrested were his son Justin Zivojinovich, 33, and his son's wife, Michelle Zivojinovich, 30.

According to authorities, the scuffle began when Justin Zivojinovich refused to leave the stage where the house band was performing.

His father spat blood on a deputy's face and pushed a deputy down a hotel stairwell during the struggle, police said.

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New federal rules require longer rest hours for truckers

Knight Ridder News Service

ORLANDO, Fla. — Sweeping new federal regulations that go into effect today are designed to make the nation's highways safer by keeping drowsy truckers off the road. But truckers complain the rules could actually cause more accidents.

The regulations are supposed to reduce the risk of fatigue for truckers by setting work-hour rules encouraging a 24-hour cycle.

But that may prove a tough fit for an economy that likes to roll trucks anywhere, anytime, and a trucking industry that meets that need with a fierce tradition of independence.

"Nobody likes it," said Robert Morris, 50, an independent trucker from Charlotte, N.C., in Orlando last week to deliver a load of refrigerated foods. "I haven't talked to a driver or heard on the

radio from anyone who agrees with it."

Starting Sunday, the nation's 3 million truckers can only work 14-hour shifts, including loading, up to 11 hours of driving, breaks and unloading. Those shifts must be followed by 10 hours off the clock — two hours more than the law required previously.

The new rules give truckers an extra hour of driving time, but the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, which represents 65,000 truckers, claims that will increase fatigue, making highways more dangerous.

Even more troubling to some truckers is how the new 24-hour cycle is supposed to work. Until now, truckers could work and take breaks — getting on and off the clock as they saw fit. Under the new rules, once drivers begin their day, it must end 14 hours later.

Jerry Drury, vice president for

safety at Armellini Industries, a large, long-haul trucking company based in Palm City, Fla., said he envisions a lot of truckers trying to drive through their fatigue, though he noted that his own company always puts two drivers in a truck to reduce such risks.

"In the past if a guy got tired, he could pull over and take an hour nap, and that would not count against his total time. Under the new law, it's going to count against him," Drury said. "Where's the incentive for a guy to pull over and go to sleep? I think he's going to push it."

Annually, there are almost 5,000 fatal accidents involving big trucks. Because of inconsistent state policies, there is no clear way

to know how many involve driver fatigue. Estimates range from less than 2 percent to 50 percent.

Federal regulators contend the changes, the first in truckers' schedules since 1940, will save at least 75 lives a year and prevent thousands of accidents.

"What we have done is synchronize the commercial drivers' work-rest schedule better with the body's 24-hour circadian rhythm. That's the body's natural clock," said Andy Beck, spokesman for the U.S. Department of Transportation. "It will save lives."

The new rules should make driving safer for everyone, according to AAA.

"We really think they're going to

be a positive for traffic safety," said Kevin Bakewell, vice president of AAA Auto Club South. "They do require additional off-duty, rest time — 10 hours — as opposed to the eight hours in the previous version."

"It's definitely a beneficial trade-off" for the extra hour of driving, he said.

Not everyone thinks so, however. Teamsters spokesman Rob Black said companies will force truckers to drive that extra hour regardless of whether they should.

"For all of the talk of the increased rest time, still, it's increased drive time," Black said. "With the increased time behind the wheel of this heavy piece of machinery, clearly you see how the fatigue can only increase."

For the past 64 years, truckers were limited to a 15-hour workday. But that rule was pretty meaningless because they could clock out whenever they were not driving So

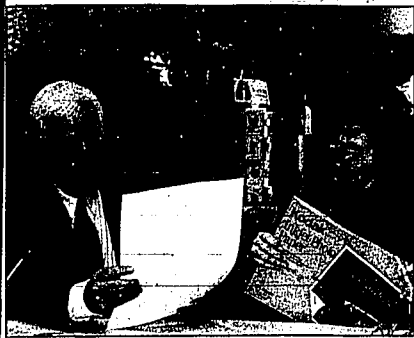
if they were waiting hours for a shipper to load a truck, or for a receiver to unload it, the time did not necessarily count as work.

Not any longer. "It said studies show those loading, unloading and even on-road breaks still drain drivers, increasing the chance of fatigue. The key is creating a 24-hour cycle. So the 14-hour schedule is rigid."

"The change in hours, the new ones as far as 11 hours driving, we can all live with that," said Jerry Heeter, 55, of Elkhart, Ind., who stopped in Orlando while taking a load to Bradenton. "Not being able to split up that 14 hours can really screw up a day."

Trucker Robert Morris said drowsy truckers might resort to a safer but illegal approach: catch a quick break but forge the logbooks to make up for lost time.

"There's going to be a lot more — how can I say it? — illegal truck driving done," Morris said.



Calling them 'future voters,' Carolyn Barnes shares photos of her grandchildren with Nick Clooney Dec. 12, at Morgan Drugstore in Bedford, Ky. Clooney, 69, the father of actor George Clooney, is a Democrat running for the 4th District congressional seat soon to be vacated by incumbent Ken Lucas.

Actor's father courts voters in bid for congressional seat

BEDFORD, Ky. (AP) — Political newcomer Nick Clooney needed no introduction as he shook hands with people hunched over steaming breakfast plates at the farmhouse restaurant.

"I knew him since I walked in the door, and I had never met him before," said Richard Gin, a real estate appraiser and tobacco farmer.

The 69-year-old congressional candidate has instant recognition in northern Kentucky from his days as a Cincinnati television news anchor.

It doesn't hurt that he's also the father of actor George Clooney, the brother of the late singer-actress Rosemary Clooney, a columnist for The Cincinnati Post for 15 years and a former host on the cable network American Movie Classics.

The silver-haired candidate greeted people with his smooth, baritone voice while making the rounds at the small cafe. His wife, Nina, also chatted up customers.

"I've been doing this all my life," Clooney said later. "You start off talking to make them feel a little more comfortable. And then you shut up. And then they start really telling you stuff."

They told him about health care, the decline of tobacco and an Ohio River bridge up the road that they want replaced.

Clooney is so far the only Democrat in the race for the seat held by Kentucky's lone Democratic congressman, Ken Lucas, who is retiring and recruited Clooney.

But Clooney faces a tough fight. Lucas was the first Democrat in three decades to represent the conservative district that snakes along the Ohio River from the West Virginia line nearly to Louisville and takes in much of the Kentucky suburbs of Cincinnati.

Two Republicans are running — Geoff Davis, a Boone County business consultant who lost to Lucas in 2002, and Kevin Murphy, an Erlanger attorney.

President Bush is popular in the district, and Republicans are expected to pour money into the race.

Clooney's inexperience also could play a role, said Michael Baranowski, a Northern Kentucky University political science professor, who considers Davis the front-runner.

"I like all first-time candidates in a race that's going to be high profile, he's going to make some mistakes," Baranowski said. "And he doesn't have much margin for error."

Clooney calls himself a "common sense Democrat" and stresses health care, jobs, veterans issues

and a proposed buyout of farmers' federal tobacco growing quotas.

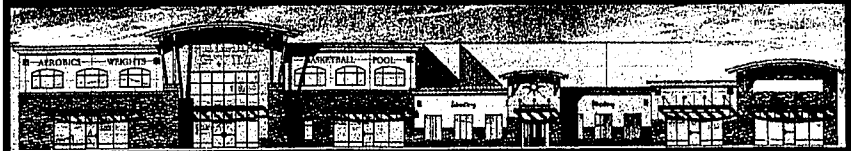
He believes the Bush tax cuts just created a huge deficit and says he would focus tax cuts on those in need. "Why are we continuing to empower those who don't need our help, and not empower, more, those who do?" Clooney said.

He was an early critic of the war in Iraq, though he says the Bush administration must now finish the job and establish democracy. "I didn't think we had reason enough to send 300,000 kids over there in harm's way without enough evidence of the weapons of mass destruction being there," Clooney said.

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NATION/WORLD

Attacks on U.S. troops remain steady

Knight Ridder News Service

BAGHDAD — Saddam Hussein's capture three weeks ago hasn't slowed the anti-American insurgency in Iraq, which now seems more entrenched than ever, according to a review of recent attacks and interviews with U.S. and Iraqi officials.

U.S. and Iraqi officials say they doubt that Saddam had a significant role in directing guerrilla attacks. While his interrogation has led to some arrests, basic information is still lacking about the guerrilla cells that are attacking U.S. and allied troops with sophistication and brutality.



Saddam Hussein

"We don't think, as some have speculated, that he was the central figure managing the entire anti-coalition operation," said Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, the top U.S. military spokesman in Iraq. Still, officials believe the former leader played some role. "We just don't understand where Saddam fits in? We're putting that puzzle together."

U.S. intelligence officials in Washington said Saddam has begun cooperating with U.S. interrogators, but they said he claims he wasn't involved in directing the resistance and denies he had links to al-Qaida or other international terrorist groups who now appear to be joining the guerrillas.

The pace of attacks on U.S. troops weeks after Saddam's capture has shaken U.S. officials' confidence that they know whom the insurgents are, and has made targeting the insurgents difficult at best. Some people working with U.S. forces say many detained in the crackdown against anti-U.S. forces know little about the organization or seem to be uninvolved in the insurgency.

Even something as basic as the number of anti-U.S. fighters in Iraq is a mystery. "We've seen varied assessments that range from 500 to 5,000 or even higher," Kimmitt said. "I don't think we really have a good fix on that number."

"As for how the various cells might relate to one another, officials admit they are working on hunches as much as anything."

Brig. Gen. Martin Dempsey, who commands the Army's 1st Armored Division in Baghdad, said he's convinced that there's a central planning, training and supply network behind the homemade roadside bombs that explode nearly daily around the country.

However, "I can't tell you that I have absolute confidence that I am correct," Dempsey said. "They just seem to have a quality about them." Other officials say attacks around the country in the past week have differed so much in technique — from suicide bombings to mortar assaults — that it seems unlikely they're the work of a single organization.

The pace of killing and maiming of American troops hasn't slowed since Saddam's Dec. 13 arrest.

In the 14 days prior to Saddam's capture, 11 American soldiers were killed in the 14 days after his capture, that figure was 14, not including four Bulgarian and two Thai soldiers who also died.

On Christmas Day in Baghdad, there were 18 attacks, including nine nearly simultaneous ones by rocket-propelled grenades, that slammed into embassies, the so-called "Green Zone" that serves as the coalition's headquarters, and an Iraqi apartment complex, setting off a barrage of explosions that terrified much of the city.

Three days later, in the southern town of Karbala, four suicide bombers killed 18 people, including six coalition soldiers, and wounded more than 150. On New Year's Eve, again in Baghdad, a car bomb tore through a popular upscale restaurant, killing at least five and wounding dozens.

Iraqis and U.S. military officials are left to wonder whether the widespread is the result of a single large organization, disparate cells or lone fighters.

American civilian officials cast the ongoing attacks as an attempt to sabotage the handover of authority to a new Iraqi government in July, but several members of Iraq's Governing Council said last week that the guerrilla war has turned into a terrorist free-for-all fanned by U.S. failure to seal the country's borders.

"It's a terrorist war now," said council member Saouqil Chapouk, who represents Iraqi Kurdistan and the city of Kirkuk, about 150 miles north of Baghdad. "Many people in my city were (Saddam Hussein loyalist fighters), but I see them and they are working now, not out conducting attacks."

Soldier dies in attack; two more die in bomb blast

The two separate attacks wound five other soldiers

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Insurgents hit a U.S. base in central Iraq with mortar shells, killing one American soldier and wounding two others, the military said Saturday.

In a separate attack, rebels set off a bomb and opened fire on a U.S. convoy in Baghdad, killing two soldiers and wounding three.

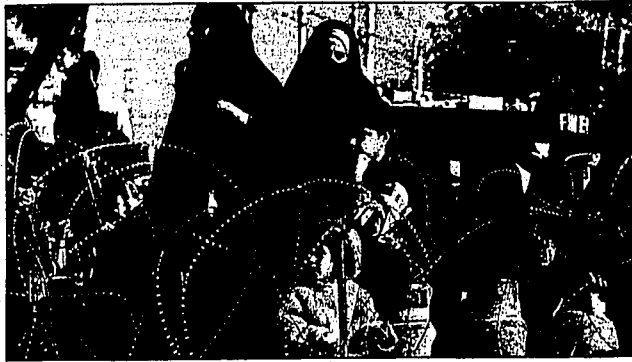
The mortar shells struck a base of the Army's 4th Infantry Division on Friday night in Salad, north of Baghdad. Sgt. Robert Cargie said.

One shell exploded near a trailer used as a bedroom by some troops, and a soldier standing in its doorway was killed, he said.

Two other soldiers were struck by shrapnel and taken to a combat support hospital, where they were in stable condition, Cargie said.

The U.S. military searched for the assailants by helicopter and set up checkpoints in the area. Six people were detained for questioning, a military spokesman said.

In a separate attack Friday in



Iraqis wait in line Saturday to buy cooking gas at a propane gas station in Baghdad. Iraq is still facing heavy shortages of fuel prompting long lines for gasoline and cooking gas.

Baghdad, a bomb exploded in the al-Rashid district and insurgents opened fire on a U.S. convoy, killing two U.S. soldiers and wounding three others, the military said.

The names of the slain soldiers were withheld pending notification of next of kin.

Northwest of Baghdad, hun-

dreds of residents protested Saturday in Hadithah, saying U.S. soldiers had raided the town overnight.

A cameraman for Associated Press Television News filmed four shroud-covered bodies and one person in a hospital who was injured by a gunshot.

Residents said the four died in

the U.S. raid, but there was no way to immediately verify the claim. The military had no immediate comment.

The soldiers were in armored vehicles and "targeted three houses — my sister's house, my uncle's and my own," said Abdel Meguid Awad, a resident.

Hadithah is part of the so-called

"Sunni Triangle," the former heartland of Saddam Hussein's support and a center of opposition to the U.S.-led occupation.

The American search for fugitives and insurgents is focused on the region.

Also Friday, the U.S. military shelled the sparsely populated southern edge of Baghdad to root out insurgents believed to be launching mortar shells and rockets.

A military spokesman said the shelling of the Doura neighborhood was part of an offensive dubbed Operation Iron Grip. Residents said it appeared U.S. fire was targeting fields in the neighborhood.

Bordered by date palm farms, Doura was once home to a number of former officials in Saddam's government and is now the site of a U.S. military base.

The military is conducting operations like Iron Grip "in response to mortar rounds being fired" from specific locations around the city, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt told reporters.

The operations send "a very clear message to anybody who thinks that they can run around Baghdad without worrying about the consequences of firing (rocket-propelled grenades), firing mortars," he said.

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U.S. Army might expand 'stop-loss'

Soldiers would have to remain in military

Los Angeles Times

Desperate to stretch its limited ranks, the U.S. Army is expected next week to prohibit still more soldiers now in Iraq and soon to be deployed there from leaving military service.

Army officials declined to say which or how many soldiers would be affected when it expands its "stop-loss" program, which already prevents soldiers in certain heavily used specialties from leaving the military or being reassigned to another unit.

But the last such edict, issued Nov. 13, covered all of the more than 110,000 active-duty soldiers whose units are scheduled to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan between now and May.

"Because the order takes effect 90 days before the troops' 12-month deployments and lasts for 90 days after a return home, those troops couldn't retire or leave the Army before the spring of 2005 at the earliest, even if their enlistments expire before then."

The announcement of a further expansion of the program, which Army officials confirmed is imminent, comes amid evidence that the army is straining to meet its growing commitments around the world.

Since the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, the Army has repeatedly blocked certain soldiers from retiring or leaving. Most of the previous stop-loss orders came in the period directly after the terrorist attacks, and then again as the Pentagon prepared for war in Iraq early in 2003.

The orders have generally applied to troops whose skills have been in high demand in Iraq, such as military police or civil affairs specialists, and some of those orders have subsequently been lifted. But the Nov. 13 order was far broader.

The Pentagon views these steps as a tool to halt the hemorrhage of personnel at a time when more than half its combat troops are fighting in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere.

Since it began instituting the stop-loss orders two years ago, the Army has blocked the retirements and departures of more than 40,000 soldiers, about 16,000 of

them National Guard and reserve members. Hundreds more in the Air Force, Navy and Marines were briefly blocked from retiring or departing the military at some point this year.

Already, by preventing soldiers from leaving the Army at retirement or the expiration of their contracts, military leaders have breached the Army's manpower limit of 488,000 troops, a ceiling set by Congress.

In testimony before the Senate Armed Services Committee last month, Gen. Peter Schoemaker, the Army chief of staff, said the number of active-duty soldiers had reached 500,000. Several lawmakers questioned the legality of exceeding the limit by so much.

Lt. Gen. Dennis Carvin, commander of U.S. Army Accessions Command, told CNN Friday that the stop-loss program is designed "to provide continuity and consistency" for deployed units and to execute their mission to the highest degree of their effectiveness.

He said the program does not mean the Army has a shortage of qualified troops to support the war on terror. He said the Army remains "very successful" in its recruiting efforts and continues to bring in top-quality men and women.

But senior Army officials have been complaining for more than six months that the Army needs to grow to handle its burgeoning commitments in an age of global terrorism.

Army officials have said that the restrictions on leaving the military are critical not only because they boost the number of soldiers who can be sent to war zones, but because they increase the cohesion of Army units by limiting turnover in personnel.

But the practice is deeply controversial within the military. Some soldiers have complained it amounts to a reinstatement of the draft.

Stop-loss authority was first given to the military by Congress after the Vietnam War when the Pentagon was struggling to refill its combat ranks.

It was not used until 1990, during the buildup to the Persian Gulf War.

Bush's new foreign aid plan will begin soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — A revolution in U.S. foreign aid, rewarding countries for how they govern, is finally ready to get under way, almost two years after first promised by the Bush administration.

The program will favor countries whose governments are judged to be just rulers, welcoming hosts for foreign investment and promoters of projects to meet their people's basic health and education needs.

Corrupt police states need not apply. Administration officials expect this year to inaugurate President Bush's plan, known as the Millennium Challenge Account, which he outlined in March 2002.

It contemplated \$5 billion annually for the program starting in 2006, a 50 percent increase over the base foreign aid budget of \$10 billion.

The administration had hoped for \$1.3 billion for the current budget year, which began Oct. 1, as a starter, Congress has provided nothing so far but is expected to approve \$1 billion after it reconvenes this month.

Bush's initiative came six months after the Sept. 11 attacks and clearly has a national security component.

"Poverty, weak institutions and corruption can make weak states vulnerable to terrorist networks and drug cartels within their borders," according to Bush's National Security Strategy report from September 2002.

Andrew Natsios, administrator of the Agency for International Development, calls it "a revolution in development initiatives."

Based on long decades of experience, Natsios said, "money will not solve the problem of bad policy" but can accelerate progress in countries with enlightened governments.

Bush's idea is not without its critics. Rep. Bob Menendez, D-N.J., an expert on Latin America, said the program does nothing over the short term to help that region's impoverished masses.

Chester Crocker, a top aide on Africa policy in the Reagan admin-

97-year-old survives in quake rubble

BAM, Iran (AP) — Iranian rescue workers pulled a 97-year-old woman from the rubble Saturday, nine days after an earthquake "axed" this city. U.N. officials warned many survivors were suffering psychological disorders as the confirmed death toll rose to 29,700.

Sharbanou Mazandarani asked for a cup of tea after emerging uninjured. She complained it was too hot to drink because "God kept me alive." Mazandarani said.

Rescuers said she was saved by furniture that protected her from falling masonry. Search dogs located Mazandarani under a collapsed building and it took three hours of digging to pull her out.

"No one expected you to be alive. It's a miracle," provincial government spokesman Asadollah Iranmanesh said. The official Iranian news agency quoted the Red Crescent Society as saying Mazandarani was 97.

A report by the U.N. Disaster Assessment Coordination Team said the confirmed death toll from the Dec. 26 quake had risen to 29,700 with the addition of 1,700 burials in villages around the southeastern city of Bam. It said there are believed to be at least 5,000 unregistered burials.

"Post-traumatic stress disorder is highly prevalent," the U.N.



An Iranian woman, Sharbanou Mazandarani, speaks to a TV newsmen at a hospital in the Iranian town of Bam Saturday in this image taken from TV. The woman, in her 90s, was reportedly pulled from the rubble Saturday, nine days after an earthquake struck Bam.

report said. On Friday the U.S. field hospital operated on a young Iranian soldier who tried to commit suicide by shooting himself after discovering the Dec. 26 quake had wiped out his family.

"If we don't pay the best attention to this, it will lead to more cases of depression, suicide and other mental health problems," said Dr. Mohammad Farajpour, the head of Kerman province's mental

health department.

French and German aid groups were flying in 130 psychologists and psychiatrists to counsel survivors, the U.N. report said. The Iranian Red Crescent Society has already deployed 40 women counselors to Bam.

The quake of magnitude 6.6 damaged as much as 85 percent of Bam's buildings beyond repair, the report said. Tent camps with heat-

ing were being erected around the city, U.N. officials said.

Farajpour said the supply of opium to the city's addicts had been disrupted. Before the tremor, an estimated 20 percent of people over the age of 15 in a population of 80,000 were believed to be addicted.

Methadone, codeine and sterile syringes were being given to drug addicts, Farajpour said.

The United Nations plans to complete within four days an assessment of the city's needs for water, sanitation, food and shelter.

Bill Garvelink, head of the U.S. relief team in Bam said the destruction was worse than any quake zone he had seen.

"It's incredible," Garvelink said. "Bam is literally a rubble pile. I haven't seen any business functioning and you don't see anybody living in their homes."

On Friday, Iran's state radio, which is controlled by conservatives, accused President Bush of interference in Iran. Bush had said he was glad Iran accepted U.S. assistance, but stressed that its government must embrace democratic reforms and turn over detainees from the al-Qaida terrorist group. Iran says its handling of the al-Qaida detainees is an internal matter.

Iranian-Americans aid quake victims

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Iranian-American groups have raised more than \$1 million to help victims of last week's deadly earthquake in Iran, money that some hope will improve relations between the countries.

"I am hoping out of this to have a new relationship going on between the United States and the Iranian government," said Reza Dehbozorgi, head of the Iranian Professionals Association of South Florida.

The 6.6-magnitude earthquake, which killed at least 30,000 people, prompted a nationwide effort by both Iranians and Muslims in general to send relief.

President Bush, who has said Iran is a "major international axis of evil," lifted sanctions for 90 days to allow aid to reach victims. Washington and Tehran have had no diplomatic relations since militants seized the U.S. embassy in the Iranian capital in 1979.

The Southfield, Mich.-based Muslim charity Life for Relief and Redevelopment sent seven tons of food and children's clothing immediately after the quake and plans to send medical supplies.

In Los Angeles, home to a third of the nation's 277,000 Iranian immigrants, the Iranian Muslim Association of North America raised more than \$600,000 in pledges during a telethon. The association said it expected about 1,000 people to attend a memorial service Sunday.

"When you see those pictures, it doesn't matter if it's your relatives or your family.

Everyone wants to help," said the association's president, Sadegh Namazikhah.

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Along with tending to its members' medical needs, Blue Cross of Idaho contributes to the state's economic welfare. At its headquarters in Meridian, Blue

Cross of Idaho employs more than 600 employees, with additional staff in district offices in Coeur d'Alene, Lewiston, Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls.

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Part of Blue Cross of Idaho's commitment to being a caring corporate citizen includes its ability to offer resources, time and teamwork to the neighborhoods it serves.

teamwork to the neighborhoods it serves.

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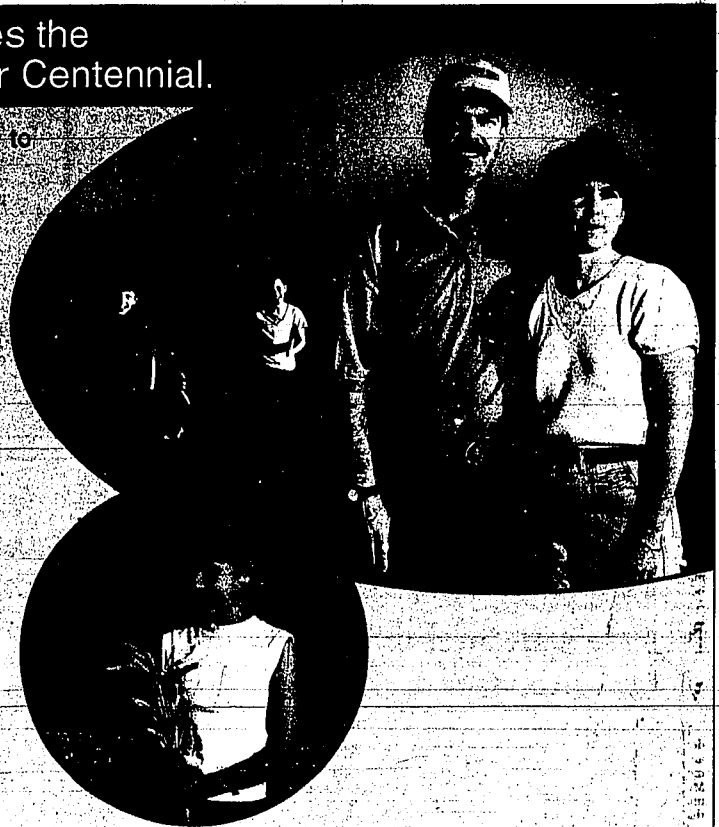
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'Crocodile Hunter' battles public over stunt

TV host feeds croc while cradling baby

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin has survived tussles with giant crocodiles, poisonous snakes and, of course, crocodiles. Now he faces a new threat: claims he endangered his infant son.

Irwin drew fire from child welfare groups and was named the subject of a government investigation for a publicity stunt Friday in which he fed a crocodile with one hand while cradling his month-old son, Robert, in the other.

The incident at Irwin's popular reptile park in Beerwah, north of Brisbane, was captured on Australian television, and viewers later jammed phone lines to express their outrage, media reports said.

"I think he's a bloody idiot, he's addicted to the attention," crocodile farm owner Keith Cook told The Courier-Mail.

At a news conference Saturday, Irwin said he probably would have done things differently with his son, but he defended his actions.

"It's all about perceived danger. I was in complete control," said Irwin, flanked by his father, his wife and his 5-year-old daughter. "People say, 'Well, what if you had fallen?' But for that to take place a meteorite would have had to come out of the sky and hit Australia at 6.6 on the Richter scale like in Iran," he said.

Irwin has gained worldwide fame for his "Crocodile Hunter" show on Animal Planet, in which he talks excitedly about exotic and dangerous creatures — sometimes from extremely close proximity to the beasts. Animal Planet's Web site features several "Close Call Clips" that show Irwin getting bitten or merrily escaping the jaws of hungry reptiles.

Friday's footage on Australian TV showed Irwin feed a dead



Australian Steve Irwin, famous for his TV show 'The Crocodile Hunter' cradles his month-old son, Robert, under one arm and feeds a piece of meat to a 13-foot crocodile in an image from television Friday at his Australia Zoo reptile park in Brisbane, Australia.

chicken to a 13-foot crocodile named Murray while he held Bob in the other hand. Murray snapped up the meat.

"Good boy, Bob," Irwin said, according to the tabloid Herald Sun. He then balanced the boy on the ground after the crocodile had retreated to the water.

Irwin's wife, Terri, had handed the baby over to Irwin in the enclosure and giggled at the spectacle.

"It was a wonderful, sensory experience for him (the baby). He dug it," she said.

The stunt drew comparisons to singer Michael Jackson's handling of his infant son in Berlin in November 2002. A national broadcaster, The Australian, called it "a bizarre act at his Sunshine Coast zoo that mirrored Michael Jackson's dangling of

his newborn over a balcony."

Queensland state's workplace safety authority was investigating if Irwin violated safety laws, which bar unauthorized people from entering a crocodile enclosure that is part of a public display. Police officers went to the zoo to tell Irwin that people charged were brought.

Animal Planet released a statement on its Web site criticizing the stunt.

"Based on the footage we have seen, we believe a mistake was made," the statement said. "That said, we know from the many years we have worked with Steve, that his family is the most important thing in his life and he takes his role as a father very seriously."

Irwin has never been shy about putting himself — and occasionally his family — in what appear to be precarious situations. In its report, Channel 7 showed footage of Bindi swimming with a giant python, while Terri frequently joins him on his television jaunts.

"Bindi is very cross-savvy and we live in crocodile territory so they (the children) have to be cross-savvy," Irwin told reporters.

Child support and family groups said Irwin should never have exposed his son to such peril.

"Most parents would cringe at the sight of such things," Bill Muehlenberg of the Australian Family Association told the Herald Sun. "One slip, one fall and he is the crocodile's lunch."

Queensland's Families Minister Judy Spence was seeking unedited tapes of the incident.

"I have seen the television footage and while I have no doubt the Irwins love their children very much, I believe it was an error of judgment to place a baby in a potentially dangerous situation," Spence said.

Risk of failure looms over talks in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — After a three-week rollercoaster ride marked by shouting matches, backdoor bargaining and boycotts, Afghanists' constitutional council broke down again Saturday — this time over a single word.

Leaders called the last-minute hitch shameful, and vowed that Sunday will be the final day for talks on the constitution, which is supposed to help the nation reconcile and rebuild after years of civil war.

The missing word, delegates said, was "official" — the status that speakers of Uzbek and Turkic languages want for their native tongues. The dispute has highlighted Afghanistan's enduring ethnic divisions.

"Everything is resolved except a difference about one word. Some of the delegates want it and some don't," council chairman Sibghatullah Mujaddedi said. "It is shameful we couldn't bring complete agreement on this word."

"If we cannot finalize it tomorrow, we will announce to the world that we have failed," he told dismayed delegates seated in a tent on a Kabul college campus.

The ethnic split, led by influential regional leaders, bodes ill for efforts to disarm the unruly militias who control much of the country since helping the United States oust Taliban two years ago.

The friction pits smaller groups against the Pashtuns, from whom the Taliban drew their strength. It has poisoned the political atmosphere ahead of key national elections slated for the summer.

Foreign officials have warned that Taliban insurgents want to disrupt the convention, and on Saturday night police reported an explosion — possibly a rocket — not far from the meeting site. No damage or injuries were reported.

With U.S.-backed President Hamid Karzai vowing to run only

if the constitution installs a dominant chief executive, American and U.N. diplomats have been scrambling to salvage a deal. Journalists were hustled out of the tent after Mujaddedi adjourned the meeting to allow more private negotiations.

One prominent delegate told reporters the talks were snagged on whether the language of Uzbek and Turkmen minorities should join Dari and Pashto on the list of official languages.

A group of Turkic languages similar to Uzbek are spoken by about 11 percent of Afghanistan's 25 million people.

"We don't want our culture to be destroyed," said Hedayatullah Hedayat, an Uzbek delegate who has warned that warlords will regain influence if smaller ethnic groups aren't reassured. "I can neither read nor write in Uzbek because we have no schools of our language."

Hedayat said U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad and U.N. Special Representative Lakhdar Brahimi had tried to broker a deal for the languages to be recognized.

Mujaddedi then presented a text saying Uzbek would be allowed in schools, but not officially recognized, Hedayat said. "It's our right. Afghanistan is the home of many languages," he said.

Pashtuns have rejected the idea, saying others among Afghanistan's kaleidoscope of ethnic groups would make claims of their own, risking chaos.

Earlier Saturday, President Hamid Karzai cautioned that Pashtun and largely overcome the threat of a boycott by delegates from the north.

Karzai had insisted that the constitution could be ratified even with a narrow majority. But with the powerful presidency he wants apparently secured.

Leaders aim for improved India-Pakistan relations

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Terrorism, free trade and fighting poverty top the agenda at a South Asian summit on Sunday, but attention will be focused on the sidelines, where Pakistan and India leaders have a historic opportunity to cement peace over-words after a half-century of hatred.

The leaders of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, the Maldives, Nepal, and Sri Lanka are meeting in the Pakistani capital for the third day of a summit. A breakthrough agreement that would create a free-trade zone by 2006 was reached at pre-summit meetings on Friday.

Far more interesting will be the chance for talks between Pakistan President Gen. Pervez Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the first since the two men sparred the thaw in relations last year.

In recent months, the region's two most populous nations have traded nuclear brinkmanship, a shell caseload, and a host of other incidents. Both nations have expressed a willingness to try to end the 40-year-old Kashmir conflict, the source of two wars between the nuclear-armed neighbors since they gained independence from Britain in 1947.

"There's a general assumption that this opportunity will be the start of a new era," said Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Kasuri said Saturday.

There are hopes that a formal peace dialogue could be announced.

"The results of such a meeting may not be spectacular, but it will be a breaking of the ice," said Asma Jehangir, a prominent mem-



Nepalese Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa, left, is greeted by Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf in Rawalpindi, Pakistan, Saturday. Thapa arrived in Pakistan to attend the South Asian regional summit.

ber of the independent Pakistan-India Forum for Peace and Democracy. "This conflict has held the whole region hostage, so just the fact that a meeting is happening is very significant."

Vajpayee has said he would meet with Prime Minister Zafarullah Khan Jamali, who is Pakistan's official representative at the summit, but insists he will not discuss flashpoint issues like Kashmir. He has not yet agreed to on-one talks with Musharraf, the nation's real power broker. Officials on both sides say private talks at a meeting is likely, however.

It is Vajpayee's first visit to Pakistan since he met former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif for talks in the eastern city of Lahore

Poverty among the 1.3 billion people of the region — one-fifth of the world's population, is endemic. In 2001 and 2002, the nations missed two deadlines to create a free trade zone before Friday's agreement, which will break down tariffs starting in 2006.

The association's initiatives — to fight human trafficking, improve education and upgrade infrastructure — are mostly still paper fantasies.

In fact, the seven nations have had a hard time agreeing even on when and where to meet.

The Islamabad gathering — only the 12th summit of heads of state since 1985 in what was supposed to be a yearly event — was delayed for 12 months because of India's refusal to come.

Many at this year's summit say they hope the India-Pakistan issue does not cloud other desperately important challenges facing the region.

Nepal has been losing ground to a bloody Maoist insurgency that is in control of a third of the country. Peace talks to end a 20-year civil war in Sri Lanka that has claimed 65,000 lives are spurring. Even the tiny, 100,000-person kingdom of Bhutan launched a December military campaign to oust rebels using their territory to attack troops in neighboring India.

The regional summit is taking place amid unprecedented security in the 2000 to April 2001, attempts by suspected Islamic militants to assassinate Musharraf.

Weeks before the summit, officials began sprucing up the capital — adding several sculptures along a route delegates must travel to reach the convention site, repaving roads and placing festive lights and multicolored flags on nearby buildings.

Israeli patrol kills three Palestinians in West Bank

NABLUS, West Bank (AP) — Israeli soldiers shot and killed three Palestinians Saturday during fighting in this West Bank city that came amid Egyptian efforts to negotiate a truce to end 39 months of violence.

The cause of the violence was disputed. The Israeli military said troops on patrol opened fire after being attacked with rocks, fire-bombs and a "concrete" block dropped from a roof, while Palestinian witnesses said Israelis killed an attacker and two bystanders, including a 15-year-old boy on a rooftop who was watching troops pass.

Hours later, Israeli soldiers shot at mourners during the funeral procession for the three people shot earlier, badly wounding one man and lightly wounding three others. The army said it shot two men carrying weapons during the gathering. Witnesses claimed the shooting was unprovoked.

Small soldiers usually give a wide berth to funeral processions, where mourners with rifles often shoot into the air. Witnesses said there were no gunmen at the funeral Saturday.

The violence threatened to undermine an Egyptian initiative to negotiate a cease-fire after 39 months of Mideast violence.

Over the past two weeks, Israel

has conducted a series of raids in Nablus against Palestinian militants in the area.

Late Friday, a roadside bomb blew up next to an Israeli army vehicle in the West Bank city. The militant Islamic Jihad group took responsibility for that attack, which caused no casualties.

Chief Palestinian negotiator Sa'ed Erekat criticized the latest violence.

"We condemn in the strongest possible terms the Israeli atrocities in Nablus and we hold the Israeli government fully responsible for its consequences," he said.

In other violence, Israeli forces shot and killed a Palestinian planting an explosive device near a Jewish settlement in the Gaza Strip, an Israeli military spokesman said. The spokesman said the man was shot late Friday, but his body discovered only Saturday morning.

The violence comes amid reports that a new deal will end its intelligence chief — a key Mideast mediator — to meet with Palestinians next week in a renewed effort to press militant groups to halt attacks on Israel, Palestinian officials said Friday.

The visit by Gen. Omar Sulaiman comes amid growing Palestinian concerns that Israel will impose its own borders on the West Bank as peace efforts break down.

Nigeria's army claims victory over terror group

LAGOS, Nigeria (AP) — Nigeria declared Saturday it had put down an armed uprising by an Islamic movement seeking to create a Muslim state in Africa's most populous nation, after a week of fighting that killed 100 people.

The police officers said at least 50 of the militants died in five days of clashes in three towns in predominantly Islamic Yobe state, including the capital, Damaturu, said Ibrahim Jirgi, a state government spokesman. Details of the fighting in the towns were scarce.

The uprising by the 10,000-member, 600-fighter Islamic militant group, preaching Islamic revolution, stood as one of the most concerted offensives in three years of Christian-Muslim violence since Yobe and 11 other northern states have established Islamic law.

The battles went scores of families fleeing the targeted communities of Galdam and Kanamma, and disrupted markets and farming. Aminu Musa, a trader, told the Associated Press.

"We had always lived in peace there as Muslims until this group came with their violence," Musa said.

Musa, who spoke by telephone from the state capital, escaped Kanamma earlier in the week as security forces gathered strength against the militant group.

He identified the group as Al Qutub Wa Jama'at, Arabic for "followers of Mohammed's teachings." Nigerian media gave slightly varying versions of the name.

The group for the past two years has campaigned for an Islamic state and publicly criticized officials it saw as lax in implementing Islamic law.

Police arrest leader of militant group in Norway

OSLO, Norway (AP) — Mullah Krekar, the spiritual leader of the Islamic militant group Ansar al-Islam, was arrested Friday on charges of helping a plot to try to murder his rivals in northern Iraq in 2000-01, his lawyer told The Associated Press.

The charges against Krekar weren't terror-related and a court hearing will take place Saturday, where authorities will ask that he be held for at least four weeks, said public prosecutor Erling Grimstad.

Krekar was arrested at his apartment by agents with Oslo police, Norway's elite police unit, and was being questioned, Grimstad said.

The charges were based on an investigation that started in February, he said.

"He is accused of cooperating

in the attempted murder of his political enemies in northern Iraq during the period of the 2000 to April 2001," Krekar's lawyer, Brynjar Meling, told the AP. "As far as I can see, these are matters he has explained to prosecutors before, and it's strange they're being raised again."

Oelkokrin declined to comment on the arrest.

Krekar's brother, Khalid Faraj Ahmad, said he wasn't allowed to see him after the raid by police.

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the ORPHEUM 184 Main Avenue Twin Falls, ID 214 NEED Adults \$5.00 Under \$5.00 on Mondays
Mona Lisa Smile (13)
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7 Twin Cinema 180 East Third Twin Falls, ID 214 NEED Adults \$5.00 Under \$5.00 on Mondays
Disney's Haunted Mansion (PG)
 Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15
Master and Commander (13)
 Today 12:45 - 3:45 - 6:45 - 9:30
The Grinch (G)
 Today 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00
The Cat in Hat (G)
 Today 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00
Cherper by the Doccin (PG)
 Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:20

the OXYGEN 954 West Main Street TWIN FALLS, ID 214 NEED Adults \$5.00 Under \$5.00 on Mondays
Love Don't Cost Nothing (G)
 Today 2:40 - 7:00
Missing (PG)
 Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 6:45 - 9:30
Lost in Tunas (G)
 Today 12:30 - 2:40
Paycheck (PG)
 Today 12:15 - 4:15 - 7:15 - 9:45

the OXYGEN 954 West Main Street TWIN FALLS, ID 214 NEED Adults \$5.00 Under \$5.00 on Mondays
Mona Lisa Smile (13)
 Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30
Lord of Rings: Return of the King (PG)
 Today 2:00 - 7:30 - 10:15 Digital
Cherper by the Doccin (PG)
 Today 1:30 - 4:30 - 7:15 - 9:45

LAMPHOUSE THEATRE 263 N. 1st Ave. STE. 100 Twin Falls, ID 214 NEED Adults \$5.00 Under \$5.00 on Mondays
Mona Lisa Smile (13)
 Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:15
The Singing Detective
 Today 1:30 - 4:45 - 7:15 - 9:30

EDITORIAL

Feds make the right move on downer cows

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision last week to ban processing of downer cows may come somewhat late, but late is better than never.

The decision to keep sick or injured cows out of the nation's food supply was completely warranted. Federal officials implemented the ban after discovering the nation's first mad-cow case in a downer cow from rural Washington. The dairy cow went lame after delivering a calf, and then was sent to a meat plant.

Mad-cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, spreads through the brains and nervous systems of cattle. Regulations already in place including brain and spinal cord parts in meat for human consumption. But the issue also involves the continued use of meat and bone meal in feeding livestock other than cows.

This case has brought unwanted notoriety to the dairy industry. National media have shown pictures of incapacitated cows being dragged to slaughter.

Animal rights groups have lashed out predictably. Less predictably, some in the beef industry have joined them, including rancher and Idaho House Speaker Bruce Newcomb. The Burley Republican hammered the dairy industry for the practice of salvaging sick animals for a few extra bucks on the meat market.

"Ranchers would never do that," Newcomb said. "When I get a downer cow, I put a bullet in her."

Regardless of who was selling downer cows for ground beef, the practice needed to stop for numerous reasons. For starters, selling a ques-

tionable beef product to the public reflects poor ethics and disregard of public safety.

Another issue is the inhumane treatment that may come with this practice. If a cow is sick, lame or unable to move, it should be spared further pain. It should be put down quickly and then be taken to a rendering plant.

Finally, the ban was justified for economic reasons. The Department of Ag estimates that 130,000 downers are slaughtered for meat each year. Some dairy operators say downer cows fetch only about \$50 a head. That slim return isn't worth putting the whole beef industry at risk - not to mention the food-consuming public.

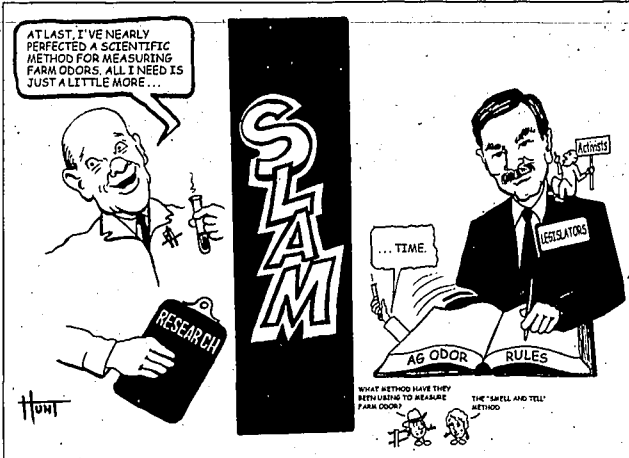
Federal officials did a notable job of identifying the cow, its history and its origin (which is actually in Canada), and recalling beef that could have been infected. Now, by banning the practice that enabled the tainted beef to spread, the government can restore confidence in America's beef. Without that confidence, consumers may avoid beef, and other nations will refuse to import a major U.S. product.

Perhaps there is some gray area in what defines a downer cow. Some lawmakers, including Idaho Congressman Butch Otter, who's also a rancher, say a cow with a broken leg may not be in the same category with a cow brought down by disease.

Still, the number of downer cows being processed is so small, and each cow's value is so low, the distinction may not be worth the trouble.

The greedy practice of selling sick cows for food had to end. Federal officials made the right move.

Our view: The federal government took a prudent step in banning the processing of downer cows for human consumption. **What do you think?** We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.



What's next after Libyan nuke deal?

BILL FERGUSON

This holiday season has indeed been a blessed one for our president and his beleaguered team of foreign-policy advisers. They already got just about the best Christmas present they could have asked for when Saddam crawled out of his rat hole and into U.S. custody. That development alone ensured them a stocking crammed full of high approval ratings from the attention span-challenged masses who were desperate for an uplifting holiday photo op.

(The Jessica Lynch buzz wore off long before Thanksgiving.) But things were destined to get even better. Remember Muammar Qaddafi? He used to be our top "love to hate him" Middle East sponsor of terrorism before Ronald Reagan sent him into semi-retirement courtesy of a bombing raid that redecoreated his presidential palace in 1986. Since then Qaddafi had been a much lower profile kind of dictator, something of a moderate tyrant, if there is such a thing. Now he seems to have come full circle, and our former public enemy No. 1 has allowed U.N. weapon inspectors free reign to inspect his WMD programs and is seeking to normalize relations with the West.

Not surprisingly, the sudden warming of relations between Washington and the Libyan strongman picked up steam as

we were preparing to invade Iraq.

Qaddafi may be every bit as ruthless and amoral as Saddam, but time has shown him to be a more pragmatic thinker.

Qaddafi is acting out of self-preservation, and there is no indication that he has any inclination to move his nation towards democracy. And apparently we are not asking him to. We just want him to be a good boy and keep his repressive activities local. If Saddam had been able to do that, he'd still be sitting in one of his fine presidential palaces instead of cooling his heels in an American brig.

The Bush team has been quick to trumpet the Libyan development as concrete evidence that the Iraq strategy is paying off. In announcing the Libyan decision to open its weapons program to UN inspectors, President Bush said that the Iraqi invasion sent "an unmistakable message" to governments that possess or desire WMDs, and said that the fear of "become concerned audiences" like those in Iraq would serve to motivate such governments to have second thoughts about their WMD programs.

On the surface, things seem to be falling into place. We still have a lot of work to do in

Afghanistan and Iraq, but those countries certainly present less of a threat to us than they used to. Now the Libya situation seems to be turning in our favor. Perhaps Iran and Syria will soon follow Libya's example?

Perhaps, I certainly hope so. But even if more Middle Eastern governments open up their weapons programs for inspection, it doesn't necessarily mean America is any safer. It wasn't WMDs launched from a government silo that destroyed the World Trade Center, it was a small group of fanatics armed with a box cutters and a heart full of malice.

The invasion of Iraq has caused a steady loss of public support for the United States in the Middle East to all but disappear completely. There is widespread hate throughout the region for all things American, and the climate remains ripe for anyone interested in recruiting agents of terror to strike out at American interests.

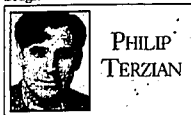
What we have shown those people who seek to injure us is that we are willing to repay blood for blood. Do not know if this strategy will, in the long run, make the world a safer place, but maybe it is all we can do. I just wish someone would come up with a better plan.

Bill Ferguson is a columnist for the Macon (Ga.) Telegraph.

War on drugs hits doc's office

Everyone's had a good laugh this season at Rush Limbaugh's expense: The news that Mr. Know-It-All Conservative was addicted to prescription painkillers was nearly as pleasing to critics as the prospect of his indictment for buying controlled substances. Not since the pursuit of Linda Tripp by a zealous prosecutor in Maryland has there been such excitement among people ordinarily skeptical about law enforcement.

