

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Sunny and cold.
Tonight, clear and cold. High of 28, low of 13.

Page A2

SCHOOL DAYS



School to work: Declo High School receives award.

Page D5

IMAGE



Jolted! Caffeine may be doing you more harm than you think.

Page D1

SPORTS

Sinking Seahawks: Seattle stumbles against Buffalo.

Page C1

OPINION

Pass Intel reform: Bush should use his political capital to move on U.S. intelligence, today's guest editorial says.

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COMING UP

Best of two worlds
Samsung delivers with Duocom
Tuesday in The Times-News

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Counting blessings



After being shot by an errant bullet from a drive-by shooting on Nov. 5, Gary Loomis, right, with the help of his wife, Paige, has made a speedy recovery. "I'm doing better than I thought I would," Gary Loomis said. "I feel like I'm getting stronger every day."

Drive-by shooting victim continues his recovery

By Julie Pence
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When Paige Loomis enters the bedroom she shares with her husband, Gary, three sounds reverberate as real as the first time she heard them. "I hear a loud car racing down the street and popping sounds that sound like a string of firecrackers," she said. "Then I hear my husband cry out, 'Oh my God, Call 911.'"

It was about 2:30 a.m. on a Friday three weeks ago when those sounds registered in Paige's memory. She had been in the living room during the wee hours scanning photos for Christmas presents on the computer while her husband of four years was dozing off and on in the bedroom a few feet away. Paige said her first thought was that Gary Loomis, 48, had suffered a heart attack. But after rounding the corner and snapping on the light, she saw blood — lots of it, oozing through the sheet.

"I heard the sounds, too," Gary Loomis said. "I heard the car coming down the street and the popping sounds. Then I felt a sudden shock, trauma — what-

ever you want to call it — hit me."

Paige Loomis tried dialing 911, but at first it was busy.

"Because everyone else in the neighborhood was calling," she said. Within minutes an ambulance and several police cars converged on the aging president's streets neighborhood filled with small rentals. Gary Loomis, a victim of a drive-by shooting, was quickly whisked off to the hospital. And within ten days, a suspect was arrested.

Though traumatized, the Loomises say they have an en-

“ I want to thank everyone who showed up so fast and were so helpful. ”

— Gary Loomis

hanced attitude of gratitude this Thanksgiving weekend.

"I want to thank everyone who showed up so fast and were so helpful," Gary Loomis said.

A quick response helped make for a quick recovery, he said. His injuries included a punctured lung and two fractured ribs. And because the number of crime reports were

Please see DRIVE-BY, Page A2

Iran aid group seeks suicide bombers to attack U.S. in Iraq

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — The 300 men filling out forms in the offices of an Iranian aid group were offered three choices: Train for suicide attacks against U.S. troops in Iraq, for suicide attacks against Israelis or to assassinate British author Salman Rushdie.

It looked at first glance like a gathering on the fringes of a society divided between moderates who want better relations with the world and hard-line Muslim militants hostile toward the United States and Israel.

But the presence of two key figures — a prominent Iranian lawmaker and a member of the country's elite Revolutionary Guards — lent the meeting more legitimacy and was a clear indication of at least tacit support

Please see IRAN, Page A2



Iranian women read papers of, registration indicating their readiness for martyrdom (suicide attack) under a photo of Iran's late leader Ayatollah Khomeini, in Tehran on Nov. 12.

AP photo

Officials: Iran agrees to terms on uranium

Los Angeles Times

VIENNA, Austria — Iran on Sunday agreed to halt its uranium enrichment activities, opening the door for the United Nations nuclear watchdog agency to sign the deal when it reconvenes here Monday, diplomats said.

The deal with three major European nations virtually assured Iran that it would not be referred to the U.N. Security Council, which could impose sanctions.

Hossein Mousaviani, Iran's chief negotiator, told the Iranian Mehr news agency that Iran had sent a letter to the International Atomic Energy Agency, indicating that it reached an agreement with Britain, France and Germany on suspending its uranium enrichment program. A Western diplomat confirmed that the agency had received the letter, but would not comment on its contents.

The IAEA board had awaited a

formal withdrawal of Iran's demand to operate 20 centrifuges in defiance of its earlier agreement to halt all enrichment-related programs. Centrifuges are used to enrich uranium for power generation or nuclear weapons.

Britain, France and Germany had written an original draft resolution for the IAEA board, specifying Iranian commitments to halt nuclear enrichment and the agency's supervision of its program. But Iran had insisted on a further softening of the language to reflect, among other issues, the voluntary nature of the suspension. Despite winning these changes, Iran asked to keep 20 centrifuges, claiming that it wanted to operate them for research purposes.

The board adjourned on Friday without agreement, giving Iranian and European negotiators the weekend to work out their differences.

Merry Mazeltov? Cards combine Christian, Jewish themes

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Every December, Zack and Hilary Rudman used to send out nonsectarian cards with winter scenes and generic holiday greetings.

Now, however, Zack Rudman, a Kansas City lawyer, has found a variety that seems to better suit a Jewish man and an Episcopal woman with two young children as familiar with the menorah as with a manger scene.

These cards proclaim: "Merry Christmaskah!" "To all for holiday cards but I want to make sure when we send something it respects both sides of our family," Rudman said. "I always like to deal with religious differences — with humor. These

were right up my alley."

Christmas and Hanukkah, two holidays that seem to share little more than a calendar page, are increasingly being melded on greeting cards aimed at the country's estimated 2.5 million families with both Jewish and Christian members.

"It's representative of the way people live and the way they spend the holidays," said Elise Okrend, an owner of MixedBlessing, a card company devoted to interfaith holiday greetings. "And it's an expression of people understanding the people around them."

MixedBlessing was among the first to come out with holiday cards intended for Jewish-Christian families about 15 years ago

and still may be the only company focusing entirely on that market segment.

The newest player is Christmukkah. Ron Gompertz founded the company this year with his wife, inspired by an episode of the popular Fox series "The Cohen, whose mother is Protestant and whose father is Jewish, coins the term.

"It's a little bit of both," Gompertz explains.

As with anything addressing religion, though, card makers are careful not to offend. Christmukkah even offers a disclaimer: "We respect people's different faiths and do not suggest combining the religious observance of Christmas and Hanukkah."



Holiday cards for Hanukkah and Christmas rolled into one stand on display at Rod's Hallmark store in Lawrence, Kan., Wednesday.

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SATURDAY

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Sunny skies and chilly temperatures. Highs in the middle to upper 20s.
Tonight: Mostly clear, calm and cold. Lows in the lower to middle teens.
Tomorrow: Mild; but breezy with increasing clouds. Highs in the middle 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

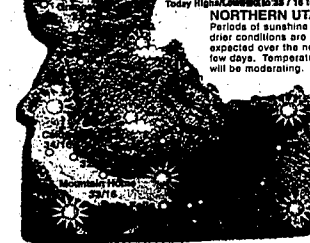
Today: Sunny skies and chilly temperatures. Highs in the middle 20s.
Tonight: Mostly clear, calm and cold. Lows in the lower to middle teens.
Tomorrow: Partly to mostly cloudy, but not as cold. Highs in the middle 30s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Clouds and chilly temperatures are expected in the mountains. Snow showers can be expected in the mountains. Snow showers can be expected in the mountains.

BOISE
Periods of sunshine and chilly temperatures are expected today. Breezy winds will create milder temperatures on Tuesday and Wednesday but clouds will be on the increase.

NORTHERN UTAH
Periods of sunshine and chilly temperatures are expected over the next few days. Temperatures will be moderating.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 41 at Coeur d'Alene, 2 at Stanley. Windy days with some snow showers, including heavy showers in the mountains. Snow showers can be expected in the mountains.

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High/Low).

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moonrise and Moonset, U.V. INDEX, Regional Forecast, National Forecast, World Forecast.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, etc.

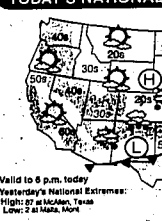
WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Albuquerque, Anchorage, Atlanta, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Officer shoots, kills gunman at rave party

LOS ANGELES - In the latest in a string of violent outbreaks at illegal rave-style parties, a teenager opened fire on a crowd of partygoers late Saturday night, wounding three partygoers and a police officer before the officer shot him dead.
Los Angeles Police Department officials said Sunday.
Jeremy Andre Cervantes, 19, of Los Angeles had shot and injured three people before he was confronted by the policeman, Mario Cardona, 30, one of about a dozen officers trying to shut down the party, police said.
Cardona, a seven-year LAPD veteran, was in stable condition Sunday. Two of the injured partygoers, whose names were not released, were hospitalized in critical condition; the condition of the third was less severe.
The shots sent dozens of partygoers many of them underground, rushing out of the cramped, tiny pool hall where as many as 200 had gathered for hours of dancing, with DJs, drinking and drug use, police said.
Police detained and questioned about 100 partygoers at the scene but made no arrests as of Sunday night.
In recent weeks, such violence has prompted police to crack down on the unsupervised "flier" parties, often promoted on middle school and high school campuses with slick, lurid handbills promising sex, illicit drugs and ample alcohol.

Read the sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

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Daniel Walock, director
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Suspected Taliban militants kill three

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (AP) - Taliban militants stormed the office of an Afghan relief organization early Sunday, killing three workers and wounding four police officers in a 100-day shoot-out that highlighted the country's continuing lack of stability, officials said.
Police said six vehicles carrying about 30 gunmen raced up to the office of the Voluntary Association for the Rehabilitation of Afghanistan in Deharam, a town in southwestern Nimroz province, early Sunday.
A cook, a night watchman and another employee were asleep in the first room; Najamuddin Mojaddedi, the group's regional head, told The Associated Press.
"The Taliban shot them dead."
Another watchman was missing, Mojaddedi said.
"The Taliban are just killing innocent people trying to help their country," Mojaddedi said. "I don't understand why they do this."
The attack and the recently resolved kidnappings of three U.N. staffers highlight the dangers the country faces despite landmark elections designed to bring political stability three years after the Taliban's ouster.
Mojaddedi said his group would decide whether to pull out of the region, where it has worked on agricultural projects for 14 years.
Security forces who rushed to the scene Sunday fought the gunman for about an hour. Four police officers were injured before the militants withdrew, deputy police chief Mohammed Rassoul said.
It was unclear if the attackers suffered any casualties.
A spokesman for the former ruling militia said it carried out the attack and had executed a fourth man, but claimed it targeted only a police checkpoint. It was impossible to verify his claim.

Iran

Continued from A1
from some within Iran's government.
Since that inaugural June meeting in a room decorated with photos of Israeli soldiers' funerals, the registration forms for volunteer suicide commandos have appeared on Tehran's streets and university campuses, with no sign Iran's government is trying to stop the shadowy movement.
On Nov. 12, the day Iranians traditionally hold pro-Palestinian protests, a spokesman for the headquarters for Communist-led Martyrs of the Global Islamic Movement said the movement signed up at least 4,000 new volunteers.
Mohammad Ali Samad, the spokesman, told The Associated Press the group had no ties to the government.
And Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi told reporters recently that the group's campaign to sign up volunteers for suicide attacks had "nothing to do with the ruling Islamic establishment."
"Those people do such a thing is the result of their sentiments. It has nothing to do with the government and the system," Asefi said.
Yet despite the government's disavowal of the group and some of its programs, there are indications the suicide attack campaign has at least some legitimacy within the government.
The first meeting was held in the offices of the Martyrs Foundation, a semiofficial organization that helps the families of those killed in the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war or those killed fighting for the government on other fronts. It drew hard-line lawmaker Mahdi Kouchakzadeh and Gen. Hossein Sahami of the Revolutionary Guards.
This group spreads valuable ideas," Kouchakzadeh told AP.
"At a time when the U.S. is committing the crimes we see now, deprived nations have no weapon other than martyrdom."
It's evident that Iran's foreign policy makers have to take the dignified opinions of this group into consideration," said Kouchakzadeh, who also is a former member of the Revolutionary Guards.
Iranian security officials did not return calls seeking comment about whether they had tried to crack down on the group's training programs or whether they believed any of Samad's volunteers had crossed into Iraq or into Israel.
In general, Iran portrays Israel as its main nemesis and has the anti-Israeli groups like Lebanon's Hezbollah. It says it has no interest in fomenting instability in Iraq and that it tries to block any infiltration into Iraq by insurgents - while pleading that porous borders are hard to police.
In 1998, the Iranian government declared it would not support a 1989 fatwa against Rushdie issued by Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, founder of the 1979 Islamic Revolution. But the government also said only the person who issued the edict could rescind it. Khomeini, angered at Rushdie's portrayal of the Islamic prophet Muhammad in "The Satanic Verses," died in June 1989.
Samad described the movement as independent, with no ties to groups like al-Qaida.

Drive-by

Continued from A1
The head. Instead, the bullet flew over until it hit the south wall of the bedroom, hitting the floor along with bits of plaster.
The Loomises, who don't have health insurance, say they are grateful to Gary's co-workers at Home Depot, too.
Smiling when he refers to himself as the "voice of Home Depot" - or the man you talk to when you call the store and the man you hear making announcements over the intercom - Gary Loomis said, "We're like a big family."
The family took up a collection to pay for his medication and also bought groceries for the couple.
"You don't know how rich you are until you see the friends you have," Gary Loomis said. "It was very humbling and gratifying to find that out."
The Loomises said they hope to defray some of their hospital expenses later through a government victim's compensation fund.
They've lived in their tiny, quiet apartment on the third block of Jackson Street for two years. Prior to the shooting, they hadn't made an effort to get to know any of their neighbors. But that has changed.

