

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Another comfortable day. High 44, low 23.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Young suspects: Police detain pair of 10-year-olds in connection with bomb-threat case.

Page B1

FOOD & HOME



Be a holiday hero: Everyday meals don't have to suffer just because it's the Christmas season.

Page C1

MONEY

Rental revolution: Blockbuster will end late fees on games, movies — but there's a catch.

Page E1

SPORTS



Rivalry renewed: Twin Falls High visited Minico in boys basketball Tuesday.

Page D1

WORLD

Trial's coming: The new Iraq government says it will start trying members of Saddam's regime.

Page A6

OPINION

Airport heroes: Bruce Willis displays perfect timing by donating land for new airfield, today's editorial says.

Page A10

Outdoor-generosity

Gifts for the outdoors enthusiast come in all shapes and sizes.

Thursday in The Times-News

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Verdict: Guilty



DEI ANSRI WALLS/Press Star Journal

Officers attempt to restrain an agitated and uncooperative David Santistevan Tuesday after the 47-year-old Bellevue resident was convicted on two counts of attempted second-degree murder. "This isn't fair. This is not fair," Santistevan wailed as he was led out of the courtroom.

Bellevue man faces up to 45 years in prison

By Gary Stivers
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY — David Santistevan cried quietly as a 5th District Court clerk read two guilty verdicts reached by a 12-member jury Tuesday in his attempted second-degree murder case.

A few moments later, he lost it.

As Judge Robert Elgee asked Santistevan whether he would admit to having used a firearm to shoot Tyrel Peak and John Marshall Hooten on March 29 — a question of enhancement that could tack additional years onto his sentence — the 47-

year-old Bellevue resident responded with a few seconds of silence, followed by an escalating wail.

"I defended myself," Santistevan cried in protest. "I didn't know what to do."

The rest of his statement became unintelligible.

Defense attorney Keith Koark told Elgee his client is on record as using and discharging a firearm and said the defense would not challenge it.

Elgee said one of two things must happen.

"By a Supreme Court ruling, I have to have an admission or a finding by the jury on the en-

hancement question," Elgee said.

The judge again looked directly at Santistevan to see whether he would make the admission.

Santistevan thrust his hands forward, knocking a book and box of Kleenex onto the floor. He stood and quickly moved behind his chair moaning, "I'm not going to stand here and take this."

With two bailiffs already reaching for him, Santistevan attempted to move further away from his chair. Two more officers grabbed hold of him as he wailed that he wanted no

part of the proceeding that is likely to put him behind bars for the rest of his life.

He was handcuffed despite continuing to struggle, and as he was led out of the courtroom he continued to protest, "This isn't fair. This is not fair."

The spectacle shocked the entire courtroom into silence.

Elgee brought the focus back to the issue at hand, addressing the jury.

"You need to make one additional finding on the display, use or threatened use of a firearm in the commission of a crime."

See page TRIAL, Page A2

Man faces charges in bodily fluid incident

Police say suspect claimed to have AIDS.

By Rebecca Meany
Times-News writer

BUIH. — A man claiming to have AIDS spit blood at a deputy after being arrested and brought to jail, police say.

Lindomar J. Avelar, 21, was charged with one felony count of propelling bodily fluids or waste at certain persons, and misdemeanor counts of driving without privileges, driving under the influence and resisting an officer.

An affidavit written by Stacy Gorrell, an officer with the Buhl Police Department, outlines the sequence of events leading up to the charges:

In the early morning hours of Dec. 5, police noticed a vehicle driving erratically through the streets of Buhl.

An officer pulled over the driver, who got out of his car and began to approach the patrol vehicle.

Gorrell asked the man, later identified as Avelar, if he had been drinking, to which he replied, "Not enough."

When officers tried to conduct field sobriety tests, the driver reportedly said, "I am not going to take your respletive tests."

Avelar then told police they should call for backup "cause you are going to have a problem with this guy." Avelar would kill the arresting officer and his family.

Additional officers from the Buhl Police Department and Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department were called. After a struggle to subdue Avelar, authorities took him to the Twin Falls County Jail.

Jail deputies put Avelar into a holding cell where he became "resistant and belligerent," police say. Avelar then reportedly spit blood and saliva at a deputy, telling the officer, "I have AIDS and now you will get AIDS."

Sheriff Wayne Rousley said the suspect was released from jail before he could be given an HIV test, but a judge could require the defendant to get tested when he comes back for a preliminary hearing.

"If somebody's incarcerated and spitting on someone, we can test them for communicable diseases, including AIDS," said Grant Loebs, Twin Falls County prosecutor.

Rousley was not sure if any blood in the jail deputy in a place where it could be ab-

See page FLUIDS, Page A2

Mother, daughter prepare for life of teaching



LESLIE SMITH/Times-News

Angel Harbison, right, gets a hand from her mother, Terri, while writing a thank you card to her father. The two student teachers received their certificates of completion from Idaho State University Tuesday at the College of Southern Idaho.

Both receive their certificates from ISU

By Karin Kowalski
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Terri Harbison flipped her hands like the wings of the butterflies in her stomach.

She was nervous. This ceremony marked the end of her days as a student teacher.

"I'm so excited," Harbison said as she looked around for one of her fellow teaching students — her daughter.

Terri Harbison, 51, and Angel Harbison, 22, both received their certificates of completion from Idaho State University along with 19 other education students Tuesday afternoon at

the College of Southern Idaho.

The education majors will either earn bachelor's of science or arts degrees, depending on their concentrations. Students get their diplomas in January, then officially graduate in May, said Bill Watkins, ISU's coordinator of field experiences.

The ISU program has been offered at CSI for about six years.

Angel Harbison always knew she wanted to be a teacher.

"I'd rather be around kids than anybody else," she said.

Now she and her mother both got their degrees through ISU's Twin Falls office.

"It was very nice just to be able to take it all here," Angel Harbison said.

In her last two years she had

See page TEACHING, Page A2

Many companies rapidly cut benefits for future retirees

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Many companies are dropping their promise of health benefits for future retirees, who now might have to stay on the job longer and rely on government health care in their old age.

Eight percent of employers with at least 1,000 workers said they had eliminated subsidized retiree health benefits for some workers this year, and 11 percent more said they probably would do so next year, according to a study released Tuesday by the benefits consulting firm Hewitt Associates and the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation.

Most of those affected were newly hired, but some companies said the change applied to workers who had been on the payroll longer.

The number of companies that offer health coverage to

retirees has been on the decline for 15 years.

But among those that continue to subsidize retiree coverage, the move to treat current and former workers differently reflects a desire to leave health benefits in place for those who have already retired despite several consecutive years of double-digit increases in health care costs.

Since 2000, more than 100 large employers have chosen this path.

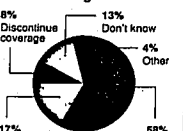
Some have cut out subsidies but have told employees they can continue coverage under company health plans after they retire, a much cheaper option than seeking health insurance elsewhere.

Most large companies plan to keep offering prescription coverage to their retirees after Medicare's new drug benefit takes effect in 2006, the survey found.

Drug benefits for most retirees stay

A majority of large employers plan to accept the 26 percent tax-free subsidy to continue offering prescription drug benefits for retirees after the Medicare drug insurance program begins in 2006, a survey shows.

Strategic employers are likely to choose under the Medicare drug law



* Medicare would be primary payer

NOTE: Online survey of 333 private-sector companies with 1,000 or more employees conducted between May and September 2004

SOURCE: Kaiser Family Foundation/ AP Hewitt Associates

More singles depend on good 'wingperson'

The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Two friends are at a party when one sees a potential love interest across the room. Immediately, the other friend swoops in to help.

It's long been a play in the flirting arsenal. But now, those who ride shotgun for the sake of love have a name: They are the "wingmen" and "wingwomen" of the dating world.

"Every guy's gotta play the role of the wingman at some point in his life. It's the unwritten guy code," says Steve Dybsky, a 25-year-old Chicagoan who works in advertising and has been a wingman for friends — and had them do the same.

It's become such a popular concept that people are even

posting ads online, looking for wingmen to accompany them on a night on the town.

At Arriviste Press, a small Boston-based publishing house, writers have launched a virtual wingman service on the company's Web site. All clients have to do is plug in a few details about themselves and what the sort of date they're looking for and, using that information, the virtual wingman will craft a personal ad, free of charge.

Meanwhile, in cities such as Chicago and New York, a person can rent out a real, live wingperson on an hourly basis.

Wendy Ralph, a self-described "wingchick," is founder of the Chicago company Mr. Right Now Inc., which began by providing dates for a night — then quickly expanded when an increasing number of clients

See page WINGPERSON, Page A2

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

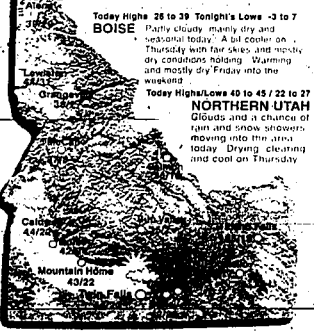
Today: Another clear, mostly dry and fair day. High: 36 to 42. Low: 20 to 26.
Tonight: Mostly clear with late-night fog possible. Low: 20 to 26. High: 36 to 42.
Tomorrow: Clouds with early fog. Quiet way to start the day. High: 36 to 42.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy with light winds and patchy fog. High: 36 to 42. Low: 20 to 26.
Tonight: Partly cloudy with light winds and patchy fog. High: 36 to 42. Low: 20 to 26.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy with light winds and patchy fog. High: 36 to 42. Low: 20 to 26.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Mildly cloudy and cool today with a chance of many high mountain snow showers developing. Drier and chilly on Thursday with sunnier, returning.



Today High: 28 to 38. Tonight's Low: -3 to 7.
Boise: Partly cloudy, mostly dry and occasional today. A bit cooler on Thursday with fair skies and night sky on conditions holding. Warming and mostly dry Friday into the weekend.
NORTHERN UTAH: Clouds and a chance of rain and snow showers moving into the area. Today: Drying clearing and cool on Thursday.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday. Includes temperature ranges and weather conditions.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Yesterday, Today. Includes Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moonrise and Moonset.

Moisture and Moonset

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Includes Moisture and Moonset data.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, and Rupert with their respective forecasts.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Lists major cities like Atlanta, Chicago, and New York with their respective forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, High, Low. Lists various cities and their weather from the previous day.

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, and Rupert with their respective forecasts.

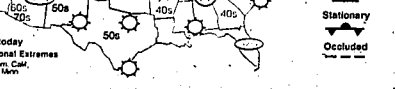
U. V. INDEX

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Lists UV index levels for different days.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Friday. Lists various international cities with their respective forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



JOIN TODAY! Twin Falls 733-3010. Includes logo and contact information.

Feel The Sensations. 734-SUNN. Includes logo and contact information.

Valid to 6 p.m. Today. Includes logo and contact information.

Iraq supply effort takes increasingly to air Wingperson

Los Angeles Times
WASHINGTON — U.S. commanders in Iraq have begun transporting more supplies to the country by aircraft in an effort to evade the roadside bombs attacks that have been killing or wounding about 100 American troops each month, the Air Force's top officer said Tuesday.

force has offered extra air freight capacity to take 180 American troops off the road each day, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John J.umper said. Air freighters are now carrying 450 tons of cargo previously carried in convoys, a 40 percent increase with a goal of replacing up to 1,000 tons, Air Force officials said.

"I was not happy with the communication I saw between the air components and the land components about convoy operations," Jumper said. "We have 64 airplanes and they're staying busy. But the question is: Could they be busier? And is 64 enough?"

Continued from A1
started asking for a wingperson. "I've always been that girl, the one whose friends ask 'Will you go talk to that person for me?'" she said. "I've always been that girl, the one whose friends ask 'Will you go talk to that person for me?'" she said.

Trial

Continued from A1
The finding would mean a maximum 15 years of additional time behind bars. Judge left the courtroom but was back in just nine minutes with the finding that a gun was indeed used in the crimes and the state's enhancement provision would apply.

Pizzeria in the early evening hours of March 25, Hooten was shot after he told Santistevan, "Go ahead!" following Santistevan's threat he would do so. Santistevan then turned and shot Peck as he fled the scene.

several weeks. After the verdicts, Roark said it was too early to decide whether to pursue an appeal, adding that he wasn't surprised with the adverse decision.

"Not that every wingperson always plays it smoothly, as Dybski — the Chicagoan who works in advertising — discovered three years ago. He was a senior at Villanova University, and his roommate was playing the role of wingman when they met two cheerleaders for the Philadelphia 76ers basketball team."

Teaching

Continued from A1
Angel Harbison said as a college student, she wanted to feel more independent, but it was hard to do with her mother right there. Playing hockey was not an option.

experience. It's still up in the air where she'll find a job. Harbison worked as an aide in the Hagerman-School District for about 18 years and always planned to go back to school.

"I respect the jury process and this jury as well," Roark said. "We do feel we presented David's case well, particularly since the jury deliberated 16 hours over three days. This was obviously a thoughtful jury."

"When O'Sullivan was planning a birthday party for a couple of coworkers last month, he posted a query on Craigslist, a popular online bulletin board, looking for wingmen. "We just need some responsible girls to help keep the drinks topped up, the lines to the clubs short, and the cars idling. We are NICE."

Circulation

Daniel Walock, director
Circulation phone lines are open between 7 and 10 a.m. only. If you do not receive your paper by 7 a.m., call the number for your area.

"We bonded pretty good," she said. Terri Harbison did her student teaching in sixth-grade language arts at Wendell Middle School, Next semester she'll be running the computer lab at the school, then she'll start job hunting.

"Bliss said. Cheri Vittek, 47, another one of the students, gave an impromptu eulogy in speech in part of the event. "I can't practice it because it'll take out the sincerity of it," Vittek said.

Continued from A1
sorbed into the bloodstream, thereby possibly infecting him. "The code has changed under the microscope," Tausley said of the defendant. "It's a chargeable offense regardless of whether (the fluid) hit something."

Mail information

The Times-News (CPS 611-080) is published daily at 132 Fayette St., Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises.

The Times-News NEW Information Line

735-3350
Lottery and Weather Information are just a phone call away! Includes phone icon and website information.

Fluids

"We don't do a test immediately because it takes time for an infection to get in," Tausley said. He added that such information would not be made available to the public because it is a medical issue.

Times-News telephone directory
Circulation (Daniel Walock, Circulation Director) 733-0931, Ext. 1
Classified Advertising (Dorothy Johnson, Manager) Ext. 2
News (Mike Smith, Advertising Director) Ext. 3
Retail Advertising (Mike Smith, Advertising Director) Ext. 4
Ag Weekly (Janet Coffin, General Manager) Ext. 5
Publisher Brad Hurd Ext. 249
Editor Chris Stridbach 735-3255

Lottery Information Press 2
Weather Information Press 3
... or check out our website: www.magicvalley.com

OUTDOOR GENEROSITY
Gifts for the outdoors enthusiast come in all shapes and sizes.
Thursday in Outdoors

Peterson may never be executed

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — For Scott Peterson, ultimately there may be little difference between a death sentence and life in prison. In California, the chances are greater that a condemned inmate will die in prison than be executed by lethal injection.

1978. In that same period, 30 death row inmates have died of other causes: Three were killed by other prisoners, a dozen committed suicide, and the rest died of natural causes.



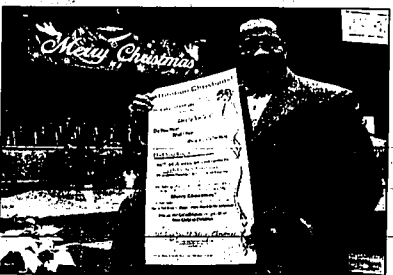
Scott Peterson

seems to be insurmountable right now," said Edward Jugels, Kern County's district attorney. Stephen Wayne Anderson was the last California prisoner to be put to death, after languishing on death row for more than 20 years. He was executed in January 2002 for the 1980 murder of an 81-year-old woman.

never enter the execution chamber. Instead, they said they decided on the ultimate punishment because it fit his crime, murdering his pregnant wife.

Conservatives seize on Christmas

The Associated Press



Pastor of the Upper Room Church of God in Christ, Patrick Wooden Sr., is seen in a Raleigh, N.C., church in this Dec. 9 photo. Wooden created and bought a full-page newspaper ad urging 'all Christians to spend their hard-earned dollars with merchants who include the greeting 'Merry Christmas' in their holiday advertising promotions.'

Emboldened by their Election Day successes, some Christian conservatives around the country are trying to put more Christ into Christmas this season.

In Terrebonne Parish, La., an organization is petitioning to add "Merry Christmas" to the red-lit "Season's Greetings" sign on the main government building and is selling yard signs that read, "We believe in God, Merry Christmas." And in a Raleigh, N.C., church, recently paper ad urging Christians to spend their money only with merchants who include the greeting "Merry Christmas" in ads and displays.

"There is a revival taking place in our nation that is causing Christian and right-minded people to say, 'Wait a minute. We've gone too far,'" says the Rev. Bruce Wooden Sr., pastor of the Raleigh church. "We're not going to allow the country to continue this downward spiral to the left."

cities "the recent presidential election showing political correctness is offending millions of Americans."

(Federated, for its part, says that is has no ban on such greetings and that its store divisions can advertise as they see fit and store clerks are free to wish any customer "Merry Christmas. Macy's says its ads commonly use the phrase.)

The push from the religious right troubles Barry Lynn, execu-

utive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State.

"This mixing of secular and religious symbols ought to be seen as a bad thing, not a good thing, for Christian believers," he says. "Unfortunately, some of the Christian pressure groups seem to have it backwards," he adds. "I think it's fair to say it's a mistaken notion that they have a mandate to put more nativity scenes up because George Bush

was elected."

The battle over the manger on the city hall lawn is nothing new. People expect the annual tussle over the separation of church and state.

But the "keep the Christ in Christmas" contingent is particularly agitated this year over what its members see as a troubling trend "on Main Street": Target stores banning Salvation Army bell ringers; UPS drivers complaining to a free-speech group that they have been told not to wish people a "Merry Christmas"; an accusation JCS denies as "silly on its face and just not true"; and major corporations barring religious music from cubicles and renaming the office Christmas bash the "end of the year" party.

"I think it is part of a growing movement of people with more traditional values, which make up the majority of people in this country," saying enough is enough," says Greg Scott, a spokesman for the Arizona-based Alliance Defense Fund.

Sides debate health of Social Security

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Even before settling on a proposal to privatize part of Social Security, President Bush is mounting an aggressive campaign to convince the public of something that many Democrats and economists say is mistaken: that the massive government retirement system is hurtling toward disaster.

20 years." Critics of private accounts point out that the board that oversees Social Security estimates that the program will not run out of funds until 2042—and even then, ongoing payroll taxes will be able to pay the bill for about 75 percent of full benefits.

That leaves plenty of time, they say, to assure Social Security's future with just a little nipping and tucking — slightly higher taxes, minimally smaller benefit increases, maybe a higher retirement age.

“The collapse of Social Security has been talked about as long as I can remember and it hasn't happened so far.”

— Debra Sher, 51-year-old association executive

“Three times in the past week, Bush has created or used public relations events to promote his view that Social Security is facing a dire financial threat and needs major repairs.”

Most recently, Bush on Saturday said in his weekly radio address that “the system is headed towards bankruptcy down the road. If we do not act soon, Social Security will not be there for our children and grandchildren.”

The issue will also be central to a White House conference scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday meant to draw attention to Bush's economic agenda for the next four years.

The public relations campaign shows that even before Congress and the public debate various plans to overhaul the hugely popular program, a major battle over Social Security is already under way.

President Bush, as one of the legacies of his presidency wants workers to be able to shift some of their Social Security taxes into privately owned accounts, which they would invest in the stock or bond markets.

In this vision, the government could pare back the benefits promised under Social Security, shoring up the finances of the program, because the return on the investments in the private accounts would help workers support a comfortable retirement.

“Social Security is not in crisis, and the financial challenges facing the system are manageable,” said Rep. Robert T. Matsui of California, the senior Democrat on the House Social Security subcommittee.

Matsui and other opponents of private accounts argue that every dollar contributed to the investment accounts would no longer be available to pay the standard benefits of workers who are now retired or soon will be.

The shortfall could run into the trillions of dollars, which the government would have to borrow, adding to the deficit. “My generation has been told by politicians every election cycle that Social Security is going bankrupt, and we believe it,” said Ben Ferguson, 23, host of a conservative radio talk show syndicated by Radio America.

If there is not going to be any Social Security for members of his generation, Ferguson said, they may as well gamble with investment accounts that they control. “We can't do any worse than Social Security will,” he said.

By contrast, Debra Sher, a 51-year-old association executive who lives in Virginia, is counting on Social Security to provide a small but reliable base to her and her husband's retirement income.

“The collapse of Social Security has been talked about as long as I can remember,” she said, “and it hasn't happened so far.”

Her husband is on the other side of the fault line. Jim Kidd, who runs a firm teaching marketing techniques, does not think Social Security as now constituted can survive the onslaught of the Baby Boom generation's retirement.

U.S. cuts tariff on Canadian softwood lumber imports

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government reduced the tariff on imports of Canadian softwood lumber on Tuesday but by less than the Canadians had wanted, extending a heated cross-border dispute.

Canadian officials denounced the decision and said they would challenge it. The Commerce Department decision would cut tariffs from an average of 27.2 percent to 21.2 percent. A preliminary U.S. decision had recommended that tariffs be cut in half for easy-to-saw pine, spruce and other softwood lumber used to

build homes. Commerce said the final decision accurately reflected subsidies by six Canadian provinces that allow their producers to sell lumber in the United States at below normal prices that compete unfairly with U.S. producers.

While the U.S. timber industry has generally applauded the tariffs, home builders on both sides of the border say they have driven up the cost of new homes in the United States and hurt Canadian lumber exporters and communities that depend on them.

Police arrest mom on abuse charges after 3-year-old dies

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — A woman was arrested on child abuse charges Tuesday after her 3-year-old daughter was found dead in a filthy motel room where they lived with the woman's husband and five other children, authorities said.

The two adults had earlier pleaded no contest to charges stemming from his use of a belt to beat at least two children, including the girl who died, of parents said.

Deputies found dirty diapers and trash littering the room at the extended-stay

motel, and baby bottles containing moldy milk and what could have been maggots, said sheriff's spokeswoman Barbara Miller.

Kenya Hill, 27, called 911 Monday and an emergency operator tried to give her CPR instructions for little Kai Gullison, but Hill told the operator it was too late, Miller said.

“She said, ‘Oh, no, the baby's cold. I think she's dead and started crying,’” Miller said.

Kai, whose body was found on a bed, may have been dead for a day or two, authorities said.

The Brown Magnolia
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(Holiday gift items of Fabric and Floral and Succulents Excluded)

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• Paraffin Hand Dip (Peach Scented)
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\$50.00 Savings
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OF COURSE SANTA IS OVERWEIGHT
HE ONLY WORKS OUT ONCE A YEAR

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AND
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GOLD'S GYM
*With One Year Membership Some Restrictions May Apply Closes For The Winter Months December 31st 11:00

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- Apex™ Nutritional Counseling
- Pilates
- Turbo Kick™
- Yoga
- Spinning™
- Targit™ Fitness and more

GOLD'S GYM
Preview Center
Twin Falls
1411 Falls Avenue East

NATION

Chief climate scientist disputes U.S. stance on global warming

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina (AP) — The world's chief climate scientist on Tuesday disputed the U.S. government contention that cutbacks in carbon dioxide emissions are not yet warranted to check global warming.

Experts received a report, meanwhile, saying 2004 will be one of the warmest years on record.

"The science says you've got to reduce emissions," Rajendra K. Pachauri told The Associated Press in an interview midway through a two-week international climate conference.

The Kyoto Protocol, the international accord requiring cuts in carbon dioxide, "is driven by the need to reduce emissions, and on that there is no question," said Pachauri, chairman of a U.N.-sponsored network of climatologists.

Scientists largely blame the accumulation of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse gases" in the atmosphere for the rising temperatures of the past century.

"The science says you've got to reduce emissions."

— **Rajendra K. Pachauri, climate scientist**

The 10 warmest years globally, since records were first kept in the 19th century, have all occurred since 1990, the top three since 1998. Specialists here this week will issue a report saying 2004 ranks as the fourth- or fifth-warmest year recorded.

Conference delegates from dozens of nations are fine-tuning the workings of the Kyoto pact, which takes effect Feb. 16. It sets targets for 30 industrial nations — including the non-participating United States and Australia — to reduce emissions of six greenhouse gases, most

importantly carbon dioxide, a byproduct of coal, oil and gasoline use.

The United States is a member of the umbrella U.N. treaty on climate change, and it signed that treaty's Kyoto Protocol in 1997. But President Bush renounced the Kyoto agreement in 2001, saying emission reductions would hurt the U.S. economy.

Before leaving for the annual climate-treaty talks, U.S. negotiator Harlan Watson told reporters in Washington that the United States — the world's biggest emitter of carbon dioxide — would eventually stop the growth in its emissions "as the science justifies." After arriving here, he said the Kyoto Protocol's approach was "not based on science."

Asked about Watson's statements, Pachauri was emphatic. "The science says you've got to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. The science says you've got to stabilize concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere," he said.

U.S. culture puts weight on immigrants

CHICAGO (AP) — Long-term exposure to American culture may be hazardous to immigrants' health.

A new study found that obesity is relatively rare in the foreign-born until they have lived in the United States — the land of drive-thrus, remote controls and double cheeseburgers — for more than 10 years.

Only 8 percent of immigrants who had lived in the United States for less than a year were obese, but that jumped to 19 percent among those who had been here for at least 15 years. That compared with 22 percent of U.S.-born residents surveyed.

The study, published in Wednesday's journal of the American Medical Association, shows the flip side of the American dream of finding a better life in the land of plenty.

and sort of life of leisure is that you also have some of the negative effects, and obesity is one of the major side-effects of the success of technology and just having a life of leisure," said co-author Dr. Christina Moe of Harvard Medical School. "It's a double-edged sword."

Previous studies have shown that immigrants tend to have healthier habits, including less smoking and drug use, than U.S.-born residents, and longer life spans. Researchers suspect that is at least partly because those who choose to immigrate could be unusually healthy, since uprooting to another country requires strength and vitality.

But the earlier studies did not look at how obesity rates among immigrants changed over time.

The link between obesity and numbers of years in the United States was found in

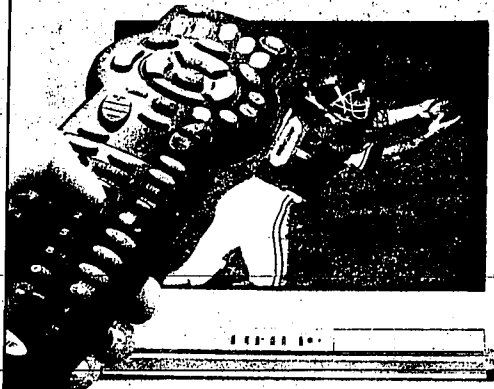
white, Hispanic and Asian immigrant groups. It was not seen in foreign-born blacks, but their numbers in the study were too small to draw any conclusions, said lead author Dr. Mira Sanghavi Goel of Northwestern University in Chicago.

"Trends in obesity among immigrants may reflect acculturation and adoption of the U.S. lifestyle, such as increased sedentary behavior and poor dietary patterns," they wrote. "They may also be a response to the physical environment of the United States, with increased availability of calorically dense foods and higher reliance on labor-saving technologies."

Goel said it makes sense that exposure to America's fast-food culture would eventually rub off, but she said she was surprised by the magnitude of the change.

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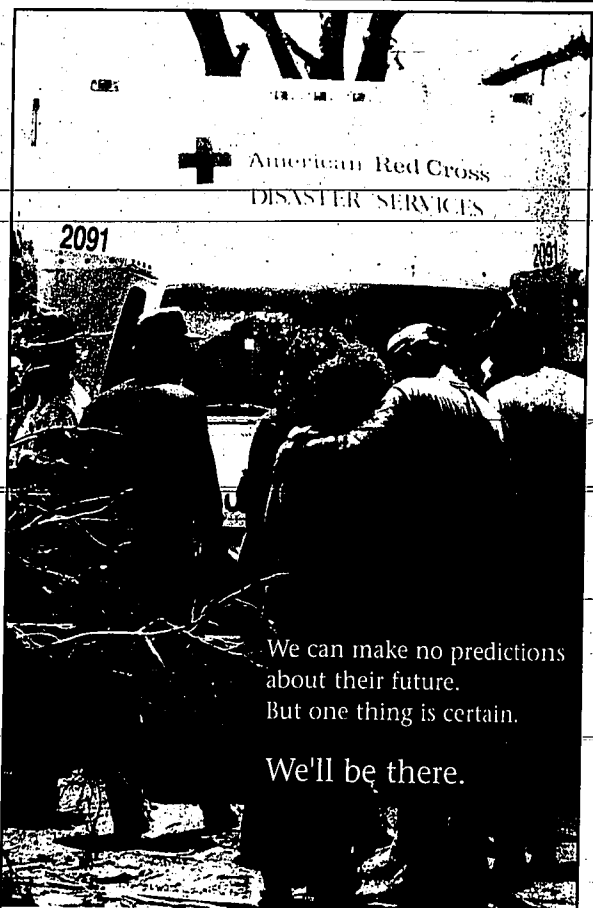
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Rebels hit Green Zone again with suicide bomb

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A suicide car bomber killed seven people at a Green Zone checkpoint early Tuesday, the second attack in two days near the same gate into the district that houses Iraq's interim government and the U.S. Embassy, officials said.

Elsewhere in Baghdad, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff announced the U.S. military will have a record-high 150,000 troops in Iraq through the Jan. 30 elections and "a little bit after."



Casualties are brought into Baghdad's Yarmouk hospital Tuesday. A suicide car bomber killed seven people when he struck a checkpoint at Baghdad's Green Zone early Tuesday, the second attack in two days at the district that houses Iraq's interim government.

Tuesday's blast at the Green Zone checkpoint killed seven people and wounded at least 13 people, said Dr. Hassan Abdel-Sattar from Baghdad's Yarmouk Hospital.

Police Lt. Rafid Abid said the attack was carried out by a suicide car bomber.