Yet Rush Limbaugh is more emblematic than people might imagine. It is estimated that some 50 million Americans suffer chronic, sometimes debilitating, pain of some sort, and medical progress to treat this human torment is on a collision course with the War on Drugs.



Physicians who prescribe painkillers, especially such effective morphine-based nostrums as OxyContin and Lortal, to suffering patients are now treated with suspicion by agents of the federal Drug Enforcement Administration. Overcrowd "patients" are sent to doctors' offices with fraudulent complaints, and pharmacists are directed to report "suspicious" patterns of pain relief. Some physicians who specialize in pain relief have been arrested, some indicted and tried, and a few have been imprisoned. Many have lost their licenses to practice medicine, and all have incurred mountainous legal bills.

No doubt, there are some substantial doctors out there: They must be addicted to narcotics themselves, or they may trade prescriptions for cash or favors. But there is a large difference between purposefully defying the law for profit and relieving people's chronic pain. That the frontlines of pain relief are being fought with emotion and history seems to have dangerously distorted civic judgment. For a prominent Washington-area physician was indicted for prescribing large doses of OxyContin, Attorney General John Ashcroft says if he had indicted a Colombian drug kingpin.

Unfortunately, it tells us something about the national state of mind when a singularly effective pain-relieving narcotic is regarded as a "dangerous drug." No doubt, drugs like OxyContin "dangerous" in the sense that, as narcotics, patients can become dependent on them, and they should be consumed only under a physician's supervision. But what is it about the effective relief of pain that has led to this kind of operation like John Ashcroft into a man of science, or puts the cops-in-suits at DEA in charge of the medical profession?

Addiction to any sort of opiate can be dangerous, but in the present scheme of things, it arguably is more dangerous than any other opiate: Your dependence on a dry martini every evening is acceptable, even convivial; your daily ministrations of Demerol is evidence of depravity. To that end, pain-killing drugs are treated like narcotics, but not granted the distributed and clothed in all the trappings of criminal law.

Last summer, my son had surgery in Boston, and in the immediate aftermath of an eight-hour procedure, the machinery that injected his narcotic was awfully malfunctioned. Needless to say, it was the middle of the night, the "pain specialist" on call was unable to attend, and the key required to administer the drug could not be found. In due course, another nurse administered relief, but the patient was in a state of post-operative misery had passed.

The paradox here is that the science of pain relief has advanced steadily in recent years, and people who endured years of chronic torture are now able to control and overcome discomfort with new drugs and new specialists devoted to pain management. At the same time, the War on Drugs has revised and expanded its power over citizens. Having failed to affect the heroin trade, the DEA is now battling the hearing aid.

Instead of finding doctors to alleviate their torment, patients will find SWAT teams wrestling physicians to the ground. In pain? Take two aspirin and call Dr. Ashcroft in the morning.

Philip Terzian is the associate editor of the Providence Journal.

The Times-News

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LETTER

Speak up against proposed water changes

Last year as the forces of greed worked to weaken the public interest aspect of Idaho water law, I wrote and spoke often on the issue. What I said still holds and needs repeated over and over until it sinks in. "Water is not a commodity to be bought and sold by the good ol' boys, it is the common denominator on which all life depends." Not just human life and human economic activity, but all life, wild and domestic, plant and animal. Therefore, water policy decisions should be the most democratic of all processes. All voices need to be represented, to be heard, all the players' rights considered.

We lost the public interest battle in the Legislature. The decision-making process is less democratic, less honest, less open. We live in the arid west; there may be enough water to meet our needs, but there certainly is not enough to meet our greed.

Here in the once Magic Valley, we are seeing battles shaping up over water. On the north side, it is the spring right-holders vs. the pumpers and industrial dairymen. Here in Twin Falls County, we are seeing signs of a water grab within the Twin Falls Canal Co. While not all folks have

water shares in the company, there are few folks north of the High Line Canal that aren't impacted by the waters that flow through the canal system. There is a proposal to change the by-laws of the canal company to shorten the notice period of proposed action and to reduce the number of votes necessary for an action. This is another reduction in the democratic process.

Whoever once thought that we'd be buying bottled water? Clean safe water should be part of our inalienable rights. We can't afford to let our water fall into the hands of a few. If you own stock in the Twin Falls Canal Co., I urge you to attend the stockholders meeting and to vote down the proposed changes in the by-laws. I also urge you all to contact your legislators and demand that they reinstate the old language of public interest in Idaho water law. Water is life. **BILL CHISHOLM** (Buhl)

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-6538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

Testing kids for drugs benefits society

I'm responding to the letter titled, "Apathy for draconian drug policy hurts us all," written by Mr. Joseph S. Stanzak. In Mr. Stanzak's opinion, the public school system does not care if children are suspended and/or expelled if they test positive for any foreign object in their bloodstream. Also, he said that students should be taught their constitutional rights and how precious they are.

It is imperative to remember when speaking of the Constitution that people actually don't obtain these rights until they are 18 years old. Therefore, this hypothetical "group of individuals unwilling to surrender fundamental liberties" could never exist. Students cannot make their own decisions in what they wanted to. Teens can barely make the decision to abstain from alcohol and drug use, and in some times they don't. How, Mr. Stanzak, can you expect high school students to rise up against something that will protect the better being for everyone?

You also said that incidents, such as expulsion or using Advil, will happen despite what the school says. Yet, how can this happen when children are not allowed to medicate themselves? If they are given any medication during time of school, it is always kept on record. So if a student tests positive and has no record of school medication, then how is this anyway alienating any rights given to the people of our nation. It is their own fault, deliberate or not.

Testing children would be anything but good. Would you want your child to be in the same institution with adolescents who are abusing narcotics,

alcohol and even prescription drugs? No person would want that. If a student is medicating him or herself with prescribed medicine, the school is always notified or can be if the student is "tested." So if the students have nothing to hide, this is just a win-win situation.

One last word, Mr. Stanzak: Our nation is not a democracy, and that your voice will not be heard. Sad, I know, but true. Our governmental system is that of a representative republic. Our representatives are the voice of our nation and our people. So it is impossible to say, in truth, "God help us, we might make a democracy." Please realize the importance of what you say about our great nation. All I have left to say is what George W. Bush says often, "May God continue to bless America."

JONATHAN CARSON Kimberly

Equality for all means legalizing gay marriage

Whether I'm not a person to berudge another for having a strong opinion about important issues facing our society, I do believe it is important for your readers to hear an opinion contrary to that of Cal Thomas published on Dec. 26, 2003, titled "The future of marriage gains public support." First of all, it is disrespectful and professionally irresponsible to discount two decades worth of social discourse about homosexuality as "propaganda." I have no grounds to argue with the legitimacy of the statistics published in the New York Times-CBS News poll, but I take very personal offense to the discriminatory language and interpretations of the data published in your newspaper. I find it disgusting that a poll determining

how a majority of our citizens discriminate against an entire group of their fellow Americans is welcomed as "the common sense of the public" or "good news" of any kind.

I hate to be the one to break it to the "social conservatives" addressed in this commentary, but we of the homosexual community are not using our legal rights to sue sex marriage to "demand society approve" of how we were created. Civil marriage is about being able to legally provide for the health and safety of your loved ones. By denying loving, committed couples (who happen to be homosexual) the ability to protect themselves from the "what ifs" in life, the United States is actively and legally creating a secondary class of citizens denied the right to marry the person whom they love. In a nation where all people are supposed to be created equal before the law, this is wrong.

I do not expect or ask that everybody "approve" of homosexuality, nor do I expect everybody to understand that being gay is simply not a choice. I do expect and demand, however, to be allowed to live my life without being told how I and all other homosexuals are "trying to remove the few remaining foundational principles in our nation" by expecting to be treated exactly the same as anybody else who falls in love. This should be a debate centered on the idea of love, not hate.

It will not be same-sex marriage that undermines the foundations of our society. It will be the hypocrisy of claiming equality for all while passing laws that are blatantly and painfully discriminatory that will destroy the dream upon which America was built.

BRETT BROEK Twin Falls

Writer's flair will be missed in primaries

I am headed out this week for my 12th presidential campaign, but unlike the first 11, I will not have the company of my favorite traveling companion, Mary McGroarty. The great liberal columnist, surely the most elegant newspaper writer Americans have read over the last half-century, has been ill since last March and recently accepted the generous buyout offer given to veteran employees by The Washington Post. Incomprehensible as it seems, she has finished her journalistic career.



DAVID S. BRODER

by the press corps in honor of the day during the 1956 campaign when Estes Kefauver landed in Kalispell, Mont., in a plane whose door was higher than the tallest ramp in Kalispell, and had to disembark by coming down the emergency chute on his rump.

Food was often an afterthought; if her buddies, Gert Cleary and Liz Acosta, remembered, the lasagna might be lifted from the oven and distributed. But those two — part of the McGroarty Mafia who volunteered with her at St. Ann's orphanage — were among the rowdiest songsters, so sometimes they forgot.

Most of those years, Mary was at the Star; she stayed until the bitter end, permanently devoted to Newby Noyes, the editor who gave her a chance to move from the book page to the political beat, and to John Cassidy, the gentle national editor who handled her copy with the reverence it deserved. She moved to the Post after the Star folded, but she never shifted allegiances. Mary was equally fixed in her political views. She hated war and injustice and cherished the citizens and politicians who opposed them.

She had a limited tolerance for Republicans. I remember once going on at some length about a Republican I admired (perhaps George Romney), reciting his virtues and accomplishments.

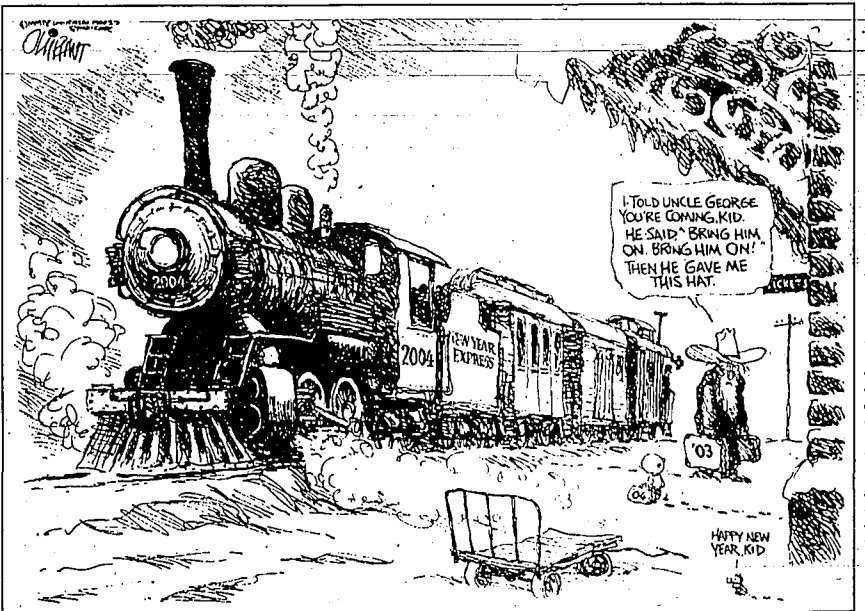
McGroarty listened until I finally stopped and then replied with one word: "Really?" pronounced with a mixture of politeness and skepticism that Katharine Graham herself would have envied.

Many have cited Mary's early work — on the Army-McCarthy hearings and the days following the assassination of President Kennedy. But the truth is, she was writing just as well at 85. Her final column, on March 16, was a perfectly constructed, marvelous weighing whether the rush to war in Iraq would outdistance the cascade of spring blossoms she always celebrated.

She concluded that despite what she feared was coming, "we can celebrate St. Patrick's Day."

But before it came, she suffered a stroke, which left this marvelous writer, never at a loss for the right word, with a tongue that will not obey the commands her brain sends. It is too cruel. I will miss her company and her wisdom — and her bags — every day of this campaign.

—David Broder is a columnist for the Washington Post.



Let's peer into the crystal ball of 2004

CARL P. LEUBSDORF

Four years ago, this column predicted this result for the 2000 election: George W. Bush, 271 electoral votes; Al Gore, 267. Really.

All the more reason to weigh carefully our annual look ahead to the new year:

JANUARY: President Bush, on a secret New Year's Day trip to Korea, announces a pact with North Korea to make Korea a nuclear-free zone. Rep. Dick Gephardt edges past Howard Dean in the Iowa caucuses. Sen. John Edwards finishes third.

A late write-in campaign pushes Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton past Dean in the New Hampshire primary. Retired Gen. Wesley Clark is third. Mrs. Clinton says she isn't a candidate. The Patriots win the Super Bowl.

FEBRUARY: Bush announces the new budget will have a \$600 billion deficit but calls it "manageable."

Candidates Dean, Edwards, Clark and Gephardt all win Feb. 3 primaries. Dean edges past Gephardt in the Michigan caucus and Wisconsin primary, emerging as the front-runner. Despite support from Al Gore, Dean loses to Clark in Tennessee. The Supreme Court approves Texas-redistricting plan, 5-4.

Bush pays a secret Valentine's Day visit to troops in Afghanistan. Dennis Kucinich withdraws from the presidential race and marries a campaign supporter.

MARCH: Defense Secretary Don Rumsfeld says U.S. troops are "closing in on" Osama bin Laden. Clark captures the Texas primary, but Dean wins New York, California, Maryland, the New England states and Illinois. The stock market hits 11,000. Polls show Bush leading Dean,

announces the country has agreed to give up its nuclear weapons. Bush regains his lead and announces he will be too busy to debate Dean. The Boston Red Sox edge the Yankees for the American League East title; the Rangers take the West.

OCTOBER: The fiscal year ends with a record \$550 billion deficit. Dean edges ahead, and Bush agrees to debate in Waco. The Houston Astros beat the Red Sox in the decisive World Series game as Andy Pettite pitches seven shutout innings and Roger Clemens gets the save. The White House announces the capture of Osama bin Laden.

NOVEMBER: Though he again loses the popular vote, Bush edges past Dean 271 to 267 in electoral votes, clinching victory after a two-week recount gives him Vermont. The GOP gains four Senate seats and five House seats, all in Texas.

The White House says that it was mistaken and that the man thought to be Osama bin Laden is Mullah Omar.

DECEMBER: Bush says Vice President-elect Rice will double as secretary of state. Sen. Clinton says it is too soon to consider a 2008 presidential race. She then leaves for a speaking tour in Iowa.

Bill Clinton announces his candidacy for mayor of New York.

—Carl P. Leubsdorf is Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News.

JULY: Dean picks Gore as his running mate, calling him an 'experienced vice president.' Amid rising U.S. casualties in Iraq, Bush's lead in the polls drops to 51-46. After Sen. Clinton's nomination speech electrifies the Democratic convention, delegates revolt and pick her over Gore as the vice-presidential candidate.

ing ahead of Bush, 52-47. Bush stuns the nation by announcing that Vice President Dick Cheney will become governor general of Iraq; he picks national security adviser Condoleezza Rice as his new running mate.

SEPTEMBER: Bush, on a secret Labor Day visit to Iran,

declines the nomination speech electrifies the Democratic convention, delegates revolt and pick her over Gore as the vice-presidential candidate.

AUGUST: Polls show Dean edg-

LETTER

Expect attendance to drop with higher fair prices

Regarding your Tuesday editorial on raising the county fair admission:

My husband and I run a business and always have a commercial booth at the fair. We are very strongly that a raise in the admission ticket will lower the attendance, probably enough to overcome the potential increase

in profit.

We like your suggestion of charging a separate fee for the evening performances instead of raising the basic fee. If attendance gets much lower, the fair will lose more money by losing commercial booths.

DONNA ERICKSON
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Donna Erickson is the owner of Kitchen Tune-Up in Twin Falls.)

Classifieds
733-0931



Applications available for seasonal fire fighting jobs on Sawtooth National Forest

We are now taking applications for firecrew positions for the upcoming fire season.

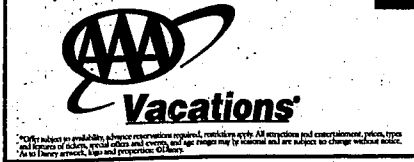
Job locations are in Stanley, Ketchum, Fairfield, Rock Creek (South of Hansen), Twin Falls, Malta and Halley. Applicants must be 18 years old, a U.S. citizen and be able to pass a physical fitness test.

For information and how to apply, visit www.fs.fed.us/r4/sawtooth or call the Sawtooth NF Recruitment Line at (208) 737-3320.

Electronic applications are available through the Internet at www.avedigitalservices.com/usfs/applicant.html. For more information, call toll-free (877) 813-3476.

January is... Disney Month at AAA Travel

Never just the same...ever a surprise. Once upon a dream you entered magic lands full of laughter, imagination, and special friends. AAA Vacations® packages put the enchantment of the Disneyland Resort during the month of January and receive Exclusive Member Savings off select Disneyland Resort vacation packages.

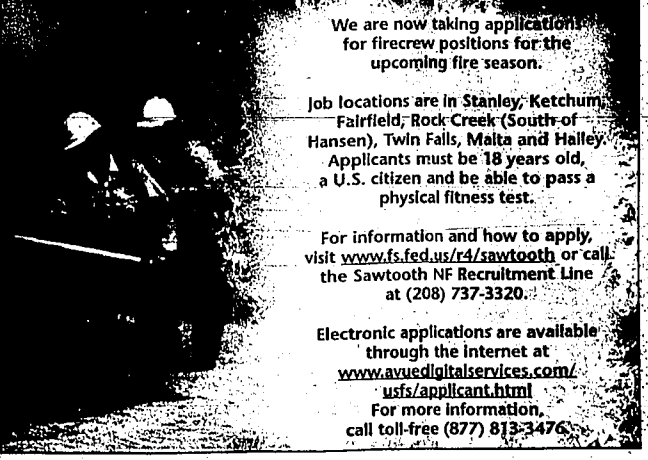


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NATION/WORLD

British Airways delays flights in wake of threat

WASHINGTON (AP) - Authorities were concerned with terrorism threats in the air and on the ground Saturday. The British government delayed a London-to-Washington flight for three hours and U.S. officials monitored heavily secured stadiums hosting the first round of football playoffs.

British Airways 223, the most scrutinized flight since the United States declared a high terrorism alert Dec. 21, lifted off from Heathrow Airport just after 1 p.m. EST after intensive security checks.

The plane had the all-clear earlier from Britain's Transport Department. The subsequent checks added to the misery of passengers on a flight also detained in Washington on Wednesday and canceled Thursday and Friday.

The British government has declined to provide details of its security concerns about the flight. The department said it took action Saturday following discussions "with a variety of sources," including U.S. authorities.

A British Airways morning flight to Washington D.C. left on schedule at 5:55 a.m. EST Saturday.

Other routes under scrutiny during the code orange alert in the United States were London, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Mexico City to Los Angeles.

The United States is working closely with other countries to lessen the threat of terrorism on international flights.

South Korea's national police agency, responding to American requests for international cooperation, said it would have armed officers on individual U.S.-bound flights if warranted, based on information about a terrorist threat to any specific flight.

Homeland Security Department spokesman Brian Roehrkasse said Saturday that authorities have been discussing security with the National Football League and the National Collegiate Athletic Association during the playoff and college bowl season.

2003 saw fewest airline crashes ever

WASHINGTON - Last year was the safest ever for the world's airline passengers.

Only 25 commercial airliners crashed in fatal accidents in 2003, by far the lowest number in modern aviation history, according to the Aviation Safety Network, a Netherlands-based independent organization that tracks plane crashes.

The 2003 performance was 26 percent lower than the previous record for fatal airline crashes - 34 in 2001, said Harro Ranter, the network's president.

Between 1973 and 2002, 450,000 people were killed in 50 fatal airliner accidents. "It's amazing," Ranter told Knight Ridder Newspapers on Friday. "It was most definitely the safest year for airline passengers in the world."

Terror threat may affect flight schedules

WASHINGTON (AP) - Facing another week of uncertainty over the terrorist threat from the air, governments greeted increased security with a combination of skepticism and support as flight cancellations and delays spread.

"The decision to operate next Monday's flight to Riyadh (Saudi Arabia) will be kept under review throughout the weekend," British Airways says on its Web site. The airline has canceled seven flights since Wednesday, with Mexico City and London the points of origin and Los Angeles, Washington Dulles International Airport and Riyadh, the destinations. Dulles was the takeoff point for the hijacked flight that descended part of the Pentagon on the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks.

But British Airways announced Saturday its afternoon flight from London to Dulles would fly as scheduled after the government said it was safe. The airline had been forced to cancel the flight on Thursday and Friday because of security concerns.

"The Department for Transport has confirmed to us that they are satisfied that it is safe for the aircraft to go," said an airline spokesman, on the condition of anonymity.

South Korea's national police agency responded sympathetically to American requests for international cooperation, saying it would deploy armed officers on individual U.S.-bound flights if warranted based on information about a terrorist threat to any specific flight.

A Mexico canceled two flights from Mexico City to Los Angeles because of U.S. security concerns and a third turned around after takeoff because Mexico thought the airline hadn't screened passengers properly.

Authorities on the ground said that we didn't see coats and sweaters worn by customers," said Fernando Ceballos, Aeromexico's assistant director of airports. "We didn't agree with that, but we ordered the plane back anyway."

In France, a police official said six cases of mistaken identity were behind the pre-Christmas grounding of six Air France flights between Paris and Los Angeles over terrorism fears. The names of six passengers sounded similar to those of terrorist suspects provided by the FBI, prompting the French government to ground the planes, the official said.

Military captures top rebel leader

- BOGOTÁ, Colombia (AP) - Ecuadorian authorities on Saturday captured one of the top seven commanders of Colombia's main rebel group, the most senior fighter taken into custody in nearly four decades of guerrilla warfare, Colombia's secret police said.

Simon Trinidad, one of the seven members who make up the ruling secretariat of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, was arrested at dawn in a medical clinic in Ecuador where he had sought treatment for an undisclosed illness, an official with the secret police, known as the DAS, said on condition of anonymity.

Trinidad, who was named as Ricardo Ovidio Palma Fierro, was the subject of an international arrest warrant issued to Interpol, the world police body, by Colombian prosecutors, the official said.

The official was unable to say exactly where in Ecuador Trinidad was found, though he said it was somewhere along the Colombian border. Trinidad is the first member of the FARC's secretariat to have been captured. Trinidad's arrest comes after the commander of the Colombian army, Gen. Martín Orlando Carreño, made it his New Year's resolution to capture or kill at least one of the seven secretariat members within a year, or resign.

Advertisement for REX electronics store featuring a 'JANUARY CLEARANCE' sale. The ad lists various products such as DVD players, camcorders, and car stereos with significant discounts. It includes the REX logo, the slogan 'YOU ALWAYS PAY LESS', and contact information for the store at 1414 Poleline Road E, Twin Falls, ID. A banner at the bottom offers an additional 10% off on already reduced items.



A grizzly fate:
Bear advocate
leaves enigma in
death.

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City Editor: Chad Balthasar, 733-0931, Fax: 234

The Times-News

Sunday, January 4, 2004

Section B

A wrenching day by the side of the road

A week ago, I had a flat tire on a day when the temperature was 25 degrees and the wind was blowing about 40 mph. That works out to a wind-chill factor of roughly 6 above.

I dutifully jacked up the car and broke out my lug wrench, a tempered-steel gadget that you could use to grind a skyscraper, and slipped it on to the first of the lug nuts on the rim of the ruined tire.



DON'T ASK ME Steve Crump

It broke.

Not the lug nut; the wrench - it fractured like the resolve of a torqued drunk on New Year's Eve, sending me sprawling into the roadside gravel.

And I thought, while I picked myself up as the 18-wheelers zipped past, creating their own weather: This technology hasn't changed in 75 years.

It's quite true: The jack and lug wrench in the trunk of your car are essentially the same as offered in the Model-A Ford, which was introduced in 1930.

Which begs the question: In an industry that's building cars which can tell you how far you are from the nearest restroom, why am I lying face down on the side of an Idaho highway, picking gravel out of my forehead?

Consider for a moment what you're required to do when your tire goes flat.

You slip a maybe 57 steel jack underneath a 1,300-pound vehicle and pump it up until it lifts the rig 4 inches off the pavement, where it may or may not stay depending on the slope of the road and what it's covered with.

Then you take a four-pronged metal lug wrench and manually attempt to loosen lug nuts that have been applied with a power tool packing enough torque to turn the Earth backwards for about a day and a half.

Then you call Triple-A. American Automobile Association surveys consistently show that one of the primary reasons motorists give for plunging down \$54 a year for membership is help with flat tires. And who can blame them?

I wish I'd had Triple-A on a particular January day in 1979, when I had a blowout on a highway in rural Montana, 75 miles southeast of Great Falls, the nearest city.

It was 15 below zero, and the wind was blowing out of the north.

After about an hour's work, I managed to rock my car out of the borrow pit and back on to the shoulder of the road, and set to work changing the tire. The lug nuts, frozen solid, wouldn't budge.

So I poured the contents of a Thermos of coffee onto the lug nuts, and they finally started to yield.

And when they moved, those lug nuts revealed loudly enough to be heard in Cut Bank.

I loosened three nuts, then four, but when I got to the last one, it locked up tight.

So I started the car, sat inside for 15 minutes or so to thaw my toes, then returned for one last try. I champed the wrench on that lug nut and bore down harder than Roger Clemens in Game 7.

The lug nut promptly snapped in two, both halves flying into nearby snowdrifts. I had a spare tire and only four nuts to attach it with.

By the time I hitchhiked into Judith Gap that evening, I had frost-

Please see JACKS, Page B4

Officials: Bliss Bridge can be fixed

By Julia Penco
Times-News writer

BLISS - The Bliss Bridge has been closed since mid-November, but it will likely be opened up to traffic again by May, officials say.

A local engineering firm has determined the bridge can be repaired for under \$200,000, and the repairs can be completed before the high water of spring runoff hits the river, said Sen. Tom Gannon, R-Buhl.

"With the help of the state, the local highway districts and EHM Engineering have located a contractor and a process that would allow the bridge to be repaired without any major disturbance to

the river," Gannon said.

Earlier, officials and area residents had feared the 1970s bridge might have to be completely replaced.

That would have cost several million dollars, and replacement would have taken years, said Dave Burgess, director of the Twin Falls Highway District.

The Bliss Highway District will kick in \$5,000, with the Twin Falls Highway District paying \$45,000 toward repairs. The rest of the money will come from state and federal emergency funds, Gannon said.

It won't be long before the work is put out for bid, he said.

The bridge was closed in

November after state officials determined it was unsafe for vehicles to cross it.

A landslide on the north side of the river in 1993 had altered the river current, causing erosion to change on both sides of the bridge.

The bridge was declared unsafe for vehicular traffic after two underwater inspections determined the high velocity of the Snake River and the unstable foundation of the bridge could result in bridge failure.

Most of the 15 families living south of the Snake River near Bliss, however, are coping with about two extra hours in travel each time they leave their homes.

If they want to go toward Boise, there is a back road heading west 25 miles to a bridge near Glens Ferry.

Officials admit the sometimes-one-lane road is impassable in the winter. If residents need to go east, another road heads 30 miles toward the steep Bell Rapids grade and eventually U.S. Highway 30 in Hagerman Valley.

To make sure those people can get to Twin Falls and surrounding communities, Burgess said he has tripled maintenance work on the gravel road over the Bell Rapids grade throughout the winter.

Plans to repair the bridge include drilling down through the piers and rock that support

the bridge, then inserting steel pipes and filling them with concrete in order to re-establish a solid foundation, Gannon explained.

Because even standing on the bridge is considered hazardous, the work will be done from a crane suspended above the bridge.

Though it isn't safe, some residents are parking their vehicles on each side of the bridge and walking across it in order to avoid the long commute, Burgess said.

"It's not the weight of a car or someone on the bridge that would cause it to collapse,"

Please see BRIDGE, Page B4

Plowing through

For those behind the snow-plow, clearing the road is a labor of love

By Brandon Fiala
Times-News writer

SHOSHONE - She gets the call at 5 a.m. - "There's snow."

Heather Ogden, 23, drives to work and climbs into a bright yellow Mack truck and prepares to push tons of snow off local roads.

She rumbles down the road adjusting the front blade's height and occasionally pushing a button in the center console to drop sand and salt.

"It's fun, we always pray for snow," Ogden said.

Ogden will keep plowing until the roads are clear.

Recent snowstorms have caused havoc for motorists, doubling the number of accidents and closing roads. But Ogden and six other drivers based in Shoshone are prepared to ease the trouble.

"We've been busy and hitting it hard," said Dennis Jensen, road foreman for the Idaho Transportation Department. "We've gotten a lot more snowfall in a shorter period of time than last year."

Ogden said she and others decide what roads to plow based on traffic volume, accident reduction and other factors. On Saturday afternoon, she drove down Idaho Highway 24, between Shoshone and Minidoka to clear snowy patches.

"We have to watch out for the public, our No. 1 thing is public safety," she said.

Ogden started working at the ITD about three years ago as a flagger during the summer, and decided to become a snow plow driver because her sister used to drive and enjoyed it.

Ogden said she is always on-call during the winter but usually works from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. When not clearing roads, Ogden does maintenance work like patching potholes or building snow fences.

"You get used to the early mornings," she said.

Ogden said driving a snow plow is easy, but it took time to become confident.

"I now find it easy, but when I first started it was different," she said.

Ogden's confidence comes from her training. She had to get a commercial driver's license and take ITD classes. Then she rode in a snow plow with another driver before going solo.

"The hardest part of being a driver is knowing what to do based on the weather conditions," she said.

For example, drivers will sand roads after freezing rain or fog, Ogden said.

Ogden and the other drivers are also responsible for the ITD's road reports, which are available online or over the phone.

Ogden is a full-time employee of the transportation department. The snow plows are converted into dump trucks in the summer



An Idaho Transportation Department snow plow, driven by Heather Ogden of Gooding, clears the shoulder of the west-bound lane of Idaho Highway 24, east of Shoshone Saturday afternoon.

and used for maintenance.

Ogden said she is looking forward to a raise in about a month. Currently, Ogden said she makes \$9.49 per hour and is looking to make \$10.31 after her raise.

Most of the work is routine, but Ogden said there are occasional surprises. Drivers often come across stuck motorists and wandering deer.

Ogden said she usually stops to help - depending on traffic and road conditions - and is watchful of deer that like to walk on roads to move easier.

During her first winter, Ogden said she was driving on Idaho Highway 75 when a

motorist headed toward her lost control.

"I would have done a lot of damage to him if he had hit my plow, but I pulled into the borrow pit," she said.

Nobody was injured, but Ogden said the accident was enough of a scare for her.

Snow plow drivers even get stuck themselves, Ogden said.

"I think most of the drivers have gotten stuck before," she said.

If a driver gets stuck, another plow is dispatched to pull it out, Ogden said.

As motorists can expect to see more snow plows on the road, they need to take several precautions, Jensen said.

Therapists fret over Medicaid changes

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Finding some light within the darkness of a mental illness is hard enough.

It can be even harder for a person on Medicaid.

And now, proposed changes in the state's Medicaid rules have some local therapists worried it's going to get even harder. Some are worried they'll no longer be able to serve Medicaid clients, while others are concerned that people on Medicaid will be reluctant to seek out therapy.

For years, therapists have been receiving referrals from clients' primary care physicians through the state's Healthy Connections program. A few suffered from severe mental illness, but many suffered from depression, anxiety, and other more common disorders, said Jason Beard, a licensed clinical professional counselor and marriage and family therapist.

"Depression is the common cold of psychology," Beard said. "Anxiety disorders are a close second."

The system was working, Beard said. "A Medicaid patient's primary care physician would fill out a referral form and send the patient to a skilled mental health professional, who would meet with the client and put together a treatment plan. The primary care physician would then sign off on the plan."

But on Dec. 1, things changed when Medicaid put temporary rules into effect. Therapists must now contract with physicians, and only contracted physicians may work with Medicaid clients. That's unreasonable, Beard said.

"It's totally unrealistic that we're going to have to have a contractual agreement with every physician in Twin Falls," he said.

Legislators will consider making those new rules permanent during this year's session. If they sign them into law, physicians, some who have no background in mental health, rather than therapists will be in charge of putting together clients' treatment plans, not just simply signing off on them as they do now.

That licks Beard, who holds a master's degree in psychology with an emphasis in child and family and has been working

Please see CHANGES, Page B4

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak**
Upper Snake River	117%	81%
Salmon Falls	135%	55%
Salmon	111%	46%
Oakley	132%	53%
Big Wood	121%	51%
Little Wood	143%	59%
Henry's Fork/Teton	138%	58%
Lost	129%	52%
Little Lost	106%	46%
Aa of Jan. 3		

*A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.

**An indicator of basin snowpack for the season.

2003 Magic Valley sugar beet crop ranks as one of the best

By Brandon Fiala
Times-News writer

BURLLEY - Employees at The Amalgamated Sugar Co. factories are in the midst of an unprecedented slicing campaign after Magic Valley growers produced more tons than ever before.

Despite lower prices for the 2003 sugar beet crop compared to 2002, growers could still profit because yields per acre were record.

"It was unprecedented, a barn-buster," said Len Kerbs, agricultural manager for the company's

Twin Falls district.

An unusually warm summer and fall contributed to the high yields, Kerbs said. "The beets just kept growing and putting on tonnage," he said.

Growers averaged more than 29 tons per acre in the Twin Falls district, Kerbs said. Historically, growers have averaged about 26 tons per acre.

"Prices this year haven't been as good as the 2002 crop, but with the higher yield we're still hopeful to get more gross return per acre," Kerbs said.

Growers expect to make

between \$35 and \$36 per ton, on average, said Vic Jaro, Amalgamated vice president of agriculture. Last year, growers averaged between \$40 and \$41 per ton, he said.

"We expect the value per acre to be at or above last year due to the high yield," Jaro said.

Profits also depend on sugar content, he said.

The average sugar content was 16.69 percent in the Twin Falls district and 16.5 percent in the Mini-Cassia district, according to Kerbs and John Schorr, agricultural manager for the company's

Mini-Cassia district. Those percentages are about normal, Schorr said.

Several factors are behind the record year, Jaro said. Increased acreage was partly responsible for the record tonnage.

Company-wide, the average yield per acre in 2003 was 29.7 tons, just slightly behind the record of 29.8 tons in 2000, Jaro said.

The slicing campaign at Amalgamated's two Magic Valley plants is on schedule despite the snow.

The biggest problem has been

brief road closures that prevented some trucks from hauling from feed dumps to the factories. That forced workers at the Paul plant to use beets piled closer to the factory, Schorr said. However processing is on schedule.

In Twin Falls, some beet haulers were also slowed down, Kerbs said.

"On the other hand, we are glad to have the snow coming - we need it to irrigate our sugar beet crop next year," he said.

The local sugar beet harvest started Sept. 17 and is scheduled to end March 14, Kerbs said.

MAGIC VALLEY

OBITUARIES

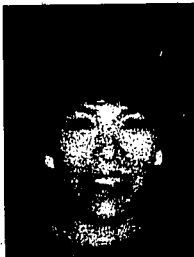
For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "obituaries."

Glady's 'Leona' Poog Paladino - Twin Falls

Glady's "Leona" Poog Paladino, 67, of Twin Falls, passed away Dec. 16, 2003, at the Curry Retirement Center in Twin Falls.

She was born May 6, 1936, in Fort Hall, Idaho, the daughter of Peter and Alice Deepwater Poog. Glady's was married to John Paladino, the latter deceased. She worked as a telephone operator and for Kraft Foods in Pocatello and Seneca Foods in Jerome. Leona loved reading, traveling and listening to music.

Surviving are her two sons, Mark Anthony Paladino and Shelby Bordeaux, both of Twin Falls; one brother, Dwight Osborne of Fort Hall, Idaho; and



two sisters, Elaine Ingawannup and Pearl Poog, both of Fort Hall, Idaho. She was preceded in

death by her loving husband, John Paladino, who passed away in October of 1968, and two sisters, Hazel Poog Bailey and Delphina Poog Marshall.

Glady's will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. A memorial service for Glady's will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, 2004, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho. At her request, her family will scatter her to the winds. Glady's requested that those who wish make memorial contributions in her name to the Salvation Army. Cremation was under the direction of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Lurlia Schroeder-Jones - Buhl / Earp, Calif

Lurlie Irene (Dais) Schroeder-Jones, 86, of Buhl, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2003, along with her loving husband, Daniel, at their home in Earp, Calif.

The funeral for Lurlie and Daniel will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, Jan. 9, 2004, at St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl, Idaho, with interment to follow at West End Cemetery in Buhl, Idaho, under the direction of Farmer Funeral Chapel. Memorial services for Daniel and Lurlie were previously held in Parker, Ariz., and in National City, Calif.



Lurlie was a substitute teacher at Clover Lutheran School, Clover, Idaho, and Immanuel Lutheran School, Twin Falls, Idaho, in 1953 and 1954.

As an active member of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, she served in offices locally in the zone and the district. Not only did she teach Sunday school, weekday and vacation Bible School, she served as church organist at St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl for many years.

She was a member of Good Shepherd Auxiliary from its beginning and served in various offices for many years. As well as a busy wife and mother, Lurlie was also active with her daughters in their school activities and served as chapter mother for the Future Homemakers of America for several years.

After her husband's death in June of 1978, Lurlie continued to live on the farm west of Buhl. In 1983, she sold the farm and moved into Buhl. She became a volunteer and worked in the West End Senior Citizen Center.

She was also a member of the Magic Valley Memorial Hospital Auxiliary and did volunteer work at the hospital. She was also a member of the Deep Creek Community Club.

On Nov. 10, 1991, she married Daniel A. Jones of Earp, Calif., at

St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl, Idaho. They spent the winter months in Earp, Calif., and the summer months in Buhl, Idaho. They both shared a great love for music, gardening and love for people everywhere.

She was active in Messiah Lutheran Church in Parker, Ariz., and an active volunteer at Parker Community Hospital in Parker, Ariz. She loved music, reading, sewing, quilting, gardening, cooking and spending time with family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her first husband, Donald Neal Schroeder; her father, Samuel Gottlieb Dais; and a sister, Norma Jean Hicks.

Lurlie is survived by her three daughters, Donna June Iverson of Corvallis, Ore., Diana Jean Lien of Salem, Ore., and Charolette Ann (Deward E.) Einfalt of Boise, Idaho; five stepchildren, Deanna (David) Palmer of Spring Valley, Calif., Dorothy (Bill) Aman of San Diego, Calif., Dennis (Ramona) Jones of Bakersfield, Calif., Richard (Rebecca) Jones of San Diego, Calif., and David (Mary) Jones of San Diego, Calif.; nine grandchildren; 20 step grandchildren; 20 great-grandchildren; and one step great-grandchild; mother, Rebecca Caroline Herman Dais of Twin Falls, Idaho; brother, Alfred Dais of Twin Falls, Idaho; sister, Ruth Hanson of Elwood, Neb.; Ethel DeWalt of Twin Falls, Idaho; uncle, Edward Dais of Omaha, Neb.; and many nieces and nephews.

She is survived and will be well remembered by many cousins, good friends and neighbors.

Lurlie's family requests that memorials in honor of Lurlie be made to Good Shepherd Home of the West Auxiliary, 2781 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, or St. John's Lutheran Church, 1128 Poplar St., Buhl, ID 83316.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Revelation 14:13

Daniel Allen Jones - Earp, Calif.

Daniel Allen Jones, 88, of Earp, Calif., passed away on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2003, along with his loving wife, Lurlie, at their home in Earp, Calif.

Memorial services were held for Daniel and Lurlie on Monday, Dec. 29, 2003, at Messiah Lutheran Church in Parker, Ariz., and also on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004, at South Bay Community Church in National City, Calif. Private burial for Daniel will be held in San Diego at a later date.

Daniel Allen Jones was born Dec. 30, 1915, in Windsor, N.Y., to William and Florence (Webb) Jones. He was born in the afternoon during a blizzard. The doctor arrived to help with the birth on horseback. Daniel attended grammar school in Conklin, Durrinville and in Binghamton, N.Y., where he graduated from high school. Daniel started to work for Consolidated Aircraft in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1934. He then moved with the company to San Diego, Calif., in 1935 and remained employed there until 1970 when he retired.

Daniel was married to Eleanor Imig on Dec. 1, 1940. Together they had five children and were later divorced. He was then married 24 years to Ruth Hays (deceased).

In 1972, Daniel moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, where he started his own business of a mobile home and RV service and supply store. Later, he moved to Hayden Lake, Idaho, and served as mayor



until 1978, when he sold the business, retired and traveled for one year. For the following three years, Daniel managed two different mobile home parks. He then retired from that and traveled to Arizona, New Mexico, Wisconsin and Michigan over the next two years.

On Nov. 10, 1991, Daniel married Lurlie Dais Schroeder at St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl, Idaho. They spent the winter months in Earp, Calif., and the summer months in Buhl, Idaho. They both shared a great love for music, gardening and love for people everywhere.

In his spare time, Daniel's hobbies were gardening, woodworking, rock bounding, lapidary, fishing, camping and traveling. He also worked with the Boy Scouts

as an assistant district commissioner, he served as Chief of Indian Guides and managed Little League.

Throughout Daniel's life, he was a devoted Christian and served his church as president of the congregation and in many other offices in the church through the years. He also enjoyed singing in the choir and performing solos. He truly had a beautiful voice.

He is preceded in death by his father, William Jones; his mother, Florence Jones; and his brother, Floyd Jones.

Daniel is survived by his five children, Deanna (David) Palmer of Spring Valley, Calif., Dorothy (Bill) Aman of San Diego, Calif., Dennis (Ramona) Jones of Bakersfield, Calif., Richard (Rebecca) Jones of San Diego, Calif., David (Mary) Jones of San Diego, Calif.; three stepdaughters, Donna June Iverson of Corvallis, Ore., Diana Jean Lien of Salem, Ore., and Charolette Ann (Deward E.) Einfalt of Boise, Idaho; 20 grandchildren; nine step grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; 20 step great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Daniel's family requests that memorials in honor of Daniel be made to Bibles for the World, P.O. Box 36888, Colorado Springs, CO 80936-9950.

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. Revelation 14:13

DEATH

NOTICES

John C. 'Jack' Frederickson

TWIN FALLS - John C. "Jack" Frederickson, 95, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Lee George McCoy

KIMBERLY - Lee George McCoy, 82, of Kimberly, died Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at his home. A service will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2004, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. A complete obituary will appear in Tuesday's edition.

Violet Leshar

JEROME - Violet Leshar, 87, of Jerome, died Friday, Jan. 2, 2004, at her home.

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, at the Free Will Baptist Church in Jerome with Pastor Gene Kissinger officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Delbert R. Winslow

WENDELL - Delbert R. Winslow, 89, of Wendell, died Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004, at Sunrise Care and Rehabilitation Center in Twin Falls.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, at the Wendell Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray Funeral Chapel.

SERVICES

Harvey L. Grindstaff of Buhl, service at 10 a.m. Monday at the First Methodist Church, corner of Fifth and Union streets; friends and family may visit from 4 to 7 p.m. today at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth, Buhl.

Merlin R. Stock of Burley; service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Burley 3rd and 7th Ward Chapel of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2200 Oakley Ave.; burial at Pleasant View Cemetery; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Monday at the church.

Sympathy Flowers...to show the sorrow is shared. Blooming... 2842 Addison Avenue East • Twin Falls, ID • 733-6122

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Life Worth Celebrating... UNCLE MIKE was one of a kind - especially with those bagpipes he used to play. Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home & Twin Falls Cemetery. 2551 Kimberly Road • Twin Falls, ID 83301. Call us today... 735-0011

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Happy New Year! for you, dear friends... May the joys of the coming new year be plentiful for you and yours. Reynolds Funeral Chapel. TWIN FALLS 733-4900. www.reynoldschapel.com. Local People Serving Local People. SUNSET MEMORIAL PARK 2296 Kimberly Road • Twin Falls • 733-5743

OBITUARIES

Scott C. Jex - Boise

Scott C. Jex, 47, died Dec. 25, 2003, from complications of pancreatic cancer at his home in Boise, Idaho.

Scott was born April 19, 1956, in Blackfoot, Idaho, to Glen and Diane Jex. He married Donna Vinyard in 1983 at the summit of Inferno Cone at Craters of the Moon, Idaho.

Scott and Donna founded Business Design Center, a local graphic design and illustration firm in 1985, which Donna will continue to operate.

Although his life was short, Scott felt fortunate to have spent the last 21 years with his loving wife and is very proud of his son

and grandsons.

Scott enjoyed his work, as well as wilderness exploration, woodworking, and never-ending yard work.

Scott is survived by his wife, Donna, and his parents in Boise; his brother, Bradley, and his family in Blackfoot; and his stepson, Carl Driesel, and his family in Jerome, Idaho, including his two grandsons, Aaron and Benjamin Driesel.

A remembrance for Scott will be held at 2 p.m. Jan. 10, 2004, at Relyea Funeral Chapel in Boise.

Memorials in Scott's honor should be directed to the Craters of the Moon Natural History Association Inc., P.O. Box 29, Arco, ID 83213.



Frances Skeele Truxton Earl - Jerome

Frances Skeele Truxton Earl, 101, passed away quietly on Dec. 23, 2003, at her grandson's home in Jerome, Idaho.

Frances attended Central High School and was a graduate of Vocational High School. Frances married Irving Truxton who passed away in 1970.

Frances and Irving had two children, Lois T. Rock and Alan I. Truxton, who have preceded her. She married George A. Earl Jr. in

1975. Frances was a long-time Syracuse and Fayetteville, N.Y., resident and moved to Jerome, Idaho, to live with her grandson, Norman A. Rock, and his wife, Regina, in 2001.

She was a member of Adelphean Alumni Sorority and former member of Syracuse Antiques Club, Red Cross volunteer and DAR.

Frances is survived by several grandchildren, great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren.

Burial will be in the Truxton Cemetery in the spring.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests a memorial donation be made to the Truxton Cemetery, 4514 Crains Mills Road, Truxton, NY 13158.

Memorial services will be announced at a later date. Cremation services took place under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Flora Mae Depew Parkinson - Jerome

Flora Mae Depew Parkinson, 78, journeyed home to our Lord on Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004. Flora was surrounded by the family she so graciously loved.

Flora was born to William and Roxie Depew at their Appleton area home in Jerome, Idaho, on Dec. 26, 1925. She was the ninth of their 10 children. The family moved to Salmon, Idaho, in 1933, where Flora grew up on their family farm. When Flora was 16, the family moved back to Jerome where she graduated from Jerome High School in 1944. After graduating from high school, she contributed her energies toward the war effort and moved to San Diego. There she was trained by Consolidated Airways as a draftsman. While in San Diego, she met Phil Durant Carter and they were married Oct. 15, 1944. They were blessed with three of their two daughters, Cheryl Ann and Cathlyn Lee. She and Phil divorced in 1948.

While working at Jerome Grange Supply, she met Wayne Fleming. They were married on March 23, 1949. Together they raised Cheryl and Cathlyn and farmed on the canyon rim. Wayne passed away in December 1967.