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Bush plans economic team overhaul

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - President Bush plans to overhaul his economic team for the second time in two years and wants to tap prominent figures outside the administration to help sell rewrites of Social Security and the tax laws to Congress and the country, White House aides and advisers said over the weekend.

The aides said the replacement of four of the five top economic officials - including the Treasury and Commerce secretaries, with only budget director Joshua Bolten likely to remain - is part of Bush's preparation for sending Congress an ambitious second-term domestic agenda.

Bush's economic team has been weaker than his national security advisers, and that the president believes he needs aides who can relate better to Congress and be more effective in dealing with financial markets and television interviewers. A more skilled team is essential, the aides said, because of the complex and politically challenging agenda of overhauling Social Security to add private investment accounts and simplifying the tax code.

But Republican officials said Bush is also considering well-known officials from outside the administration, including New York Gov. George Pataki (R). Conservatives are pushing for former senator Phil Gramm, a Republican from Texas.

Administration officials had previously signaled they would move gradually to replace the economic team, but the White House is now indicating it may move more quickly to convey a fresh start. Aides also indicated Bush is considering reaching beyond the kind of administration loyalists who will staff key national security posts in the second term.

Republican officials said

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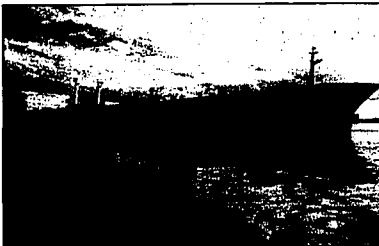
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Canada geese, covered with crude oil spilled in the Delaware River, stand on the river's bank in Essington, Delaware County, near the Philadelphia International Airport, Sunday.

Divers find gash on ship's cargo tank after oil spill

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Divers found a six-foot gash on the tanker that leaked 30,000 gallons of crude oil into the Delaware River, creating a 20-mile-long slick that killed dozens of birds and threatened other wildlife, officials said Sunday.



The Athos I tanker lists towards its port side in the Delaware River near Philadelphia, Sunday.

Divers investigating the listing Athos I on Saturday found holes in the underwater cargo tank closest to the rear of the vessel and in an outside ballast tank, said Jim Lawrence, spokesman for the tanker's Greek owner, Tsakos Shipping and Trading SA.

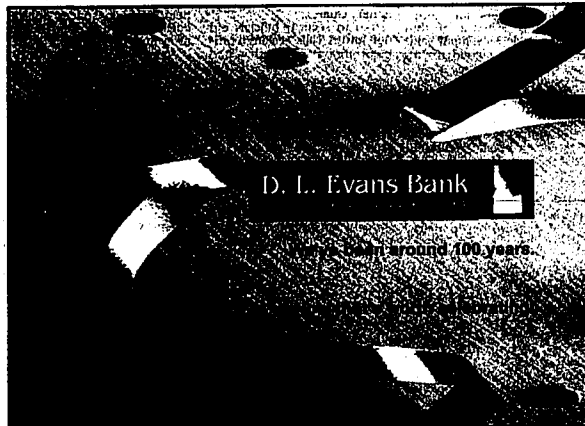
The company said something probably struck the tanks underwater, but the Coast Guard investigation has not confirmed that, spokesman Lt. Buddy Dye said.

Two tug boats were guiding the 750-foot tanker toward a dock in Paulsboro, N.J., where the Venezuelan crude oil was to be delivered to a Citgo Petroleum Corp. refinery, when the leak was discovered late Friday. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officials said 50 birds were dead from the spill. 300 others were affected and fish also were threatened.

A stretch of the busy river was closed to commercial and recreational traffic while the spill was being cleaned up, although the Coast Guard hoped to allow a few commercial vessels through Monday to deliver goods to the busy Port of Philadelphia.

Dye said more than a dozen vessels, mainly carrying oil and chemicals, were parked at both ends of the port. About a million barrels of oil normally come through the Port of Philadelphia each day.

More than 300 workers fanned out along both sides of the river Sunday to assess the cleanup strategy. Crews also set up floating booms to try and keep oil from spreading into the tributaries and creeks that flow into the Delaware, but they probably won't be able to completely contain the damage, said Bradley Campbell, commissioner of New Jersey's Department of Environmental Protection.





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Mall Stores	11-6	10-9	10-9	10-9	10-9	10-9	10-10
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Wednesday, Dec. 1 FestiVal Gala 6:00 PM- 10:00 PM
 Thursday, Dec. 2 12:00 Noon-9:00 PM
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 Friday, Dec. 3 10:00 AM-9:00 PM
 Saturday, Dec. 4 10:00 AM-9:00 PM

Thurs., Dec. 2nd	Fri., Dec. 3rd	Sat., Dec. 4th
EMCEE	EMCEE	EMCEE
10:00 - 2:00 Doug Manning	10:00 - 2:00 Doug Manning	10:00 - 2:00 Doug Manning
3:30 - 6:00 Dwight Davis	3:30 - 6:00 Gary Lynch	2:00 - 4:00 Keith Montgomery
6:00 - 9:00 Penne Main Senior Citizens and Physically Challenged	6:00 - 9:00 Jay Fox	4:00 - 6:00 Mayor Jon Anderson
11:00.....Newcomers Center	10:00.....BJHS 8th & 9th Show Choirs	6:00 - 9:00 Jeff Rasmussen
11:30.....Mike James	10:30.....Mountain View School 1st Grade	10:00.....En Point Dance Academy
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	11:00.....Declo Kindergarten	11:00.....Julie's Dancetwirls
12:00.....Dawn's Learning Connection	11:30.....Oakley Elementary School	11:30.....Darby Miller
12:30.....Bel Cantos Choir	12:00.....Declo Stinger Singers	12:00.....Trendsetters
1:00.....Dworshak School 3rd Grade	12:30.....Declo Dynamics	12:30.....Santa Squad
1:30.....White Pine 4th Grade	1:00.....Dworshak School 3rd Grade	12:45.....The Mistletoes
3:15.....Brianna Sandlian	1:30.....Albion Elementary	1:00.....5, 6, 7, 8 Dance
3:30.....Mix-n-Match	2:00.....Mountain View School 1st Grade	1:30.....The Wallace Blacker Family
4:00.....Mini-Cassia Jr. Miss	3:00.....	2:00.....Soft Touch
4:30.....Leslie Crafton Students	3:30.....	2:45.....Chace Asher
5:15.....Laura Loveland	4:00.....Cindy Hansen	3:00.....5, 6, 7, 8 Dance
5:30.....American Heritage Academy	4:15.....Harmony & Show Kids	3:30.....Glad Tidings by the Tri-Town Strings
6:00.....Santee's Studio	5:00.....Suzuki Strings	4:00.....Variations
6:30.....Main Motion Dance	6:00.....Centre Stage Dance	4:30.....Task Force
7:00.....B-Dazzled	7:00.....Miss Mini Cassia, Felcia Horsley	5:00.....Edge
7:30.....Janna Exon Students	7:15.....Kevin Rodgers	5:30.....The Dance Factory
8:00.....OVAC	7:30.....Thom Stimpson	6:15.....Skip-N-Skool
8:30.....Snake River Flats	8:00.....Rip Cords	7:00.....Mistiyllynn Peterson
	8:30.....Trendsetters	7:30.....4-Ever Strings
		7:45.....Kent Jensen

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NATION

Georgia

Army base set for big expansion

COLUMBUS, Ga. (AP) — With Fort Benning preparing for its largest troop expansion since the Vietnam War, barber Anthony Brock figs to be giving a he'll have a steady stream of customers; even when major units deploy for combat.

Nearly 6,000 new soldiers are set to move to the western Georgia Army post, which is already a major training center for recruits, airborne troops, infantry soldiers, officers and reservists preparing for combat in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Thousands more may come when the United States starts closing European bases and brings home 60,000 soldiers and families, officials say.

Fort Benning is already home to the 4,000-member 3rd Brigade of the 3rd Infantry Division, which helped lead the charge into Iraq in 2003 and will return to the war zone in a couple of months.

Now the fort is slated to get a new group of 3,800 light-infantry soldiers who will be members of the 5th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. Another 1,650 soldiers will be added to handle the post's additional training responsibilities and to expand existing units.

Joining the new soldiers will be an estimated 3,686 spouses and 6,634 children. Many of the families will live off-post.

Builders already are responding with new apartment and condo projects, and three more schools may be built to accommodate an estimated 5,000 new students, officials say.

Brock, who plies scissors at Ranger Joe's Barber Shop, hopes the new troops will cushion the impact of future deployments.

"When the 3rd Brigade left, it cut my paycheck in half," Brock said. "You won't feel the effect... as bad with more people here."

The influx of about 16,000 new residents over the next few years will create at least 7,000 additional jobs and make a tremendous economic impact on surrounding counties in Alabama and Georgia, said Mike Gaymon, president and CEO of the Greater Columbus Georgia Chamber of Commerce.

"This is the equivalent of three or four Toyota plants," he said. "The... impact is gigantic."

Fort Benning already has an annual \$1.9 billion impact on the local area, and the chamber has an estimated \$2.5 billion by 2006, the chamber has said.

Six in 10 want retirement age for Supreme Court, says poll

WASHINGTON (AP) — Six in 10 Americans say there should be a mandatory retirement age for Supreme Court justices, according to an Associated Press poll.

The survey found public support for an idea that has arisen periodically in Congress without ever making headway.

Only one of the nine current justices is younger than 65. Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, 80, appointed to the court by President Nixon, has thyroid cancer. In the survey, people were asked if they could identify what job Rehnquist held, and 59 percent did not know.

The appointment of justices without term limits or a mandatory retirement age historically has helped to insulate the court from politics, said Hutchison, a Supreme Court expert from the University of Chicago Law School. At the same time, that can have the unintended consequence of letting some justices serve beyond their most effective years.

People over 65 were among those most likely to favor mandatory retirement, according to the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos-Public Affairs.

The question on retirement mentioned no specific retirement age.

Lifetime appointment of Supreme Court justices is dictated by the Constitution and could be changed only by an amendment.

The justices hold office year after year," said Opal Bristow, an 84-year-old Democrat and retired teacher who lives near San Antonio. "Some of them are old codgers who need to get out of the way and let the younger folks with fresh ideas come in."

'Democratic' Florida counties really voted for Bush, says review

MIAMI (AP) — A newspaper's review of ballots cast in three north Florida counties where registered Democrats heavily outnumber Republicans showed just what officials reported: The counties' voters did on Election Day as they often do, voting for a Republican for president.

The Miami Herald review goes against Internet-fed rumors questioning whether there was a conspiracy against Sen. John Kerry in those counties.

Kerry won in much of South Florida, where voters vote on touch-screen machines that can't be checked.

Reporters for the newspaper went over more than 17,000 optical scan ballots cast in three rural counties mentioned by doubters: Suwannee, Lafayette and Union.

All three are overwhelmingly Democratic in registration, but chose President Bush.

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OTHER VIEWS

Mr. Bush: Use that capital to pass intelligence reform

The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

Soon after his reelection, President Bush said he had earned "capital in the campaign, political capital," and that he intended to "spend it." Bush must have taken most of that capital with him to Chile over the weekend, because

there is very little evidence that he used enough of it in Washington.

Their view: This guest editorial from the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel says the president must do more to push intelligence changes through Congress.

Last week, House Republicans scouted a bipartisan intelligence reform bill that Bush said he supported and that had been urgently recommended by the commission that investigated the terror attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. It had also been backed by many of the families of those who died on that terrible day. Among those who helped scuttle this important measure was Rep. E. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

The compromise bill would have brought the nation's many intelligence agencies under the control of a new director of national intelligence. Equally important, the intelligence chief would have been given control of budgets of agencies that now report directly to the Defense Department. This control is essential in Washington, where the language of influence is money. The Pentagon now controls about 80 percent of the nation's intelligence budget and for this reason dug in its heels on the reform effort. The Pentagon's designated

hitter in Congress was Rep. Duncan Hunter, R-Calif. For his part, Sensenbrenner based his opposition to the "hard-fought compromise bill on immigration. He said the bill protected illegal immigrants at the expense of U.S. citizens. Specifically, Sensenbrenner wanted the bill to contain language giving immigration officials greater power to decide whether to grant political asylum to immigrants.

Even if immigration is so controversial that it ought to be debated and acted on separately, Immigration's presence served only to complicate and doom

swift enactment of an urgently needed reform bill. Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney made some telephone calls in the bill's behalf, but it is doubtful that elements in the Defense Department and House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., Sensenbrenner, Hunter and other Republicans would have scuttled the measure had they believed that doing so would have angered and upset the president and vice president.

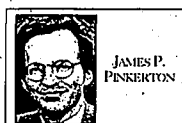
Last Sunday, still in Chile, Bush promised to work with Congress to revive the bill and get it enacted next month, before the new Congress is sworn in. "I look forward to getting it done," he said.

But it won't get done unless the president is more willing than he has been to use that hard-won "capital" he spoke of.



Red and Blue media divide the airwaves

The recent decisions of "shock jock" Howard Stern and super-executive Mel Karmazin to leave their old realm of broadcast media in favor of the new realm of satellite radio are indications of things to come, entertainment-wise.



JAMES P. PINKERTON

Like the country itself, the media are dividing into a conservative red zone and a liberal blue zone.

"Red" media are the broadcasters, both television and radio, overseen by the Federal Communications Commission. And the FCC, under pressure from conservative constituencies, has used its regulatory power to run Stern off radio air. Now, as it levies fines against the networks for naughty incidents — singer Bonó's use of the "F" word, Janet Jackson's exposed breast, and soon, maybe, Nicollette Sheridan's fallen-away locker-room towel — the FCC seeks a similar "cleanup" of the television airwaves.

