

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Windy with falling temperatures. Tonight: Brisk with variable clouds. High of 40, low of 20.

WINDY

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



The reason for the season: Paul man tries to remind others of the true meaning of Christmas.

Page B1

SCHOOL DAYS

Toys for needy children: Giving program turns into school-wide project.

Page A4

IMAGE



Back to the future: Raising children means putting your back into it.

Page C1

SPORTS

History made?: Peyton Manning went for the touchdown record against the Ravens Sunday night.

Page D1

OPINION

License to hunt: The right to hunt game is appropriately regulated by states, today's Western Views say.

Page A6

COMING UP



Gift of life
Woman is grateful to blood donors.

Tuesday in The Times News

INDEX

Classified	.....C48
Comics	.....D4
Crossword	.....A5
Dear Abby	.....A8
Horoscope	.....A5
Image	.....C1
Magic Valley	.....B1
Movies	.....A5
Nation	.....A3
Obituaries	.....B2
Opinion	.....A6
Random facts	.....A5
Sports	.....D1
Weather	.....A2
West	.....B23
World	.....B4

Wanderlust

Declo students will study in Germany

By Chip Thompson Times-News writer

Declo - Sophomore Loren Freeman's jaw dropped when her teacher told her there are no malls in Germany.

The lack of glittery shopping centers on the other side of the planet is a very real problem for Freeman, one of 23 Declo High School students hoping to spend a month studying in Germany as part of an exchange program at the end of the school year.

"My mom's working four jobs just to pay for it," Freeman said Friday when she and other students gathered during the lunch hour to discuss the program.

Ken Weeks, who teaches English, drama and German at Declo High School, is organizing the exchange, which is part of the Goethe Institute's German American Partnership Program.

Through the program, the first of its kind in the school district, 13 students from Germany will spend nearly a month staying with host families in Declo and the surrounding communities starting April 22. Students from Declo will then spend the month of June studying at Stuttgart's Schickhardt Gymnasium and traveling to other nations in the region, Weeks said.

Weeks is in his second year at Declo and this is the first year German has been offered at the



Sophomore Loren Freeman, 16, enjoys a laugh with German teacher Ken Weeks at Declo High School. Freeman is one of 23 students hoping to spend a month in Germany at the end of the school year as part of a student exchange program Weeks is organizing.

school. Previously, Weeks has led German exchange programs at high schools in Pocatello and Malad.

The possibility of an exchange program played a role in Weeks being able to offer the class.

"I think the exchange Please see DECL0, Page A2

Low-carb hits a low patch

Study finds waning interest, some businesses are suffering

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - About a year ago, Dave Champlin and his two roommates lived in what their friends at the University of Missouri called the House of Fat.

At a combined weight of 890 pounds, the three decided to try the Atkins diet. By sticking to the low-carb, high-protein diet, Champlin lost about 45 pounds and his roommates each lost between 50 and 60 pounds.

Despite being pleased with the results, all three were off the diet by this past summer and have gained back some of the weight.

"It just got kind of tiresome," Champlin said. "Eating the same thing over and over. It was monotonous."

Champlin, 23, and his friends exemplify why many diet and food industry experts are declaring the low-carb diet craze over.

A study by NPD Group, an independent marketing information company, found that the percentage of American adults on any low-carb diet in 2004 peaked at 9.1 percent in February and dropped to 4.9 percent by early November.

Further, it said only one of four people surveyed was significantly cutting carbs and "virtually none" were reducing carbs as much as the diets recommended.

That means many companies that rode the low-carb wave are either out of business or refocusing their strategies.

One example: MGP Ingredients Inc. of Atchison, Kan., which profited from the low-carb trend, earlier this month announced it was cutting its fiscal 2005 per-share earnings forecast by more than half - from \$1.08 to no more than 50 cents.

The reason is reduced demand for its specialty proteins and starches used to reduce carbohydrates in foods, MGP



David Champlin, who once was on the Atkins diet, eats nachos at a campus bar and grill Dec. 9, on the University of Missouri campus in Columbia, Mo.

said low-carb demand had peaked, and it did not expect it to return to anywhere near the level that sparked a 123 percent increase in sales in the third quarter of fiscal 2004.