On Aug. 11, 1968, she married John Hallett Parkinson. They farmed together southwest of Jerome for 11 years, before moving onto an acreage and then into town in 1991. Together they enjoyed gardening, loved to square dance, were active members of a pinocle club, and traveled to see family and to explore new places and sights.

Flora had many impressive gifts



and abilities with an amazingly strong work ethic. She was trained in drafting, bookkeeping and tax accounting and worked at various businesses in the community including Jerome Grange Supply, King's, ASCS, Tingwall's, Handy Realty, and Charles Correll, CPA, and she did volunteer tax preparations for seniors.

As a dedicated member of the Jerome Presbyterian Church, she loved serving our Lord as a Sunday school teacher and superintendent, a deacon, and as the financial secretary. Flora's strong faith was a source of strength and celebration throughout her life.

Flora was a loving wife, mother and grandmother. She had a seemingly endless supply of energy and hugs that she was always willing to share. Flora was also a "favorite" to her nieces and nephews as well as the rest of her extended family. She turned canning the fruits and vegetables that she raised into an

art and was very skilled at sewing. She always shared her labors with her family and friends. Her zest for life was contagious and she always had an encouraging word to share with whomever she met.

Flora made many friends during her lifetime in this community. Her family would like to thank each of them for the richness that they brought to her during her life, and for their support during her battle against cancer.

Flora is survived by her daughter, Cathy (Carl) Johnson of Missoula, Mont.; stepsons Robert (Linda) Parkinson of Jerome and James (Jane) Parkinson of Brunswick, Ga.; sister, Phyllis Depew of Kennewick, Wash.; grandchildren, Kristin (Chris) Busse of Burlington, Vt., Samira (Mark) Leslie of Moscow, Samilla (Harry) Harrison of Ogden, Utah, Brad Johnson of Portland, Ore., and Paige Parkinson of Brunswick, Ga.; four great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her six brothers, Frank, Joe, Dale, Claude, George and Ralph Depew; her sisters, Willie Chloe Depew and Mary Lou Robison; her daughter, Cheryl Carter; and husband John Parkinson.

A memorial service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6, 2004, at the Jerome First Presbyterian Church with Pastor Jeffrey Porter officiating. The family suggests memorial donations be made to the Jerome First Presbyterian Church. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Kelly Neal Qualls - Nampa

Kelly Neal Qualls, 53, of Nampa, Idaho, died Wednesday, Dec. 31, 2003, at his home with his family by his side. This past year, Kelly fought the most inspiring and courageous battle against brain cancer.

A celebration of Kelly's life will be held at 11 a.m. Jan. 10, 2004, at the Nampa Funeral Home, Yraguen Chapel, 415 12th Ave. S., Nampa, Idaho.

Kelly was born March 27, 1950, in Twin Falls, Idaho, the fifth of seven children to John A. Qualls and Mary E. (Buckmaster) Qualls. He attended schools in Twin Falls, graduating from Twin Falls High School with the class of 1969.

Kelly furthered his education with a football scholarship to Walla Walla Community College in Walla Walla, Wash. It was there that he met his best friend and lifetime partner, Susan. They were married June 8, 1970, in Walla Walla. After graduating from Walla Walla Community College, Kelly attended Eastern Washington State College in Cheney, Wash., on another football scholarship, graduating in 1973 with a bachelor of science degree in sociology. Kelly and his family moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, where he began his career as a social worker with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

He continued working as a state social worker in St. Louis, and in Pocatello, Idaho. Wherever Kelly worked and lived, he made many loving friends.

In March of 1985, Kelly began his



career with Idaho Power and continued there for 18 years until his illness forced an early retirement in June of 2003. Kelly found his professional niche with Idaho Power and enjoyed his job tremendously.

Kelly's children and grandchildren were the center of his life. He and Susan shared numerous vacations, holidays, camping trips and family gatherings with all of them.

He was an avid hunter and fisherman who loved spending time in the outdoors. He never missed a hunting trip or fishing trip with his sons and friends, Dick, Tim, Jeff, Ralph, Steve and Jim. He rode his mules to many a berry patch.

Kelly is survived by his wife, Susan of Nampa; children, Jason (Lisa) Qualls of American Falls, Idaho, Alex Qualls of Homedale, Idaho, and Amy (Jon) Morgan of

Nampa, Idaho; grandchildren, K.C. and Kolton Qualls, Riley Qualls, Allyson and Whitney Cass, and Devhan and Jon Kelly Morgan; brothers, John (Linda) Qualls of Port Angeles, Wash., and Tom Qualls of Hansen, Idaho; sisters, Karen (Gordon) Wood of Wasilla, Alaska, Judy (Bill) Howard of Lone, Calif., Pam Humphrey of Boise, Idaho, and Tamra (Randy) Stanger of Twin Falls, Idaho, along with many in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles and friends. Kelly was preceded in death by his parents.

The family is grateful and appreciative to Mercy Medical Center Home Health and Hospice for their loving and tender care.

The family is also grateful and appreciative to Dr. Ed Aronson and staff, Colorado Neurological Institute, Englewood, Colo., and Dr. Norman Zuckerman and staff at MSTI for their devotion and encouragement throughout Kelly's illness.

Memorial contributions may be made in Kelly's honor to Mercy Medical Center Home Health and Hospice, P.O. Box 1452, Nampa, ID 83653-1452; Colorado Neurological Institute, c/o Dr. Ed Aronson, 701 E. Hampden Ave., Suite 160, Englewood, CO 80110-2776; or Mountain States Tumor Institute, 100 E. Idaho, Boise, ID 83702. We love and miss you, Dad.

TREE-CYCLE



Philip Joyce, 16, right, helps Boy Scout Troop 662 of Bellevue, Wash., unload trees and limbs Saturday at the Marymoor Park site of the King County Tree-Cycling program.

Mogul buys last chunk of property in area

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho (AP) - Businessman Duane Hagadone has purchased Blackwell Island, handing him the last large piece of premier commercial lakeside property in the area.

The tourism and media mogul bought 38 acres for an undisclosed sum Friday from brothers Robert and Mark Hall. It includes Yacht Club Sales and Service.

With more than a mile of shoreline on Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Spokane River, the Blackwell Island property is the last large piece of such land on the north end of the lake, said the chairman of Hagadone Corp.

"The site has unlimited potential and options," Hagadone said. "We want to make sure we do the right thing with the property, so we are going to take our time."

About 3,000 people work for his company, which includes three

hotels, 11 daily and weekly newspapers, marinas, restaurants, real estate, and telephone directories.

Last Wednesday, Hagadone announced he plans to build a hotel on the Coeur d'Alene Resort Golf Course and luxury apartments and townhouses along the lake.

He is asking the city to annex 273 acres, including the golf course and the Silver Beach Marina, to make that development possible. He said that and Blackwell are separate projects.

The yacht club includes a boat dealership and service center. It will add more than 300 boat slips and 200 winter storage spaces to the 900 boat slips already owned by Hagadone at other marinas.

Hagadone said he is unsure if he will develop the island with apartments, townhouses or condominiums.

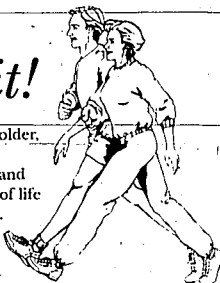
Most of the 38 acres is in unincorporated Kootenai County, with a small portion in city limits. Hagadone said it was too early to know whether he will ask Coeur d'Alene to annex the county property.

The Hall family has owned the land and yacht club for 45 years. The purchase of Blackwell Island and the plans to build a hotel and apartments on the golf course "ironically" happened in the same week, Hagadone said.

If the city approves the annexation and the building plans, Hagadone said, he will market the apartments by Memorial Day. Construction would begin as soon as enough customers commit to lease units.

"For a guy that's semiretired, it's busy times," Hagadone said.

Over 60 and getting fit!



Forget the stereotypes about aging. We may be older, but we can be strong and fit. Every day is an opportunity to make new plans, set new goals and continue to do everything we enjoy. We've got a lot of life left in us, and no intention of wasting a second of it.

Regular exercise is a vital part of healthy aging. It's not too late to start. Join CSI's award-winning... "OVER 60 & GETTING FIT!"

Spring Classes Begin January 20 and 21

Sign up for class during the first week in one of the following locations.

CSI Gymnasium	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Jerome Rec. Center	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Filer Elementary School	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Shoshone H.S. Old Gym	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 PM
Gooding Northside Center	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Buhl High School Gym	MWF	Begins January 21	10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Burley Racquetters Health & Fitness Club	T TH	Begins January 20	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Rupert Civic Gym	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
Blaine County Campus Gym	MWF	Begins January 21	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Special Event:

PERU: Explore the Heartland of the Incas

Join the College of Southern Idaho for an unforgettable sojourn to Cuzco, the Sacred Valley and Machu Picchu from Twin Falls on May 27th - June 3, 2004
Land Cost and Insurance: \$1900
Air cost from Twin Falls to Lima, Peru \$1075
Total \$2975

For more information, call CSI: 732-6475 or 732-6488

Over 60 & Getting Fit is made possible by the College of Southern Idaho in partnership with the Office on Aging, the Filer, Buhl and Shoshone School Districts, ISDB, the Burley Racquetter's Fitness Center, Blaine County Recreation District and the Jerome and Rupert Recreation Districts

To offer your sympathies or share a story about a departed friend or family member, visit the online guest book. Go to www.magicvalley.com and click on 'Obituaries'

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Authorities bust theft ring

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP) - Police say seven home burglaries in Leeds, Utah, since last spring are related to a housekeeping theft ring.

Housekeeper Sandra Ann Stephens, 52, of Leeds, was charged for burglary, possession of stolen property, forgery, identity theft, credit card fraud and drug offenses, sheriff's Sgt. Dan Ender said.

Authorities recovered more than

\$50,000 in heirloom jewelry and \$3,000 in firearms related to the thefts from upscale houses, he said.

Stephens was arrested Dec. 26 after a Wal-Mart surveillance camera showed her using stolen checks to make a purchase.

Three accomplices - Rene Martinez, 21, Ricky Spinks, 48, Chris Gier, 32 - were arrested for identity theft, possessing stolen property and drug offenses, which

appear to be at the root of the crimes, Ender said.

"It's really good to get them behind bars, especially Stephens," Ender said. "She's the ringleader."

Stephens was previously arrested by the St. George Police Department Nov. 18, 2003 on charges of credit card fraud and forgery.

The sheriff's office is searching for two others suspected of being involved in the thefts.

ONE HORSE OPEN SLED



Dusty Griffin, 12, riding Suzi, pulls her brother, Ted Griffin, 13, through fresh snow Friday in a field at their home in Terrebonne, Ore.

SCHOOL LUNCH MENUS

AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: Hot dog
Tuesday: Grilled Cheese
Wednesday: Dinosaur nuggets
Thursday: Corn dogs
Friday: Pizza

BUHL SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu
Milk served daily. Choice of fruit or juice every day.
Monday: Cereal/toast
Tuesday: Waffles
Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy
Thursday: Pancakes/Sausage
Friday: Little smokies/toast
Lunch Menu
Salad bar and milk served daily.
Monday: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich
Tuesday: Little smokies, macaroni and cheese
Wednesday: Pepperoni pizza
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Chicken nuggets

CASTLEFORD SCHOOL

Breakfast menu
Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: Waffle stir
Tuesday: Doughnuts
Wednesday: Biscuits
Thursday: Muffins
Friday: Scrambled Eggs
Lunch Menu
Salad bar and milk served daily.
Monday: Burritos
Tuesday: Turkey and Noodles
Wednesday: Hot dogs
Thursday: Pizza
Friday: Chicken burger

CLOVER TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: Turkey pot pie
Tuesday: Taco soup
Wednesday: Fish Fry on bun
Thursday: Pizza
Friday: Turkey melt

FILER SCHOOL

No menu available.

HANSEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Breakfast Menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy
Wednesday: Pancakes
Thursday: Cream of wheat
Friday: Long Johns
Lunch Menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: Chicken nuggets
Tuesday: Finger steaks
Wednesday: Ham and cheese pocket
Thursday: Turkey sandwich
Friday: Burritos

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Choice of milk every day.
Monday: Corn dog
Tuesday: Italian sub sandwich
Wednesday: Pancakes
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Hawaiian chili

KIMBERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: Corn dog
Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
Wednesday: Burrito
Thursday: French toast
Friday: Chicken wrap

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: Corn dogs
Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
Wednesday: Burrito
Thursday: French toast
Friday: Chicken wrap

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

No menu available.

MAGIC VALLEY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

No menu available.

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily.
Monday: Cheeseburger
Tuesday: Chicken fried steak
Wednesday: Cheese quesadilla pizza
Thursday: Deli sandwich
Friday: Popcorn beef bites

MURTAUGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: Tacos
Tuesday: Ham and cheese sandwich
Wednesday: Chili
Thursday: Chicken nuggets
Friday: Cheese pizza

ROBERT STUART AND O'LEARY JUNIOR HIGH

Breakfast menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Scrambled eggs and ham
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Pancake on a stick
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Milk served daily.
Monday: Chicken sandwich or salad bar
Tuesday: Chicken fried steak or soup and sandwich bar
Wednesday: Nachos supreme, french dip sandwich or potato bar
Thursday: Deli sandwich, hamburger deluxe or salad bar
Friday: Pizza or taco bar

ST. EDWARDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Pizza
Tuesday: Roast beef
Wednesday: Turkey noodles
Thursday: Bean and cheese burritos
Friday: Ham and cheese buns

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY

Milk served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Scrambled eggs and ham
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Pancake on a stick
Friday: Cereal
Lunch menu
Monday: Beef tacos
Tuesday: Chili
Wednesday: Tuna fish sandwich or ham sandwich
Thursday: Hamburger
Friday: Chicken nuggets

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast is served daily.
Lunch: The high school has a choice of main line, hamburger bar, and salad bar each day, taco bar on Wednesdays and potato bar on Fridays. Main line menu varies daily.
Monday: Pepperoni hot pocket, salad bar or deli sandwich
Tuesday: Chicken nuggets, coyote grill bar or deli sandwich
Wednesday: Cheeseburger, taco bar, deli sandwich
Thursday: Popcorn beef bites, coyote grill bar or deli sandwich
Friday: Pizza, potato-bar, deli sandwich

VALLEY SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served daily.
Monday: Cheese pizza
Tuesday: Pancakes
Wednesday: Chicken Alfredo
Thursday: Hot dog
Friday: Vegetable beef soup

BLISS SCHOOL

Milk served daily.
Monday: Chicken nuggets
Tuesday: Burrito
Wednesday: Pizza
Thursday: Hot dog
Friday: Taco

DIETRICH SCHOOLS

No menu available.

GLENN'S FERRY

Monday: Corn dog
Tuesday: Ham and cheese pockets
Wednesday: Hot dogs
Thursday: Soft shell taco
Friday: Chef salad

GOODING SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. The third choice is for junior high and high school students only.
Monday: Pizza, potato bar or taco salad bowl
Tuesday: Chicken nuggets, cheeseburger or deli bar
Wednesday: Nachos, salad bar or spicy chicken sandwich
Thursday: Sloppy Joe, salad bar or burritos
Friday: Chicken burger

HAGERMAN SCHOOLS

No menu available.

IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Milk served daily.
Breakfast menu
Monday: Scout breakfast
Tuesday: Pancakes
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Cinnamon toast
Friday: Grilled-cheese (backwards day)
Lunch menu
Salad bar and choice of milk served daily.
Monday: Chicken and noodles or turkey sandwich
Tuesday: Pork rib-a-que on bun
Wednesday: Chicken burger or hot turkey ham and cheese
Thursday: Spaghetti
Friday: Scrambled eggs (backwards day)

JEROME SCHOOLS

Milk served daily.
Monday: Rib-a-que on a bun
Tuesday: Ham and cheese sandwich
Wednesday: Beef nachos
Thursday: Chicken nuggets
Friday: Chicken fried steak

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Breakfast
Milk and juice served daily.
Monday: Cereal
Tuesday: Biscuits and gravy, scrambled eggs
Wednesday: Cereal
Thursday: Pancakes, sausage
Friday: No school
Lunch
Monday: Rib-a-que
Tuesday: Beef fajitas
Wednesday: Hamburger
Thursday: Hot dog
Friday: No school

SHOSHONE SCHOOLS

No menu available.

WENDELL SCHOOLS

No menu available.

School lunch menus are printed as a public service. To have the lunch menu (breakfast menu if desired) printed with the menus in Sunday's paper, send the menu to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or fax it to 734-5538, attention: Lunch Menus. Deadline is noon Wednesday for publication Sunday.

Blood center reports shortage

COEUR d'ALENE (AP) - The Inland Northwest Blood Center is reporting a severe shortage of blood.

The facility reports it is at critical inventory levels for O-negative and A-negative blood types.

The center needs at least 150 daily donations to keep supplies at safe levels. It supplies more

than 30 medical facilities in eastern Washington and northern Idaho.

Typically, donations slump during the new year, but in the past, the center has been able to stay above such critical levels.

Donors must be healthy to donate blood and this year's hard-hitting flu season has impacted

the center's donations, said Bob Purdy, director of community services.

Center officials searched inventory to buy additional inventory, but only 13 units of A-negative blood were found, as shortages are occurring nationwide.

"Illnesses and car accidents have depleted the center's supply.

Police arrest mother in murder of 2-year-old

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - A mother was arrested Saturday for the murder of her 2-year-old daughter.

The child was found "unresponsive" Friday in the woman's Ford sedan on Interstate-70 near Thompson Springs, 170 miles southeast of Salt Lake City, a sheriff's statement said Saturday.

The girl's body was taken to the state Office of the Medical Examiner for an autopsy.

Wendy Bullock, 28, of Salt Lake City, had self-inflicted wounds when she pulled off the highway near another stopped car, asked that motorist for razor blades and said she planned to commit suicide, sheriff's deputies and Sgt. Dan

Rosenhan of the Utah Highway Patrol said.

The other driver, a Colorado man, alerted authorities who found the girl dead when they arrived.

The mother was taken to Castileview Hospital in Price for injuries and then to the Grand County jail, where she was arrested for murder.

Despite better weather, ski instructor remains missing

SUN VALLEY - Rescue workers took advantage of sunny weather to continue to search Bald Mountain and its adjacent slopes Saturday for a missing ski instructor who is believed to have disappeared during a New Year's Day snowstorm.

"We're looking everywhere we

can think of," said one searcher as he boarded the lift at 9 a.m., his avalanche shovel stuffed in his backpack.

No sightings had been reported by 9 p.m. Saturday.

Blaine County Sheriff Walt Fensling said up to 86 people were involved in the search for Tom Wernig, a Hailey ski instructor.

A ski patrolman reportedly said he thought he saw Wernig, a 5-foot-9, 165-pound man at about 3:20 p.m. Thursday - 40 minutes before the mountain closed for the day.

The Wood River Valley's largest storm of the year dumped at least 17 inches of snow on the mountain that day.

Bridge

Continued from B1

Burgess said. "It's the erosion underneath that would cause the collapse."

Burgess compared the situation to a fly landing on a table with unstable legs that just happened to collapse shortly after the fly

landed on it.

"Just the fact the fly was there when the table collapsed has nothing to do with its collapse," he said.

Burgess said he doesn't know how many vehicles used to cross over the bridge each day. In addition

to the 15 families crossing the river near Bliss, during certain times of the year the bridge gets heavy use as farmers move commodities back and forth across the river and as sportsmen use it to get to fishing streams, and hunting and ATV areas.

Changes

Continued from B1

with families for 10 years. Physicians, instead of therapists, would prescribe the type of care provided and periodically review the need for continued care.

"They're basically saying my license means nothing," Beard said.

aren't able to provide care to Medicaid clients.

Mallea said there just aren't enough doctors to go around.

"This is a rural state, and we hardly have any psychiatrists," Mallea said. "We have a shortage of doctors anyway. It's really putting a damper on what we do here."

Woodland said she has seen Department of Health and Welfare dollars wasted before. This is just one more example, she said.

"It's just going to cost more money, and it's unnecessary," she said.

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Not that physicians shouldn't play a part in a client's treatment, Beard said. Some physical disorders mimic mental health disorders, and medical treatment is necessary. Physicians also play a big role in prescribing and managing psychiatric medication, Beard said.

But enforcing the current regulations would require clients to see the contracted physicians instead of, or in addition to, their primary care physicians. Some therapists worry it might frighten people off.

She added that physician visits would be covered by Medicaid.

Block said legislators want to hear what therapists have to say about the proposed rules.

SHOSHONE SCHOOLS

"Some people are going to bolt," said Evelyn Mallea, a licensed clinical social worker in private practice with four others at Magic Valley Counseling. "We'll run into people not showing up for appointments."

But enforcing the current regulations would require clients to see the contracted physicians instead of, or in addition to, their primary care physicians. Some therapists worry it might frighten people off.

"We do want the rules to be reasonable to therapists and in the best interest of the patients," she said.

Block said one of the main reasons for the rules is to ensure that people with more serious mental health disorders taking psychiatric medications are being monitored by physicians.

WENDELL SCHOOLS

"To have to contract with a physician would waste Medicaid dollars," he said.

There are about 125 Medicaid clients who see Mallea and the other four therapists at the clinic. They've already contracted with a local internist to be the clinic's medical director, Mallea said.

Beard and Jones' clinic has always contracted with a physician. But their waiting list could get longer if other local therapists

are not able to provide care to Medicaid clients.

Mallea said there just aren't enough doctors to go around.

"This is a rural state, and we hardly have any psychiatrists," Mallea said. "We have a shortage of doctors anyway. It's really putting a damper on what we do here."

Jacks

Continued from B1

litren toes and an epiphany: Never stake your life on technology that was outdated during the Hoover administration.

So I bought one of those power leg wrenches that plugs into your car's cigarette lighter when it comes on the market several years ago.

On a June day in 2003, I had a

flat on Interstate 84 near Wendell and had occasion to use it.

I slapped it on, pulled the trigger - and promptly stripped the first lug nut I tried.

So I signed up with Triple-A, and don't have to worry about jacks and tire irons any more. There's only one problem: In order to call the auto club you have to have a cell phone -

and on the day I had my recent flat, it was sitting on my kitchen counter where I'd forgotten it that morning.

No matter: I was thinking I needed new rims anyway.

Times-News features editor Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by email at smiller@magicvalley.com.

CARING NATURALIST OR CONVINCING 'CON MAN'?

Bear advocate possessed passion in life, leaves enigma in death

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Timothy Treadwell's death came just the way he had predicted.

Treadwell and his girlfriend were mauled by a 1,000-pound grizzly bear last October in a remote section of Alaskan wilderness that Treadwell knew well after years of living among its bear population.

That Treadwell was killed doing what he loved did not surprise many of those who knew him. He had acknowledged his forays into the backcountry were tempting fate.

He had started an environmental group and received donations from celebrities such as actor Leonardo DiCaprio and supermodel Gisele Bündchen, in part by saying the bears he loved were in jeopardy. He spun colorful stories about his adventures on the Discovery Channel, David Letterman's late-night audience and the Walt Disney Co.

What few knew about Treadwell was that much of his life was an invention.

Interviews with associates and reviews of public records reveal Treadwell as a complex character — part wildlife enthusiast, part showman, part educator, part impostor.

The organization he said was dedicated to saving bears did find a useful outlet educating school children, and some researchers have said his detailed observations about bear behavior are valuable. But his organization was not registered as a nonprofit, as it claimed, and some wildlife experts said the bears he claimed to be saving didn't need his protection.

His tales of being Australian or raised as an English orphan, later rescuing himself from a life of drugs and alcohol through his fascination with bears, only made his story more compelling.

It was only after his death that many of his more recent friends learned he was born under a different name as the middle-class son of a Long Island phone company foreman.

Charismatic in life, Treadwell had become an enigma in death.

Grizzlies are rare in the continental United States but common in Alaska where they are known as brown bears along the coast. Reaching up to 10 feet tall and weighing as much as 1,500 pounds, the largest and most aggressive are much more likely to attack people than the smaller black bear. More than 400 grizzly attacks on humans have been documented in Alaska since 1900, a fraction of them fatal, according to the U.S. Geological Survey's Alaska Science Center.

Treadwell refused to see the bears as "savagely beasts." What others feared, he sought out. He spent nearly a dozen summers living among grizzlies, primarily in the Katmai National Park and Preserve on the Alaska Peninsula.

He once was filmed crawling along the ground singing as he approached a sow and two cubs, and wrote of trudging through a warren of tunnels formed in tall brush and used primarily by grizzlies.

"He was good-hearted, but misguided," said former Katmai park superintendent Deb Liggett, who met with Treadwell over coffee in 1999 to express Park Service concerns about his behavior around bears.

Nonetheless, Treadwell, 46, won national acclaim for his daring and devotion. He named some bears and videotaped many of his encounters.

In 1997, he published a book, "Among Grizzlies: Living With Wild Bears in Alaska."

More recently, he offered filmmakers working on Disney's animated feature "Brother Bear" his insights into grizzlies. He also appeared in a short segment about bears that ran on the Disney Channel before the film's release, said Carol Walker, vice president of television specials for Buena Vista Pictures Marketing.

Treadwell made regular visits to schools after returning to Southern California from his annual trips to Alaska. Blond, good-natured and animated, he held students spellbound with tales of Mr. Goodbear, the bear takes of Mr. Charles in regions of Katmai he named the "Grizzly Sanctuary" and "Grizzly Maze."

"His passion for the bears and wildlife was just infectious, and the students loved his stories," said Phil Cott, principal of Webster Elementary School in Malibu, where Treadwell lived in a rented condo. "But he wasn't just a storyteller. He was very serious about the bears and their habitat and their role in the overall ecology."

Not everyone embraced Treadwell's views.

"Bears are bears, and the sooner we treat them as bears instead of humans in a bear suit it will be less dangerous," said Tom Smith, a biologist



Bear advocate Timothy Treadwell poses for a self portrait with an Alaskan grizzly bear on Hallo Bay, Alaska, in 2000. Treadwell and his girlfriend Amie Huguenaud were mauled by a 1,000-pound grizzly bear last October in a remote section of Alaskan wilderness that Treadwell knew well after years of living among its bear population.

AP photo

at the Alaska Science Center.

Critics said Treadwell's lifestyle could encourage copycats who would enter the wilderness and harass wildlife. Some worried that the mauling death of Treadwell and his girlfriend, 37-year-old Amie Huguenaud, would harm grizzlies by turning public opinion against them.



Amie Huguenaud

Laden, a newspaper publisher in Idaho who has reported on bears for more than 20 years, noted that Treadwell's death led authorities to kill two bears in self-defense after arriving at his campsite.

"I think he did harm to the bears," Laden said. "He made the bears think it was OK to be around humans. He took the wilderness out of the grizzly."

Stephen Stringham, a bear biologist and professor with the University of Alaska system, defended Treadwell's work. Treadwell, he said, kept meticulous diaries of bear genealogy, mating patterns and maternal behavior. All that will be valuable to researchers once his notes are organized, said Stringham, who had planned to collaborate on several papers with Treadwell. "Look, Tim's a naturalist, not a scientist," Stringham said. "Still, the details he has, no one's got anything like it. It's extremely valuable to science."

During a middle-class upbringing on Long Island, Treadwell — born Timothy William Dexter — nurtured a passion for animals and the outdoors.

As a boy he had a collection of teddy bears, including one called Mr. Goodbear, and he often spent summer days playing in a nature preserve, said his mother, Carol Ann Dexter.

A high school swim team member, he earned a scholarship to Bradley University in Peoria, Ill.

"He wasn't big, but he wasn't afraid of anything," said Jim Spink, his former diving coach at Bradley.

In what his father, Valentine Dexter, called the start of a downward spiral, Tim injured his back while diving, lost his scholarship and dropped out in 1977 before starting his junior year.

Back home in Ronkonkoma, his troubles worsened. He crashed the family station wagon and was arrested on charges related to drunken driving.

"That led up to his leaving," said his father, who now lives with Carol Ann in Coral Springs, Fla. "He wanted to make a fresh start."

Packed in Treadwell's bags was a childhood leaspeak: Mr. Goodbear.

He moved to Southern California in 1978, staying with his older sister, Vikki Fless, in Long Beach before striking out on his own and beginning a personal transformation.

Over the years, he waited tables and mixed cocktails in beach communities. He legally changed his last name to Treadwell in 1987 after using it informally for years, according to Los Angeles County records.

He frequented a pub where he worked, said Tom Reilly, Treadwell's friend.

Besides, said friend Jewel Palovak, his partner in the organization that promoted his work with bears, Grizzly People: "People reinvent themselves a thousand times over in L.A., and they're usually lauded for it."

Sunset Beach friends described Treadwell as a fun-loving eccentric, but he recalled his early years in Southern California as some of his darkest.

In his book, Treadwell wrote of an ongoing battle with alcoholism and drugs and a paranoia so acute he carried a gun and slept with a loaded M-16.

He appears to have been in trouble with the law at least twice.

In 1984, a Timmy Treadwell was accused of illegally discharging a firearm, according to court records in Beverly Hills. Three years earlier, a Timothy Windhorpe Treadwell of Sunset Beach was looked on suspicion of assault, Orange County records show. Treadwell was living in Sunset Beach then and had used the middle name Windhorpe, those who knew him said.

Treadwell's environmental crusade began slowly but quickly gained attention, propelled by his outsized personality.

He and Palovak started Grizzly People in the mid-1990s to support Treadwell's forays to Alaska and educate the public, particularly schoolchildren, about bears. To make ends meet, Treadwell occasionally fell back on bartending and friends' generosity.

But increasingly, he turned to the most obvious source of charitable giving in Southern California — celebrities. The list of Hollywood stars who either attended his fund-raiser or gave him money included DiCaprio, Bündchen, and actor Pierce Brosnan.

Darlene Malort, who until recently was a representative for DiCaprio's foundation, said the actor met with Treadwell about three years ago after seeing him on Letterman's show. The foundation gave Grizzly People nearly \$25,000, said Malort and DiCaprio's publicist, Ken Sunshine.

"We at the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation are honored to have been able to assist Timothy in fulfilling his dreams and living his passion," said a statement from

DiCaprio to The Associated Press.

"We're sure he's still watching those beautiful animals," Bündchen met Treadwell at one of his events a year ago and contributed money, although she wasn't sure how much, said her manager, Anne Nelson.

Brosnan and his wife, Keely, also attended Treadwell's fund-raising events.

"We are deeply saddened by the loss of our friend and admired environmental warrior," Brosnan and his wife said in a statement to the AP. "He was passionate and

committed to the Earth and its inhabitants."

Robert Towne, the screenwriter whose credits include "Chinatown" and "Mission: Impossible," said Treadwell made a presentation at his daughter's elementary school. He remembered Treadwell showing him video footage of what looked like a grizzly nuzzling its snout in the activist's palm.

"I was fascinated," said Towne, who with his wife wrote Treadwell a check he recalled was in the thousands of dollars. "However eccentric he was ... I think his work should be valued and honored."

A Grizzly People statement distributed to supporters last year said the bears "are attractive targets and without Treadwell's care would be easy to poach."

Alaskan wildlife experts discounted that, saying sporadic poaching isn't jeopardizing Alaska's grizzly population of 35,000. Katmai boasts the densest population of grizzlies in the world, said Liggett, Katmai's former superintendent.

The animals aren't listed as an endangered species in Alaska, although they are categorized as threatened in four other states.

Just 13 cases of poaching or of bears found dead with missing parts have been documented in Katmai since 1973, said Missy Epping, acting chief ranger for Katmai National Park and Preserve.

Now banned in the park section of Katmai, hunting was popular in the area during the 1960s and early 1970s but waned with the growth in bear viewing tours and Katmai's designation as a national park in 1980, experts said.

"We know we get some illegal taking of wild animals, bears included, but as far as we know it's not rampant," said Joe Fowler, Katmai's superintendent. "Having said that, I wouldn't disagree that the presence of Timothy and oth-

ers would be a deterrent."

Treadwell's supporters insist he videotaped poacher campsites and chased away hunter tracking grizzlies. He never cast himself as the personal guardian for all bears, only the groups in his areas, supporters said.

"I don't think it's mischaracterizing," Palovak said.

Treadwell's approach helped Grizzly People average about \$30,000 in annual contributions over the past several years, said Tisha Bedrosian of Social and Environmental Entrepreneurs, a nonprofit umbrella organization that funnels tax-deductible donations to Grizzly People.

Despite Grizzly People's claim in a 2003 newsletter that it was established "as a nonprofit organization," the organization is not registered with the Internal Revenue Service as a nonprofit, said Victor Omelczenko, an IRS spokesman. The group was, however, eligible to receive donations through its nonprofit sponsor.

The nearly \$33,000 that Grizzly People took in during 2001 was mostly used for reimbursing Treadwell for equipment, film development, travel, telephone bills and equipment, Bedrosian said.


Friends said Treadwell would have revealed in the attention his life and work have generated since his death.

"He's in hysterics up there," said Warren Queency, a friend of Treadwell's for nearly 12 years.

Queency only learned his friend was from Long Island during a memorial service attended by Treadwell's father, but he said he felt more amused than duped.

"He was a con artist, but boy, he pulled it off," Queency said. "The man was truly a riddle wrapped in a sleeping bag. I don't know if any of us will ever know who he really was."

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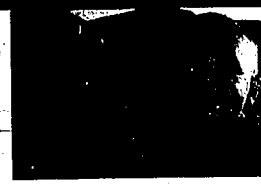


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ONE PARENT'S PAIN

Parents of kids who have killed share bond, hope

By Christina Almeida Associated Press writer

LAS VEGAS - It's a group no parents would want to join. Jeff Williams, membership began on a sunny Southern California day in March 2001. For Polly Powell, it was moments before the end of the school year in May 2000. And, for Cindy Carter, it was when she held her dying brother in her arms last summer.

Their parents of children who have killed. Williams chokes up as he recalls learning his son had shot and killed two people and wounded 13 others at Santana High School in Santee, Calif.

"I can't believe it. I was so in shock," Williams said. "It wasn't real. Why would Andy do something like this?"

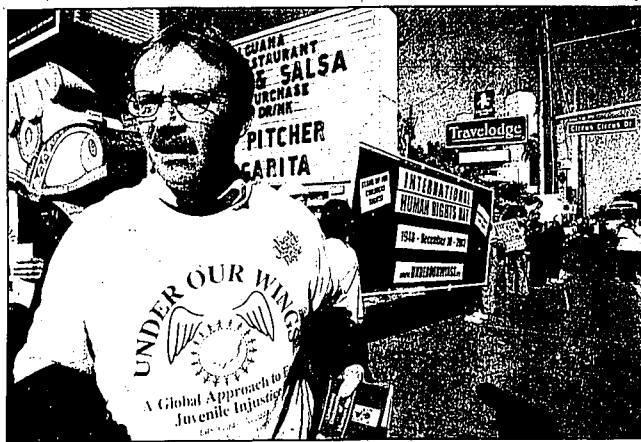
In the weeks and months since, Williams has found a measure of comfort and of purpose - amid the lingering feelings of pain, blame and bewilderment that accompanied his son's crimes. Williams among the parents of young killers who have become activists in the movement calling for an end to juveniles prosecuted as adults.

"All of us have the same pain," said Carter, whose 17-year-old son was awaiting trial in Florida. "That our children have been taken from us. That our children for one reason or another have been killed in violent crimes."

The knowledge that they are not alone brings them closer and into a group called "Under Our Wings" that recently held its second annual conference in Las Vegas.

Spurred by a horrific bond, they draw support from each other and a shared mission to help others in changing how justice is delivered to juveniles.

The conference erupted in cheers as the news that a Florida youth, murder conviction had been returned. Lionel Tate's case, a flash point in the debate over whether youths should be



Jeff Williams protests in Las Vegas, Dec. 10. Williams and other parents of children tried as adults for their crimes met in Las Vegas and called for an end to the practice. Williams' son shot and killed two people and wounded 13 others at Santana High School in Santee, Calif.

tried as adults, had prompted worldwide criticism when he was sentenced to life in prison for killing a 6-year-old playmate when he was 12 years old.

It was a major victory for the group that had traveled with Tate's mother to Europe - last year for a United Nations hearing on human rights and a meeting with Pope John Paul II.

"It's so clear Lionel Tate ought to be released today," said Bishop Thomas Masters, founder of "Under Our Wings," whose members aren't limited to parents of killers. "We must continue to say we will not go away. We will remain vigilant."

Part of that mission has been telling the awful tale of how they lost their children to crime. At times their voices wavered, the parents took turns sharing their nightmare.

Williams' story began the morning of March 5, 2001, when his 15-year-old son left for school with a 22-caliber revolver and a beanie baby named "Spunkie" in his backpack.

Nearly three years later, Williams still struggles to under-

stand what happened. He remembers approaching police officers after hearing his son was involved and saying the words that have come to define him, his life and his legacy.

"My name is Jeff Williams. My son was the shooter. Now - 17 - Charles 'Andy' Williams has been sentenced to 50 years to life in prison after pleading guilty to killing 14-year-old Bryan Zuckor and 17-year-old Randy Gordon and wounding 13 others.

"My son had to plead guilty as an adult for something he did when he was 15," Williams said.

"He took responsibility as an adult. You couldn't say for any more."

Williams said he wishes his son could have been treated as a juvenile, evaluated by people who work with youths and understand how they think - a common sentiment among parents of juvenile offenders tried in adult court.

In his son's case, that was prevented by the passage of California's Proposition 21 in 2000. Under the gang-violence and juvenile justice law, prosecutors in San Diego argued Andy Williams was lying in wait for his

victims - a circumstance that automatically transferred his case to adult court.

Andy Williams' lawyers failed in their attempt to challenge the law. They are appealing, hoping to get Williams a lesser sentence.

Randy Gordon's mother, Mari Gordon-Rayborn, said Andy Williams received the minimum sentence under the law - a decision that upset many.

"Consequences have to be made, and they have to be severe," Gordon-Rayborn said.

"I visit my son at a cemetery and ... (Williams) son is walking and talking and seeing him," she said.

Gordon-Rayborn, 37, said it's difficult to understand what Williams and the other parents are trying to accomplish. She wishes they would focus more on prevention.

"I hope they find what they are looking for, whatever it is they are trying to do," she said. "I hope that for them because maybe they will have some peace that we haven't been able to find yet."

Dianne Clements, president of Justice For All, a Houston-based victims rights organization, said she understands the parents' need to seek solace from each other and continue supporting their children.

"I understand it, but I don't support their objectives," she said. "Because these parents want to lessen our societal response, it doesn't make it the right thing to do."

Hundreds of youth offenders sit in adult prisons nationwide. In 1998, Florida led the country with 572, followed by Connecticut with 505. Texas had 272 juvenile offenders in adult prisons, with 316 in New York and 163 in California.

A number of states, including

California and Florida, in recent years have toughened laws affecting youths, prompted in part by rising juvenile crimes.

Like Proposition 21, the laws make it easier to try youth offenders as adults. In Florida, prosecutors can file juvenile cases directly in adult court and those convicted of first-degree murder receive an automatic sentence of life in prison without parole, the same as adults.

In Nathaniel Brazill's case, a Florida jury convicted the teen of second-degree murder for killing his teacher, Barry Grunow, at Lake Worth Middle School in Palm Beach County, Fla. The second-degree finding allowed a lesser sentence, and his lawyers are appealing.

Polly Powell often thinks about the effect 28 years in prison will have on her 17-year-old son.

"Some people are just not as forgiving as others. Some people don't want to give you a second chance," Powell said.

It was the Nathaniel Brazill case that inspired Bishop Masters to form the "Under Our Wings" organization.

"One of the best ways to handle your pain and your grief is to do something positive and constructive," Masters said. "To turn your pain into gain, to turn your sorrow into joy."

Like Williams, Powell has struggled with reconciling the image of the smiling child she knew with the terrible crime he committed.

"No matter what Nathaniel has done, he's still my child," Powell said.

"Even if it doesn't help Nathaniel, maybe it'll help the next child," Powell said. "Maybe they won't be charged as an adult, and (they'll) have a chance to have a life."

One of the best ways to handle your pain and your grief is to do something positive and constructive. To turn your pain into gain, to turn your sorrow into joy.

Bishop Masters, founder of 'Under Our Wings'

Family grieves over death of university president

MOSEBOW (AP) - Ernest Hartung, a popular president of the University of Idaho from 1965 to 1977, died in September in a Florida nursing home. Hartung was 88.

The body report of his death has left Hartung's three children distraught.

During his tenure, Hartung was often seen strolling through campus, willing to talk to students, and well known as the president who would develop student government.

The strong pattern in American universities of no links between student faculty and the administration, Hartung said in a 1981 Lewiston Morning Tribune story.

"Andy" was had this terrible schism between the students on one side and the administration was sitting there making rules.

"The thing should be the ameliorating thing in there. After all, between students and faculty, this is what the relationship is about. The administration is just there to make sure things happen."

Hartung's 50-year-old daughter, Kathleen, of Portland, Ore., said she believed her father died on Sept. 16 at the Wildwood, Fla. home.

"I was so horrified about how this had happened," she said.

Her stepmother, Laura Hartung, had power of attorney over her father and apparently opposed his notifying family members or making any other public announcements, she said.

Hartung said she and her two brothers, John Hartung, 53, and Ernest Hartung, 48, received word on Christmas Day of their father's death through a nursing home. They had no idea he was gravely ill. They described her and her

30th Birthday



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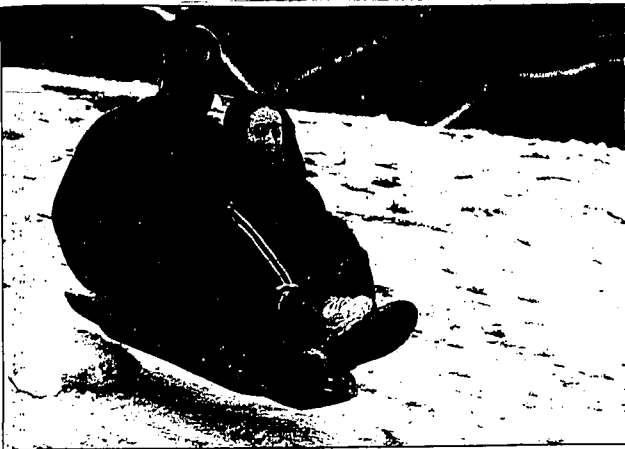
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WILD RIDE



Finneas Tullioa and family friend Donna Ritchey, 11, sled down a hill at Game Farm Park in Auburn, Wash., on Friday. They were at the park with family and friends enjoying the snow that has fallen in the last few days.

DNA tests link gym teacher to rapes

BOISE (AP) — A DNA sample taken from a gym teacher accused of raping three teenage girls matches evidence from all the victims, police reported. The results of tests indicated that one man was responsible for all three attacks, Boise police spokeswoman Lynn Hightower said Friday.

Kenneth Kip Wilkins, 28, is charged with three counts of rape, three counts of burglary and one count of lewd conduct with a minor under the age of 16. The Nampa resident is being held in the Ada County Jail on a \$1 million bond.

Wilkins was a physical education teacher and basketball coach at St. Mark's School in Boise at the time of his arrest.

He was indicted on the charges Dec. 23 and is scheduled to enter a plea Tuesday.

Boise police characterize Wilkins as a serial rapist who targeted his young victims and attacked them in their homes in the same neighborhood. Wilkins reportedly confessed to the attacks after he was arrested Dec. 12 by officers responding to a Peeping Tom call at a home, according to court testimony earlier this month.

Storms stretch Coeur d'Alene's snow budget

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — City officials are plowing through their snow removal budget. Thursday saw the season's fourth major winter storm, requiring the use of six plows and a sanding truck. City officials budgeted for a mild snow winter, similar to last year's when crews never plowed citywide.

This winter the city has done five all-city plows. Coeur d'Alene Finance Director Troy Tymesen estimates the city spends about \$5,000 for snow removal for a major weekday storm.

Overtime pay for plow drivers and street crews working on holidays and weekends can double the city's costs to \$10,000. But workers will continue to plow, regardless of the budget.

removal for a major weekday storm. Overtime pay for plow drivers and street crews working on holidays and weekends can double the city's costs to \$10,000. But workers will continue to plow, regardless of the budget.

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 Martial art makes an introduction in Magic Valley.
 Health & Fashion in The Times-News

Utah legislature takes aim at firing squads

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Utah would ban firing squads and execute condemned prisoners only by lethal injection — and not on Sundays, Mondays or holidays — if some state legislators get their way.

Hoping to end what has been called a media circus surrounding firing-squad executions, two Utah lawmakers — Sen. Ron Allen, D-Stansbury Park, and Rep. Sheryl Allen, R-Bountiful — have introduced companion bills in the House and Senate aimed at abolishing the firing squad. The measures have been expected since August, when the Utah Sentencing Commission said it would support eliminating the firing squads. Commission members said firing-squad executions have become publicity magnets that tend to focus attention on death-row inmates instead of their victims.

"We're making Jesse Jameses out of these people," Sevier County Sheriff Phil Barnes, a member of the sentencing commission, said in August. "We're making a hero out of some idiot that's destroyed families."

Ron Allen said victims' families suffer when the execution becomes "a debacle. It's not fair to the families."

Utah's historic firing-squad option has been linked to a religious concept called blood atonement — spilling blood to pay for grievous sins — taught by some early Mormon leaders but never practiced by the church, according to the Encyclopedia of Mormonism.

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in September announced it would not object to elimination of the firing squad.

John Albert Taylor was Utah's last condemned killer to die by firing squad in 1996, an event covered by more than 150 television crews from Italy, France, Japan and other countries.

The ban would take effect retroactively, meaning those on death row who have already chosen to die by firing squad could avail themselves of that option. The measures allow the firing squad only if an inmate appeals and a court rules in favor of his preference.

"I don't think it's right that felons convicted of a capital felony should have a choice," Ron Allen said Friday. "Their victims had no choice. In that respect, it's an issue of fairness and justice."

Officials have said that three death-row inmates — Troy Michael Kell, Ronald Lafferty and Ralph Menzies — have chosen to die by firing squad. Another who sought the firing squad, Roberto Arguelles, died of a medical condition in prison in November.

The Utah Department of Corrections has taken no position on the firing squad bill, said spokesman Jack Ford. But the department requested a third bill, sponsored by Sen. John Valentine, R-Orem, which would prohibit executions on Sundays, Mondays or holidays.

That would allow the department to avoid paying overtime for officers preparing for the execution, Ford said.



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Leading foodborne diseases

In about a quarter of all food-related illnesses, doctors can identify the virus, parasite or bacteria causing the disease; estimated annual U.S. cases.

- Illnesses**
- Viral gastroenteritis
 - Campylobacter: 2.0 million
 - Salmonella: 1.3 million
 - Clostridium: 250,000
 - Giardia: 200,000
 - E. coli, all types: 173,000
 - Other identified disease: 687,000
 - Total: 13.9 million
- Mad cow disease is known to have caused only one U.S. human illness ever.