Yet even as the old media became more "family friendly," there's little to stop newer media from becoming bluer — as nasty as they want to be. Such a split in entertainment, based on technology and regulation, has happened before. In the 1960s, both movies and TV offered pretty much the same fare — no sex and no gory violence. Aside from a few "art" movies, the material was interchangeable.

The problem was, the movies were losers. Given a choice between watching bland fare at the Rialto or the bland fare on the Magnavox, people figured they might as

well just stay home.

So the movies, seeking to lure back leek-buyers, upped the ante. They went racier, bloodier and sexier, traveling into territory that television couldn't follow. Why? Because whereas the movies were voluntarily self-regulated, TV was involuntarily regulated by the FCC. Which is to say, when the movie studios felt the need, they simply changed their own regulatory regime. In 1968, the Motion Picture Association of America launched its rating system, under which every kind of movie would receive a letter-label, based on the maturity level — or, if you prefer, "red," in terms of its themes and depictions.

The ratings worked brilliantly from the point of view of the studios. They could make just about any movie they wished, so long as it had a label. And a similar system was put in place for music; in 1985, the Recording Industry Association of America established its own rating system, and sales continued to rise.

But there was less joy in televisionville, where the FCC patrolled, ready to shut down any too-wild party. To make matters worse for the broadcasters, cable exploded to the point where "hot" stuff on, say, HBO, was just a click away.

Today, the combined over-the-air and cable networks command half the total viewing audience.

No wonder, then, that broadcasters have kept pushing the envelope. So far, at least, they calculate that the cost of FCC fines is less than the cost of seeing more of their audience flee to other media. But, as radio-man Stern discovered, the FCC always wins if it wants to. In this political climate, expect a crackdown on TV, too.

For his part, Stern is crying all the way to the bank. Soon to be on Sirius, unhampered by FCC oversight, Stern will be able to say whatever he wishes. And his \$500-million contract indicates that Sirius — now helmed by Karmazin, the former No. 2 at Viacom — is counting on Stern to bring a hefty audience with him to the uncharted territory of pay-radio.

So here's the future: The FCC makes sure broadcasters, both over-the-air radio and TV, stay "red." Meanwhile, everything else — including, of course, the Internet — gets bluer.

Except for two things: First, as broadcast shows such as ABC's "Desperate Housewives" prove, red America has a blue streak, which the networks will always try to satisfy.

Second, one of these days, conservative politicians and regulators are going to try to wrap red tape around the blue sector.

And that will be the beginning of a new media culture war.

James Pinkerton is a *Newsday* columnist.

The Times-News

Brad Hurd... Publisher Chris Steinbach... Editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Crump and David Cooper.

Election shows America's missing mentality

Just keep laughing. My reaction to Kathy Rooney's letter of amusement on Nov. 21 concerning Dems' post-election psychosis was a grim smile and the hope she can keep her sense of humor in the years to come. Those of us devastated by election results know what it really means for the future of America. Ms. Rooney needs to know there is a difference between ignorance and stupidity. Ignorance is being unaware of the facts. Stupidity is repeating lies while dismissing overwhelming evidence to the contrary. Walter Cronkite recently said that what America needs right now is a new election — the wasn't kidding. Cronkite said that the only way our democracy can defend itself is to have an educated electorate, but we're not going to because education in America is in

Write to us

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shambles.
Studies before the election showed that Bush supporters were generally ignorant of his policies; many still believed that Saddam Hussein had weapons of mass destruction and/or was behind the World Trade Center destruction. They believed Bush's "tough stance" was needed to keep us safe from terrorism.
So here we are, not even one month after the election and:
• American soldiers are losing their lives to prove Bush is macho; Iraqi civilians are dying en masse; their country is devastated; and like it or not, Bush

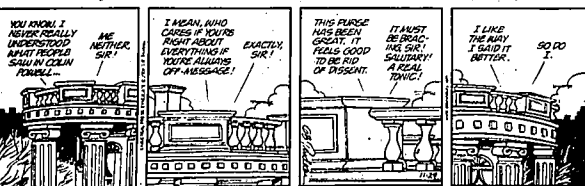
LETTERS

to allegiance to country?
• Our country is essentially bankrupt.
Just so you won't run out of things to laugh about while the country you used to know continues to transform under Bush, Ms. Rooney, you might visit blackboxvoting.org and review the extensive investigations into 2004 voter fraud that are presently under way. Ohio and New Hampshire will be recounted. North Carolina is a joke. Florida again shows Jeb Bush fingerprints.
Meanwhile, the GOP is thrilled with the machines. They just want to abolish those pesky exit polls that are so misleading.
SHARON METCALF Gooding

Quilting project creates ties to soldiers
Marinecomfortquilts is an online group that has associates all over the country. The purpose is to make a quilt for the survivors of any and all soldiers killed in the Iraq war. The quilts consist of 30 blocks, one of which has the service person's name and rank and the other is an embroidered emblem of the particular service.
The information is online at marinecomfortquilts.us and is available to everyone. There is a gallery of quilts already finished, a listing of people involved making the blocks and sewing the quilts, and information about the origin of the group and the progress 'being made.'
Anyone interested in being involved in this group or making donations of quilt blocks can register (free) and find the information in the files section of the home page. Please give this Web site's "Support Our Troops" signs all over cars and businesses. This kind of support for the families of the fallen is another way to help.
CHARLOTTE MAFFIN Buhl

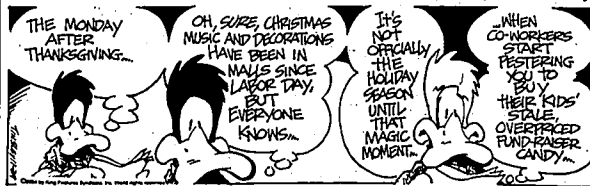
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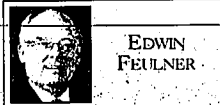
It's truly a willing coalition sacrificing in Iraq

Just a year ago, Italian troops in Iraq were bleeding and dying.

On Nov. 12, 2003, a truck crashed into the Italian headquarters in the southern city of Nasiriyah. A car bombing swiftly followed. At least 19 Italian soldiers and eight Iraqi citizens were killed. Scores more were injured, some critically.

Back at home, Italy had a day of mourning for the victims, but refused to see itself as a victim. Defense Minister Antonio Martino met with the families of two of the dead soldiers.

And when Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi came under political pressure to withdraw Italy's 3,000 troops from Iraq, he steadfastly refused. "The pain at this time is a feeling shared by the whole nation, a deep pain for the lives that have been cut short by terrorism, during a humanitarian mission for



EDWIN FEULNER

freedom," Berlusconi announced. However, he insisted Italy would stay the course.

Now, a year later, Italian forces have remained on station in Iraq and rebuilt their headquarters.

They're still there, still fighting terrorism and still making progress. The soldiers regularly publish a small newspaper in Arabic and hand out thousands of copies to local citizens.

In a recent edition, they reiterated their commitment to the Iraqis. "A year after this bloody attack, we are still co-operating, talking to each other and

meeting each other," the soldiers wrote. "We are still working and building a better future together."

Their working paid dividends for them, and for the people of Iraq. Recently, Iraqi civilians told the soldiers about a planned terrorist bombing, and the Italians were able to disarm the explosive before it could go off.

And that's exactly the point. In Iraq, the coalition forces are working with Iraqis to build a better nation. The vast majority of Iraqis know that and appreciate it. "Even with limited resources, we've already trained 5,000 policemen and 1,000 soldiers," Martino told me. "Many have thanked me for what we're doing."

Iraq's leadership sees benefits, too. "Democracy, the rule of law and liberty will win in Iraq despite the difficulties," Ayad Allawi, Iraq's interim prime minister, recently told reporters after a meeting with Berlusconi. "We believe that the reconstruction in Iraq can help

the stability of the region and the world."

For his part, the Italian leader remains committed to Iraq. "Italy will stay in Iraq according to the requests that will come from a legitimate Iraqi government," he announced. He still sees Italy's mission there as "defending democracy in the world."

This message — that we have allies in Iraq and that we're all working to build a better world — seems to have been lost during our recent presidential election. In the final week of the campaign, Sen. John Kerry told NBC that if he'd been president, "We'd have gone to war with allies in a way that the American people weren't carrying the burden and the entire world understood why we were doing it."

But Kerry had it exactly backward. We have allies carrying a large part of the burden. Italian troops serve under British command. And they themselves

are in charge of Romanian and Portuguese detachments. The allied mission is popular in Iraq, and it's passing the electoral test at home, too.

President Bush and Australian Prime Minister John Howard have both been re-elected after promising to stay the course in Iraq. British Prime Minister Tony Blair is expected to prevail when his country holds its next elections.

America's allies know Iraq is an important front in the war on terrorism. The overwhelming majority of the Iraq people are thankful the coalition is there. And we should be thankful for Italy and all of our allies standing alongside us — fighting when necessary and spreading freedom to the Middle East.

Ed Feulner, president of the Heritage Foundation, a conservative think tank based in Washington.

LETTERS

Fallout survivors speak with passion to NAS

The atomic bomb fallout aimed at Idaho had a deadly impact on Idaho families. I am so thankful this Thanksgiving for the articulate survivors who bravely shared their struggles at the National Academy of Sciences hearing. More than 32 counties were represented. It was good science told by deeply personal testimony. Many had a sibling who was cancer free because they were the ones who did not like milk.

After seven years of silence, our delegation now tells us to "wait for the science" until the academy writes its report. Let's put the delegation's "waiting" for the NAS report in perspective.

Our delegation has already refused to follow academy advice to archive the great fallout data at Idaho's nuclear facility that was intentionally not used by the long delayed "estimated" studies we now discuss. Weekly 1-131 milk samples, hidden at our Idaho facility, may dwarf what they finally admitted made Idaho the hardest hit state. The NAS recommended Congress to archive the great unused data and "prohibit the destruction of relevant records held by federal agencies," on Page 21-22 of their report at <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309087139/html/:T> that was in

2003. I personally highlighted the advice to the delegation, requesting they follow the NAS advice to, at least, archive the data I have asked them to reveal for so long. They refused.

One year later, the government has probably destroyed as many documents as possible. Hundreds of boxes of documents earmarked by the Centers for Disease Control for Idaho's new budget-out study were destroyed while I was on the citizen advisory panel.

What Idaho deserves is medical care and compensation. We need a constitutional amendment to prevent this from happening again, as our delegation still funds "fast tracking" preparation of atomic testing, while the funding for the new Bunker Buster is temporarily paused. The budget pause on the new nuclear weapons was in great part to the mainstream Idahoans who expressed outrage at this happening again. While fighting the nuclear money machine and its well-paid politicians is like wrestling a greased pig — we finally have a chance to get a firm grip.

Please ask your delegation to rectify this nuclear nightmare. They have been taking care of business all the way to our graves.

DR. PETER RICKARDS
Twin Falls

Emotionalism cuts away at NAS's truths

I've recently been asked why I write so often about truth (or the lack thereof). It's because I abhor societies post-modern rejection of truth.

Over the last half-century, we've rejected the concept of right and wrong — giving us Columbine and Enron. We've rejected the concept of duty and honor — giving us an out-of-control judiciary and federal officials who ignore their sworn duty to uphold the Constitution. We've replaced critical judgment with elitist, politically correct judgments — giving us the defense of the North American Man Boy Love Association by the American Civil Liberties Union and the pronouncement that Boy Scouts are evil. I, for one, reject these rejections.

America sits at an ideological crossroads, and I want my children to know how to follow the correct path. Though this country still holds the greatest opportunity and promise they could ever hope for, never in our history — except for the decade before the Civil War — has nastiness, deceit and outright hatred so permeated our society. It infects government, schools and even our churches.

We're so consumed by our selfish, self-absorbed emotionalism that truth is trampled in the dirt and anyone — friend or

foe — intruding on our emotional world becomes an enemy to be destroyed. This is one of the lessons I've taught my children — that standing for truth, though right, is also costly.

I've suffered threats and personal attacks in response to letters I've written to this newspaper. I've faced a threatened lawsuit and vicious verbal comments from former fellow church members for stating my reasons for leaving that church (losing some once-good friends also). I've even been fired from a job not for lying. As I said, truth costs.

Believe me, I'm not holding myself up as a great hero for truth. In fact, I spent much of my youth avoiding truth. It's the painful lessons I've learned that have shown me the importance of truth. Reasonableness and sanity dictate that truth, whether freeing, frightening, soothing or hurtful, be upheld. Of course, compassion dictates that truth be tempered or even held back at times.

No matter what life holds, truth is always right. If you can't — or won't — deal in truth, if you have to use lies, half-truths, insinuation, insults or threats to win, then you've already lost.

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WORLD

Officials: Israel willing to coordinate pullout with post-Arafat government

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel is prepared to coordinate its pullout from Gaza with a new Palestinian government, officials said Sunday, a shift from Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's concept of "unilateral disengagement" and a sign that cooperation may be restored in the post-Arafat era.

Security forces already are quietly cooperating with one other, Israeli officials said. One went so far as to say, "It's back to business."

However, Palestinian and Israeli security sources said beyond routine contacts at field commander level, which have been maintained despite the violence, no coordination is underway.

In the Rafah refugee camp on the Gaza-Egyptian border late Sunday, an Israeli tank fired a shell at three Palestinians crouching in a forbidden zone, the military said. Palestinians said two wounded men were brought to a hospital. The fate of

the third was unknown. Palestinians said in addition, a doctor was killed and another man was hurt in a series of 12 Israeli tank shells in the camp. They said the two were playing cards next to a fire when they were hit by shrapnel.