MGP always expected the low-carb demand to cool, but it happened more quickly than anticipated, spokesman Steve Pickman said.

"We expected at least to continue at its strong level for the next 18 to 36 months," Pickman said. "We by no means feel low-carb is dead, but it's declined to a much lower plateau than we or the industry expected."

Bombs kill dozens in Shiite holy cities

Chicago Tribune

BAHGDAD, Iraq - Two huge car bombs tore through the holy Shiite cities of Karbala and Najaf on Sunday, killing at least 62 people and injuring more than 120 in what appeared to be coordinated attacks aimed at terrorizing the Shiite south of the country ahead of elections scheduled for January.

In Baghdad, gunmen dragged three election officials from their car in broad daylight and shot them.

The day's violence left little doubt that the next six weeks until the Jan. 30 election will be bloody as U.S. and Iraqi officials have warned.

Shiite leaders blamed Sunni insurgents for what they described as an attempt to ignite civil war, while former dictator Saddam Hussein issued an appeal for his person cell for Iraqis to unite against what he called an American plot to divide the country, fueling fears that the election will split the country along sectarian lines.

The first explosion came shortly after 1:30 p.m. in Karbala, 70 miles south of Baghdad, when a car bomb exploded at a busy bus terminal in the city center, killing 14 and injuring 30.

Please see B0MBS, Page A2

Bush gets 2004 'Person of the Year'

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - After winning re-election and reshaping the rules of politics to fit his 10-gallon leadership style, President George Bush for the second time was chosen as Time magazine's Person of the Year.

The magazine's editors tapped Bush "for sharpening the debate until the choices bled, for reframing reality to match his design, for gambling his fortunes - and ours - on his faith in the power of leadership."

Time's 2004 Person of the Year package on newsstands today includes an Oval Office interview with Bush, an interview with his father, former President George H.W. Bush, and a profile of Bush's chief political adviser, Karl Rove.

In an interview with the magazine, Bush attributed his victory over Democratic candidate John Kerry to his foreign policy and the wars he began in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"The election was about the use of American influence," Bush said.

After a grueling campaign, Bush remains a polarizing figure in America and around the world, and that's part of the reason the magazine selected him, said Managing Editor Jim Kelly.

"Many, many Americans deeply wish he had not won," Kelly said in a telephone interview. "And yet he did."



President Bush

Salvation Army prays mysterious gold coins keep coming

The Associated Press

PEORIA, Ill. - Salvation Army officials don't know who has been dropping gold coins into their holiday kettles over the past 20 years, but they hope the mysterious donations continue.

More than 300 gold coins have been collected since the early 1980s, with an average value of about \$200 each, said Cliff Marshall, spokesman for the charity in Chicago, where the tradition began.

Chicago gold-ringers have brought 10 gold coins so far this year. They aren't the only ones:

In Kirksville, Mo., someone donated a gold coin that was minted 20 years before the Civil War, worth nearly \$1,000. A \$400 South African Krugerrand was dropped in a kettle in Bloomington, Ill., meaning 12 extra families will get a complete Christmas dinner.

But officials still don't know where the coins come from.

The mysterious tradition began in 1982, when someone slipped a gold coin into a kettle in the Chicago suburb of Crystal Lake. The donations have occurred there ever since and have spread across Illinois and about a dozen other states.

The gold coins have been worth a total of about \$60,000. That's just a fraction of the \$3.5 million collected by the Salvation Army last year in Chicago alone. But the mystery donors may have more than money on their mind.

Some believe the coin donors might have been helped by the relief agency in the past. Or they might just like the thrill of seeing the donation play out in the media. One woman called last summer to say her late mother left gold coins in the kettles each year - because she liked the buzz it created, Marshall said.



Elнора Blanchard rings a bell looking for donations at one of the Salvation Army's red holiday kettles Wednesday in downtown Chicago.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy with increasing clouds and falling afternoon snow showers. Highs from 47 to 43... Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy and break. Lows from 17 to 21... Tomorrow: Heavy and cold with cloudy periods. Highs from 40 to 46.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo. Lists weather for Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho Falls, Ketchikan, Madras, Malheur, Pocatello, Shoshone, Salmon, Stater.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Only with patchy clouds. Highs from 34 to 40... Tonight: Partly to mostly cloudy, cold and breezy at times. Lows from 20 to 26... Tomorrow: Mostly dry and chilly with cloudy periods. Highs from 40 to 46.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. A significant cold down will prevail through the middle of the week. Temperatures will struggle to reach 30 degrees with periods of light snow showers...