- Deaths**
- Salmonella: 608
 - Listeria: 400
 - Toxoplasma gondii: 375
 - Viral gastroenteritis: 124
 - Campylobacter: 98
 - E. coli, all types: 78
 - Other identified disease: 78
 - Total: 1,809

*1999 CDC estimates, latest available. Note: Many foodborne illnesses are not reported because persons do not seek treatment, death figures are also only estimates. Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Graphics: Mark Hartnett © 2003 NYT

Food-borne diseases result in heavy toll on public health

Officials estimate 5,000 deaths, 76 million illnesses yearly

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — In the week since mad cow disease was discovered in the United States, more than a million Americans were sickened by food they ate. About 6,000 became so ill they were hospitalized and nearly 100 died, according to federal health estimates.

But mad cow disease wasn't the culprit. Indeed, not a single American is known to have contracted the human form of the disease from eating food in this country. Instead, salmonella, E. coli, listeria and other dangerous bacteria routinely take a huge toll on public health, yet get little of the attention that's now focused on the beef from one Washington state Holstein found infected with mad cow disease, also known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy.

"There is not enough attention to general food-borne diseases," said Dr. Christopher Braden, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's chief of outbreak response and surveillance in the food-borne disease branch. "While bovine spongiform encephalopathy is of concern, it's not the greatest public health concern we face in food-borne disease."

The toll from food-borne disease is staggering: 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations and 5,000 deaths in the United States each year, according to CDC estimates. Salmonella, for instance, caused 32,000 confirmed illnesses last year — and many times that number probably were sickened by the bacteria but never had tests to confirm it. "Certainly if this were a disease hitting the radar screen and it was the first

time it had ever been discovered and there were 30,000 cases reported, it would be an uproar," Braden said Tuesday. Organisms that consumers may never have heard of cause many illnesses. Campylobacter, a bacteria associated with raw or undercooked poultry, causes about 2 million cases of diarrhea, nausea and vomiting each year, and sometimes causes life-threatening infections or triggers rare immune-system responses. Listeria monocytogenes, a cold-loving bacteria found in ready-to-eat lunchmeats and hot dogs, causes about 2,500 illnesses a year, and most of those people are so ill they are hospitalized. About 500 will die, the CDC estimates.

Brad Matthews of Raleigh, N.C., no longer takes for granted that the food he eats is safe. At age 27, he's been unable to work since July 2001, when he was hospitalized during a bout of food-borne illness caused by campylobacter. He recovered from the nausea and vomiting, but then developed Reiter's syndrome, a painful inflammation of the joints believed to be triggered by the bacteria. "I was an administrative assistant just right out of college," Matthews said Tuesday. "My future looked bright, and it just happened out of the blue." The pain in his joints has made it impossible to live normally, he said. He can't drive, walk his dog, or even play the guitar. "The public needs to pay more

attention, Matthews said. "I don't think people really care. I know about these food-borne diseases, but I thought to myself it wouldn't happen to me," he said. Food safety advocates hope that the furor over mad cow disease and calls for reform will help focus the attention of policy makers and the public on broader issues in farming and food manufacturing that could help reduce the number of Americans sickened by what they eat. "I don't think mad cow is a public health crisis," said Carol Tucker Foreman, who was an assistant secretary of agriculture in the Carter administration. "I do think we have a serious public-health problem with regard to food-borne illness. And it's not just meat and poultry, but fresh fruit and vegetables, eggs and fish."

Foreman, who heads the Food Policy Institute at the Consumer Federation of America, said the mad cow situation — and efforts by regulators to find the Holstein's birth herd — had demonstrated the need for a system that allowed cattle to be traced. "We've urged the USDA to establish an animal trace-back system for 20 years," she said. "Not only do you need to trace back an animal that has signs of mad cow disease, but you also could trace back an animal that has a gut full of E. coli O157:H7."

Advocates also have urged for years that the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Food and Drug Administration be given the authority to order companies to recall tainted products. The current system allows only for voluntary company recalls, Foreman said.

Attorney: Boy sentenced to life signs plea agreement

MIAMI (AP) — A teenager whose life sentence for murdering a 6-year-old playmate was thrown out will sign paperwork accepting a plea deal today, further clearing the way for his release from prison, his mother's lawyer said Saturday. Lionel Tate spoke with his mother, Kathleen Grossett-Tate, in a conference call Saturday, said Henry Hunter, Grossett-Tate's lawyer. Hunter said Tate, who turns 17 this month, will sign papers agreeing to plead guilty to second-degree murder and receive a sentence of three years in prison — most of which he has already served. He also will serve one year of house arrest and 10 years probation.

Lawyers had argued that he was imitating the pro wrestling moves he saw on television and did not mean to kill her. He was convicted of murder and sentenced to life in prison without parole. A state appeals court threw out the conviction and sentence last month, saying Tate's mental competency should have been tested before trial.

The agreement would need to be ratified by a judge, a hearing Hunter said he hoped would take place within a week. Tate's attorney did not immediately return calls seeking comment Saturday. Tate was 12 when he punched, kicked and stomped to death 6-year-old Tiffany Eunick. His

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Beefsteak Box (20 lbs.)
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145

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Divorce Hurts

Find help at DivorceCare.

DivorceCare is a 13-week seminar and support group for people who are separated or divorced. It's a place where you can be around people who understand what you are feeling. It's a place where you can hear valuable information about ways to heal from the hurt of divorce.

DivorceCare group meets every Wednesday evening of 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., beginning Jan 7 at Twin Falls Nazarene Church (west of CSI campus), 1231 Washington St. N. Childcare is provided.

For more information, call 733-6610. Cost is \$100.



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Buhl	Western Cellular, 104 W. Broadway Ave. South, 842-3002	Idaho Falls**	Verizon Wireless, 2300 E. 17th St., 832-7255	Twin Falls	R&L Communications, 101 E. Hooper Ave., 547-4444
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Burley**	Vision Communications, Well-Mart, 413 RiverView Dr., 678-4739	Idaho Falls**	Verizon Wireless, 2300 E. 17th St., 832-7255	Twin Falls	A&H Cellular, 1455 Pole Line Rd. E., Sta. 208
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Idaho Falls	A&H Cellular, 400 N. Main St., 733-5556	Idaho Falls**	Verizon Wireless, 2300 E. 17th St., 832-7255		
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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“In L.A., you pull up to a nice restaurant and it's ‘Are you a Laker?’ You say, ‘No, a Clipper,’ and it's ‘Move that car. There's no valet here. Take it around back.’”

”

—Elton Brand on life as a Clipper in Los Angeles

TRIVIA

QUESTION:
Why do Fresno State players wear green Vs on the backs of their helmets?

...answer below

IN BRIEF

Snow scraps some high school games

TWIN FALLS — Bad roads from the recent snowstorms forced a few boys and girls basketball games scheduled for Saturday night to be cancelled. The home boys and girls games between Twin Falls High and Elko, Nev. were cancelled as were the boys game between Valley and Malad.

The Burley at Bonneville girls basketball game was postponed. No makeup date was announced.

Burley boosters will meet Monday, Jan. 5

BURLEY — The Burley Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5 in the Burley High School conference room.

All interested parents and BHS supporters are strongly encouraged to attend. For additional information, please call 677-4345.

Resort offers free cross-country rentals, lessons

HANSEN — From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, the Magic Mountain Ski Resort will sponsor free rentals and lessons for beginning cross country skiers. For more information, call Jack at 837-4505.

Kimberly Booster Club will gather on Monday

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Booster Club will meet Monday, Jan. 5 at 7 p.m. in the media center at Kimberly High School. All are welcome to attend. For more information, call George Flew at 423-4887.

Youth basketball camps set for Twin Falls

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls High School basketball coaches have announced the dates for the upcoming classic clinic and Little Dribblers hoops camps. The classic clinic, for boys and girls in grades 4-6, will be held from 8 a.m.-noon on Jan. 10 at O'Leary Junior High School. The camp will be instructed by TFHS coaches and players. The cost is \$20 per participant.

A Little Dribblers camp will also be held for boys and girls in grades kindergarten-3. The clinics will take place from 10 a.m.-noon on Jan. 17 and 24, and also from 6-7 p.m. on Jan. 26. The campers will also perform at halftime of the TFHS girls basketball game on Jan. 29.

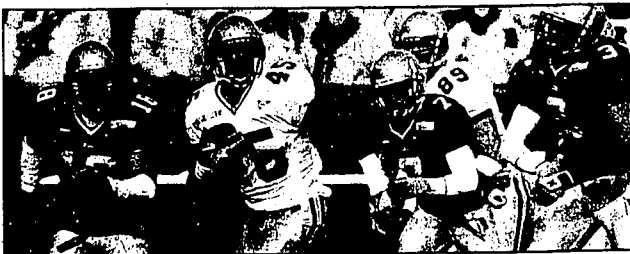
All participants will receive a T-shirt, with the first 175 Little Dribblers campers receiving a custom Bruin basketball. Registration forms are available at Donnelley Sports Call Mart at 735-5310 for more information.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

The V stands for the San Joaquin Valley, and it is green because of the valley's agriculture.

Georgia Tech wrecks Tulsa at H-Bowl



Georgia Tech running back P.J. Daniels (45) takes off, leaving Tulsa's Clint Rountree (18), Jermaine Hope (7) and Kendrick Alexander (3) behind during the third quarter of the Humanitarian Bowl on Saturday in Boise, Idaho. Daniels scored four touchdowns and rushed for more than 300 yards. Georgia Tech beat Tulsa 52-10.

The Associated Press

BOISE — P.J. Daniels just about made sure Georgia Tech had a seventh straight winning season all by himself.

Daniels ran for 307 yards, the second-highest total in school history, and four touchdowns to lead the Yellow Jackets to a 52-10 rout of Tulsa on a frigid Saturday afternoon in the Humanitarian Bowl.

“I feed off of negative energy, man, because I’m a positive person,” said Daniels, who had never scored more than one touchdown in a game. “A couple of fans gave me some encouraging, negative words. I feed off of that.”

The Yellow Jackets (7-6) haven't had a losing season since going 5-6 in 1996. Tech faced suggestions that perhaps it didn't deserve to

be in a bowl, even the distant outpost of the Humanitarian Bowl.

“A lot of people doubted us. They didn't think we were going to make it to a bowl game. We proved a lot of people wrong, so I feel good and I know my teammates do, too,” Daniels said.

Tulsa (8-5) closed the regular season on a five-game losing streak for the school's first bowl berth since 1991, but Saturday's appearance was hardly memorable. The Golden Hurricane didn't score a touchdown until the fourth quarter and finished with 14 total yards — less than half of Daniels' yardage. They were sacked seven times and held to minus-56 yards rushing.

“We had a great season. We didn't have a great day,” first-year

Please see HBOWL, Page C4

Declo dominates Gooding

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

DECLO — The Declo Hornets looked like defending state champions in Saturday night's 59-18 Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference home win over the Gooding Senators.

With a full-court press putting the clamps on the Gooding (2-5, 0-2 SCIC) offense, the Hornets (5-2, 2-0 SCIC) opened up a 13-4 first-quarter lead and never looked back. Sophomore point guard Spencer Stoker was the catalyst for the Hornets, finishing with 11 points, seven assists, four steals, and three rebounds.

Defensively, Stoker and the Hornets forced 18 Senator turnovers.

Declo coach Dennis Smyer said he is glad to have such a competitor run his team.

“Spencer is very intense defensively and he's a winner,” said Smyer. “You like to be around kids like him.”

After the game, reserve forward Ken Webb summed up Declo's defensive philosophy — one that worked to near perfection Saturday night.

“We just try to get them out of their comfort zone and get them to take bad shots,” Webb said.

“Being able to do that comes with having good athletes.”

Webb was a monster on the boards, tearing down nine rebounds in a physically dominating effort on the glass.

“He did a good job,” Smyer said. “He was a rebounding machine tonight and he did a lot of good things for us.”

Webb's success probably comes from his even-keeled mind set.

“I just play every game the same,” said Webb. “The best I can.”

The Senators simply couldn't find the hoop on their way to only 18 points for the game.

Sophomore post Alex Garcia led the Senators with seven points on some good post work, but saw his teammates stay cold from the field all game long. Senior starters Angel Aguilar and Eric Gushee were held to only three points each.

“I don't know if that was because of our defense, but they were cold tonight,” Smyer said.

The Hornets were led by junior Bret Wardle's 14 points, while Bjorn Christiansen pitched in 10 to aide Declo's balanced scoring attack.

“Brent Wardle is starting to



Declo sophomore Spencer Stoker (33) passes past Gooding senior Travis Etchart (32) Saturday night.

come into his own,” said Smyer. “He's starting to pick his spots and we're starting to get him looks.”

The Hornets' up-tempo transition attack served them well, as they were able to peel off big scor-

ing runs, including a 12-0 start to the third quarter. Declo moved

Please see HOOPS, Page C2

Titans squeak out win over Ravens

The Associated Press

BALTIMORE — Every bit of pain Steve McNair and Eddie George endured unquestionably was worth it. No longer must the Tennessee Titans hear about their inability to beat the Baltimore Ravens.

NFL career scoring leader Gary Anderson kicked a 46-yard field goal with 29 seconds left after a limping McNair validated his stature as the NFL co-MVP by throwing for 159 yards and a touchdown, leading the Titans to a 20-17 victory Saturday in a first-round playoff game.

McNair engineered an eight-play, 35-yard drive to set up the winning kick, and George finished with 88 yards on 25 carries to help Tennessee end a five-game losing streak against the Ravens.

The Titans (13-4) received an outstanding performance from

Please see TITANS, Page C5



Tennessee wide receiver Derrick Mason (88) and wide receiver Drew Bennett congratulate field goal kicker Gary Anderson after he kicked the winning field goal in playoff game against the Baltimore Ravens, Saturday in Baltimore. The Titans won, 20-17.

Panthers pound sputtering Cowboys

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Jake Delhomme could throw, Stephen Davis could run and nothing Bill Parcells and the Dallas Cowboys tried could stop them.

Delhomme threw for 273 yards and a touchdown, Davis ran for 104 yards and a score and the Carolina Panthers ended the Parcells-led turnaround in Dallas Cowboys in the first round of the NFL playoffs Saturday night.

Although the Cowboys came into the game with the league's top-ranked defense, the Panthers made them look downright ordinary while handing Parcells the worst playoff loss of his career. The game was a complete rever-

NFL previews - C5

sal of the regular-season meeting, when the Cowboys stifled Davis and held him to 59 yards rushing. That forced the game into Delhomme's hands and he failed to deliver in Dallas' 24-20 victory.

Not this time, when the two combined to make Dallas' defense look shoddy while handing the Cowboys one of their worst playoff losses.

Sevensmith had five catches for 135 yards and a 32-yard touchdown and Mubinn Muhammad had four catches for 103 yards. Coupled with Davis' yards on the ground, it marked the first time

Please see PANTHERS, Page C2

SPORTS

Spartans hold on against Century

RUPERT - Minico jumped out to a 31-10 halftime lead and then held on for a 44-40 nonconference girls' basketball win Saturday night.

Amanda Otman scored 12 points while Erica Miller added eight rebounds and six points for Minico.

Minico (5-7) next plays Tuesday at Twin Falls.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score, and Date. Includes Century 44, Century 40, and other game results.

Camas County 33, Community School 32

KETCHUM - Camas County stretched out a 33-32 Magic Valley Northside Conference victory Saturday, taking advantage of poor free throw shooting by the host Community School Cutthroats in the fourth quarter.

Beth McLam scored 11 and Keri Engstad 15 for the Musters. Blake Ellis scored 10 for the Cutthroats.

Community School next plays at Dietrich Tuesday and then at Bliss Thursday.

Dietrich 58, Carey 35

DIETRICH - Dietrich used a 19-point second quarter to defeat Carey 58-35 Saturday night in Dietrich.

Alyen Sorensen and Nicki Miller both clipped in 15 points to lead the Blue Devils.

Dietrich (8-3; 4-1 Northside) hosts The Community School on Tuesday.

Spurs stink it up against Sixers, lose 83-77

SAN ANTONIO (AP) - Tim Duncan attempted San Antonio's first eight free throws and missed them all. By the end of the afternoon, the Spurs had clanged away their 13-game winning streak.

After struggling from the line in the first half, the Spurs managed just nine baskets in the second half Saturday and lost 83-77 to the Philadelphia 76ers.

Eric Snow scored 18 of his 20 points and Derrick Coleman had 12 of his season-high 20 points in the second half at Philadelphia, which was playing its 10th straight game without top scorer Allen Iverson (bruised right knee).

Rockets 84, Jazz 63

HOUSTON - The Houston Rockets played the best defensive game in their history Saturday night in an 84-63 victory over the Utah Jazz.

Steve Francis had 17 points. Yao Ming added 16. Cuttino Mobley had 13 and Kelvin Cato added 11 points, 15 rebounds and four blocked shots.

DeShawn Stevenson's 11 points led the Jazz, who scored just seven points in the fourth quarter for their lowest point total of the season.

Hoops

Continued from C1

the ball well on their way to 15 total assists, and crashed the boards hard, out-rebounding the Senators 28-24.

For Smyer and the Hornets, the win - along with last night's defeat of American Falls - is a satisfying way to come out of the Christmas break.

"We came out of the break and beat a good American Falls team and Gooding tonight," Smyer said.

CSI

Continued from C1

McKinney hauled down the rebound, drew a foul and iced the win with a lone free throw with 2.6 ticks remaining.

"We felt we had to slow it down a bit because we didn't have the numbers," CSI men's coach Gib Arnold said in a radio interview.

"It was a hard-nosed basketball game. Our guys outstayed and outplayed their guys tonight. I never felt they had a lot of momentum."

The win was an even more impressive when you consider forward Jason McGriff sat out the game.

Under conference rules, he was suspended after throwing a punch Friday night, depleting the CSI roster to eight available players.

He sat Saturday and will not play this Friday, when CSI hosts Lake Community College at 8 p.m.

CSI will host 80-62 Friday night.

Local sports

Shoshone 33, Richfield 31

RICHFIELD - Shoshone narrowly avoided back-to-back losses Saturday night as the Indians after trailing for most of the game, came back to defeat Richfield 33-31 Saturday night.

Mallic Axelson led all scorers with 15 points for Shoshone. Cassie Wood scored 10 points to lead the Tigers.

Richfield (7-3; 3-2 Northside) travels to Carey on Friday.

Hansen 66, Magic Valley Christian 15

HANSEN - Jessica Thorpe scored 17 points to lead the Hansen girls basketball team in a 66-15 win over Magic Valley Christian Saturday in Hansen.

Bonnie Freestone was second in scoring for the Huskies, tallying 16 points in her first game of the season. Freestone had been sidelined while she recovered from ankle surgery.

Rachelle Paulson led the Lady Conquerors with six points. Hansen (8-3; 5-2 Southside Conference) travels to Burroughs Tuesday. Magic Valley Christian hosts Lighthouse Christian Tuesday.

Oakley 49, Castelford 19

CASTLEFORD - Mindy Burch scored 12 points to lead the Oakley Lady Hornets over Castelford 49-19 in Castelford Saturday.

Oakley led the Lady Wolves 28-5 at the half. Castelford (2-8; 2-4 Southside) visits Raft River Tuesday. Oakley (10-1; 6-2 Northside) hosts Hagerman that night.

Boys basketball

Carey 66, Dietrich 53

DIETRICH - Carey took control with a 21-6 edge in the second quarter to down Dietrich 66-53 Saturday night.

"We couldn't hit the broad side of the barn," said coach Wayne Dill.

By Simmons scored 20 while KC Rivers added 16. Todd Green 15 and Todd Cook 11, including three 3-pointers, for the 7-1 Panthers. Shawn Divine scored 21 for Dietrich while Gerard Telford added 15.

Dietrich (3-7) hosts The Community School (7-2, 2-1) at the junior varsity game 52-46.

Hansen 71, Magic Valley Christian 60

HANSEN - Hansen Junior

(8-2) hosts Hagerman that night.

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score, and Date. Includes Century 44, Century 40, and other game results.

Raft River 65, Lighthouse Christian 19

MALTA - Raft River defeated the Lighthouse Christian Lions 65-19 Saturday night in Malta.

Hallie Ramsey and Jennie Hutchison both had 16 points to lead the Trojans, who improved to 3-3 in the Magic Valley Southside Conference.

Raft River (4-6; 3-3 Magic Valley South) hosts Castelford on Tuesday.

Boys basketball

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HANSEN - Hansen Junior

Senators 5, Capitals 2

OTTAWA - Daniel Alfredsson and Bryan Smolinski scored two goals each and Ottawa extended its season-high unbeaten streak to 10 games Saturday night.

Alfredsson snapped a tie with a power-play goal 4:53 into the third period. He put Ottawa up by two points with his second goal of the game.

Smolinski, who tied it in the second, got his second of the game with 1:21 remaining - the first of two empty-net goals scored within 19 seconds.

Chris Neil scored the other empty-netter for Ottawa, which has won four in a row and is 7-0-2 over the course of the streak.

Jeff Halpern and Robert Lang scored for Washington, wireless in five (0-4-1).

Maple Leafs 3, Sabres 3

TORONTO - Matt Stajan scored the opening goal with 3:02 left in regulation and Toronto rallied to tie Buffalo.

Down 3-1 in the third period, Toronto's Mats Sundin scored a power-play goal before Stajan tipped Ken Klee's slap shot past Martin Biron.

Toronto's coach Buffalo 37-16. Toronto's coach Buffalo 37-16. Toronto's coach Buffalo 37-16.

Panthers

Continued from C1

later in the third period, shaking his head in disgust after Davis' fourth field goal. It set up Kasay's 11-yard run, a 32-yard punt that put Carolina up 26-3 with 12:45 left.

The Cowboys didn't give up, though. Quincy Carter put together a solid fourth-quarter drive and capped it with a 9-yard touchdown run with 7:36 to play.

But any chance of another scoring march ended when he was intercepted by Julius Peppers, who returned it 34 yards to the Dallas 11. Peppers then hopped back and sprinted through the end zone, leaping into the stands and into the arms of the white-towel waving Carolina fans.

It set up Kasay's 34-yard field goal for a 29-10 lead. A downrigg blowout by Carolina's standards, and the Panthers returned to the field for a victory lap after the game.

Mark Pearson scored 21 points to lead the Huskies past Magic Valley Christian 71-60 in Hansen Saturday. The win gives Hansen a 4-1 record on the Magic Valley South Conference.

Yrel King and Matt Freestone also scored in double-figures in the Hansen win.

James Jarvis led the Conquerors with 19 points. Corey Paulson and Jon Jarvis each added 11 in the defeat.

Hansen (6-3; 4-1) plays at Hagerman Thursday.

Community School 54, Camas County 44

KETCHUM - Ketchum secured a double-digit lead to lead his Cutthroats to a 54-44 win over Camas County. Fairchild led all scorers with 25 points and 19 rebounds in the win.

Steve Vouch led the Musters with 19 points, going 11 for 15 from the free-throw stripe.

The Cutthroats held one-point lead going into the fourth quarter, then outscored the Musters 15-6 to finish the game.

The Musters were held to two field goals and went 1 for 7 from the line in the fourth quarter.

The Community School (7-2, 2-1) plays at Dietrich Tuesday. Camas County (4-2, 2-2) hosts Shoshone Tuesday.

Late Friday

Girls Basketball

Jerome 44, Vallivue 33

CALDWELL - A story will be published in Monday's paper.

Pacers 91, Hornets 84

INDIANAPOLIS - In a fight-hard matchup of two of the top teams in the Central Division, Jermaine O'Neal had 26 points, 16 rebounds and six blocks to lead the Indiana Pacers to a 91-84 victory over the New Orleans Hornets on Saturday night.

The Pacers never trailed in a game filled with hard fouls, tough defense and a showing match between Indiana's Al Harrington and New Orleans' George Lynch that escalated into a fight, leading to the ejections of Harrington, Lynch and New Orleans center Jamaal Magloire.

The Hornets got their deficit down to 87-83 on a jump shot by Brandon Davis with just over three minutes to play, but they never got closer than six.

Davis led the Hornets with 35 points on 12-for-25 shooting and P.J. Brown added 13 points and 14 rebounds.

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New York Rangers goalie Jussi Markkanen of Finland, right, makes a save on Pittsburgh Penguins' Konstantin Koltsov, of Belarus, during the first period Saturday in Pittsburgh.

Messier leads Rangers past Penguins with goals, assists

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Mark Messier set up the Rangers' first two goals, and Jussi Markkanen withstood a penalty shot and a sizeable Pittsburgh shots advantage to limit the Penguins 4-1 Saturday.

Two excellent passes by Messier set up goals for former Penguins forwards Dan LaCouture in the first period and Petr Nedved in the second to help the Rangers close a 3-1 road trip.

The Rangers have won three straight in Pittsburgh dating to last season.

Pittsburgh led 41-27 in shots. Eric Meloche was awarded a penalty when New York defenseman Boris Mironov pulled him down during a short-handed breakaway.

Canadians 5, Thrashers 1

MONTREAL - Richard Zednik and Joe Juneau each had a goal and an assist to lead Montreal over Atlanta.

Jose Theodore stopped 27 shots and came within 4:50 of a shutout before allowing Chris Tamer's goal at 15:10 of the third with Montreal up 4-0.

Jan Bulis, Mike Ribeiro and Niklas Sundstrom also scored for Montreal, which extended its unbeaten streak to three. The Canadiens have earned a point in eight of 10 games (5-2-3), yet haven't won consecutive games since Oct. 20-23.

Senators 5, Capitals 2

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Chris Neil scored the other empty-netter for Ottawa, which has won four in a row and is 7-0-2 over the course of the streak.

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASKETBALL

NBA

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Includes Eastern Conference and Western Conference teams.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Basketball

- Women, Illinois at Mississippi St., CBS, 11:30 a.m.
Women, Notre Dame at Purdue, ESPN2, 3 p.m.
Women, Southern California at Oregon St., FSNNW, 3 p.m.
Women, Ohio St. at Rutgers, ESPN2, 3 p.m.
Men, Oregon at UCLA, FSNNW, 3 p.m.

Football

- NFC wild-card game, Seahawks at Packers, Fox, 11 a.m.
AFC wild-card game, Broncos at Colts, CBS, 2:30 p.m.
Sugar Bowl, Oklahoma vs. LSU, at New Orleans, ABC, 6 p.m.

Hockey

- Wild at Avalanche, FSNNW, 8 p.m.

Friday's Late NBA Games

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists games for Sacramento, Phoenix, Dallas, and Memphis.

Super Bowl XXXIV, Jan. 17, 2000

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Super Bowl XXXIV participants and scores.

Saturday's College Basketball Scores

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists college basketball scores for various teams.

Division 1, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 1 basketball scores.

Division 2, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 2 basketball scores.

Division 3, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 3 basketball scores.

Division 4, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 4 basketball scores.

Division 5, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 5 basketball scores.

Friday's Games

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Friday's games for various teams.

NBA Scores, Sports 77

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists NBA scores for various teams.

Division 1, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 1 scores.

Division 2, 2003-04

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Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 3 scores.

Division 4, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 4 scores.

Division 5, 2003-04

Table with columns for team, W, L, Pct, GB. Lists Division 5 scores.

Area ski report

Best ski season yet... 47 in snow, 6.7 in, 100%... 5.1 in, 1.3 in, 100%...

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Report: Rose admits to betting on baseball

PHILADELPHIA - Pete Rose admits in his upcoming autobiography that he gambled on baseball.

The newspaper cited an unidentified source who was briefed on the book.

The New York Times, citing a source in major league baseball, reported Wednesday that Rose admitted to betting on baseball at a meeting with commissioner Bud Selig.

Rodele Inc., which is publishing "My Prison Without Bars," said the book will go on sale Thursday.

Selig did not comment Friday to the Inquirer. However, the newspaper reported Saturday that sources close to Selig said he has not made a decision about Rose's application for reinstatement.

Rose's ban from baseball prevents him from being eligible for the Hall of Fame.

Following a six-month investigation, Rose was banned from the sport for life in August 1989 by then-commissioner Bart Giamatti.

Rose applied for reinstatement in 1997 and met with Selig in November 2002 to press his case.

Rose acknowledged betting on baseball at that meeting.

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Nation's oldest major leaguer dies at 99

DEEP RIVER, Conn. - Paul Hopkins, who gave up a record-setting home run to Babe Ruth in 1927...

Paul Hopkins pitched just two seasons, joining the Washington Senators after playing for Colgate.

He made his major league debut at Yankee Stadium on Sept. 29, 1927.

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Transactions

Table with columns for team, player, position, and transaction type. Lists player movements between teams.

Kerrigan inducted into skating hall of fame

ATLANTA - Nancy Kerrigan will be inducted into the U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame during the national championships.

Kerrigan, who won a bronze medal in the 1992 Olympics and a silver in 1994...

Kerrigan won the silver medal at the Lillehammer Games in 1994.

SPORTS

Kentucky makes it four straight against Tar Heels

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) - Gerald Fitch scored 21 points and made a clinching 3-pointer with 23 seconds left, helping No. 8 Kentucky beat No. 9 North Carolina 61-56 on Saturday.

Kentucky (9-1) rallied from a 10-point halftime deficit to defeat the Tar Heels (8-2) for the fourth straight season.

Erik Daniels added 18 points and 10 rebounds for the Wildcats, who shot 55 percent in the second half after shooting 26 percent in the opening half. Kentucky committed only three turnovers after halftime.

North Carolina's only other loss this season came in triple overtime to No. 6 Wake Forest.

North Carolina led 30-20 in the first minute of the second half and 35-26 with 15:43 left. Kentucky used an 11-2 run to pull even and took the lead for good with 10:53 left on a bucket by Daniels that made it 43-41.

The Tar Heels' only other loss this season came in triple overtime to No. 6 Wake Forest.

With the shot clock at 3, Fitch hit a 3-pointer - his fifth of the game - to restore Kentucky's lead to four points. North Carolina turned the ball over on its next possession, and Kentucky's Cliff Hawkins made a 1-of-2 free throws with 14.5 seconds left.

Melvin Scott scored 16 points and Felton added 11 for North Carolina.

had 19 points and J.J. Redick 17 to give coach Mike Krzyzewski his 600th win at Duke, a 73-54 victory Saturday over Clemson.

Krzyzewski moved to 600-176 in 24 seasons with the Blue Devils (10-1, 1-0 Atlantic Coast Conference). He becomes the 13th coach in NCAA Division I to reach that milestone at one school and the third fastest all-time behind Adolph Rupp of Kentucky and John Wooden of UCLA.

Shardor Ford had 12 points to lead Clemson.

Georgia 83, No. 3 Georgia Tech 80, 20T ATHENS, Ga. - Jonas Hayes had four of his career-high 25 points in the second OT and added 10 rebounds, helping Georgia upset No. 3 Georgia Tech 83-80 Saturday.

Jonas Hayes missed two free throws that would have given the Bulldogs (8-3) a four-point lead with 20.7 seconds left in the second OT, but Jarrett Jack missed a layup on the other end.

The rebound fell into the lap of Georgia's Chris Daniels, who was sitting on the floor and he passed to Levi Stokes. He was fouled and made one free throw, and B.J. Elder missed a long, desperation 3-pointer just before the buzzer.

Georgia Tech's Will Bynum forced the second extra period with a 3-pointer with 1.5 seconds left in the first one.

The Yellow Jackets (12-1) lost for the first time, snapping a school-record streak to start the season. They haven't won in Athens since 1976.

Elder had a career-high 25 for Georgia Tech and Bynum added a season-high 15 off the bench.

No. 6 Wake Forest 70, New Mexico 61 WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - No. 6 Wake Forest overcame a miserable start to remain undefeated, getting 18 points from Chris Paul in a 70-61 win over New Mexico on Saturday.

The Demon Deacons (9-0) extended their home winning streak to 22 and got strong play from Zion Donyey, who scored 11 of his 13 points in the second half.

Eric Williams added 14 and Justin Gray 11 for the Demon Deacons, who shot 58 percent in the second period.

The Lobos (7-4) saw their five-game winning streak end and have lost 19 straight away from home.

Danny Granger had 19 points to lead New Mexico. Troy DeVries, who had 12 in the opening 8.5 minutes of the second half to keep his team close, finished with 17.

No. 7 Oklahoma 58, Princeton 55 OKLAHOMA CITY - A desperation 3-point attempt by Princeton's

Ed Persia bounced off the rim, and No. 7 Oklahoma hung on to beat the Tigers 58-55 Saturday in the All-College Classic.

The win was No. 400 for Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson, 224-81 in 10 seasons at Oklahoma (10-0).

DeAngelo Alexander led Oklahoma with 22 points, and point guard Drew Lavender had 11 points. Persia led the Tigers (5-5) with 19 points, and Scott Greenman had 14.

Oklahoma ended a six-minute scoring drought when Jason Detrick hit a pair of free throws with 33.9 seconds remaining.

No. 11 Louisville 91, Murray State 69 LOUISVILLE, Ky. - The way Louisville forward Francisco Garcia was passing, his teammates kept to keep an eye on him.

Garcia set a Louisville record with 15th-ranked Cardinals to lead the 11th-ranked Cardinals to a 91-69 victory over Murray State.

Luke Whitehead scored 23 points and Larry O'Bannon had a career-high 20 for the Cardinals (9-1), who won their 23rd consecutive home game against a nonconference opponent.

Kevin Brown had 17 points to lead four double-figure scorers for the Racers (10-2), who shot 43 percent but went only 2-for-17 (12



Kentucky's Cliff Hawkins tries to get a shot over the defensive pressure of North Carolina players Rashad McCants, top, and Melvin Scott during the first half of their game Saturday in Lexington, Ky. Kentucky went on to win the game 61-56.

percent) from 3-point range.

Utah 70, Weber State 60 OGDEN, Utah - Utah guard Nick Jacobson scored a career-high 28 points to lead the Utes to a 70-60 win over in state rival Weber State on Saturday.

The win was the Utah's (10-3) third straight victory over the Wildcats (7-6).

Jacobson was practically unstoppable for the Wildcats as he shot 8-of-12 from the field, 7-of-7 from the foul line and 5-of-7 from behind the 3-point line. The Utes also got a solid performance from center Andrew Bogut, who scored 16 points and grabbed six rebounds.

SUGAR BOWL MATCHUP:

LSU vs. Oklahoma: Humans vs. computers

NEW ORLEANS (AP) - The Sooner Schooner is in town, pulled by horses named Boomer and Sooner. The glittery Golden Girls and their 325-member Golden Band from Tigerland are here, too.

The LSU flagship radio station was set to start 24 straight hours of football coverage and RVs towing OU wind socks rolled in by the dozen. More than 1 million people might descend on Bourbon Street by Sunday night while 75,000 fans lucky enough to get tickets will parade the Superdome.

Too bad they won't get to see a team with a true national championship.

Because as much as the Sugar Bowl is about a matchup between No. 2 LSU and No. 3 Oklahoma, this game has brought into focus an even bigger battle issue in college football - humans vs. computers.

"It's not going to be perfect," Sooners coach Bob Stoops said.

The winner of this Bowl Championship Series title game automatically receives the USA Today/ESPN coaches' crown. The Sooners are a six-point favorite, but even a six-touchdown romp would almost assuredly produce another split national championship.

Top-ranked Southern California, virtually wrapped up The Associated Press title with a 28-14 win over Michigan in the Rose Bowl.

"The system is not equipped to handle three teams at the top," LSU coach Nick Saban reiterated Saturday.

"Somebody was obviously going to be the odd man out."

So while voters in the AP media poll and the coaches' poll picked USC as No. 1 going into the bowls, the computer rankings put LSU and Oklahoma ahead of the Trojans and sent them to New Orleans.

And the one sure way to wind up with only one champion - a playoff, as they have in Division I-AA and all other ranks - is also out for now. BCS cordi-

lator Mike Tranchese is sure of that after hearing from university presidents.

"They don't even waver on this thing," he said Saturday. "They just say we're not going to do it."

So how would Tranchese weight it? "I have always been a proponent of the human element," he said.

The BCS system started after Michigan and Nebraska split the title in 1997. It was the third time in the decade that two teams called themselves champions, and it was too much for too many college officials.

Now, it's happened again. Stoops, for one, isn't fretting. In fact, he kind of likes all the attention the controversy has created.

"It's a positive," he said. "Instead of the NFL people are talking about college football!"

There's certainly plenty to talk about as the Tigers take on the Sooners.

Will Oklahoma quarterback Jason White break the Heisman Trophy jinx? Other recent winners such as Eric Crouch and Chris Weinke did not do well in championship games.

For the Sooners, the game represents a chance to add to their legacy. A long-time powerhouse, the program had fallen on hard times until Stoops' arrival five years ago.

Since then, they've returned to elite status, winning the championship outright in 2000 and stampeding toward another title this season until a startling 15-7 loss to Kansas State in the Big 12 championship game.

For LSU, it's an opportunity to win its first title since 1958. In four years with the Tigers, Saban has revived a program that had lost its luster in the Southeastern Conference.

Stoops has a \$2.3 million salary. Saban makes \$1.5 million, although a clause in his contract assures him \$1 more than the highest-paid college coach - that would be Stoops - if he wins this game.



Louisiana State University coach Nick Saban talks with defensive end Chad Lavalais (93) as the team stretches prior to practice at the Superdome in New Orleans on Tuesday. LSU will face Oklahoma in the Sugar Bowl on Sunday.

BCS chief says playoff won't happen next season

NEW ORLEANS - Despite the likelihood of a split national championship, BCS coordinator Mike Tranchese said Saturday a playoff system for college football won't even be discussed among proposed changes for next season.

"We're engaged in almost weekly discussions on the next BCS model, but a playoff is not one of the items we're discussing," he told The Associated Press. "And it won't be when we sit down four months from now."

Tranchese runs the Big East Conference and serves as the Bowl Championship Series chief as part of an annual rotation among the six major conference commissioners.

The university presidents in charge of the system have told us not to go down that road," he said. "We asked about being able to look into it, simply to give them some idea of its monetary value. They just said 'No.'"

Calks for a playoff have been mounting as Oklahoma and LSU prepare to play Sunday at the Sugar Bowl with the BCS national championship on the line and winner assured the No. 1 spot in the ESPN/USA Today coaches' poll.

On Friday, Southern California beat Michigan in the Rose Bowl and almost certainly locked up the No. 1 spot in The Associated Press poll of writers and broadcasters, most likely resulting in the first national championship since 1997.

USC had been No. 1 in both polls heading into the postseason. But Oklahoma topped the BCS rankings and the Trojans were nudged out of a spot in the Sugar Bowl because the BCS computers awarded LSU the No. 2 spot based on a strength of schedule component.

Tranchese told USA Today on Friday he would like to see the polls - the so-called human element in the BCS formula - play a larger role in determining which

JIM LITKE

teams play for the BCS championship. But he made clear a day later he was speaking for himself and not the organization he heads.

"I didn't present that as a BCS solution. What I said was I was a proponent of the human element from the beginning."

The BCS formula, designed to match the top two teams at the end of each season, uses the two polls, seven computer rankings, strength of schedule, losses and a bonus point system for quality wins.

Tranchese said it was developed, and fine-tuned several times since 1998 to expand the decision-making process beyond a "very small core of people." This is the first time since in the six seasons that the No. 1 teams in both polls has not been included in the BCS title game.

"One thing we've learned about tinkering is that it's better to try and do it four months after the season ends than in the middle of the week when the big bowl games are being played," he said.

"Believe me, we know it's not perfect and even if we came up with a selection process that was, there are still people who would scream for a playoff."

For at least one more season, though, the BCS will turn a deaf ear to those cries. The university presidents, Tranchese insisted, "don't waver on this thing. They just say they're not doing it."

Instead, he suggested fans appreciate the system that's in place. "What we'll have is the winner of this game in New Orleans and the kids from USC both waving we're No. 1 and telling their kids down the road that they won a national championship. If that's the worst thing the BCS has done," he paused, "then it's not such a bad thing after all."

Ranking teams becomes an honored AP tradition

By Hal Beck Associated Press writer

NEW YORK - The man who invented The Associated Press poll could never have anticipated this.

Alan J. Gould, then sports editor of the AP, just wanted to generate some extra interest in college football from one week to the next when in 1935 he began running an informal list of the nation's top 10 teams.

Now, the poll has become one of the cornerstones of the season and on Sunday night it surely will figure in what almost certainly will be a split national championship.

No. 1 Southern California solidified its claim to the AP title with a victory in the Rose Bowl. The winner of the Sugar Bowl, either No. 2 LSU or No. 3 Oklahoma, will wear the Bowl Championship Series crown.

And Gould's idea of generating interest will have worked again.

There are no computers involved in the AP poll, no complicated formulas, just the carefully considered opinions of a committee of people who cover and care about college football.

"The football poll means everything," said voter Tom Luliac of the Star-Ledger of Newark, N.J. "It is so much more valid than the computer rankings of the coaches. The coaches are not accountable. They don't release their votes. Mine's in the paper Monday morning."

Ron Christy, now retired from the Harrisburg Patriot-News, voted for 20 years. "One of the reasons I got on the poll was that some of the listings were ridiculous," he said. "You'd have all the Texas voters voting for all

the Texas teams and all the Florida voters voting for the Florida teams. It was hometown stuff."

That changed over the years as the board of voters changed.

"They got voters who were interested and wanted to do it," credited. "I always thought it had a lot of credibility. I thought if it was worth doing, it was worth doing right."

Gould's original poll was no poll at all, but rather his personal weekly ranking of teams, pieced together with the advice of other AP staffers and friends.

"It was a case of thinking up ideas to develop interest and controversy between football Saturdays," Gould said. "Papers wanted material to fill space between games. That's all I had in mind, something to keep the pot boiling. Sports then was living off controversy, opinion, whatever. This was just another exercise in hoopla."

He created plenty of that, dividing the first informal national championship among three undefeated teams - Minnesota (8-0), Princeton (9-0) and Southern Methodist (12-0). That didn't settle much, but it was a start.

People took the poll seriously. One week, a small town in Minnesota hung Gould in effigy for failing to make the Gophers No. 1.

So the next season, Gould scrapped his ranking and turned the vote over to AP members. On Oct. 19, 1936, the first poll of the members made Minnesota No. 1 with 32 first-place votes. No. 2 Duke, No. 3 Army and No. 6 Southern California also received first-place votes. Three weeks later, Minnesota became the first unanimous No. 1, sweeping all 44 votes after recording its fourth straight victory and

third consecutive shutout.

Minnesota also became the first repeat champion, finishing first in 1940 and 1941. Since then, there have been eight repeat champions with Oklahoma (1955-56 and 1974-75) and Alabama (1964-65, 1978-79) both doing it twice.

Gould said there was nothing magical about limiting the list to 10 teams.

"Making it a top 10 was an arbitrary decision," he said. "It seemed logical to confine it to that number. It was tough enough to pick a top 10 in those days, let alone 15 or 20."

He did, though, gradually build up to 20. Then he dropped the list back to 10 teams in 1961, doubled it to 20 in 1968 and finally to the current 25 in 1993.

The voting panel has changed, too. Gould's original 44 voters had expanded only to 48 by 1960. The panel has since grown to 65 voters, spread across every region of the country.

Perhaps the most intriguing side of ranking the teams was that eventually No. 1 would face No. 2 in a showdown. The first time that happened was Oct. 9, 1943, when No. 1 Notre Dame defeated No. 2 Michigan 35-12.

By then, Gould's concept of a poll had become as much a part of the college football landscape as marching bands and team mascots. And there was a second opinion available. For years, the coaches voted in a poll conducted by UPI and now under the banner of USA Today/ESPN.

H-Bowl

Continued from C1

Tulsa coach Steve Kragthorpe said.

A few inches of overnight snow remained beneath the aluminum tents in Bronco Stadium and small drifts and piles had been swept from the blue artificial turf to the sidelines. The temperature at kickoff was 20 degrees and it didn't get much warmer, even after the sun broke through the clouds at halftime.

Tech's previous rushing high in the bowl game was 199 yards by Eddie Prokop in the 1944 Sugar Bowl, a 20-18 win over Tulsa. Daniels had 104 yards at halftime, broke Prokop's record early in the third quarter and kept going. He scored on runs of 9, 1, 33 and 38 yards.

Daniels already was second on Tech's rushing list for a game with 240 yards against North Carolina on Nov. 15. Only Eddie Lee Ivory's 356 yards against Air Force in 1978 is higher in the Yellow

Jackets' record book.

"The players came to me and said, 'Let's try to get R.J. 300,'" Tech coach Chan Gailey said. "I didn't realize it to be honest with you. I had no clue when they said that we were within about 10 or 12 yards of it, so I said, 'Sure, we'll try to do that.'"

Tech recovered six Tulsa fumbles, scored six touchdowns in the second half and broke the school record for points set in a 45-21 win over Nebraska in the 1991 Florida Citrus Bowl.

Even without the draw of hometown favorite Boise State, which went to the Fort Worth, Bowl instead of staying in town for the second straight year, the stadium was about two-thirds full with 23,118 fans.

Tulsa had just 20 yards of offense in the first half, thanks much to minus-29 yards rushing.

Daniels also set several records in the seventh Humanitarian Bowl. His yardage total more than doubled Brock Forsy's 152 yards for Boise State against Louisville in 1999, and he broke Forsy's mark of three touchdowns scored, last season in a win over Iowa State.

Helmet study finds football hits similar to car crashes

By Chris Kahn
Associated Press writer

BLACKSBURG, Va. — Football players were struck in the head 30 to 50 times per game and regularly endured blows similar to those experienced in car crashes, according to a Virginia Tech study that fitted players' helmets with the same kinds of sensors that trigger auto air bags.

University researchers are compiling a database of blows to the head their starting players endured this year, with plans to study how much trauma the brain can take. The study adds to a growing body of research into concussions, the clues to the head that helped end the careers of quarterbacks Troy Aikman of the Dallas Cowboys and Steve Young of the San Francisco 49ers, among others.

The data so far surprised team physician P. Gunnar Brinson, who said he didn't realize players were absorbing so many serious hits, especially since only about five came off the sidelines this season with concussions.

"There are probably factors that we don't fully understand that make players better

able to withstand higher accelerations (football hits) than other people," he said.

It's possible that some players can withstand stronger blows because they have stronger neck and shoulder muscles or that they're simply more robust genetically than others, Brinson said.

The researchers recorded 3,312 hits during 35 practices and 10 games this season, rotating eight specially fitted helmets among 38 players. Project leader Stefan Duma said offensive linemen endured the most hits, followed by defensive linemen, running backs, linebackers, wide receivers and defensive backs. Quarterbacks recorded the fewest hits.

"If you ask somebody what kind of head injury are you going to worry about, everybody thinks of the receiver running down the sideline getting popped by the safety," Duma said. "But to me, the interesting part is going to be these lower speed but high frequency hits we're seeing on the (offensive and defensive) line. The fact that these players are getting headaches all the time after every game, there's something going on there."

Duma, an engineer who specializes in

car crashes and safety equipment, plans to use the data to improve protective gear for players. The data also could help researchers understand and prevent concussions, a common condition in college football that can be hard to diagnose.