Since Arafat's death Nov. 11, both sides have been projecting positive signals about cooperation for Palestinian elections on Jan. 9 and resumption of peace talks. Israel boycotted Arafat, charging he was involved in terrorism, and no significant contacts between the two sides have taken place for more than a year.

Now, the Israelis are promoting the idea that with Arafat gone, things can change.

In separate interviews with Newsweek magazine, Sharon said he would be willing to coordinate the handover of Gaza with Palestinian forces, and interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said he would take responsibility for the areas, but only after his security arm is rebuilt.

"I think there is an understanding that this is an opportunity that both sides cannot miss," Sharon spokesman Raanan Gissin said. "The goal is to return back to the 'road map' to peace ... and from there move to political negotiations."

Israel and the Palestinians signed the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan in June 2003, but the plan quickly stalled

amid violations by both sides. The Palestinians failed to crack down on militant groups, while Israel did not meet its obligations to halt construction of settlements in the West Bank and dismantle unauthorized settlement outposts.

In Cairo, Egypt, Abbas said the original peace plan timetable for a Palestinian state in 2005 "is time enough to negotiate and put an end to this problem." He rejected interim accords as a "waste of time."

Blast traps scores in China mine

BEIJING — A gas explosion that tore through a coal mine in central China trapped 166 workers in underground shafts filled with noxious smoke in the latest and apparently the deadliest of a series of Chinese mining disasters, officials said Monday.

Rescue workers recovered 25 bodies and said 141 other miners remained deep in tunnels and shafts filled with carbon monoxide and cut off by rubble. Based on experience, authorities said, there was little hope that the blocked-in miners could be rescued. As a result, the blast appeared to be China's worst in recent years, despite a much-heralded campaign to improve safety in the world's most dangerous mines.

The explosion occurred Sunday at about 7:20 a.m. at the government-owned Chenjishan Coal Mine near Tongchuan, a medium-size city in Shaanxi province about 450 miles southwest of Beijing, according to the official New China News Agency and other government-controlled Chinese media.

World in brief
The explosion occurred Sunday at about 7:20 a.m. at the government-owned Chenjishan Coal Mine near Tongchuan, a medium-size city in Shaanxi province about 450 miles southwest of Beijing, according to the official New China News Agency and other government-controlled Chinese media.

Powerful earthquake hits northern Japan

TOKYO — A powerful earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 7.1 struck Japan's northern island of Hokkaido early Monday, swaying buildings, throwing objects off shelves and triggering a small tsunami wave that reached the shore.

The 3:32 a.m. quake injured at least eight people, but there were no immediate reports of damage.

Meteorological Agency quickly issued a tsunami warning for the eastern shores of Hokkaido's Pacific coastal area. Tsunami are potentially dangerous waves triggered by seismic activity. But agency official Masahiro Yamamoto later told a televised news conference that the agency had lifted its warning, saying it had detected a 4-inch tsunami and expected only small changes in the ocean's surface.

The quake was centered off Hokkaido's east coast, about 550 miles northwest of Tokyo, 30 miles below the sea surface. The rocking was felt throughout northern Japan, including Hokkaido's largest city, Sapporo, and Kushiro, on the island's eastern shore.

Opposition delivers ultimatum in Ukraine

KIEV, Ukraine — The crisis over Ukraine's disputed presidential election intensified Sunday, as a key eastern province called a referendum on autonomy and the opposition demanded the current president fire his prime minister, the official winner of last week's vote that has bitterly divided this former Soviet republic.

The opposition warned President Leonid Kuchma it would block his movements unless he fired Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and fulfilled other demands within 24 hours.

Earlier, Kuchma called on the opposition to end its four-day blockade of government buildings, saying compromise was the only solution to the crisis that has developed into a tense political tug-of-war between the West and Moscow over Ukraine's future.

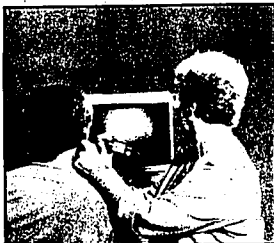
— compiled from wire reports

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December 1

Thursday
December 2

IT'S ALL FREE

★ **FREE Complete Electronic Hearing Test**

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★ **FREE Package of Hearing Aid Batteries**

If you now wear a hearing aid, you will receive one free package of hearing aid batteries. If we test your hearing you will receive another free package.

(This offer good for one usage by hearing aid user only.)

★ **FREE In Office Repairs**

All in-office hearing aid repairs shall be free... and factory repairs, regardless of make or model shall be 50% off!

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Fits 35db 11/340 Circuit

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Save 50%
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Fits 35db 11/340 Circuit

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MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

THIS WEEK AT CSI ON THE AGENDA

Today
South Central Head Start...
CSI Latinos Unidos weekly meeting...
Tuesday
Idaho Virtual Academy math and writing assessment...
Wednesday
Fair Housing volunteer education workshop...
Thursday
"Magic Mud" Art Department pottery sale...

CSI Theater Department presents "Antigone" 8 p.m.
Saturday
Scholastic Aptitude Test, 7:30 a.m.
Sunday
CSI Music Department presents "The Messiah" 3 p.m.

Today
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m.
Tuesday
Burley Public Library board, 4 p.m.

Wednesday
Hagerman City Council, 7 p.m.
Thursday
Bellevue Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m.

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m.
Friday
Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m.

CASSIA COUNTY COURTS

BURLEY — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Cassia County included:
Misdemeanor dismissals
Keith R. Bush, 40; failure to arrive...

30 days suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
felony possession of a controlled substance...

probation, 90 days in jail, 180 days suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
Felony dismissals
David Urena, 26; burglary...



OBITUARY

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication.

Margaret A. Stroud - Twin Falls

Margaret A. Stroud, age 100, a longtime Magic Valley resident, died of causes incident to age Thursday, Nov. 25, 2004, at the Cedar Draw Living Center near Filer.



district. Her memberships in the Filer Grange and the Order of the Eastern Star were both in excess of 65 years. She was a past Worthy Matron of the

Filer Chapter No. 40 Order of the Eastern Star.
Surviving is her son, Charles E. Stroud (Nadine) of Pocatello, Idaho; two grandchildren, Vicki Ganef (John) of San Diego, Calif., and Mark Stroud of Lewiston, Idaho; and also three great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her husband, parents, and a sister, Geraldine Chasteen.

SERVICES

Louise Ada Grout of Burley, funeral at 10 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel; friends may call one hour before the service...

Twin Falls; funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.
Lawrence "Larry" V. Martin of Twin Falls, graveside service at 10 a.m. Tuesday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls...

David W. Becker Sr. of Boise and formerly of Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at the Jerome First Presbyterian Church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel, Jerome).

DEATH NOTICES

Dorothy Marie (Braga) Howsend of Wendell, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Wendell United Methodist Church; viewing from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at Denmar's Wendell Chapel.

Nadia Gonzales
BURLEY — Nadia Gonzales, a 44-year-old resident of Burley, passed away Nov. 28, 2004, at the Minkko Memorial Hospital.
Frederick 'Fred' Gorringer
OAKLEY — Frederick Leland "Fred" Gorringer, a 26-year-old resident of Oakley, died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Ruthilda Miller
BURLEY — Ruthilda Miller, a 90-year-old resident of Burley, died Saturday, Nov. 27, 2004, at LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City, Utah.
Ehlyn Gertrude Barneby of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Palm Valley View Cemetery in Las Vegas, Nev. (White Mortuary, Twin Falls).

Family members missing Boy Scout

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The family of a 12-year-old Boy Scout missing in the High Uintas held a memorial service, mourning the boy's presumed death but realizing how many lives his disappearance has touched.
Garrett Bardsley disappeared Aug. 20 after leaving his father to return to camp 150 yards away to change a downed tent and socks. The boy and his father were among 18 Scouts and a half dozen adults camping at the site.

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Public is invited to a non-demonstrational Community Remembrance Service Monday, November 29, 2004 at 7pm at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel

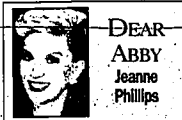
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MORNING BREAK

11/23/04
ACROSS
1 Spanish hero
6 Ugly forward
10 Yours and mine
14 Survivor
15 Intermine
16 Slope by foot
17 Philosopher
18 Kierkegaard
19 Wozniak
20 Musical production
21 Intimate
22 Gore Vidra's
23 Breckinridge
24 New Testament
26 Delicate article
27 Young boy
28 Lanchester or
29 Baseball
33 Practiced
37 Group of three
38 Top hump
39 Permit to
40 Excitement
41 Assistance
42 Lamented rock
43 Concerning
44 Transportation opening
45 Carabanda
46 Earth tone
51 Manage
52 Bangkok
53 Inish tunic
54 overcoat
55 Adolescent
56 Lifestyle
57 Family
58 Inclusion
59 member
60 Entrance
61 Shipowner's
62 PC device
63 Found a
64 Jazz sessions
65 States of
66 agitation
67 DOWN
68 Salsa source
69 Economic
70 Once, at times
71 Repeat
72 Onset
73 Unit of force
74 Searing dash
75 That can be
76 Fall mo.
77 Shipowner's
78 property
79 Not as quick
80 "Eodius" writer

Girl suffers 'date rape' at frat

DEAR ABBY: My 16-year-old daughter went to a party at a frat house where she was feeling a great deal to drink. Getting "woozzy," she went outside. One of the "boys" she had been talking to went with her and suggested she go back to his room to lie down. She had known this fellow before that night and trusted him. She was drunk, and he had sex with her. It was her first time. She claims she tried to make him stop, but he wouldn't, and she couldn't make him.



DEAR ABBY: I have been dating "Howie" for a year. I love him and want to spend my life with him, but there's a problem. Women are attracted to Howie like bees to honey. I have seen this with my own eyes. Women come on to him even though he tells them he's in a serious relationship. Should I look the other way when they start up? Yes, "Howie" does talk to them, but he is just a friendly guy. I don't want to lose my boyfriend over this, but it's really starting to bother me. How should I handle it?

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Shouldn't the young man be punished in some way? I feel something should be done, and I also worry about him doing this to some other girl. Would this constitute date rape?

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Virgo: Keep faith despite misunderstanding

IF NOVEMBER 29 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... Cast off worries and woes as 2005 approaches. Accumulated debts and obligations may need your attention again this summer, but you have a helpful reprieve in the meantime in which you can re-visit enthusiasms and entertain new directions. With Uranus influencing your sector of the zodiac in the year ahead, be prepared for some surprises and a change of heart about important matters. In March and April you will be able to break away from outmoded traditions and escape from the clutches of the past.

HOROSCOPE

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Today in 1825, NYC heard first Italian opera

This day in history: On Nov. 29, 1825, New York City heard and saw the first Italian opera presented in the United States: Gioacchino Rossini's "Barber of Seville."

It would take about 27,000 spider webs to produce one pound. The ancient Romans used corks to top their wine bottles, but for some reason, the practice faded until about the 1600s. Bottlers in medieval times had to use sealing wax, leather or twisted cloth to cap off their goods.

Panama hats are not from Panama. They are, in fact, from Peru originally. They got their name because Panama became a major distribution area for them.

What did famous communist Vladimir Lenin do before entering into a life of politics? He was a practicing lawyer.

He's the best physician, wrote Ben Franklin, "who knows the worthlessness of most medicines."

Great Dane dogs aren't from Denmark. They're from Germany. The French heard "Deutsche Dogg," the German name for them, meaning "German dog," and assumed "Deutsch" meant "Danish." The Germans call the German Shepherd "Deutscher Schaeferhund," meaning "German shepherd hound."

RANDOM KINDS OF FITNESS Jack Mingo Erin Barrett

Play-Doh was originally formulated to clean wallpaper. You may know that pit bull mixes and rottweilers are the most likely breeds to maim or kill people. But did you know that retrievers and poodles are more likely to bite? It's just that they don't do nearly as much damage, as a rule.

Why are an elephant's ears so big? For starters, it makes them look bigger in a fight. They also make excellent fly swatters. Primarily, though, an elephant uses its big ears to stay cool. Blood flows into the thin-skinned ear surface and the air cools it before returning it to the rest of the body.

Every writer has to start somewhere. Before he was famous for his own work, Sinclair Lewis sold story ideas to Jack London.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at www bathroomcompanion.com

Milk gets a makeover

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE — Tired of being outshined by soda, old-fashioned milk is moving into a more dazzling drink. Flying across the counters at fast-food restaurants after edging its way into school vending machines.

Milk marketers have ditched the dull and clumsy cardboard cartons and simple flavors for flashy, colorful plastic bottles and strawberry, banana, root beer and other kid-friendly flavors.

"We've made milk relevant to how kids live today," said Chris Moore, spokesman for Dairy Management Inc., a national organization that promotes dairy products.

The shift is such a hit parents and kids are swapping their McDonald's Happy Meal soft drinks for splashy-looking mini-milks with Ronald McDonald smiling across a wave of marketing.

Both McDonald's and Wendy's introduced the newly designed white and chocolate milks last summer, and have since reported record sales of milk.

Wendy's went from selling 65,000 units of milk each week nationwide to more than 1 million, said Wendy's spokesman Bob Bertini.

"Anyway you look at it, milk options have been a hit," Bertini said. "People today are looking for fresh, tasty, nutritious options. Milk fills that bill."

Milk sales at McDonald's jumped from 650,000 units a week to 4.25 million, according to dairy industry experts. McDonald's would not confirm the numbers.

Other fast-food chains are testing the newly packaged products.

Home Holidays for the Microfiber Sofa \$499. Leather Touch Recliner \$299. Rocker Recliner \$599. Leather Sofa \$899. BAINNER 201 MAIN AVE. E., TWIN FALLS • 733-1421

Gambling opponents worry as poker's popularity increases

CHICAGO (AP) — Now that his high school football season is over, Zak Coppinger has been playing poker every chance he can get.