A mushroom-shaped cloud of black smoke rose from the site of the attack, which was near where a bomber struck Monday, killing 13 and injuring 15 people. The location is near the Harthiyah gate on the western edge of the zone, which has been repeatedly targeted by bombings and mortar and missile attacks since it became the headquarters of the occupation authorities in May 2003.

Suicide bombing

Seven killed in a suicide attack early Tuesday at Baghdad's Green Zone, the second attack in two days at the district.



SOURCE: EBRI AP

No U.S. troops were injured in either blast.

The U.S. Embassy and several other missions are located inside the zone, which occupies an area of four square miles on the west bank of the Tigris River. The area, comprising Saddam's palace and other administrative buildings, is a virtual fortress encircled by miles of 12-foot-high barricades, its gates guarded by U.S. Bradley fighting vehicles. The complex is off-limits to the public.

Several of Baghdad's main arteries dead-end straight into it, cut off by a triple layered sprawl of concertina wire, impassable concrete blast walls and sand-bagged guard towers.

In other violence, the U.S. military said two U.S. Marines from the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force based in western Iraq died in combat in Baghdad province Monday, bringing the number of Marines killed to 10 in three days.

Seven other Marines died in action Sunday in Anbar, a vast

province west of Baghdad including the battleground cities of Fallujah and Ramadi, and a 10th was killed Saturday. The military provided no details on their deaths, which brought to nearly 1,300 the number of American troops killed in Iraq since the invasion in March 2003.

Gen. Richard Myers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said U.S. troop numbers will rise from 138,000 to 150,000 before next month's elections, which many Iraqis fear could be targeted by militants opposed to the occupation and bent on denigrating the political process.

"Our troop levels will be at 150,000 for the elections and a little bit after," Myers said. "Asked when exactly the

troops would pull out," he responded: "That will be determined by events on the ground."

The previous high for the U.S. force in Iraq was 148,000 on May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations were over and most soldiers thought the war had been won. The initial invasion force included thousands of sailors on ships in the Persian Gulf and other waters, plus tens of thousands of troops in Kuwait and other surrounding countries.

Poland said Tuesday it will cut its troop strength in Iraq by nearly a third in the month following the vote, as part of long-standing plans to reduce its presence. Poland's current 2,400-member contingent will be cut to 1,700 from mid-February, with 700 soldiers remaining in Poland on standby, Defense Minister Jerzy Szmajdzinski told a news conference in Warsaw.

Myers predicted that last month's U.S.-led offensive to retake the western militant stronghold of Fallujah would undercut the insurgency by denying guerrillas a sanctuary from which they could launch attacks with relative impunity.

"They will try to move to other locations but I don't think they are going to find any location as satisfactory as Fallujah was for their operational planning and facilitation of what they were doing."

Trials begin soon for Iraqi regime

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — War crimes trials against the top figures in Saddam Hussein's ousted regime will begin next week, interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said Tuesday. He didn't say whether the former dictator would be among them.

Many of Iraq's former Baath Party members have been in jail

for more than a year, and few have been able to meet with counsel, Saddam's Jordan-based lawyers say they have not seen the former dictator, arrested a year ago Monday, and said holding trials so soon would be illegal.

"The Iraqi court will be in violation of the basic rights of the

defendants, which is to have access to legal counsel while being interrogated and indicted," Zaid al-Khasasneh said.

Officials had given conflicting accounts about when the trials before the Iraqi special tribunal would begin. They have also suggested that Saddam would not be tried first.

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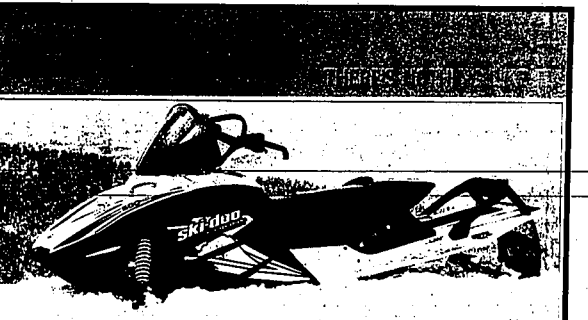
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NATION



Record Powerball winner Jack Whittaker, 57, of Scott Depot, W.Va., walks towards the Putnam County Judicial Annex Monday in Winfield, W.Va.

Troubles escalate for lottery winner

CHARLESTON, W.Va. (AP) — The world's first glimpse of Jack Whittaker, winner of the richest lottery jackpot in U.S. history, was of a boisterous, happy-go-lucky guy in a big cowboy hat who loved his family, work and God and promised to share his good fortune with the church and the poor.

Two years later, the picture the public is seeing now is a mug shot of a haggard, somber Whittaker.

Whittaker, 57, has been arrested twice for drunken driving in the past year and has been ordered to go into rehab by Jan. 2 for a 20-day stay. On Monday, he pleaded no contest to charges he attacked a bar manager, and he is accused in two lawsuits of making trouble at a nightclub and a racetrack.

"That's probably the unfortunate situation of maybe having too much money, too much time on his hands," said Steve Zubrzycki, who works for a company that started selling "Where's Jack?" T-shirts after authorities issued an arrest warrant for Whittaker earlier this month.

Although he was already a wealthy contractor, Whittaker became an instant celebrity on Christmas Day 2002 after winning a \$314.9 million Powerball jackpot. He took his winnings in a lump sum of \$1.13 billion after taxes, and at a news conference in which he came across as a jolly saint, he promised to donate one-tenth to his church and contribute to other causes.

He soon created a charity to help people find jobs, buy food or get an education; he split \$7 million among three churches; and he gave money to improve a Little League park and buy playground equipment and coloring books for children.

But in August 2003, a briefcase containing \$545,000 in cash and cashier's checks was stolen from Whittaker's sport utility vehicle while it was parked at a strip club, and police disclosed that Whittaker not only frequented strip clubs but was also a high-stakes gambler — which is why he was carrying so much cash.

The break-in was the first of several thefts involving Whittaker's vehicle, his office and his house in Scott Depot, a booming bedroom community of about 8,000 situated between Charleston and Huntington, West Virginia's two highest cities.

One of the thefts occurred at his home on the same day an 18-year-old friend of Whittaker's granddaughter was found dead

there. The death remains under investigation. Whittaker was out of town at the time, but the young man's death made the front-page story.

(Also, last week Whittaker reported that his 17-year-old granddaughter was missing. The family had not seen or heard from Brandi Lasha Bragg since Dec. 4. Authorities are investigating.)

In May, two men sued Whittaker, claiming they were injured when they were tossed out of a nightclub at his request. In another lawsuit, three female employees of a racetrack claim Whittaker assaulted them last year.

In January, he was accused of threatening and assaulting a bar manager. On Monday, he was fined \$100 and ordered to attend weekly Alcoholics Anonymous meetings.

"As if we needed another hit on our image as a backward, hill-billy state, along comes Jack Whittaker to reinforce the comedy cracks like Jay Leno makes," groused Dewey Large of Princeton. "This clown is not capable of handing a \$10 bill, much less all those millions. Every time you turn around, he's having trouble with the laws of our state. What a waste of all that money."

During Monday's plea hearing, a lawyer for Whittaker said he has donated more than \$20 million to charity since he won the lottery.

Today, his charitable foundation is closed, according to a secretary at Whittaker's company. The legal troubles have raised questions about whether he will be able to fulfill his many promises to help others.

Whittaker has an unlisted number, and his lawyers did not respond to requests for an interview. He told the AP last year that he had been bombarded with requests for help, and the fame was taking a toll on his family.

"If I had to do it all over, I'd be more secluded about it," he said. "I'd do the same things, but I'd be a little more quiet."

Lottery winners commonly regret being so public about their windfalls, said Susan Bradley, founder of the Studden Morley Institute in Palm Beach Gardens, Fla.

"You're really in an international spotlight," Bradley said. "The expectations of you are just — it never ends. It's exaggerated by anyone who feels they are entitled or have an opportunity to grab a piece of it."

Yates appeals her murder conviction

HOUSTON (AP) — Andrea Yates' murder convictions for drowning her children should be overturned because the state's expert witness gave false testimony about working on a nonexistent episode of "Law and Order," her attorneys told a state appeals court Tuesday.

Her attorneys told a three-judge panel of the appeals court that she deserves a new trial because of 19 errors that were committed in her 2002 trial.

Yates' attorney Troy McKinney focused on expert witness

Park Dietz, who said he "told a whopper of a falsehood" when he said he consulted on an episode of the TV show "Law and Order" involving a woman found innocent by reason of insanity for drowning her children.

Dietz testified the episode aired shortly before the drownings, and testimony during the trial indicated Yates was a viewer of the series.

After jurors found Yates guilty, attorneys in the case and jurors learned that no such "Law and Order" episode existed.

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NATION

Bush awards three Medals of Freedom

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom on Tuesday to three figures who were central to his Iraq policy, former CIA Director George Tenet, former Iraq administrator L. Paul Bremer and retired Gen. Tommy Franks.

Democrats suggested Bush should have looked elsewhere, at least in the case of Tenet, in awarding, the government's highest civilian honor.

Bush lauded all three for playing "pivotal roles in great events" and for advancing the cause of liberty in Afghanistan and Iraq. Tenet, who left the CIA in July after seven years as director, has been criticized for intelligence failures leading up to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and the Iraq war.

Tenet spoke up before the terrorist attacks about his belief that the al-Qaida terror network was planning something big. But specific information was never forthcoming, and the attacks killed nearly 3,000 people in New York, Washington and

Pennsylvania. The CIA also has drawn considerable criticism for its part in flawed estimates that Iraq had stockpiled weapons of mass destruction.

Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., the top Democrat on the Armed Services Committee, said he "would have reached a different conclusion" than Bush on giving the medal to Tenet. "I don't think (he) served the president or the nation well," Levin said.

Bush lauded Tenet as someone whose leadership helped rebuild the CIA's capabilities, win the war in Afghanistan and capture al-Qaida terrorists — and who was "one of the first to recognize and address the threat to America from radical networks."

Bremer, the top civilian U.S. official in postwar Iraq, oversaw the transfer of power to an interim Iraqi government in June. "Jerry Iraq is free today, and you helped make it so," Bush said, using Bremer's nickname. "And a free Iraq will help make generations of Americans more secure."



President Bush presents former Central Intelligence Agency director George Tenet the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award on Tuesday.

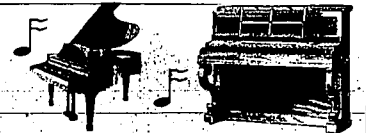
AP photo

Speaking to the general who oversaw combat in Afghanistan and the initial invasion of Iraq, Bush said, "One of the highest distinctions of history is to be called a liberator and Tommy Franks will always carry that title."

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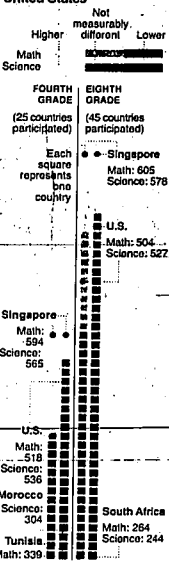
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Measuring up in math and science

American eighth graders rank higher but fourth graders are falling behind in both subjects among their international peers, according to a study.

Average compared to United States:



SOURCE: International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement

U.S. shows mixed math performance

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. eighth-graders are gaining on their peers across the globe in science and math, but fourth-graders are being passed as their test scores remain stagnant, according to an international review of school performance.

The 2003 test results released Tuesday offer some hope and relief to the United States, coming just a week after its 15-year-olds did poorly in math in another prominent comparison.

The achievement gap between black and white children is shrinking, the new scores show — a central goal of the government's education policies under President Bush.

Yet several countries, particularly in Asia, continue to outperform the United States in science and math, fields at the heart of research, innovation and economic competitiveness.

Given this country's recent emphasis on achievement in the early grades, the flat performance by fourth-graders drew concern, and some playing down, from U.S. officials.

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WORLD

Abbas: Palestinian uprising a mistake

Jerusalem (AP) — The armed uprising against Israel was a mistake and should end, interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said in an interview published Tuesday.



Abbas

Abbas, the current PLO leader, is the front-runner to replace Yasser Arafat in Jan. 9 elections for Palestinian Authority president. Abbas, a pragmatist who opposes violence, has the support of Israel and the

international community. While Arafat was still alive, Abbas told associates in closed-door meetings that he felt the uprising was a mistake, but never went public with his ideas, apparently because he did not want to challenge Arafat. At

the time, polls also indicated that Palestinian militants enjoyed broad public support. However, after Arafat's death, Abbas has been more candid about his views. He told the London-based Arabic newspaper Asharq Al-Awsat in an interview published Tuesday that Palestinians should resist Israeli occupation without resorting to violence. It is important to "keep the uprising away from arms because the uprising is a legitimate right

of the people to express their rejection of the occupation by popular and social means," Abbas said. "Using the weapons was harmful and has got to stop," Abbas said, referring to shootings and bombings by Palestinian militants that have killed hundreds of Israelis since the outbreak of fighting in September 2000. Israel has said violence must end before peace talks can resume.

Militants bomb northeast India

GUAHATI, India (AP) — Suspected separatist militants launched a series of coordinated bombings Tuesday across India's northeastern state of Assam, killing two people and wounding at least 44, police said. The six attacks — two were bombs hidden in bicycle bags, three were grenade attacks and another was a bomb set off outside a railway station — were in Guwahati, the capital of Assam, and other towns in the state. The attacks came a day after two bombs exploded near a

crowded Gauhati market, killing two policemen and wounding seven civilians. No one claimed responsibility for Tuesday's attacks, but police suspect some of the dozens of separatist groups that have been fighting. Indian security forces in the region for decades. At least 10,000 people, mostly civilians, have died in fighting in the past 15 years between the government and the rebels of ULFA and another separatist group, the National Democratic Front of Boroland.

Iraqis train foreign militants

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Radical youths from Europe and the Arab world are being trained in Iraq, Europe's anti-terror chief said Tuesday, warning that such clandestine camps could multiply in unstable or faltering states anywhere in the world. "There are some who have gone to Iraq, as indeed there have been youngsters from outside Europe," from Arab

World in brief countries, who have gone there to receive military training. EU counterterrorism coordinator Cjristian Fisas said in an interview with The Associated Press. De Vries refused to elaborate on the specifics, such as the numbers or countries of origin of those training in Iraq, saying the information was classified. But he warned that action had to be taken to stop instability breeding terror.

Ambassador backs U.N. veto power for Japan

TOKYO — Japan should be elected a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council with veto power, outgoing U.S. Ambassador to Japan Howard Baker said Tuesday. "I think if you have two different classes of permanent members of the Security Council — that is, those who have the veto and those who do not — that you will have defeated the purpose (of planned reform of the council)," Baker, 79, said at a farewell press conference at the Japan National Press Club in Uchiyamacho, Tokyo. Baker's tenure as the top U.S. diplomat in Japan saw Japan significantly raise its profile on the international stage. After the U.S.-led war on terror, launched after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, Japan's Self-Defense Forces provided logistic support to allied forces during the war in Afghanistan. SDF personnel were also engaged in a humanitarian and reconstruction mission in Samawah, southern Iraq.

Tallest bridge towers over Tarn River valley

MILLAU, France — Piercing the sky above the verdant hills of southern France, a roadway bridge hailed as the tallest in the world was officially inaugurated Tuesday. Celebrated as a work of art and an object of French national pride, the Millau bridge will enable motorists to take a drive through the sky — 891 feet above the Tarn River valley for a 2.6-mile stretch — through France's Massif Central mountains. Designed by British architect Norman Foster, the steel-and-concrete bridge with streamlined diagonal suspension cables rests on seven pillars — the tallest measuring 1,122 feet, making it 53 feet taller than the Eiffel Tower. — compiled from wire reports

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Groups seek more snowmobile rules

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Conservation groups which say snowmobilers are harming caribou have pledged to fight for greater recreation restrictions on both sides of the border.

Representatives from groups in the United States and Canada met Monday in Spokane, Wash., with state, federal and provincial scientists to discuss caribou recovery efforts.

Mark Sprengel, executive director of the Priest Lake, Idaho-based Selkirk Conservation Alliance, said protecting old growth forest remains the best hope for caribou's long-term survival.

But, Sprengel said, action is needed now to safeguard the shy animals from snowmobilers penetrating deep into the backcountry.

"What we're creating here is a nightmare scenario," Sprengel said. "Why aren't we dealing with this problem?"

Gil Arnold, chairman of the International Mountain Caribou Technical Committee, said a similar closure push will take

place in southeastern British Columbia. Arnold is also a field campaigner for the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

He said years of meetings, planning and, transplantation have done little to help the region's estimated 1,700 remaining woodland, or mountain, caribou.

"Planning for caribou has been more or less a failure," Arnold said.

Closing the backcountry to snowmobilers will be a bitter fight, Arnold predicted.

Canadian conservation groups want at least 15,000 acres set aside as winter refuge in the mountains of southeast British Columbia. The same amount of land has already been declared off-limits in the Selkirk Mountains east of Priest Lake, Idaho.

"I don't think there's any comfortable way to have this discussion with snowmobilers," Arnold said. "I don't think there's a deal to be cut there. It's just a flat out request to keep out, it might be time to take this on."

Rancher gets manslaughter charge

LOGAN, Utah (AP) - A 69-year-old rancher who authorities allege habitually lets his cattle run loose was arrested for manslaughter, after a woman was killed in an accident involving one of his steers, police said.

Darrell Kuntzer of Benson was arrested Monday, according to the Utah High Patrol. The charges were filed after a woman was killed Nov. 27 when her vehicle collided with one of Kuntzer's Black Angus steers on State Road 30, or Valley View Highway.

According to an arrest warrant, Kuntzer has demonstrated a 30-year pattern of failing to properly contain his livestock, despite repeated requests by

law enforcement.

The warrant cites 31 police reports from the last four years regarding Kuntzer's stray cattle, including five collisions involving cows that escaped from the field onto the highway.

"If there was one thing I wanted to emphasize, it's that this isn't a standard farmer or rancher stray-cattle problem," prosecutor Scott Wyatt of the Cache County Attorney's Office told The Herald Journal.

"It would have to be outrageous before we felt like it was appropriate to file charges like this. There have been a lot of cattle-car accidents in this valley, and none of those rise to a level of a crime. It's just when

there's complete disregard."

Kuntzer is charged with one count of criminal homicide-manslaughter in the death of Kimberly Johnson of Auburn, Wash., the 40-year-old mother of six who was killed Nov. 27. He also faces five misdemeanor counts of reckless endangerment.

Johnson had been driving westbound in her sedan around 1:15 a.m. when she struck the steer, which flipped up onto the

roof of the vehicle and crushed her. She died instantly.

There are no street lights and a speed limit of 60 mph on that section of State Road 30, the warrant states. And there were no skidmarks on the highway leading up to the point of impact, suggesting that Johnson never saw the black animal.

According to the warrant, there is only a ditch and no fence along the south side of Kuntzer's field.

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EDITORIAL

Willis steals the show with airport proposal

Say this for actor Bruce Willis' entrance into the search for the new Fairchild airport: He has impeccable timing for the most impressive stunts. Willis' stole the scene at the latest airport discussions last week when he told Friedman Airport Authority members he would donate portions of his private land near Fairfield for the project — should the authority choose that area. The Fairfield region is one of three possible areas for the new airport location.

going into Fairley. Problems with weather and the narrow approach to runways also create a problem for Friedman, which is the second busiest airport in Idaho. Rather than expand, the authority decided to pursue new airfield proposals.

Our view: The donation of land for Friedman Memorial Airport's new airfield could end up a bonafide hit for Wood River Valley. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

A generous move, undoubtedly. But not one without potential economic windfalls for Willis. Many will remember that Willis' owns Soldier Mountain, a 1,150-acre ski area 12 miles north of Fairfield. Should a new airport be constructed at the east end of the Camas Prairie, it would provide a significant boost for the rustic, hometown ski resort.

The two other possible areas are in the Timmerman Hills, just north of the Blaine County-Lincoln County border. The authority will consider the feasibility of each area with numerous criteria, including air space, room for expansion, wetlands, wildlife migration routes and endangered species concerns.

Other issues include air service to the Wood River Valley. Horizon Air currently serves Friedman, as do other SkyWest connections. But it's well known in the tourist industry that proximity to resorts like Sun Valley is a must for airlines to stay with an airport.

This issue could be tricky to navigate when selecting a new airfield. Airport officials must pick a region that meets the listed criteria, is within 30 minutes of resorts, but doesn't risk leakage of flying customers to Boise.

That said, Willis' offer still may be the most reasonable and cost-efficient alternative in the search for a new airfield. Airport Manager Rick Baird and a team of consultants will study the final three potential sites, which includes eastern Camas County and two other areas east of Idaho Highway 75 and south of the Timmerman Hills.

But Baird called the donation "an absolute gift to the community." As far as stunts go, a Friedman to Fairfield transition has possibilities of a blockbuster.

Rigors of life catch up to Bernie

A few years back, when he was police commissioner, I came away from a lunch with Bernie Kerik shaking my head. The chatter was pleasant, but what stood out was Kerik's enthusiastic description of his lifestyle. He was sleeping only a few hours a night, often got home to his wife and baby after midnight, yet hardly ever missed a workout in the gym.

MICHAEL GOODWIN

"He can't keep that up," I said to myself. Indeed he couldn't, and the lunch immediately flashed through my mind when I heard the news that he was the nomination to be the next head of Homeland Security. Bernie Kerik's messy personal life finally caught up with him. It was only a matter of time. His statement that he had a minor problem is no doubt true, but hardly the whole truth. Kerik was a walking contradiction, a terrific head of the NYPD but also someone who lived too fast and too close to the edge. Nobody can keep that up, especially in the public eye. His biography could be summed up as going from zero to hero. Thanks to his steely steadfastness after Sept. 11 and some pushing, shoving and papering, he was becoming the stuff of legend. A successful autobiography was being turned into a movie. A little more than a decade out of bankruptcy, he was a multimillionaire thanks to stock options he received in his new consulting job. Bernie the street cop was now Bernie the Star.



Not bad for a hooker's son. Really has cranked the party. Not paying the proper taxes and maybe hiring an illegal immigrant are issues for any cabinet spot, especially one whose job includes cracking down on illegal immigration. Yet if it hadn't been that, it would have been something else he could, but he got such a late rotten start in life that he could never keep up. That can happen when your mother abandons you when you're young and is killed a few years later. Kerik often made it seem he'd escaped his past, and maybe he even believed it. But the drumbeat of newspaper articles in recent days had him back-deep in a mud bath. The rumors of more to come were beyond the whispser stage. This is not just a personal

tragedy. It is a loss for America, too. I believe Kerik, warts and all, would have been a dedicated and successful director of Homeland Security. Finding a replacement is President Bush's problem, but not his only one, for even if Kerik had been confirmed, there was plenty to worry about in the still disorganized beehemoth of the Homeland Security agency. Start with the fact that Congress has treated security funds as routine political pork, a process that wastes millions and millions of dollars in rural areas without making a single American safer. It is a disgrace that some Podunk in Wyoming gets state-of-the-art equipment while New York and other cities that are the real terror targets go begging. Kerik might have been able to change that. Then there's the Swiss-cheese safety net. Security at many nu-

clear and chemical plants has barely budged despite the clear goal of terrorists to use weapons of mass destruction against us. And, as Sen. Chuck Schumer has pointed out, as little as 2% of the ship cargo entering U.S. ports gets inspected. Finally, outgoing Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson's candid blast about the food chain curbed an appetite. "I, for the life of me, cannot figure out why the terrorists have not attacked our food supply because it is so easy to do," Thompson said. There is, then, no shortage of things to do for the new man at Homeland Security. But first we have to find somebody worthy of the challenge.

Michael Goodwin is a Pullitzer Prize-winning columnist for the New York Daily News.

Reforms must honor legal immigration

Idaho Congressman C.L. "Butch" Otter and I have been taking a little break lately for our efforts to strengthen America's borders and deter illegal immigration. Not surprisingly, some of our detractors are claiming our efforts are snarling an important part of U.S. society—illegal aliens. In addition to being totally unfounded, that type of criticism totally ignores reality. America is a nation of laws. We can't choose who's allowed by the law. As good citizens we are expected to follow both the spirit and the rule of the law. I'll be the first to admit that not all federal laws make a lot of sense. Some are meaningless, some are too onerous, and some make you wonder what in the world Congress was thinking. Our laws designed to protect our borders and keep America secure, however, are not meaningless, onerous, or irrational—they are absolutely vital to the future of our great nation. Recent press articles have detailed the efforts of a suspected female terrorist who entered the U.S. illegally and was later arrested in Texas. Farida Goolam Mohamed Ahmed allegedly falsified her passport, made false statements, and gained entry into the United States using illegal methods. In her possession at the time of arrest were muddy clothes and dirty shoes — indications that she entered the U.S. illegally from Mexico. Stories like this are all too common and one of the reasons why I voted against the National Intelligence Reform Act — legislation resulting from the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. The original House-passed legislation included a number of critical immigration and border security reforms that were necessary to keep our nation safe. Those reforms included important provisions that would prohibit the issuance of



driver's licenses to illegal aliens and allow for the expedited deportation of terrorists and criminal aliens. Regrettably, the Senate strongly disagreed with those provisions and blocked their inclusion in the final bill. You might ask why these immigration and border security provisions are important enough to me and 74 of my colleagues that we would vote against the intelligence reform bill. The simple answer is that despite previous attempts to improve border security, illegal entry into our nation continues unabated. Our border agents are reporting that the illegal entry is not limited to natives of Mexico, Central and South America. They're seeing individuals from China, Pakistan, India, and elsewhere. How many of these are terrorists? Who knows? Even if you disagreed my argument about border security, terrorism, and no one should, it is important not to lose sight of the impact illegal immigration has on legal immigration. As we are a nation of laws, so are we a nation of immigrants. America is great, in part, be-

cause of its diversity and the contributions of immigrants from across the globe. Thousands of would-be immigrants are waiting patiently, in nations far and wide, to enter the U.S. through legal means. Their patience and willingness to abide by the law, however, is tested time and again when they watch others slip in and out of our nation with ease. America cannot continue to punish legal immigrants by rewarding illegal immigrants. If just isn't right. I will continue working and voting to enforce and improve our immigration laws, curb illegal entry, and strengthen our nation's borders. I will not be deterred by false charges of inconsistency nor will I be sidetracked by those who underestimate the threat posed by our porous borders. I will do these things not just because I believe they are the right thing to do, but because the laws of our nation and my oath to defend the Constitution demand it.

U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson the Republican congressman for Idaho's second district.

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.

LETTERS

Concerns are genuine from Wright
While attending the same church as Dave Wright for many years, we have watched him Sunday after Sunday serving our congregation. It is not a "high horse" he rides; it is a genuine heart of service that motivates him. I am not the promotion of Kimberly Nurseries that inspires him to work so hard on Christmas in the nighttime sky. It is because it's the decent thing to do. Kevin Coon, if you are curious about what kind of man Dave Wright really is, please join us this Sunday for any

Sunday) at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship and just stand back and watch Dave. He will be easy to identify.
LYLE AND DEBBIE JOHNSTONE
Twin Falls
Christmas the right time to honor heritage
I want to say a simple "amen" to the letter from Donna Arm published Dec. 10. What better time to express this country's Christian heritage than while the world is celebrating the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ?
CHAR THOMPSON
Jerome

Write to us
The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words, include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters

with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magivalley.com.

Cartoon a pre-historic insult to educators
The Dec. 10, "B.C." comic, in which an ant named Johnny who had failed every subject and calmly told his parent that he will be promoted regardless and would just become a teacher... was yet another reckless and disrespectful attack on teachers. Personally, I worked hard to earn my certification as a single parent of four while working full time. Not only did I achieve the desired status but I graduated with honors, something most of the other graduates in various degrees who crossed the stage with me did not do. That said, I now work to ex-

haustion trying to reach and teach every student in my class. When a new class enters my room every 90 minutes, my first thought is "at this moment in my day these are the most important people in my life." I then devote all the time that is allotted to us to inspire learning. I don't and won't do their work for them. I demonstrate, encourage and encourage students to do their very best. However, there are students in our classrooms who have no desire to succeed. They carry this baggage with them from class to class. We do not pass them or simply to get them out of our classrooms. We give our students agenda books to write

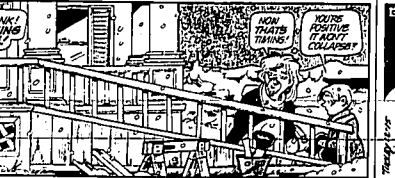
themselves homework notes. We then check their agenda books to make sure they actually did what they were told. We hold one-on-one meetings with at-risk students; our counselors meet with them regularly; and we invite their parents in for intervention meetings. We offer after-school tutoring, including busing during our preparation time. Is it not time to start looking at the "big" picture? Why don't parents make their students do homework? They make them take out the trash! Maybe parents should lose their child tax credit if their student doesn't pass the nationally required standardized tests. Maybe then

they would care if their child showed up to school with the basic necessities like paper, pencil and breakfast. Why don't students take responsibility for their own actions? We do our best to make every day not only educational but interesting and inviting to all students who "want" to learn. As human beings, we have all come across someone who doesn't want to do what is expected of them. How did you handle it? Do it yourself! Fire them! What can teachers do?
GAYLE BEAN
Twin Falls
Editor's Note: Gayle Bean is a teacher at Robert Stuart Junior High School in Twin Falls.

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



OPINION

LETTER

Do your research on retailer's labor practices

To Ms. Sherblom:
I believe you have never worked under a union agreement. Why do you think Wal-Mart and other non-union businesses fight so hard to keep unions out? It's not because they are paying living wages.

Do you remember Tupperware? Our state and Jerome gave them tax breaks and other goodies, and when it was all gone — see you later.
If you have a union shop, you don't pay for your insurance out of your pocket. Normally you have some kind of retirement. The reason they have the money to donate is they have cheated you and the other workers out of a living wage. I'll bet you're not being paid the federal poverty level.

Wal-Mart and Sam's Club lowers the standard of living in the towns they build in and Idaho is not the only state that is bashing Wal-Mart and other big box stores. It's going on where the people have realized what is happening in their

towns. Most of the good-paying jobs are being outsourced and places like Kmart, the Lynwood Shopping Center, most of your small places in Old Towne will go out of business doing away with competition. Do you really think Wal-Mart and the other big-box businesses are going to hire all the people they put out of work?