The helmets measure hits in multiples of the force of gravity. Half of the hits recorded this season were greater than 30 Gs, Duma said. The hardest hits measured more than 130 Gs.

"An impact of 120 Gs would be like a severe car accident, which you could survive if you were wearing a seat belt," Duma said.

Duma said Tech plans to expand the program using more helmets next year. With enough monitoring, he said, medical staffs should be able to reduce football concussions by accurately predicting the number and degree of blows a player can handle.

The monitoring helmets were developed by SIMEX, a New Hampshire company that develops safety equipment. The system transmits the angle and severity of impacts from the helmets to a laptop Duma monitors from the sidelines.



Stefan Duma, an associate professor of mechanical engineering at Virginia Tech, monitors a computer that receives transmissions from sensors mounted inside a Virginia Tech football player's helmet during a junior varsity football game in Lane Stadium in Blacksburg, Va., Sept. 12. The Head Impact Telemetry System (HITS) records the number of hits to a player's head and the measures impact of each hit on the skull.

Portis, James put friendship on hold for a while during playoffs

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — When Edgerrin James watches Clinton Portis run, he sees a little of himself in the Denver Broncos star running back.

The power, the wiggle, the burst, even falling forward for extra yardage at the end of runs.

James figures Portis is a quick learner. "We both can do everything, everything," said James, the Colts' top runner. "He's a little younger than me, but I told him, 'I feel you could be a 2,000-yard rusher.'"

On Sunday, James and Portis, friends since they crossed paths in college at the University of Miami, will go head-to-head when Denver (10-6) visits Indianapolis (12-4) in a first-round playoff game.

James figured it wouldn't be long before he and Portis started dueling on center stage.

At Miami, James set the standard for Hurricanes running backs. He was the first player in school history with back-to-back 1,000-yard seasons, tied the school record with 35 career touchdowns and set the mark with 14 100-yard games.

The Colts were impressed enough to make James the No. 4 pick in the 1999 NFL draft, ahead of Heisman Trophy winner Ricky Williams.

The next year, Portis joined the Hurricanes at James' urging.

"He asked me, 'Are you coming?'" Portis said. "I asked him, 'Are you leaving?'" He said, "It didn't matter if I'm leaving because you need the competition."

Portis acted quickly, becoming only the second true freshman to start at Miami and run for 100 yards five times to set a freshman record. As a junior, he ran for 1,200 yards — the third-highest total in

school history and led Miami to a national championship.

Then he followed James to the NFL — leaving school a year early, based partly again on James' advice.

Strangely, the two have followed almost identical career tracks.

Each replaced prominent runners — Marshall Faulk and Terrell Davis — as rookies, each topped 1,000 yards in their first two seasons and each has helped lead their team into the playoffs.

Even now, the two are hard to separate. "He reminds me a lot of myself," Portis said. "People who know him love to be around him and that's how people think of me. There are some similarities in the way we run, too."

The only real difference is that James won two rushing titles with the Colts before tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his left knee.

This weekend, their friendship will be put on hold.

The winner of their personal battle likely will advance to play another week while the loser goes home.

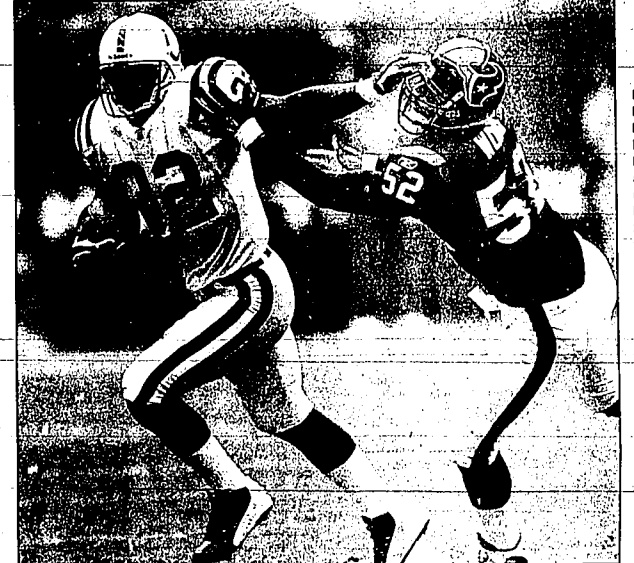
The good news for the Colts is that James has finally begun to play like his old self, more than two years after knee surgery.

Last week at Houston, with the Colts needing a victory to win the AFC South title, James responded with the second-best game of his career — 171 yards rushing and one touchdown.

If the Colts are to turn the tables on Denver, which ran for 227 yards without Portis in a 31-17 win at Indianapolis two weeks ago, James must play a bigger role.

He tied a career low with 10 carries against the Broncos and didn't catch a pass for only the second time in his five-year career.

Portis was even less active. He sat out with right ankle and knee injuries and cheered teammate, Quentin Griffin, who ran for a career-high 136 yards.



Indianapolis Colts' Edgerrin James (32) breaks away from Houston Texans' Kalise Wong (52) for a gain during the first quarter Dec. 28, in Houston. James had 171 yards and a touchdown on 27 carries as the Colts beat the Texans 20-17.

AFC Wild Card Playoffs
Denver at Indianapolis
TV: 2:30 p.m., CBS

On Sunday, Portis intends to show James and the Colts what he can do when he's healthy.

"I feel great, 100 percent," he said. "But any time you're hurt, you have to be a team player."

For Portis and James, there's also the issue of bragging rights.

"Both still work out in the offseason in Miami and with their competitive nature, neither wants to deal with an offseason filled with friendly harassment.

The only solution is to win — especially against a friend who has such similar traits.

"Clinton is real cool," James said. "He came into the league and wanted to do a lot of great things. I still think he can be a 2,000-yard rusher.

"But you work all year for something and you don't want it to be over."

Simply filling in the defensive gaps

Seahawks create improved game plan for Packers

KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks finally are getting another shot at Ahman Green and the Green Bay Packers. And this time, they feel they've got a better game plan.

"Get off to a good start," safety Reggie Tongue said. "If it sounds simple, it is.

"We killed ourselves," Tongue continued. "We let them nickel and dime us to death. As long as we stay sound, get people to stay in their gaps, stay patient, stop the boot and do the little things, we should be fine."

Green ran for 118 yards and two touchdowns while Brett Favre threw for 185 yards and two TDs when the Packers beat the Seahawks 35-13 on Oct. 5. The rematch is Sunday at Green Bay in the opening round of the playoffs.

Stopping or slowing Favre, of course, will be important. He's posted a remarkable 35-1 record in games where the temperature is below 34 degrees and threw an NFL-best 32 TD passes this season, the fourth time he's led the league.

The Seahawks also hurt themselves in October with two big turnovers, including an early fumble that led to Favre's first TD

pass. The defense was forced into a tough situation from the start.

"At one point, it just got out of control," quarterback Hasselbeck said. "Part of our game plan was to run at their blitz, and you just can't run when you're far behind. We've just got to play our game and hope Brett Favre doesn't have a Brett Favre day."

That leaves it to containing Green, which is no small task. He scored a career-high 20 TDs this season and led the NFC and ranked third in the league with 2,250 yards from scrimmage — 1,883 yards rushing and 367 yards receiving.

"He's an extremely good back," Tongue said. "It's going to run hard. We just have to keep hitting him. Just keep it simple."

Green is coming off a big game in last week's 31-3 win over Denver.

He punctuated the victory with a 99-yard TD run in the fourth quarter, the longest run from scrimmage in Green Bay history. He also ran 20 times for 218 yards, becoming the first 200-yard rusher in Packers history.

"He's so slippery that it's easy for him to find a hole right now," Seattle linebacker Reed said. "Godfrey said, 'He's explosive, fast, elusive. You can't really find a weakness that he has right now.'"

Green was drafted by the Seahawks, but coach Mike Holmgren traded him in 2000 after Green had problems with fumbles in the preseason. He primarily was a kick returner, and Seattle had just drafted Shaun Alexander.

Since then, Green has blossomed as a back.

"He's a good back and we need to play a complete game against

him," Godfrey said. "You can hold him to 20 yards in the first half and he can still break off a long one. You've just got to be disciplined."

Green was scheduled for a teleconference interview with Seattle reporters this week but backed out, saying he was uncomfortable.

"He is not only powerful but he is extremely explosive and he without question brings another dimension to the game," Packers coach Mike Sherman said. "He is a very, very tough kid physically and mentally."

Sherman said the Seattle defense went into the first meeting with a solid run defense, and he feels they've improved since.

The Seahawks ranked 14th in rushing defense this season, allowing 109.9 yards rushing a game.

"It was a big improvement over their last-place finish one year earlier.

"We were fortunate to hit them

on some plays," Sherman said. "They are a very good run defense now. They have a lot of speed and they give a great effort. They chase the ball. I don't necessarily see a weakness."

Belichick grabs top honor

NEW YORK (AP) — Bill Belichick owns three Super Bowl titles and, after leading the New England Patriots in his best coaching job, he was honored Sunday as the Associated Press NFL Coach of the Year.

In a year of masterful coaching throughout the league, Belichick led the Patriots to the NFL's best record, 14-2. The Patriots, fighting off injuries almost from the outset of the schedule, won their final 12 games, setting franchise records for winning streak and victories in one year.

They did so in great part because of Belichick's brilliance

as a game-planner, motivator and in-game strategist.

The Patriots succeeded with a variety of starting lineups, unusual for a championship-caliber team.

"We have had a number of different people," Belichick said. "It has been that kind of team."

"Again, I am not caught up on the big starter thing... I think all of the players have been active at one time or another. They have contributed in one way or another. So it has been a lot of different mixes through the course of the year from game-to-game."

Titans

Continued from C1

their defense, which held 2003 NFL rushing champion Jamal Lewis to a season-low 35 yards on 14 carries.

— Lewis ran for 2,066 yards during the regular season, the second-best total in league history, but was rendered ineffective against the league's top-ranked rushing defense.

The Titans will next play the Patriots if the Colts beat the Broncos on Sunday; they play the Chiefs if the Broncos win that game.

McNair missed two of the Titans' last three games with injuries to both legs, and he was limping noticeably in the second half. But he refused to come out, perhaps because of all the frustration he's endured at the hands of Baltimore (10-7).

McNair threw three interceptions — his most in a game since November 2002 against the Ravens — but he came up huge when it counted.

The same applies to George, who missed much of the first half with a dislocated shoulder after tackling Pro Bowl safety Ed Reed on an interception return.

George started the second half

and his punishing runs helped Tennessee control the clock. During the Titans' five-game losing streak to Baltimore, George scored one touchdown and averaged 55.4 yards rushing.

The Titans took a 14-10 lead the third quarter when McNair threw a 49-yard touchdown pass to Justin McCareins, who adjusted to the pass much better than Baltimore defensive back Gary Baxter.

An interception by Samari Rolle set up Anderson's first field goal to make it 17-10 with 9:33 remaining.

Baltimore pulled even with 4:30 left when Todd Heap made a leaping catch over Tank Williams in the end zone on a 35-yard pass from Anthony Wright.

But McNair promptly brought the Titans downfield.

The Titans held Lewis to 12 yards rushing on seven carries in the first half and had a 159-105 advantage in yardage, but two interceptions helped the Ravens take a 10-7 lead.

After the first quarter, Tennessee held a 108-15 advantage in yardage, but found itself in a 7-7 tie.



Green Bay Packers' Ahman Green (30) goes for a 98-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter Dec. 28 in Green Bay, Wis. The Packers won 31-3 to win the NFC North division title.

NFC Wild Card Playoffs
Seattle at Green Bay
TV: 11 a.m., FOX

SPORTS



Duke's Jessica Foley celebrates after sinking a desperation three-point shot at the buzzer to give her team a 68-67 win over No. 1 Connecticut at the Hartford Civic Center in Hartford, Conn., Saturday.

No. 4 Duke snaps No. 1 UConn women's win streak

HARTFORD, Conn. — This time, Duke came all the way back. Behind Alana Beard's 20 second-half points, No. 4 Duke rallied to beat top-ranked Connecticut 68-67 Saturday — snapping a home winning streak of 69 games and preventing the Huskies from setting an NCAA record.

Tennessee dealt UConn's its last home loss, 72-71, on Feb. 2, 2000. "We got outplayed for basically the first 35 minutes of the game," Duke coach Gail Goetsenkor said. "Coming back against a great team like Connecticut is something very difficult to do."

Jessica Foley's 3-pointer at the buzzer was the game-winner and capped an 18-3 rally over the final four minutes. The Huskies (9-1) led by as many as 20 points in the first half, but wilted under Duke's full-court pressure, turning the ball over repeatedly in the closing minutes. Duke outscored UConn 52-30 in the second half.

The game was nearly similar to last year's UConn's 77-65 win over Duke at Cameron Indoor Stadium. In that game, the Blue Devils (10-1) outscored UConn 30-11 in the second half but fell short. Goetsenkor's squad wasn't about to let it happen again.

"Last year, they were just happy to make a comeback," she said. "This year, that wasn't the case." Foley was mobbed by her teammates as she lay on the floor after the shot, and the sellout crowd of 16,294 stood stunned.

"This is just amazing," Foley said. "I don't think I'll ever have a shot like that again in my career. I didn't even feel like I was in my body. It's the sort of thing you dream about."

Down by 14 points in the final four minutes, the Blue Devils put on a furious press and turned UConn over seven times down the stretch, outscoring the Huskies 18-3 the rest of the way.

Beard finished with five of Duke's 12 steals. She scored all but one of her points in the second half and had 11 in the final four minutes. Beard said she didn't let her 0-for-7 shooting performance in the first half bother her.

"I knew it was going to be a different story in the second half," she said. "I'm a shooter and I'm going to continue to shoot."

Her jumper off a steal by Isis Tullia tied it at 65 with 40.2 seconds left.

Diana Taurasi, who led UConn with 16 points, and hit a running jumper over Beard with 4.7 seconds left to give UConn a 67-65 lead.

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Clippers are no longer NBA doormats

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The Clippers have been NBA doormats for years, the price they've paid for failing to keep young talent and going after established free agents.

Playing in the shadow of the Lakers hasn't helped their image, either.

Now, thanks to three key off-season moves and perhaps a couple others they didn't make, the Clippers appear to have a promising future, not to mention high hopes for the present.

"There's no doubt in my mind this team can make the playoffs," said veteran reserve Glen Rice, who has played with several good teams — including the Lakers' championship club of 2000. "As long as we don't get caught up in thinking we're better than we are, we'll be fine."

Making the playoffs in the highly competitive Western Conference figures to be difficult, especially for a team as young as the Clippers — and one that's been there only three times in nearly two decades.

But at this stage, a third of the way through the season, they're in contention.

"We've done some really good things," said first-year coach Mike Dunleavy, who guided the Lakers to the NBA Finals in 1991 and the Portland Trail Blazers to the Western Conference finals in 1999 and 2000.

"My standards are kind of high," Dunleavy said. "It doesn't matter what the perception is or where you're from. I want to win as soon as possible. I like their work ethic and their resiliency. Those have been positives so far."

The Clippers, 27-55 last season, signed Dunleavy to a four-year, \$10 million contract this summer — the most they've ever paid a coach.

They also matched offer sheets signed by restricted free agents Elton Brand (six years, \$82 million with Miami) and Corey Maggette (six years, \$42 million with Denver) — by far the richest contracts in franchise history.

"I think we have a good base," Dunleavy said. "Our front line is in pretty good shape. We have to shore up our backcourt. Our top eight guys are 25 or under."

"We're growing. We're getting better."

The Clippers didn't match offer sheets signed by Andre Miller with Denver or Lamar Odom with Miami. In addition, Michael Olowokandi left for Minnesota and Eric Piatkowski for Houston.

"We retained the people who justified the commitment," said Joe Safety, the team's vice president of communications. "We still have some work to do, but we're happy with where we're going."

The new look is also fine with Brand. "I'm definitely happy to be here, especially the way things are going," he said. "Nobody's complaining about not getting touches — that happened in the past."

Although the Clippers had several young, talented players last season, some were unhappy that the organization didn't appear to be interested in keeping them.

At times, it seemed some Clippers were playing for future contracts rather than the team.

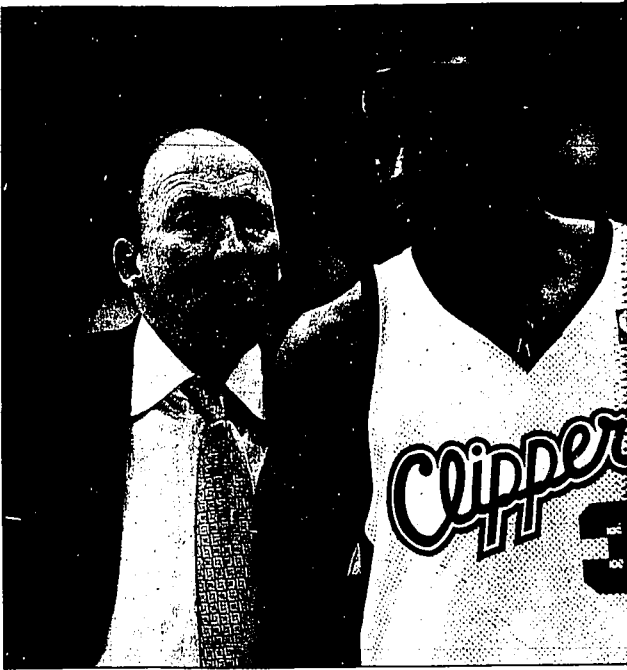
"It was terrible," Brand said. "There was feuding on the court. We'd be trying to win for two or three quarters. Then we'd see somebody had five points and needed to get more. It was tough."

Brand, who missed 13 games when it was discovered after the season-opener that he had a broken bone in his right foot, said he's still rounding into shape.

The Clippers survived his absence, and since he returned they've beaten such quality teams as Dallas — at home and on the road — and New Orleans. While Brand was out, they defeated San Antonio and Denver, among others.

"It seems like those guys are playing loose, really starting to blossom out there," Piatkowski said. "They know they're going to play 40 minutes — they're not looking over their shoulders."

Guard Quentin Richardson, who becomes an unrestricted free



Clippers coach Mike Dunleavy talks with Quentin Richardson during their game against the Denver Nuggets Wednesday in Los Angeles.

agent next summer but wants to stay with the Clippers, agreed with his former teammate.

"The previous few years, there were so many guys," he said. "Now I know I'm going to be out there. Mentally, it's easier. You can just play out there."

Since moving from San Diego to Los Angeles in 1984, the Clippers have made the playoffs only three times — most recently in 1997. They've won only one playoff series in franchise history, in 1976 while still in Buffalo.

Before this year, the Clippers were 507-1019 with only one winning season since coming to Los Angeles.

But Richardson, for one, believes the team is finally turning things around.

"We're getting the pieces in place to be a good team," he said. "I want to be here. I like my teammates, the people in the organization."

"We feel like if we go out and have a pretty good defensive game, we can play with anybody."

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Program helps build skills, confidence

TWIN FALLS - The Spring Supervision Program offered through the College of Southern Idaho in partnership with Boise State University begins this week.

The program is designed to build practical skills, confidence and understanding to help supervisors with the increasing complexity of work, changing customer expectations and the need for higher productivity and employee commitment. Participants will develop individual action plans and skills needed to lead employees to greater individual, team and organizational performance, said Sherry Rust, training coordinator at the Idaho Small Business Development Center at CSI.

Classes are held from 6 to 9 p.m. Thursdays with trainer Deana Thompson of BSU.

Cost, which includes all instruction and program materials, is \$390 for each program. For a 10 percent discount, sign up for two or more programs or enroll two or more people from the same company. To register, visit the ISBDC Web site at www.csi.edu/support/isbdc/sbdc.htm, call Rust at 732-6455 or send e-mail to srust@csi.edu.

Supervision I, "Roles and Responsibilities, Communications and Relationships, Leadership and Empowerment," will be held Jan. 8, 15 and 29 and Feb. 5.

Supervision II, "Performance Management, Time Management, Delegation," "Decisions," "Problem Solving," will be held Feb. 12 and 19 and March 4 and 11.

Supervision III, "Change, Teamwork, Managing Conflict and Negotiation," will be held March 25, April 15 and 22, and May 13.

Supervision IV, "Ethics, Organizational Well-Being, Customer Service, Continuous Improvement," will be held May 20, 27 and June 3 and 10.

Jerome chamber slates membership lunch Jan. 14

JEROME - The Jerome Chamber of Commerce will hold its general membership lunch at noon Jan. 14 at the Wonderful House Restaurant.

Dan Olmstead, community relations representative for Idaho Power Co. in southern and eastern Idaho, will be the speaker.

For information, call the chamber at 324-2711.

Safety workshop targets occupational health

BURLEY - The South Central Idaho Human Resource/Safety 8th Annual Occupational Health Workshop will be held this month in Burley.

The workshop is meant for business owners, safety officers, workers' compensation administrators and human resource administrators.

A free workshop is set for 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Burley Inn, 800 N. Overland Ave. Topics include methamphetamine labs in the community, the Idaho State Police incident command system, drug-testing legalities, health-information privacy regulations, workers' compensation laws and written safety plans.

A free safety training session will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Jan. 14 at the College of Southern Idaho's Burley center at 1600 Parke Ave. Safety directors and human resource managers will present ideas for safety training meetings and policies in the workplace with films and pamphlets on blood-borne pathogens, machine guarding, hazard communication, fall protection, ergonomics, drug-free workplace. Policies and more. First-aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes are available for \$45 for the books and materials.

To attend either or both events, sign up by calling Brenda Bailey at Personnel Plus Inc. at 678-4040 or 431-4040, by fax to 678-5655 or by e-mail to bbaley@personnel.com.

The events are sponsored by Boise Packaging Systems, Cassia Regional Medical Center, Intermountain Health Care Work Med, ConAgra Foods, Horizon Organic Dairy, Kraft Foods, McCain Foods, Mindoko Memorial Hospital Occupational Health, Personnel Plus, Purely Supreme Foods and Tescendero Kerley.

Compiled from staff reports

In debt, and in trouble



Jack and Kay Hickle sit in their kitchen Dec. 8 at their home in Union Gap, Wash. Key, 53, and Jack Hickle, 48, got caught up in a heady spiral of credit-card spending a little over five years ago. After visiting Consumer Credit Counseling Service more than three years ago, they started a process of education, counseling and debt repayment.

Counselors help despairing debtors beat the burden

The Associated Press

YAKIMA, Wash. - The box of Kleenex strategically located on the front corner of Merry Ames' desk doesn't care if you're rich or poor - those who pluck a tissue to dab their eyes share a common woe.

"They're in serious debt. We get lots of tears," said Ames, director of counseling and community services at Consumer Credit Counseling Service of the Yakima Valley, a nonprofit that aids those with a propensity to spend more than they have.

"And it's truly everyone," added CCCS Executive Director Geoff Baker, describing the more than 1,000 clients served by CCCS, which, with satellite offices in Wenatchee and Moses Lake, covers central Washington from the Canadian border south to the Columbia River.

CCCS is one of four such agencies in the state affiliated with the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, which has more than 1,000 community-based offices throughout the United States.

"It's a human problem, and if you truly love human beings you can't help but get emotionally involved," said Baker, explaining that his staff of 11 really empathize with those who pass through their doors.

In the wake of Christmas, the biggest spending season of the year, those doors will open more often. It happens every year.

"January and February are times when people are getting into trouble," said Baker.

"There's usually a gap after the holidays," said Ames. "Then, once the bills start coming in, we begin to see people: 'Gosh, how did I do that,' they say."

The problem doesn't have to be Christmas spending. Rising medical costs are a common refrain cited by those in

Five easy ways to help you minimize debt

CSB MarketWatch

SAN FRANCISCO - Living without credit is a worthy aspiration. Yet like anything in moderation, debt is not debilitating if you're not addicted.

Eliminating debt is one of the surest paths to financial security, but so is learning to shoulder it well.

As the economy recovers, Americans risk becoming overly confident and loading on more debt at still low interest rates. Being debt-free is a wise financial goal; minimizing it should be a relentless pursuit.

"We're going back to having a huge national deficit, and our personal debts are still getting bigger," said Nancy Castleman, a consumer-advocate and co-publisher of Ellenville, N.Y.-based Good Advice Press.

Before becoming an over-exuberant consumer, consider these five tips for keeping debt to a minimum:

1. When considering a big-ticket purchase, go shopping without the means of buying: be it credit and debit cards, a checkbook or cash. Window-shopping can temporarily satisfy the persistent craving to consume many Americans suffer. Once you return home without that \$3,999 plasma TV, you may find you can live a good while longer with that still-sharp 32-inch model, and save a load toward your purchase in the intervening weeks, months or year.

2. When shopping for a car, think long and hard about used vehicle rather than a new one.

The median-priced vehicle sold in the United States these days, at \$27,000, would consume more than a year's worth of the average American worker's after-tax income, not even factoring in financing costs: Do you really want to toil for 12 months of your life or so to buy a depre-

ciating asset that might return 25 cents on the dollar six years hence?

"Nobody wants to feel deprived," Castleman said. "But ask yourself, 'If I didn't need this new car yesterday, why do I need it today?'"

3. Home-equity lines of credit are a good source of emergency funds for people with minimal savings. But they also can be traps, since many require borrowers to repay only the interest and fees for a specified period, which can be five years or more, before the loan turns into a fully amortizing obligation.

Anyone who's tapped such a credit line, or who has one open, should make sizeable supplemental payments each month to be sure they're reducing the amount they owe.

4. Many companies allow employees to pursue out their paychecks to "more than one direct-deposit account. That is one of the most underutilized financial-discipline tools available.

Consider opening a second direct-deposit account and funneling a healthy percent-

age of your pay into it for paying down credit cards. Then cut a single check each month to pay down your balances.

You also can use an extra direct-deposit account to save for big-ticket purchases. Don't allow yourself ATM or online-transfer access. The funds will be available for emergency needs and, being out-of-sight and out-of-mind, will grow faster than you'll likely realize.

5. Spending discipline adopted during lean times should be maintained through flusher ones. Don't abandon money-saving tactics just because your job seems more secure, whether it's eating out less frequently, buying supermarket-brand goods or continuing to drink the just-passable, but free, coffee at work.

Remember that \$2 cup of coffee, that seems a modest indulgence to start your workday eats up about \$750 of most people's gross annual pay.

Economizing on the incidents of life can be remarkably rewarding, to the tune of several thousand dollars a year that can be poured into a 401(k) or IRA.

"We were over \$14,000 in debt," said Kay, who knows about the box of Kleenex on Merry Ames' desk. "I came here in tears. That was 3.5 years ago."

Please see DEBT, Page D2



A different path: Couple takes low-budget way to wealth

Knight Ridder News Service

PATERSON, N.J. - "On the day I made the final payment on the house, I sealed the envelope and put the stamp on it," said Karen Manzo, 58. "Then I got up and walked through the house as if I owned it."

"Because we did," said her husband, Joe, 56.

"That was a powerful moment for me," Karen said.

At a time when the average American family has credit-card debt estimated at \$9,000, the Manzos walk a different path.

Middle-class people who live completely without debt, they follow the frugal prescriptions of one of their favorite books, "The Millionaire Next Door," a 1996 bestseller written by two professors who studied the nation's affluent.

The way to become wealthy, the Manzos say, is to live as if they're not wealthy. Or, in the words of

"The Millionaire Next Door" authors Thomas Stanley and William Danko: "Being frugal is the cornerstone of wealth-building."

They have made investing mistakes and lost money during the stock market's downturn. But the Manzos expect their thrifty lifestyle to bring them to a prosperous retirement in 10 years.

"As a byproduct of just trying to be debt-free, we accumulate wealth," said Karen, a lab technician at Quest Diagnostics Inc. in Teterboro, N.J.

They declined to reveal their

"I didn't want to get out bed, I didn't want to do anything. I was constantly worried," said Kay, 51, who, with husband Jack, 48, got caught up in a heady spiral of credit-card spending a little over five years ago.

They have made investing mistakes and lost money during the stock market's downturn. But the Manzos expect their thrifty lifestyle to bring them to a prosperous retirement in 10 years.

They declined to reveal their

incomes or assets. But their financial planner, Lauren Locker of Little Falls, N.J., said they have accumulated an impressive amount on moderate incomes: "We would all be lucky to be in their position."

The Manzos' lifestyle would not work for everyone. Their wedding 30 years ago cost all of \$700. They do without cable TV. Karen squeezes the toothpaste tube "till it screams" and buys her clothes at Burlington Coat Factory and Value City (her sister teasingly calls her Karen Kmart).

Their tidy house in Paterson,

was paid off in 15 years. (Danko, a professor at the University at Albany, State University of New York, said in a telephone interview that millionaires typically own less expensive houses than they can afford.)

Though the Manzos, who are childless, are comfortable there, many middle-income families with children would prefer to avoid Paterson's troubled schools.

The Manzos also track their spending meticulously in two spiral notebooks - one green, for

Please see DIFFERENT, Page D2

MONEY

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

WOW Logistics adds facility in Marshfield, Wis.

JEROME Appleton, Wis.-based WOW Logistics — a third-party logistics company with a warehouse in Jerome — recently purchased a 156,842-square-foot facility in Marshfield, Wis.

That distribution center, along with about 17 acres, is the former Hub City Division of Fleming Cos. The multitemperature facility boasts 100,528 square feet of dry/ambient space, 889,920 cubic feet of refrigerated and freezer storage areas plus 134 square feet of general office and mezzanine and 4,800 square feet of a truck refueling and maintenance station.

The Marshfield facility will mark the 15th public distribution center operated by WOW Logistics; 14 are in Wisconsin and one in Idaho. WOW, already with over 6 million square feet of total space and almost 10 million cubic feet of refrigerated space, will add freezer storage to its list of services. Operations for the new distribution center were expected to begin in early December.

Subway now offers low-carbohydrate wraps

TWIN FALLS — Subway Restaurants, which sells freshly made sandwiches and salads, now offers another choice for customers looking to watch their weight: a new line of low-carbohydrate "Atkins-Friendly Wraps."

Subway Restaurants and Atkins Nutritional Inc. announced a new partnership that aims to benefit people who have chosen to manage their weight and their health by following the Atkins nutritional approach.

Subway Restaurants, which said it's the first quick-serve restaurant to partner with ANI, introduced two Atkins-endorsed choices: the Turkey and Bacon Melt Wrap, with Monterey cheddar cheese, and the Chicken Bacon Ranch Wrap with Swiss cheese. Both have 11 grams net carbs or less each. The wrap itself, which is made with wheat gluten, cornstarch, oat, sesame flour and soy protein, has only 5 grams net carbs.

Like all Subway sandwiches, the wraps will be made with fresh ingredients in front of customers, the company said. In addition,

every "Ginich" sub on Subway's menu can be made into a wrap.

D.L. Evans Bank opens new branch in Ketchum

KETCHUM — D.L. Evans Bank opened a new branch at 680 Sun Valley Road, Suite 101, in Ketchum.

The office opened Dec. 22 and plans an open house Jan. 30.

James A. "Jim" Kimo is vice president and manager for the facility, and Debbie Piper is assistant manager.

The Ketchum office is a full-service financial institution providing a variety of financial services including consumer, small-business, commercial, home equity and real estate mortgage loans; and deposit and investment services. Online banking lets customers print a current statement, view and print checks and deposits, transfer funds, order checks and make payments.

D.L. Evans Bank has served Idaho since 1904. The bank has administrative offices in Burley and branch offices in Albion, Burley, Rupert, Twin Falls, Jerome, Boise and Meridian. It also has mortgage lending offices in Boise and Twin Falls.

AEGIS Therapies acquires rehabilitation business

TWIN FALLS — California-based Sun Healthcare Group Inc. — owner of SunBridge Care & Rehabilitation for Twin Falls — announced that AEGIS Therapies Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Beverly Enterprises Inc., has agreed to acquire the rehabilitation business conducted by Sun's SunDance Rehabilitation Corp. and SunDance Rehabilitation Agency Inc. subsidiaries for \$34 million.

"We are pleased to have reached this agreement to sell our rehab business to a quality operator like AEGIS," said Richard K. Matros, chairman and chief executive officer of Sun Healthcare Group. "This asset sale will mark the completion of another important action in our plan to restructure our company."

Consumption of the sale is contingent upon AEGIS's due diligence investigation of the SunDance rehabilitation business, and other legal and business conditions. If Beverly's board approves the results of that investigation, the parties anticipate closing the transaction at the end of January.

BSE grabs headlines, sends prices down

TWIN FALLS — What goes up must come down and that's exactly what happened to U.S. cattle prices after the first ever case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy was discovered in Washington state just two days before Christmas. True to prediction, cattle futures prices dropped by limit — \$5.00 per cwt. — at opening on Monday, Dec. 23.

Gone for now are record-level prices producers were starting to get used to after several years of downward prices. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, along with industry organizations, has been scrambling to shore up damage in an effort to prevent complete devastation in the industry.

Now, in the coming year, most everything in the business will likely stem from the BSE incident, said Lloyd Knight, executive vice president of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association.

Knight said he expects to see some backlash from Congress on further rules governing BSE and he predicts the economic upset will continue for "at least a couple of months."

Increased focus on a national animal identification plan is certain, Knight said, and country-of-origin labeling will garner a great deal of discussion.

"But country-of-origin labeling would have gotten a lot of attention anyway, unless the October 2004 implementation date is delayed," Knight said.

Mad cow disease will stay top issue in 2004

TWIN FALLS — Discovery of a diseased cow in Washington just before Christmas turned out to be the biggest news in agriculture in 2003. The bovine spongiform encephalopathy-infected dairy cow and the campaign against BSE will no doubt remain a top issue in 2004.

The discovery rekindled in record-high cattle prices and launched an urgent effort to speed up previous plans to combat the disease and maintain food safety. Playing into that in 2004 will be the implementation of a national animal identification program, continued debate over country-of-origin labeling.

Opening the border to



Dan Senn walks past feeding cows at the dairy farm Sunny Dene Ranch Friday in Mabton, Wash. The farm has been quarantined by the state because a cow that came from the farm was infected with mad cow disease.

Farmbeat
Highlights of this week's 'Ag Weekly,' The Times-News' weekly report on agriculture.

Canadian meat products and livestock and maintaining export markets are also predicted in connection with the BSE case.

Closer to home, Idaho producers will no doubt be tangling with some hefty issues in 2004.

LRP insurance sales take dive due to BSE

TWIN FALLS — The Livestock Risk Protection insurance pilot program took a nose-dive when the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency halted further policy sales due to the recent case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy or mad cow disease in Washington state.

Approved in 2002 by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation's board of directors, the Livestock Risk Protection

insurance was broadened to include feeder cattle. Although LRP is not offered in Idaho, \$20 million was allotted to participating states including Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Nevada, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming.

Designed to insure against declining market prices, cattle producers could select from a variety of coverage levels and periods of insurance to correspond with the time their feeding steers would normally be marketed. At the end of the insurance period, if the actual ending value fell below the coverage price, the producer would be paid an indemnity for the difference between the coverage price and the actual ending value.

According to Raegen Weber, communications spokesperson for the RMA, the livestock insurance program is temporarily suspended pending further review of market conditions.

Long-time ag broadcaster will speak at irrigation show

TWIN FALLS — Long-time ag broadcaster Rick Haines said he

plans to deliver a message of hope to producers at the Idaho Irrigation Equipment Association Show at the Nampa Civic Center. A popular speaker at agricultural events, Haines will open the Jan. 8 session speaking on revitalizing rural America — one of his favorite causes, he said.

"People need to know they have the right to thrive every bit as much as survive," Haines said. "For so long, we've been in just a survival mode, trying to eke out a living."

Having been born and reared on a diversified farm/ranch operation in eastern Montana, Haines has an understanding of the workings of agriculture and the challenges facing producers. He is also acutely aware of the value of rural America and the rural lifestyle. That's why he champions the cause of rural viability, he said.

"This is the best place to live, rural America," he said. "That's where I plan on spending the rest of my life."

Haines said he welcomes the chance to speak to ag groups and offer a different perspective on how to revitalize their communities.

CAREER MOVES

Co-op employees

JEROME — Valley Co-op's Propane Division announced the addition of Tom Daniels as manager of the Jerome Center.

Daniels is formerly from V-1 Propane, has 6 1/2 years' experience as a service technician and is a graduate of the College of Applied Arts & Sciences in Idaho's heating and air conditioning program. His responsibilities include overseeing all store activities and services provided by Valley Co-op's Propane Division.

The Jerome facility provides propane fuel delivery, tank sets, fireplace installation, service and repair. Services are provided through Magic Valley, including Wood River Valley and Fairfield. Daniels can be reached at 308-7337.

Also, Valley Co-op's Propane Division announced the addition of Casey Fallert as its new propane sales and service technician.

Fallert has seven years' experience and is certified in gas check safety.

Fallert's experience includes being the propane manager for V-1 Propane in Rupert and Twin Falls.

Hospital employees

GOODING — Employees at Gooding County Memorial Hospital elected Jeff Nyborg as Employee of the Year for 2003.

Nyborg has worked at the hospital for the past nine years as a physical therapist.

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Tom Daniels



Casey Fallert



Jeff Nyborg



Jamie Novis

Employees at Gooding County Memorial also elected Jamie Novis as Employee of the Quarter. She was honored for kindness and compassion to patients. She will now be a nominee for Employee of the Year, which is voted on each December.

D. Shawn Walden

TWIN FALLS — D. Shawn Walden of Twin Falls, with Farmers Insurance Group, has become part of a group of Farmers' professionals now licensed to offer investment products in addition to the insurance products they already provide.

Walden passed the securities broker-dealer affiliate Walden offers a variety of investment products and services including several mutual funds, variable annuities and variable universal life insurance.

Farmers Insurance Group of Companies includes the nation's third-largest home and auto insurer. Based in Los Angeles and doing business in 41 states, Farmers provides home, auto, business, life insurance, and financial services through exclusive agents and district managers.

Debt

Continued from D1

This began a process of education, counseling and debt repayment.

"I was introduced to Merry, and she said, 'Now this is the way it's going to have to be,'" recalled Kay.

What Ames did — and what other CCCS counselors do with clients — is engage in a frank talk. The Hickles' financial situation was analyzed, their credit-card debt was averaged out, and their monthly ability to repay that debt was determined.

"She told us that we managed to manipulate ourselves into debt, and we could also manipulate our way out of it," said Kay, admitting that in their high-flying credit-card days, she and Jack became adept at juggling their cards, paying a little bit over here, while charging a whole bunch over there.

After setting aside enough for necessities, it was determined the Hickles could afford to put

\$403 a month toward paying off their debts. That amount was given to CCCS, which in turn paid their creditors.

"We keep (our fee) as low as possible," said Baker, explaining that the only costs for a debt-repayment plan is a \$25 setup fee and a \$15 monthly administration fee.

Ames also asked the Hickles to hand over all their credit cards.

"That's part of our agreement with creditors," said Baker. Once the plan was in place, the Hickles, through CCCS, went after their bills. But, the little ones were paid off. Then they tackled the big ones — those were \$1,000, \$2,000 and \$3,000 each.

Meanwhile, they took classes such as "Credit When Credit Is Due," an eight-hour, four-week course that costs \$50. The Hickles also received counseling, a service that CCCS offers its clients free of charge, both in Spanish and English.

Baker differentiates his organi-

zation from some so-called credit counseling services that recently caught the eyes of the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Trade Commission.

"Some of these bad boys say they're nonprofit, but they're not truly nonprofit. That's why the IRS is investigating them," said Baker, who suggests contacting the Better Business Bureau to check out suspect agencies.

One national firm, AmeriDebt, based in Pennsylvania, has been sued in at least two states. The suits allege the company defrauds consumers by citing its nonprofit status to encourage them to sign up, then charges excessive, hidden fees.

Client contributions account for only 30 percent of CCCS revenues. Most of its roughly \$500,000 in operating costs — about 65 percent — comes from creditors and businesses who support what CCCS does. There is also income from grants and

classes. Meanwhile, CCCS distributes upwards of \$5 million a year to creditors through the debt-management plans it sets up for clients like the Hickles, who got all their debts paid off in September.

There are bounds to be others like the Hickles. According to the Federal Reserve Bank, Americans had racked up a revolving debt load amounting to more than \$727 billion as of last August. Bank credit-card debt (excluding store and gasoline credit cards) accounts for 90 percent of that.

Everyone is vulnerable when it comes to overspending, said Baker, who has seen respected community leaders come through his doors seeking help.

"We try to reduce the problem to a piece of information that takes the emotion out of it," he said. "That's when they have a sort-of 'a-ha' moment. That's when the lights come on."

Different

Continued from D1

money, the other black, because they're always in the black.

As a result, they are able to save all of Karen's paycheck — about 40 percent of their pretax income.

"I think some people feel, 'What's the good of having money, if you don't spend it?'" said Joe Manzos, a quality manager at Clifton, N.J., factory owned a recent lunch of steamed chicken and broccoli at a Clifton Chinese restaurant.

"But there's a price to be paid. Debt is a self-inflicted injury. It's the choices you make. I like SUVs, but I drive a '99 Ford Escort. Our identities aren't tied to possessions. You could lose your possessions. Who you are is not what you own."

financial nest egg"

Although the Manzos describe their income as average, "The Millionaire" book points out, "Wealth is not the same as income. If you make a good income each year and spend it all, you are not getting wealthier. You are just living high."

The book gives the following yardstick for measuring assets: You should have an amount equal to your age times your annual income, divided by 10. So, for example, a 40-year-old couple with \$100,000 income should have net worth of \$400,000 — not including home equity.

If you have double that, you're wealthy. The Manzos say their assets put them in the wealthy zone — before the stock market bubble burst.

"We made — and lost — a fortune in the stock market," Karen said. She ignored her husband's advice to sell tech stocks before their value collapsed in 2000. After that, they went to Locker, the financial planner, for help. Karen also joined an investment club affiliated with the National Association of Investors Corp.,

which advocates long-term investments in companies selling at the right price.

Karen's frugality was born of an Indiana childhood watching her parents struggle to raise five children on her father's salary as a draftsman. Her mother didn't hold down a job or even know how to drive. Karen wanted wider horizons and financial security.

She took 10 years to work her way through college, because her parents couldn't help. The fact that her education was so hard-won makes her even more determined not to squander the money that has helped her earn.

Her husband, a New Jersey native, had financial help from his parents to pay for college — but it also came at a great sacrifice, to his father, a welder.

Karen is such a believer in debt-free living that she keeps a copy of "The Millionaire Next Door" at work to show to co-workers — and summer-interns. She also recently spoke about her strategies to about 15 of Locker's clients. "She doesn't have a nickel of debt — there's not

another client I have like that," Locker said.

But several of them told her they could not imagine cutting their spending so radically. Even if they could, they said, their spouses would be unlikely to go along.

In fact, the Manzos know they couldn't have reached their financial goals without working together — a point also made by "The Millionaire Next Door."

"We don't agree on everything, but these are the core beliefs that have sustained us for the 30 years we've been together," said Joe.

"There is no arguing about money," Karen said. "That argument is never in our household. One of the byproducts of a debt-free lifestyle is that you eliminate the Number One cause of marital breakdown."

That may be one reason why, in the words of the book, "financially independent people are happier than those who are not financially secure."

Doctor dismantles

Business liquidator opens up shop in Silicon Valley

PALO ALTO, Calif. (AP) — Amid rising hopes for a high-tech turnaround, there's this sobering sign: Martin Pichinson — a man who has buried nearly 150 failed startups since 1999 — has swooped into Silicon Valley like a vulture lurking over a pack of wounded animals.

Pichinson, a self-described "doctor of reality" who helps liquidate companies, says he wouldn't have moved from Los Angeles to Palo Alto a few months ago had he not smelled more high-tech trouble looming.

"Sadly, it looks like 2004 is going to be another busy year for me," Pichinson said. "There are another 6,500 to 7,500 companies out there who are among the walking dead."



Business continuity advisor Martin Pichinson stands on a CalTrain railroad car Nov. 24 in Palo Alto, Calif. Pichinson, a man who has buried nearly 150 failed startups since 1999, says he expects 2004 to be 'another busy year for me.'

Even before the move, Pichinson became a familiar face in Silicon Valley and other high-tech hubs, largely because so many venture capitalists sumo-wrestled him and his firm, Sherwood Partners, to help clear the debris left by the dot-com implosion.

Kozmo.com, iChristian.com and AllAdvantage.com are among the high-profile casualties begged by Pichinson during the past four years. Pichinson figures more than 50,000 people have lost their jobs on his death watch.

"It's a macabre job that most venture capitalists abhor."

"Venture capitalists only want to deal with the top 40 percent of the companies in their portfolios," Pichinson said. "We get the bottom of the barrel."

Most of the drags flowing from Silicon Valley, Pichinson decided to move Sherwood's headquarters to the high-tech center so he's in a better position to handle the future carnage.

Sometimes, Pichinson and Sherwood's 60 employees are able to salvage trouble through bargaining costs and training the executives to rethink their ways. Sherwood even brings in an FBI consultant specializing in hostage negotiation techniques to help management.

But for every company that Pichinson has saved, he has overseen the liquidation of roughly

three others since 1999.

Conventional wisdom says Pichinson, 57, is about to face a business downturn himself. With technology stocks finishing their best year since the 1990s and companies poised to spend more money on computer gear, there's a growing consensus high-tech's high death toll is tapering off.

"Most of the biggest problem companies have been restructured, sold off or closed down," said Barry Kramer, a Palo Alto attorney who advises venture capitalists.

Pichinson scoffs at that notion, predicting the carcasses of doomed startups will continue to pile up for the next three to seven years.

"I have closed more companies than anyone in the world, so no one knows better about all the things that can go wrong in a business," Pichinson said.

Sweeping statements like that are vintage Pichinson — a colorful former pop music manager who enjoys schmoozing, even when he is filling the role of a grim reaper. Pichinson boasts that his Rolodex is filled with more than 5,000 Silicon Valley contacts.

"Someone has to dance to bring in the business and Marty likes to dance," Sherwood Partners co-founder Michael Mady says of Pichinson's networking skills.

While Pichinson's showmanship helps open doors, it's his ability to close businesses that wins Sherwood the trust — and patronage — of venture capitalists.

"Marty likes to talk, but he also walks the walk," said Spencer Tall, a general partner with APV Technology Partners, a Palo Alto firm that has worked with Pichinson. "He can help you make some very cogent decisions."

It's a process that often requires Pichinson to be brutally honest with the entrepreneurs running a troubled startup. Sherwood Partners "comes in and talks tough," said Doug Koo, who ran a failing San Francisco startup, Cat Technology. "They teach you that some of the things are a necessary evil."

When Sherwood entered the picture in late 2002, Cat Technology didn't have enough money to cover about \$15 million in unpaid bills, Koo said. The startup seemed destined for bankruptcy until Sherwood engineered a restructuring that led to the startup's sale to a rival firm, FusionStorm.