With his mom's blessing, he's turned the family dining room, complete with green walls and a chandelier, into a poker parlor for himself and his buddies.

He also keeps a deck of cards at school so he can play impromptu games during class or lunch.

"It's better than homework. I can tell you that," the 18-year-old from Austin, Texas, says with a chuckle.

It's just one of the many young people who have become avid players of Texas Hold 'Em and other poker games — a trend sparked, in part, by TV shows that feature tournaments for celebrities and professional poker players. But gambling opponents wonder if some teens, and the adults who let them play, are taking it too far.

That skill through skill you can beat the odds. But randomness is always going to have a bigger factor in determining the outcome than your skill.

"And unfortunately, that's not the message these kids get."

Some parents have heeded the warning, cutting back on casino nights at after-prom parties and other events. And officials at a growing number of schools — from New Trier High School, north of Chicago, to Apple Valley High School in suburban Minneapolis — have recently started banning poker-playing on their campuses.

Dave Smiley, principal at Elgin High School in suburban Chicago, began enforcing an old ban on card and dice games months ago: "We're like church — you shouldn't be gambling in school," he says.

That said, Smiley concedes that his view softens when it comes to teens playing poker at their friends' homes.

"I'm not going to be hypocritical. I think my own son has participated in some of these games — and he's in high school," he says, noting that he likes knowing his son is somewhere safe and supervised.

SPORTS

Coming Tuesday
The boys basketball season begins.

The Times-News

Monday, November 29, 2004

Section C

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

"I'd call the Snyder era a roller-coaster ride, except that roller coasters go up once in a while."

Columnist Peter Schmuck of The Baltimore Sun after pointing out that Washington Redskins owner Dan Snyder's "attempt to purchase a major stake in the Six Flags amusement chain just focused attention on his inability to purchase one flag in the NFL."

TRIVIA

QUESTION: Who said this? "Old place kickers never die, they just go on missing the point."
.....answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

HS Girls Basketball
Twin Falls Christian Academy at Magic Valley Christian School, 7 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Ohno wins two short-track golds

MADISON, Wis. — Apolo Anton Ohno won two races and teamed with Flyo-jung Kim to give the United States a sweep in the 1,000-meter event Sunday at the World Cup short-track tournament. Ohno won the 1,000 meters in 1 minute, 26.914 seconds and then captured the 3,000-meter event in 5:13.504. He originally placed second in the longer race but took the gold after winner Mathieu Turcotte of Canada was disqualified for impeding another skater. He also took gold in the 1,500 meters and silver in the 500 meters this weekend.

CSI booster luncheon set for Monday

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho booster club luncheon will be held at noon Monday in the Taylor Administration Building's Room 277 on campus. Fans and boosters are welcome to attend. Coaches will be on hand to discuss their teams. Athletes will be on hand as well. Fans and boosters can go through the food line in the cafeteria, buy their food and bring it to Room 277.

Miami-Dade CC wins NJCAA title

WEST PLAINS, Mo. — Miami-Dade Community College defeated Salt Lake Community College 28-30, 30-27, 30-27, 30-19 to claim the women's NJCAA Division I title Wednesday in West Plains, Mo. North Idaho College took 10th place.

Burley basketball will play before Jazz game

BURLEY — The Burley High School Bobcats boys basketball team will play Jordan (Utah) High School before the Monday, Dec. 27 Utah Jazz-Seattle SuperSonics game at the Delta Center in Salt Lake City. The Bobcats will play at 2:30 p.m., with the Jazz set to tip-off at 7 p.m. Admission for the two games is \$20 per person. Tickets are available through Burley coach Jack Bagley, who can be contacted at 878-6606 or 677-9925.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Lou "The Toe" Garza. The NFL Hall of Famer was a kicker for the Cleveland Browns from 1946-67. He was the NFL Player of the Year in 1954.

Couples prevails once again in Skins Game

The Associated Press

LA QUINTA, Calif. — Minutes after hitting into the water to blow a chance at winning the Skins Game, Tiger Woods smiled and jokingly walked around down the fairway with Fred Couples.
"Hey, what else can you do when you're playing Mr. Skins himself?"
Couples continued his amazing run in the Thanksgiving weekend tournament, prevailing in four playoff holes over Woods to claim the final three skins and \$340,000, and win his record fifth Skins Game with a total of \$640,000.
"I'm just happy I took the 'king of skins' extra holes," Woods said. "I made him work for it."
Couples won all his money

on Sunday, starting with a birdie putt worth \$300,000 and eight skins on the first hole. He finally won the tournament after Woods' tee shot went into the water on the last playoff hole, the par-3, 204-yard 17th at Trilogy Golf Club on a cold, windy day in the desert.
"Couples, 45, has won a record \$3,515,000 and 77 skins in 11 appearances in the made-for-TV tournament.
"It's a sweet day for me," Couples said.
"When I come here, I don't expect to win. I just expect to go out and play and hit some really good shots," he said. "I did for a couple of days and I won a lot of skins, and it just happened."
Couples, who injured his back not long after his 15th and most recent PGA Tour victory, the 2003 Houston Open, has

heard all the talk that his competitive days are winding down.
"I'd love to lose today and go win the L.A. Open," said Couples, the 1992 Masters champion. "I'll be quite honest with you. That's hard to do. It's hard for me to play four really good rounds, but that's my goal. My goal is to win again."
Woods finished second with five skins and \$310,000, more money than he won in his previous four Skins Games combined.
After making a sensational Skins Game debut last year, Annika Sorenstam was shut out this time. She and Aussie Adam Scott were eliminated on the first playoff hole. Sorenstam won two skins and \$50,000 on Saturday, when the first nine holes were played.
Sorenstam struggled all day.



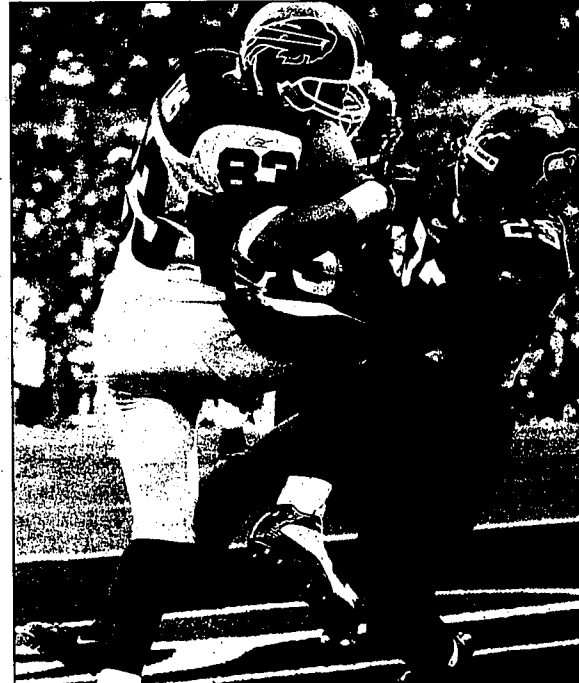
Tiger Woods, left, taps knuckles with Fred Couples after Couples' birdie putt on Hole No. 10 during the Skins Game Sunday.

Bills humble 'Hawks

Buffalo gets rare road win in Seattle

The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Drew Bledsoe went all the way home to Washington state to help the Buffalo Bills collect a rare road win.
"Willis McGahee had 116 yards running and four touchdowns, leading Buffalo to a 38-9 win over Seattle on Sunday, the worst loss for coach Mike Holmgren in his six seasons with the Seahawks.
Bledsoe offset his three interceptions by completing two-thirds of his passes for 275 yards and a touchdown, and the Bills (5-6) snapped a six-game road losing streak dating to last season.



Buffalo tight end Lee Evans hauls in a Drew Bledsoe touchdown pass during the second quarter while Seattle's Marcus Trufant shoves him out of bounds in Seattle Sunday.

It was Buffalo's first road win in five tries this season and the team's second victory in the last 12 trips.
McGahee led the way behind an offensive line that dictated the pace all day. He scored on a pair of 2-yard runs, took a lateral from Bledsoe for a 30-yard TD and added a 1-yard scoring run midway through the fourth quarter.
The Seahawks (6-5) hit their lowest point this season with an abysmal performance that nearly emptied the stadium of 66,271 fans at the 5-minute mark.
They lost for the second time in five home games after going 8-0 on their own field last season. It also capped the most lopsided loss of Holmgren's tenure, a 31-3 defeat at Oakland on Oct. 22, 2000.
Bledsoe, who grew up in Walla Walla, Wash., and played college football at Washington State, spread his passes among nine receivers. He finished 25-of-37 for 275 yards, including a 3-yard TD pass to rookie Lee Evans.
Even Bledsoe's interceptions didn't hurt the Bills because the Seahawks couldn't capitalize on them.
Seattle's Matt Hasselbeck returned from a bruised thigh that sidelined him last week. While he didn't seem slowed by the injury, he never could establish

any tempo for Seattle's offense.
Hasselbeck was 19-of-30 for 185 yards with one TD and one interception. He had a ball knocked away by Buffalo's Ryan Denney in the fourth quarter, a fumble that led to McGahee's final touchdown.
Shaun Alexander, the NFL's leading rusher, was held to 39 yards on 13 carries.
The Bills took control from the start, moving 60 yards in 10 plays on the opening drive.
Seattle's Josh Brown gave them a short-field by kicking the ball out of bounds, and McGahee put Buffalo up 7-0 on a 2-yard plunge.
The Bills led 17-3 at halftime, padding the advantage when Bledsoe tossed a 3-yard TD pass to Evans in the right corner of the end zone. Buffalo took over with 2:59 and worked the clock to score with 6 seconds to the break.
Buffalo didn't punt until less

than a minute remained in the third period, and the Seahawks struggled without injured line-backers Chad Brown and Anthony Simmons.
Former Seahawks kicker Ryan Lindell missed a 53-yard field goal attempt for Buffalo midway through the third quarter, but the Bills got another chance because Maurice Morris was penalized for illegally leaping off a teammate's back. The drive continued, and Buffalo led 24-3.

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Patriots manhandle Ravens, 24-3

The Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — The New England Patriots showed the stingiest team in the NFL that they also can dominate on defense.
They shut down Baltimore 24-3 Sunday, scoring on a fumble recovery and holding the Ravens to 124 yards. On three series when the Ravens stopped New England from scoring touchdowns, Adam Vinatieri kicked field goals, stretching his streak to 21 straight successful kicks.
Corey Dillon rushed for 123 yards and a touchdown.
The Patriots (10-1) took a 21-point lead against a team playing without sidelined running back Jamal Lewis by scoring two touchdowns in the first minute of the fourth quarter with heavy rain falling.
All the Ravens (7-4) could see was PATRIOTS, Page C2



Baltimore quarterback Kyle Boller fumbles as he is hit by New England's Teddy Bruschi during fourth quarter action Sunday in Foxboro, Mass. The ball was recovered by the Patriots in the Ravens end zone for a touchdown.

USC pads AP poll lead, Boise State slips to No. 11

The Associated Press

A week after losing some support as the No. 1 team, Southern California got it right back.
Top-ranked USC received 52 first-place votes, four more than last week, and 1,610 points in The Associated Press Top 25 on Sunday. In the previous poll, Southern Cal lost three first-place votes.
With No. 2 Oklahoma and No. 3 Auburn idle, the Trojans pounded Notre Dame 41-10 on Saturday night, persuading some more media voters that they are the best team in the country.
The Sooners and Tigers each had two fewer first-place votes than last week, but Oklahoma extended its lead over Auburn by five points.
Oklahoma received seven

first-place votes and 1,540 points. Auburn got six first-place votes and 1,530 points.
When the Bowl Championship Series standings are released Monday, no changes are expected at the very top.
USC, Oklahoma and Auburn, in that order, also led the ESPN/USA Today coaches poll.
The top nine teams in the latest AP poll were the same as last week. No. 4 California was followed by Utah, Texas, Louisville, Georgia and Miami.
Virginia Tech moved up a spot to No. 10, flip-flopping with unbeaten Boise State.
Pittsburgh waded in at No. 19 after beating West Virginia 16-13 last Thursday. The Panthers are in line for a BCS bid, if they can beat South Florida on Saturday. The Magenta tigers fell out of the rankings for the first time this season.

SPORTS

Bengals win 58-48 shootout with Browns

Teams combine for second-highest scoring game ever

CINCINNATI (AP) - Kelly Holcomb threw for 400 yards and five touchdowns - and lost - as Cincinnati and Cleveland played the most dramatic game in the intrastate rivalry, the second-highest scoring game in NFL history.



Bengals tailback Rudi Johnson ran for 202 yards and two scores against Cleveland Sunday in Cincinnati.

Manning finished 6-of-21 for 148 yards and two critical interceptions. He also was sacked five times and had trouble figuring where the Eagles were coming from.

But Vick still had to drive to bail out the Falcons when the Saints (4-7) went three-and-out, and Atlanta took over at the New Orleans 47.

And a few minutes later tied it at 17 on Kaeeding's 25-yard field goal. Derrick Blythe scored 22 yards for a touchdown and a Kansas City lead that stayed at 23-17 when Lawrence Tynes missed the extra point.

Eagles 27, Giants 6

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - Philadelphia's fourth consecutive NFC East title as Brian Westbrook scored two touchdowns Sunday and the Eagles' defense made life miserable for Eli Manning in a 27-6 victory over New York.

Falcons 24, Saints 21

ATLANTA - Michael Vick threw a 27-yard scoring pass to Alge Crumpler with 1:22 remaining.

Chargers 34, Chiefs 31

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Nate Kaeding booted a 43-yard field goal with 2:24 left.