I think you're mistaken about the money. Not some but most of the money goes to Bentonville. Wal-Mart and Sam's Club owners are all billionaires. They didn't come by this by paying fair prices and wages. These stores buy foreign goods using slave labor and put pressure on American manufacturers for lower prices. They buy in bulk so small businesses can't compete. Eventually, there won't be any good-paying jobs.

You need to do some research on what these stores do to a community. I was born and raised in Idaho but left because I couldn't get a good enough job to support my family. We moved to a state where I could work, get a retirement and insurance. My retirement is more than a lot of Idahoans

make working. I'm not bragging, just telling you the employers in Idaho could pay a living wage.
—JOHN O'DELL
Rupert

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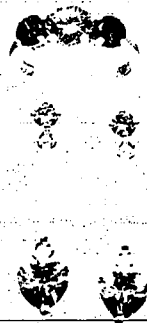
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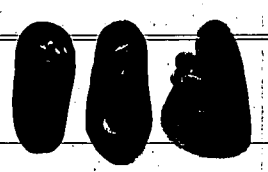
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Stk #665B



2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER LS 4X4
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 • Power Locks
 • Power Mirrors
 • Tilt
 • Cruise
 • CD
 • Roof Rack
 • Wheelie

RETAIL PRICE \$23820
\$17995

Stk #6979



2002 FORD F150 LARIAT QUAD 4X4
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 • Power W/LM
 • Tilt
 • Cruise
 • Cassette
 • Leather
 • Wheelie
 • Vehicle Cover
 • Tow Pkg


RETAIL PRICE \$29450
\$23995

Stk #6899



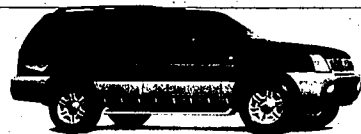
2001 AUDI A8-L AWD
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 • Navigation System • Stock #888E

Retail Price \$44875
Smart Buy \$38995



2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER AWD
 Power Seat • Power Windows • Locks • Mirrors
 • Tilt • Cruise • CD • Rear Air • 3-Seat
 • Wheelie • Roof Rack • Tint • Stock #898B

Retail Price \$29690
Smart Buy \$23995



2005 FORD F350 LARIAT CREW 4X4 6.0
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 • Tilt • Cruise • CD • Leather • Nerf Bars
 • Wheelie • Fx4 Pkg • Tow Pkg • Stock #670E

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MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com.

Clara Miller Van Houten

She was born on April 17, 1916, in Zap, N.D., and passed into the arms of God on Dec. 13, 2004, in Twin Falls, Idaho, as the result of multiple myeloma.



Gayle Bieker, a resident of Sun Valley, Idaho; her beloved grandchildren, Ted and Jake Van Houten of the Magic Valley; Paul Bieker of Seattle and Kris Hecker-Brady of Boston Mass., Katherine B. Kuhl of Flensburg, Germany; and her seven great-grandchildren.

Marrried in Billings, Mont., in 1936 to Esco Van Houten, they moved to the Stanley Basin where they lived in a log cabin on the Yankee Fork River while Van worked as a golf minter and she as a secretary for the company.

wonderful ability to see the best in human beings and never speak unkindly of others. Her positive attitude toward life will have its effects on generations to come.

A funeral will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004, at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho.

After World War II they returned to Twin Falls where Clara eventually became the credit manager of Magic Valley Memorial Hospital and an active member of the Soroptimist Club. She also was an accomplished crafts person and quilt maker.

She is survived by her son, Grant Van Houten, a physician in Pendleton Ore.; daughter,

A funeral will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004, at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Arrangements are under the direction of Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Jack Martin

Jack Martin left this life on Monday, Dec. 13, 2004, in Boise, Idaho, to join his eternal companion, Lillias, who preceded him in death just two weeks ago.



was especially proud of his grandchildren and his great-grandchildren.

Jack was born March 1, 1921, in Boise, Idaho, to George and Mary Martin. Jack moved with his family to Hagerman where he resided most of his life. Jack met Lillias Pagnine, the love of his life, in the second grade.

Jack and Lillias were life-long active members of the Hagerman LDS ward and held various callings. They were among the first to serve in the Boise LDS Temple. Jack and Lillias also served a mission in the Atlanta, Georgia, temple.

Jack is survived by a daughter, Joan (Ed) Crumpton, Boise; a son, John Martin, Hagerman; two granddaughters, Christie (Troy) Quirk, Sugar City, and Candice (Dean) Waite, Eagle; a sister-in-law, LouAnn and her husband, Bill McKay, Boise; and three great-grandchildren, Micaela, Abby and Jackson, his third generation namesake.

Jack and Lillias celebrated 63 years of marriage this past June. Jack graduated from Albion Senior Normal School in 1941 and later from Idaho State University with a degree in education. Jack touched the lives of many students in Hagerman as a coach and teacher for 28 years. One of Jack's greatest joys was reminiscing and recounting the many stories and events associated with those 28 years of coaching. One of his favorite stories was "The Staff" at James High School. Jack and Lillias' favorite pastime was attending as many high school sports ac-

Another legacy Jack left on the Hagerman Valley were the beautiful homes he enjoyed building or remodeling. In 2002, Jack moved to Boise to be closer to his family. Jack

Jack was preceded in death by his wife, Lillias; a daughter, Taina Martin; and two brothers, George Martin and Lloyd Martin.

Evalynn M. Langley

Evalynn M. Langley, 89, of Twin Falls, passed away Monday, Dec. 13, 2004, at SunBridge Care and Rehabilitation Center.



den as long as her health allowed her.

She was born Aug. 9, 1915, at Loma, Mont., to Leon W. and Bessie A. Brown. She graduated from Buhl High School and Twin Falls Beauty College. She married David Franklin Langley on Oct. 16, 1937, in Twin Falls, Idaho. The couple made their home in Buhl, Idaho. David passed away in 1978.

plus was an avid pinocle player. She was a loving mother, grandmother and a great-grandmother who enjoyed reading, knitting, crocheting and working in her flower garden.

She is survived by her three children, Darleen (Lloyd) Miller of Hayden Lake, Idaho, Charles (Karen) Langley of Twin Falls and Mary Lynn (Dennis) Kulp of Boise; sister-in-law, Betty Brown of Twin Falls; six grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren along with several nieces and nephews.

Max Gillette

Max Gillette, an 87-year-old Burley resident, died Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.



James Max (Cheryl) Gillette of Burley, Samuel Taylor (Chris) Gillette of Twin Falls, Thomas Dee (Aida) of Bogota, South America, and William Jeffery Gillette of Raft River; one daughter, Sally (Keith) French of Burley; 13 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Max served in the United States Army as a financial officer for six years during World War II. Max married Eva Taylor on Jan. 4, 1943, in Declo, Idaho.

He was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He worked in real estate for six years and farmed for 34 years in the Raft River area.

He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, three sisters and a daughter-in-law, Colleen.

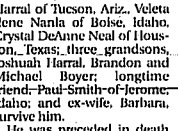
He was chairman of the Board of Directors for the Burley Highway District for 11 years and a director of the

Survivors include his wife, Elva of Burley; four sons,

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 17, 2004, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Burley West Stake Center, 2420 Parke Ave. with Bishop Tracy King officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. on Thursday at the Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. prior to the funeral on Friday at the church.

Floyd Allen Harral

Floyd Allen Harral was born July 25, 1935, in Albion, he passed away Dec. 12, 2004, in Twin Falls.



by one son, Clifford Allen Harral; his parents, Orvil and Veleta Harral; and four brothers: Lloyd, Bill, Virgil and Dale Harral. A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004, at the Buhl West End Cemetery.

Margie DeJager VanderPol



Margie DeJager VanderPol, 71, of Castleford, passed away Sunday, Dec. 12, 2004, at her home.

Margie was born Oct. 31, 1933, in Sneek, Friesland, the Netherlands, the daughter of Arthur and Alice DeJager. At age 2 months she immigrated to the United States and grew up in Artesia, Calif. As a young, single woman, she held a job in a factory where she operated as a floor manager. Her favorite things to do were to travel and do housework. She married at age 25, Bill VanderPol, who was a widower with three children ages 2, 3 and 4. The rest of her life she was a professional wife and homemaker. She loved to watch her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. During her married life she also, along with her husband, spent 10 years as a missionary to the Indian and southern Mexico. One of her greatest joys was to do work at the church and visit with her close friends. She was an immaculate housekeeper and never shied away from hard work. She was loving and kind to everyone who crossed her

path and loved the 11 years that she and her family lived in Idaho. Margie is survived by her husband, Bill of Castleford; children, Dianra (Donald) Galswyk of Castleford, Carol (Terrell) Visser of Castleford and William Peter (Linda) VanderPol IV of Blythe, Calif.; 14 grandchildren, Marsha Visser Anderson, Debra Galswyk Easterday, Donald Galswyk II, Sharon Visser, William Peter VanderPol V, Mike VanderPol

Bradley Visser, Darlene Galswyk Kuyper, Denise Galswyk, Russell Visser, Karl VanderPol, Jonathan Jarvis, James Jarvis and Jordan Jarvis; four great-grandchildren. Terrod Anderson, Alicia Easterday, Jackson Anderson and William Peter VanderPol; one brother Edward (Cobi) DeJager of Chowchilla, Calif.; one sister, Nadine Longsma of Corona, Calif.; and a niece and nephew, Tracey and Andrew Jarvis of Castleford, Idaho.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004, at the Twin Falls Reformed Church with Pastor Brian Vriesman officiating. Interment will follow at 2:30 p.m. in the West End Cemetery in Buhl. A viewing for family and friends will be from 4 to 8 p.m. today, Wednesday, Dec. 15, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," in Twin Falls. The family suggests memorials be given to the Magic Valley Christian School, 1631 Grandview Drive N. in Twin Falls.

Don Taylor

A veteran Sweetwater County, Wyo., peace officer passed away last week.

Don Taylor, the Wamsutter resident deputy for the Sweetwater County Sheriff's Office, died at his home in Wamsutter, Wyo., Thursday after a brief illness. He was 61.

Born in Gooding, Idaho, in 1943, Taylor grew up in the Gooding County area. A Green Beret Vietnam Conflict combat veteran and military policeman, he spent his long career of civilian public service with the Gooding, Idaho, Fire Department in 1967. He served later with the Twin Falls, Idaho, Police Department and from 1972 to 1985 was the chief

deputy investigator working narcotics and homicide for the Cassia County Sheriff's Office in Burley, Idaho. Taylor served as town marshal in Wamsutter from 1985 to 1991, when he was appointed the areas resident deputy.

Taylor was among the state's premier arson investigators and traveled widely throughout the state providing specialized arson investigation training to law enforcement agencies, particularly in the Lander-Riverton and Cheyenne areas. Over the course of his career, he completed over 3,000 hours of technical law enforcement and investigative training. He received many commen-

dation letters and official recognition for distinctive service, including commendations for rescuing lost and stranded people in the remote region of eastern Sweetwater County, an area few knew as well as he.

A life-long outdoorsman, Taylor is survived by his wife, Arlena; son Raymond Taylor of Ravlins; and daughter, Dawn Marie Taylor also of Ravlins; eight grandchildren and many other family members in the Portland and Salem, Ore., areas.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Rex Raymond Alan Taylor and Hazel Lavetta Taylor; sister, Patsy Ann; daughter, Kim; and granddaughter, Sammy Jo.

Wayne Crane

Wayne Crane, 84, a resident of Belton, N.M., died at his home on Saturday, Dec. 11, 2004.

He was born in Douglas, Kan., Nov. 6, 1920. Wayne grew up in Albuquerque and attended Albuquerque High. He served in World War II in the Air Force, stationed in England and France, from 1942 to 1945.

Wayne is survived by his wife of 62 years, Mary Jane Crane; four daughters, Peggy Valjejos and husband, Gene, Valeria Worden, Jeanie Hart and husband, Gary, and Lela Brooks; one son, John Crane and wife, Cheryl; one brother, Ben Crane and wife, Nina; along with 12 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and many nephews, nieces and cousins.

Mr. Crane was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Edith Crane; sister, Peggy Hucklebay; and brother, Frank Crane.

Wayne retired from the Carpenters Union #1094 in Oregon in 1983. He was a carpenter and a farmer who lived in Oregon and Idaho, then moved back to New Mexico where he lived in Belton. His hobby was repairing clocks. Wayne was a Christian who loved the Lord and loved listening to gospel hymns. He was a devoted husband and father and will be greatly missed.

A service will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, at the French Mortuary, University Blvd. Chapel. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Park, 924 Menaud, N. E. Friends may visit one hour prior to service Saturday at French Mortuary, 1111 University Blvd., N. E., Albuquerque, N.M.

UI vice president may leave after just five months

MOSCOW (AP) — The University of Idaho could be losing its financial vice president after only five months on the job.

Jay Kenton, named to the post by new University of Idaho president Tim White, is one of three finalists for vice chancellor of finance and administration for the Oregon University system. Kenton, 47, was financial vice president at Portland State University before he came to Idaho earlier this year. He is widely viewed as a key component to efforts to shore up the fiscally struggling University of Idaho. The school spent \$87,000 on a national search for a financial vice president earlier this year and four candidates were interviewed for the position. But White selected Kenton based at least in part on their personal relationship, said Idaho spokeswoman Kathy Barnard.

White was not available for comment this week after suffering a mild heart attack. It was his second this year, and White is expected to be hospitalized for the next several days.

Memories To offer your sympathies or share a story about a departed friend or family member, visit the online guest book. The "In Loving Memory" site lets you leave a personal message and read messages left by others, all for free. Just go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

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Mike and Catherine Parke, & the staff of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, respectfully request your presence at the Seventh Annual Lighting of the Memorial Christmas Tree Saturday, December 18, 2004 at 7 p.m. PARKE'S MAGIC VALLEY FUNERAL HOME 2551 Kimberly Road Twin Falls, Idaho (208) 735-0011 Our firm offers — free of charge — the presentation of the "Angels for Christmas" tree ornaments and a special speaker, Pastor Jim Sommer. We hope you will join us and know that you are welcome regardless if we have served your family in the past. Come and share this Christmas Season with Twin Falls' Only Family Funeral Home and people who care about you. PARKE'S MAGIC VALLEY FUNERAL HOME 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls • 735-0011 Twin Falls' Only Locally Owned & Operated Funeral Home & Crematory

MAKING THE MOUNTAIN

Man gets two years in drug case

By Rebecca Meany Times-News writer
BOISE — A man charged in connection with the discovery of more than 100 marijuana plants in a Buhl home has been sentenced to two years in prison.
Robert Preston Werley, 47, reached an agreement Sept. 9 in which he pleaded guilty to one count of conspiracy to manufacture/distribute/possess marijuana. In exchange, prosecutors dismissed one count each of manufacturing marijuana and possession with intent to distribute marijuana.
U.S. District Judge William Shubb ordered Werley to spend two years incarcerated, with

credit for 11 months already served. Werley must pay a \$2,000 fine and an on-suspervised probation for five years.
The defendant also must forfeit profits from his drug-manufacturing activities, including a property at 4481 N. 1800 N. (Buhl).
Co-defendant Michael William Gaylord, 45, reached a plea agreement with prosecutors and was sentenced in October to two years' imprisonment and five years' supervised probation.
On Dec. 31, deputies with the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department and Gooding County Sheriff's Department found two hidden 'growing rooms' inside

the house at 4481 N. 1800 E., according to an affidavit written by Jerry Manning of the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department.
In one room, there were more than 30 small plants ranging from 3 inches to 4 inches tall, the affidavit says.
Another 86 plants were found in a second room, which was hidden behind a false wall, police say.
A total of 61 pounds, 62 ounces of leafy marijuana was found, as well as 338 marijuana seedlings, 48 drying plants with root, 38 mature plants and 128 cut roots, according to an affidavit written by Niles Gooding, a special agent with the Drug Enforcement Administration.



Derek Northz walks down the hill as two snow guns cover a slope at the Snow Creek Ski Area on Tuesday, north of Weston, Mo. Snow-guns hope to have at least a part of the hill open on Saturday.

SERVICES

Nelda Marie Schiffer of Lakewood, Colo., and formerly of Twin Falls, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at Sunset Memorial Cemetery. An open house celebration of life will follow service (Parks Funeral Home).

Chapel, Caldwell).
Larry Dennis Hudelson Jr., graveside service at 2 p.m. Thursday at Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call from 3 to 7 p.m. today at White Mortuary.

Falls, graveside service at 1 p.m. Thursday in the Weiser Cemetery, Weiser (White Mortuary).
Margaret C. Switzer, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship. Following the service, a reception/wake at the home of Brian Sue Switzer (White Mortuary).

Ruth Dorothy Moore of Buhl, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at Sunset Memorial Cemetery. An open house celebration of life will follow service (Parks Funeral Home).

Janice Pearl Hoffman of Nampa, holy Mass of the resurrection at 11 a.m. Thursday at St. Paul's Catholic Church of Nampa. Graveside rites will follow at Mt. Calvary Cemetery. A rosary and vigil service will be at 7 p.m. on today evening at Adsp & Persons Funeral Chapel.

Charles-Francis Perry, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Twin Falls First United Methodist Church (White Mortuary).

Martha Fowler, celebration of life memorial at 1:30 p.m. today at Plantation Place, 3521 Kessinger Lane in Boise (Cloverdale).

Lila Pearl Barnett Driver of Boise, formerly of Twin Falls and Salmon, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Salmon LDS Stake Center in Salmon (Parks Funeral Home).

Hazel Clara Young Barber, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Community Baptist Church (Wood River Chapel of Hailey).

Charles Lee Johnson Sr. of Nampa, formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service for Charles and his late wife, Ruth Johnson, at noon today, Dec. 22 at the Brethren Church, 131 Grandview, Twin Falls (Fahlfel Funeral Home).

Leon Maxwell Mathis of Twin Falls, graveside service at 1 p.m. Thursday in the Weiser Cemetery, Weiser (White Mortuary).

Eula Vera Shook Zimmerman of Dallas, funeral at 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the Bollman Funeral Home.

DEATH NOTICES

Floyd A. Harral
TWIN FALLS — Floyd A. Harral, 69, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Dec. 12, 2004, at his home.
A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004, at the West End Cemetery in Buhl.
There will be no public viewing. Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary.

2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center.
The rosary will be recited from 6:30 until 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, 2004, at the Payne Memorial Chapel, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.
A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, with Father Juan Carlos at the officiant.
Burial will be in the Oakley Cemetery.
Friends may call from 5:30 p.m. until the time of the rosary on Friday at Payne Mortuary and following the rosary from 7 until

9 p.m., and one hour before the Mass on Saturday at the church.
Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.
A complete obituary will appear in Thursday's edition.

Ronald L. Archibald
OAKLEY — Ronald L. Archibald, a 62-year-old Oakley resident, died Sunday, Dec. 12,

2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center.
The rosary will be recited from 6:30 until 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 17, 2004, at the Payne Memorial Chapel, 221 W. Main St. in Burley.
A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 18, 2004, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, with Father Juan Carlos at the officiant.
Burial will be in the Oakley Cemetery.
Friends may call from 5:30 p.m. until the time of the rosary on Friday at Payne Mortuary and following the rosary from 7 until

LeRoy Slater
RUPERT — LeRoy Slater, a 63-year-old former Rupert resident, died Dec. 10, 2004, in Ravensdale, Wash.
Arrangements will be made by Hansen Mortuary, Rupert Chapel.

Salvagers work toward decision on moving freighter

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — Marine salvagers could decide by Wednesday whether they will attempt to float and move the bow section of a freighter broken in two pieces off the coast of Alaska.
Howard Hill of Gallagher Marine Services said the forward section of the bow of the 738-foot Selendang Ayu appeared to be buoyant.
The bow and stern — both holding thousands of gallons of heavy oil — remain on the west side of Unalaska Island, exposed to severe winter wind and waves directly off the

treacherous Bering Sea. The vessel broke just inside and in half and both pieces have remained upright about 200 feet from shore near Skan-Bay.
Hill said Tuesday morning the bow depends on the condition of the structure and its buoyancy.
"Whether that can be done or not will depend largely on the condition of the structure and how much of the structure's individual cargo holds, ballast tanks and fuel tanks are flooded — how much buoyancy remains and the strength of the remaining structure," he said.

"If both of those things are satisfactory, it may be possible to remove the forward section," he said, so that oil and cargo could be more safely removed.
A Coast Guard helicopter on Tuesday was able to lower a survey crew to the bow and Hill said the decision would largely rest on what it found out.
Coast Guard officials believe a bow tank containing 176,472 gallons of bunker fuel remains intact.
That's about one-third of the total on the freighter that was carrying soy beans from Tacoma, Wash., to China.

Horse drill team will represent Idaho at inauguration

REXBURG — A local precision horse drill team will be representing Idaho at President George W. Bush's inauguration parade.
Mel Griffith, leader of the Americans drill team, said when he got the invitation to perform in the parade, neither he nor his riders could say no.
"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity," said Griffith, 68. "I feel pretty dang good about the invitation. It's quite an honor."
The invitation came from the Presidential Inaugural Committee, which reviewed applications made by groups nationwide.
The parade follows a 1.7-mile route from the U.S. Capitol to the White House, and is general-

ly watched by about a half million people on the street.
There is a hitch, however. Griffith and his team members need to raise about \$100,000 to get to Washington, D.C. next month.
The team's human members will fly out two days before the parade, leaving the horses to travel cross-country in a tractor-trailer.
Transporting the animals costs only about \$500 each — less than half the riders' costs.
Group members hope to raise the money for their transportation by spreading the word of their invitation.

Former Children's Home director will join ed board

BOISE — The former director of Idaho's Northwest Children's Home has been given a post with the Idaho Board of Education.
Christine Ivie will serve as the board's elementary and secondary academic officer.
The board's executive director, Gary Stivers, said Ivie's diverse background makes her well-qualified for the position. Ivie has also been director of a preschool, high school teacher and football coach, school counselor, college instructor and a principal.
— compiled from wire reports

Abstinence

Makes the program worthwhile.
"it's a strong lesson in refusal skills," Copnman said. "If we can give them another six lessons on how to say no, that gives it value."
Linda Peterson, a member of the district's committee on sex education, expressed concern about the program's video components might be too graphic for seventh grade students and suggested the board opt to teach the program to eighth graders only.
"Before we need to address these issues and not bury our heads in the sand," Peterson said.

Masoner responded by saying that in northern Idaho the eighth grade students are not so cynical and less receptive to the program than the younger students.
Mentors selected to teach the program would be required to sign a contract agreeing to practice abstinence from sexual activity, alcohol, tobacco and drugs, Masoner said.
Board Chairman Bruce Bowen asked Masoner to leave a copy of the curriculum with the board and suggested the topic be tabled until the January meeting so members could review the materials before making a decision.

The board agreed.
In other board business three district schools were recognized for narrowing the gap on standards set by the No Child Left Behind Act.
Raft River Junior High School made progress in proficiency in math and reading.
Oakley Junior and Senior High School and Declo Elementary School also received honors for growth in sub-populations of students.
Times-News reporter Chip Thompson can be reached at the newspaper's Mini-Cassia bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 638, or by e-mail at chompson@magicvalley.com.

Mormon author disciplined for book questioning church history

SANDY, Utah (AP) — A longtime Mormon educator who wrote a book questioning the historical accuracy of church history was temporarily suspended from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at a hearing Sunday.
Grant Palmer, who published "An Insider's View of Mormon Origins," could have been excommunicated.
His book questions whether founder Joseph Smith misrepresented his authority as a prophet and revised church scripture to his advantage.
Despite his questions about the church, Palmer, a fourth-generation Mormon, said he still loved it and wanted to remain a member because he believed in its fundamental message.
Palmer, 64, spoke extensively with reporters in the days preceding the hearing, but mostly declined comment afterward — except to report that he had been disfellowshipped and was pleased with the decision.
"it's in my best interest not to say any more," said Palmer, who would not elaborate on whether church leaders for-

bade him from talking to reporters about the six-hour meeting, which was closed to the public.
A disfellowshipped member retains church membership but loses certain privileges, such as being able to go into the temple or serve a church calling.
The length of a disfellowshippment varies by case, and Palmer wouldn't comment more specifically on the punishment.
Church spokesman Dale Bills declined to comment on Palmer's punishment.
Among other things, Palmer's book suggests that Smith didn't actually translate the Book of Mormon, as LDS faithful believe, "by the gift and power of God" from an ancient set of golden plates.
The book suggests Smith wrote it himself, leaning heavily on the King James Bible, emotional Methodist tent revival, Masonry and other personal experiences in a highly superstitious era of American history.
Palmer, now retired, has a master's degree in history from Brigham Young University and

served for 34 years as an LDS district or educator in New Zealand, Utah and California.
He says his extensive background in history and church service, and a growing inability to reconcile glaring discrepancies between the two, drew him into the study.
There have been other books with similar ideas, many used by critics to discredit the faith. But they had been written about most extensively in scholarly books and articles.
Mormon scholars said Palmer's work was damaging, because of his long history as a church member and educator, which gives the arguments a measure of credibility.
Others questioned how Palmer could still be a true believer, as he professed, if he had so many doubts about Smith and the Book of Mormon.
Palmer's case is similar to six others in 1993 who faced disciplinary hearings for writing about Mormon history, feminism and new interpretations of theology.
Five of the high-profile writers were excommunicated, and one was disfellowshipped.

Exclusive Arizona suburb attracts thieves

PARADISE VALLEY, Ariz. (AP) — It's the Arizona version of Bellagio — home to professional athletes, politicians, executives and rock stars.
And for the past 11 years, Paradise Valley has also proved to be prime real estate for the area's most elusive thief: the so-called rock burglar.
The thief, or more likely band of thieves, has hit hundreds of the area's priciest homes, beating alarms in a low tech way — by throwing a rock through a window.
"They know what they are doing," said Paradise Valley Police Lt. Ron Warner, whose department put together a multi-agency task force devoted solely to the capture of the bandits. A \$26,000 reward has been posted for information leading to an arrest.
"We believe it's more than one person working in concert," said Detective Alan Lutsch, who has been working on the case since 1993 and first noticed a trend in the break-ins.
Nestled along Phoenix's

northeast side, the 165-square-mile town of Paradise Valley is one of Arizona's most exclusive, its residents include rocker Alice Cooper, Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Randy Johnson, former Phoenix Suns forward Charles Barkley, retired news anchor Hugh Downs and former Warehage figure and radio personality G. Gordon Liddy.
Among the burglars' notable victims are former Diamondbacks outfielder Steve Finley and former first baseman Mark Grace, as well as former Vice President Dan Quayle.
"I'm not really proud of that," Quayle said jokingly of the 1999 break-in at his home.
Finley said the burglars prevented them from taking any valuables.
Quayle was home when the burglar threw a rock through his window. When Quayle quickly turned a light on, the thief fled.
In Quayle's case, the burglar didn't make off with anything, which is unusual. Police estimate the thieves have hit 323 homes and racked up at least \$12 million in loot, including a

10.5-carat diamond ring in one home.
The burglar is starting to branch out.
After years of working in Paradise Valley — where the average home goes for \$800,000 — the burglars have started hitting other ritzy neighborhoods in north Scottsdale and Phoenix. The most recent heist was on Nov. 20.
No one has ever gotten a good look at the thieves.
Some of these people are truly terrified," Lutsch said. "I've had victims that have literally put their home on the market right afterward."
Despite the simple method — throwing a rock through a window, police say the thieves are sophisticated and methodical.
First, they case a neighborhood for signs that an owner is away: newspapers stacking up, delivered bottled water about on a porch, or trash cans still outside days after pickup.
They're probably in a vehicle that fits in with the neighborhood," Lutsch said.

States still struggle to prepare for bioterrorism

WASHINGTON (AP) — States are slowly getting better prepared to handle bioterrorism, but most still don't have state-wide response plans and federal funding is declining, according to a new report.
The report echoed fears voiced by outgoing Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson earlier this month when he said he couldn't understand why terrorists haven't attacked the country's food supply because it would be "so easy to do."
And the review follows a year in which the country faced a shortage of flu vaccines — normally a routine protection against a known problem.
Compiled by the nonprofit Trust for America's Health, the report issued Tuesday found

only six states are adequately prepared to distribute vaccines, and antidotes in an emergency, but it named only three of them: Florida, Illinois and Louisiana.
"More than three years after 9/11 and the anthrax tragedies, we've only made baby steps toward better bioterrorism preparedness, rather than the giant leaps required to adequately protect the American people," said former three-term Sen. Lowell P. Weicker Jr., now president of Trust for America's Health.
The report also concluded that basic bioterrorism detection, diagnosis and response capabilities are not in place, and the country has a long way to go to protect the American public from such an attack.

One common problem was lack of funding.
Federal bioterrorism aid has decreased by about \$1.1 million per state in 2004, and about one-third of the states saw their public health budgets decline.
The report graded states on whether they met 10 criteria, including such elements as the amount of state spending and federal aid allocated to public health, the flu vaccine rates, and the number of scientists and laboratories available to test for anthrax or the plague.
No state met all 10 criteria, and only two — Florida and North Carolina — met nine of the 10.
Two states, Massachusetts and Alaska, met only three criteria, and received the worst ranking.

FOOD & HOME

How to keep that gift planter alive

Auntie Em sent a holiday gift planter and now you don't know what to do with it.

First, take the foil off. Yes, it's pretty, but the foil won't allow the plant to drain nor the roots to breathe. You can drain a plant in just a few days with that going on.

If you think the foil wrap is really spilly, take care to remove it gently, so it remains intact and you can slip it back over the pot just before company comes.

While you want to be careful not to slough it off, you can't allow the soil to completely dry out, either. As soon as the top of the potting soil feels dry to the touch, water it with lukewarm water fill the water runs out the bottom of the pot. After a few minutes, empty the saucer beneath.

There are a couple of reasons not to allow potted plants to dry out. One is that many of our most popular houseplants would die if they had a chance to grow in a lush, warm, jungle, and they don't cotton to dried-out soil.

The other reason is that a lot of times growers use a lot of



GREEN THUMBPRINTS Cathy Walworth

peat in their potting soil mix. It's light and costs less to ship. But if it dries out completely, it's almost impossible to re-wet.

If that happens, you must submerge the whole pot in a sink full of tepid water for a half hour or so — until the soil ball is wet through. Lift it out and let it stand in the dish drainer till it stops dripping.