Sherwood Partners isn't the only business gravedigger in Silicon Valley. The list of other high-tech undertakers in the area includes Diablo Management Group, Venture Asset Group,

Gerbsman Partners and the Sage Group.

But Pichinson's flair has helped separate Sherwood from the rest of the pack, enabling the firm to demand a premium fee. When closing a startup, Pichinson says Sherwood typically charges a 7.5 percent commission on the liquidation of the company's assets or \$75,000, whichever is greater.

Pichinson began working with the downtrodden in the early 1970s when he began managing music acts around Los Angeles.

His clients included The Miracles after Smokey Robinson left the group, and Lou Rawls several years after the singer had fallen on hard times.

Under Pichinson's management, both acts turned out major hits in 1976, "Love Machine" by The Miracles and "You'll Never Find A Love Like Mine" by Rawls.

Pichinson grew weary of music management and left the entertainment business to begin working with distressed companies in the 1980s. He shows no signs of burning out in his current job, despite all the tales of woe.

"We are trusted caregivers, like a hospice," Pichinson said. "There is always going to be something in trouble, or someone who needs our help."

Employers have right to fire away

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — For eight years, Joy Vizi, a nurse practitioner at a suburban orthopedics treatment center, had worked under an oral employment contract, but she signed a written work agreement in April 2002 that said she could be fired for such specific reasons as being disciplined by a professional organization, committing a crime or being grossly negligent at work.

Last winter, however, after her employer, Dulles Orthopedics Group, cut her pay by 50 percent, she gave 60 days' notice to quit, as required by her contract. But rather than wait out the two months, the physicians who run Dulles Orthopedics fired Vizi a week later.

Vizi, claiming wrongful termination, sued. One reason the doctors fired her — a dispute over ownership of a missing computer and ongoing loyalty to the firm — was not one of the firing reasons listed in her contract.

But Vizi, in pursuing her case, discovered a basic fact of life for most workers: There's a strong presumption in the law in favor of the employment-at-will doctrine, meaning that employers can hire and fire at will, for good reason or no reason, as long as they don't violate anti-discrimination laws or some other specific public policy, such as workers' "can move" from one job to another.

In the Vizi case, "Virginia was not one of the states that have employment-at-will doctrine, and an employment relationship is presumed to be at-will," Loudoun Circuit Court Judge James Chamblin said. Vizi's contract did not state that she "shall only be discharged 'for cause'." It stated that (she) will not be discharged except "for cause," he said.

Indeed, Vizi's contract said the "for cause" reasons for her possible firing included such things as breaches of medical information conduct and loss of her state license, but said the "for cause" reasons "shall be defined to include, but not be limited" to the list.

While Chamblin ruled against

Vizi in September, she and Dulles Orthopedics reached a final settlement of the case last week, according to the company's lawyer, Amy Inge. "The case was settled for nuisance value," she said.

"My presumption is very strong in Virginia," Inge said. "To overcome that presumption there would have to be a contract with language that is written that they can only be terminated" for specific causes.

Many negotiated union contracts, for instance, override employment at will.

There's a strong presumption in the law in favor of the employment-at-will doctrine, meaning that employers can hire and fire at will, for good reason or no reason ...

Alexander LeVay, Vizi's lawyer, said his client's firing was rooted in the fact that one of the three doctors then at Dulles Orthopedics was leaving to form his own practice and that Vizi "was loyal to him."

Donald Leonard, a lawyer who at various times represents both employers and employees, said that "employment-at-will" is not a harsh system. But employees were jumping from one company to another in the boom times. They were leaving companies in a lurch and there was no compensation on the part of employees to "stay" when they had what they felt were better offers elsewhere.

At-will employment relationships can be terminated "either with or without a just-cause," Leonard said. "They can say, 'I just don't like you any more, so I'm letting you go.' Does it make good sense? No."

But under federal and state law there are certain protected classes of people. Employers cannot fire someone for being part of such a group. Under federal law, an employer cannot fire a worker on account of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age, disability or pregnancy.

And in Virginia, for example, Leonard said marital status and childbearing are not medical conditions cannot be used as a reason to fire a worker. But in a federal court in Richmond ruled recently that "Confederate Southern-American" is not a protected national origin.

It may be time to trim back 2004 expectations

NEW YORK (AP) — Impressed by Wall Street's 2003 run, many investors are looking to raise their stake in the market, but financial planners and portfolio managers say they should proceed with caution because the stellar returns aren't likely to last into the new year.

While some analysts have upbeat predictions for 2004, others say the easy gains have already evaporated, and stocks have overshot their targets. Some of the past year's enthusiasm may carry into the first quarter, but contrarians say equity returns will start to shrink as year-over-year comparisons suffer.



"Entering the market is becoming trickier now," said David A. Chalupnik, head of equities for U.S. Bancorp Asset Management. "We've really been trying to work with our clients to set the right expectations, that is, much more muted gains in the stock market and not such great returns over-fixed income."

It's a difficult message for investors to accept, especially when the market appears to be surging. The Dow Jones industrial average muscled solidly past 10,000 in December, and the Nasdaq composite index moved back above 2,000 just before the year's end.

On the crest of this positive

wave, mutual fund investors seem to be upping their ante, as well. Data compiled by the Investment Company Institute shows \$32.4 billion flowed into the nation's mutual funds in November, raising their combined assets by 1.2 percent, to \$7.235 trillion.

At the beginning of 2003, Chalupnik's firm and others bet on technology stocks and small-cap companies, because they were poised to see the best gains in the recovering economy. But in the new year, there are no strong signals favoring any particular sectors.

Some pundits are talking about old economy stocks, like steel and autos, but investing veteran Sam Lieber, president of the no-load Alpine Funds, said he's not sure that's the way to go, especially since stocks like Alcoa Inc. are priced fairly high.

Lieber, whose seven-fund family includes a non-traditional real estate equity fund that rose more than 80 percent in 2003, recently launched an equity income fund focusing on stable, large-cap dividend payers. Over 100 companies in the S&P 500 increased their dividends in 2003; these income-producing stocks became even more attractive after the dividend tax cut took effect in May.

"We're looking for companies that are very solid, with stable positions and dominant market shares," Lieber said. "We think since they're not focused on growth, they may want to give some of their extra cash back to shareholders."

For smaller fund investors not sure where to put their money, equity income funds may be a safe way to enter the market, Lieber said. If you prefer a balanced fund, which combines both stocks and bonds, you should be very selective, with an eye toward how the manager handles the fixed income portion of the portfolio.

"Make sure you get a fund with a manager who's been there a good 10 years," Lieber said. "It's a tough environment to invest in, tougher than the last five years. You want someone who's seen this type of business cycle before."

Chalupnik, whose firm forecasts an 8 percent gain in the Standard & Poor's 500 index for 2004, agreed that investors should move out of riskier investments — such as the tech and small-cap stocks that led 2003's rally — and into higher quality, more stable areas of the market. U.S. Bancorp is currently shifting away from tech, and toward larger-cap stocks with broader balance sheets.

"This is not the time to leap into aggressive growth funds," Chalupnik said.

There are a number of difficult-to-predict factors that could derail the markets in 2004, he said, including the risk of another major terrorist attack on domestic soil and the possibility of a significant hike in interest rates.

Other risks include the weakening dollar and the nation's rising deficit, which ultimately may lead to inflation and higher interest rates. It's likely to take a while for those pressures to build, however, and the Federal Reserve has indicated it will not raise rates anytime soon. Some observers say the Fed won't raise rates until after the presidential election in November.

Still, with some analysts eagerly predicting the Dow will strike 11,000 by mid-spring, there's little to dampen the generally cheerful mood on Wall Street.

But Patricia Jennerjohn, a financial planner in Oakland, Calif., admonishes her clients to "lay off the hype, both the fear-mongering and greed-inspiring kinds," and stay focused on their long-term plans.

The problem is, humans aren't wired to think long-term, she said. "That's why you have to pay attention to the news, because you'll get sucked into this short-term thinking," Jennerjohn said. "You have to give up the emotional connection to your investments. This really is a long-term game."

Inflation or deflation? For interest rates, it matters

NEW YORK (AP) — No sooner did the Federal Reserve seemingly back away from its worries over deflation than new economic data revealed that core consumer prices for this fall for the first time in 21 years.

That's making it all the more tricky to figure out where prices are heading next — and which direction they go matters because prices are sure to have a big influence on the Fed's next move with interest rates.

An upturn in prices could mean rates will rise soon, while signs of falling or stable prices could keep them low for some time.

Confused yet? Don't worry; even economic experts are baffled.

Since World War II, the Fed has largely tried to keep inflation in check. But deflationary concerns took center stage starting last spring after the Fed said the probability of dropping prices exceeded that of rising prices.

When a destructive deflationary cycle takes hold, consumers stop spending because they think even better deals are on the way. Then businesses make deep price cuts to stay afloat, and that eats away at profits.

The good news is we haven't gotten stuck in such a mess — at least yet. And recent comments from the Fed indicate that its central bankers believe the threat may be over.

surged above \$400 for the first time since the mid-1990s. Medical care and education services are also sharply higher.

The weak dollar could also be inflationary. Non-oil import prices are now rising steadily, climbing 1.1 percent in November compared with a year earlier, when they had dropped slightly. And OFEC said earlier this month that it expects cost-cutting by producers to protect itself from the falling dollar, which could boost oil prices.

Of course, the Fed doesn't want inflation to go too high. About 3 percent would suit it just fine, enough to keep the economy's engine going by giving businesses some pricing power back.

"Fed officials have made it clear that they want to push inflation up and that they are not inclined to tighten monetary policy until they have succeeded in that endeavor," Goldman Sachs & Co. chief U.S. economist William Dudley pointed out in a recent note to clients.

But that may take longer than anticipated.

Just days after the Fed changed its stance on inflation, the Labor Department issued a surprising report that showed the consumer price index, the government's widely followed measure of inflation, fell 0.2 percent in November. That pulled the year-over-year pace down to 1.8 percent from 2 percent.

And the core rate of inflation — CPI subtracting out the volatile food and energy categories — was off 0.1 percent, its first drop since December 1992.

In addition, 40 percent of the components in the core CPI are flat or negative from a year ago, according to David Rosenberg, chief North American economist at Merrill Lynch. That includes an 11.3 percent slump in used car prices, which are deflating at a pace not seen since February 1961. Apparel and furniture prices were also down.

Mutual funds, ETFs offer investors a way to diversify

By Marshall Losh and Brandon January Knight Ridder News Service

NEW YORK — Just as the value of real estate depends above all else on location, location, location, long-term investing relies on diversification, diversification, diversification.

Investors who lack the time or confidence to pick stocks have turned to mutual funds and exchange-traded funds, or ETFs, for diversification. Both types of

funds offer a basket of stocks that is often pegged to an index or invested in a sector or geographical area. But what are the main differences between the two?

Many mutual funds have a manager who selects stocks, while ETFs do not. This means you pay higher fees for actively managed funds, though theoretically this pays off with above average returns. Most ETFs, in comparison, are tied to a market index, such as the Russell 2000 or the

S&P 500, and have extremely low fees (they range from 0.11 percent for domestic ETFs to 0.84 percent for foreign-market ETFs).

ETFs are listed and traded as stocks, and the price is adjusted constantly. Mutual funds, on the other hand, are priced only once a day, which made them vulnerable to late trading and market timing, in which privileged clients were allowed to jump into and out of funds to take advantage of tiny adjustments of fund value. With

ETFs, market-timing abuses are not possible.

ETFs are subject to transaction and brokerage fees, so buying them in small increments is not rewarding.

Buying \$100 worth of ETFs, for example, can cost at least \$10 in broker fees — a large percentage of your investment. Mutual funds, on the other hand, accept deposits without a charge, but the costs are spread out among all the holders of the fund.

MONEY

Milk enterprise takes dive after scandal

Parmalat now faces financial crisis

PARMA, Italy (AP) — Taking over his father's salami business as a 22-year-old college dropout, Calisto Tanzi used key innovations — sterile packaging and sports marketing — to make milk more than a bland commodity.

The result was an Italian food powerhouse called Parmalat that charged through the 1990s with explosive global sales growth and acquisitions.

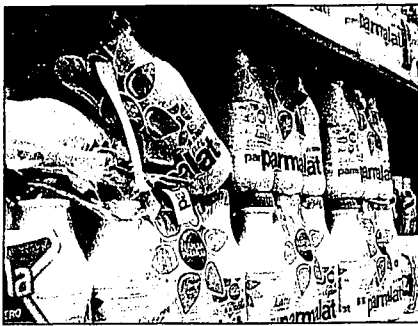
The growth coincided, however, with the beginning of what Tanzi and other executives have now told prosecutors was accounting trickery that helped bring the company down — and raised serious questions about how solid the foundation for the success story really was.

On Friday, doctors examined Tanzi, who has been in a Milan jail for a week, to determine whether he's healthy enough to stay in prison or should be put under house arrest as his lawyers have asked.

Investigating judges grilled other Parmalat officials, outside lawyers and auditors for the first time after their detentions Wednesday on suspicion of committing fraud that led to Parmalat's bankruptcy.

Tanzi, 65, and his family were royalty in a place where food is king — Parma, the gastronomic capital of Italy. It's the home of Parma ham, Parmesan cheese and Barilla SpA, Italy's biggest pasta maker.

Described as reserved and media-shy, he owned the local soccer team and gave generously to Roman Catholic causes. His brother, Giovanni, son, Stefano, and niece, Paola Visconti, helped



Parmalat milk bottles stand on the shelves of a supermarket in Milan, Italy, Dec. 22 as executives at Parmalat finanziaria SpA were scrambling Monday to save the Italian dairy company, which is teetering on the edge of default.

run the company. His downfall has been a shock to the beautiful town of cobble streets and old bridges on the plain north of the Appennine mountains, where the mood Friday matched the drizzly weather.

Roberto Savani, a 45-year-old builder who like so many here has relatives working for Parmalat, described the feeling as one of disillusionment.

"Tanzi gave work to lots of people here. Then we found out," he said. "There's anger. Incredulity and anger."

American officials, who have sued Parmalat in New York, would have handled the scandal better, he said.

"If it had happened there, he'd be in prison a long time," he added.

Gianluca Berzeri, owner of the Cardinal Bar next to the city's Duomo cathedral, worked his espresso machine and occasionally topped a cup of coffee with a splash of Parmalat milk.

"Hearing the people coming in here, about 50 percent don't think he's innocent but feel bad that everyone's attacking him, given what he did for the city," he said. "People are very tied to the company here. They watched as it was born, you know?"

Berzeri, 40, recalled the changes Parmalat made to life in rural Italy, where milk used to come to the breakfast table not in cartons but directly from the cow. When Parmalat started delivering milk in bright cartons with its brand name, "we lived in the mountains and every morning the



Stefano Tanzi, son of the founder and former CEO of Parmalat Callisto Tanzi, looks through the window of the prosecutor office in Parma, Italy, Dec. 30.

milk would come nice and fresh ... Before, it just didn't exist like this," he said.

Tanzi transformed it into a leading consumer brand. After the death of his father, Melchiorre, Calisto dropped out of college in 1961 to take over the family's cured meat business in the village of Collecchio outside Parma — one of the region's many small artisan firms. Tanzi switched to milk, and the business took off when he started using cartons from the Swedish firm AB Tetra Pak, now part of Swiss-based Tetra Laval SA.

Unlike glass, the cartons let him put his company's name on the product. And Tetra Pak came up with a process in which milk was heated to 284 degrees Fahrenheit for several seconds, then sold in sterile boxes that

kept it fresh for up to six months. While it's been slower to catch on in the United States, long-life milk dominates in much of Europe — thanks in large part to Parmalat.

As sales grew in the 1970s, Parmalat started sponsoring sports heroes and events — such as Formula One driver Niki Lauda and the 1975 skiing World Cup to further define its brand.

It went public in 1990, with the Tanzis keeping 51 percent of the shares, and bought operations in France, Germany, the United States, Britain, Brazil and South Africa. The product line expanded to Santal juices, Kyr yogurt, Archway cookies, and Pomi tomato products. The company acquired a corporate jet and began building a new headquarters.

Yet amid all the growth, Tanzi and his top executives began diverting money from the firm, court documents said they told prosecutors. Tanzi himself has admitted he shifted up to \$620 million over seven or eight years, some to the family's travel businesses. Meanwhile, the company began setting up subsidiaries which appeared to be plentiful assets that bolstered the company's balance sheet.

That made the company's heavy debts look less threatening, since they were balanced by apparently plentiful liquidity. Auditors' inquiries were withered by fake letters, prosecutors say. The truth came out on Dec. 19, when Parmalat revealed the Cayman Islands Bonlat subsidiary didn't have \$5 billion it had claimed and that a letter confirming the account had been written on forged bank stationery and faxed to auditors. The faked assets may amount to some \$12.5 billion, prosecutors say.

Couple is proud of frugality

Knights Ridder News Service

Steve and Annette Economides go to the grocery store once a month and it's a four-hour trip to two locations — one for staple items, the other for staples. Annette already has worked out 30 days' worth of meals, according to how many family members will be home each night.

Once inside, Annette takes the aisles — canned goods, frozen foods, pasta — while Steve works the perimeter for meats, dairy and produce. They keep in touch using walkie-talkies in case one runs into a special deal not on the list.

Sound excessive? They don't care: They spend just \$350 a month to feed a family of seven — and that includes paper goods, cleaning supplies and personal-care items.

They don't eat out a lot. "As a thrifty person, you're somewhat of an outcast," said Steve, who packed his lunch to work as a graphic artist (estimated savings: \$1,500 a year) until he left to pursue his new career: CEO (that's cheap economizing office).

The Economides are the authors and distributors of the Home Economist, a new national newsletter dedicated to helping people save money. A similar publication, the well-known Tightwad Gazette, folded in 1996 after the founder decided it was too much work for one woman to handle. Steve said he and Annette (the chief frugality officer) are the right people to fill the void.

The couple paid for their first home in nine years on an average annual income of \$33,000. Their current, five-bedroom home is on a .75-acre lot with a citrus orchard in Scottsdale, Ariz. — and their mortgage is less than the typical rent on a studio apartment. They have a piano, stereo equipment, nice furniture, five kids and two dogs.

"They have never owned a credit card. "It takes more work and effort to be thrifty, but the benefits outweigh it," Steve said.

"I've helped right dozens of founding families' through their financial counseling ministry at church, but Steve said the Home Economist lays down general principles that anyone can use to save money and, more important, get hold of their finances so they can reach their goals.

"We don't skimp just for the sake of skimping," Annette said. Living within your means is rare, and isn't always easy in today's world. "It's not a new lifestyle. It can even be trying. The sample issue of the Home Economist recalls when a neighbor got beautiful new Danish furniture and Annette "just sat on our \$25 orange-and-brown plaid missionary-purchased couches and cried."

The couple instill money-saving principles in their children, who receive money each Sunday for work done around the house. The Economides don't believe in allowances: "Why should you be paid just for being part of a family?"

Younger kids divide their earned money into three categories: give (10 percent), save (20 percent) and spend (70 percent). At age 11 they begin buying their own clothes and, not coincidentally, by becoming fans of old and bargain stores — "Hand-me-downs rock!" said teen-age daughter Becky. They learn that even hand-me-downs have value; younger siblings often are charged for clothing that's usually given away.

Newsletter aims to fill void in retirement resources

NEW YORK (AP) — Type "retirement planning" into Google's search engine, and you'll get nearly 4.2 million returns. Add "boomer" to the search, and you'll find fewer than 17,500.

Although baby boomers represent the generation about to retire, relatively few resources specifically target them, analysts say. Most of what's out there is aimed at seniors or the general population.

At least one company is trying to fill the void, by starting a weekly newsletter on retirement aimed at boomers. And CBS MarketWatch believes there's a demand for it that is charging \$29 a year for the newsletters, with eventual plans to double the price to \$59.

"If you look at most of the content that's out there, much of it focuses on general personal finance issues," said Robert Powell, hired by the Web site to produce the Retirement Weekly newsletters. "It's maybe a hit or miss whether it speaks to you."

The newsletters, which began in October, are sent via e-mail in .pdf format.

They attempt to address the needs of the so-called sandwich generation: people who while trying to save for their own retirements, are having to pay for kids to attend college and parents who need long-term care.

Items in recent issues include how to have a sit-down with parents on health care costs and estate planning, whether to start a Roth IRA and when to borrow from 401(k) accounts.

The newsletter also tries to give meaning to current events. A recent issue discussed health savings accounts created under the new Medicare law. Another included a write-up on new discount cards for prescription drugs.

Powell notes that boomers are less likely than seniors to have employer-sponsored drug plans, so the new Medicare programs are particularly relevant to what he calls pre-retirees.

Lynnette Khalilani, a financial planning consultant in West Orange, N.J., who is preparing a book called "Investing Success for Baby Boomers," agreed there's little available for baby boomers.

"There are certainly no shortage of information online for people interested in retirement planning, but it's a challenge for baby boomers to find something more targeted and applicable to their specific needs," Khalilani said.

She said many resources on retirement planning come from companies selling investment services — and they like to target seniors already in retirement because they are the ones with the assets, not the boomers who are still spending instead of saving.

Yet boomers are seeking such information.

According to the Pew Internet and American Life Project, 50

percent of Internet users who are boomers, ages 38 to 56, have gotten financial information online, compared with 42 percent for the general Internet population. That's about the same usage as seniors, but greater than Generation X, ages 25-37.

Forrester Research analyst Chris Charron questions whether the new newsletter can make that much money. (Officials at MarketWatch.com Inc. refused to provide subscription figures but said it was in the thousands and had exceeded expectations.)

"Consumers aren't spending a lot of money on content on the Internet, and when they do spend money, they spend money for content that is exclusive in some ways," Charron said.

There's plenty of information on financial planning and retirement online, he said, even if it is spread out and not all that targeted.

Many resources that don't target boomers are still applicable to them.

Jaime Galvan, a certified financial planner with Spectrum Strategies in Dallas, said many sites, including his, offer retirement calculators that can be used by boomers.

Dorit Murciano, vice president of retirement and savings at MetLife, said that although its online materials do not single out boomers, the company is mindful that boomers have special circumstances.

Questionable deductions trigger IRS employee audits

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service is auditing the tax returns of about 800 of its employees after preliminary checks raised questions about business deductions they reported.

The audits were triggered by suspicions raised by other agency employees about 25 of their co-workers last year. The office of the Treasury inspector general for tax administration found that about half of the 25 had improperly reported items on Schedule C, which is used to report income and expenses from operating a business.

Several of those employees were fired, the agency said. "I am disappointed that a small but unacceptable number of our employees have generated false business deductions to reduce their taxes. We have a zero tolerance standard for abuse of the tax laws by employees," Internal Revenue Commissioner Mark W.

Everson said in a prepared statement. "As administrators of the tax system, our employees must maintain the absolute-highest standards when it comes to their own taxes."

IRS officials said the suspicions arose when IRS employees in several offices, assisting co-workers in preparing their returns, noticed a recurring pattern of deductions in Schedule C on a number of returns. Following agency procedure, they notified the inspector general. Officials declined to describe the nature of the questionable deductions.

After the initial investigation, the IRS identified about 800 employees whose returns appeared questionable based on their Schedule C filings. Audits of most of those employees' returns are being conducted and will begin soon on the rest, the agency said. They are part of a joint investigation with the inspector general's office. Under the law, only the IRS can do audits, but

the inspector general is responsible for reviewing IRS employee returns.

IRS investigators are designed to determine whether these apparent individual issues are mistakes or intentional, and to provide those details to appropriate authorities." Pamela J. Gardiner, the acting inspector general, said in a prepared statement.

Everson said the IRS expects many of the employees facing audits to substantiate their claims. Those who can't will face sanctions ranging from reprimand to demotion to firing, depending on the nature and severity of their transgressions, he said.

An agency spokesman said it was unlikely that any of the questionable deductions were related to the workers' employment. IRS employees are barred from doing tax-return preparation or other such work on the side, though they can obtain permission to

work in unrelated outside businesses. Some of the questions may involve business run by spouses, the spokesman said.

Schedule C income and expenses have long been a source of enforcement problems for the IRS. Most of the items on that schedule are not independently reported to the agency as are items such as wages (reported by employers on Form W-2) and mortgage interest (reported by lenders on Form 1098). Thus, to verify a taxpayer's Schedule C income and expenses, the agency relies primarily on face-to-face audits, which these days are done on only a small portion of the roughly 130 million returns the agency receives annually.

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BUSINESS HOURS: MONDAY - FRIDAY 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM

Table with 2 columns: PUBLICATION DAY, DEADLINE. Rows for Sunday through Saturday.

Table with 2 columns: ANNOUNCEMENTS, EDUCATION. Lists various services and their phone numbers.

Table with 2 columns: REAL ESTATE RENTALS, REAL ESTATE FOR SALE. Lists rental and sale opportunities.

Table with 2 columns: MERCHANDISE, AGRICULTURE. Lists various goods and services.

Table with 2 columns: TRANSPORTATION, RECREATION. Lists transportation and leisure services.

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

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THESE FINE CARDS, CASH, CHECK AND MONEY ORDERS ARE ACCEPTED FOR PRE-PAYMENT. Includes logos for MasterCard, VISA, Discover, American Express, and NOVAUS.

NOTICE OF MARSHAL'S SALE

United States of America, Plaintiff vs. Marvin Priebe, et al., Civil No. CV-94-0366-S-EJL. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on the 8th day of January 2004, at 1:30 p.m. of said day, on the front steps of the Gooding County Courthouse, Gooding, Idaho, the United States Marshal will, in obedience to the Order of Sale and Decree of Foreclosure, sell the following-described real property, pumps motor, and pivot, (to the extent it still exists) to the highest and best bidder for cash in lawful money of the United States of America. A personal check in the amount of ten percent of the bid will be accepted at the time of the sale with a cashier's check for the full amount of the bid within 24 hours of the sale. The United States of America, Farm Service Agency's (formerly Farmers Home Administration) bid will be \$497,438.09 with the market value of \$965,000. If you have any questions, contact Farm Service Agency, at (208) 324-4325.

REAL AND APPURTENANT PROPERTY

Township 7 South, Range 14, East of the Boise Meridian, Gooding County, Idaho. Parcel No. 1: Section 22: NW1/4 W1/2E1/4. Parcel No. 2: Section 22: E1/2NE1/4, EXCEPTING THEREFROM the South 25 feet thereof, together with all water and water rights, ditches and ditch rights used thereon or appurtenant thereto, including but not limited to 80 shares of North Side Canal Company, Ltd. water stock along with all water produced under license no. 36-7535 for 4.8 cfs. Also together with one G.E. 250 HP motor Serial No. ALJ108155, one singular West Line Pump Serial No. 56143, one Valley Corner Pivot, Serial No. 18799, and one Valley Corner Pivot Serial No. 16956.* To the extent that they still exist, these are located on the above real property. COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 2735 S. 1500 E., Wendell, Idaho

PUBLIC NOTICE

Action planned to take by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

LEGAL ADVERTISING

The Times News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Tuesday. Deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby at 735-3524.

FOUND CAT, long-haired calico, in West Hayburn on Monday December 29th. Call 208-679-4551*

FOUND CAT, orange and white, large neutered male. Found 1 mile west of Burger King. Call 208-438-4528*

NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, LTD. By Bernice Johnson Assistant Secretary

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF NORTH SIDE PUMPING COMPANY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the North Side Pumping Company will be held at the office of the North Side Canal Company, Ltd., 921 North Lincoln, Jerome, Idaho, Friday, January 16, 2004 at 1:00 P.M. for the election of Directors and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting in accordance with the By-Laws of the Company.

FOUND LARGE dog near Smith's and Rite-Aid in Burley on Saturday, December 27. Call to identify, 208-638-4522*

FOUND Large dog near Smith's and Rite-Aid in Burley on Saturday, December 27. Call to identify, 208-638-4522*

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FOUND Lab black, 3514 N 3200 E Twin Falls, Call 208-735-6765*

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CLEARICAL

Trucking Company in Jerome has a Dispatch Assistant position opening. Computer and telephone skills required. Resume to: Box 98370 c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls Idaho, 83303.*

50 LEGALS

DISTRICT NO. 314. Call 733-8100 and 731-PASSENGER SCHOOL BUS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that sealed bids will be received by the Board of Trustees of District No. 314, District No. 314, District, Idaho, for the purchase of a 2002 or newer 71 passenger school bus. Delivery to be by January 30, 2004.

Bid documents and detailed specifications are available from Marc Simpson at 408 North Park, Burley, Idaho, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday until day of bid opening.

Bids must be submitted on or before 4:00 p.m. on January 7, 2004, to Marc Simpson, Clerk School District No. 314, P.O. Box 429, Burley, Idaho, ID 83324-0428

PUBLISH: January 4, 2004

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, LTD.

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The following Directors are to be elected for a three year term: One Director from District No. 3 One Director from District No. 6 One Director at Large

PUBLISH: January 4, 2004

50 LEGALS

15/0/04 and 1/13/04 at 5:00 AM all soluble items of Kevin & Brenda Edwards, Unit 144, 3616 N 2700 E, #5, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

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PUBLISH: December 28, 2003 and January 4, 2004

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PUBLISH: January 4, 2004

50 LEGALS

NORTH SIDE CANAL COMPANY, LTD. By Bernice Johnson Assistant Secretary

PUBLISH: January 4 and 11, 2004

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PUBLISH: January 4 and 11, 2004

50 LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE Action planned to take by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

IMPORTANT

Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Tuesday. Deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby at 735-3524.

001 LOST AND FOUND

FOUND Cat, long-haired calico, in West Hayburn on Monday December 29th. Call 208-679-4551*

FOUND CAT, orange and white, large neutered male. Found 1 mile west of Burger King. Call 208-438-4528*

FOUND Lab black, 3514 N 3200 E Twin Falls, Call 208-735-6765*

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RECEPTIONIST
Front office admitting clerk needed for Specialty Clinic. Health care experience preferred. Must have excellent public relations skills. Contact Gooding Hospital at 208-464-1433 position 131.
Drug Free Workplace

RESTAURANT
Aramark Food Service has opening for Food Production Supervisor. Applicants must be able to do food costing, ordering, & inventory. Should have min. of 2 yrs. supervisory exp., apply in person at the CSI (Taylor Building) 2nd floor ask for Tom. EOE

RESTAURANT
Waitpersons needed for all shifts.
837-6227 ask for Carol*

ROCK SPLITTERS
Oakley, ID needs 39 temporary rock splitters 3/15/04 - 11/15/04, \$8.92/hr, 35 hrs./wk. Use pry bar to position large stones for splitting; use hammer and chisel to split stone; stack neatly according to thickness, texture and color. Keep work area free from waste & dirt. Fry bar, hammer, chisel & protective eye wear provided free. Will lift 100 lbs. frequently. Will train. Respond w/resume to nearest Job Services Offices, JCH 1077894

SALES
Come join one of the world's largest agribusiness companies! The J.P. Simplot Co. is hiring for the following position at its Land & Livestock location in Burley, Idaho. Sales representative promote sales of WSI products and/or specialty products responsible for sales in Magic Valley. Northeastern Idaho Northern Nevada and Western Montana. Requirements: Associates degree (A.A.) in Sales Training; or 3+ years related experience, or equivalent combination of work experience within the livestock industry with an in-depth knowledge of animal health and nutrition. For additional details and to apply online, please visit our website at www.simplot.com. We offer excellent benefits/salaries. EOE/AA employer.

SALES
NBC 38 is looking for a local account executive. This highly motivated professional is assigned accounts with a strong focus on developing new business. Candidate should have strong communication skills, organization and presentation skills and be computer literate. Media sales experience preferred. Send resume to:
NBC 38
834 Falls Ave.
Twin Falls, ID 83301*

SALES PROFESSIONAL
SALES PERSONS
We are seeking a sales representative to promote our products in the Magic Valley. Training available. No overnight travel. Average income, \$25,000.
AMRE Dave
@ 1-800-480-8170*

SALES
ROB GREEN POINTAC BLICK GMC is seeking enthusiastic, motivated individuals to join our sales team. Applicants must have applicable work experience, or transportation & must be available evenings. Financial reward & career. Please call the fastest growing dealership in the Magic Valley at 208-731-4055, all inquiries confidential. Rob Green is EOE.*

SALES
Robyn Todd now hiring PT Sales Associate position. Apply at the Magic Valley Mall location.*

SALES
Middlekauff Blue Lakes Ford is looking to expand their sales force to sell their top-of-the-line Ford and Mitsubishi automobiles.
Excellent Income Potential plus training, health insurance, 401k, bonus program and paid vacations.
Apply in person to... Tony Hoggarth at BLUE LAKES Ford
Your Superstore and More
www.bigdirect.com

Join Our Sales Team TODAY!
MIDDLEKAUFF DOWNTOWN is looking to expand their sales force to sell their top-of-the-line Lincoln, Mercury and Honda automobiles. Must have good people skills & work ethics.
Excellent Income Potential Plus...
• Training • Health Insurance
• 401 K • Bonus Program
• Paid Vacation
Apply in Person To... MIDDLEKAUFF DOWNTOWN Butch Heatwole 701 Mala Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301

SECRETARY
Part-time may work into FT, for busy legal office. People skills and computer knowledge a must. Send resume to P.O. Box 361 Twin Falls, ID 83302*

STYLIST
Smart Style Family Salon, located in Walmart Super Center, seeks licensed stylist. Beside a great wage and guaranteed commission get paid vacation, health plan, free supplies, free education, advanced retail opportunities, prizes, trips and more. Call Eileen at 888-888-7778 ext. 1638.*

WAREHOUSE
Order completion specialist. FT with benefits. Mon-Fri. 9:30pm to 12:30am. 9:50hr. High school graduate or GED. Drug screen and agility test. LH 50 lbs. continuously and 100 lbs. occasionally. Applications available at: 1801 Highland Ave. FT*

WELDER
Experienced welder. 3+ yrs. of MIG welding or college course completed. Must be dependable, hard working & a team player. (5) 8 hour days, some weekend work. Benefits great, good wage & working environment. Apply at Charmac Trailers 452 South Park W, Twin Falls. No phone calls please.*

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-578-7060.*

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 478-757-3000.*

Get something to sell? Sell at the low-cost way... with classified. 733-0931.

216 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS
CURRENT MOTOR ROUTES AVAILABLE
BELLEVUE/HAILEY KETCHUM
Both Carrier & Substitutes needed
If you live in these areas and would like to be a carrier
Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348*

TWIN FALLS
RT. 702
1800-2100 Candlelight Dr.
2000-2200 Candlewood Ave.
RT. 729
1100-1500 4th Ave. E.
1100-1500 6th Ave. E.
100-500 Ash St.
RT. 838
100-499 Tyler St.
RT. 839
100-499 Fillmore St.
300-499 Taylor St.
RT. 732
100-400 Elm St. N.
1000-1250 Heyburn E. RT. 840
100-500 Pierce St.
If you live near one of these areas and would like to be a carrier
Please contact Jenn, District Mgr. 735-3348*

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE
FILER
RT. 516
100 Fair St.
100 Ramsey
JEROME
RT. 516
200-400 5th Ave E.
100-800 6th Ave E.
RT. 520
100-700 1st Ave E.
300-700 2nd Ave E.
RT. 523
500-700 West Ave. B.
200-700 West Ave. F
RT. 528
100-200 7th Ave E.
100-800 8th Ave E.
RT. 527
100-608 E. Ave. I
300-450 E. Ave. K
RT. 537
100-400 East Ave E.
100-800 East Ave H.
If you live near one of these areas and would like to be a carrier
Please contact Amy, District Mgr. 735-3347*

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE
FILER
RT. 516
100 Fair St.
100 Ramsey
JEROME
RT. 516
200-400 5th Ave E.
100-800 6th Ave E.
RT. 520
100-700 1st Ave E.
300-700 2nd Ave E.
RT. 523
500-700 West Ave. B.
200-700 West Ave. F
RT. 528
100-200 7th Ave E.
100-800 8th Ave E.
RT. 527
100-608 E. Ave. I
300-450 E. Ave. K
RT. 537
100-400 East Ave E.
100-800 East Ave H.
If you live near one of these areas and would like to be a carrier
Please contact Amy, District Mgr. 735-3347*

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Mini-Cassia Area
Burley and Rupert
We are currently accepting applications for independent carriers
Stop by our Burley office and fill out an application.
1283 Overland Ave.*

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 478-757-3000.*

FAX YOUR AD
TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-8538
OR
208-677-4843 (BURLEY)

ROUTES AVAILABLE
The Times-News is currently looking for Independent Route Carriers
SHOSHONE MOTOR ROUTE 617
If you live in these areas and are interested in being a newspaper carrier...
Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348*

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Mini-Cassia Area
Burley and Rupert
We are currently accepting applications for independent carriers
Stop by our Burley office and fill out an application.
1283 Overland Ave.*

RUPERT ROUTES AVAILABLE
Route 426
11th St. to 19th St.
H St. to K St.
Route 428
15th St. to 20th St.
D St. to H St.
We are currently accepting applications for independently contracted newspaper carriers.
1283 Overland Ave. (Old Roper Building)*

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
AAA vending route, 10 machines, \$2895. Call 1-866-823-0223 (7 days).

Read The Classifieds Every Day!

Are You Earning \$3781/month?
Vending route with locations \$7890 req. 1-800-962-6160.*

MCDONALD'S SUBWAYS BLOCKBUSTER?
Ready for next big One? \$20,000 investment. Call 800-213-2131*

SIGN FRENCHISE # rated #1 expanding locally. Turnkey Operation. Financing available. Call 1-800-286-8671 or www.sigarama.com.*

MAGIC VALLEY BUSINESSES
Taco Maker / Jaka's
Profitable double franchise. New building & equipment. Lease rate \$2,000/month. Asking price \$139,000.
TCBY on Blue Lakes
Great franchise opportunity! Just completed leasehold renovation. Priced at least value of \$59,000.
The Drift Inn
Located on Rupert's town square. Profitable. Available with or without real estate. Price without real estate \$70,000.
Idaho's Leading Business Brokerage Authority since 1983
Arthur Herry & Co.
208-336-8000
View 100+ Listings on Web www.arthurherry.com

304 INVESTMENTS
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Big profits usually mean big risk. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about seeking investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-878-7060.*

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES
DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote. (208)735-3821*
WHY WAIT \$?
Receiving payments on real estate sold? We pay more for all types of loans, from perfect to defaulted. Call (800) 901-9301 No Fees. No Surprises. No Hassle!

501 OPEN HOUSES
ATTENTION CLASSIFIED ADVERTISERS
Please check your ad on the first day. If you find an error we will correct it. We are not responsible for errors after the first day of publication.*
Call Twin Falls 733-0931 ext. 2 or Burley 677-4042.*

502 HOMES FOR SALE
JEROME rental income \$271 mo. 2 houses - 1 lot \$79,900. 208-543-8605.
BUHL \$335,000 20 acres. Beautiful river frontage. Geothermal well on property. For more details visit TheHessTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3039 or Tom Gooding 737-3940. MLS #106269 PK2721

GEM STATE REALTY, INC.
208-734-0400
BUHL
CLEAN 3 bdrm, 2 bath mtg. home in Moon Glo Village. 1,900 sq. ft. and features a shady dock, patio and excellent interior. \$73,000
BARKER REALTORS
Call 208-543-4371

John P. Irwin REALTOR
Thanks for a great 2003, and may everyone have a happy and prosperous New Year!
A Key Person to Know! 731.651.1465
R. IRWIN REALTY • 800 FALLS AVE. E SUITE 1, TWIN FALLS, ID 83361

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES
AAA vending route, 10 machines, \$2895. Call 1-866-823-0223 (7 days).

Your Magic Valley Connection...

magicvalley.com

JOBS

The Times-News

TOWNSPEOPLE PREPARED

www.magicvalley.com

REAL ESTATE

BUHL 3 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, fl., family, & living room dbl. car garage. Near schools. Financing avail. or lease with option to buy \$117,500. 208-543-2300

BUHL
SPACIOUS 4 bdrm, 2 bath on an acre between Buhl and Flor with full basement. **HURRY!** Only \$85,500.

BARKER REALTORS
Call 208-543-4371

FAX OR EMAIL
Your Ad To
THE TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT

Twin Falls
208-734-5538
twid@magicvalley.com
Burley
208-677-4543
mcl359@magicvalley.com

FILER
Double Your Money! Seller will double your tax return as down payment on 3-4 bedroom homes in Filer. Call Tom 208-737-9167

GOODING South side 37 manufactured home, w/ full bsm., 3/4 of bsm., unfinished, 3600 sq. ft., 4 bdrm., 2 bath, on 5 acres. \$120,000 or make offer. 934-4514 or 981-0027

JEROME
Sale or Rent to own! 1710 sq. ft., 3 bdrm., 1 bath, Lot. Open floor plan. Lots of windows. Edge of town w/bank view to the north. 10x12 out building. Fenced back yard. Mature landscaping. **208-341-8018/378-9034**

JEROME
702 E. Ave. H, 2050 sq. ft. home in excellent condition. Must see for only \$79,000. **Hadden Realty 208-886-2289**

JEROME Beautiful new home, 3 bdrm., 2.5 bath, w/ jacuzzi tubs, living, family, dining room, arch, deck, 2300 sq. ft. Special \$179,999. **208-308-3368**

JEROME great neighborhood, 6 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2300 sq. ft., \$90,900, fireplace, work rm. 1471 Rainer Dr. 208-543-8605

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
This notice is published in accordance with the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or on an intention to make any such distinction. Families with children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people receiving custody of their children may be protected under the law. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call 800-TOL-Free-1-800-659-8777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-8275

Home Sweet HOME
WHEN YOU BUILD WITH US!
Merry Housing Idaho is now accepting applications for the Magic Valley Self-Help Housing Program.
Homes are 3 or 4 bedrooms, 2 baths and double car garage.
Low monthly payments are adjusted to your income.
There is NO down payment!
Funded by USDA Rural Development
For more information please call toll free 1-800-337-2087

HOMES FOR SALE
422 CHRISTYVIEW - \$249,900
All on 1 level, 3BR, 2BA, 2-car garage
4-8 HIGHLANDWAY 74 - \$91,900
3BR, 2BA, 2-car garage
2167 BILLYBENT - \$129,795
3BR, 2BA on main, finished downstairs
2510 S 37th N - \$129,900
All on one level, 3BR, 2BA, 3-car garage
1330 WILSON AVE - \$104,900
3BR, 2BA, full basement

Assist 2 Sell
Buyers & Sellers Realty
724-1098 - 1216 PULASKI AVENUE EAST - TWIN FALLS, IDAHO

HOME INSPECTIONS
2000 + since 1993.
Bill Baker, 208-326-5115.
THINKING OF BUILDING?
Call The Rasmussen Team at Gem State Realty. We are the exclusive representatives of TKO Homes, "The Affordable Builders". Complete home and lot package starting at \$89,900. Call Lynn Rasmussen, President at 737-3900 or cell phone 410-2807.

GEM STATE REALTY, INC.
208-734-0400

TWIN FALLS
1233 Alder Drive
2100 sq. ft., lovely 4 bdrm., lot on home on 1/4 acre.
\$124,900. Triple A Realty
208-734-4567.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, 13x19 living rm., carpet, tile kitchen, dining room combined, lots of cabinets, new furniture, 1 yr. garage, cement driveway, move as soon as sold 734-4311

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 2.5 bath, w/bsmt., in nice old established neighborhood. Asking \$89,950/offer. Call 208-735-5325

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom home, fenced yard, bsm., natural gas, \$49,500. 344 Van Buron. 208-735-8530

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, w/den, 2800 sq. ft., older home, remodeled custom cabinets, hardwood floors, fenced yard wideck. Walking distance to H.S. and Sawtooth. New carpet at \$112,900. 208-698-0328.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 5 acres w/hwater. \$124,900
Happy New Year!

NELSON REALTY, LLC
734-3930

TWIN FALLS
Fiber Uppers, Foroclosures. Free List.
1 (888) 453-4177 list 1042 No Money Down Homes. Free Report.
1 (888) 453-4177 list 1051 Bryan Newberry Canyonside Realty

TWIN FALLS Foreclosure!
4 bdrm., 2 bath - \$54,900
Call 800-319-3323 ext. 8022 for listings

TWIN FALLS Foreclosure!
4 bdrm., 2 bath - \$54,900
Call 800-319-3323 ext. H792 for listings.

THE TIMES-NEWS Classified Department
Business hours are 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

We are open to all walk-in customers to assist you in building your ad.
Or call one of our Classified Sales Representatives.
733-0931 ext. 2
1-800-658-3853
132 3rd St
Twin Falls Office
677-4042
1263 Overland Ave. or Burley Office

TWIN FALLS new homes
\$86,900 & up.
Call Nels 208-604-648

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Setting property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding timeshare and real estate scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7066.

512 FARM/RANCHES/DARIES

BLACKFOOT cattle ranch Eastern Idaho, 1,960 total deeded acres, 500 acres state Ag lease, 1,700 acre farmable, 10,000 acre range, 1,500 AUM. Early April grazing range, 900 wooded acre allotment. 390 acres CRP. 3 irrigation wells, 2 circles and handlines. Good potential for expansion or dairy, \$1,300,000. Owner wanting quick sale. Call 208-684-8999 or 435-827-0525.

GASBIA 337 acres, east slope Burley Butte, potato ready, 2 pivots, no rock. 208-678-9733/431-0832.

EMERSON Area farm land 46 acres, split into irrigated, \$110,000. Terms available. Can add 20 additional acres. Call 208-431-4700

513 ACREAGE AND LOTS

HAGERMAN 1.5 acre lot ready for manufactured or custom home. Circular drive-way prepared for foundation. In Mated Subdivision. Complete house building plans avail. 410-5543-8337-4330

502 HOMES FOR SALE

Country Living ...With All The Extras!

SAWTOOTH ACRES
• Only Minutes From Twin Falls & Jerome
• Close To Major Golf Courses
• Natural Gas

SLUSHER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - 644-1541

WESTERRA
(208) 733-7653

A LOT FOR A LITTLE!

WESTERRA
(208) 733-7653

Call AMY BOSH Today! (208) 212-0820

Read the Classifieds

502 HOMES FOR SALE

Lakes, Trails, Wildlife, Privacy!