Steelers 16, Redskins 7

PITTSBURGH - Antwan Randle El and Jerome Bettis gave the Steelers just enough offense to keep their longest winning streak in 26 years.

since they won their final nine in 1976. They are 10-1 for the first time since 1975, the second of their four Super Bowl championship seasons.

Just like these Steel Curtain days, the Steelers are certainly relying on the NFL's top-ranked defense as opponents come up with ways to contain unbeaten quarterback Ben Roethlisberger.

Moss. Curtis Martin carried 24 times for 99 yards and Doug Brien kicked field goals of 28 and 46 yards in the 15th and 16th.

Texans 31, Titans 12

HOUSTON - David Carr threw for 201 yards and two touchdowns, and Domonique Davis rushed for a season-high 129 yards and a score to help the Texans rally from an 18-point deficit.

Panthers 21, Bucs 14

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Julius Peppers and Kory Colbert had their best games and Martin Gramatica had his worst.

Dolphins 24, 49ers 17

SAN FRANCISCO - Although the Dolphins doubt their victory there, were no real winners. The NFL's two worst teams played a game every bit as wretched as their records.

Jets 13, Cardinals 3

TEMPE, Ariz. - Quincy Carter left with a head injury after the third play of the game, but returned to throw a 69-yard touchdown pass to Santana

helicopter and on the ground. NBC said his seat was missing from the wreckage.

NBC Sports chairman survives crash, son missing

MONTROSE, Colo. (AP) - NBC Sports chairman Dick Ebersol survived a charter plane crash that killed at least two people Sunday.

Miami Heat holds off Celtics

MIAMI (AP) - Dwyane Wade had 25 points, Shaquille O'Neal added 21 and tied a team record by making all nine of his shots attempts, and the Miami Heat held off the Boston Celtics 106-104 on Sunday night.



Shaquille O'Neal blocks a shot by Boston's Paul Pierce during the second quarter Sunday in Miami.

about 3.5 minutes later. Simmons, who made eight of his first 10 shots and finished 10-of-15, powered Los Angeles to a 54-48 half-time lead with 18 points.

Patriots

Continued from C1. management was a 22-yard field goal by Matt Stover 2 seconds before halftime.

on with 3 seconds gone in the fourth quarter. Then Baltimore's Kyle Boller got a taste of what his defense usually inflicts on opposing quarterbacks when New England, which had allowed the sixth fewest points in the league, went after him.

Clippers 103, Warriors 91

LOS ANGELES - Elton Brand scored six of his 25 points in the first four minutes and finished with 13 rebounds, leading the Los Angeles Clippers to a 103-91 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Sunday.

for the Blazers, who handed the 2-11 Nets their fifth consecutive loss on the road. Richard Jefferson had 20 points and seven rebounds for the Nets, whose last win came against Portland on Nov. 9.

1992 and for just the second time in 30 years. Bobby Simmons had 22 points and 10 rebounds, and Marko Jaric added 16 points and 11 assists as the Clippers got double-figure scoring from all five starters.

Wizards 114, Raptors 109, OT

TORONTO - Larry Hughes had a season-high 33 points, 10 rebounds and 10 assists for his first career triple-double, leading the Washington Wizards past the Toronto Raptors 114-109 in overtime Sunday.

"Happy Sweet 16 Kendra" advertisement featuring a photo of a young girl and text: Love, Mom, Darren, Shilo, Chelsea, Shelby & Jaice.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Poutlainen wins again in Aspen World Cup slalom. ASPEN, Colo. — Finland's Juhani Poutlainen won for the second time in three races at Aspen Mountain...

Barrera wins rubber match in wild slugfest. LAS VEGAS — Marco Antonio Barrera and Erik Morales put on a classic the first time they fought four years ago...

Welshman captures China Open by three. SHANGHAI, China — Wales' Stephen Dodd won the China Open for his first PGA European Tour title...

No. 7 Stanford won edge No. 12 Texas Tech. SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Candice Wiggins secured the 60-gallon basket with 1:34 left...

Russia beats France to win first Fed Cup. MOSCOW — In a fitting end to a season dominated by Russian women, the country won its first Fed Cup title Sunday...

American wins Korea golf championship. JIU, South Korea — American Aron Oberholzer earned \$1 million in the Sincan Korea Golf Championship...

Miller wins third straight World Cup race. LAKE LOUISE, Alberta — Bode Miller became the first man to open a World Cup season with three victories...

Lonard takes Australian Open by one stroke. SYDNEY, Australia — Australia's Peter Lonard successfully defended his title in the semi-final Australian Open...

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV schedules for Basketball (NBA, WNBA), Football (NFL, CFL), and Hockey (NHL). Includes game times and channel information.

Area ski report

Knowledge — Plan to Open 12/01. Season ends 4/27. Snow 82". Snowfall — 2004/05. Passes — 2004/05. Rentals — 2004/05.

FOOTBALL

Table listing NFL game results and standings. Columns include Team, W, L, T, Pct, and Points For/Against.

NFL STANDINGS

Table listing NFL conference standings: AFC, NFC, AFC West, NFC West.

WRESTLING

Table listing wrestling results and rankings for various weight classes.

Kansas City 7 10 0

Table listing Kansas City Chiefs game results and statistics.

San Diego 11 10 0

Table listing San Diego Chargers game results and statistics.

San Francisco 11 10 0

Table listing San Francisco 49ers game results and statistics.

Seattle 11 10 0

Table listing Seattle Seahawks game results and statistics.

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San Diego 11 10 0

Table listing San Diego Chargers game results and statistics.

San Francisco 11 10 0

Table listing San Francisco 49ers game results and statistics.

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The cutest team will always win

It's game night, and the Pinckert Wolverettes are getting ready.

The Wolverettes are my daughter's soccer team. They're all 4 years old, and they're all girls. They've been practicing under their Coach, Coach Susanna. They're learning the fundamentals of soccer, which are:



DAVE BARRY

1. You're supposed to kick the ball.
2. You're not supposed to pick up the ball.
3. Even if you really really want to pick up the ball, you're not supposed to.
4. If you have to go potty, try to wait for a water break instead of just trotting off the field.
5. It can be hard to remember this sometimes, but don't pick up the ball, OK?

The practices have been grueling. There's a lot of physical contact, in the form of hugging.

The Wolverettes hug when they first see each other, of course, but they also hug whenever they re-encounter each other after an absence of more than 30 seconds, or when any player achieves something outstanding on the athletic front, such as making direct physical contact with the ball using her foot.

So there are hugs going on all over the place all the time, often with three or four Wolverettes clumping together and reaching a critical mass of affection that falls to the ground emitting waves of joy. Fortunately they are all wearing shin guards.

But tonight is not practice; Tonight is an actual game, and I can feel the tension mounting in the car as I drive to the soccer field with three Wolverettes in the back seat.

Over the sound of the CD player, I hear them talking game strategy, in their little helium voices:

"Here's another team and when they run with the ball you have to run and kick the ball away from them."

"But not with your hands."

"You can kick it with your knees."

"Nuh-UH."
"UH-UH."
"This song is the Cheetah Girls!"

"I love the Cheetah Girls!"
"Or you can bounce the ball on your head into the basket."

"Nuh-UH."
"Nuh-UH."
Finally we reach the soccer field, where the Wolverettes go through their pregame hugging drills. Coach Susanna asks them to do some stretching to loosen up, which is pretty funny when you consider that the Wolverettes have been in constant motion since dawn.

"I'll tell you who should stretch: The parents. We work hard during the game. Mainly we urge the Wolverettes to kick the ball."

"Kick the ball!" we urge, and then, by way of clarification, we add, "Kick the ball Kick it! The ball Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it Kick it!" etc.

It is exhausting work, but it is important work, because from time to time — I would say about every eight seconds — the Wolverettes forget about the part of soccer where you're supposed to kick the ball, and instead lie down, try to do cartwheels, etc.

The opposing team, the Dragons, which is mostly 4-year-old boys, also seems to have a focus problem, so the opposing parents are also working themselves into a frenzy.

And so we continue to urge the players on, until finally, after 30 minutes of youth-soccer time (emotionally equivalent to six months of normal human time) the game ends and the kids are at last free to run around randomly, which is pretty much what they were doing during the game.

Please see BARRY, Page D2

The Baltimore Sun

Mark Nicholson considers himself a recovered drug addict of sorts. His addiction?

"Coca-Cola," he says. Or more precisely, the caffeine spike in every can. The 51-year-old Idelwild, Md., nurse spent years stashing sodas in his car, in his hospital locker, even by his bed. It was frequently the last thing he drank at night, the first when he awoke.

If he didn't get his fix, he said: "I'd get this humongous headache and feel like I was going to throw up."

Nicholson ultimately kicked the caffeine habit with help from a little-known Johns Hopkins Hospital program for people hooked on the drug.

But late lovers, chocoholics and other caffeine junkies take heed: While this particular case may sound extreme, mounting scientific evidence shows that jokes about caffeine withdrawal are no joke at all — and it doesn't take much to get hooked.

"Some people say it's all in your head," says Roland Griffiths, a caffeine researcher at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. "We're able to show, based on a number of rigorous studies, that it's real and biologically-based."

In the most comprehensive survey of caffeine withdrawal research to date, Griffiths and a colleague pored over 170 years of studies and concluded that one small cup of coffee — only 100 milligrams of caffeine — is all it takes to trigger symptoms that include headaches, fatigue and irritability.

For serious caffeine junkies, going cold turkey can be even more traumatic. The latest analysis, published last month in the journal *Psychopharmacology*, found that "some experience flu-like symptoms such as muscle pain, nausea and vomiting when they go off caffeine. Thirteen percent of people weathering withdrawal have to call off work or cancel daily chores."

Some psychologists are even pushing the American Psychiatric Association to classify caffeine withdrawal as a bona fide mental disorder in the next edition of its *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*.

If that happens, it will likely be due in part to Griffiths.

The 58-year-old psychologist is regarded as one of the country's leading investigators of caffeine and its effects.

Legal and generally safe, caffeine is the most popular mind-altering drug in the world,

consumed by 80 percent of Americans. That fact alone made it worth investigating, says Griffiths, who became interested in "the drug" in the 1980s.

As a researcher who also studies nicotine, cocaine and other often-abused drugs, he also realized that caffeine might be a good model for analyzing the addiction process. "It's not cocaine," Griffiths explains. Yet "it controls behavior." Just how much remains hotly debated. The American Psychiatric Association doesn't recognize caffeine as a drug that causes dependence. But Griffiths says anybody who rehangs out at a Starbucks some morning — as Griffiths has done — to watch the regulars roll in like clockwork.

"People get dependent on caffeine," says Griffiths. "The question is: How does the drug do that? What kind of biological mechanism is it hijacking? It becomes this really interesting puzzle to figure out what's going on."

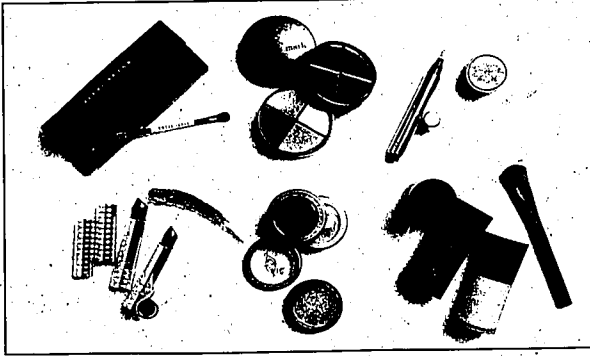
Once consumed, caffeine acts quickly. "This means that, soon after you finish your cup of coffee or tea, caffeine will be present in virtually every cell of your body," Bennett Wenberg and Bonnie Bealer note in *The World of Caffeine: The Science and Culture of the World's Most Popular Drug*.

Griffiths' research has shown that people begin to feel caffeine's mood-altering effects after ingesting as little as 10 milligrams.

"Just a sip of coffee," he says. The drug disappears quickly — typically within 12 hours to 24 hours. This, says Griffiths, explains why coffee is so often a morning ritual: "People are actually waking up in withdrawal." Griffiths and other caffeine researchers insist that they have nothing against the drug, which has undoubtedly saved lives and careers by helping drowsy drivers, soldiers, waiters, students and machine operators stay awake. Recent research even hints that caffeine helps protect against gallstones and Parkinson's disease.

"You don't lose your job, your friends, or your money by taking caffeine," says American University psychologist Laura Juliano, who collaborated with Griffiths on the latest review of withdrawal research.

"That's not to say that people don't do pretty extreme things sometimes to get it," she adds.



Holiday shimmer glamour, clockwise from upper left: Bobbi Brown Eye Kohl Shadow Palette (\$37), Glam A-GO-GO compact (\$15) from [mezmak.com](#), Yves Saint Laurent Touche Eclat pen-brush highlighter (\$36), Sula shadow pot (\$20), Giorgio Armani Luminous Silk Foundation (\$50) with blender brush (\$44), Bloom Sheer Colour (\$15 each), Clinique Color Surge lipsticks in metallics (\$13.50 each).

Holiday makeup: all that shimmers

The Washington Post

Attitude

Holiday parties are about to eat every single one of your weekends — so don't forget to restock the makeup bag. Basic cosmetics should work from buffet to jeans to cocktails — from jeans to gowns to velvet blazers.

A good foundation for any buying spree is, well, foundation. Find one that goes on weightlessly, and adds bright-

ness to your face. Pick lipsticks with a metallic sheen — the better to leave a festive ring on your martini glass. For the eyes, think smoldering. "It's about as easy, wearable glamour," says Melissa Garfola, a spokeswoman for Bobbi Brown.

"One of the big trends is shimmering makeup," says Amy



"Some people say it's all in your head," says Roland Griffiths, a caffeine researcher at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine.