Yesterday's State Estimate: 52 at Lewiston. Low 6 at Sun Valley. Weather key: sun/sun/pc/patny/clou, m-clo, mostly cloudy, c-cloudy, m-thunderstorm, sh-showers, rain, snow, R-flurries, w-wind, m-misting.

meineke car care center. 169 Addison Avenue West. Open Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM. Sat 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM. 735-8296

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 2 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes monthly and daily data.

MOON PHASES

Table with 2 columns: Full Moon, New Moon. Lists dates for Dec 28, Jan 3, Jan 10, Jan 17.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Elgin, Eugene, Gresham, Hood River, Klamath Falls, Medford, Newport, Roseburg, Salem, Seaside, Tualatin, Veneta, Wilsonville, Yreka.

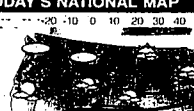
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Miami, Minneapolis, New York, Phoenix, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle, St. Louis, Tampa, Washington, Wichita.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Adelaide, Auckland, Buenos Aires, Caracas, Havana, Lima, London, Los Angeles, Manila, Mexico City, Moscow, New York, Ottawa, Paris, Perth, Rome, Santiago, Sao Paulo, Sydney, Taipei, Tokyo, Vancouver, Wellington, Zurich.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, Winnipeg.

Poll: Half of Americans worry about debts

WASHINGTON (AP) - Shoppers are racing from store to store this holiday season, with credit cards clutched tightly in hand and visions of future bills dancing in their heads. One-half of Americans say they worry about the money they owe, and many say they worry most of the time about their overall debts, an Associated Press poll found. Those debts can come from home and car loans as well as credit cards—even more so with December buying sprees. Three-fourths in the poll said they have credit cards. Four in 10 of those with credit cards said they will use plastic to help pay for their holiday spending this year, according to the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos-PublicAffairs. Most of those who are using credit cards said they would pay off their holiday expenses when their next bill arrives. About one-fourth of those with cards said they use credit for purchases when they do not have the cash. "I don't like credit cards at all," said Charles Voshburg, a heavy equipment operator from New Lenox, Ill. He used to rely on credit cards to carry him through the winters when work was scarce. "I've been in trouble with them before. They're all closed out now," Voshburg said. Most with credit cards said they carefully manage the debts on those cards, which often have high finance charges on unpaid balances. A sizable minority of them admitted to having serious problems with credit cards. Some 16 percent of those with credit cards said they do not trust themselves to manage their own credit card debts. For many, their debts cause stress: 20 percent of all adults in the poll said they worry about their debts most of the time. "We live in an age of easy money and people pull out their plastic to make their pain," said Chris Backard, a mental health therapist from Gilbert, Ariz. Experiencing the highest levels of stress from debts were people at their credit card spending limit; those who are unmarried and have children; those without jobs; and minorities. Those with the lowest levels of stress from debt were retirees, religious, married people, college graduates and people between age 30 and 49. Those groups' stress levels were measured based on their responses to a series of questions asked of 1,000 adults about debt and stress. Paul Lavrakas, a research psychologist, developed those questions on debt stress in the 1990s when he was faculty director of the Ohio State University Center for Survey Research. "Many people asked about their debts say it is affecting their health, Lavrakas said. "They could not concentrate at times, they were losing sleep, taking their anxiety out on others," Lavrakas said. "They are trying to stop instability and destroy the peace in southern Iraq," said al-Sadr's spokesman, Ali al-Yasseri. "Karbala and Najaf are stable. They are ready to vote, so the terrorists targeted these cities," he said. "The insurgents want to show that there is no province of Iraq that is stable and no city they cannot strike."