Keep the planter in a cool, bright room without drafts. Poiseitias like light bright enough to read fine print by. The garden books on my shelf don't specify whether it will be you or the poinsettia doing the reading, but you get the idea.

To jazz up a plain evergreen wreath, look around your own yard.

Holly is pretty fare, but there are lots more wonderful materials to gather.

Hawthorns, crabapples,

mountain ash, pyracantha, some viburnum and some cotoneasters grow red berries. Their bare branches are often beautiful all by themselves. Be sure to check out the dogwoods, too.

Blue juniper berries make nice additions to any wreath or centerpiece. Some junipers bear exceptionally heavy, shaggy crops that add color and aroma to holiday decorations. With a little imagination and pair of pruning shears, you can have full, fragrant decorations throughout the house.

Tip of the Week: Never go empty-handed! Mom always said, So take an aloe vera plant as a hostess gift. Aloe vera is one plant that many a cook has kept handy in the kitchen and referred to as a "burn plant."

If you should burn yourself or sustain some other minor scrape or skin irritation, cut off a piece of aloe vera stalk. Slice the stalk lengthwise and lay the gooey side on your injury. You should feel immediate relief. Not only that, but aloe vera contains antibacterial and antifungal properties.

Grow aloe vera in the win-

dowill where it will get lots of light and keep it fairly dry. Aloe vera is a succulent, and it wants to be allowed to still live in its warm-dry desert.

What's bugging your garden? Write to Cathy in care of this newspaper or e-mail her at: cewalworth@aol.com.

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Technology chases squirrel intellect

The Washington Post

The approaching winter is bird-feeding season, the time when the most colorful birds are brightened by cardinals and other macho birds that don't need fly south for survival.

This human charity is good for the birds, but even better for the birders in need of a square meal. A rodent can survive on 50-cent tulip bulbs for only so long.

Some people, of course, actually like squirrels and purchase tiny, squirrel-sized picnic tables or Adirondack chairs with holders for corn cobs. Go figure.

But for those who want to feed birds, not squirrels, technology is beginning to catch up with the task of building a better bird feeder. There are several on the market now that are much more effective than previous efforts.

She and other store owners tend to roll their eyes when a bird-feeder sales rep pitches a new model as squirrel-proof. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office has issued approximately 100 patents for squirrel-proof bird feeders since 1928.

Most of them have proved inadequate against a 20-ounce rodent that can jump six feet vertically and 10 feet sideways, and has better acrobatic skills than the finest trained circus acrobat.

"True squirrel-proofing is the holy grail of bird feeders," said Paul Cotti-inventor of the Squirrel Buster Plus. (www.bronze-birds.com), which Klein has tested and rates as one of the best.

It is a tubular feeder with a circular perch at its base. When a squirrel alights, its weight causes the perch to sink,

closing access to the feeding ports. For a day or two, Cotti says, the squirrels sit there frustrated and annoyed but then leave, deciding that the contraption is for the birds.

The most amusing new-generation feeder, launched in 2000, is made by a Foster, Ill., company named Droll Yankers. Its perch is motorized and starts to spin when a squirrel tugs it. The rodent goes flying. "Very humane and somewhat entertaining," said Jennifer Masello, the company's sales manager. The battery requires recharging every two to three months. For the past two years, the company's line of squirrel-tipping feeders has been extended to include bird feeders with weight-activated, collapsible perches or trays, namely the Tipper, Whopper and Dipper. (www.drollyankees.com)

Squirrels, to state the obvious, are not only drawn to bird feeders but in doing so reveal the birds, eat all the food and often do great damage to the feeders if only to satisfy their need to gnaw.

"It has always been a problem," said Masello. "It's a much more solvable problem now with new technology." But at a price, Cotti's feeder retails for \$80. The squirrel-proof line from Droll Yankers starts at \$79.99 for the Dipper and goes to \$119 for the motorized Flipper.

An alternative is to use conventional tube feeders or wooden hopper feeders with plastic baffles above and, if pole-mounted, steel ones below. But even then you should expect to spend around \$65 to create a feeding station that squirrels will be hard pressed to use, said Klein.

Some manufacturers make caged feeders to exclude squirrels. Klein said some of these

may not prevent long-armed squirrels from reaching the seed, and larger, desirable birds, such as cardinals or titmice, won't use them.

"All feeders are not created equal," said Klein.

As feeders have become better at barring squirrels, the enemy has adapted, too. Squirrels may seem clumsy, but they have a brain. "They are ingenious, acrobatic and persistent," said Matthew Mathias, assistant manager of the bird sanctuary shop at the Audubon Naturalist Society.

As he was demonstrating various feeders last week, Lisa Wilcox Deyo of Bethesda, Md., was eyeing a replacement for her supposed squirrel-proof feeder that bunked.

It uses a phrasing tray to lock out the seed, activated by weight.

For a while it worked, until one squirrel used the roof for a foothold and suspended itself in a way that allowed its mouth to reach the seed without activating the locking tray.

"Several months later there were about six of them and it seemed they had all learned how to do it," she said.

Mathias said he hears lots of these stories, including one about a squirrel that outwitted the indomitable, motorized Flipper. "He put his butt inside the ring and kept it from spinning around," he said, "just absorbed the pain-figures."

Book offers hands-on ideas

Knight Ridder Newspapers

Stumped about a gift for that crafty person in your life? Consider the new book "Gifts for the Family" — (hands-on ideas) \$26.95, by the editors of Reader's Digest, and available at Amazon.com and bookstores. With more than 120 project ideas for your crafty friend or relative, the book offers simple instructions on creating unique gifts within 30 minutes.

How-to projects include making decorative carved candles, holiday lamp shades, nature-stamped gift tags, homemade soaps, encased gift bags, wedding portrait displays, no-sew wrapped pillows and more.

Each project lists materials needed, step-by-step instructions with color pictures, and a listing of alternative crafts for each project.

The Times-News: Your guide to the Magic Valley

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Cooks can choose from cornucopia of cookie sites

Knight Ridder News Service

With a wink of your eye and a twist of your head — OK, just a click of your mouse — Mini Cummins' Christmas cookie recipes can be yours.

Even though Cummins has never met you, she has been sharing her grandmother Evelyn's recipes for apricot foldovers, and other cookies with you and millions of other strangers since 1996, when she created her first Web site, www.christmas-cookies.com.

"Christmas cookies are a really special tradition in my family," Cummins said in a phone interview from her home in tiny L'Assare in Quebec. Cummins is an amateur baker who started the site for fun. It now has paid advertising and gets a whopping \$100,000 in sales during the holidays.

Thanks to Cummins and other computer-savvy cookie lovers, cyber-age cooks aren't limited to the handful of Christmas cookie recipes in their personal files or cookbooks. There are thousands, maybe millions — of cookie recipes on the Internet.

With so many available, surfers are bound to find some wonderful recipes, along with some awful ones, and some that are just plain weird, such as the lemon and cayenne pepper cookie recipe we found at a university employees' Web site.

Before wasting a peek of ingredients, how can you tell which recipes will work and which won't?

You can't. But in a week of surfing the sites, we found a number of clues for choosing winners.

Consider the source. Anyone can post a cookie recipe on the Internet, and just about every one does. Sites run by food professionals probably have more reliable recipes than sites operated by amateurs. A food pro often can tell whether a recipe is a dud just by reading it.

On many sites, recipes are written in a way that cooks, before trying recipes from sites, read a few to make sure they are detailed enough to use. Even if a recipe is a family-tested favorite of the contributor, how it is written will affect whether it works in your kitchen. Amateurs often omit vital information, such as pan size, mixing methods and exact ingredient measurements.

Does "I can crushed pineapple" refer to the big or little can? Does "combine all ingredients" really mean that you can skip creaming the sugar with the butter and heating in the eggs one at a time? Probably not.

In the recipe for Eggnog Snickerdoodles that follows, for example, we had to add mixing instructions and change the way the colored-sugar topping was sprinkled on the dough. Rolling the balls of dough in the sugar, as the original recipe suggested, totally encrusted the cookies and used up the topping in just six cookies. We also lowered the baking temperature and added flour so that the cookies wouldn't spread so much and burn. The result is tasty, but the recipe took quite a bit of tinkering.

The recipe is from Cummins' site, which has grown from a handful of her grandmother's recipes to more than 400 recipes supplied by site users. Cummins is a Web designer by trade, and relies on her own common sense when posting recipes from site users. Sometimes that's not enough, she said. She has yanked recipes that were panned by users.

Cummins' site is one of the better amateur sites we found. Cummins at least edits the recipes for style, and e-mails contributors for additional details when the recipes are unclear.

A helpful feature of Cummins' and some other recipe sites is a rating system for the recipes. Users are encouraged to award one to five stars to recipes they've tried.

Rating systems aren't foolproof. Though a 5-star recipe may have been rated by just a handful of users, and there's no way to tell whether the raters were objective or just the contributors' pals or just friends. On the sites that reveal how many users rated a recipe, choose popular recipes rated by at least 20 users.

More useful than ratings are the reviews and tips often posted on some sites. Often the reviewers point out glitches that can be fixed to produce a better result.

Food-company sites should be more reliable than amateur sites because, ideally, the cookie recipes are developed and tested by experts.

There are exceptions, though. A recipe for almond horns that we tested turned out to be so complicated and sloppy to make that we discarded it. The



This photo shows Chewy Brownie Chip Drops, made with a recipe from Dede Wilson's 'A Baker's Field Guide to Chocolate Chip Cookies.'

recipe was from a site maintained by the manufacturer of Odense Almond Paste.

Popular sites that have earned a reputation for providing workable recipes are among the best choices for recipe Web surfers. Epicurious.com and allrecipes.com are two that fall into this category. A recipe we tried for cream cheese cutout cookies from allrecipes.com was outstanding. The directions were clear and the cookies turned out great. The cookies were awarded a 1/2 out of 5 stars by 110 site users, all of whom added comments. The high number of raters was a good indication the recipe would work.

EGGNOG SNICKERDOODLES
2.5 cups flour
1/4 tsp. salt
2 tsp. cream of tartar
1 tsp. baking soda
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened

CREAM CHEESE CUTOUT COOKIES
Makes about 5 dozen medium-size cookies

1 cup granulated sugar
1 cup (2 sticks) butter, softened
1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese, softened
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. almond extract
1/2 tsp. vanilla
1 egg yolk
2 1/4 cups flour

In a large bowl, combine the sugar, butter, cream cheese, salt, almond and vanilla extracts, and egg yolk. Beat until smooth. Stir in flour until well blended. Chill the dough for 8 hours, or overnight.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F. On a lightly floured surface, roll one-third of the dough at a time to 1/8-inch thickness, refrigerating remaining dough until ready to use. Cut into desired shapes with lightly floured cookie cutters. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets or sheets lined with ungreased parchment paper. Bake for 7 to 10 minutes; until edges begin to brown. Cool on wire racks before frosting.

COOKIE FROSTING
1 lb. powdered sugar (about 4 cups unsifted)
1/4 cup water



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With an electric mixer, beat the margarine and cheese until creamy. Blend in flour and water-Wrap dough-and-chill-for 4 to 5 hours.

In a saucepan over medium heat, stir the preserves and sugar until the mixture boils, and sugar dissolves. Set aside. Divide the dough in half. Roll each half into a 10-inch square. Cut into 2.5-inch squares.

Drop a scant teaspoon of the preserves mixture on the center of each square, fold over diagonally and press the edges to seal. Bake on an ungreased, cookie sheet for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from sheets and cool.

CHOCOLATE MINT MELT-AWAYS
Makes about 42

Cookies:
1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter, room temperature
2 tsp. vanilla
1/2 tsp. peppermint extract
1/2 cup plus 2 tbsp. powdered sugar

2 cups flour
Ganache:
1/4 cup plus 2 tbsp. whipping cream
2 tsp. unsalted butter
9 oz. imported white chocolate (such as Lindt), chopped
1/4 tsp. peppermint extract
Coating:
9 oz. bittersweet or semisweet chocolate, chopped
1 tsp. solid vegetable shortening

For the cookies: Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter 2 heavy large cookie sheets. Cream butter and extracts with a mixer until light. Beat in sugar. Beat in half of flour. Stir in remaining flour. Spoon half of dough into pastry bag fitted with a No. 4 star tip. Pipe 2 1/2-inch-long ovals with solid centers on prepared cookie sheet, spacing cookies 1/2-inch apart.

Repeat with remaining dough. Bake until golden brown on edges, about 12 minutes. Transfer to paper towels and cool.

For ganache: Bring cream and butter to a simmer in heavy small saucepan over low heat. Add chocolate and stir until smooth. Chill dough for 20 minutes.

Combine colored sugar and nutmeg on a large square of waxed paper. Shape rounded teaspoonfuls of dough into 1-inch balls. Roll each ball over the waxed paper and sprinkle lightly with sugar. Place 2 inches apart on cookie sheets lined with ungreased parchment paper. Bake at 375 degrees for 8 to 10 minutes, or until edges are lightly browned. Remove.

GRANDMA EVELYN'S APRICOT FOLDOVERS
Makes about 30

1/2 cup margarine, softened
1 cup grated sharp Cheddar cheese
1 1/3 cups sifted flour
2 tsp. water
1/2 cup apricot preserves
1/2 cup sugar

until firm enough to spread, stirring occasionally about 30 minutes. Line 2 cookie sheets with foil. Spread 1 teaspoon ganache over flat side of 1 cookie. Arrange ganache side up on prepared cookie sheet.

Repeat with remaining cookies. Refrigerate until ganache is firm, about 30 minutes.

For coating: Melt bittersweet chocolate and shortening in top of double boiler over simmering water, stirring occasionally until smooth. Remove from over water.

Dip 1 end of 1 cookie into bittersweet chocolate. Grasp cookie on sides and dip ganache side into bittersweet chocolate; shake cookie to remove excess chocolate. Place cookie on same sheet, chocolate side down.

Repeat with remaining cookies. Chill until chocolate sets, 30 minutes. Remove cookies from foil. Refrigerate in single layers in airtight containers for up to 2 weeks.

Let stand 10 minutes at room temperature before serving.

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The Times-News

FOOD & HOME

Wrapping up the holidays in tamales

By Corie Brown
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — As I unwrap the husk, sweet corn aromas spiked with pungent pasilla chiles swirl around me. With the touch of my fork against the light, spongy masa, rivulets of dark red chili sauce gush forth. My first freshly made, hot-from-the-steamer tamale is a revelation.

Like a lot of people in Los Angeles, I've happily eaten tamales of every shape and flavor in styles from all around Latin America. Whether wrapped in dried corn husks, banana or avocado leaves, filled with pork, peppers or chocolate, this traditional Christmas treat is available here all year long in a seemingly endless variety.

But this was the first time I'd waited by the stove for my own tamales to cook, and then, with the masa still puffed full of hot steam, cleaved one after another after another. Compared with the typical dense, relatively dry tamales we buy in stores or Mexican restaurants, which must be reheated, these were moist packets of creamy masa still alive with flavor — and plenty of saucing filling.

Eating freshly made, just-steamed tamales is a pleasure usually reserved for the Latin American families who have passed recipes from generation to generation and shown them off at tamale-making parties during the Christmas holidays. That's how Alice Tapp and her daughter, the owners of Tamaras in Venice, perfected their techniques.

Alice's Mexican grandmother taught her how to make tamales when she was a little girl in East Los Angeles; she loved to join her grandmother's friends selling the corn husk-wrapped treats after Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Guadalupe. Collecting tamale recipes and chronicling the centuries-old traditions for herself and her American children became a lifelong hobby.

I'm from Kansas, not East L.A., and I don't have a Mexican grandmother. So I asked Alice to teach me how to make a great tamale. We settled on red pork chili, traditional for Christmas, but delicious anytime. Alice, her daughter Tamaras Tapp and Alice's sister Diane Tarango (the tamale sauce expert in the family) join me in the tamale shop's kitchen.

Buy the right masa, the women all chimed in. Fresh, unprepared tamale masa is available at any Latino market.

It's finer than tortilla masa because it's ground — three or four times, while tortilla masa is ground only once. "You want it wet, and dated for freshness," Alice says. "If it smells the least bit sour, it's not good."

We'll prepare the masa, spread it on the cleaned, soaked corn husks, add filling of red pork chili, wrap them and steam them. It's easy to understand why the labor-intensive process works best with an army of relatives working a kitchen assembly line like the family in book 1 I used to read to my children, "Too Many Tamales."

"You can do it all by yourself," Tamaras says. "But the second time, you'll invite friends over and pour some margaritas for a tamale-making party. It's a lot of work."

Experienced tamale cooks make their sauces and fillings and clean and soak their husks the day before they assemble and steam their tamales.

That way the assembly line of family and friends can work smoothly.

Start by preparing the masa with fat, broth and a pinch of salt, Alice says. "Interrupt." After reading cookbooks by the renowned Mexican food authority Diana Kennedy, I'm a little worried that unless I render the pork lard myself, just like the ancients did, my tamales I make will be a tragic failure.

Alice explains. Her grandmother, she says, used pork lard back in the days when it actually tasted like pork. Alice's mother, concerned about her family's health, used half lard, half Crisco. Alice, who dislikes both the taste of Crisco and the bland processed lard now available, has experimented with everything.

"I like butter best," she says. "It has the animal fat that works so well with the masa and yet has flavors that today's lard lacks." But the shop's customers, she says, considered the butter, tamales too rich and, in their minds, unhealthy. Tamaras' Tamales now are made with Alta Dena Golden Sweet, a soy-based margarine.

Actually, any fat or oil will work — the ratio should be one part fat to five parts masa — and even olive oil works if it's frozen to the right consistency, she says.

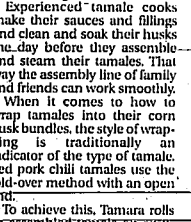
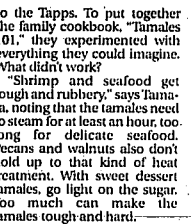
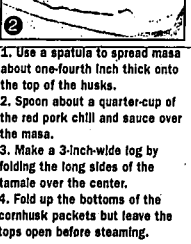
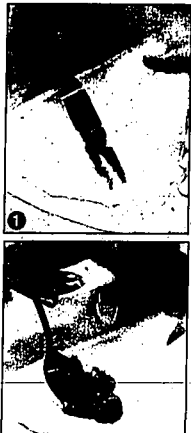
"With lard or butter, you get a thinner, layer-of-moist-masa. With margarine or shortening, the masa gets fluffier, but I think it can be too dry," Alice says. Adding a bit more of the pork broth to the masa helps. A liberal hand with the sauce and filling also counteracts the effect.

Now for the broth. Home-made is better — they make their own at Tamaras' — but go ahead and use canned chicken, beef or vegetable broth if you want. Most of your guests won't be able to tell the difference, Alice says.

Use a mixer to whip the fat until light, mix in the fresh masa, then thin it with just enough broth (roughly 5 percent of the total volume of the prepared masa) until it is the consistency of butter icing. Spread the prepared masa evenly side to side across the husk, faster half of a soaked and pliable corn husk.

How much? One ice cream scoop of masa is enough for a large husk. It should be a little less than a one-quarter inch thick, just enough to make sure it'll seal in all the filling. The best way to spread it is with a rubber or offset spatula.

And how much filling? The same ice cream scoop measures out just the right amount. There are no tricks on what can be used as filling, according



Loosely fill the steamer basket with tamales, arranged with the open ends up.

1. Use a spatula to spread masa about one-fourth inch thick onto the top of the husk.

2. Spoon about a quarter-cup of the red pork chili and sauce over the masa.

3. Make a 3-inch-wide log by folding the long sides of the tamale over the center.

4. Fold up the bottoms of the cornhusk packets but leave the tops open before steaming.

to the Tapps. To put together the family cookbook, "Tamales 101," they experimented with everything they could imagine. What didn't work?

"Shrimp and seafood get tough and rubbery," says Tamaras, noting that the tamales need to steam for at least an hour, too long for delicate seafood. Peas and walnuts also don't hold up to that kind of heat treatment. With sweet dessert tamales, go light on the sugar. Too much can make the tamales tough and hard.

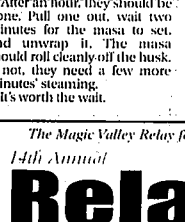
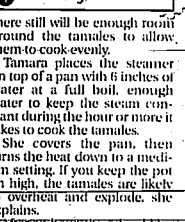
Experienced tamale cooks make their sauces and fillings and clean and soak their husks the day before they assemble and steam their tamales. That way the assembly line of family and friends can work smoothly.

When it comes to how to wrap tamales into their corn husk bundles, the style of wrapping is traditionally an indicator of the type of tamale. Red pork chili tamales use the fold-over method with an open end.

To achieve this, Tamaras rolls an assembled tamale on an 8-inch-wide husk into a 3-inch-wide log. The pointed half of the husk, which hasn't been spread with masa and doesn't contain filling, is folded up to meet the open end of the tamale.

For most styles of wrapping — husks tied at both ends, husks tied in square packages, or two-husk rectangular tied packages — it's the cook's decision. The different styles are nothing more than a way to differentiate one kind of tamale from the others someone has made that day.

The final step is steaming. Tamaras sets the tamales in the steamer pan folded and down. With enough tamales loosely set in a pan, they won't fall over and spill their contents, and



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Canned beets with a twist

The Baltimore Sun
Beets, the vegetable of borscht, is learning to salsa. Seneca Foods Corp. has introduced canned beets with hints of orange and lime that are perfect for this salsa recipe: Rinse, drain and chop one 15.5-ounce jar of Aunt Nellie's Ruby Red Sweet and Sour Harvard Beets.
Peel, seed and dice 1 medium orange.
Combine the beets with the orange pieces and add 2 table-

spoons of chopped green onion, 2 tablespoons of minced cilantro, 1 tablespoon of fresh lime juice, 2 teaspoons of fresh ginger and 1/4 teaspoon of salt. Stir to combine.
Cover and refrigerate for about 30 minutes to let flavors blend. Serve with crackers, flatbread or chips. Makes about 2 cups.
Per tablespoon serving: 12 calories; 1 gram protein; 1 gram fat; 1 gram fiber; 3 grams carbohydrate; 9 grams cholesterol; 60 milligrams sodium.

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Stately Roxbury features contemporary plan

Symmetry, columns, and keystone-accented arched windows give the Roxbury a distinctly colonial flavor. But inside, this estate-size home is clearly contemporary.

Entering through the barrel-vaulted porch, you step into an elegant and spacious tiled foyer with a graceful curved staircase. The ceiling here, and in the living room, is a lofty two stories high.

To the left is a stately dining room; to the right, a large room with a fireplace. This room could be furnished as a den, home office, library, or entertainment center.

A railed balcony overlooks both the foyer and sunken living room. With windows filling most of the rear wall, and more light spilling down through twin skylights, this expansive space is also exceptionally bright. The gas fireplace provides warmth and color when the weather turns dark and cold.

In the nook, French doors offer access to a large patio, and sliding doors allow separation or openness to the kitchen.

Cupboard and counter space wrap around four sides of the comfortably large kitchen. Features here include a central work island, built-in appliances, skylight inlaid in pantry, and a desk. Utilities and half bath are nearby, equally convenient to the three-car garage with built-in storage closets. The hallway bench is ideal for removing muddy foot-

Except for the guest suite,



bedrooms are upstairs and every bedroom has its own bathroom.

The Roxbury's master suite is large, private and luxurious. His 'n' hers walk-in closets flank the passageway to a tiled bathroom with two vanities, spa tub, and enclosed toilet and shower. Skylights brighten the master suite, a bedroom, and a huge bonus room over the garage.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$25 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Dept. W, Eugene, OR 97401. Please specify the Roxbury 30147 and include a return address when ordering.

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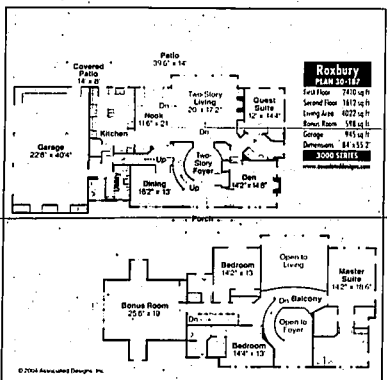


Table tips for entertaining and impressing this season

Knight Ridder News Service

Company's coming, and you want to dazzle your guests with festive tableware, linens and finishing touches. But Martha Stewart says not. Tabletop designer Michael Wright offers several tips on entertaining with style and wow-ing your holiday crowd:

- Set out gold-rimmed dinner plates and gold napkin rings on white linens. Decorate the table with white flowers. Then gather your gold Christmas ornaments and place in a glass bowl.
- Cover your table with red or bold orange linens, for the cen-

terpiece, decorate a tophay with white lights. And at each place setting, put a hollowed-out pumpkin or gourd with a single white candle.

- Place twinkling "familiarias" along your front walkway. Then inside, display white pillar candles in front of a decorative mirror.

- Set out square plates with square napkin rings, and find linen napkins with a square motif. Fill a square basket with flowers for the centerpiece. And if possible, seat guests at several small square tables.
- Visit www.michaelwright.com for more tips.

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Creativity in concrete? It's not too hard

Los Angeles Times

BERKELEY, Calif. — In Ft. Tully, Calif., her hands a former-cold, gray, rough material of little aesthetic charm is transformed into surfaces smooth enough to lay your cheek on, into lavender and rust and ochre-colored grouts that drip with paint, and a desk. Utilities and half bath are nearby, equally convenient to the three-car garage with built-in storage closets. The hallway bench is ideal for removing muddy foot-

Concrete, the stuff of cinder blocks, sidewalks and freeway overpasses is moving into high-end residential and commercial spaces whose owners, like developer Wendy DeCenzo of San Francisco, are "way, way past granite." On the leading edge of this innovation is Cheng, whose architect brother-in-law is the master of the craft of concrete on a residential scale, bar none. Nobody even comes close.

Other artisans of concrete are finding an increasing demand for their work as well. In Los Angeles, James DeWitt of DeWitt Concrete says, "Every time I complete a job, I get five more referrals. There's something about concrete that draws you in. You just want to run your hand across it."

Although granite has for decades reigned supreme in high-end kitchens, consumers looking to get creative are increasingly turning toward concrete. "Granite is going to continue to be popular, but people are looking for alternatives," says San Francisco designer Joanne Cannell. "Concrete can produce a more unique look. All counters don't have to be the same."

Cheng has published a book and made an instructional video that walk everyday folks through the process of pouring their own countertops. He also manufactures NeoMix, a line of concrete mixtures and mix-ins. Jeanne Smalley, 26, and her husband found "the ultimate fixer-upper" in Danville, Calif., last May and decided to build countertops themselves. After consulting Cheng's book and video and using a healthy supply of NeoMix, they hammered together a mold in their garage, then mixed, poured, waited, polished and mounted.

The process took nearly a month, and there were snags — such as when Smalley, her husband and her father added too much cement to the concrete mixer and the powder was sliding everywhere," she says. "Then we finally added enough water, and concrete just started flowing out, and I was trying to catch it with my hands."

But despite being covered head to toe in concrete for weeks, a malleable would do it again if she had the chance. "I love the fact that this was a creation of our own," she says. "There are some imperfections, but it's OK. It looks fabulous."

DeCenzo decided that she wanted concrete countertops in her new San Francisco penthouse, and she turned to Cheng. "My philosophy," says DeCenzo, "is that when you run into great designers, you let them do their thing." She turned to Cheng and his team on the 4,700-square-foot space, with few restrictions, and the result is pure Cheng: warm, deep, earth-toned concrete floors and countertops inlaid with semi-precious stones, fossils and shiny rows of copper. Bamboo walls and cabinets. A concrete hearth in the living room. A kitchen wrought with concrete, but also stainless steel, wood, plaster and handmade tile.

"Architects and designers have been combining materials for years, but Cheng breaks all the rules," says DeCenzo, in the way he uses materials. He lays granite tiles upside-down sometimes. He cuts patterns into plaster as it dries. In DeCenzo's guest bathroom, faucets above the sink protrude from a concrete backslash that looks as if it's covered with shattered glass, but the surface is smooth.

"It's about making accidents happen, but keeping it so the glass won't shatter off," Cheng says when he arrives, dressed in black slacks and a turtleneck. He poured the backslash, he explains, covered it with glass, then drilled through until the bit hit the back of the mold, and bang! "The glass shattered but the surface remained intact."

"To me, that's what it's all about," says Cheng. "The ultimate freedom is to respond in the moment to what's going on. . . . Now I have all these tools in my arsenal. I'm always looking for new ones."

Accidents-and-serendipities always have informed Cheng's design, his art. He rarely tosses things and starts over. He studies results, learns how to replicate and control the processes that produced them. He admits a mistake to DeCenzo.

"I guess I should tell you this, because it's in my next book," Cheng says, smiling. He walks toward the front of the living room, the blue-gray wall and countertop striated with green that serves as an elevated hearth. The plan was to pump concrete up from the street and

pour it into the form in place. Cheng told his workers to protect the form with plastic — any nicks or tears in the mold transfer to the concrete's surface — but the wet concrete spewed from the hose so quickly and with such force that it pulled the plastic into the mixture. The result was a disaster, a surface marred by deep gullies and covered in melted painter's plastic.

Instead of tearing out the bad pour, Cheng studied it. He used a blowtorch to burn out the plastic. Then he filled in the holes with rocks and green-tinted cement, and sanded and polished until the wall and countertop were smooth — hence the striations that turned a simple concrete surface into a piece of art. Run first, then salvation.

LAURA'S CHOCOLATE-PEPPERMINT BUNDT CAKE

- | | | | |
|-----|---|----------|--|
| 1 | (18.25-ounce) package devil's food cake mix | 1 | (8-ounce) container sour cream |
| 1/2 | cup sugar | 1 | teaspoon peppermint extract |
| 1 | (3.9-ounce) package chocolate instant pudding mix | 1/2 to 2 | tablespoons milk |
| 1 | cup vegetable oil | 1/2 | cup coarsely crushed hard peppermint candies |
| 4 | large eggs | | |
- Heavily grease and flour a 12-cup Bundt pan. Set aside. Combine first 7 ingredients in a large mixing bowl. Beat at low speed with an electric mixer just until combined. Beat at high speed 2 minutes. Pour batter into prepared pan.
- Bake at 350° for 50 minutes or until a long wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool in pan on a wire rack 15 minutes; remove from pan, and cool on wire rack.
- Place cake on a serving plate. Stir together powdered sugar and enough milk to make glaze a good drizzling consistency. Brush glaze over cake, and sprinkle with crushed candies. Yield: 1 (10") cake.