The Baltimore Sun

Jolted

Americans drink five times as much soda as Europeans and nearly twice as much beer. Europeans drink three times as much tea, three times as much wine and four times as much tap water. To put that in perspective, over the course of a year, the average American drinks only 2 gallons of wine, but 20 gallons of coffee and 54 gallons of soft drinks.

Sources: *Beekeeper Wines & Liquors*

Monthly beverage consumption per capita, United States vs. Europe:

Beverage	U.S.	Europe
Soda pop (12 oz.)	48	10
Coffee (6 oz.)	35	28
Tap Water (12 oz.)	20	12
Beer (12 oz.)	20	82
Milk (12 oz.)	17	15
Fruit, vegetable juices (8 oz.)	12	10
Bottled water (12 oz.)	10	21
Tea (8 oz.)	9	8
Liquor (2 oz.)	7	6
Sports drinks (12 oz.)	6	less than 1
Wine (4 oz.)	5	16

Some caffeine users want to stop but can't. To understand why, Griffiths launched a program to study and treat caffeine

dependence in 2001. His little-publicized clinic may be the only one of its kind in the nation.

A recent graduate is Lynda Davis, a 30-year-old Lindicum, Md., social worker who used to Please see **CAFFEINE**, Page D2

Bags of scraps turn into creative projects

Sewing clubs occasionally offer challenges to their members, and here's one that was especially interesting.

The Needlework & Textile Guild of Michigan, which meets monthly in Birmingham, Mich., recently invited members to create something out of a bag of fabric scraps.

The contest fee was \$5, and although they agreed the fabrics they received were downright ugly, about 20 brave souls took up the challenge.

In the bags were 30 different pieces, ranging in size from 5 to 12 inches, and most shapes were irregular. There were scraps of cotton, polyester knit, wool and upholstery-weight tapestry.

The rules stated that the project had to include some amount of every piece of fabric, with the possible addition of two more of one's own choosing. Turns were allowed to go.

Participants exercised their imaginations over the summer, then submitted entries for prize money at the first guild meeting of the fall.



SEWING
Barbara Gash

Participants exercised their imaginations over the summer, then submitted entries for prize money at the first guild meeting of the fall.

Winners were selected by a membership vote from the display of quilts, wearables, tote bags, dolls and more.

Eileen Kapalka of Sterling Heights, Mich., won first prize for her whimsical long-legged art doll, called Lady of the Evening. Small fabric pieces were fringed to make her hair, and more fabric covered her chair. Three more scraps became tiny pillows, one was a rug and another piece breathed life as a little stuffed cat.

Shary Cohen of West Bloomfield, Mich., made a hanging storage bag for her sewing supplies, with multiple quilted pockets. She incorporated all the fabrics and added ribbons, charms, plastic flowers, cord and other trinkets. The project won second place, shared with Susan Terbruggen of Clarkston, Mich., who created a colorful duffle bag for travel.

For the travel bag, the scraps were machine-embroidered with names and logos of travel destinations. The squares were pieced in crazy quilting, enhanced by antique doilies, gold buttons and multicolor fringe. Handles were attached, and lining sewn in to complete the bag.

All the entries showed a sense of originality by the guild members.

Barbara Gash writes about sewing for the *Detroit Free Press*. Write to her at the *Free Press*, P.O. Box 828, Detroit, Mich. 48231, or send e-mail to [compuser@aol.com](#). Letters cannot be answered personally.

Awakeness during surgery is real and devastating

The Washington Post

The first thing Sidney Williams says he heard when he awoke in the operating room was the open light surgery two years ago was the consistent whine of a bone saw cleaving his sternum. As doctors began discussing his badly damaged heart, Williams wondered whether he was eavesdropping on his own death. The surgeon had warned him before surgery that there was a 50 percent chance he would die on the table. Seconds later, Williams said, he felt jolts of searing pain as the doctor shocked his heart, which had stopped. "I once almost severed two fingers with a table saw," Williams, 56, recalled. "It was much, much worse."

Williams, who said Williams, who lives in Austin, Texas, was his utter helplessness, his inability to let anyone know he was awake.

Williams couldn't make a sound: A breathing tube had been snaked down his throat. He couldn't move a muscle: He had been given standard paralytic drugs that rendered him motionless during surgery. And he couldn't cry: His eyes were taped shut and the drugs he was given stopped tear production.

"I remember just screaming and screaming," Williams said. "It was only in my head." Williams recalled, "It was like I was being buried alive."

Williams, who said he drifted in and out of consciousness during the three-hour operation, is a victim of an uncommon, largely unrecognized and often psychologically devastating awareness known as anesthesia awareness, or intraoperative awareness.

Every year an estimated 20,000 to 40,000 of the 21 million patients who receive general anesthesia wake up during surgery because they are not fully anesthetized, usually by mistake or because doctors fear too high a dose of anesthesia could be dangerous. Half of them, like Williams, can hear or feel what is going on but are unable to communicate what they are experiencing because they are paralyzed. Nearly 30 percent feel pain, studies have shown.

As a result of the experience, about 50 percent of awareness victims develop serious psychological problems, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), experts say. Williams said he regularly relives his ordeal in nightmares so vivid that he has cracked several teeth grinding them in his sleep.

Last month the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), which inspects the nation's hospitals, issued an alert about anesthesia awareness, calling it "a frightening phenomenon" that is "under-recognized and under-treated."

The commission called on hospitals to educate their staffs as well as high-risk patients about the problem and to take steps to prevent it by properly maintaining equipment and using "appropriate available monitoring technology"; and to devise policies that deal swiftly and compassionately with affected patients, including providing them access to mental health treatment.

Physicians and nurses "must balance the psychological risks of anesthesia awareness against the physiological risks of excessive anesthesia," said JCAHO president Dennis S. O'Leary.

JCAHO's action was prompted in part by a report published earlier this year about the frequency of intraoperative awareness—which is estimated to affect one or two of every 1,000 patients receiving general anesthesia—and the ability of newer brain wave monitoring devices to detect it. The alert, which is advisory, means that JCAHO will begin collecting data on awareness cases from next year. In the future, the alert could become the basis for new requirements hospitals must meet to retain their accreditation, as have previous warnings about preventing wrong-site surgery.

Unlike wrong-site surgery, which is well-known, few doctors outside anesthesiology had heard of anesthesia awareness until recently, even though the first recorded case dates back to 1842.

"Until a year ago I wouldn't have believed it if a patient had told me it had happened or told me what to do about it," said Robert A. Wise, a psychiatrist and former HMO medical director who is JCAHO's vice president for standards.

Wise said he first learned about the problem last year when he received a call from Carol Wehrer of Reston, Va., founder of an advocacy group called the Anesthesia Awareness

Campaign. Six years ago, Wehrer says, she woke up in an operating room at Washington Hospital Center while doctors were removing her diseased eye. "I don't think surgery was intended on it," Wise said. Unlike anesthesiologists or nurse anesthetists, surgeons typically see patients for postoperative appointments. A recent study found that recall of awareness is greater seven days after surgery than it is 24 hours afterward.

Knowledge of the problem has been hampered by the reluctance of patients to tell their doctors about it, said Peter S. Sebel, a professor of anesthesiology at Emory University in Atlanta. "Patients often don't report it because they're worried about being called crazy by their physicians," added Sebel, lead author of a study involving nearly 20,000 patients at seven teaching hospitals in the United States. Sebel's team found that about 100 patients wake up every workday in U.S. operating rooms for periods ranging from a few seconds to much longer.

Anesthesiologists in particular have been loath to talk to patients about intraoperative awareness, which one recent study characterized as "second only to death as a 'dreaded' complication" among anesthesiologists.

Lawyer Douglas Hornsby of Newport News, Va., said he has represented a dozen patients who sued their anesthesiologists for malpractice after they developed PTSD from waking up during surgery. Two cases that went to trial in Virginia resulted in jury awards of \$150,000 and \$350,000, he said. But other cases, including one filed by Wehrer, were settled secretly, on the condition that the name of the doctor, the size of the payment and in some cases the entire court file be sealed.

Wehrer said her anesthesiologist paid her a substantial settlement.

"That means no one ever hears about this problem," said Hornsby, who represented Wehrer.

Robert W. Litwiler, a Reston, Va., physician who is president of the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA), said that while his experience is "very concerned" about intraoperative awareness, he thinks the problem has been "sensationalized" and considers the number of patients who typically meet with the problem to be inflated.

"These people are not specialists," he said. "Anesthesiologists are. Litwiler said of JCAHO, adding that anesthesiologists have the ability to handle the problem.

In 33 years of practice, he said, he had a patient who was awake, nor have any of his colleagues.

Litwiler said the worries that some of JCAHO's recommendations, such as holding preoperative discussions about the possibility of awareness with high-risk patients, could scare them into not having surgery.

"Of course," Litwiler added, "any patient who had an unpleasant experience in the operating room deserves all our compassion."

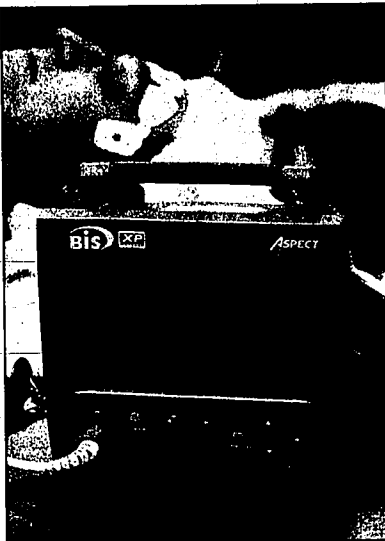
To JCAHO's Wise, professional denial stems from a "disconnect between patients and anesthesiologists who typically meet with patients minutes before they are wheeled into the operating room and rarely talk to them afterward."

"When I talk to anesthesia providers, it's just a bad hour or they didn't feel a pain," said Wise. "They're not appreciating the potential for long-term psychological damage."

Leaders of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA) tend to view the problem differently. In 2002, the group published a "sensored" account of a graphic account by patient advocate Jeanette M. Liska of her 1990 abdominal surgery.

Torn L. McKibban, immediate past president of the AANA, said he considers intraoperative awareness to be a "patient safety issue." The JCAHO alert "has everyone's attention, and that's a good thing."

For patients, waking up during surgery can be shattering. Victims of the worst cases compare it to torture. Sebel's study found that about half of awareness patients report that they cannot breathe, usually be-



The bispectral index monitor, a device that measures brain waves, has been shown to reduce the risk of intraoperative awareness by about 80 percent.

cause they are intubated. Some people reported that they thought an accident during surgery had left them paralyzed.

Some patients are so traumatized that they avoid doctors entirely and vow never to undergo surgery again, psychiatrists say.

Others suffer from flashbacks and panic attacks triggered by the sound of rubbing alcohol, the sound of metal on metal, which reminds them of the sight of surgical scrubs on a TV show.

"This struck me as the most virulent form of trauma I have ever seen—even worse than rape," said Bessel A. van der Kolk, a professor of psychiatry at Boston University's School of Medicine and a PTSD expert who co-authored a study of awareness patients.

A chief reason, he said, is "the paralysis and helplessness, the fact that people are doing things to you in which you're supposed to be safe ... and patients' nasty comments." In her book, Liska described hearing her surgeon make comments about her breasts while enduring pain that she said "felt like a blowtorch."

Williams couldn't make a sound: A breathing tube had been snaked down his throat. He couldn't move a muscle: He had been given standard paralytic drugs that rendered him motionless during surgery.

Anesthesia awareness has multiple causes, studies have found. Sometimes it is the result of defective equipment or physician error, such as failure to accurately calculate the dose of a drug or to check whether a machine is working properly before surgery starts.

Other causes occur when anesthesia is lightened too early at the end of a case "to facilitate operating room turnover," according to JCAHO, or when an intentionally light dose is given to a cardiac or trauma patient for fear that too much anesthetic could be dangerous, even fatal.

Robert J. West, an Austin lawyer who is representing Williams in the malpractice case he filed against his anesthesiologist, said he does not know why his client was under-anesthetized, "but his condition certainly had some role."

Williams, who was undergoing surgery for a defective mitral valve, has congestive heart failure.

In court papers the anesthesiologist denied Williams'

allegations.

General anesthesia typically consists of three kinds of drugs: a paralytic to prevent movement; a hypnotic gas or intravenous drug that renders the patient unconscious and unable to remember what happened or to feel pain signals; and a painkiller.

Doses are calculated based on a variety of factors, among them body weight, body fat and medical history.

Alcohol, obesity and certain drugs can affect how much anesthesia is necessary. As with all medications, people metabolize anesthesia at different rates, said Emory's Sebel.

It is the job of the anesthesiologist or nurse anesthetist to continuously monitor the patient's condition through vital signs including blood pressure, respiration and heart rate to ensure the patient is unconscious, stable and pain-free.

But these signs can be imperfect markers, doctors say, because beta blockers, along with other drugs, can depress blood pressure or affect heart rate. A patient who wakes up during surgery might not show a jump in either sign, anesthesiologists say.

Some doctors compare the situation to flying through fog: A pilot relies on instruments and expertise, but can't see clearly.

"Anesthesiologists think they can measure the depth of anesthesia, but there are times when this is not true," said Mohamed M. Ghoneim, a professor of anesthesiology at the University of Iowa. "It's really difficult to measure, especially in light anesthesia such as cardiac cases or trauma with lots of blood loss."

The best way to detect whether a patient is sufficiently anesthetized is by using a specialized EEG machine that monitors brain waves, said Ghoneim. He predicts such monitoring will become the standard of care in a few years.