Building lots available at Prestigious Hidden Lakes Subdivision. Lots ranging from \$35,000 to \$150,000.
Call Betsy Florence Today (208) 280-3800

WESTERRA
(208) 733-7653

Quaint farm house on 45 acres, with water shares. Potential for beautiful new home site, with ample room for machinery and livestock. Asking price \$159,500. **MLS#107242**

Call Jeff Blick Today! (208) 280-2800

WESTERRA
(208) 733-7653

Cute & Clean 2-bedroom home with newer paint, Oregon Trail School, Gas forced air heat. Fully fenced with shed. \$44,900. Bring offers! **MLS #108184**

Call AMY BOSH Today! (208) 212-0820

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Call AMY BOSH Today! (208) 212-0820

IRWIN REALTY

Find These Properties and more... WWW.IRWINREALTY.COM

4 Bedroom 2 Bath Family Home Featuring Fenced Yard, Covered Patio, Newly Remodeled Bath, Living Room, Family Room, Private Office Or Den, 2-Car Garage And All In Close Proximity To The City Pool, Sawtooth Elementary, T.C. High School, Shopping And Dining Out. \$99,500. **MLS#107835**
Call Tai Hancy 420-4195 Or 326-6710

Want a house that's ready for you! This home has 3 large bedrooms, new bathroom, new carpet, new vinyl windows, newer roof and siding, finished insulated garage, large fenced back yard, great cul de sac location. \$89,500. **MLS#109007**
Call Willis or Jill Stone 734-0062

SIMPLY GORGEOUS custom built home. Formal living and dining rooms, over 4300 sq. ft., 2 family rooms, office/den, craft room and lots of storage. Hot tub, gazebo, pellet stove. 2.5 acres, 2 car garage. Kimberly \$369,900. **MLS#108421**
Call Bob or Betty Vech 731-6500 or 731-4740

THE STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE from which all other fine homes will be measured. This masterfully designed ranch style home is located on Rock Creek with over 4200 SF, 9 car garage and much, much more for only \$480,000. **MLS# 108206**
Call Donna 420-4504 or Shey 420-2365

HomeZippers.com
Clean, neat home close to city park ideal for first time buyer or office. Parking in rear off alley. 1 bath, 1008 sq ft on main level with bedrooms, 1 bath, fireplace, and kitchen/dining area. Basement has 2 bedrooms (no egress window), 1 bath, lots of storage. **NOW OFFER \$179,900. MLS#107022**
John Inwie 733-9310 or 731-4510

PRICED TO SELL!!
Affordable home features 1008 sq. ft. with separate entrance for office or in home business. Gas forced air heat, alley access, large storage shed. \$42,500. **MLS#106922**
Call Gayle Anderson 308-8324 or 734-6300

Development is Underway
NOW Leasing, Build to Suit
Between CSI and Ford on North College
Call Ross Deahl for more details
731-3164 or 734-4500

Happy New Year!
Wishing you a Happy New Year and all the BEST in 2004.
A BIG Thank You to all my past clients and customers for their support. It was a GREAT year! From *Quinn Hollows*

Well Maintained Farm
NE Jerome - 186 Acres Two Center Pivots & Canal Water. Five Year Crop History & Soil Map Available at Office. \$480,000. **MLS#108088**
Ray Sabala 539-3321 or 733-6340

Very nice brick home
in quiet neighborhood with 3 bedrooms, 1 3/4 baths. This home has 2,016 finished sq. ft. with a 2 car garage. \$125,000. **MLS#109061**
Call Neil Heppner 734-1339 or 731-1991

OPULANCE AROUND IN This New Side Home
Beautifully Remodeled & Upgraded 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Home. 4th Bedroom & 3rd Bath Possible. Extras Offer 2 Fireplaces, Family Game Room, Central Vac, Auto Sprinklers & More. Meticulously Landscaped & Cared For. **JUST LISTED - A MUST SEE - \$119,000. MLS#109101**
Call Bobbi Kelley 731-2806

Great Older Home
Nice older farm home on approximately 1 acre. Lots of room on main floor with 2 more bedrooms upstairs. New vinyl windows. \$99,900. **MLS#108937**
Call Carlynn 731-4268 - 734-7608

The Ultimate Living Solution In Southern Idaho
The ultimate living solution in Southern Idaho
This home is secluded, in the Snake River area, west of Buhl.
This 6 bedroom 4 bath home with retracting pond has kitchen designed for the cook. For your living enjoyment indoor pool and hot tub. Home is heated with geo-thermal which is about 159 degrees. \$1,800,000. **MLS#108809**
Call Stuart Canada 735-8681 or 731-2214

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FORMULA FOR FINE LIVING
 5 Bedroom country home with all of the amenities for great family living. Spacious oak kitchen, great shop & wonderful indoor pool and game room, as well as central A/C & fireplace makes this Paul home a super buy at \$145,000. #102592

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JEROME
 \$29,800 Approx. +/- 2.5 acre lot SW of Jerome. Includes 2 shares of Northside Canal Co. water. For more details visit TheHesaTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS#108017 PC#4511

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KIMBERLY
 \$69,000 This 5 acre parcel is ready to become your new home site. Natural rock well on East side of property. Well installed. Just needs power. For more information visit TheHesaTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940 MLS#100517 PC#3051

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TWIN FALLS
 \$49,000 2 acres. Great building site located south of Reso Hill Subdivision. For more details visit TheHesaTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS#106532 PC#5021

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HAGERMAN 1/2 acre lot in Northwest subdivision, 318 sq ft. 731-7521. 208-539-7426

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 Indian Springs Resort, American Falls, ID. 182 acres, hot springs swimming pool, two residences, RV park, driving range, restaurant, hot spring, creeks, group shelters. BID OPENING: 1/16/04. Sale subject to approval of U.S. Bankruptcy Court and Trustee. Information packet, contact Jim Morphy, Realty Executives, Call 208-233-8821

INVESTORS

Take a Look! Great Investment. 3 Bed, 1 Bath, 1098 Square feet located at 512 Oak Street Kimberly, Idaho Agency Bid \$45,556.00. Appraised value as is: \$54,000.00

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 Contact: USDA-Rural Development 1441 Fillmore, Suite C Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 208-733-5180 Ext. 3

JEROME 2 bdrm. 1 bath, 1 car garage, 55 & older. \$18,000. Call 731-7521

JEROME 2 bedroom, electric, included, \$450 + dep. 2 bedroom, full basement, \$2,500. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, \$600 + deposit. Call 208-324-2154

JEROME 2 bedroom, very clean, has sprinklers. NO pets/smoking/drugs. All appliances included, \$475 mo. + \$450 dep. 324-8843

JEROME 3 bdrm., 1 bath, \$595 + \$450 deposit. No pet/smoking. Exc. cond. fenced back yard. 732-8722

JEROME 3 bdrm., 1 bath, Newly remodeled kitchen, 1.5 stove, No smoke. Inpots. \$560. Call 208-324-8983 or 731-6980

JEROME 3 bedroom, 1 bath, 1.5 stove, No pet/smoking. \$575 + deposit. Call 408-718-8004

JEROME 321 Glacier, 3 bdrm., No smoking, #16 East Ave F, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, \$575 + deposit. Call 208-324-8027

JEROME Clean 3 bedroom, 1 bath, attached garage. No pets. \$550. After 6pm. 208-788-1073

JEROME soul in 2 bdrm., 1 bath, No pet/smoking, screened porch 308-3137

KIMBERLY 1 bdm. Completely remodeled. \$275. 625-2525

KIMBERLY c/o 2 bdm., 1 bath, loft, auto, auto sprinkler, no pet/smoking, \$350 dep., \$575/mo. Call 208-323-8728 or 420-3437

RUPERT 4 bdrm., horse corral/hay field, \$850/mo. Call 208-225-8776

SHOSHONE 1 bdm. with gas heat, all appliances including W/D, \$375, \$200 dep. Joyo 208-804-4334 208-359-0299

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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

516
 Great Opportunity! Building and land on Addison E. \$70,000 Restaurant equipment for additional \$12,000.
 Happy New Year!
NELSON REALTY, LLC
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TWIN FALLS
 \$40,000 Zone A-R-6 with professional quality medical office location, close to hospital. For more information visit TheHesaTeam.com or call Walt Hess 737-3939 or Tami Gooding 737-3940. MLS#107032 PC#3501

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 ALL MAGIC VALLEY Area I will buy/lease your home. Any price. Any condition. Call Dave @ 208-532-0734 or 312-4336

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ARIZONA Bullhead City across the river from Laughlin. Do you want to be a snowbird? Park Model 12'x35'. Deluxe model. 4 year Culligan water softener program, new roof on 16' carport, new paint, W/D hookup, tiled roof, lots of storage & storage shed, \$27,995. Call 928-768-7727

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BUHL 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, no pets. Small yard. Rent + deposit. 208-543-0287

BUHL
 Newly renovated 2 bdrm, 1 bath, appliances, Hallows Property Mgmt. 734-4334
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FILER 2 bdrm., 2 bath., mobile home in park. No smoking/pets. \$480/mo. + \$300 dep. Call 208-329-3552, lv. msg.

FILER 3 bdrm, 2 bath with garage, on 3 lots, fenced yard, gas central heat, wood stove, \$800 + \$500 dep. Call 320-4293

FILER Clean 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$400 month. Call 208-731-0919

GOODING for sale or lease 3 bdrm., 2 bath, manufactured on 1 acre, horse pins, am. pasture, auto water, all vinyl fencing, house has AC, pallet stove, appls. incld. 2 car attached garage. Sale \$100,000 or lease for \$850/\$300 deposit. 208-934-4846 or 839-4846

GOODING am. 2 bdrm. in country, water, sewer, garbage pd., \$400 mo. no pets. 934-6175/539-6176

JEROME #168 \$950 4 bdrm., 3 bath, tennis court. Close to Flying J. Edward & Evans 208-734-1401

TWIN FALLS Lease to Own: Nice 2 bdrm., 1 bath, Woodstove, gas heat, newer carpet, large kitchen, half acre. Call for details 208-736-8464

TWIN FALLS with 2 bedroom, 2 bath, full basement, oven, range, gas forced air, \$550/mo, plus dep., no pets, no smoking. Lyle 321-6582 to see

TWIN FALLS #129 \$450 2 bdrm., garage, large yd. 4 bdrm., 2 bath fenced yd. \$700. 2 bdrm., 1 bath, 2 car garage with open lg. fenced yd. w/sprinkler system, \$650. Call 208-734-1401

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, new kitchen & bath, \$500/month + \$400 dep. Call Joanne 428-5949

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 440 Elm St., \$500. BUHL am. 2 bdrm., 1009 Broadway \$350. 3 bdrm., 309 Ave N., \$500. Call 208-733-9659 or 731-2345

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, linoleum, all appliances, W/D, cable, furnace, hot, nice yard. References, no pet/ smoking \$750 + \$400 dep. 208-734-5511

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 1 bath, all appls. \$550 mo. Call 208-731-0919

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, garage, \$895 mo. \$550 dep. Call for appt. 734-7308 or 731-2984

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, no smoking/pets, 1st, last + dep. \$700/mo. 735-6696 after 6 p.m.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath newly remodeled home in NE location, Sawtooth School District, single garage, fenced yard. NO PETS! NO SMOKING \$725/mo. \$700 dep. Call 737-3939

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 2 bath country/family home, close to apple, DWI, AC, wood stove, sprinklers, \$625 mo. 733-8190

TWIN FALLS 4 bdrm., 2 car attached garage, 2 living rm., 3,000 sq. ft. extra property, \$600/month + 733-6805 or 731-6855

TWIN FALLS Brand New 3 bdrm., 2 bath, no pet/ smoking, 1 yr. lease \$895 + dep. 2308 Eastwood Rd. Call 208-324-0666

TWIN FALLS Cte an 1 bdm. No pets. \$350 + deposit. 208-423-6045

TWIN FALLS Clean 3 bdrm. 1 bath, large yard, \$650 + deposit. Discount for lease. 560 Baker St. Nathan after 5pm 734-6230

TWIN FALLS CLOSE TO DOWNTOWN 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1 car garage, fully fenced yard, full basement, \$750/month plus deposit. no pet/ no smoking. Call Lyle at 208-731-6589

TWIN FALLS Country home, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, garage, water, no pet/ smoking, \$695 + deposit. Call 208-733-0269

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PC#5102
● \$11,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#108354
● 1 bedroom, 1 bath. Excellent manufactured home in retirement community. Ales Catala 423-4729 Alex Catala 423-4729



PC#5002
● \$19,900 • Eden • MLS#108366
● In Eden. Great location for a business. 3 lots over 9000 sq. ft. FR Menden 423-4729 Alex Catala 423-4729



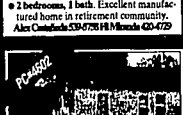
PC#5002
● \$23,000 (approx.) - price depends on lot size • Filer • MLS#107435
● Mountain/valley. Homes to be built by TKO. Visit and inspect early! Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$39,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108765
● Possible terms. Commercial property. Kathi Schraeder 212-9212 Lesi Roth 212-4449



PC#5002
● \$42,500 • Rupert • MLS#108179
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. This is a great home for a first time homebuyer. FR Menden 423-4729 Alex Catala 423-4729



PC#5002
● \$47,900 • Filer • MLS#108115
● 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Great, clean home for the price! Kathy Packham 737-3909 Ron Freeman 734-4208



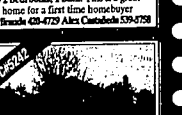
PC#5102
● \$59,900 • Filer • MLS#107772
● 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Corner lot, fruit trees. The Real Estate Team 737-3909 Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



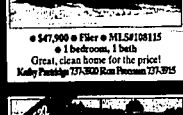
PC#5102
● \$59,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#107831
● 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Totally remodeled. A must see! Alex Catala 423-4729 FR Menden 423-4729



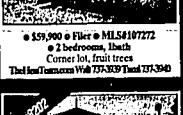
PC#5002
● \$71,900 • Wendell • MLS#108075
● 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Nice home with extensive remodeling. Brenda Carter 423-8724 Lesi Roth 212-4449



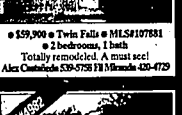
PC#5102
● \$72,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#108938
● 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Lots of space, large yard, gas heat. Visit and inspect early! Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



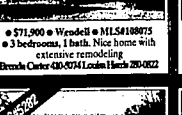
PC#5002
● \$74,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#109030
● 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Large yard, 2 car garage, large master bedroom. Nichole Webb 573-7355



PC#5002
● \$76,000 • Jerome • MLS#107495
● 3 bedrooms, 1 bath. Nicely remodeled home with fruit trees and garden. Lorrie Thompson 731-1779



PC#5002
● \$84,500 • Wendell • MLS#108449
● 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. 20x25 shop, fenced, family room, newer roof. Key & Ernie Kendrick 948-9400 or 948-9401



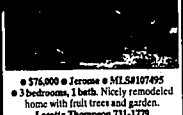
PC#5002
● \$88,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#109004
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Spacious home on one level hardwood floors. Dorothy 737-3903 Ken 737-3909



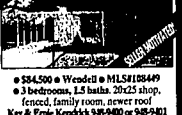
PC#5002
● \$89,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#107334
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. "Cottonwood 1" - Vaulted ceiling. The Real Estate Team 737-3909 Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$92,000 • Shoshone • MLS#109014
● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. 1984 sq. ft., 2 car garage. The Real Estate Team 737-3909 Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$99,900 • Kimberly • MLS#107433
● 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. 2.76 acres, great home, barn, corral. The Real Estate Team 737-3909 Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$99,900 • Jerome • MLS#108277
● 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Vinyl windows, hardwood floor in living room. The Real Estate Team 737-3909 Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$104,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108958
● 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Great family home. Close to schools. Large lot. Key & Ernie Kendrick 948-9400 or 948-9401



PC#5002
● \$100,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#104669
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. TKO Construction "The Golden Rose". Visit and inspect early! Lynn Barmhisen 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$109,000 • Hagerman • MLS#107319
● 6 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Great price on this country home, large heated shop. Verna Walker 423-4729 Kathy Packham 737-3909



PC#5002
● \$124,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108191
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Deck, hot tub, vaulted ceilings, split bedroom plan. Call James • 423-4729 or 423-4160



PC#5002
● \$139,900 • Shoshone • MLS#108494
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Log river home over 2000 ft. on 5 acres, shop & fence. Kathi Schraeder 212-9212 Randy Lawrence 212-4449



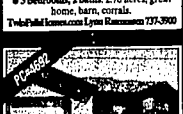
PC#5102
● \$144,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108787
● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Office. Huge master suite! 1990 sq. ft. Ken Roy 731-6649 or Dorothy 737-3903



PC#5102
● \$145,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108323
● 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful new home in NE area of Twin Falls. Diann Deenan 737-3916 or 423-1810



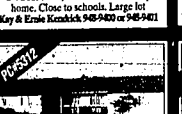
PC#5002
● \$129,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108487
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 2016 sq. ft. Room for the whole family. Close to Sawtooth. Nora Kent 731-6332



PC#5002
● \$132,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108564
● 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths. 1791 sq. ft. Master suite, family room, and large yard. Nora Kent 731-6332



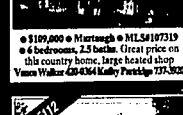
PC#5102
● \$139,900 • Shoshone • MLS#108494
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Log river home over 2000 ft. on 5 acres, shop & fence. Kathi Schraeder 212-9212 Randy Lawrence 212-4449



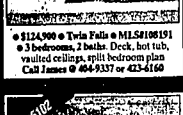
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● \$144,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108787
● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Office. Huge master suite! 1990 sq. ft. Ken Roy 731-6649 or Dorothy 737-3903



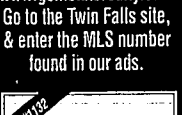
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● \$145,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108323
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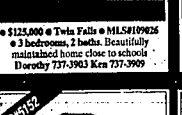
PC#5102
● \$155,000 • Filer • MLS#107746
● 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large corner lot, family room, formal entry, large kitchen. Tom Lloyd 308-0177 Vicki Surber 280-0404




PC#5102
● \$157,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108152
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 1900+ square feet, pool, many amenities, 6 acres. Diann Deenan 423-1810 or 737-3916



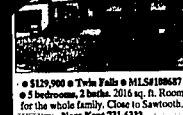
PC#5102
● \$159,000 • Buhl • MLS#104362
● 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Artistic geothermal water, 3.61 acres. Lesi Roth 737-3918 or 308-8844



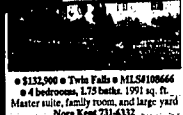
PC#5102
● \$185,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108945
● 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



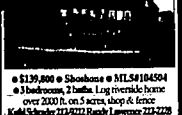
PC#5102
● \$197,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#107186
● 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful NE home. RV parking, great landscaping and deck. Kathy Packham 737-3909 Ron Freeman 734-4208



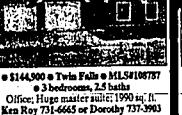
PC#5002
● \$238,000 • Hagerman • MLS#108628
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 7 homes on 8.30 acres. Extended family consideration. Louisa Harris 280-0822



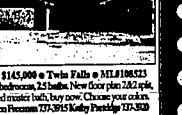
PC#5002
● \$275,000 • Hagerman • MLS#104184
● 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Never home with pool, many amenities, 6 acres. Joann Myers 731-3625



PC#5002
● \$285,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#106637
● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



PC#5002
● \$324,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108344
● 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



PC#5102
● \$475,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#107291
● 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Incredible! Gorgeous interior, fabulous yard. Carolyn Cutler 737-3913 or 423-3381



PC#5002
● \$155,000 • Filer • MLS#107746
● 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Large corner lot, family room, formal entry, large kitchen. Tom Lloyd 308-0177 Vicki Surber 280-0404



PC#5102
● \$157,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108152
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 1900+ square feet, pool, many amenities, 6 acres. Diann Deenan 423-1810 or 737-3916



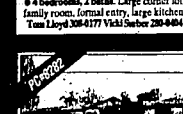
PC#5102
● \$159,000 • Buhl • MLS#104362
● 4 bedrooms, 3 baths. Artistic geothermal water, 3.61 acres. Lesi Roth 737-3918 or 308-8844



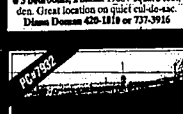
PC#5102
● \$185,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#108945
● 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



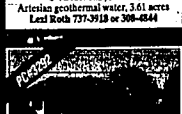
PC#5102
● \$197,500 • Twin Falls • MLS#107186
● 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Beautiful NE home. RV parking, great landscaping and deck. Kathy Packham 737-3909 Ron Freeman 734-4208



PC#5002
● \$238,000 • Hagerman • MLS#108628
● 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. 7 homes on 8.30 acres. Extended family consideration. Louisa Harris 280-0822



PC#5002
● \$275,000 • Hagerman • MLS#104184
● 2 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Never home with pool, many amenities, 6 acres. Joann Myers 731-3625



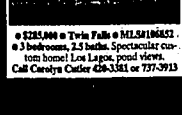
PC#5002
● \$285,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#106637
● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



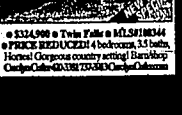
PC#5002
● \$324,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108344
● 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



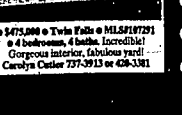
PC#5102
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● 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Incredible! Gorgeous interior, fabulous yard. Carolyn Cutler 737-3913 or 423-3381



PC#5002
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● 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913




PC#5002
● \$324,900 • Twin Falls • MLS#108344
● 5 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Spectacular custom home! Lux Lagoon, pond views. Call Carolyn Cutler 423-3381 or 737-3913



PC#5102
● \$475,000 • Twin Falls • MLS#107291
● 4 bedrooms, 4 baths. Incredible! Gorgeous interior, fabulous yard. Carolyn Cutler 737-3913 or 423-3381



KATHY PARTRIDGE
Assoc. Broker/GR, ABR
Multi-Million Dollar Club
324-3808



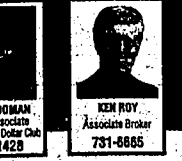
LOUISA HARRIS
Sales Associate
Million Dollar Producer
280-0822



VICKI R. SURBER
Sales Associate
280-0404



NORA KENT
Sales Associate
731-6332



LEXI ROTH
Sales Associate
734-8753



LORETTA THOMPSON
Sales Associate
731-1779



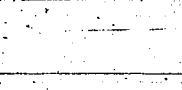
ALEX CASTAREDA
Sales Associate
Hablamos Español
737-3907



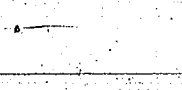
DIANN DOMAN
Sales Associate
Multi-Million Dollar Club
735-1420



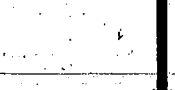
KEN ROY
Associate Broker
731-6865



SHARON TSE
Sales Associate
420-6884



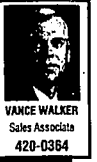
FEL MIRANDA
Sales Associate
Hablamos Español
737-3926



THOMAS LLOYD
Sales Associate
Multi-Million Dollar Club
308-0117



PEGGY DONNELLY
Sales Associate, ABR
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VANCE WALKER
Sales Associate
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Sales Associate
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KAY KENDRICK
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TWIN FALLS GREAT LOCATION 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with 2-car garage, oven, range, DW, AC, gas forced air, fully fenced. \$60/month plus deposit, pets considered, no smoking. Call George at 731-0070 or Susan at Twin Falls 734-6500.

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TWIN FALLS 5 small 2 bdrm. w/water, refrig. & W/D hookups. 731-9324.

TWIN FALLS small clean 1 bedroom, 1 bath, \$275/month. 208-731-0910.

TWIN FALLS studio apt. close to town, fenced yard and pasture use. All utilities & cable included. \$330 + deposit. 734-8168

603 FURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES

TWIN FALLS small, clean quiet area. No smoking. Some utilities. incl. 420-9239

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JEROME 1, 2, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, all appliances. Hollows Property Mgmt. 734-4334 twinfallsrentals.com

JEROME Links Apts. 2 bdrm/3 bdrm, all appliances washer/dryer hook-ups AC, storage. Now accepting applications. Affordable rents + cable and high speed internet. MA accepted. Cindy 324-0572

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TWIN FALLS 1, 2, 3 bdrms, appliances Various sizes and prices. Hollows Property Mgmt. 734-4334 twinfallsrentals.com

TWIN FALLS 1/2 off First Month. Only \$325 + dep. with lease. Clean 2 bdrm., 2 bath, all appls. W/D. No smoking or pets. 420-878 or 734-5678

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, W/D, \$450/mo., includes most utilities. Sylvia 208-420-3792 or 208-734-3911

TWIN FALLS 2 1/2 bdrm., 2 bath, all appls. W/D. No smoking or pets. 420-878 or 734-5678

TWIN FALLS Avail. now, updates 2 bdrm., 2 bath. In 4-plex. Range, refrig., DW, W/D hookups. \$400-\$475/month. 208-280-0754.

TWIN FALLS Clean, 2 bdrm., 1 bath, loaded. No smoking. Starting at \$485. Call 735-0473

TWIN FALLS close to CSI, 2 bdrm., 1.5 bath, appls. AC, Garage, W/D hook-ups. \$650/mo. Ref. \$300 Security dep. No pets w/d permit. Call 208-420-1958

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, stove & refrig. new carpet & paint. No pets/smoking. Ref. included. \$425-\$425. Call 208-734-9894

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, townhouse, fenced back yard, W/D hookups. No pets. \$470 + dep. Call 208-734-9894 after 5pm

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, opt. new carpet, & linoleum new tile. Great location. Close to shopping. 208-732-0933

JEROME 2 bdrm., 1 1/2 bath, includes all appls. \$495 + dep 208-538-1370

TWIN FALLS Extra nice 3 bdrm., 2 bath duplex at 517 Rose St. (off of Apple, in Pentac Diet. AC, appls, dbl. garage w/ropeoff, tankless system. \$780/mo. 1 yr. lease required. No pets. 603-227-0396.

TWIN FALLS TURN OF THE CENTURY CHARM! Studio & 1 bdrm., laundry, storage, FROM \$395. 833 Shoshone N. 948-9300 or 734-4339

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, 520 2nd Ave. W. \$400 + dep. ref. No pets. 422-0125

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, new DW, W/D hookups. \$450 mo. 212-3099 or 733-3151

TWIN FALLS 2 bedrooms avail. \$420 & up. All 3100 dep. all utilities & cable incl. 208-733-8841

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, appls. \$650 month. \$200 move in allowance. \$50-4907

TWIN FALLS a newer 2 bdrm., 2 bath, all appls. AC, W/D, no smoking. Call 208-733-9835.

TWIN FALLS Avail. now, updates 2 bdrm., 2 bath. In 4-plex. Range, refrig., DW, W/D hookups. \$400-\$475/month. 208-280-0754.

TWIN FALLS Avail. now, updates 2 bdrm., 2 bath. In 4-plex. Range, refrig., DW, W/D hookups. \$400-\$475/month. 208-280-0754.

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TWIN FALLS Avail. now, updates 2 bdrm., 2 bath. In 4-plex. Range, refrig., DW, W/D hookups. \$400-\$475/month. 208-280-0754.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath with laundry facility, \$425/month + \$250 dep. Call 208-324-2244

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom duplex, W/D hook-up. \$400. Call 208-324-3317

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 2 bath, no smoking, \$500 month. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, garage, no smoking. \$800/mo. Call 208-734-8243

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, bdrm. appl. 1400 sq. ft. \$550/mo., utilities pd. Call Joann 208-420-5949

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, clean, quiet location, car-no storage. \$450 + \$500 dep. \$475. Close to C.S.I. Call 208-734-3399 evenings

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, appls. \$650 month. \$200 move in allowance. \$50-4907

TWIN FALLS Spend the winter by the fireplace in this deluxe 2 bedroom, 2 bath apartment. Apartments have oven, range, refrig., w/camaker, microwave, washer/dryer, high efficiency gas heat, \$575/mo., plus deposit. Lyle at 731-589 to see.

TWIN FALLS Very nice 3 bdrm., 2 bath, major appl. W/D hook-ups. AC, water & sewer incl. \$695 + \$500 dep. 1 yr. lease. Call 208-733-7618

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JEROME Holiday Motel Under new management. New carpet, comfortable rooms. 401 W. Main. 208-324-2381

TWIN FALLS HBO, microwave & refrigerator. Call for prices, no pets. Call 208-734-4117

TWIN FALLS Clean, 2 bdrm., 1.5 bath, appls. AC, Garage, W/D hook-ups. \$650/mo. Ref. \$300 Security dep. No pets w/d permit. Call 208-420-1958

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, stove & refrig. new carpet & paint. No pets/smoking. Ref. included. \$425-\$425. Call 208-734-9894

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, townhouse, fenced back yard, W/D hookups. No pets. \$470 + dep. Call 208-734-9894 after 5pm

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, opt. new carpet, & linoleum new tile. Great location. Close to shopping. 208-732-0933

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TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 2 bath, all appls. W/D. No smoking or pets. 420-878 or 734-5678

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TWIN FALLS 3,000 sq. ft., storage area with office, almost 2 months old. \$600/month. 1920 Highland Ave. Roland. 530-4005.

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BOB'S BEE DRYWALL Acoustical & Drywall. Call 208-731-0788

906 HOT TUBS AND POOLS

HOT SPRINGS spa, seats 8, grande model, great



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SWF, 30, 5'7", dark brown hair, petite frame, blue eyes, seeking a man who is fun, outgoing, and has a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377959**

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TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 32, 5'10", 170 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377962**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 33, 5'8", 130 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377963**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 34, 5'11", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377964**

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SWF, 35, 5'9", 140 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377965**

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SWM, 36, 5'12", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377966**

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SWF, 37, 5'10", 150 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377967**

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SWM, 38, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377968**

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SWF, 39, 5'11", 160 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377969**

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SWF, 43, 5'13", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377973**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 44, 5'16", 230 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377974**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 45, 5'7", 150 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377975**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 46, 5'9", 160 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377976**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 47, 5'11", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377977**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 48, 5'10", 170 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377978**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 49, 5'12", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377979**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 50, 5'11", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377980**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 51, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377981**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 52, 5'12", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377982**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 53, 5'14", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377983**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 54, 5'11", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377984**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 55, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377985**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 56, 5'12", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377986**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 57, 5'14", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377987**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 58, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377988**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 59, 5'15", 220 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377989**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 60, 5'12", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377990**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 61, 5'14", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377991**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 62, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377992**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 63, 5'15", 220 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377993**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 64, 5'14", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377994**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 65, 5'16", 230 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377995**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 66, 5'13", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377996**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 67, 5'15", 220 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377997**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 68, 5'14", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377998**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 69, 5'16", 230 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 377999**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWF, 70, 5'15", 220 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378000**

TAKE A CHANCE

SWM, 71, 5'17", 240 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378001**

HOW DOES IT WORK? ??????

Call the FREE membership number.

Record a voice greeting.

Answer some basic personal questions and if you choose, have us write a print ad for you.

Choose your notification method: e-mail, phone, mail, phone.

Relax and watch the matches come in.

WHY IS BETTER? ??????

Members are matched using our latest technology.

Members are then alerted to their matches/choices.

Members access the service at a discounted rate.

Pre-paid blocks of time make it christian easy!

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 41, 6'1", 180 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378002**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 42, 6'2", 190 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378003**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 43, 6'3", 200 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378004**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 44, 6'4", 210 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378005**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 45, 6'5", 220 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378006**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 46, 6'6", 230 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378007**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 47, 6'7", 240 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378008**

CHRISTIAN SEKS ISABELLA

DIV, 48, 6'8", 250 lbs, brown hair, blue eyes, outgoing, fun, and a good sense of humor. Please contact me at 1-800-335-6125. **DOES 378009**

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For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)
\$2 each additional line. Private Party only. Merchandise only.

The Times-News Call 733-0931 Ext. 2 or 677-4042

COUCH and rocker, brown floral, exc. condition, \$50 for pair. Call 733-4227.

MATRESSES AND BOX SET FULL. New still in plastic, list \$329 sacrifice \$99. Call 208-420-6350.

MATTRESS, King pillow top, and split box set, new, still in plastic, sacrifice \$249. 208-420-6350.

MATTRESS, Queen pillow-top and box set, new, still in plastic, sacrifice \$129. Call 208-420-6350.

MOVING SALE Kenmore W/D, couch/love seat, 4 piece acc. hidebed, 5 in 1 crib. Call 208-404-6583.

SLEIGH BED \$249. Solid wood, brand new still boxed. List \$800. Sacrifice \$249. 208-420-6350.

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

WOODSTOVE Earth stove, excellent condition, glass front, some pipe. \$500. Also chest top freezer \$50. Call 208-733-0151.

WOODSTOVE English, like new, \$400. Call 208-324-4717.

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MISCELLANEOUS

A FRIENDLY REMINDER
It is against Twin Falls City Ordinance to top trees that are in the City's right-of-ways.
For more information call 736-2665.

ART Gary Stone wooded country scene 33X28" framed, \$900/off. Call 208-734-2650.

When you have items around your home you no longer need, advertise them.

CASH REGISTER Sweda good condition, \$50. Fax machine '99 Swintic, SF210, \$20. 736-2039.

CERAMIC KILN Paragon, w/accessories, \$250 or best offer. Call 543-8094.

DOG KENNEL 17x21x36 w/shade cover, in box, \$175/best offer. Leather couch & loveseat, 2 mo. old, pr. \$1300, asking \$800/off. Winchester 15 hp. model '91, \$1600/off. Call 208-324-9494.

FREE seats, approximately, 1 pickup load, good for driveways & killing trees. Call 208-731-3112.

HAIR SALON Equipment & Furniture Call 208-543-6030.

MISCELLANEOUS Couch w/matching loveseat, light blue, \$200. Oak pedestal dining table w/wood and 4 chairs, \$150. Couch w/matching loveseat - floral, \$200. Call 734-3580.

SHEDS 10x16 & 16x18 won't last long! Make great shops. 208-703-7534.

SNOW BLOWER Snap-on, 6 hp, used very little. \$500/off. 208-438-4477.

SNOW BLOWER Toro 4.5 hp, gas, brand new, \$300. Call 208-734-9197.

SNOWBLOWER 3.5 hp. Has had very little use. \$125. 208-324-6754.

WANTED exc. running 4.0 V6 engine for '91 Ford Explorer or '91 Ford Explorer. Call 208-324-5858 or 208-404-9371.

TOOLS AND MACHINERY

BANDSAW Sears, 10", mint condition, complete with floor stand, 10" table extension, 10" fence, 3 new blades, 2 new table inserts, operators manual, and parts list \$75. 734-4727.

GARDNER DENVER air compressor, 100 cfm, gas, 700 actual hrs. Towable, really nice condition, \$800. 208-863-1019.

GOOD FOR LEASE SHEET METAL SHOP. All tools included. Ready to go. Call 208-539-5951.

VIBRATING PLATE COMPACTOR, Case model AN900, water spray, 5 hp, excellent condition, \$900. Call 208-863-1019.

WELDER Lincoln Shield Arc, SA250, 2.5 amp weld, BKW generator, 110/220 diesel 225 actual hr. \$2400. 208-863-1019.

WELDER Lincoln wire feed, used 1 hour, cost \$995 sacrifice \$750. Call 208-423-5212.

WANTED TO BUY

CAROLINE FIREPLACE 208-733-1100

WANTED Buying baby items in nice condition, costume jewelry, old pottery and colored glassware. 208-703-0616.

WANTED DIRECT TV equipment. New or used. Working or not. Cash paid (208) 853-0228.

WANTED TO BUY 1200 model, 4WD, 3A ton. Super cab, gas, long bed, mint cond., low miles, HD. CASH. 208-733-8294.

WANTED Top Soil. Call 208-208-0554 or 208-423-9820.

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BROWNING 10 gauge, 3.5", vent rib, new in the box. \$495. 208-423-4865.

RUGER Mini-14 ranch B mags, scope mount, sling, synthetic & wood stock's \$400. 733-4455.

STAR semi-auto 9mm cal. pistol excellent cond., high capacity magazine, \$300. Call 208-423-4455.

219-8572 or 219-9655.

TRUCK TOP '03 Century Royal, Chevy short box, PAIG 1495 steel for \$999. 219-8572 or 219-9655.

ZEMAN 2 place drive-on-drive trailer. Ford factory control, EFI w/cover, full size. Call 733-3590.

CAMPER SHELLS ft., long wide bed, on '89 GMC, silver, \$550/off. Call 208-543-0979 days or 543-5243 even.

SHIELDS USED (12) Fits '88-'04 Chevy, exc. cond. Value Priced! 208-678-0103.

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BOEMBARDIER 425500 GAJA, new condition. Extremely low hrs, extras included. \$5000/off. Please call 208-438-8702.

ETON '00 kids 4-wheeler, 90cc, less than 100 miles. \$850/off. 208-438-1128 or 208-280-1964.

HONDA '81 \$550, trail 110. YAMAHA '91 \$1225, \$750. Call 423-9014 or 539-6015.

HONDA '98 Shadow, ACE, VT1100, rare. Factory touring model, 1700 miles; showroom condition. Call 532-5591.

YAMAHA '92 Banshee, FMF fatty pipes, dual silencers, razor bars, new graphics, new fly handle bars, exc. running. \$3000. 208-654-2700/431-2123.

YAMAHA '00 250 ATV, 2500 off. Call 208-436-8333.

YAMAHA '01 Super Jot, 701 cc w/ mint carb, exc. cond., \$5500. 731-8984.

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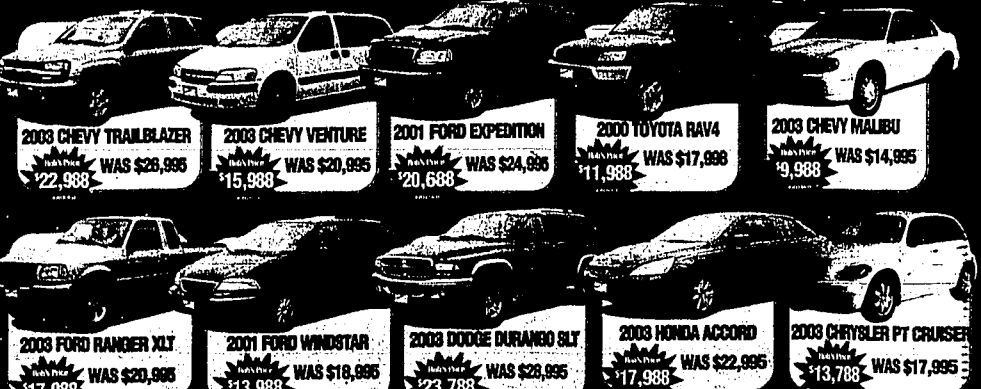
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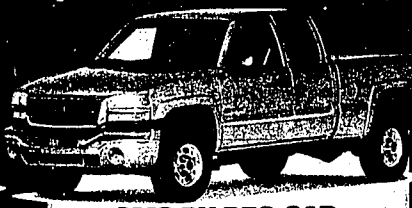
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At Millner: The day the river dried up.
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FAMILY LIFE

INSIDE

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Features Editor: Steve Crump - 733-0931, Ext. 223

The Times-News

Sunday, January 4, 2004

Section E

I'll have a Keno - with chocolate sauce

The moment I won the Cactus Petes overnight stay at that Twin Falls Lions Club charity party, I knew I was out of my element.

Long ago, generous doses of Southern Baptist ethics in extended family roots had rendered both my husband and me casino-illiterate for life. I was sure of it. I have never even bought a lottery ticket, although I have many family members who buy them, guilt-free, every day.

Somewhere along the way, however, I must have decided it was OK to buy raffle tickets, because I've never felt at all funny about doing that. I even like to win stuff at raffles, especially if the raffle are for a good cause.

Maybe it's sort of like the religious leaders who are opposed to gambling, but who remain somewhat divided over whether or not their churches should accept money from lottery winnings. Some of these leaders say they have seen too many people gamble away their rent money to approve of such donations. Then they admit they might rethink their stands if members of their congregations started plopping truckloads of lottery money on their desks to play for the Kingdom of God.

And so, my husband and I trekked to Jackpot to see a nice show, have a nice dinner and enjoy the night in a nice hotel. Of course, we also journeyed there in fear and trembling - fully aware of the fact that we might do or say something that would make us look really stupid.

It didn't take long. When we arrived at the resort, someone gave us plastic cards with chains on them and cheerfully asked us what casino games we like to play the most. We couldn't name one.

"They probably know they're not going to make any money off of us," I whispered to my husband on the way to the hotel reservation desk. "I'll bet they kick us out before morning."

But I didn't have any second thoughts. I was sure we could have found our hotel room without assistance. But we managed to end up on the wrong side of the resort tower. There, a kind bellhop took pity on us and led us in the right direction.

"Is this your first time?" he asked, with a tone of pity in his voice.

Later, before we lined up to go to the buffet, a nice-looking couple passed by us and, with big smiles on their faces, greeted us in unison. "Good luck," they chirped.

The comment didn't register with me for a minute.

I was on my way to the rest room. I did figure out what "good luck" meant before I got to the rest room door - I'm not completely goofy - but it took me a little longer to figure out why all of these people in the casino were drinking around plastic cups and never drinking anything out of them.

I tried not to notice.

Then, when my husband and I sat down to dinner, a woman started yelling around the restaurant. "Keno!"

Luckily, my husband grabbed my hand before I could stick it into the air.

"I want to order a Keno," I told him. I thought it sounded like a pastry.

After I returned home from my casino adventure, some friends at my office offered to provide me with remedial tutoring to upgrade my gaming skills. But I decided I'd better not make any drastic changes in my lifestyle at this stage.

With my luck, I'd probably be really good at gambling and win a million dollars - and then feel too guilty to spend it.

Dennis Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

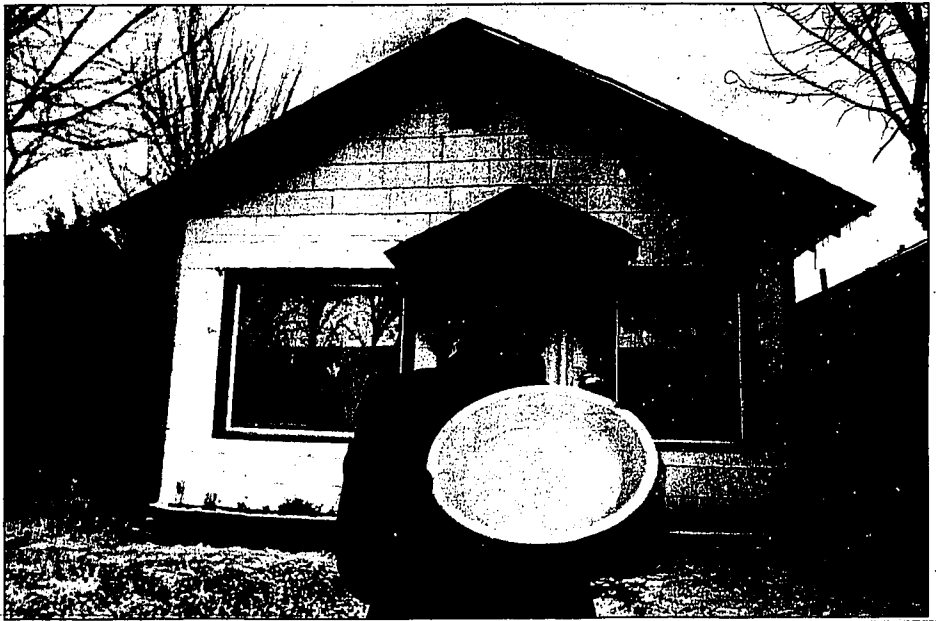
Homeowners' policy woes? Share your story

The Times-News

Some folks have discovered that their homeowners' insurance policies have been canceled when they filed a claim - or in some cases even inquired about filing a claim - as part of an effort by the industry to stem rising costs.

The Times-News is preparing an article on people who've had problems with homeowners' insurance.

If you'd like to share your story, call Steve Crump at 735-3223 or e-mail him at sscrump@magicalvalley.com.



Rhea Lanting, a Twin Falls-based Extension educator with the University of Idaho, holds a yellow plate to illustrate her upcoming College of Southern Idaho Community Education class, 'Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?' Lanting and Twin Falls attorneys Dennis Voorhees and Jamie LaMure are teaching the two-session family-ucous class designed to consider the problems of transferring non-titled property to family members.

Who gets what?

Conflicts over dead relatives' property can tear families apart

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - With apologies to Billie Holiday: Mama may have, and Papa may have, but God help the child who wants whatever they leave.

"I've seen disagreements over who gets what possessions of a deceased person absolutely tear families apart," said Rhea Lanting, a Twin Falls-based Extension educator for the University of Idaho.

"Often these disputes over Mom's personal property are the trigger for tensions that have been simmering under the surface in families for years," said Dennis Voorhees, a Twin Falls attorney who specializes in elder-law issues. "But they can be prevented."

To that end, Lanting, Voorhees, and Voorhees' law partner, Jamie LaMure, will teach a two-session College of Southern Idaho Community Education class, "Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?" on Jan. 27 and Feb. 3. Its object is to discuss how to manage conflicts between survivors, and if possible, head them off in the first place.

"Often the objects in dispute don't have a lot of monetary value," Lanting said. "Hence the yellow pie plate."

"Wills deal with real and personal property, but most people don't include all of their personal possessions.

"Legally, personal property belongs to the estate, and the executor of the will has custody of the property and discretion

Putting legal clout behind life-and-death wishes

Whether you want to be kept alive with all medical technology available - or for life-support measures to be discontinued if there is no chance of a meaningful recovery - it's important to specify those wishes in writing.

Such a document will not necessarily resolve everything, but it will go a long way in making it easier to decide how long and under what conditions to keep a person alive.

Most U.S. courts and hospital ethics committees will follow a patient's written wishes.

In addition, a living will could lessen the guilt a relative might feel, particularly about starting or stopping life-support systems. It also could help prevent costly, lengthy and bitter family feuds when the desires of the patient are known.

A healthcare proxy also should be

designated to make decisions on one's behalf. Usually a spouse, parent or adult child of the patient is chosen, but sometimes the choices might be too difficult for them - such as when a patient would want to forgo life support. In most states, the proxy can be anyone over 18 other than a health-care provider. (One man at UCLA designated his landlord.)

It is important to discuss one's choices with the proxy, so he or she knows what must be done.

Rather than trying to outline all the possible medical scenarios, suggests Atlanta family-law attorney John Mayoux, the discussion should focus on the quality of life that one is interested in maintaining.

"The overall debate has moved from the sanctity of life to the quality of life, which is a much more pertinent discussion," Mayoux

"It's so important now, because you can keep somebody alive in a life form that would not be worth living."

The document must be properly witnessed (most states require the advance directive to be notarized and signed by at least two parties who have not been designated as the patient advocate, health-care provider or heir of the patient.)

Copies of the document should be discussed with and given to family members and/or close friends, as well as the person's physician and hospital.

The directive should be included with a patient's medical chart. Hospitals are required by law to provide information about advance directives to people in their communities, and to ask each patient upon admission if he or she has one, and if not, if they want one.

Source: Los Angeles Times

To learn more ...

"Who Gets Grandma's Yellow Pie Plate?" a two-part class, will be held Tuesday, Jan. 27, and Tuesday, Feb. 3, from 6-8 p.m., in Room 106 of the Shields Building on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. Cost is \$25 per person. To registration information, call 732-6288 or 732-6290.

"But maybe Mom doesn't want to deal with the conflict," Voorhees said.

Or Mom may not realize that a particular possession of hers will trigger a conflict between family members, Lanting says.

"Avoiding these disputes really requires some thought on the part of people who are leaving the property," she said. "In my own case, we decided that the kids should each get a gun,

but we don't have enough guns to give one to each of them. So my husband said, 'Well, maybe we need to buy another gun.'"

Even better, Mom or Dad should sit down with their adult children and make sure everybody understands who gets what upon their deaths, according to Lanting.