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FOOD & HOME

Meat and potatoes evolve into sophisticated cuisine

Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

MILWAUKEE — Milwaukee is still a meat-and-potatoes kind of town, but the meat and potatoes are not necessarily what Grandma served for Sunday dinner.

The simple meatloaf with mashed potatoes or roast beef with scalloped spuds holds classic appeal. But the comfort combo is getting a sophisticated spin by a new generation of home cooks and chefs.

The Slow Food movement, advocating a reliance on seasonal local produce, has encouraged area farmers to grow unusual potato varieties, while chefs who support this seasonal approach are adding a dash of creativity.

Meat choices are expanding as well. Grass-fed beef and free-range chickens are increasingly part of the menu offerings at upscale restaurants.

At Oconomowoc Lake Club, for example, executive chef Jack Kaestner pairs free-range chickens with a variety of baked-flavored potatoes. The potatoes may be sliced with leeks and garlic, or combined with squash for an au gratin of sliced potatoes, cream, Gruyere cheese, herbs and delicate squash with the skin left on for presentation.

Kaestner, who also is co-leader of Slow Food's Wisconsin South East chapter, refers to the locally grown heirloom potatoes as "potatoes with pedigree."

Among his favorites are the small Rose Gold, Red Gold and Swedish Peanut fingerlings (valued for their dry texture and striking color ideal for roasting, especially in the juices of other foods). He also likes Sebago russets (more flavorful, but harder to grow and smaller than the typical russet).

Chefs are doing new potatoes what European chefs did with rice and risotto," Kaestner said. "They're using the potato as a blank palette and flavoring it with horseradish and wasabi."

Brandon Wolff, executive chef at Bacchus, serves braised beef shortribs with horseradish potato puree. Sister restaurants in The Bartolotta Group serve garlic-rosemary roasted potatoes (with fresh garlic and rosemary) to complement assorted meats.

That's a far cry from the American standards of parsley-buffed potatoes or baked potatoes with butter.

Among the more unusual tubers Wolff features at Bacchus are locally grown organic purple potatoes, said Joe Bartolotta, owner of Bacchus and four other restaurants: Lake Park Bistro, Ristorante Bartolotta, Mr. B's and Pizzeria Piccola.

Wolff also mashes Yukon gold potatoes with a lot of butter and heavy cream, then purees them for an elegant presentation, Bartolotta said.

But diners at Mr. B's, A Bartolotta Steakhouse, can still have their potato baked simply and served with steak. "The time-honored classics remain," said Bartolotta, who grew up here. "More restaurants are doing more upscale food. Meat has become very very expensive. You'll always have someone who wants a baked or roasted potato, but other vegetables, including squash and rutabaga, are becoming more popular, too."

The dining scene has shifted, considerably in the past 10 years, several restaurateurs said. "The offspring of true Milwaukeeans are growing up now. We have 30- and 40-year-olds with the ability to travel for business and pleasure, and they want similar experiences here as they get elsewhere," Bartolotta said.

There are "wonderful new varieties of cuisine" in Milwaukee, said Joe Mader, a Milwaukee native and owner of Mader's, a downtown German restaurant. "We're far more sophisticated now."

Sales at Mader's used to be 95 percent to 100 percent German

"meat and potatoes" fare, such as sauerbraten, Bavarian potato dumplings and garlic potatoes, Mader said.

About two years ago, Mader's hired a chef from New York and changed the menu, emphasizing less meat and potatoes and more fresh fish and game. The menu now is about 50 percent German fare and 50 percent "nuevo," Mader said. Still, 75 percent of the restaurant's sales remain German fare "because of who we are and our heritage," he said.

"I don't think any restaurant of our caliber wants to be considered a meat-and-potatoes restaurant," Mader said. "We keep our heritage but are expanding our intellectual energy in other directions."

Polish fare is another traditionally meat-and-potatoes cuisine from Eastern Europe with a stronghold in the Midwest.

Two years ago Michael J. Baruch, who grew up on the northwest side of Chicago as a sixth-generation Polish-American, self-published a cookbook, "The New Polish Cuisine" (LBJCM, 2002, \$32). His goal was to rework the dishes of his childhood to provide home cooks with recipes lower in fat but still full of flavor.

Baruch, who now lives in California, said in a telephone interview that there's still a place in middle America for the "Grandma, old Eastern European style of cooking." But much of it is being reinvented.

He mentioned braised beef. The beef is first browned in fat, then cooked, lightly covered, in a small amount of liquid at low heat for a lengthy period of time to develop flavor and tenderize it.

As for potatoes, portion sizes are decreasing, he said. "People would rather enjoy four to five small red potatoes with a little olive oil than globs of mashed potatoes with gravy."

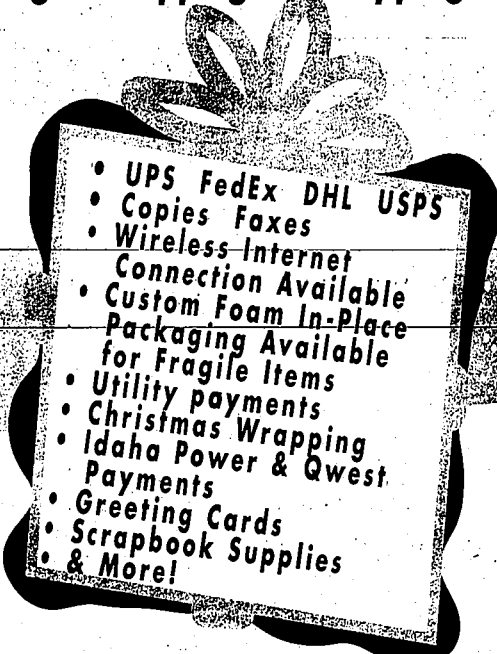
"But I think meat and potatoes cooking will always be around."

Please see CUISINE, Page C12



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Tips

Continued from C1
 opening it like a book. Tip 8: Thinner meat cooks faster.

Then he places the meat between two sheets of plastic wrap and pounds it to flatten to a uniform size, so it will cook evenly. Tip 9: Placing plastic wrap on the bottom as well as the top makes meat flatten easier, because it doesn't cling to the cutting board.

Stuffed with a cranberry and bread mixture, then rolled and tied, the turkey is seared in a hot pan before going in the oven to roast. Tip 10: Always have the pan hot before searing. It keeps meat from sticking.

So many people wanted the quick holiday meals class, the school added extra instructors. Next door to Lanuzza, chef-instructor Ed Batten has his own group.

Joann Serrano is squeezing lemons through her fingers, catching the seeds in her palm (Tip 11). She learned that one from watching cooking shows. Ed Batten shared another trick: Be eager to try. Tip 12: Learn to flip things in a skillet by going into the back yard with a pan

full of birdseed. Back in Lanuzza's class, Jason Cobb has noticed one woman is taking a long time to whip cream for white chocolate candy cane cocoa. Tips 13-14: First, he gets her another whisk. A whisk with thick wires is for breaking up things like whole eggs. A whisk with thin wires is for adding air to egg whites and cream. Then he tips the bowl sideways and flicks quickly to work in air. The cream thickens to a cloud in seconds.

Finally, he grabs a disposable spoon from a stash in a pocket of his chef's jacket and tastes: "More sugar," he announces. (See tip 4.)

At another work table, assistant Joel Werner is urging a group to make changes in their pilot recipe. Another group is watching a wild rice pilot, so he wants them to do something different.

Tip 16: "Get crazy," Werner says. "That's what it's all about. Change it up, be creative."

By 11:15, all the meals have come out of the ovens. Lanuzza directs students to let the meats

CRANBERRY STUFFED TURKEY BREASTS

Serves 10
 1 (12-ounce) package herb-seasoned bread stuffing mix
 2 skinless, boneless turkey breasts
 1 cup chopped pecans
 2 (8-ounce) packages dried, sweetened cranberries
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 6 lettuce leaves (optional garnish)
 1/2 cup pecan halves (optional garnish)
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare stuffing mix according to package directions. Set aside to cool.

Butterfly breasts by slicing horizontally from the side with a sharp knife, not cutting all-the-way-through-and-opening-like-a-book. Place each breast between two sheets of plastic wrap or wax paper and pound with the flat side of a meat mallet or the bottom of a small skillet to flatten. Remove plastic wrap or paper and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Spread half the prepared stuffing on each breast, to within 1/4 inch of each edge. Sprinkle with chopped pecans and cranberries. Reserve some cranberries for garnish. Roll up tightly like a jelly roll, starting

with the long end. Tuck in ends and tie in sections with string.
 Heat olive oil in a large cast-iron skillet over medium-high heat. Carefully brown turkey rolls, on all sides. Place skillet in oven, uncovered. (Or place both rolls in oven in a roasting pan.)
 Bake 1 hour, or until internal temperature is 170 degrees. Remove from oven and let stand 15 minutes. Remove string and slice rolls into 1/2-inch to 3/4-inch slices. Place on a platter covered with lettuce leaves, if desired, and sprinkle with pecan halves and remaining cranberries.

stand at least 10 minutes. Tip 17: The temperature will rise up to 15 degrees as meat stands, so use a meat thermometer and take meats out about 10 degrees before they're done.

Tip 18: Standing time also makes meat juicier. Heat creates pressure that forces juices toward the outside. If you cut the meat immediately, the juice will rush out and be wasted. As the meat cools, the juice draws back in and will stay in

the meat.
 Tip 19: Using a serrated knife, Lanuzza slices the stuffed turkey into pinwheels and arranges it on a platter. Always saw back and forth with a serrated knife, he says. "The edge looks like a saw, so that's what it's for."

With all the dishes spread out, students grab plates and dig in.
 Tip 20: Relax and enjoy. That's the best time cooking can give you.



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CORNISH GAME HENS WITH HONEY-DIJON GLAZE

1 head garlic, separated into cloves and peeled
 1/2 cup honey
 1/4 cup Dijon mustard
 1/4 cup butter
 2 tablespoons chopped fresh (or 3 teaspoons dried) thyme, divided
 5 game hens
 2 tablespoons to .25 cup fresh parsley

Salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
 Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Divide garlic cloves in half. Coarsely chop half and set aside. Finely mince the remaining garlic and place in a small saucepan.

Add honey, mustard, butter and half the thyme to the saucepan. Place over low heat and cook, stirring constantly, until mixture simmers and thickens slightly. Remove from heat and set aside.

Rinse cavities of hens (remove giblets and set aside for another use or discard). Pat

dry. Season cavities well with salt, pepper, coarsely chopped garlic, remaining thyme and parsley. Tie legs of hens and season outside with salt and pepper.

Line the bottom of a roasting pan with foil. Place hens, breast down, on a roasting rack. (Do not crowd the hens; heat needs to circulate freely around them. Use a second pan and rack if necessary.)

Place in preheated oven and roast 15 minutes. Remove from oven and baste with honey glaze. Return to oven and roast 10 minutes. Turn hens breast up. Continue roasting, brushing with glaze every 10 minutes, until they reach an internal temperature of 165 degrees or higher in the thickest part of the thigh, not touching bone. (About 45 to 50 minutes.)

Remove from oven and let stand 10 minutes. Cut hens in half and serve.

Give the gift of ... mustard

Knight Ridder Newspapers

A jar of mustard will add a little zing to the usual lineup of homemade goodies we tote to our friends' houses this holiday season.

Jennifer Gleason, owner of Sunflower Sundries in Mount Olivet, Ky., sells flavored mustards made from freshly ground organic mustard seed. Her business evolved from the days when she made mustards and jams for gifts for her family and friends. "Mustard is fun to make at home and not difficult," she said.

Gleason makes coarse-ground mustards from both brown and yellow seeds. She grinds them in a Vita-Mix-type grinder, and sometimes by hand with a grain mill. A small electric coffee mill works well, as does a hand-turned coffee mill.

"A food processor does not work well," she said. "The seeds just get thrown around, and not mixed up."

To learn more about making mustard, Gleason recommends "Fancy Pantry" by Helen Witty (Workman Publishing), "Gourmet Mustards" by Helene Sawyer (Silvy) Publications, \$7.95 and "A Dash of Mustard" by Katy Holder and Jane Newdick (Diane Publishing Co., \$2.00).

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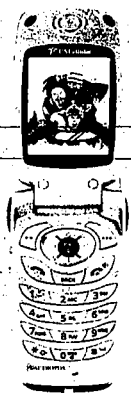
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FOOD & HOME

Your guide to holiday side dishes

The Seattle Times

For a memorable meal, elevate traditional side dishes with a few subtle adornments. A hint of chilies provides a spicy counterpoint to silky sweet-potato bisque.

The herbal scent of fresh rosemary, accent's garlic mashed potatoes.

And traditional bread stuffing receives special attention when dressed with roasted chestnuts, Italian sausage and Brussels sprouts. When planning for the holidays, it's the details that make an impression.

RICH CHESTNUT STUFFING

10 to 12 servings
 15 fresh Brussels sprouts
 1 jar (200g or 8 ounces) cooked chestnuts
 2 tablespoons olive oil, divided
 1 pound bulk mild Italian sausage
 1 medium onion, peeled and finely chopped
 2 medium cloves garlic, peeled and minced
 8 cups French or Italian bread cubes, day old
 1/2 cup chopped Italian parsley
 1 tablespoon fresh thyme leaves
 1 tablespoon minced sage leaves
 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

1/2 cups chicken or turkey broth
 Nonstick cooking spray or oil
 4 tablespoons melted butter or 1/4 cup turkey drippings

1. Trim the stem ends from Brussels sprouts and remove any tough or yellowed outer leaves. Cut across in the bottom of each. Bring a medium pan of water to the boil. Add the sprouts and bring back to a boil. Time 5 to 7 minutes or until just tender. Drain and rinse with cold water to stop the cooking. Pat dry and chop coarsely; set aside. Coarsely chop chestnuts and set aside.

2. Heat a tablespoon olive oil in a skillet on medium heat. Add sausage, breaking it up with a spatula and saute until cooked through and no longer pink. Remove from pan; pour off fat. Add remaining tablespoon olive oil to pan. Add onion and saute 5 minutes. Then add garlic and saute 2 minutes. Set aside.

3. In a large bowl, combine bread cubes with Brussels sprouts, chestnuts, sausage, vegetables, parsley, thyme, sage, salt and pepper, mix well. Drizzle chicken broth over the stuffing and mix with a large spoon. Spray a 2.5-quart baking dish with cooking spray or oil lightly. Spoon stuffing into dish and drizzle melted butter or turkey drippings over the top. Cover with aluminum foil and bake in preheated 325-degree oven 30 minutes. Uncover and continue baking 15 minutes.

SWEET POTATO-ANCHO BISQUE WITH RED PEPPER CREAM

Serves 8 to 10
 Soup:
 2 dried ancho chilies
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1 cup coarsely chopped onion
 1/2 cup coarsely chopped carrot
 1/3 cup coarsely chopped celery
 1 medium clove garlic, minced
 4 cups reduced-sodium chicken or vegetable broth
 1 pound orange-fleshed sweet potato or yam, peeled

and cut into 1/2-inch chunks
 12 ounces baking potato, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch chunks
 1 1/2 teaspoons kosher salt
 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
 1 cup milk
 Red pepper cream:
 1/2 cup coarsely chopped jarred, roasted red bell pepper
 1/2 cup sour cream or cream fraiche

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt
 Freshly ground black pepper
 1. To prepare soup: Rinse ancho, chilies and pull off stems; shake out seeds. Put chilies into a small bowl and cover with hot water (just below the boiling point). Soak until softened, about 20 minutes. Then drain and rinse briefly. Coarsely chop and set aside.

2. Meanwhile, heat oil in a Dutch oven over medium-low heat. Add onion, carrot, celery and garlic; cook, stirring occa-

sionally, until tender, about 10 minutes.

3. Stir in broth, sweet and baking potatoes, ancho chilies, salt and pepper. Increase heat to high and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and simmer until potatoes are very tender, about 20 minutes.

4. To make the cream: Puree bell pepper in a blender. Add sour cream and blend to mix. Add a couple teaspoons water if needed to loosen just a bit.) Season to taste with salt and pepper. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

5. When potatoes are tender, puree soup in several batches with a blender or food processor until smooth, adding some of the milk to each batch. Cool, cover and refrigerate.

6. Reheat soup over medium-low heat, stirring often. Don't let soup come to a boil. Add a dollop of the red pepper cream and serve.

CRANBERRY RELISH

Makes about 2 1/2 cups
 1 1/3 cup firmly packed dark brown sugar
 1/3 cup granulated sugar
 3/4 cup water
 1 bag (12 ounces) fresh cranberries

3/4 cup dried cranberries
 1/8 teaspoon salt
 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
 1. In a heavy, medium-size saucepan, combine brown and granulated sugars with water, fresh and dried cranberries and salt. Stir over medium-low heat until sugar dissolves.

2. Turn heat to medium. Cook until most of the cranberries have popped and the sauce has thickened, about 10 minutes. Stir occasionally to keep relish from sticking to the bottom of the pan. Stir in pepper.

3. Transfer to a bowl and cool. Cover and refrigerate until ready to serve. (The relish can be made 2 days in advance.)

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FOOD & HOME

Chains try to gobble up gourmet sandwich market

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - The elevator doors open and thousands of office workers in downtown Washington are launched into a sea of lunchtime options: traditional fast-food burger places, dozens of white tablecloth restaurants for the expense account crowd, and myriad mid-price choices, including salad bar-buffets and design-your-own burritos.

But what places are packing them in, not just downtown but in the suburbs? A proliferating number of sandwich chains such as Pothelby Sandwich Works, Panera Bread, Corner Bakery and Cost that offer such items as tuna and Swiss cheese on multigrain bread, a grilled Italian panini on rosemary-onion focaccia, or tandori chicken with roasted red peppers in a flat-bread pocket.

The Atkins diet frenzy slowed growth briefly, but the sandwich business is booming, with \$105 billion in sales last year. Chains grew at 6-to-8 percent, a rate twice that of fast food restaurants and the restaurant industry as a whole, said Joe Pawlak, an analyst at Technomic Inc., a restaurant industry research and consulting firm.

Denver-based Quiznos Sub sales hit \$818 million, up 33 percent, compared with 2002. Panera Bread of St. Louis had \$977 million in sales, up 29 percent. Sales at Subway, which now has more than 16,000 stores in the United States, rose 10 percent, to \$5.7 billion.

"The low-carb craze is starting to peter out," Pawlak said. "People try eating that way, but then they cheat. They think, 'Maybe I'll just reduce my carbs, not cut them out entirely. Maybe I'll just skip dessert.'"

Even well-known, big city chefs are stoking the trend. In New York, Tom Colicchio, chef at the famed Gramercy Tavern has opened "Wichcraft," with a menu of 19 gourmet sandwiches, most priced at \$9 and featuring ingredients such as



Workers make salads and sandwiches from scratch at a Cost sandwich shop in Washington. The sandwich business is booming, with \$105 billion in sales last year.

marinated broccoli rabe, caramelized onions and roast pork loin. In Los Angeles, chef Nancy Silverton of Campanile serves a menu of 12 inventive sandwiches, such as braised artichoke, ricotta and mint pesto, every Thursday, which is her upscale restaurant's busiest night.

"The concept has been adapted by the chains, which offer their own exotic combinations. 'People want chef-driven sandwiches,'" said Scott Davis, senior vice president and chief concept officer for Panera Bread, which has menu offerings such as turkey artichoke panini. "In the old days, it was ham and cheese or a Reuben."

The industry has dubbed places like St. Louis-based Panera as "fast casual" - basically, places that aim to be an improvement on fast food. They offer fresh ingredients, prepared in front of the customers, with a nicer decor (and a higher price) than traditional fast food restaurants. They also allow customers to customize their sandwiches with a lengthy list of toppings, and bread that is toasted to heighten the flavor and texture.

Washington baker Mark Furstenberg, who owns Bread Line near the White House, has nervously watched in the past year as Pothelby, Quiznos and Corner Bakery have all opened within a block of his restaurant.

"It's hurt my business. We used to serve 975 customers a day, we are now serving 775," he said. Competing against the chains is difficult, he said, "because they have greater buying power (with suppliers), so they get better deals. They can also afford to operate at break-even, even at a loss sometimes, to increase their market power."

Paul Saval, president of Saval Food Service in Baltimore that supplies meats and breads to many of the independently owned delis, and sandwich shops in the region, said chains tend to offer better bread but lower-quality meat "because the meat is more expensive. It's like improving the cover of the book but not the pages."

Still, the popularity of sandwich chains seems to have given the independents a little boost, Saval said. "It may reinvent what, as a kid, I called a deli, except now they're called a sandwich store."



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Beef Rib Eye Roast
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3⁹⁸
Lb.

Herbed Beef in Salt Crust

- 1/3 cup olive oil
- 1/4 cup minced onion
- 1 teaspoon garlic salt
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1/2 teaspoon dried marjoram
- 1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 3 lbs. beef rib eye roast, trimmed
- 3 lbs. kosher salt
- 1/4 cups water

1) Combine oil, onion, garlic salt, basil, marjoram, thyme and pepper in heavy plastic bag; mix well. Add roast; coat well with marinade. Marinate in refrigerator 2 hours or overnight.
2) Preheat oven to 350° F. Line roasting pan with aluminum foil.
3) Combine kosher salt and water to form a thick paste. Pat 1 cup paste to a 12" thick rectangle in pan. Pat roast dry with paper towels; insert meat thermometer. Place roast on salt layer; pack with remaining salt paste around meat to seal well. Bake for 60 to 70 minutes, or until thermometer registers 140° F. (Meat may cause crust to crack slightly.) Remove from oven and let stand 10 minutes. Remove the salt crust and discard. Serves 8 to 10.

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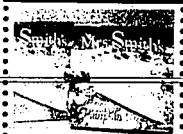
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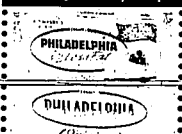


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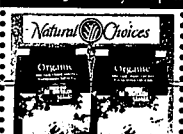


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FOOD & HOME

Want your water heater to last?

DEAR JIM: I replaced the electric water heater once already and this one is leaking after only eight years. Are there any water heaters that last longer, provide more hot water for showers and use less electricity?



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

— ED H.
DEAR ED: There are some new conventional electric water heaters with lifetime warranties against the water tank rusting out and leaking. Others use an all-polymer (plastic) design, which cannot rust out because there is no steel in the tank, so they are guaranteed to never become leaky.

When purchasing an electric water heater, consider the tank warranty. The least expensive models will offer a six-year warranty. More expensive, top-of-the-line models often offer a 10- or 12-year warranty. These all use a standard glass-lined steel water tank inside an insulated steel jacket. All-polymer (plastic) water heaters are also one of the most energy efficient. The inner molded tank is a test tube shape. The outer shell is made of tough polyethylene, similar to a garbage can. The wide gap between the tank and shell is filled with thick insulating foam. With the test tube shape, there is extra insulation thickness at the top where the water is hottest. An electric water heater, unlike a gas model, is a very simple device. Nearly all of the electricity used by the two elements goes to heating the water. The difference in the efficiency levels (operating costs) of various models depends upon the amount of tank insulation and heat loss from the tank.

If you have time, you can research and compare their insulation levels. An easier method to compare the operating costs is to compare their EF's

(energy factors). EF's range from about .80 to .96. For an average family, installing a model with the highest EF can save up to \$100 annually. Water heaters also have yellow energy labels to help you determine the savings.

If your family uses hot water mainly during morning and evening, select a water heater with a built-in timer. It shuts off the heating elements when hot water is not needed to reduce operating cost by 15 percent. Automatic energy-saver controls are another option for regular water usage patterns. Unless you select a new water heater with a larger tank, you will not get much more hot water for morning showers. An efficient model with a higher EF will not necessarily produce more hot water. Some models have optional higher wattage heating elements for greater water volume. The hot water output from a water heater is indicated by its FIR (first hour rating). This is the number of gallons of hot water it can supply in one hour in the morning. This is a function of how large (in gallons) the tank is and how much additional water the elements can heat in one hour. Write for instantly download - www.dulley.com

Update Bulletin No. 647 buyer's guide of 11 manufacturers (50 models) of efficient electric water heaters listing water outputs (FIR), EF's, warranties, features, and a savings/payback chart. Please include \$3.00 and a business-size SASE. James Dulley,



Warranty information differs depending on the quality of the water heater.

Newspaper Name, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, Ohio 45244

DEAR JIM: I don't keep the freezer compartment in my refrigerator very full. When I open some items, I notice ice crystals inside. Is the self-defrosting feature causing the frost to thaw and refreeze?

— MIKE C.

DEAR MIKE: There are two possible causes of the problem. The self-defrost feature does allow the freezer to warm up periodically to melt the frost. It should not get warm enough for long enough to defrost food though. You may not have the freezer temperature set low enough, so some foods actually do partially thaw during the defrost cycle. The freezer may also be malfunctioning and running the self-defrost cycle too long.

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Forget edgy: Think soft and fuzzy

The Washington Post

Dark by 4:50 p.m., and all you really want to think about are suede duvet covers and Old Navy pajama bottoms because everything is soft now, and you're softly a part of it.

Babies have never been better swaddled—and better protected from the edges of cotlee tables. Soft is as soft does: toilet paper no longer fits on the roller because it's so big and plush.

No amount of cruelly angular Italian furniture design seems to dissuade us from what we really like: those enorme-mondo-soft couches at Crate & Barrel that have grown so plump and buttery-looking you—just want to swan-dive into them.

People are putting red scarves over table lamps again. That pajama goddess herself, Oprah Winfrey, occasionally preaches the joys of silk flounce: Girl-friends, get home. Curl up on the chaise. Put on the really, really big pants. Put more of the me in me-time and enter a world that transpires only under a goose-down comforter.

That's when Soft Surroundings arrives in the thick of the pre-holiday bulk mail. It's a catalogue targeted to millions of working women, 37 percent of whom, we are helpfully told in a press release, usually shed their

"daytime clothes" within five minutes of getting home each night.

Here you have the goods for an ever-widening, mainstream casual fetish. It's got pants and pajamas of women in \$19 pajamas. It sells "embroidered softie" sherpa shirts. The "snuggly-scholar soft" and the "essential napping blanket." And chinolise

kimonos, "Turkish tuxedos" (a robe with robe panis), angora socks.

Soft Surroundings rates each clothing or bedding item with a tiny numbered cloud, which denotes the intensity of the softness: A No. 1 cloud is merely "so soft." A No. 2 cloud is "heavenly soft," and a No. 3 is "ultimate soft."

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Multivitamin (at least 400-micrograms-of-folic-acid)

- If you do not like to swallow pills, ask your pharmacist to recommend a chewable vitamin or a powder that can be mixed with water or juice.
- Eat a bowl of cereal that is fortified with 400 micrograms of folic acid.
- Folic acid foods - lentils, asparagus, spinach, black beans, broccoli, enriched breads & pastas, romaine lettuce, peanuts, and orange juice.

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FOOD & HOME

Cuisine

Continued from C6

PAN-SEARED CHICKEN WITH GOAT CHEESE

MASHED POTATOES

Ingredients:
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1/2 cup butter
 1/2 cup milk
 1/2 cup heavy cream
 1/2 cup cheddar cheese
 1/2 cup parmesan cheese
 1/2 cup salted butter
 1/2 cup black pepper

6 boneless chicken breast halves with skin
 Salt and pepper to taste
 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

Directions:
 1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
 2. Season chicken with salt and pepper.
 3. Heat oil in a large oven-proof skillet over high heat. Place chicken in skillet, skin side down. Sear chicken until crisp and golden brown, about 3 minutes. Turn and sear

1 minute, on second side. Transfer skillet to oven and bake until chicken is cooked through, about 6 minutes.

Directions:
 1. In large bowl, whisk lemon juice and remaining 1 tablespoon olive oil to blend. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Add arugula to dressing in bowl and toss to coat.
 2. Divide mashed potatoes among 6 plates. Top mashed potatoes with arugula salad, then with chicken breasts.

Makes 6 servings.
Goat cheese mashed potatoes:
 3 pounds russet potatoes, peeled and cut into 1 1/2-inch pieces
 1 cup whole milk
 1 onion, chopped
 6 tablespoons (1/4 stick) butter
 1 ounce soft fresh goat cheese (such as Montrachet), crumbled

Directions:
 1. In large pot of boiling salted water, cook potatoes until tender, about 30 minutes.
 2. Meanwhile, bring milk, onion and butter to boil in small saucepan over medium-high heat. Remove from heat.
 3. Drain potatoes and return to pot. Add hot milk mixture and mash. Add goat cheese and mash until blended. Season to taste with salt and pepper. (Can be prepared 2 hours ahead. Let stand at room temperature. Re-heat serving, stir over low heat until heated through.)



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Sixers pull off big rally over Nuggets, 110-102

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Allen Iverson had 31 points and 10 rebounds, and reserve Willie Green scored his season-high 17 points in the final 16 minutes as the Philadelphia 76ers rallied to beat Denver Nuggets 110-102 Tuesday night.

Jamal Crawford scored 30 points for New York, which held New Jersey without a basket for 15:02 in the second half. The Knicks snapped the Nets' four-game home winning streak and their seven-game skid at the Meadowlands with only their third victory in the last 19 games between the teams.

The Nets, led by Richard Jefferson's 22 points, missed 17 shots in a row and committed 13 turnovers during the drought. The Knicks' Nazr Mohammed blocked eight shot.

Zach Randolph had 16 points and 14 rebounds for Portland, which lost for the fourth time in six games.

Bobcats 94, Hornets 93, OT CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Emeka Okafor hit a pair of free throws with 5 seconds left in overtime to give Charlotte's new NBA team a win over its old one. New Orleans (1-19) lost for the 11th straight night.

It was the first meeting between the Hornets — who called Charlotte home for 14 seasons — and the expansion Bobcats, the team that replaced them after they fled to New Orleans at the end of the 2001-02 season following a nasty falling out with the city.

Okafor finished with 20 points and 12 rebounds, and Gerald Wallace had 17 points and 10 rebounds. David Wesley, and the Hornets with 23 points, and Junior Harrington had a career-high 22.