Many anesthesiologists and nurse anesthetists have resisted using the BIS and similar monitors because the devices have not been "peer-reviewed" by their professional societies. Many say they consider the clinical judg-

ment they exercise monitoring vital signs to be a better way of gauging whether a patient is awake, not using a "brain-wave" monitor.

Among them is Litwiler, who said a task force composed of ASA and AANA members is studying the issue and may make recommendations late next year.

"This problem should be solved by good science, not emotion," he said. "Good science takes time."

Awareness is a problem that "has been around—it didn't just pop up yesterday."

Psychiatrists say that when doctors minimize or deny intraoperative awareness, patients tend to suffer more severe psychological problems.

Numerous studies of malpractice have found that doctors who stonewall patients after a serious injury are more likely to be sued than those who are forthcoming.

"The unexpected" awareness is traumatic enough. But when the patient tells the doctor what happened and he says it couldn't have, that's a secondary trauma," said Frank Guerra, a board-certified anesthesiologist and psychiatrist at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

"The anesthesiologist told me I must have been dreaming," said Julie Stanley, 67, of Rainbow City, Ala., who said she woke up sobbing in the recovery room of a Gadsden hospital last January.

Stanley, who had worked as a cardiac nurse in the same hospital for years, said she later learned that her vital signs, including her blood pressure, never spiked even when the surgeon made two incisions in her palm, "which felt like he was using a red-hot blade."

At the urging of her family and alarmed by her inability to stop crying, Stanley said she consulted a psychiatrist who seemed clueless—or skeptical.

"She asked me to rate the pain from 1 to 10 and I said, 'Start at 1,000,'" said Stanley, who said she has undergone numerous

other surgeries at the same hospital, including cardiac bypass. "After she asked me if it hurt like a pressure-cup-stopping going."

Williams, the Austin heart patient, said that when he told a nurse in the recovery room he had been awake, she told him he was mistaken—until he recounted conversations and told her where different members of the medical team had stood.

He said the nurse then summoned the anesthesiologist, Williams said the doctor seemed unconcerned and told him, "It's nothing to worry about, these things happen all the time."

He said he overheard the anesthesiologist tell the nurse, Williams "won't remember anything tomorrow."

Dismissive reactions are not uncommon, said Colorado's Guerra. Anesthesiology, he said, is a specialty that attracts doctors who don't tend to think in psychological terms or spend much time with patients.

"I have tried to teach anesthesiologists that when awareness happens they need to lean into the problem and make themselves very available to the patient," he said. "In the real world, the anesthesiologist gets freaked out and runs away from it."

Van der Kolk, a psychiatrist, said the apparent lack of concern reflects "part of the culture of medicine—to minimize the suffering people go through."

Patrick W. Clougherty, chief of anesthesiology at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Virginia, said his approach is different.

In the past five years, he said, 16 cases of awareness out of 200,000 surgeries have been reported at the hospital; two occurred this year.

None has resulted in a lawsuit, Clougherty said, and all were investigated and handled with compassion.

Clougherty, who is past president of the Virginia Society of Anesthesiologists, said brain wave monitors have been installed in Inova's operating rooms, and his department is developing policies about their use by its 100 anesthesiologists and nurse anesthetists.

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WORLD

World wonders what lies beyond Kyoto Protocol

The Associated Press

The ice is melting and the heat is on for international delegates assembling in Buenos Aires next week to find new ways to confront global warming under the 1997 Kyoto treaty on climate change.

The treaty's Kyoto Protocol, requiring initial cuts in greenhouse gas emissions by 2012, finally comes into force in February, seven years after it was negotiated. Next, European governments want the annual treaty conference - Dec. 6-17 in the Argentine capital - to get down to talking on steps beyond 2012 to limit heat-trapping gases in the atmosphere.

"We are, in fact, only at the beginning of what we need to do," says Margot Wallstrom, the European Union's outgoing environment chief, recently told European Parliament members.

But the U.S. government, which rejects Kyoto and its mandatory controls, balks at that idea.

"We think it's premature to be discussing post-Kyoto 2012 arrangements," Paula J. Dobritsky, the undersecretary of state who will head the U.S. delegation, said in an interview.

Instead, she said, she will use the conference to spotlight Bush administration efforts to develop cleaner energy technologies and ways to capture and safely store carbon dioxide, the most common greenhouse gas. Developing countries, facing possible emissions trading for the first time after 2012, also have restated opening talks about the "post-Kyoto" future.

That debate will go on in the corridors at Buenos Aires, while the formal meeting agenda pits a "major, major emphasis" on adapting to climate change, said the Dutch head of the treaty secretariat, Joke Waller-Hunter.

Small islands and low-lying lands such as Bangladesh worry over rising seas. Poor nations face possible water shortages if warmth washes away glaciers. Climate change may kill off traditional crops.

"Developing countries don't have capacity to deal with climate-related risk," Waller-Hunter said. They're seeking more technical assistance to help to predict and cope with changed climates.

The focus on adaptation also suggests that warming is having an impact sooner than many anticipate.

A report Nov. 8 by the inter-governmental Arctic Council, based on a four-year study by 300 scientists, said average winter temperatures in the Arctic have increased as much as 7 degrees Fahrenheit in the past 50 years. Permafrost is thawing, buckling roads. The extent of Arctic sea ice is shrinking. Polar bears and other animals are threatened. Satellite images show the summer melting area of the Greenland ice cap moving far inland. If it melts entirely, over hundreds of years, it could raise sea levels worldwide by 23 feet (7 meters), the report said.

As for global temperatures, U.S. scientists last April reported NASA satellite readings showed an average increase of 0.7 degrees Fahrenheit between 1981 and 1998. The temperature rise is consistent with carbon-dioxide warming, scientists say.

Carbon dioxide, a by-product of fossil fuels burned in everything from automobiles to electricity plants, rose to a seasonal peak record of 379 parts per million in the atmosphere last March, up from 330 just 30 years ago.

DASHING THROUGH THE SNOW



Unidentified finalists of the fourth Santa Claus World Championships whiz down a hill in Samnaun, Switzerland, Saturday evening. 32 teams from all around the world compete in disciplines like donkey trekking, chimney climbing, snowball fight, sledge race and Santa skiing for the (unofficial) title 'Santa Claus World Champion.'

Shanghai Hooters brings in brisk business

Knight Ridder News Service

SHANGHAI, China - There is no word for "tacky" in Chinese. So far, this has not created a problem for one of Shanghai's newest international restaurants, an American institution whose opening represents something of a milestone for this nominally communist, increasingly capitalist, culturally conservative country.

Hooters has landed in China. "I think they were ready for it and looking for some diversity - some American culture," said John Weber, the chain's corporate executive vice president. "Hooters is a culture within itself."

The chicken-wing-and-burger joint - known for busy waitresses and for its self-mocking (if untranslatable) motto, "Delightfully Tacky Yet Unrefined" - opened its 381st location worldwide here late last month. Business has been brisk, manager Cameron Jang said.

"It's different - there is no such restaurant in China before," he said.

Indeed, many waitresses in China are overly attentive, but they are no match for the ebullient, "Hooters girls," who bounce and clap like cheerleaders as they greet patrons at the front doors, then try to entice them into games of hula hoop and jump rope. Most men seem content to watch the girls play.

"The environment is very vibrant," said Peter Lu, a Shanghai salesman and already a repeat customer. "The food is fast food, but the choice of waitresses is excellent."

The first Hooters in China looks and feels much like the first Hooters in New Jersey, the one in Maple Shade on Route 38 in Burlington County.

At both, the "Hooters girls" are athletic and wear the same signature skin-tight white lycra tops, orange short shorts and suntan-colored hose. The chicken wings taste the same. A Philly cheesesteak, whether prepared in Maple Shade or Shanghai, costs about \$7. The decor - paneled, beach-shack - is familiar. Surf-rock music pounds from the ceiling. Even the juvenile, double-en-

"It's different - there is no such restaurant in China before."

- Cameron Jang, manager at Hooters

tendre-laced signs on the walls do not disappoint. There is one glaring difference: Hooters in China bills itself as family friendly. On a recent Saturday afternoon, a boy and a girl at separate tables celebrated birthdays with their parents clapping, dancing and singing songs with a half-dozen Hooters girls.

"We like to think this is a typical American restaurant," said Karen Zhang, a 20-year-old waitress from Shanghai who took the job hoping to improve her English. "The food is delicious, and my friends tell me my dressing is very beautiful."

China's most modern and stylish city, Shanghai also is its most sexually liberated. In the early 20th century, it was known as the "Whore of the Orient."

Movies Nov. 26 to Dec. 2

Orpheus The Film Room 7:00 - 9:15

Bridget Jones 7:00 - 9:15

Odyssey 6 After the Sunset (11) 7:00 - 9:15
The Grudge (12) 7:00 - 9:15
SpongeBob Movie (9) 7:00 - 9:15
Alexander (1) 7:00 - 9:00
Allie (1) 9:15

Motorcycle Diaries 10:00 - 9:30

Jerome 4 Polar Express (10) 7:00 - 9:30
Xmas with Kranks (12) 7:00 - 9:30
SpongeBob Movie (9) 7:00 - 9:30
Disney's Incredibles (9) 7:00 - 9:30

Twin 12 The Expendables (1) 7:00 - 9:15
Saw (1) 7:30 - 9:45
Shall We Dance (12) 7:30 - 9:45
Ladder 49 (12) 8:45 - 9:15
Incredibles (9) 8:45 - 9:15, 9:15 - 9:45
Polar Express (10) 7:00 - 9:15
Friday Night Lights (13) 9:45
National Treasure (9) 8:45 - 9:30, 9:35
Seed of Chucky (10) 7:30 - 9:45
Shark Tale (9) 7:30 - 9:45
Xmas with Kranks (9) 7:00 - 7:30, 9:30 - 9:45

Naples mob killings attract world notice

Knight Ridder News Service

NAPLES, Italy - En route to the scene of the 119th street killing this year, the taxi driver had a question for Vito Faenza. "So you're a journalist. Tell me. What's going on with all this?"

"Ah, who the hell knows?" said Faenza - who does know, having covering this city's murder and mayhem since the 1970s. He launched into a 10-minute explanation of how the latest Naples mafia war is pitting rebellious underlings against a fugitive boss.

For at least a century, mob violence has been as much a part of this darkly beautiful southern port city as good pizza, rich espresso, and black-cobblestone streets. But every so often, usually during a gang war, the killings are so frequent and so brutal that they draw the attention of the rest of the country - and of the international news media.

Now is one of those moments.

By the time Faenza arrived, the body of 60-year-old Antonio Esposito had been removed from the blood-stained floor of his food market. Two men wearing motorcycle helmets had walked in and put four bullets in his head.

During a house raid in the same drug-infested neighborhood the night before, police had seized machine guns, hand grenades, and a sophisticated video surveillance system.

Esposito's connection to organized crime, if any, was unclear, although his wife and son were taken in for questioning. For the record, nobody saw anything.

"In nearly all these killings, it is difficult for us to find people who can tell us something," said Pasquale Errico, the district police chief.

On Monday, after six people, including a 22-year-old woman, were gunned down in a 24-hour period, Interior Minister Giuseppe Pisano sent 325

extra police officers to Naples. The latest spate of violence may be the worst since 700 people were killed during a turf war between 1979 and 1985. In April, a 14-year-old girl was killed when a mob boss used her as a shield while being shot at on the street.

"I can assure you that the state will respond, blow for blow, until law and respect for human life have been restored," Pisano told the parliament.

Yet the state itself has a history of being compromised by mob corruption - a reason, many believe, that organized crime persists so powerfully in this country even as U.S. prosecutors have evicted the American mob. According to Rome-based think tank Eurispes, Italy's organized-crime groups will take in as much as \$160 billion this year, roughly 10 percent of the country's GDP.

A senator from the party of Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi is being tried on charges of helping the mob get public contracts. Last week another lawmaker from Berlusconi's party was arrested with dozens of others on similar charges after a three-year investigation. In Naples, countless numbers of local politicians have been accused of having ties to organized crime.

Another major problem is Italy's delay-prone, defendant-friendly justice system, which presumes a defendant innocent until his conviction has been upheld by two levels of appeals courts. Outrages, such as prominent gangsters going free because the statute of limitations lapsed, are a dime a dozen.

Still, there is evidence of progress - and further signs that a fed-up public wants more of it. While the mob still controls such industries as waste hauling - and has fouled Italy's environment with rampant illegal dumping - prosecutors have managed to catch and convict some major bosses.



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The primary motive for people in their 20's or 30's to have a will drawn is to assure guardian designations for their minor children in the event of untimely parental death.

People approaching retirement or involved in a deceased parent's estate are more likely to recognize the desirability of having a direct say in how and to whom their property passes.

A lifetime is spent acquiring and enhancing an estate. Planning and documenting the transfer to a spouse or the next generation should not be left to chance.

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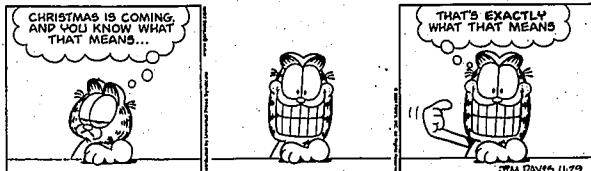
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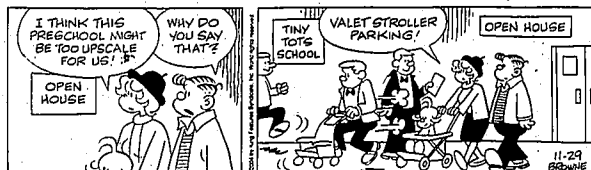
Garfield

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Hi and Lois

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The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Thuman & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequitur

By Wiley