Bombs

Continued from A1. A little more than an hour later and 30 miles away, a car exploded on a crowded market square in Najaf, killing 48 and injuring more than 90. The timing of the two attacks and their location, in town centers crowded with civilians, suggested a broader attempt to split Iraq into Iraq's majority Shiite community, which is looking forward to an election likely to produce a Shiite-dominated government for the first time in the country's history. The explosions occurred in the vicinity of two hallowed shrines in the Shiite world, the mosque of the Imam Hussein in Karbala, and the mosque of his father, Imam Ali, in Najaf. Hussein's failed claim to the legacy of his father and of the Prophet Muhammad in 680 precipitated the schism between the Shiite and Sunni branches of Islam. The Najaf explosion occurred just after the funeral of a tribal leader had concluded nearby. Several leading government figures, including Najaf's pro-American governor, attended the funeral, but none was hurt. Shocked citizens surveyed the twisted wreckage of cars and storefronts in Najaf's Maidan Square, not far from the mosque, but they had been the focus of a bloody confrontation last summer between U.S. forces and Shiite militia loyal to rebel cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. "This tragedy makes us more insistent to go to vote, even if week. Out of state rates daily and Sunday \$7.00 per week, daily only \$5.00 per week. Sales tax included in all above rates. A \$15 charge will be levied for all returned checks. Mail information. The Times-News (UPS 611-680) is published daily at 132 Fairfield St., Twin Falls, by Lee Publications Inc., a subsidiary of Lee Enterprises. Periodicals paid at Twin Falls by the Times-News. Official city and county newspaper pursuant to Section 6C-108 of the Idaho Code. Thursday is hereby designated as the day of the week on which legal notices will be published. Postmaster: Please send change of address form to: P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83403. Copyright © 2004 Magic Valley Newspapers Inc.

Circulation. Daniel Walock, director. Circulation phone lines are open between 7 a.m. and 5 a.m. only. If you do not receive your paper by 7 a.m., call the number for your area: Burley-Rupert-Park-Opportunity 677-4042 Twin Falls and other areas 733-0931. Subscription rates. Home-delivery—daily and Sunday, \$4.35 per week; Saturday and Sunday only, \$2.50 per week. Mail subscriptions must be paid in advance and are available only where delivery is not maintained. Mail rates: All Idaho rates—daily and Sunday \$6.00 per week, daily only \$4.00 per week, Saturday and Sunday only \$3.00 per week.

Times-News telephone directory. Circulation (Daniel Walock, Circulation Director) 733-0931, Ext. 1. Classified Advertising (Deby Johnson, Manager) Ext. 2. News (Alex Smith, Advertising Director) Ext. 3. AP Wirecopy (Tanner Coffin, General Manager) Ext. 4. Publisher Brad Hurd Ext. 249. Editor Chris Steinbach 735-3255.

Bushes embrace tradition of hosting holiday parties

The Dallas Morning News. WASHINGTON - There's been a whole lot of shaking going on in the White House this month, a whole lot of virtual shaking, as well as picture taking. By the time President Bush and first lady Laura Bush host the last of at least 20 holiday parties Monday night, they will have greeted some 6,600 friends, associates, political donors, members of the Cabinet and the Congress, Secret Service agents, and ink-stained wretches of the press. "Physically, I don't understand how he does it," said one aide to the president. Bush generally prefers quiet, low-key evenings at home and is "pretty tired." Christmas-time parties are among oldest White House traditions, a throwback to a time when presidents would occasionally open up the place to the general public. These days, the guest list is confined to people with connections. The first President Bush tended to mix and match guests, meaning a reporter might show up with a secretary of state or a Supreme Court justice. This Bush administration segments the round of parties into two groups. The 15 separate holiday receptions include five for staff members, two for the news media and one for the decorators who put up at least 41 Christmas trees in the White House and hung 155,500 lights throughout the complex. There are also special events. They include the Kennedy Center Honors Reception, which this year featured Bush-bashing celebrities such as musician Elton John and actor-director Warren Beatty. The Congressional Ball usually draws the biggest crowd, an estimated 800 or so. The Bushes have also hosted a number of private dinners for family and friends. Party finances depend on the guest list, officials said. The Republican Party pays for the purely political ones and the Bushes themselves for the more private ones, with the White House entertainment allowance covering others. Beltway celebrities are sprinkled throughout each crowd, with Bush political guru Karl Rove particularly popular. He can be heard joking about his role in the annual White House holiday shindig featuring presidential dog Barney. "I'm still trying to find the motivation for my character," Rove said. The menu differs slightly for the reception, with more kids' snacks at the Children's Christmas Event and kosher food at the Hanukkah Reception. Overall, guests are expected to gobble down 15,000 miniature lamb chops, 21,000 pounds of shrimp, and 24,000 cookies, not to mention rivers of wine, beer, and softer drinks. Near the buffet in the State Room is a hardy perennial, a model White House made of gingerbread.