Kings 89, Bucks 86

MILWAUKEE — Chris Webber took an inbound pass from Mike Bibby and hit a 3-point shot to buzzer for stinging Sacramento. Bibby had 27 points and Webber 23 for the Kings, who won for the 14th time in 16 games.

Pacers 108, Hawks 97, OT ATLANTA — Jannul Tinsley scored a season-high 29 points and Indiana stamped a seven-game losing streak.

Fred Jones scored 21 points and Reggie Miller 19 for Indiana, which ended its longest losing streak since 1993. Tinsley was back in the lineup after missing three games with a sprained ankle.

Tony Delk scored a season-high 22 points, and Al Harrington added 21 for the Hawks.

Report: Majerus accepts USC's offer

LOS ANGELES — Rick Majerus will come out of retirement to coach Southern California basketball, he is expected to start at the end of the season, according to a report on ESPN.com Tuesday night.

The former Utah coach, who retired last January in his 15th season with the Trojans because of health reasons, was expected to sign a 5-year contract with USC and will resign immediately as an ESPN college basketball analyst, the cable network's web site reported, citing anonymous sources.

USC was expected to announce Majerus' hiring as early as Wednesday, ESPN.com said. The school fired Tony Bibby last week, four games into his ninth season, and installed assistant Jim Sula as interim coach for the rest of the season. The Trojans are 1-1 since Sula took over. Bibby had a 131-134 record at USC, and led the Trojans to three NCAA tournaments.

The 57-year-old Majerus was in the first year of a 5-year deal with ESPN and was expected to pay a negotiated amount to the network, the web site said.

Majerus coached Utah to the national championship game in 1998, losing to Kentucky, one of the schools' 10 NCAA tournament appearances during his tenure. His other coaching stints were at Ball State, Marquette and with the NBA's Milwaukee Bucks as an assistant.

Angels agree to deal with pitcher Byrd

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The Anaheim Angels agreed to a \$5 million, one-year contract with right-hander Paul Byrd on Tuesday, and traded pitcher Ramon Ortiz to the Cincinnati Reds for a minor league pitcher. Byrd was a 19-7 with a 3.54 ERA in 19 starts for the Atlanta Braves last season. He began the season on the 60-day disabled list recovering from reconstructive elbow surgery from a torn ligament in June 19.

Byrd has a 4.53 ERA in 215 games, including 127 starts. He has also pitched for the New York Mets, Philadelphia Phillies and Kansas City Royals. He has a 60-63 big league record with a 4.63 ERA in 215 games, including 127 starts. He has also pitched for the New York Mets, Philadelphia Phillies and Kansas City Royals.

He gets \$500,000 signing bonus and a \$4.5 million salary. Ortiz, a 31-year-old right-hander, figures to be a member of the Reds' starting rotation. He was used in 43.5 ERA in 34 games — 14 of them starts — before last year, he had made all 123 of his big league appearances as a starting pitcher. He won at least 15 games each of the previous three years and was 15-9 with a 3.77 ERA in 2002, helping the Angels win the World Series. He has a career record of 89-49 in 157 starts.

The Angels' received right-hander Dustin Moseley from the Reds for Ortiz. Moseley split time with Double-A Chattanooga and Triple-A Louisville last season, going 5-6 with a 3.86 ERA in 20 starts. He was taken by the Reds as the 34th overall selection in the 2000 amateur draft.

Poll: Most fans favor banning steroid use

NEW YORK — A majority of fans say players who test positive for steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs should be banned from baseball and think such players should be barred from the Hall of Fame, a poll found.

But there's strong opposition among baseball fans to contracts held by players who fail drug tests, according to the nationwide poll released Tuesday by Quinnipiac University in Connecticut.

The poll was taken Dec. 7-12, five days after the San Francisco Chronicle published leaked grand jury testimony in which Yankees slugger Jason Giambi admitted long-term steroid use and seven-time MVP Barry Bonds admitted knowingly took substances that prosecutors have identified as steroids.

Sixty-one percent of the 865 baseball fans polled said players who test positive should be banned from the game, while 33 percent oppose such a move. The breakdown was fairly consistent across gender — 60 percent of men and 64 percent of women supported such sanctions.

Fifty-two percent of those questioned said major leaguers who test positive for steroids or other drugs should be banned from the Hall of Fame, while 42 percent said there should be no such ban. On the question about expunging the records of players who test positive, 57 percent were opposed and 36 percent supported such a move.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

On the question about expunging the records of players who test positive, 57 percent were opposed and 36 percent supported such a move. The poll also found 93 percent of fans believe the use of steroids or other performance-enhancing drugs by baseball players is a problem, including 65 percent who call it "a major problem."

Only 15 percent of respondents said they were "very interested" in baseball and 33 percent said they were "somewhat interested" — about the same level of baseball interest found in polls a decade ago. The poll has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Schilling: Likely won't be ready by Opening Day

BOSTON — Red Sox ace Tim Lincecum's right arm is still recovering from surgery as quickly as he expected and he doesn't think he'll be ready to pitch by Opening Day. "I'm going to be late, I think," Schilling said after a casting of the right arm on Tuesday.

Schilling said he had a cast removed from the ankle over the weekend and learned for the first time that he wouldn't be able to return to the field for five weeks. That means he won't be able to resume throwing when he had planned.

Huskies make history with two black coaches

SEATTLE — Tyrone Williams and Lorenzo Romar are recognized as accomplished college coaches, the biggest reason is the words of university presidents who have them working the sidelines.

The fact that both men are black and supervising the school's two most visible athletic programs has made them prominent figures in university president Mark Emmert. It's also historic.

Williams was introduced Monday as Washington's new football coach, while Romar was named as the new head coach of the men's basketball team. Williams is in his third season as coach of the men's basketball team.

Washington is the first school from a Bowl Championship Series conference to have two black men supervising the two major sports since Temple of the Big East had Ron Dickerson as its football coach with John Chabot as basketball coach long time ago.

Williams' hiring is newsworthy for another reason. He's the first black head coach to be fired by one high-profile football program and then quickly "resurrected" by another.

This is honestly significant," Williams said. "With the old landscape, there have been limited opportunities for one to truly be able to get back into the system. I think that's a very positive step."

Romar, hired by former athletic director Barbara Hegdes, leads a basketball team that reached the NCAA tournament last spring. The basketball Huskies, No. 10 in this week's poll, are expected to contend for this season's Pac-10 title.

Both Williams and Romar said their positions at Washington were "a great honor," but insisted that job qualifications should always mean more than skin color.

Bode Miller records historic slalom win

SESTRIERE, Italy — World Cup leader Bode Miller won a slalom to join Marc Girardell as the only men to win races in all four disciplines in a season. The American won for the sixth time in 10 World Cup races by finishing two runs down the 2006 Olympic course in a combined 1 minute, 39.03 seconds.

Silvan Zurbiggen of Switzerland was next, 1.27 seconds behind. Miller has won slalom, giant slalom, super-G and downhill races in a span of 16 days. Girardell did more than two months to accomplish the feat in 1988-89; he also won a combined race that season — an event based on the results of a slalom and downhill.

SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and scores.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV schedules for various sports events, including Pistons at Knicks, Jazz at Suns, etc.

Area ski report

Report on ski conditions and events in the area, including mentions of Regan Bales and other skiers.

Area ski report

Continuation of the ski report, detailing race results and local news.

Collegiate Basketball Schedule

Table listing college basketball games and schedules for various schools.

Collegiate Basketball Schedule

Continuation of the college basketball schedule table.

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Continuation of the college basketball schedule table.

SPORTS

AS BOWL SEASON BEGINS

Akron left out by slimmest of margins

The Associated Press

There's the GMAC Bowl, the Emerald Bowl and the Champs Sports Bowl. And there's the Continental Tire Bowl and the Insight Bowl and the MPC Computers Bowl.

Starting Tuesday night with the New Orleans Bowl, 28 bowl games were to be played over the next three weeks, involving nearly half the teams in Division I-A.

More than enough, right?

Don't try telling that to the Akron Zips. They were the only team in Division I-A eligible and willing to play in this postseason that got left out.

"Every team is going to think they belong if they qualify," quarterback Charlie Frye said.

Even at Akron, a school that has never been to a bowl game.

Finding 56 bowl eligible teams turned out to be more difficult than usual this season as the Big Ten, Big 12, Pac-10 and Southeastern Conference all failed to produce enough teams to fill their ties.

With an 11-game regular season, teams needed to be at least 6-5 — and 6-6 wouldn't cut it for Michigan State and Northwestern, which both played a 12th regular-season game at Hawaii.

The task became even tougher when Clemson (6-5) and South Carolina (6-5) pulled out of postseason consideration after brawling during their Nov. 20 game, and left many bowl officials turning to the Mid-American Conference to find over 500 teams — like Akron.

"As we sat down and looked at the numbers," Akron coach J.D. Brookhart said, "when the South Carolina and Clemson situation pulled them out it be-

came a real possibility for us."

The Zips ended their season with a loss to Miami (Ohio) on Nov. 20 to finish 6-5. So, they had two weeks to watch and hope.

"The Monday after we lost to Miami, I sat in the staff room with the coaches and we put all the teams that had games left on a board, and who had to win and who had to lose for us to get in," said Frye, an NFL prospect who threw for 2,623 yards and 18 touchdowns.

"We had them all written down and that Saturday I was scratching them off with my pen."

Heading into the last Saturday, the Zips needed Louisville to beat Tulane in the afternoon and Michigan State to win at Hawaii in final game of this year's regular season to earn a spot in the Hawaii Bowl.

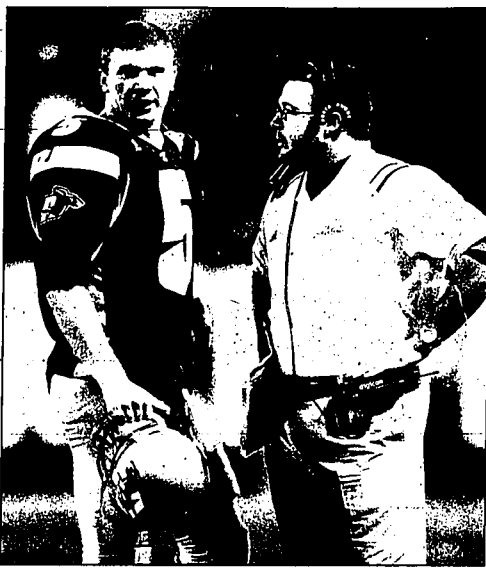
"There were a lot of students that were saying 'Go Michigan State' when they'd see you during the week," Frye said. "Everybody knew about it."

"I think there was a buzz around the university."

Frye and seven teammates gathered at his place to watch games Dec. 4. All those big tilts with Bowl Championship Series ramifications didn't mean much to the Zips. Who cares about Southern California, Oklahoma and Auburn? What's going on with the Green Wave?

Well, Louisville pounded Tulane 55-7 to eliminate the Wave. If the Spartans came through, the Zips were beach bound.

The game kicked off at 11:30 p.m. EST. "You could have told us it was 2:30 in the afternoon, we wouldn't have known the difference," Frye said. "It could have kicked off at 3 in the morning and every-



Akron quarterback Charlie Frye talks things over with head coach J.D. Brookhart during the game against Miami, Ohio at the Akron Rubber Bowl in Akron, Ohio, Nov. 20. Frye and his teammates needed Michigan State to win at Hawaii in the final college football game of the regular season to earn the first postseason bid in school history.

Michigan State would have watched."

Michigan State was up 21-0 early and 28-14 at halftime.

"When (the Spartans) went 21 up there we were all excited," Frye said. "We thought we were going to a bowl game. Not so fast. Timmy Chang and Chad

Owens rallied the Warriors. Chang scored the go-ahead TD in the fourth quarter and Hawaii (7-5) went on to win 41-38 and land that final bowl bid.

Instead of a trip to Honolulu and a Christmas Eve game against UAB, Akron got ... zip.

Jockey Sellers announces retirement

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — Jockey Shane Sellers, at the forefront of a push for better health insurance for riders, retired Tuesday, ending a career that included more than 4,000 victories and about \$130 million in purses.

The 31-year-old Sellers, who rode his first winner as a teenager, said he wasn't willing to jeopardize his family's future if he's seriously injured in a spill. Sellers hadn't ridden since Oct. 2, ending the injury to jockey Gary Birzer, who was paralyzed from the neck down in a spill in July at a West Virginia track.

Sellers' career was nearly ended when he was injured at the Fair Grounds in 2000. He said Tuesday he was thankful to walk away from the sport "and not lose everything because of a spill."

"I made a decision that I couldn't do it no more," Sellers told The Associated Press. "I couldn't go out there every day. My heart wasn't in it to ride with the chance of me falling and losing everything I own."

Sellers rode in the Kentucky Derby 14 times, and his best showing was a third-place finish aboard Wild Gate in 1993. He won the Bluegrass Stakes this year aboard The Cliff's Edge, and guided the colt to a fifth-place finish in the Derby.

Other highlights in Sellers' career included victories in the 2000 Travers Stakes on Unshaded, the 1997 Breeders' Cup Juvenile Fillies aboard Countess Diana, and the 1998 Breeders' Cup Turf with Buck's Boy.

"I no doubt cost myself a Hall of Fame career," Sellers said. "But I'm proud of the way I played the game because I stood up for what I believed in, and I stood up for myself and my fellow riders."

The National Thoroughbred Racing Association has formed a health insurance review panel to try to resolve the dispute over jockey coverage.

The controversy over jockeys' health insurance sparked a confrontation this fall at Churchill Downs, which banned 14 jockeys from the rest of its meet after the riders refused to accept mounts for the next racing card.

Pedro Martinez confirms he has agreed to join Mets

NEW YORK (AP) — Pedro Martinez confirmed Tuesday that he has agreed to join the New York Mets.

"I only hope to honor my contract and to fulfill the expectations," Martinez said on television in the Dominican Republic. "We got what we wanted. The team and I are happy with everything."

His agent, Fernando Guza, told the Mets on Monday that he would attempt to work out a deal with them after New York guaranteed a fourth year. The

deal for the pitcher who helped Boston win the World Series will be worth more than \$50 million.

"The bigger the contract, the bigger the responsibility," Martinez said.

Martinez said the sides still must determine the distribution of the money, and that he needs to see the contract. He said he would not announce the deal, choosing to wait until an agreement is signed and the physical is passed. Martinez had spent the past seven seasons with the Red Sox.

"My heart will always be with the Boston fans. I hope that everyone who truly loves me will still support me now that I won't be with the Red Sox," the three-time Cy Young Award winner said.

Martinez rejected a \$40.5 million, three-year offer from the Red Sox and the St. Louis Cardinals offered a four-year deal, a Mets official said Tuesday, speaking on condition of anonymity. Cardinals general manager Walt Jocketty and Guza didn't return telephone

calls seeking comment. David Wells, who finalized an \$8 million, two-year contract Tuesday, could be Boston's opening-day starter at Yankee Stadium — where he spent four seasons pitching for New York.

"If that's the situation, give me the ball. I'm ready," Wells said. "We never turned down a challenge, so why start now?"

"What we're prepared to do is to listen to anyone, and there have been other clubs who have expressed interest in Handy," managing partner Ken

Kendrick said. "We're going to continue to do that, but it's an ultimate decision — if ever made — that needs we and Handy to get together and discuss it and get his representatives involved. And we're not at that point yet."

Incoming Diamondbacks club executive officer Jeff Moorad called Yankees president Randy Levine on Monday, a baseball official said on condition of anonymity. No new proposals were made, the official said.

Tiger

Continued from D2

the down and let the round come to him."

That's what Woods did the next day. He couldn't make a putt-and-kill shot 66-to-win-the Target World Challenge by two shots, giving him consecutive stroke-play victories for the first time since the spring of 2001.

OK, one of those was in Japan (Dunlop Phoenix), and hardly anyone was paying attention.

The other was in the silly season, and he only had to beat 15 other guys.

Still, there was plenty of evidence that Woods is finally on the fast track to where he was the previous five years, even if the car he is driving has a different chassis.

Maybe the best proof was a

willingness to speak more openly about his game — when and why he changed his swing; the epiphany he had on the range last month when it all made sense; having Haney come out to the Target World Challenge; and conceding, finally, that the changes were more than just a refinement.

"Very minor. They're not drastic changes," Woods had said in May at the Memorial.

After winning at Sherwood, he said the amount of work was equal to what he went through in 1998.

"It's a different philosophy, one that was different to me, changes that I've never done before," he said of his work with Haney. "Probably '98 was more difficult, but this one I got a lot

more badgering from you guys."

Woods said he decided to undergo changes after winning the Match Play Championship in February, his only PGA Tour victory of the year. Such is the nature of that format that had it been a stroke-play tournament, Woods probably would have finished out of the top 10.

"Even though I won the tournament, I knew I wasn't going to do it for the rest of the year, so I had to start changing a few things," he said.

The rest of the year was a series of "baby steps" that cost him some of his mystique. He had gone five years without losing a 36-hole lead, and did it twice on consecutive weekends in May. He ended his PGA Tour

season by failing to win with at least a share of the 54-hole lead for the first time in four years.

But he saw the Tour Championship as a positive step, especially his middle rounds of 64-65 that told him he was closer than ever — even if no one believed him.

"I got ribbed a lot," Woods said, when asked about his 2004 mantra ("I'm close"). "But they weren't privy to being at home and watching me practice. I just couldn't quite take it to the golf course."

Woods was annoyed — and still is — at having to defend himself for a season that most other players wouldn't mind having. Despite only one PGA Tour victory and no majors, he finished out of the top 10 only

five times in 19 starts. Considering where he hit the ball, he had no business contending in half of them.

The media can't be faulted for pestering him.

The prevailing question was why anyone would change a swing that brought him close to perfection in 2000, with three straight majors, nine PGA Tour victories and his final 47 rounds at par or better.

What if Woods were a journalist?

"I would have looked at the faults, and tried to understand ... why I changed," he said. "Even though I had a great run, what was I still doing wrong in my golf swing?"

He credited Jaime Diaz of Golf Digest for "trying to figure

it out," and Diaz sheds plenty of light in the January edition of the magazine. He writes that Woods is working less on matching the speed of his upper and lower body, and more on getting his backswing and downswing on the same plane.

Woods talked at the Tour Championship about wanting to get better, and the risks involved.

What he told Diaz was more revealing.

"Only two players have ever truly owned their swings — Mae Norman and Ben Hogan," Woods said. "I want to own mine. That's where the satisfaction comes from."

The other satisfaction might come in having the last laugh.

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Stephen Hartgen

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IN MONEY

Nightclub changes name, genres

TWIN FALLS — Old Towne nightclub Honker's Place is now known as Kruger's. Kruger's is now Kruger and Tonya Taylor of Kruger's Inc. signed a lease agreement with Honker's owner Larry Tucker to operate the club, Kruger said Tuesday.

The formerly country music-themed club will now appeal to a more mainstream audience, said Kruger, who is the morning disc jockey on rock music radio station 95.9. The Buzz. Kruger will be the club's DJ and said he plans to add live music within a few months.

"We'll have a little bit of everything," he said.

Kruger's will be open from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Wednesdays through Fridays, with a grand opening on New Year's Eve. The club will open for the first time Friday.

Ameristar plans casino development

JACKPOT, Nev. — Las Vegas-based Ameristar Casinos Inc. on Tuesday announced plans to develop a casino-hotel and entertainment facility at the West Quay in Southampton, England.

The company is a major Magic Valley employer at its pair of Jackpot, Nev., casino properties, just over the Idaho border.

In conjunction with Bravo Newsworld Limited, Ameristar said it will seek one of the eight regional casino licenses it expects to be available upon adoption of new United Kingdom gambling laws.

Reported, Ameristar would develop the casino, a variety of dining and entertainment venues, a 200-room luxury hotel and conference facility and other amenities. Bravo would develop an 800-seat multi-purpose indoor arena with an Olympic-size ice rink.

"Ameristar is pleased to participate in the regeneration of Southampton's West Quay," former Twin Falls resident Craig H. Nelsen, Ameristar's chairman and chief executive, said in a statement. The project will create about 1,200 jobs, he said.

Pier 1 profit dives 40 percent in quarter

FORT WORTH, Texas — Pier 1 Imports Inc. reported a 40 percent drop in profit for its third quarter, as slow store traffic and deep merchandise discounting hurt the home-furnishings retailer's bottom line.

The company with a Twin Falls store on Tuesday also lowered its earnings outlook for the next quarter and full fiscal year. For the quarter ended Nov. 27, Pier 1 reported net income of \$19.5 million, or 22 cents a share, compared with \$32.2 million, or 35 cents a share, a year earlier.

Shares rose 1.1 percent to \$48.77 million. Shareholders' sales fell 6.3 percent.

Earlier this month, chairman and chief executive Marvin J. Grouard warned that sales for the first three weeks of November were disappointing due to a lack of marketing support from television and newspaper inserts.

Verizon wins support of wireless partner

NEW YORK — Verizon Communications Inc., the nation's biggest phone company, has reportedly won the support of its wireless partner, Vodafone Group PLC, should it decide to make a bid for Sprint Corp., the third-biggest U.S. long-distance phone company.

The Wall Street Journal cited unidentified people familiar with the situation for its report on Verizon's move, which comes even as Sprint is reportedly near a \$35 billion deal to merge with the smaller wireless company Nextel Communications Inc.

A spokeswoman for Verizon had no comment on the report. But Vodafone spokesman Ben Padovan said "We are not in discussions with Verizon" and declined to comment further.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

FROM PRINT TO ONLINE



Library employee Maureen Hoyl makes her way through the stacks at University of Michigan's Buhl Library, Monday in Ann Arbor, Mich. Google Inc. is trying to establish an online reading room for five major libraries by scanning stacks of hard-to-find books into its widely used Internet search engine.

Google will scan books from well-known libraries

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Taking a trip to the library may take little more than a computer's Web browser. Working with major libraries, Google is hoping to scan millions of books and periodicals into its popular Internet search engine during the next several years as part of an effort to bring more of the world's collective knowledge online.

Material from the New York public library as well as libraries at four universities — Harvard, Stanford, Michigan and Oxford — will be indexed on Mountain View, Calif.-based Google under the ambitious initiative announced this week.

The Michigan and Stanford libraries are the only two so far to agree to submit all their material to Google's scanners.

The New York library is allowing Google to include a small portion of its books no longer covered by copyright while Harvard is confining its participation to 40,000 volumes so it can gauge how well the process works. Oxford wants Google Inc. to scan all its books originally published before 1901.

Google eventually hopes

to participate in the project. Scanning books so they can be read through computers isn't new. Both Google and Amazon.com already have programs that offer online glimpses of new books while an assortment of other sites for several years have provided digital access to some material in libraries scattered around the country.

But Google's latest commitment, given the breadth of material that the company hopes to put into its search engine, which has become renowned for its processing speed, ease of use and accuracy.

"It's a significant opportunity to bring our material to the rest of the world," said Paul Ezelle, president of the New York Public Library. "It could solve an old problem: If people can't get to us, how can we get to them?"

Librarians are also excited about the prospect of creating a digital record for the remains of valuable material written long before computers were invented.

"This is the day the world changes," said John Wilkin, a University of Michigan librarian, working with

Google. "It will be disruptive because some people will worry that this is the beginning of the end of libraries. But this is something we have to do to revitalize the profession and make it more meaningful."

The project gives Google's search engine another potential drawing card as it faces stiffening competition for Yahoo Inc. and Microsoft Corp.'s MSN. Attracting visitor traffic is crucial to Google's financial health because the company depends on revenue generated by people clicking on advertising links posted next to the main body of search results.

Scanning the library books figures to be a daunting task, even for a cutting edge company such as Google, whose online index of 8 billion Web pages already has revolutionized the way people look for information.

Michigan's library alone contains 7 million volumes — about 132 miles of books. Google hopes to get the job done at Michigan within six years, Wilkin said.

Harvard's library is even larger with 15 million volumes. Virtually all of that material will be off limits unless Google shows it can scan

the material without losing or damaging anything, said Harvard professor Sidney Verba, who also is director of the university's library.

"The librarians at Harvard are very punctilious about protecting their great treasures," Verba said.

The project also poses other prickly issues, such as how to convert material written in foreign languages and the issue of protecting copyrighted books.

As it does with new books already included in its search engine, Google will only allow its users to view the bibliographies or other snippets of copyrighted books scanned from the libraries. The search engine will provide unrestricted access to all material in the public domain — work no longer covered by copyrights.

The books scanned from libraries will be included in the same Google index that spans the Web by drawing everything into the same pot. Google risks burying the library book results far below the Web documents containing the same search terms.

Reducing the usefulness of the feature, said Danny Sullivan, editor of Search Engine Watch, an industry newsletter.

Feds boost key interest rate by one-quarter point

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve, encouraged by the economy's performance, boosted a key short-term interest rate by one-quarter percentage point Tuesday. Fed policy-makers held the door open to further increases into 2005.

In their last regularly scheduled meeting, Fed officials in a brief statement after the meeting.

The action means the funds rate has more than doubled from the 46-year low of 1 percent where it stood before the

rate to 2.25 percent from 2 percent.

The funds rate — the interest banks charge each other, on overnight loans — is the Fed's main tool for influencing economic activity.

The economy "appears to be growing at a moderate pace despite the earlier rise in energy prices and labor market conditions continue to improve," the statement said.

Customers will still be allowed to return the movie or game over the next 30 days for a refund of the purchase price, but will be charged a "minimal" restocking fee, the company said. Blockbuster, facing competition from Internet-based Netflix and movie-on-demand offerings from cable operators, said it has tested the program in some markets and found that increased rentals and retail sales offset the decline in revenue resulting from eliminating late fees.

For the full year 2005, the company projects that late fees would have contributed about up to \$300 million to operating income. Blockbuster shares rose more than

Fed embarked on its current string of rate increases in June.

As a result, Wells Fargo said it was increasing its prime lending rate to 5.25 percent from 5 percent. Other banks were expected to follow suit. The prime lending rate, the benchmark for many short-term consumer and business loans, moves in step with the funds rate.

The Fed's current rate-raising campaign began in June when the central bank ordered its first rate increase in four years. Since then, it has boosted rates five times, with each move by a modest, one-quarter point.

Fed policy-makers on Tuesday stuck to their view that future rate increases would be gradual. The Fed said that rates can be raised "at a pace that is likely to be measured."

There are eight scheduled Fed meetings in 2005; the first is Feb. 12.

"They are not done," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PNC Financial Services Group.

The Fed's decision was expected and indicated more measured, quarter-point rate hikes will come," Hoffman predicted another quarter-point boost at the February meeting.

Blockbuster will end late fees on games, movies

But there's a catch

The Associated Press

DALLAS — Blockbuster Inc., the United States' biggest movie rental company, says it will eliminate late fees on games and movies at its U.S. stores as of Jan. 1 — but if you keep them too long, you're them.

Blockbuster announced Tuesday it will continue to set due dates, with one week for games and two days or one week for movies, but will give customers a one-week grace period at no additional charge, beginning New Year's Day. The company — whose rental chain includes a handful of Magic Valley stores — didn't say whether it would eventually adopt such a policy for its stores in other countries.

"Doing away with late fees is the biggest and most important customer benefit we've ever offered in our company's history," John Antozec, Blockbuster Inc. chairman and chief executive,

said in a statement. "So as of the first of the year, if our customers need an extra day or two with their movies and games, they can take it."

However, renters who keep the movies or games past the grace period will automatically be charged for purchasing the DVD or tape, minus the rental fee, Blockbuster said.

Customers will still be allowed to return the movie or game over the next 30 days for a refund of the purchase price, but will be charged a "minimal" restocking fee, the company said. Blockbuster, facing competition from Internet-based Netflix and movie-on-demand offerings from cable operators, said it has tested the program in some markets and found that increased rentals and retail sales offset the decline in revenue resulting from eliminating late fees.

For the full year 2005, the company projects that late fees would have contributed about up to \$300 million to operating income. Blockbuster shares rose more than

RENTAL RETURN

Return with NOON

Keep it for a Week Starting NOON

CHelsea Burns returns a video to a Dallas Blockbuster outlet before noon on Tuesday to avoid late fees. After Jan. 1, 2005, Blockbuster Inc. plans to eliminate late fees on games and movies.

4,500 company-operated and participating franchised stores in the United States and 2,600 stores in other countries. Blockbuster shares rose 40 cents, or 4.6 percent, to close at \$9.20 on the New York Stock Exchange. That is near the lower end of their 52-week trading range of \$6.50 to \$19.37.

INSIDE

Comics E4
Community E5
Classified E6-16

COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

BOISE — Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Jani L. Armstrong, 16-16 Burton Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12570.

Jose A. Cuero Jr. and Jessica L. Cuero, also known as Jessica L. Cuero, 512 Fifth Ave. E., Twin Falls, joint nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12536.

Danielle M. Martinez, 3112 E. 4700 N., Kimberly, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12545.

Suzee Lee Bartlett, 151 1/2 St. N., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12579.

Jimmy L. Gibson and BaSe M. Gibson, 320 W. Fifth St., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12561.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Carlos Martinez, also known as Carlos Martinez-Rios, 1013 E. 16th, Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-12542.

Patricia M. Iacketti, 325 Third St. W., Wendell, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-12533.

Heather Sue Edwards, also known as Heather Sue Bailey, 211 1/2 E. 10th, Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-12543.

Ray Leonard Lattimes and Rouse Lynn Lattimes, 3125 N. W. Kimberly, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets not indicated, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-12551.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Edwin D. Timmons, also known as Ed Timmons, and Corina J. Timmons, 1640 Third Ave. N., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets under \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12577.

George A. Dey and Tapsila L. Dey, also known as Ginger L. Dey, 2743 S. 2400 N., Twin Falls, joint nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12529.

Hal Ware and Tracy Vahl, 630 N. 125 W. Lane, Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12529.

Hal Ware and Tracy Vahl, 630 N. 125 W. Lane, Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12529.

Baron Alan Holph, 2914 E. 1600 N., Newburg, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12534.

Paul HC Kamminen and Suzanne Kamminen, 2301 E. 3500 N., Fairview, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12526.

Tacy L. McCreary, also known as Tracy McCreary, and Pepper L. McCreary, also known as Pepper L. McCreary, 2927 E. Coeur d'Alene, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12544.