Please see SQUARE, Page E2

Tips for the positive coach

The Positive Coaching Alliance encourages using words vital to changing youth sports.

"We want these phrases to become as common as 'Just Do It!' and 'Wassup?'" says the alliance's founder, Jim Thompson.

Honoring the game replaces "sportsmanship" because it is more apt to motivate people to live up to their best, rather than to be passive and reactive. Honoring the game encompasses the sport's rules, opponents, officials, teammates and one's self.

Double-goal coach refers to a coach who wants to win but has a second, more important, goal of using sports to teach life lessons.

Filling the emotional tank refers to making sure each child has enthusiasm and, as such, is more apt to continue trying, when things don't go his or her way.

Magic ratio is the use of five positive comments for every neg-

Etc...

ative one.
For more information, go to www.positivecoach.org.

Vocative positive atmosphere:

• Fun activities - In field hockey, one coach had players "shout" each other by literally shouting in range of another player's shadow. Another schedules team conditioning runs at golf courses and around shopping malls and has them visualizing that they're running in the Olympics.

• Verbal cues and traditions - One coach, trying to encourage his players to forget about their mistakes, took them into a bath-

room, and said, "Here is where their mistakes go. We simply flush them away." Now, whenever a player hangs his head about a bad play, the coach yells "Flush it!" and makes a flicking motion with his hand. The players now yell "Flush it!" to each other.

• Targeted awards - One coach gives stickers or lollipops to young players who show exceptional enthusiasm. Another has a regular "Dirty Shirt" award he rotates among those who hustle the most.

Know why coaches yell: Many coaches scream at kids after mistakes because they are embarrassed and want to make sure everyone near the field knows that they understand the game.

Instead of yelling criticism, coaches are encouraged to recognize specific instances of good play and praise an individual player.

Source: South Florida Sun-Sentinel

Updated, retro board games make a return

The Washington Post

If you think your parents are old, check out some of the games they played when they were your age. Monopoly is officially 68 years old, Scrabble a bit younger at 55. Clue is 54 and The Game of Life is 43.

But, just like when your parents played, you still get \$200 when you pass "GO" in Monopoly. And the queen is still the most powerful piece in chess, which has been around since the year 531, although your chess pieces might come right out of "Harry Potter."

Over the years, many board games have changed less than the people who play them. Kids and parents seem to like it that way. Old-fashioned board games are even an official trend. They're called "retro," and companies are

selling them pretty much the way they looked 50 years ago.

Toy maker Milton Bradley has TV ads for "My First Games," Candy Land, Hi Ho! Cherry-O, Chutes and Ladders and Memory-hoping that parents will get all sentimental and buy them for their younger kids.

Boring, you think? Today you can play updated versions of many old games on the computer, or if that's more your thing, you can play Lord of the Rings Monopoly instead of the Boardwalk version. Even Twister now has music, new floor mats and a more hip name: Twister Moves.

But there's something about the older games. "They're capturing a new generation of fans," says Paula Thornton-Greer, a spokeswoman for Target.

Please see GAMES, Page E2

SENIOR-CALENDAR

West End Senior Citizens Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl

Menus:

Today: Roast beef dinner, 1 p.m. (all you can eat, \$4)
Monday: Cook's choice
Tuesday: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, winter-blend salad, muffins, dessert

Wednesday: Hamburger casserole, salad, fruit, dessert
Thursday: Pork chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, vegetables, salad, rolls, birthday cake

Activities:

Monday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Cards, 6-9 p.m.
Tuesday: Energy assistance, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Crafts, 1-4 p.m.
Bingo, 7-9 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Blood-pressure check, 11:45 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.

Thursday: Chicken-fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, cottage cheese, bread, pudding
Wednesday: Chili dogs, steak fries, Brussels sprouts, strawberry shortcake
Thursday: Roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, Capri vegetables, sumi salad, rolls, spice cake

Activities:

Today: Jackpot bus trip, 9 a.m.
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinchle, 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Foot clinic, 10:30 a.m.
Pool, 1 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Messages, 10:40 a.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting and sewing, 9 a.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Blood-pressure checks, 11 a.m.
Linda Norris, 12:30 p.m.
TOPS, 4 p.m.
Pinchle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge, 1 p.m.
Hand/foot clinic, 1 p.m.
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.
Bingo, 6 p.m.

Bingo, 7 p.m.

Thursday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Friday: Pinchle, 1 p.m.

Richfield Senior Center

Menus:
Monday: Orange juice, roast beef, California mixed vegetables, mashed potatoes with gravy, rolls, milk, coffee, carrot cake
Tuesday: Orange juice, tuna sandwiches, vegetable soup, lemon pie, milk, coffee

Camas County Senior Center

127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 - 2 on meal days. The cost of the meal for non-seniors is \$3.50; children under 10 are \$2.00. The suggested donation for those 60 years of age and older is \$2.50.

Menus:
Tuesday: Sloppy Joes, potato chips, salad, corn, applesauce and cucumbers
Wednesday: Cook's Choice
Friday: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, roll, fruit, cake

Activities:
Monday: Art class, 9 a.m.
Weightloss group, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Thursday, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 1:30 p.m.
Friday: Pool, 10:30 a.m.-2 p.m.
Quilting, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert
Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Menus:
Monday: Assorted salad, tomato soup, grilled cheese sandwiches, pudding
Tuesday: Macaroni salad, chicken nuggets, french fries, corn, biscuits, cheesecake
Wednesday: Fossed green salad, baked potatoes, rolls, vegetables, ice cream
Thursday: Bean salad, barbecue ribs, baked beans, peas, rolls, mousse
Friday: Smorgasbord

Activities:
Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinchle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Wednesday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinchle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
SHIBA assistance, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Friday: Quilting, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pool, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
Pinchle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.

Hagerman Senior Center

140 E. Lake
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Lunch is served at noon and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non-seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

Menus:
Monday: Pork, mashed potatoes and gravy
Tuesday: Turkey soup with homemade noodles
Friday: Chicken patties, mashed potatoes and gravy

Silver and Gold Senior Center

Eden
Suggested donations for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Mondays are cookie and bread bake days and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days.

Menus:
Tuesday: Chicken sandwiches, macaroni salad, green beans, salad, fruit, cookies
Thursday: Spaghetti, pea salad, applesauce, garlic bread

Shoshone Senior Center

218 N. Rail St. W.
Menus:
Tuesday: Orange juice, chicken a la king over baking-powder biscuits, pea salad, Jell-O fruit salad, cream-puffs, milk, coffee
Wednesday: Orange juice, broccoli soup, grilled-cheese sandwiches, cherry pie, milk, coffee
Friday: Orange juice, fish, french fries, five-way mixed vegetables, cookies, peaches, milk and coffee

Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Tuesday: Pinchle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Scrapbooking, 10 a.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early-bird bingo, 6:30 p.m.

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St.
Dinners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals are available each mealtime.

Menus:
Tuesday: Roast-beef sandwiches with gravy
Thursday: Sliced turkey with gravy

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

Menus:
Monday: Chili and beans, tossed green salad, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Meat loaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, Jell-O with fruit, carrot cake
Wednesday: Chicken Alfredo over noodles, carrots, fruit, cinnamon rolls
Thursday: Pork chops, au gratin potatoes, peas, fruit salad, lemon bars
Friday: Swiss steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, California-blend vegetables, carrot-raisin salad, coconut-cream pie.

Activities:
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Tuesday: Pinchle, 1 p.m.
Snack bar, 6 p.m.
Early-bird bingo, 6:45 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
Pinchle, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Foot clinic (sign up)
Blood-pressure checks
Friday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.
BJ & Friends, 11:30 a.m.
Pinchle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Center

308 Senior Ave.
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menus:
Monday: Meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, coleslaw, bread, cake

AARP angers many members for backing Bush Medicare plan

Knight Ridder News Service

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Stuart Bunn of Overland Park, Kan., isn't planning to burn his AARP card, but he doesn't hide his disappointment with the longtime champion for older Americans.

"I don't feel anymore that they represent across the board the people they are supposed to represent," he said.

Bunn, 84, thinks AARP should not have endorsed the Republican-backed Medicare and drug-benefit bill President Bush signed this month.

Roughly 15,000 AARP members have quit in protest, saying the new law falls far short of what the group said it would support. Some have torched their cards. Others have exorcised AARP on its Web site.

Some critics contend AARP, which has a commercial side that sells insurance products to its members, hoped to profit from the bill. Others say its political maneuvering snatched off institutional habits that an out-of-touch leadership acted out of simple arrogance.

Indeed, the furor now engulfing AARP speaks volumes about the pitfalls of trying to represent a massive political voting bloc that can never speak with a single voice.

The political fire has gotten so hot that AARP has announced it will not jointly sponsor a series of upcoming forums on Social Security with the Bush administration and the National Association of Manufacturers.

AARP leaders acknowledged the anger of some members over the Medicare legislation. But they are not backing down from supporting the \$400 billion legislation, which they say is a good first step toward something better.

"We didn't support it because it was the ideal bill, but because it was the best bill we could get this year," said David Cooper, AARP's director of federal affairs.

The group has sought to stem the backlash by appealing directly to its 35 million members.



Virginia Obemeler, 77, of Maryland City, Md., poses a question to Rep. Ben Cardin, D-Md., at a town hall meeting Dec. 11 on the new Medicare legislation and how it affects senior citizens in Laurel, Md. Obemeler's husband gets prescription drugs through her Maryland state health plan.

"Many of the criticisms are coming our way because the issue is a political football for the 2004 elections," said AARP's chief executive officer, William D. Novelli, in a statement posted on the group's Web site.

Novelli denied that the leadership was out of touch with members and acted without consulting them. Despite a torrent of criticism from "some of our traditional allies," he said the leadership made "the right decision: We will weather this storm and move on."

To do that, AARP has launched a \$7 million marketing campaign.

"We hope to channel that dissatisfaction (with the bill) to come back next year and improve upon it," Certner said.

Bunn, for one, does not buy the argument that AARP can come back and make it better.

"What they've got is a Band-Aid, and they need a fix," he said. "This bill was not at all the blessing that it was hyped to be."

Political analysts say AARP's reputation as a deal maker is at

stake, should the Medicare law prove to be a dud.

They say AARP's influence as a mouthpiece for half the nation's over-50 voters could be marginalized by the member protests if lawmakers conclude it has lost credibility with many of its members.

"This is a risky episode for the AARP," said Thea Skopold, director of the Center for American Political Studies, at Harvard University. "If they get the reputation for misjudging the opinions of elderly citizens, they could end up seeming less relevant to politicians."

In addition to a barrage of criticism on AARP's own Web site, aarp.org, some members are turning to other organizations.

"We've been inundated at our Web site from members of AARP who are quitting and joining us," said Edward Coyle, executive director of the Alliance for Retired Americans, a 3-year-old group that lobbies on behalf of its 3 million members. The group opposed the Medicare bill.

Watch self-criticism if born today

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

BIRTHDAY 4 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: try not to be too much of a stickler for detail as there's always more than one way to do something. You are impressively dedicated and follow through all the way. Most likely, you are patriotic and uphold tradition. Watch self-criticism; it's just a bad habit as you are a most worthy person. Others know they can always count on you.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): You're inclined to concatenate in business and with friends, and you seem to find the right words for all situations. Getting things done is easy, impresses the right people and also brings in money.

TAURUS (Apr. 20-May 20): Money may create a subconscious frustration; seek a creative solution. A new income stream may start from an unusual source. Friendships are entering a long cycle of change, and you may meet different kinds of people.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You're more communicative than usual. You're interested in deep issues. But, unfairly, others may think that you come across as a dilettante. Friends and group associations make you impatient, but

restrain the impulse to tell them.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Today is not a good day for confrontation; misunderstanding or unacknowledged feelings could get in the way. Others could experience you as being overly controlling or a wet blanket — so lighten up.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Though you're very task-oriented today, take time for a visit with friends. When you poke your head up, you'll also notice love and romance all around. Let go of trying too hard to please others.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Even if you're not at work, your mind is still there, so some approach makes regular routines more interesting. Make sure to share. Your partner may surprise you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You're eager to satisfy your curiosity. Creative expression can be extremely fulfilling, and you might even learn something new. Health could fluctuate now; take sensible precautions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You

are uncharacteristically unconcerned now — not as interested in digging deep. It's still not the right time to address task-related frustration. Wait for more favorable stars in a few days.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Connect the dots with your significant other. Single Sags will find romance exciting. You're a powerhouse of charm now. Financial struggles are not best resolved at this time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A lighter approach to what needs to be done is a winner. You'll begin to change the way you communicate over time; you may even surprise yourself for now, just think about the new direction.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You can let the burdens down today; you deserve a break. Enjoy light and easy times with friends. Don't dwell on any feelings of isolation. This is a productive time for inner work.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): Home feels lighter and you want to talk. Unless on your sign comes to bring urges for change. Start small and don't do anything drastic all at once. You may start to enjoy shock people.

Girl wonders if shaking could lead to abuse

DEAR ABBY: I am 15. I can explain because in a relationship with "Adam" for four years, but things just don't seem the same. I met him when I was 11 and we have been together ever since. I waited until my 14th birthday to give him my virginity and we were in love. We became that. He is the only guy I have ever loved.

It seems like we fight all the time. He has never hit me or anything, but he has shaken me, and I'm wondering if he would ever hit me in the future. Do you think we should stay together? I want to, but at the same time I don't.

I never thought I'd say that, but I'm sure it means something. What should I do?

—TENNESSEE TEEN

DEAR TEEN: Let me explain something to you. Abusive behavior does not spring from the egg. Fully formed like a chicken. It starts out small and grows like a vine until it weighs down and smother the victim. I'll bet Adam didn't start out by shaking you. It probably started with nasty comments, then yelling — and now this. Will it continue to escalate? Very likely, unless Adam learns that it is unacceptable behavior and is willing to find acceptable ways of displaying his anger.

The preteen and teen years are supposed to be a time of growth



and learning, both intellectually and socially. You have limited yourself to one person for too long, and on some level, I think you already know that. Tell Adam you no longer want an exclusive relationship, that you intend to concentrate on your studies and see other people. Then do it. If he doesn't like it, get your parents involved. I'm sure they will set him straight in a hurry.

DEAR ABBY: I am a college student in a small town. Eight months ago, I met a wonderful young man, and we were planning to be married until I told him about my past.

My stepfather molested me. It was long ago, and I have since forgiven him and my mother. (Mother is still married to him.)

My boyfriend, however, cannot forgive me. He tried to convince my mother to leave my stepfather. She refused, and now my boyfriend and my mother no longer speak.

He says things will never work

out because of this rift he has with my family. I am willing to do whatever it takes to make the relationship work, but he says he can't be around my family, and it isn't fair to ask me to give them up.

Was I wrong to expect him to support my decision to forgive them?

—DESPERATE IN TEXAS

DEAR DESPERATE: Your boyfriend's inability to forgive your mother is rooted in his caring for you. When you marry someone, in a sense you also marry that person's family. Your family is so dysfunctional that it may have scared this young man off. His fears might be allayed if you're willing to cut your ties to your mother, but it's no guarantee.

That your mother stayed married to the abuser who molested you speaks volumes. That you opted to "forgive" them both was a personal choice you made — but that doesn't change the fact that your mother's husband is a child molester. What makes you think he wouldn't be a danger to your children in the future? Think about it.

DEAR Abby is written by Jeanne Phillips.

Let 5-year-old fix her own problem

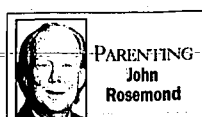
Q: Our 5-year-old daughter has a slightly older playmate. Since the relationship formed, our daughter talks almost constantly about wanting to be bigger and older. We want her to enjoy being just her, to accept herself as she is. Please help.

A: If my memory serves me well, when I was 5 I wanted to be bigger and older. The same when I was 6, 7, 8 and so on until I was finally bigger and older. I was content with being bigger and older for perhaps 20 years, but in my mid-40s, the strangest thing happened. I began wanting to be smaller and younger. My middle-aged peers report similar feelings of "age envy." I conclude that in the course of a lifetime, age envy occurs according to a natural and predictable cycle.

The problem, of course, is that while a 5-year-old will someday be bigger and older, a 56-year-old will never be younger, smaller maybe, but not younger.

It is not your job to help your daughter solve every little problem that comes up in her life. I suspect you think it is, but it's not.

I also suspect that parents who feel they should solve every single



problem, big or small, that comes up in their children's lives are parents who secretly feel that such problems, in the first place, reflect on inadequacies in their parenting.

If their children do well in school, behave properly and have no obvious problems, then they often learn to sign on and stay out of their children's lives. If their children develop a problem, then they must not be such good parents.

Wanting to be bigger and older is a problem that parents can't solve, nor should they even try. Why shouldn't you even try? Because you should never try to solve something for a child that the child can solve for herself.

Trying to solve something that you can't solve will cause you to become frustrated, and it will cause your daughter to lose faith in

you. You don't want that. At a time like this, she needs, more than anything else, the reassurance of your steadfast authority.

Paradoxically, you can provide your authority by admitting that you can't solve this problem for her. "We can't solve this problem for you. So we're not going to talk about this problem anymore. We've had our last talk about it. You can talk to your friends about it, you can talk to your doctor, to bring urges for change. Start small and don't do anything drastic all at once. You may start to enjoy shock people."

The more seriously you take your daughter's problem, and therefore the more involved in it you become, the more serious it will seem to her, the more she will obsess about it, and the more frustrated with herself she will become.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at *Alternative Parenting*, 1020 East 86th Street, Suite 268, Indianapolis, Ind. 46240 and at his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com>

COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

FIVE GENERATIONS



Members of the Johnson family gathered recently in Salt Lake City, Utah, for a five-generation picture. Pictured are 7-month-old twins, Kayden and Blake Poulsen, held by their father, Jeffrey Blake Poulsen of Jerome. Seated from left to right is the twins' great-great grandmother Opal Deuel, 92, of Salt Lake City; grandmother, April Johnson of Twin Falls; and great-grandmother, Norma Johnson of Jerome.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Book Talk program starts up this month

BUHL - The Book Talk program will begin at 7:15 p.m. Jan. 15 at the Buhl Public Library, 215 Broadway Ave. N.

Carolyn Erickson will kick off the Lewis and Clark centennial by leading a discussion of "Undaunted Courage" by Stephen Ambrose.

On Feb. 5, Cindy Blomberg will explore "Pete Like a River" by Lief Enger. Set in Minnesota, it is a story of one family's triumphs and tragedies as they go seeking their eldest son who has run away after taking the law into his own hands.

Judy Youngman from Filer will share her insight on "Growing Up" by Russell Baker. This Pulitzer Prize-winning autobiography of New York Times columnist Russell Baker recounts his growing up between the world wars - first in the backwoods mountains of Virginia, in a New Jersey commuter town and finally in the urban areas of Depression era Baltimore.

On March 18, Ellen Asay will lead a discussion on Alan Paton's "Cry, the Beloved Country." Set in South Africa during the 1940s, the book deals with apartheid.

On April 8, Jean Dudley will explore "The Ladies Auxiliary" by Tova Mirvis. Set in a close-knit Orthodox Jewish community in Memphis Tenn., the free-spirited, batshava moves in and nothing is the same.

Discussion sessions provide three weeks between novels. Books will be available for checkout at the library. For more information, call 543-6500.

lists available so group members can read a book or two ahead of time if they wish.

Expected to be covered are many different types of literature.

To get started, Lorna Irwin will share one of her favorites, science fiction and fantasy author, Lois McMaster Bujold, on Jan. 26.

Books are available for sign-out at the library.

For more information, call Lorna at 324-7544.

Jerome man celebrates her 90th birthday

JEROME - Eva J. Ellis of Jerome will celebrate her 90th birthday at an open house at 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the Golden Corral Restaurant, 1823 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls.

This will be a no-host dinner, and the family requests no gifts.

She was born Jan. 1, 1914, in Salmon. She married Elmer Smith in December 1931. He is deceased. She married J. Owen Ellis in June 1966. He is deceased.

Eva J. Ellis has lived in the Magic Valley since 1966, with 37 years residing on a farm near Jerome.

She is an active member of the Sage Riders and the Magic Valley Arabian Horse Association.

Her children are Sharon Smith Allen (Stan), Spearfish, S.D.; Kenneth Smith, deceased; and Sue Ellis McClusky (David), Twin Falls, (stepdaughter). She has six grandchildren. Two step-grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

The event is hosted by her family.

Production sales auditions for 'Annie' in Oakley

OAKLEY - Auditions for the musical "Annie" directed by Harlo Clark will be held from 7-9 a.m. Thursday and 9 a.m. to noon Saturday at Howells Opera House in Oakley.

People should come prepared with a musical number.

For more information, call 677-2787.

Plant society schedules orchid show in Twin Falls

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Orchid Society Orchid Show and Plant Sale will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and from 1-9 p.m. Saturday at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls.

The club will be showing the Nova Video: "The Orchid Hunter."

There is no admission charge and it is open to anyone interested.

Plant displays also are open to the public. People who have an orchid they would like to display should call Alan Porter at 532-4233 or 308-3093 or Trudy Young at 878-5295 or 670-1837 for details.

This will be a ribbon judged show.

Jerome library volunteers plan book discussion group

JEROME - The Friends of the Jerome Public Library is putting together a new informal "just for fun" book discussion group which will meet at noon on the fourth Monday of each month at the library, 100 First Ave. E.

Anyone who loves books of any kind is invited to join. Participants will take turns introducing authors to the rest of the group, and there will be book

For more information, call the YMCA at 733-4384.

Desert Sun Dancers will hold pole social, dance

SHOSHONE - The Desert Sun Dancers will hold a regular dance with rounds at 7:30 p.m. and squares at 8 p.m. Friday at the Masonic Hall on West B Street in Shoshone.

The club will furnish "ice cream. Visitors are asked to bring a pie. For more information, call 886-2510 or 886-2808.

Computers, tile laying classes are set this month

BUHL - The Buhl Community Education and Recreation Association is sponsoring two classes.

"Computers for Everyone" will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Jan. 14 for two weeks at Poppelwell Elementary Library.

The fee is \$8 plus \$1 for supplies. Instructor Diane Clements will teach participants how to use a digital camera, and insert the image into a word document.

"Basic Tile Laying" will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Jan. 17 at 705 Maple. The fee is \$7. Instructor Kevin Perron will teach the basics of laying tile so participants will be able to replace a bathroom or kitchen floor.

For more information, call Connie Glander at 543-6553.

Women's luncheon focuses on 'Reaching for More'

TWIN FALLS - Women's Connection luncheon, "Reaching for More in 2004" will be held from noon to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 13 at the Red Lion Hotel Canyon Springs in Twin Falls.

"Health Nuggets," getting in shape with exercise and diet, will be presented by Debbie Annett, from the College of Southern Idaho.

The special guest speaker will be John Kingrey from Meridian, who will discuss "Living a Full Life."

For luncheon reservations or complimentary childcare care call Betty at 736-4592 or Diane at 736-8453.

Jerome Historical Society schedules meeting

JEROME - The Jerome Historical Society meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E.

The program will feature Dean Gooding of Gooding discussing many family stories and sharing information about several landmarks in that city. He and his wife are owners of the Gooding Bed and Breakfast in the historic Gooding Hotel and are bringing several pieces of memorabilia for a show and tell evening.

Guests are welcome and refreshments will be served.

At its December meeting, the Jerome Historical Society members enjoyed a musical program presented by the Jerome High School Band in the library community room. A potluck dinner was shared by 43 members and guests.

A short business meeting followed the dinner and program. Clair Ricketts announced that the 2004 calendars are finished and feature pictures of various interesting places and events in the area.

The museum on North Lincoln Street also has other articles for sale. For more information, call society president Francis Egbert at 733-2336.

STOCK REPORT

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Cameron Joseph O'Connor, son of Anjanette Rene and Timothy Wayne O'Connor of Twin Falls, was born on Monday, Dec. 22, 2003.

Candeen John Wells, son of Sara Elizabeth and Cameron John Wells of Twin Falls, was born on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2003.

Rhyan Scott Freiberger, son of Robynn Elizabeth and Scott David Freiberger of Paul, was born on Tuesday, Dec. 23, 2003.

Charly Lexus Pettengill, daughter of Patricia Rae and Joseph K. Pettengill of Twin Falls, was born on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2003.

Jordan Lee Jay, daughter of Melinda Sue and Gregory Hadley Jay of Gooding, was born on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2003.

Blake Andre Kemp, son of Terri Louise Honea and John Frederick Kemp III of Twin Falls, was born on Wednesday, Dec. 24, 2003.

Ethan Gregory Farmer, son of Christa M. and Kent Alan Farmer of Twin Falls, was born on Thursday, Dec. 25, 2003.

Aidan Louis Cheney, son of Sara Jane Cheney of Heyburn, was born on Friday, Dec. 26, 2003.

Faith Elizabeth Garey, daughter of Cheri Lynn and Jeffrey Earl Garey of Twin Falls, was born on Friday, Dec. 26, 2003.

Joel Josias Heredia, son of Ruby Icela and Jony Antonio Heredia of Twin Falls, was born on Friday, Dec. 26, 2003.

McKenna Jo Wyatt, daughter of Angela and Don Spencer Wyatt of Pocatello, was born on Saturday, Dec. 27, 2003.

Ashton Joseph Silvers, son of Shauna Marie Silvers and Jeremy Douglas King of Jerome, was born on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003.

Syrria Kay Doney, daughter of Jessica Jo and Billyjo Allen Doney of Twin Falls, was born on Sunday, Dec. 28, 2003.

St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center

William Dayton Neal, son of William and Julie Neal of Bellevue, was born on Thursday, Dec. 18, 2003.

Francesca Jolie Rippe, daughter of Todd Rippe and Lisa Rippe of Ketchum, was born on Monday, Dec. 8, 2003.

Jalden McCall Gray, son of Jerrod and Amy Gray of Shoshone, was born on Thursday, Dec. 11, 2003.

SERVICE NEWS

Christopherson graduates from training command

Seaman Recruit Trevor P. Christopherson has graduated from U.S. Navy Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill. on Oct. 31, Division 399 Hall of Fame.

His family joined him for the graduation. He was then transferred to Pensacola, Fla., to attend Aviation Tech School for two months training.

He is the son of Mary and Brent Christopherson and a 2002 graduate of Valley High School in Hazelton.

Schumacher participates in exercise off coast of Japan

Navy Reserve Ensign Johannah

G. Schumacher, daughter of Darcy A. and Don Schumacher, has participated in a 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit Special Operations Capable Certification Exercise off the coast of Okinawa, Japan, while assigned to the amphibious assault ship USS Essex, forward deployed to Sasebo, Japan.

The exercise afforded Schumacher and other members of her unit the opportunity to practice a wide range of skills necessary for handling various landing craft aboard the Essex.

Completing the exercise certifies the 31st Unit to execute 23 specific capabilities, including boat, helicopter and mechanized infantry raids, amphibious

assaults, tactical recoveries of aircraft and personnel and noncombatant evacuation operations.

The USS Essex supports amphibious operations using landing craft air cushions, which are specially designed hovercraft that travel above land and sea surfaces and deliver vehicles and equipment.

The ship also has conventional landing craft and helicopters, and is equipped with medical facilities.

Schumacher is a 1996 graduate of Elko High School and joined the Navy Reserve in May 2001. She is a 2001 graduate of U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., with a bachelor's of science degree.

M-C FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Former Burley boy receives Eagle Scout award

"A J" Andrew Joseph Wilson IV, son of Joe and Amy Wilson of Meridian and formerly of Burley, received his Eagle Scout award recently.

Wilson earned 23 merit badges. For his Eagle project, he made meditation benches for the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley. The project was completed with the help of members of Troop 14, sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Burley 2nd Ward.

Wilson plays the alto saxophone

in the marching and jazz bands at Meridian High School.

He has been involved in Little League Baseball, making the All Star team for two years, and in roller hockey while living in Burley.

His grandparents are Walter and Bobbie Fox and Andy and Jane Wilson of Burley.

Heyburn woman attains weight loss goal

Shirley Timmons from the TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Chapter 256 of Heyburn, received her KOPS status (Keep Off Pounds Sensibly) for meeting her goal. She lost 15 pounds.

There are four members who have received their KOPS status in this chapter. TOPS is a nonprofit weight management support group.

Minidoka Memorial honors volunteer at hospital

The Minidoka Memorial Hospital Guild selected Bonnie Dalley as the November Volunteer of the Month.

She was chosen for continuing time and efforts as a volunteer at the hospital.

She was chosen for continuing time and efforts as a volunteer at the hospital.

We want your news

Please send your news and photos to:

Community Editor
Pat Marcantonio
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83303
733-0931 Ext. 288

Your Mini-Cassia contact:
Trena Tegan
The Times-News
1263 Overland Ave.
Burley, Idaho 83318
677-4042, Ext. 600

Deadlines

For the Sunday page: noon Wednesday
For the Thursday page: noon Monday
For the Friday page: noon Friday
For the Saturday page: noon Tuesday
For the Wednesday page: noon Friday

Fax: 677-4543 or 734-5538 Email: patm@magvalley.com



The ballet of t'ai chi

Monday, The Times-News

Community, a page for
You and your neighbors

WEDDINGS

Message boards assemble sisterhood of brides-to-be

SIROTA-HALL

BRUNEAU - Sarah Sirota and Mike Hall were married Sept. 27, 2003, at the Hall Ranch in BrunEAU.

The bride is the daughter of Mike and Michelle Sirota of Eric, Pa.

The bridegroom is the son of Tom and Patricia Hall of Hammett.

Farrell Ramsey officiated the ceremony.

Ashley Sirota, sister of the bride, and Brittany Rosenthal, friend of the bride, served at the maids of honor.

Bridesmaids included Aubrey Cravens and Katherine Thornton, friends of the bride.

Megan and Katie Hall, cousins of the groom, were the flower girls. Tony Hall, brother of the groom, served as best man.

Groomsmen included Michael Sirota, brother of the bride, and Mitch Hedrick and Justin Morshus, friends of the groom.

Jonathan Sirota, brother of the bride, was the ringbearer.

Special guests included grandparents of the bride, Cecil Viglione of Boise, Sam and Dayle Viglione of Big Bear Lake, Calif., Maria Viglione and Tom Viscion of Anaheim, Calif., Alex and Pam Sirota of Seal Beach, Calif., and



Mike and Sarah Hall

Johnny and Ruth Sirota of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, and grandparents of the groom, Tom and Celia Hall of BrunEAU.

A reception was held following the ceremony at the Hall Ranch.

The bride is a graduate of Boise High School.

She is employed at Right Direction Adolescent Services.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Borah High School in Boise. He is employed at American Way RV in Boise.

The newlyweds reside in Glenns Ferry.

Knigt Ridder News Service

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - On The Knot's Internet message boards, STDs are a major topic of conversation. As in, "When should I send out my STDs?" It seemed to me that a girl would want to keep her STDs to herself, right?

Except that, in the context of The Knot's world of online wedding planning, "STD" means a "Save-the-Date" card, a pre-invitation of sorts that allows OOT (out-of-town) guests, such as FILs (future in-laws), the MOH (maid of honor) and other members of the BP (bridal party) to reserve hotel rooms in advance.

It took me weeks after becoming engaged this summer to decipher the bride-speak that dominates The Knot (www.theknot.com), known among soon-to-be brides as the premiere all-weddings-all-the-time Web site.

I began to use The Knot at a friend's recommendation, sometime between when my fiance proposed in August and when we decided to get married in November 2004 at a Miami Beach synagogue near my family's home.

The site generally gets itself toward engaged women, but it draws its share of the newly married, bridesmaids, women in series

and normal people, brides-

engaged soon and, more recently and to my great amusement, my fiance, who's found the site's honeymoon section particularly helpful.

The women of The Knot are looking to each other for the same things: brides-to-be have always wanted: support, sympathy and sisterhood.

But fluff layers of ticking second-by-second countdowns to women's wedding dates and exhaustive serial narratives of their wedding weekends veil those noble objectives.

Know this: I've never been a member of the planning-my-weddings-since-I-was-3-years-old bunch. I'm 24, a skeptical journalist, an independent-minded Gen-X'er. I thought I could get away with being the blasé bride - excited to be getting married, but not obnoxiously so. You know, too sophisticated for such yaknow.

So you can imagine my horror when I realized I was hooked.

Around normal people, brides-

Web of weddings

- The Knot: www.theknot.com.
- The Wedding Channel: www.weddingchannel.com
- Indie Bride: www.indiebride.com
- Bliss Weddings: www.blissweddings.com
- Ultimate Wedding: www.ultimatewedding.com
- Planet Gordon (a groom's web log): www.planetgordon.com

-Source: The Charlotte Observer

to-be can put on a decent act as members of a sane society.

The vast Knottie population include lawyers, medical students, nurses, bankers and journalists.

But put us together in a room - even a virtual room -

and the cover quickly drops:

Today is my wedding!!! Last post BUSTLE HELP!!!!!!!

Recap Part 3: The Wedding Day - Getting Ready

These message boards have become repositories for stories about joyous occasions (such as the man who in October proposed to his now-fiancee in a posting on The Knot's "relationships" board) and horror stories (pushy mothers-in-law and errant bridesmaids tend to rule this category).

Log on, and other brides are more than happy to give you advice on possible hairstyles, suggestions for local photographers and pointed opinions on such critical matters as whether taupe or sand will be the better complement to blue.

Rolling your eyes yet? OK, I am too. But in a loving way.

You see, ever since I started reading these message boards, I haven't been able to go an hour without checking to find out more about this one's honeymoon or that one's ongoing quest (or approval by her future mother-in-law.

Their stories might center on weddings, but each post tells a little bit more about the woman under the frilly white dress.

We hear about it when someone gets laid off - and, we hope, when she finds another job. We read the details about fights between a woman and her fiance; then we get to read about how sweet he is once they've made up.

It's like watching a reality TV show where no one ever gets voted off. Even after they get married - you'd think that would be the logical end of their participation - many of these women return to The Knot, sharing pregnancy pictures and ultrasounds.

The more I read, the more excited I get about what's in store: from deciding on a reception menu, to finding the dress, to picking the flowers to - most important - the sheer joy I'm expecting to feel after the cantor pronounces us husband and wife.

Oh, there's so much to do.

Family news you can use

Knigt Ridder News Service

Moms in the mood

Given the choice between amazing sex and eight hours of sleep, two-out-of-three moms pick sex, according to a recent poll by Parenting magazine.

You skipped a page

According to a poll by Parenting.com, 37 percent of parents sometimes skip pages while reading to their children, and 17 percent skip whenever they can get away with it.

Do kids notice? Thirty-six percent of parents say their

children never notice when they skip a page, but 35 percent said they figure it out every time.

Celtic names

For the first time in over a decade, the most popular name of the year for boys is not a traditional biblical name.

According to new and expecting parents who visit BabyNames.com, Aidan, Jayden and Caden are the three most popular boys' names for 2003. For girls, the mermaid-inspired Madison still holds steady at No. 1.

ANNIVERSARY

THE PETERSENS

HAZELTON - Norman and JoAnn Petersen of Hazelton will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Rock Creek Restaurant, 200 W. Addison in Twin Falls. No gifts, please.

Petersen and JoAnn Groves met Dec. 23, 1953, and were married Jan. 7, 1954, after a three-week courtship.

They raised their four children in Murraugh and farmed there for 35 years. They now reside in Hazelton.

The event is hosted by their children, Todd (Kristi) Petersen of Meridian, Julie (Nick) Fife of Hazelton, Wade (Jennifer) Petersen of Mountain Home and Wendell



Norman and JoAnn Petersen (Wade Mason) of Twin Falls. The couple has 11 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

KUIKEN-FRANK

TWIN FALLS - A reception will be held in honor of the marriage of Edna Kuiken and Jack Frank.

Friends, former colleagues and students are invited to attend from 2 to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, Jan. 9, 2004, in the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church in Twin Falls.

All of their children will be present.

The couple requests no gifts.



Edna Kuiken and Jack Frank

ESTERBROOK-WOOD

GOODING - Linda Wilcox Esterbrook and Gale Wood, both of Gooding, were married Sept. 14, 2003, at the First Southern Baptist Church in Gooding.

Pastor Chris Madsen officiated the ceremony.

Special guests included Wilda Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Vanden Bosch and Emily, Hilary and Wendy, Mr. and Mrs. James Gage and Jeff, Parker and Noah Gage.

A dinner was held following the ceremony for family and friends at the Lincoln Inn in Gooding.

The bride retired from the Gooding County Leader in October 2003.

The bridegroom retired from Greenwald Furniture and Appliance.



Gale and Linda Wood

The newlyweds reside in Gooding.

RUNYON-STREET

BURLEY - Rod and Jayne Runyon of Burley announce the engagement of their daughter, Jennifer Runyon, to Bradley Street, son of Dayle and Robbin Street of Taylorsville, Utah, and Val and Chris Patterson of Burley.

Runyon is a 2001 graduate of Burley High School and is attending the College of Southern Idaho, majoring in education. She is employed at Costco Wholesale in Twin Falls.

Street is a 2002 graduate of Burley High School and is attending CSI, majoring in auto body. He is employed at Bonanza Motors in Burley.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, Jan. 10, at the Burley United Methodist Church. A



Bradley Street and Jennifer Runyon

reception to honor the couple will be held from 8 p.m. to midnight Jan. 10 at the Burley Inn.

ADMISSION IS FREE!

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Wedding & Rental Shop	Kim Critchfield Photography	Allen's Photography
Mary Kay	Soundworks	Curves
Tuxedos, Now & Gowns Forever	Wedding Dreams & Things	The Body Shop
Pomelle Portraits	Advanced Dental Care/teeth Whitening	Anderson Mobil/DJs
Yoko's Catering	Pomelle Portraits	First Class Wedding
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	Dodds & Associates PC.	

*See store for details. Low-inventory available.

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FORMAL WEAR/SHOES/VEILS Hart's Tux and Gowns 1301 Fler Ave. E. Twin Falls 734-8932	4 Ways Travel Honeymoon Registry 160 2nd Street W. Twin Falls 734-7805	WEDDING FACILITIES Rose Garden Wedding Chapel at the Gooding Hotel Bed & Breakfast 112 Main Street Gooding 934-4374
Sweetheart Manor Overland & 42nd St. Burley 678-8632	PHOTOGRAPHY/VIDEOGRAPHY Allens Photo 105 E. Main Jerome 324-2486	To advertise in the Bridal Directory call 735-3219
JEWELRY Boyer Jewelry 1838 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls 733-4552	Kim Critchfield Photography Twin Falls 734-5223	For local weddings & engagements, go to www.mnngivalley.com ...click on special sections and then click on
Walmart (Wedding Rings) 415 River View Dr. Burley 677-4709	Pomelle Portrait Design Studios 119 2nd Ave. W. Downtown Twin Falls 734-9969 Other studios in Boise and Elko	With This Guy MacQuinn.com Wedding, Engagements & More
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Call 208-342-1044 to book now!



Centennial

Centennial Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins - 735-3242

How to get involved

Here are a few of the ways for Magic Valley residents to get involved in Twin Falls' centennial celebration:

Share old photos

The Times-News is looking for old photographs depicting people and scenes from Magic Valley before 1940.

We'd love to show our readers that treasured print that spent decades in your trunk or scrapbook. Maybe it's a portrait of pioneers, or an image of a special historic site.

Stop by the newspaper office at 132 Third St. W. in Twin Falls to drop off your photograph and tell us what you know about the people in it. We'll scan the photo while you wait and return it immediately.

Buy a brick

The Twin Falls Centennial Commission needs help funding 2004 activities, and the best way for the public to help is to buy Centennial Bricks.

Each brick will be engraved as the buyer wishes - within the commission's guidelines of taste. I.B. Ferrine bronze sculpture to be erected in a new plaza next to the visitors center at Ferrine Bridge.

• Cost: The bricks cost \$50 for one or two engraved lines, or \$55 for three lines.

• How to buy: Go to www.twin-fallscentennial.com online and download an order form. Then send the completed form to the address on the form.

Or call the Twin Falls centennial office at 736-0800.

Record heritage

The Centennial Commission's Heritage Committee is gathering oral and written histories of local pioneer families and those with close generational ties to pioneers.

Committee members are also working with local schools to gather stories from youngsters' parents, grandparents or old family friends. The idea is to use plays, skits and written histories to help residents of all ages understand local heritage.

Who made you who you are? Who influenced your life? Are the strengths and qualities of our forebears still common today? The committee wants to know.

And it wants to hear from interested teachers and parents, too.

• Call: Donna Scott at 536-2788.

Magic Valley scrapbooks

The Times-News is adding a second Centennial page each week. The Thursday page makes its first appearance this week, with tidbits of local history from a few of our readers' photo albums.

Thursday in The Times-News

The day the river dried up

Workers complete Milner Dam

On the afternoon of March 2, 1905, with a greatly reduced stream of water running over Shoshone Falls, a fellow named Harry Wilson - tanked up on "squirrel whiskey" - removed all his clothes, strolled out onto the dry ledge of the falls, and jumped into the river 210 feet below. Only slightly bruised, he swam to a rock and calmly awaited the



TALES OF THE TRACT
James Varley

arrival of his clothing. Wilson claimed he had jumped simply to show he had the nerve, but, in fact, he was trying to draw attention to himself so that he might be hired as a stuntman in a vaudeville show. Later that month, he and his mistress would be arrested and charged with dragging a man in Meridian and robbing him of \$350.

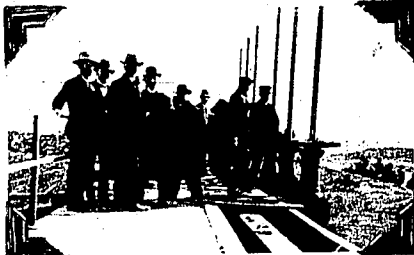
The day before, Wilson's daring leap - March 1 - the outlet tunnel gates at Milner Dam had finally been closed, allowing water to begin backing up to form a reservoir. Some 2,000 people, mostly from the surrounding towns of Oakley, Twin Falls, Kimama and Shoshone, had been there to witness the notable event and the fireworks show the previous night. A sea of tents had been pitched in the little town of Milner, but accommodations had still been inadequate to handle the throngs of visitors. Noted Utah photographer Charles Savage - who had taken that famous picture of the joining of the railroads at Promontory Point, Utah, in 1869 - was there to record the happenings.

Some last minute rip-rapping was completed that morning, and when all was ready, Stanley Milner, Walter Filer, Mark Murtaugh, Paul Bickel and other officials took their places at the gate-closing devices. These men started the gates on their downward course, as Robert Ferris and Frank Kosi, "the beavers who built the dam," watched from a nearby knoll.

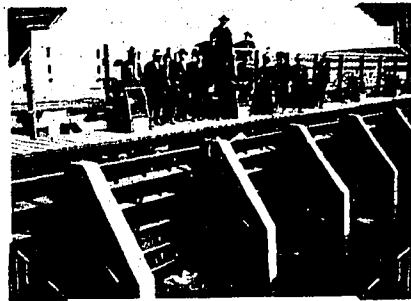
Ira Ferrine didn't take part in the ceremony, but stood amongst the crowd gazing "upon the reality of which he had dreamed for years." Beside him was Robert McCollum, who had "piloted thousands of home seekers over the tract" selling them many acres of water shares and hundreds of town site lots in the previous eight months.

Before long, the officials got tuckered out and gave way to a muscular gang of workmen. After 45 minutes of cranking, at 10:50 a.m., the roar of the water had died away, and the level of the river began creeping up toward the opening of the big south-side canal.

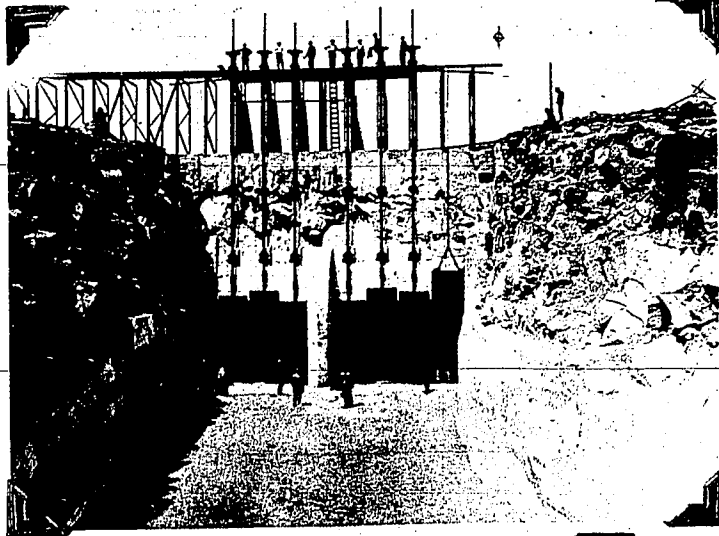
But the spectators weren't too interested in watching the water rise. Instead, they jostled one another in trying to get a good look at the riverbed, as it dried up below the dam, and then hundreds of them went scrambling and leaping across the rocks, heading for the island in the mid-stream. With shouts of glee, they scooped up fish from the little



Canal gate opening ceremony on March 2, 1905.



Officials prior to Milner Dam gate closing on March 1, 1905.



Gates and approach to tunnel under South Island.



Snake River drying up on March 1, 1905. Milner Bridge in background.

pools and pot holes, and strung them on willows. Also, dozens of men spread out along the river, with cradles and pans, trying to wash some gold dust out of the exposed gravel while the water was low.

One of the gates was obstructed by a piece of rail, which prevented its complete closing, making it necessary to open the gate again, and

as the water rose below the dam, people scurried for the banks, and the excitement was over. Most of the spectators then went to lunch, or started for home.

Frank Bull and Peter Kimberly missed the ceremony. They had phoned ahead from Kimama, saying they wouldn't be able to reach Milner in time, and asked that the ceremony proceed

without them, so that no one would be disappointed. They arrived on the scene during the noon lull, just in time to watch Paul Bickel plant a sack of sand at the foot of the balky gate, to help stop the leak.

The water began to lower at Shoshone Falls, 30 miles below Milner, at about 4 p.m., and by sundown the extreme low stage

was reached. There had always been disagreement as to how much flowed into the river through the several springs between the dam site and Shoshone Falls. Many thought the falls would be absolutely dry when the gates were closed, but it was found that 2,000 cubic feet per second still flowed over them.

At 10:28 that night, some 12 hours after the tunnel gates were closed, water reached the level of the gates of the south-side canal. An hour later, the river began to flow over the dam's spillway in a beautiful cataract. On the following day, Thursday, March 2, a ceremonial opening of the canal gates was held. As the gates were raised, Mark Murtaugh's wife, Elizabeth, poured champagne into the first water trickling into the canal.

Within just a few weeks, irrigation water became available to all of the land between the Low Line Canal and the Snake River east of Cedar Draw, but work would continue on the remainder of the south-side canal system for the next several years.

James Varley's newspaper columns will be collected in a book titled "Tales of the Tract: The Beginnings of Twin Falls, Idaho and the Magic Valley," to be released May 1.

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