Bohli Kaye Collin, also known as Bohli Kaye Hines, 1721 Maplewood Drive, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12544.

Brad Wang, 1710 E. 3000 N., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12552.

Scott Matthew Butler and Lani Kathleen Butler, also known as Lani Kathleen Butler, 2422 N. 1400 E., Goodwin, 417 E. Ave. H, Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12562.

Steve Scott, 390 S. 302 Lane W., Hevada, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-19 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-12566.

Chapter 13, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Soledad Garbay, 316 Eighth S., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 1-15 creditors, assets not indicated, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-12521.

Chapter 13, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

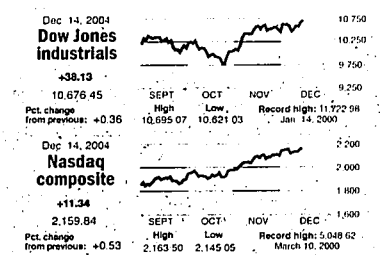
Linda Sue Johnson, also known as Linda Sue Daniel, 329 W. Ave. E., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 16-19 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 04-12550.

MONEY

Stocks rise following expected rate hike

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks moved higher Tuesday as the Federal Reserve issued a widely expected interest rate hike, and investors welcomed the prospect of a merger in the software industry.

Using language nearly identical to the statement it issued on Nov. 10, the Fed's Open Market Committee raised the nation's benchmark interest rate by a quarter percentage point to 2.25 percent.



Wall Street had been disappointed earlier in the day by the latest reading of the nation's trade deficit, which surged to a record \$55.5 billion in October.

gradual hikes to at least a 3 percent next year. In the near-term, getting 2004's final rate hike out of the way helped investors focus on the day's outlook.

United pilots reach tentative contract agreement

CHICAGO (AP) — Negotiators for United Airlines and its pilots' union have reached a tentative agreement on a new contract, the two sides said Tuesday.

The agreement makes the pilots the first of United's four big unions to come to initial terms on the latest round of cuts at the bankrupt airline.

The deal, if signed off on by union leaders and then ratified by rank-and-file pilots, could help enable United to avoid a potentially devastating labor slowdown.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

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

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, DIARY, and INDEXES. Includes columns for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and various market indices.

Mentors especially crucial for the disabled

Having a mentor makes a difference in getting and keeping a job. And mentoring is particularly vital if you are disabled, according to a new report.

That's why, in 2002, the American Foundation for the Blind, based in New York, introduced CareerConnect, a Web-based program for career exploration, job-seeking skills and for fund-raising for the address is www.afb.org/careerconnect.

It's estimated some 10 million people with disabilities are in the U.S. work force. Mentoring is of critical importance for the large population of disabled people who still are significantly outside of the work force.

Additionally, when blind mentors give advice, support and inside information to blind job seekers, "blind people learn they indeed can work," said Wolfe.

She was a director of nursing at a large hospital, Bristo said. "She was disabled herself but believed enough in me to recruit me to work and created a position for me. It included the concept of job sharing, which is incorporated into the Americans with Disabilities Act."

And there's another positive aspect of having a mentor: "To find good jobs, people have to have strong networks, and having a mentor broadens your opportunities to gain employment," said Wolfe.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks with columns: Name, YTD, P/E, Last, Chg, %Chg, Div, Yield, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange stocks with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, %Chg, etc.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for market type (Commodity, Energy, Metals, etc.), price, and change. Includes items like Sugar, Wheat, and various metals.

1000 BULKY COMMODITIES

Table listing prices for various commodities such as soybeans, corn, and wheat in bulk quantities.

STOCKS

Table showing stock market performance with columns for stock name, price, and change. Includes major indices like S&P 500 and Dow Jones.

LIQUIDATION AUCTION

Table detailing liquidation auction results, including item descriptions and sale prices.

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BEANS

Table listing prices for various types of beans, including soybeans and lentils.

WHEAT

Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

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Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

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Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

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Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

WHEAT

Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

GRAINS

Table listing prices for various grain products.

CHEESE

Table listing prices for different types of cheese.

POTATOES

Table listing prices for different grades of potatoes.

SUGAR

Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

SUGAR

Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

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Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

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Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

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Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

SUGAR

Table listing prices for different grades of sugar.

POPCORN

Table listing prices for different grades of popcorn.

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Table listing various mutual funds and their performance metrics.

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Video-game workers sue for overtime pay

Living in Silicon Valley, Calif., stereotype, they subsist on pizza and soft drinks, working six-day weeks for months on end to make deadlines so there will be plenty of games under the Christmas tree. But Jamie Kirshenbaum, a 26-year-old lead animator at EA Redwood City, Calif., studio, is not a happy elf. In July, he filed a class-action lawsuit against the world's largest video-game company, alleging EA drives workers to exhaustion without paying overtime. Around the same time, game programmer Neil Aiken filed a similar suit against Vivendi Universal Games in Los Angeles. Aiken claims he and his co-workers regularly worked 12-hour-plus days without being paid overtime and then were asked to falsify time sheets. Kirshenbaum says he was given a window into a long-smoldering controversy in the \$10 billion U.S. video-game industry over the widespread practice of "crunch time" or working long hours to finish a project as its deadline nears. "The debate also is part of a larger battle in the technology industry: Who qualifies as a creative professional and who should receive the protections of labor laws designed for work habits of a different sort? "I thought I was awesome to get a job here because I started playing EA games when I was young," Kirshenbaum said. "But it's my life. I never felt I should devote my job to it." Electronic Arts is now considering making some jobs eligible for overtime, according to an interview with program manager EA has begun a project to make its production process more efficient to reduce the number of last-minute changes that wreak havoc with employees and benefits. In response to the \$1 billion company, which has 53 billion in revenues and 5,100 employees, issued a statement that it offers workers competitive wages and benefits. Vivendi declined comment on Aiken's case. Where once game developers toiled alone in garages to finish games, they are now part of a global multi-billion-dollar industry where games often cost \$5 million to \$10 million to develop and take two or three years to complete. As the costs go up, the temptations to cut corners — and overtime pay — are plentiful, said Jason Della Rocca, director of programming for the International Game Developers Association. "It's a critical issue in our industry," said Juan Medina, director of labor relations for EA. "We're all on one team, which will hold several 'quality of life' panels as of March 2005 event." Creative people have basic needs in order to function. At a management level, they have to be able to include priority to avoid crunch time and plan for delays that are inevitable in projects of this kind. "To be sure, the work environment at EA is hardly Dickensian, but there are many others such as gymnasts, soccer field, game rooms and a theater where they shows movies and hosts concerts.

The state may owe you money.

Thursday's unclaimed property list includes listings for Paul, Richfield and Shoshone.

Something missing?

We are able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock, mutual fund or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try to include it. Please call Ramona Jones at 733-0931, Ext. 262, with your suggestions.



When You're Serious About Investing...

Perkins Smart & Boyd, Inc. Call Nita Barnes Clontz for appointment

Member of NASD & SIPC

Large table listing unclaimed property details, including names, addresses, and amounts.

COMICS

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

YES MARY, I SOLD MY WHOLE COLLECTION OF COMIC BOOKS - SEE THESE THE MONEY! YOU CAN BUY THOSE GLOVES FOR THAT GIRL I LIKE.

BROUWNE CHARLES! PEGGY JEAN! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I'VE BEEN SHOPPING WITH MY MOTHER. LOOK, I JUST BOUGHT THIS NEW PAIR OF GLOVES!

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU HERE FULL TIME! I COULD USE YOU!

HI, GIBBON! I'LL GIVE YOU A HUG! SEE YOU LATER!

SHE TALKS FUNNY THE FIRST WEEKS. FUNNY DID YOU KNOW SHE'S 15 YEARS OLD?

HER READING LEVEL IS... ENOUGH TO GET ON THE BUS. TAKE HER EVERYWHERE. SHE CAN HANDLE ANYTHING WITHOUT GETTING HUNGRY.

AND YOUR MOM NEVER DOES ANYTHING WITH YOU!

Dilbert By Scott Adams

FOR EXAMPLE, I'LL NEED TO GET YOUR INVESTMENT BANKING BUSINESS.

OKAY.

AND YOU NEED TO MERGE WITH MY OTHER CLIENT THAT MAKES POISON WAFFLES.

OKAY.

Blonde By Dean Young & Stan Drake

I WISH WE COULD GO TO A "TERRIBLE" "G" "LAST" "ING"...

SO TO SAY HE'S GORR... HE'S BUYING ME A DIAMOND BRACELET FOR CHRISTMAS.

THAT'S VERY GENEROUS OF HIM.

GENEROUS? WHY HE DOESN'T EVEN KNOW ABOUT IT YET!

9.C By Johnny Hart

...AND THROUGH THE WOODS... TO GRANDMOTHER'S...

OVER THE RIVER?

Pickles By Brian Crane

IS THAT A NEW BOLD TIE?

YEAH, I SAW IT ADVERTISED ON TV.

IT'S ALSO A TAPE MEASURE.

THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD OF.

WHERE CAN I GET ONE?

Garfield By Jim Davis

WE NOW RETURN TO HAROLD FENSTERNICK...

"THE REGULAR GUY WHO SAVED CHRISTMAS"

GEE, GUESS I OUGHTA OPEN THE FLUE...

NICE SAVE, HAROLD.

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

12-15

"A cookie? You should've asked for more than that, PJ."

Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

SHOOT! HECK! WHAT ARE YOU BOYS DOING?

SEEING WHO CAN COME UP WITH THE MOST SUBSTITUTE SWEAR WORDS!

Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady

ROSE, YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED?

I WAS UP ALL NIGHT REMOVING ROSEAL'S CHOIR ROPE.

OH! IF YOU GET A CHANCE... SEE WHAT YOU CAN DO WITH THIS TEAR ON MY SLEEVE... BUT...

THERE'S NO RUSH!

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

THAT'S PRETTY MUCH UNDERSTOOD, JUNIOR.

SICKLE FUNERAL

ALL SALES FINAL

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

WOULD THIS BE THE APPETIZER OR THE MAIN COURSE?

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

I HEARD THE FUNNIEST JOKE TODAY!

REMINDE ME TO TELL IT TO YOU SOMEDAY, WHEN THE RAMIFICATIONS AREN'T SO HUGE.

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

YEAH, I'VE GOT THE COMPLEX.

YEAH, IT'S NO-GOOD.

I DECIDED TO CALL WHAT IT REALLY IS.

WHINING, MOANING + BELLACHING.

Luan By Greg Evans

...ROTATE IT CLOCKWISE... MORE... OTHER WAY... MORE... MORE...

WELL, THE IDEA OF A MOVING TREE IS PRETTY COOL, BUT DAD'S GOING TO GET TIRED.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

I JUST INVENTED NUMBERS!

NEAT! HOW MANY?

Strange Brew By John Deering

TRY TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX...

WE INTERRUPT THIS PROGRAM FOR A BREAKING STORY FROM OUR INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING BUREAU...

IS THIS IT? HAS OUR MUZZLED NEWS MEDIA FINALLY GUNNED OFF THE CENSORSHIP CHAINS AND TRICKLED TO US INDEPENDENT VOICES AS A WATCHDOG FOR THE PUBLIC?

AFTER HOURS OF INVESTIGATION, WE CAN STATE CATEGORICALLY THAT BRITNEY SPEARS IS NOT PREGNANT YET.

WELL... YOU WERE TO ADMIT IT'S AN UNBORN PRESENT! IN THE MEANTIME...

YEAH, IT TOOK GUTS TO BRING AN FCC FINE FOR SAVING PRESENTS! IN THE MEANTIME...

The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

I'VE GOT THE FLU, DOC! I FEEL ANFUL!

WHAT GOOD DID THAT FLU SHOT DO, THAT YOU GAVE ME?

JUST THINK HOW MUCH WORSE YOU MIGHT BE WITHOUT THE SHOT!

MORNING BREAK

ACROSS

- String quartet member
- Type of test
- Roosevelt com
- Stand by for
- Fabricated
- Historic periods
- Stable sound
- Sailing
- Sit in a carment
- Boar
- Feed the pol-
- Li-la lead-in
- Danger-has-passed signal
- Emphasized
- Doctor's letters
- Boisterous
- Wandered aimlessly
- UFO crew
- Hawaiian staple
- Average grade
- Poetic tribute
- Hostile critic
- Profoundly wise
- Shortened shortener
- Harassed
- Markdown
- Always in a poem

DOWN

- Raw sugar
- Sheep moms
- Not of the cloth
- Illuminated
- Unnamed persons
- GPs' org.
- Waterfall
- Utopian
- Time limit
- Cheapan
- Goodnight girl of song
- Marine ray
- Aromatic compound
- Existed
- Secret language
- Idiotarot transportation
- Lug
- Oxidize
- Give off
- Farm measurement
- Leo's interjection
- Sharp side
- Property record
- Meat paste
- Event
- Peruses once again
- Jacks or better, in poker
- Poet Robert W.
- Male or female
- up (united)
- Object mildly
- Obiliterate
- Referenced
- Marsh plant
- Royale or Wight
- Paraffin-coated cheese
- Decomposes
- Harden

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

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

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Soldier in Iraq looks forward to peace and quiet at home



DEAR ABBY:
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I am a female member of the military, stationed for the past nine months in Iraq. I recently received a letter from a friend who is having problems in her marriage. She has asked to move in with me when I return to the states in about three months. She says it's only until she gets back on her feet.

There's no way I can let that happen. She has too much drama in her life, and I have grown accustomed to living by myself. When I get home, all I want is peace and quiet. How can I tell her that I don't want a roommate without hurting her feelings?

— PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST

DEAR PEACE: Be direct, and don't go into detail. Tell her that your job of duty has been stressful — it's the truth — and that when you return home you plan to live alone. Do not talk about the drama in her life. Talk about the drama that's been going on in your life. You have a right to peace of mind, and your friend should not expect you to straighten her life out for her. After a tour in Iraq, you've done enough.

DEAR ABBY: I was seeing someone in the apartment complex where I live. It was the maintenance man, "Stan." At first, we kept it quiet because of

problems I have with my ex, "Mac." Mac and I have children together and he always finds ways to destroy my new dates — so the less he knows, the better.

But I was falling in love with Stan, so one night we decided to go out in public. Mac found out and had a friend of his tell me Stan could lose his job.

Since I can't afford to move and didn't want Stan to lose his job, I started avoiding him. It's been six weeks, and I feel I have lost the best thing that ever happened to me. Please tell me what to do.

— GRIEVING IN MICHIGAN

DEAR GRIEVING: The first thing to do is pick up the phone and contact the office of the building. Without being specific, inquire if there is any formal policy regarding residents fraternizing with staff.

If there is a rule that forbids it, rather than avoiding Stan, I advise you to have a serious chat with him. If you both want to pursue a relationship and moving isn't an option, perhaps he should find a job with another building. Good maintenance men are hard to find.

DEAR ABBY: I met someone almost a year ago. "Donald" and I dated for several months, but it ended badly. A few months ago, we started communicating again — and I thought everything was going well. Then, all stopped calling.

We were intimate each time I saw him. Now I am pregnant.

Abby, I'm 44 and have never had a child. Donald is 50 and has never been married or fathered a child either. I have left him several messages since I learned I was pregnant and have asked why he hasn't returned my calls. He has not contacted me.

I feel absolutely abandoned, hurt and betrayed. Donald is a wealthy playboy and sometimes extremely selfish. I want this child, but need some sort of acknowledgment from him. What should I do?

— SHOCKED, DISTRAUGHT AND PREGNANT IN OHIO

DEAR PREGNANT: Pick up the phone and make one more call — to an attorney. It will be a good investment. You may feel hurt, abandoned and betrayed, but I see child support in your future. It's time for the daddy-to-be to step up to the plate.

Cheap class churned ice cream fortune

A little learning can be a wonderful thing. Ben and Jerry leaned how to make ice cream from a \$5 correspondence course offered by Pennsylvania State. Likewise, the Gallo brothers learned how to make wine from a booklet on wine-making they found at their local library.

This day in history: Frankly my dear, you may not give a damn, but "Gone With the Wind" premiered on Dec. 15, 1939, at Loew's Grand Theater in Atlanta.

Start buying cool clothes — scientists estimate the sun has only about 5 to 6 billion years before ceasing to boil away the oceans and all life before burning out.

A group of cats is called a clowder; a group of kittens is called a kindle.

The most monogamous apes are gibbons, followed by humans.

RANDOM KINDS OF FACINESS:
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

for the strokes of Japanese writing that normally required a brush dipped in ink.

If you're told you suffer from "borborygmi," don't worry: It just means you suffer from stomach rumbling.

Dr. Joseph Gallotini didn't invent the head-chopping device that bears his name. He did, however, successfully lobby the French government to come up with a more humane execution method than some guy hacking at necks with an axe. Their mechanical solution became known as a guillotine.

According to the Harvard Eating Disorders Center, about 3 percent of adolescent girls and young women have eating disorders.

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

Prepare to pamper someone special, Aries

IF DECEMBER 15 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY — A recent surge of popularity may have given you to your head or given you delusions of grandeur. Rest assured that the sky really is the limit and whatever you really want can become a reality this year when passionate Pluto passes through your sign of the cosmic pie. You could be held accountable for past mistakes in the two months ahead, or again in June and July, so be extremely conscientious about paying bills and taking care of business. In August and September, the planetary goddesses will smile on your dreams, reward your efforts, and providing you with opportunities to improve your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A little spoiling and pampering will bring a smile to the face of that special someone. Use the lure where career and job are concerned and don't let the upcoming holidays distract you from pressing tasks.

TABRIN (April 20-May 20): Take advantage of clear celestial skies to exert your particular brand of charm on key contacts within your immediate circle. A few sharp words could put your backles up but you possess the smooth nerves to avoid conflict.

LEMON (May 21-June 20): Work and a hectic schedule may make the holiday times just ahead look particularly attractive. Avoid the temptation

HOROSCOPE

Jeraline Saunders

to reveal confidential information or to manipulate others by using hidden information.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You are truly in touch with the holiday spirit and can safely exude generous gestures. Your charm and kindness can uplift others and brighten the day. Join others in making decisions about group gifts.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Make some headway on Christmas shopping or take a quick break for a social outing while a pleasant mood prevails. Now is the right time to make important phone calls and discuss hard topics and analyze numbers.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): People are in a trusting mood. So avoid taking advantage of confidences or using understanding means to get your way. Use your intense mental skills to brainstorm complex situations and avoid subjects that could create gossip.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The holiday spirit in the air makes this a good day to purchase a few stocking stuffer or lunch accessories for a quiet lunch. Get social obligations out of the way so you can attend to serious business this week.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The truth may be revealed but it is up to you to choose an appropriate ethical action to keep things from spinning out of control. Stick to honest appraisals of people and things whenever you have a chance to express your views.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Today's jolly mood may have you humming a few happy tunes. Grab the phone and talk with valued friends or prospective clients under these helpful stars. You may hear a few sad stories, so provide a comforting shoulder for others.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): The time has come to talk over or think through troublesome situations that could have a chilling effect on important relationships. Fairness and honesty will get you further than subterfuge.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): By being an active member of the community you can promote your own interests and help others at the same time. You are poised to launch in a new direction, but restrain impulses until the time is right.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Others may be preoccupied with pressing situations when you are in the mood for fun and games. Be sympathetic but don't let others rain on your parade. This is a good day to make generous gestures.

Christmas drawings release man from jail

HARRISON, Ark. — A man with plenty of time to spare as he awaited trial on drug charges sold Christmas cards he drew to raise enough extra money to help him post bond and get out of jail.

In October, authorities arrested Charlie Cook and his wife, Laurie, and charged them with making methamphetamine, drug possession, possession of drug paraphernalia and manufacturing meth in the presence of children.

Laurie Cook's bond was set at \$20,000, but she was released on a signature bond because she was five months' pregnant. Cook's bond was set at \$30,000, with help from some of his Christmas card money, he was able to post bond Dec. 7.

After visiting with prison missionaries, Charlie Cook became inspired to draw winter scenes as Christmas cards. Clarence Yoder, a Mennonite who had visited Cook in jail, liked the cards so much that he took them to his bakery and sold them for \$2 each.

Mrs. Cook also works at Yoder's bakery. "We're trying to stay away from the people and circumstances that have contributed to some of the bad choices we've made in the past," she said.

Football bet ends with burnt Jersey, citation
ALGER, Wash. — If you're going to settle the turkey football bet, at least be careful about who's around.

Three men who had been

watching the Monday-Night Football game earlier this month between Seattle and Dallas at the Alger Tavern in this Skagit County town stepped outside to settle up.

"One of them had promised to burn his Sealhaws' memorabilia if Seattle lost, which is exactly what happened."

True to his word, the man walked outside, stripped off his jersey and hat, and lit them afire on the tavern's walkway, the Skagit Valley Herald reported.

But a State Patrol sergeant drove by just at that moment and cited the trio ages 22, 25 and 32 — for needless burning. If convicted, they could face maximum penalties of a \$1,000 fine and 90 days in jail.

— compiled from wire reports

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 Monday4 pm Friday
 Tuesday2 pm Monday
 Wednesday2 pm Tuesday
 Thursday2 pm Wednesday
 Friday1 pm Thursday
 Saturday1 pm Friday

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200 Employment
300 Financial
400 Education

500 Real Estate for Sale
600 Real Estate Rentals
700 Agriculture
800 Merchandise

900 Recreation
1000 Transportation
BUSINESS HOURS
 Monday - Friday
 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

HEARING TO CLOSE PCBs ON DESERT ROAD DEC. 20TH 4:00PM Blaine County Commission 206 1st St. Suite 300 Hailey, Idaho

PUBLIC NOTICE ACTIONS PLANNED AND TAKEN BY YOUR GOVERNMENT... Hearing to close PCBs on Desert Road... Blaine County Commission... 206 1st St. Suite 300 Hailey, Idaho

access public records and public meetings... IMPORTANT Please address all legal advertising notices to... LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News... Twin Falls, Idaho

FOUND CD carrier, possibly for... FOUND CD carrier, possibly for... FOUND CD carrier, possibly for... FOUND CD carrier, possibly for...

FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold...

FOUND pellet rifle in the vicinity of 4000 N... FOUND pellet rifle in the vicinity of 4000 N... FOUND pellet rifle in the vicinity of 4000 N...

FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold... FOUND dog brown and gold...

FOUND puppy Lab/Gold... FOUND puppy Lab/Gold... FOUND puppy Lab/Gold... FOUND puppy Lab/Gold...

The following license conditions are part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Snake River Salmon Falls hydroelectric project operated by Idaho Power Company...

- (1) minimize the duration of altered flows... (2) provide notification to the FWS within 72 hours... (3) provide notification to the FWS within 72 hours... (4) request a meeting with the Mid-Snake Technical Work Group...

With regards to the temporary modifications described in (a) through (i) above and pursuant to the terms and conditions of the incidental take statement filed by the FWS on May 18, 2004, the licensee shall:

- (1) minimize the duration of altered flows... (2) provide notification to the FWS within 72 hours... (3) provide notification to the FWS within 72 hours... (4) request a meeting with the Mid-Snake Technical Work Group...

The licensee shall prepare the plan after consultation with the Idaho DFG. The licensee shall include within the plan a detailed description of the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

- (1) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, target species, control methods... (2) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, target species, control methods...

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan shall not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved.

- (1) improvement of the Bliss reservoir boat launch access by obtaining a long term lease of the property... (2) development and maintenance of the existing Bliss day-use park facility...

Have you checked out the classifieds lately? We have something for everyone.

Public notice regarding the Snake River Salmon Falls hydroelectric project, including details on license conditions and public access.

LOSING A LOVED ONE TO DRUGS OR ALCOHOL? If addition is taking a loved one... NARCONON Idaho 208-878-2800

Public notice regarding the Snake River Salmon Falls hydroelectric project, including details on license conditions and public access.

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CARE WORKER Graveler Care Worker Safe Home Care Services. Call 208-731-1207

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE

The following notices are part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Lower Salmon Falls hydroelectric project owned and operated by Idaho Power Company.

Article 391. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of federally listed snails in the project area with the exception that for the purpose of conducting studies related to the project...

Article 401. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 402. Minimum Falls Flow. Commencing within 60 days of Commission approval of the final Mid-Snake River Management Plan...

Article 403. Middle Snake River/Shoshone Falls Land Management Plan. Within six months of Commission approval of the final Mid-Snake River Management Plan...

Article 404. Recreational Management Plan. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 405. Land Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 406. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 407. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 408. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 409. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 410. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 411. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

Article 412. Wetland Management. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a plan to annually stock a total of 14,000 pounds of rainbow trout in the project reservoir for recreational fishing in the project area.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The following license conditions are part of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license for the Lower Salmon Falls hydroelectric project owned and operated by Idaho Power Company.

Article 18. So far as is consistent with proper operation of the project, the Licensee shall allow the public free access to the project waters and adjacent project lands owned by the Licensee for the purpose of full public utilization of such lands and waters for navigation and for outdoor recreational purposes, including fishing and hunting.

Article 19. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of federally listed snails in the project area with the exception that for the purpose of conducting studies related to the project...

Article 20. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 21. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 22. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 23. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 24. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 25. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 26. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 27. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 28. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 29. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 30. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 31. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 32. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 33. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 34. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 35. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 36. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 37. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

Article 38. Project Operation. The licensee shall at all times operate the project in a run-of-river mode for the protection of invertebrate fish, federally listed snails, and riparian vegetation around the Shoshone Falls Reservoir and in the Snake River downstream of the project...

ASKING QUESTIONS

Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone

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ANALYST. Laboratory analyst. Immediate position for FT/PT lab tech

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DRIVER. Driver needed. Must have Class A western. Local & W. order. Experience. Call Joe at 731-6460

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50 LEGALS

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

T.S. No. F-37470-ID-LL Loan No. 20-0051-020463 On 2/17/2004 at 1:00 AM (recognized local time), in the lobby of First American Company 260 Third Ave North Twin Falls, ID 83301, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, trustee, First American Title Company, as successor Trustee, on behalf of Citicorp Trust Bank FSB will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows: Lot 24 of Peck's Addition Twin Falls County, Idaho according to the Plat thereon recorded in Volume 4 of Plats Page 7 Records of said County. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address of 4210 North 1410 East Blvd, ID 83316, is sometimes associated with said real property. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to be made in the session and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by: Roger D Evans and Linda Ann Evans husband and wife, as grantors. To: Alliance Title Company, for the benefit and security of Citicorp Trust Bank FSB (FASB), Financial Services Company of Twin Falls, Idaho Inc., as Beneficiary. Recorded in Volume 4 of 1996, as Instrument No. 1996005066, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. Please Note: The above Grantors are not to be held liable for section 45-1506(A), Idaho Code, No. 1996005066, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. Please Note: The above Grantors are not to be held liable for section 45-1506(A), Idaho Code, No. 1996005066, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. No person is responsible for the obligation set forth herein. The Defaulter for which this sale is made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust and Note, dated 3/1/1996. The monthly payments for Principal, interest, taxes and other charges are \$400.35, due per month from 4/5/2004, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or redemption. The principal balance owing as of this date on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$25,404.02, plus accrued interest at the rate of 10.96% per annum from 3/5/2004. All delinquent amounts are now due, to be made, with accruing late charges, and interest, unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee's fees, attorney's fee, and any amounts advanced to protect the security associated with this foreclosure, and that the beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation. Dated: November 15, 2004, at Twin Falls, Idaho. Trustee: Alliance Title Company, 219 Elm Street, 2nd Floor, San Diego, CA 92101-3008, (619) 545-7778. For more information call: 916-387-7728 or log on to: www.colpost.com. Dina Lindner, Trustee Sale Officer. ASAP#619316

PUBLISH: December 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2004

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVER

Truck driver from Battle Mountain, NV to Sacramento, CA. 1 year exp. preferred. Hauling alfalfa hay only, not long-hauling. Current Class A & non-current driving record for 1200 per year plus hauling record. Must be able to reach location. 775-931-0128.

DRIVERS

DRIVERS

Triple ELL Transport, Inc. is expanding its company operations. Now hiring drivers with 2 years experience and a clean driving record. Competitive pay, paid vacation after 1 year. Health insurance is provided after 90 days.

Please call or come by for an application.

807 B Russell St. Twin Falls

DRIVERS

BONNEVILLE TRANSPORTERS

Of W. Idaho. Has been awarded a major haul contract for Northern Nevada. We are looking for 12 experienced drivers willing to relocate to the Wells area. Very good pay and benefits. The equipment is excellent. Call 775-752-2052

DRIVERS

AGL

Alto G. Lett

We have a lot of work for you. Call and claim your today. Must be at least 21 yrs of age with 2 yrs experience or apply online color@agltrucking.com

DRIVERS

Get on the habit. Head time classifies every driver. Call 773-0921.

Shopping the classifieds will save you time and money. 773-0921

DRIVERS

Professional Truck Driver

Professional Truck Driver School Manager of Trucks. Drive Big Trucks. Call 208-734-0586

DRIVERS

Bank on ITI

*All the Miles You Want
*Many Regional Run Ops
*Now Big Pay Increases
*Hiring for All Divisions
*Lowest Cost Driving

1-800-347-9436 EOE
Salf Truck City, UT
www.SalfTrucking.com

DRIVERS

TRIPLE ELL TRANSPORT

Triple ELL Transport, Inc. is expanding its company operations. Now hiring drivers with 2 years experience and a clean driving record. Competitive pay, paid vacation after 1 year. Health insurance is provided after 90 days.

Please call or come by for an application.

807 B Russell St. Twin Falls

DRIVERS

TRANSYSTEMS

Drive for the Transystems Team Drivers positions available.

Nampa, Nyssa, Twin Falls & Paul

Home Day, Locations

Top of the line equipment

2 yrs experience with OTR equipment

Available

Holiday pay

Visit our On-Site Recruiters

2 years of experience

Food Grade products, Wago D&M

1007-2911 Mon-Fri 8:00am MDT

DRIVERS

WANTED

Experienced OTR drivers with a clean driving record. Our fleet averages \$42,000 per year. Bonuses after 90 days.

7-10 days class

C/DL tanker endorsement

2 years of experience

Food grade products, Wago D&M

1007-2911 Mon-Fri 8:00am MDT

DRIVERS

SWIFT

Bank on ITI

*All the Miles You Want
*Many Regional Run Ops
*Now Big Pay Increases
*Hiring for All Divisions
*Lowest Cost Driving

1-800-347-9436 EOE
Salf Truck City, UT
www.SalfTrucking.com

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Please call or come by for an application.

807 B Russell St. Twin Falls

GENERAL

Are you hiring for the following positions:

- Office Manager
- Therapy Tech
- Marketing Driver
- Labor

Call 773-9277 for more information

INSTALLERS

Tronwood currently has FT positions for satellite TV installers. Twin Falls and surrounding areas. Earn up to \$1000 + per week. Experienced preferred. But will train. Must have own truck. Call 208-528-9009. Fax 208-528-9338

MANAGER

TRAINER'S WANTED

With all annual sales approaching \$7 billion and growing, our company is currently hiring 500 private duty help companies. Flying J Inc. is looking for experienced trainers in the interstate retail and hospital industry. Strong communication skills and openings for a manager/trainer's in retail/convent store.

DRIVERS

TOP GUN

TRUCK DRIVING ACADEMY

Idaho's finest State Certified "CDL" training facility. 3-4 week intensive training. Courses

735-6656

So Habla Espanol 420-7307

DRIVERS

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Please call or come by for an application.

807 B Russell St. Twin Falls

FARM

2 positions Feeder & Expired/pen Pen & Call days 425-2447

JUNIOR/Senior

Shoshone School District is now accepting applications for either a full or part-time custodian, depending on qualifications. Contact the District Office at 208-886-2338 for an application. For more information, check our website at www.shosone.k12.id.us. Application, call or fax accepted until 4:00 pm December 20, 2004

PERSONNEL PLUS

Personnel Plus

111 Flair Ave. 733-7300
735 Overland 678-4040

PERSONNEL PLUS

Personnel Plus

111 Flair Ave. 733-7300
735 Overland 678-4040

MECHANIC JOBS

S10 - S16 / Hour DOE

Plus Bonus & Benefits

MECHANIC

Full-time mechanic needed. Truck provided. Call 773-3366

MARKET RESEARCH

DISCOVERY

Has immediate openings for part-time work. (15-30 hrs/week)

Day Shift (7:30-AM)

Night Shift (5:30-PM)

If you are interested in the following:

- A Lead-Back Work Environment
- Ability to No Sales Calls Only
- Comp. Research
- Market Research
- Inventory
- Walking Distance from CSI Campus
- Strong Computer Skills
- College Degree
- Scholarships available

Looking for English/Spanish speaking applicants for our Spanish completed survey for \$1,000 or more of regular pay. Please pick up an application at Discovery Research Group 1022 Falls Ave. (The Turf Plaza) Or call (208)735-6601

MEDICAL

Physio-social rehab specialists. BA in Social Service. 51 hrs. to start. Call 208-878-3357

MEDICAL

Direct Care staff, working with individuals who have disabilities. Part-time graveyard, weekdays off. Also hiring on call status. For more information, call Teresa 536-2004

MEDICAL

Experienced qualified person to work with mentally handicapped individuals. 4 year degree required.

MEDICAL

Ideho Home Health & Hospice wants you to be part of our team!

MEDICAL

Experienced qualified person to work with mentally handicapped individuals. 4 year degree required.

MEDICAL

Psychiatric Services is looking for the following positions:

- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatry Resident
- Psychiatry Fellow
- Psychiatry Nurse
- Psychiatry Therapist

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION

The Times-News is accepting applications for a full-time District Manager in our Twin Falls Office. The successful candidate must be able to work weekends. If you are interested, please submit your resume with application to: Jeni at Jeni@timesnews.com or call Jeni at 208-733-0921.

PRESS TRAINER

The Times-News is looking for a press trainer to work part-time in the pressroom. This person will learn the set up and functions of our Urbanite press to include the making of plates, setting ink, and running rolls.

MEDICAL

Family social rehab. Paid office help for busy medical practice. Coding and/or medical office experience a plus. Good spelling & listening skills a must. Must be a person who is a team player. Send resume to: The Times-News, Attn: Mary Karen, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303. Email: mary.karen@lee.net

MEDICAL

Psychiatric Services is looking for the following positions:

- Psychiatrist
- Psychologist
- Psychiatry Resident
- Psychiatry Fellow
- Psychiatry Nurse
- Psychiatry Therapist

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RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

SERVICE RATES

RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY is a quality telecommunications services provider who provides basic enhanced services at reasonable rates within its service territory. Basic services are available at the following rates for Atlanta, Three Creek and Shoup:

- Residential & Business Rates
- Local Distance: \$21.83
- Local Service: \$0.48
- Fed. Subscriber Line (FCC Access, 1 line): 6.50
- Fed. Subscriber Line (FCC Access, Multi Line): 9.50
- Idaho Universal Service Fund (USF): \$0.90
- Idaho Universal Service Fund (USF Business): .10
- State of Idaho Assistance Program: .12

The above charges will have federal and local taxes added on.

Touch Tone Service is provided as a part of local service.

Toll-Blocking is available at no charge for low-income customers who qualify.

Emergency 911 Services: Exchanges with charges in Idaho are \$55, \$65, \$84 and 79¢. There is a \$1.00 per line charge.

Low-income individuals eligible for Lifeline and Lifeline Telephone assistance programs may be eligible for discounts on basic telephone services. Charges through state specified telephone assistance plans. Please contact your local Health and Welfare office.

Basic services are offered to all consumers in the Rural-Telephone-Company-service-territories-at-the same rates and conditions specified in the Company's tariffs. If you have any questions regarding the Company's services, please call us at 1-888-366-7821, or visit our business office at 704 West Madison Ave., Glens Ferry, ID 83623 for further information regarding services.

Rural Telephone Company, with its main office located at 892 W. Madison Ave., Glens Ferry, ID 83623, complies and adheres to the following statements under the U.S. Department of Agriculture policies:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, marital status, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-6000 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1414 and Independence Avenues, SW, Washington, DC 20250-4570. Toll-free: (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PUBLISH: December 15, 2004

Loan No. 00000010207942
T.S. No. 1017012-09
Order No. RPT2871001001

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On March 8, 2005, at the hour of 11:00am of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO, FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as public auctioneer, will receive and accept the highest bidder, for cash, cashier's check drawn on a State or National Bank, a check drawn by a State or Federal Credit Union, or a check drawn by a State or Federal Savings and Loan Association, Mortgage Association or Savings Bank, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit: LOT 1 AND THE EAST 1/2 OF LOT 2 IN BLOCK C OF JONATHAN HEIGHTS, TWIN FALLS COUNTY, IDAHO, RECORDED IN BOOK 10 OF PLATS, PAGE 17. Commonly known as: 2927 NINTH AVENUE EAST, TWIN FALLS, ID 83301.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances to be made in the session and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the deed of trust executed by THERON L. WALKER AND TAMIR R. WALKER AS TRUSTEES, for the benefit and security of FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY, as Beneficiary, recorded October 21, 1998, as Instrument No. 1998-01193. Mortgage records of TWIN FALLS County, Idaho.

THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH FEDERAL BANKING AND CREDIT CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

The default for which this sale is to be made is: Failure to pay the monthly payment due July 1, 2004 of principal, interest and impounds and subsequent installment due pursuant to plus late charges; together with all subsequent sums advanced by beneficiary pursuant to the terms and conditions of said deed of trust. The estimated balance owing as of this date on the obligation secured by said deed of trust is \$170,001.49 including interest, costs and expenses actually incurred in enforcing the obligation hereunder or in this sale, and trustee's fees and/or reasonable attorney's fee as authorized in the promissory note secured by the aforementioned Deed of Trust.

FIRST AMERICAN TITLE INSURANCE COMPANY
200 WESTERN RECONVEYANCE CORPORATION
PO Box 22004
El Cajon, CA 92022-9004
(619) 536-5000

DATED: November 4, 2004
/s/ Laura M. Soza, Assst. Sec.

ELECTRICIAN

A progressive Potomac Building contractor is seeking an experienced electrician in Wendover. Industrial Electrician, Interpud Electrician, Potomac Electric Potomac LLC offers competitive salary and benefits. Must have 401K with matching benefits. Insurance and more.

Please send or fax resume by January 10, 2005 to: Interpud Potomac Electric, LLC, Attn: Mike Salliman, PO Box 580, Wendover, UT 84093. FAX (435) 685-2533

FEEDLOT

Cowboy, Full-time position riding pens, doctoring and pro-cessing cattle, shipping and receiving. Pay \$ DOE and benefits. Call Jim S. Edon, ID 83325 or fax 208-825-5335

FORK LIFT

GEN STATE STAFFING

Are we accepting applications for:

- Henningsen Cold Storage
- Exp in Forklift Operators
- Permanent Placement
- Great Benefits
- All Shifts

Drug Test Required. APPLY ONLY AT: Gens State Staffing 870 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Ste 4 735-5999 So Habla Espanol Never a Fee!

GENERAL

Heavy Duty job openings at local food processor. Sanitation, Packaging. Openings available on all shifts must be drug free. 532 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. 735-5002

MARKET RESEARCH

DISCOVERY

Has immediate openings for part-time work. (15-30 hrs/week)

Day Shift (7:30-AM)

Night Shift (5:30-PM)

If you are interested in the following:

- A Lead-Back Work Environment
- Ability to No Sales Calls Only
- Comp. Research
- Market Research
- Inventory
- Walking Distance from CSI Campus
- Strong Computer Skills
- College Degree
- Scholarships available

Looking for English/Spanish speaking applicants for our Spanish completed survey for \$1,000 or more of regular pay. Please pick up an application at Discovery Research Group 1022 Falls Ave. (The Turf Plaza) Or call (208)735-6601

MECHANIC

Mobile mechanic needed. Truck provided. Call 773-3366

MECHANICS

Great Opportunity

- Mechanics Needed
- Openings in Paul and Twin Falls, Idaho
- Family Health Plan Year Round Work
- Environment
- No Sales Calls Only
- Comp. Research
- Market Research
- Inventory
- Walking Distance from CSI Campus
- Strong Computer Skills
- College Degree
- Scholarships available

Call Today for Immediate Opening

1027 Blue Lakes Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

Fax 208-734-8153

For more information call: 1-866-253-5480

SATellite Installers Needed!

\$500 Signing Bonus d.s.h

Are you tired of the same old day-and-night routine? Are we have just what you are looking for. Star West Satellite, a service provider for dish networks, is looking for enthusiastic, dependable individuals who are ready for an exciting career opportunity installing satellite systems in Twin Falls and surrounding areas. An excellent salary, ability to earn \$30,000 plus training period, 401k, cell, per, Billings plus MUST HAVE:

- Clean DWI record
- Dependable truck or commercial van
- Basic training for Star-customer
- If interested please contact: 866-317-8339 Or fax resume 208-461-2108 www.starwestsatellite.com

STAR WEST

709 North Lincoln Avenue
Jerome, Idaho 83329
(208) 324-4301
Fax (208) 324-3878

St. Benedict's is a non-profit health care organization providing patient-focused care. We are looking for caring, compassionate professionals to work for a top quality health care provider.

• Director of Nursing (FT) Manage day-to-day operations of 40-bed skilled nursing facility including hiring/training, staff development, direct patient care and expense management. Prevous supervisory experience, leadership skills a must. Requires current RN license.

Competitive Wages/Excellent Benefits

- Group Health/Dental
- 401K
- Life Insurance
- Differential Bonuses
- Retirement Plan plus 403(b)
- 20% Inc. Benefits Allow.
- tuition Reimbursement
- Flexible Spending
- sabbatical
- sabbatical
- sabbatical
- sabbatical

LEGAL NOTICE

PENDING TAX DEED

Assessment # & To whom assessed	County Parcel #	Owner(s) on Record At County	Legal Description
User #201 2001-James Yetztor 2002-James Yetztor 2003-James Yetztor c/o Darlene Adams	RPB0049029001AA	James Yetztor	Lots 1-5 Bk. 29 Elmore Addn. Glens Ferry
User #63 2001-James Marcom 2002-James Marcom 2003-James Marcom c/o Wayne Champin	RPB0023058001BA	Wayne Champin	Lots 1-5 Bk. 58 Elmore Addn. Glens Ferry

All parties who may have or claim interest in the herein-bore described lands are hereby notified that unless they file a claim of interest, Tax Deed will be recorded on the 1st of January, 2005. The office and mailing address of the King Hill Triggation District is 4183 N Moridion (PO Box 428) King Hill, Idaho 83353.

Debra Smith
Secretary/Treasurer
KING HILL TRIGGATION DISTRICT
December 9, 2004

PUBLISH: December 15 and 22, 2004

LEGAL NOTICE

PENDING TAX DEED

Assessment # & To whom assessed	County Parcel #	Owner(s) on Record At County	Legal Description
User #201 2001-James Yetztor 2002-James Yetztor 2003-James Yetztor c/o Darlene Adams	RPB0049029001AA	James Yetztor	Lots 1-5 Bk. 29 Elmore Addn. Glens Ferry
User #63 2001-James Marcom 2002-James Marcom 2003-James Marcom c/o Wayne Champin	RPB0023058001BA	Wayne Champin	Lots 1-5 Bk. 58 Elmore Addn. Glens Ferry

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Debra Smith
Secretary/Treasurer
KING HILL TRIGGATION DISTRICT
December 9, 2004

PUBLISH: December 15 and 22, 2004

WATCH YOUR INCOME RISE EVERY MORNING!

Now Is the Time to Check Out A Career With Sunrise Express!

Twin Falls, ID
1-800-635-0825

COMPANY DRIVERS

Owner/Operators

Deluxe Late Model Equipment

Weekly Settlements

Holiday & Vacation Pay

Health Insurance - 401K

ST. BENEDICTS

Family Medical Center

709 North Lincoln Avenue
Jerome, Idaho 83329
(208) 324-4301
Fax (208) 324-3878

St. Benedict's is a non-profit health care organization providing patient-focused care. We are looking for caring, compassionate professionals to work for a top quality health care provider.

• Director of Nursing (FT) Manage day-to-day operations of 40-bed skilled nursing facility including hiring/training, staff development, direct patient care and expense management. Prevous supervisory experience, leadership skills a must. Requires current RN license.

Competitive Wages/Excellent Benefits

- Group Health/Dental
- 401K
- Life Insurance
- Differential Bonuses
- Retirement Plan plus 403(b)
- 20% Inc. Benefits Allow.
- tuition Reimbursement
- Flexible Spending
- sabbatical
- sabbatical
- sabbatical
- sabbatical

Business Opportunities

The Times-News has always dedicated itself to enhancing our delivery service for our customers. If you are very organized, self motivated, and enjoy working unsupervised, then we have the perfect business opportunity for you. We invite individuals who reflect our commitment to customer service and circulation growth to apply. Papers are early morning delivery.

The Times-News has independent contractor opportunities in many areas throughout the Magic Valley.

Call Jeni at 208-733-0931 ext. 302.

EMPLOYMENT

MEDICAL
MA X-ray Needed
Immediate positions available
Call 731-3421

NEWSPAPER DELIVERY SUBSTITUTES
Would you like to earn extra cash delivering The Times-News? But not committed to days a week?
The Times-News is currently looking for dependable, motivated people in the area to deliver routes as Independent Contractors on an as-needed basis.
Call today for more information about this opportunity. 735-3302

RECEPTIONIST
Part-time, 15-25 hrs/wk. Must be organized, good phone skills, computer literate, must be team player. Call 733-0601 ask for Candy, or fax resume to 733-0601.

RESTAURANT
Managers and Assistant managers. For Northern Utah, and Southern Idaho Apply in person I-10P
1944 Blue Lakes Blvd.
No phone calls please.
733-0601

RESTAURANT
Local full service restaurant is looking for the right person to join our management team. Requires HS diploma, some management experience, must work flexible hours, insurance and profit sharing available.
Send resume to Box 90680 c/o The Times-News PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303*

SALES
Toyota sales are great with a superb new model lineup. You'll also be selling the sharpest used cars in town. We offer great commissions, a 5-day work week, reasonable hours, 401k, medical plan, vacation. If you are an experienced Automobile Salesperson who would enjoy working in a great atmosphere apply in person...at

WILLS TOYOTA
236 Shoshone St. W. Twin Falls, ID 733-2891

SALES
Advertising Representative Position Open. Ag Weekly/Farm Times Has an immediate opening for an Sales representative. The ideal candidate will have sales & management experience and an agricultural background. Candidates with college degree in business, advertising will be preferred. If you would like to work for the Intermountain West's largest agricultural newspaper, send your resume to: Ag Weekly Attn: Janet Goffin PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548 janet.goffin@lee.net*

SALES
We want career minded people to work hard in professional, competitive, fun and exciting environment. No experience necessary. We will train the right applicants to sell advertising for our market leading stations. Apply at KEZI, KOOL 96.5, KLIX, KSNB 415 Park Ave. Twin Falls, ID Equal Opportunity Employer*

TECHNICAL
Programmer/Analyst Full Time position. Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. Programmer/Analyst will specialize in support of Meditech supply chain, document imaging and patient scheduling. Requires Bachelor's degree in IS or equivalent. Must have 2+ years work experience with emphasis on business applications. Requires good oral and written organizational and communication skills. Requires demonstrated effectiveness in analyzing IS problems. Priority: 1 year's experience in an acute care facility's IS center with experience in Meditech MIS applications and programming tools. Print job application logo/cover letter to: www.sjrcmc.org Fax or mail application to be received by 4:30 pm Monday, 12/13/04 to Nancy Owens, Personnel Dept., St. Joseph Regional Medical Center 415 6th St. PO Box 816 Lewiston, ID 83501 Fax 208-799-5259 208-799-5489 n Owens@sjrcmc.org EOE

WELDERS
Experienced stainless steel welders, pipe fitters and millwrights. Shoot Sheet Metal Paul, ID 208-438-5055 Pta-employment 17521 last*

WRITER
Looking for freelance writer to write on daily issues. If you have a background in AGRICULTURAL knowledge, why not earn some extra money as a freelance writer with the Magic Valley's leading newspaper?
Newspaper experience is a plus. Call Cary Dumas 735-3321 or email carol.dumas@lee.net*

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 478-757-3000*

WANTED: 29 serious people to work from home using a computer. Up to \$1,500-\$5,000 PTFT. Call 1-888-224-8184. www.homebusinessard.com

218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS

ALTERNATE DELIVERY
The Times-News is looking for individuals interested in delivering a sample newspaper or alternative products to households in the Twin Falls and surrounding area. This is a position as an independent contractor positions and deliveries made during the day and require use of your own transportation and are compensated on a per piece basis. If you are interested in these flexible opportunities, please fill out an Independent Contractor Application Form at 132 Fairfield Street West, Twin Falls, ID.

CURRENT MOTOR ROUTES AVAILABLE

BELLEVUE/HALLEY
Both Carrier & Substitutes needed
If you live in those areas and would like to be a carrier, please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348*

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE

TWIN FALLS
RT 721, 727, 1100-1600 Juniper 1100-1300 Lookout North 66 Customers Earnings \$150-\$155
RT 716 500-200 Rimwood 2200-2400 Filer Ave East 329 Customers 1000-1500 6th Ave. E. 100-800 Ash St. RT 737 100-300 Juniper St. N. 200-1800 Maplewood Dr. RT 750 2000-2200 Elizabeth Blvd 400-600 Eastland Blvd RT 751 1800-21 Elizabeth Blvd 600-900 Morningstar Dr. RT 757 300-400 Sunrise Blvd 300-400 Eric's Court RT 773 500-800 Cindy Dr. 500-700 Mike Vista 41 Customers Earnings \$90-\$95.
RT 788 1500-2200 Falls Avenue East 800-900 Chase Dr. 43 Customers Earnings \$90-\$95
RT 781 1800-2000 Alluras Dr. 1500-2000 Heyburn KIMBERLY RT 554 300-900 Taylor St W 700-900 Elm St. RT 557 200-900 Center St. 200-700 Jefferson St.

ROUTES AVAILABLE

Supplement your income
TWIN FALLS
RT 635 200 Customers 500-700 Rosa St. N. Paradise Pl Apts. RT 811 Earnings \$120-\$125
54 Customers Saratoga Apts. 400-500 Cisswell W. RT 822 Earnings \$75-\$80
32 Customers 400-800 2nd Ave E. 200-700 4th Ave E. RT 814 Earnings \$70-\$75
32 Customers 100-500 7th Ave E. 200-800 8th Ave E. RT 824 Earnings \$50-\$55
24 Customers 200-600 5th Ave E. 200-600 6th Ave E. FILER RT 552 600-900 Adel St. 600-800 Idaho St. RT 553 100-200 Ramsey Dr. 100-200 Davis RT. 569 1400-1600 Erin Way 730-842 Midway St.

NEWSPAPER
Earn extra \$\$ in your spare time. If you are a highly motivated self-starter looking to earn some extra money in your spare time, then this could be a great opportunity for you.
The Times-News is looking for individuals interested in selling newspaper subscriptions as Independent Contractors. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Jeni at 208-735-3302*

EDUCATION

Classifieds
It pays to read the fine print.
Call Twin Falls 733-0931
or 733-077-4042
Shipping the Classifieds will save you time and money. 733-0931

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BURLEY CITY liquor license for lease or rent. Call 312-2557.
Get paid to hunt & fish. New in-home based business opportunity in the Hunting and Fishing Industry. Looking for founders in your area. Call 1-866-786-3120*

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Storving Town Falls covers 20 years. Call 731-6845.

305 CONTRACTS MORTGAGES

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
CASH for Bonds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts Call today for a free, no-obligation quote (208)733-8821*

DECORATE YOUR AD FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

Decorate Your Ad for the Holidays!
Add a graphic for only \$2.00 more.
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502 HOMES FOR SALE

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

BUY IT! SELL IT!
A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEED
BUY IT! SELL IT!

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, or an action to discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or other legal custodian, pregnant women, and people securing custody of children under 18.

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Holiday Photos

Share your favorite holiday photos in our 'Special Christmas Day' section of *The Times-News* on Christmas Day.
Christmas...past and present. From adorable to humorous to just down right cute! Surprise someone with that special photo and a holiday greeting - only \$15 per photo.

Name(s) in photo: _____
Greeting: _____
Bring in, mail or email your payment, photo and greeting to: The Times-News 132 Fairfield Street North Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 twinald@magicvalley.com
Ad Deadline is Wednesday, Dec. 22nd at Noon
Lyllian Grace She's Sugar and Spice... Hugs & Kisses from Gramma & Grampa
Any questions? Call 733-0931 ext. 2



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The Times-News

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THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA*

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AMAZING BENEFITS OFFERED:

- Paid Training
- Raises in Just 90 Days!
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- Up to \$7.00/hour (maximum hours required)

Teleperformance USA (208) 732-2525 EOE 1399 Fillmore Street • Suite 502 • Twin Falls

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The Times-News is currently looking for Independent Route Carriers

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GOODING
Route 500 500-800 7th Ave. W. 300-900 Utah Street
Route 501 300-700 Oregon St. 300-500 Illinois St.
Route 503 200-700 Montana St. 200-700 Wyoming St.
Route 504 500-800 8th Ave. E. 500-900 9th Ave. E.

TWIN FALLS
• STORAGE - 91 units, 3 private offices, shop with overhead doors, high traffic exposure, showing good return.
• BAKERY - Fresh-baked goods, cash flow and investment.
• COMMERCIAL - 500,000 buhnet grain storage facility, scales, RR siding, Curry Crossing, west of T.

WAREHOUSE - Former collar for good shop or storage facility KIMBERLY
• STORAGE/WAREHOUSE building, office, loading-highway frontage.

RURPET
• Multi-use building on 3-4.4 acres; scales, railroad siding, completely fenced, 200 sq.ft. for office, warehouse, retail.
ROBERT JONES REALTY 733-0404

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

REMEMBER
That birthday ad you placed some time ago in The Times-News? Now it's time to take it off your calendar. Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348*

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502 HOMES FOR SALE
HOLLISTER INVESTORS 1 bdrm, 2 bath on over 3 acres...

RUPERT 3 bdrm, 1 bath 1349 sq ft, central heat, large option...

HANSEN EC condition, 30 Firewood, 14' x 66' NW Estates...

BURLEY Riverside Tr Park 2 & 3 bdrm, 3300-5450, 736-0322...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, appls, no pets \$550 mo... dep. 734-9218...

TWIN FALLS Quiet 2 bdrm, appls, W/D hook-ups, yard to play...

JEROME nice, clean, 3 bdrm, appls, \$560 mo, 420-1011 or 324-2744...

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, clean, \$325 mo, 208-234-3317...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath DW, W/D, No pets, \$450 mo...

HOME INSPECTIONS 2000 + since 1993, Bill Baker, 208-266-5115...

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE 458 Jackson St, \$34,900, Mike Coffer, 357-1500...

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1,300 sq ft, central heat and AC...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, with large living areas, floor to ceiling...

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512 OUT-OF-STATE PROPERTY LAS VEGAS

STATE REALTY, INC. 208-734-0400

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 1,300 sq ft, central heat and AC...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, with large living areas, floor to ceiling...

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, with large living areas, floor to ceiling...

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, with large living areas, floor to ceiling...

JEROME \$139,900, 3 bedroom, 2 bath home on large lot with 3 car garage...

Home for the holidays in Las Vegas Nevada! Contact Rosa Fisher...

TWIN FALLS 1994 Fleetwood 1994 Fleetwood 1994 Fleetwood...

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

JEROME 2 bdrm, owner's carry, remodeled \$48,000, 324-3208...

Home for the holidays in Las Vegas Nevada! Contact Rosa Fisher...

TWIN FALLS 1994 Fleetwood 1994 Fleetwood 1994 Fleetwood...

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom, 1 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

RUPERT 6 bdrm, 2 bath, unfinished log home, 1.5 acres...

Home for the holidays in Las Vegas Nevada! Contact Rosa Fisher...

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D, Appls, incl. \$450 mo. \$1,500 deposit...

SHOSHONE North, 4 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, Mature trees, barn, 600-600-1600...

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SHOSHONE 4.83 acre building site, great location, \$17,500...

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Tuesday, Dec 14, 2004

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

Acceptation that elevates us is better than a host of bad truths.

Martina Tsakourva

When partner leads a suit, the South is to follow with the lowest of his four honors. But this is not always the best policy, and today's deal is a textbook example of when disregarding the rule would have earned dividends.

At one table South opened with an off-shape one no trump, and North raised to three no trump.

West made the natural lead of the heart four — fourth highest of his longest suit — and East interrupted the 10-win by the king. Declarer attacked in clubs. West winning the second round, noting East's high low to show a doubleton. Ducking again might have been a good play on another day, to wait for partner's signal. Here, declarer would have run the finesse.

West just decided that, in view of East's club shortage, East was more likely to have heart length than South. Therefore, if South held the heart queen, it was now his bid. Accordingly, West cashed the heart ace, and although East won the third round with the queen, the suit was blocked. So declarer rimped home with 10 tricks.

See the difference, however, if East plays the heart jack at trick one. When West later comes in with the club ace, the play of a low heart now is unlikely to cost anything but overtricks. If South had started with K-Q-10, he always had two tricks in the suit. But if East had begun life with queen-jack-third, then the queen held and West can overtake the next heart and cash out the suit.

- NORTH**
- ♠ K 10 6
 - ♥ K 3
 - ♦ K 10 6 3
 - ♣ K J 6

- WEST**
- ♠ 9 8 7
 - ♥ A 9 5 4 2
 - ♦ 9 8
 - ♣ A 7 5

- EAST**
- ♠ Q J 5 4 3
 - ♥ Q 10
 - ♦ 5 2
 - ♣ 9 8

- SOUTH**
- ♠ A 2
 - ♥ K 7
 - ♦ A Q J 7
 - ♣ Q 10 4 3 2

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

The bidding:
South West North East
1NT Pass 3NT All pass

Opening lead: Heart four

BID WITH THE ACES

- South holds:
- ♠ 9 8 7
 - ♥ A 9 5 4 2
 - ♦ 9 8
 - ♣ A 7 5

South West North East
1 3 4

ANSWER: Double for takeout. This double (coupled by some a fourth-suit double, also Snag-dragon) shows the unbid suit, hearts, and scattered values. This hand, though minimum, allows you to introduce the unbid suit without risking getting too high. You can't logically want to penalize spades at this level, so using the double as takeout seems like a sound idea.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at www.bobbywolff.com.

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FREE kittens (2)
young, males, house-broke, not neutered, orange tabby and black white with must-see.
208-324-5955

FREE kittens to a good home. Wide variety. Call: 208-731-5418

FREE Lab cross pups. Lab cross, 6 wks old, cute and ready to go to a good home.
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SUPREME Lab Cross. 4 yrs old, female, spayed, friendly, good with children.
Call: 208-731-4025

FREE Lab black pup. 6 weeks old, great for Christmas presents.
Call: 788-6859

FREE Lab Collie cross. female, 11 mos., all shots, house broken and spayed.
Call: 208-734-1259

FREE Red Heeler & Australian cross pups. ready for Christmas.
Call: 208-438-2676

GERMAN SHEPHERD purebred puppies, silver, black or white. 12 shots, wormed, anti-micro clipped.
Call: 208-366-7272

GERMAN SHORT HAIR puppies, ready to go. 5 females at \$200 ea, 2 males at \$200 ea.
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GERMAN SHORT HAIR puppies, 9 weeks old. Males & females. Mom & Dad on site.
Call: 208-366-7272

GERMAN WIREHAIR POINTER puppies. AKC ready to go. 2 females, 1 male, all shots.
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Kramer K-Grooming (Karen) of Jerome will be at all ages. Clients for small dogs after December 29th.
Call: 208-324-4848

LAB black puppies. 12/10 2 females/10/1 males \$75 dewclaws. 11/21 male \$57-900/bpm.
Call: 208-366-7272

LAB chocolate. registered, born 7/19/04, yellow size, black dam, was pick of litter. Fetches, sits and comes to name.
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LAB puppies. black, red, blue, white, tan, brown, 9-18 on site, born 9-18-04. \$100. Ready to go.
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LABS Christmas pups. purebred, 1 male, chocolate, \$150. 2 females, \$180. 1 male, female, white, \$150.
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TOY POODLE Aor. Able, male, black, g wks, old & registered \$200. Call: 208-731-1122

WEIMARANER AKC pups, 1st shots, lawn & silver. Parents on site. Father present. Call for pictures. \$400. Call: 208-431-4252

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