Most of the decorations are on the first-floor, behind-the-Pennsylvania Avenue entrance. Under the theme "A Season of Merriment and Melody," mantels and tables feature displays devoted to such seasonal songs as "Frosty the Snowman" and "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer." During their stay, the students from Germany will make trips to Shoshone Falls and Yellowstone National Park and may be treated to an authentic Mexican banquet at the school, Weeks said. Superintendent Mike Chesley and members of the school board are all for the program. The first time the district is offering a group exchange program, Chesley indicated his approval by proclaiming "zehr gut" following Weeks' presentation. "The only way you can truly learn a language is to fully immerse," Chesley said. "The immersion is very high when you're going to need the language." Besides the cultural value of studying abroad, Loveland and Liljenquist said they see a practical side to the exchange program. Both said they expect the visiting students to be a huge asset as they prepare for final exams. It was clear watching Weeks interact with his students that he's a popular teacher. "The worst thing about taking German is that you talk to Mr. Weeks and you say something wrong and he'll just laugh at you," Freeman said. Weeks chuckled and said, "I can't help it, it's funny." Come June, Weeks and 13 high school students will be laughing all the way to Stuttgart. Times-News reporter Chip Thompson can be reached at the newspaper's Mini-Cassia bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 708, or by e-mail: cthompson@magicalvalley.com.

Declo

Continued from A1. program is what brought most of us in," sophomore Bethany Soronen, 15, said. "Mr. Weeks mentioned it last year and we nudged him about offering the class." Sophomores Isaac Loveland, 15, and Jordan Liljenquist, 16, said the class appealed to them because it was something different. "I think it's cool to learn a new language," Liljenquist said. "It was a new thing." Liljenquist, who serves as secretary of the school's German club, said the fact that he likes Weeks added to the class's appeal. Weeks said the program provides real education for his students to learn a language they have little opportunity to use in southern Idaho. Knowing that they will be spending a total of two months with native speakers of German has made some students nervous. "You want to make sure you're saying things right so you don't look like an idiot," freshman Kali Quast, 14, said. "Other students said they're nervous, but I think it should be the best but acknowledge that the time abroad will require some adjustment. "It will be a chance to get far out of your comfort zone," Freeman said. "But it should be fun to learn about their culture and how they live." Weeks estimated the program would cost each student about \$1,500. The cost may keep some students from participating but Weeks said the class has discussed several fund-raisers, including selling German candles and German sausages during school basketball games. Soronen joked that the program has raised some concerns about German students staying with her family in Albion. "My mom asked me, 'Am I going to have to learn to make things that she said.'"

Weeks assured her that the food in Germany is not so different than it is in America, sparking a frantic discussion about the future German term for Happy Meal. Sophomore Ashleigh Forsgren, 16, said she has an advantage over the other students because her father speaks German and she has been practicing but the program was approved, her father had promised to take the whole family to Germany when she graduates. During their stay, the students from Germany will make trips to Shoshone Falls and Yellowstone National Park and may be treated to an authentic Mexican banquet at the school, Weeks said. Superintendent Mike Chesley and members of the school board are all for the program. The first time the district is offering a group exchange program, Chesley indicated his approval by proclaiming "zehr gut" following Weeks' presentation. "The only way you can truly learn a language is to fully immerse," Chesley said. "The immersion is very high when you're going to need the language." Besides the cultural value of studying abroad, Loveland and Liljenquist said they see a practical side to the exchange program. Both said they expect the visiting students to be a huge asset as they prepare for final exams. It was clear watching Weeks interact with his students that he's a popular teacher. "The worst thing about taking German is that you talk to Mr. Weeks and you say something wrong and he'll just laugh at you," Freeman said. Weeks chuckled and said, "I can't help it, it's funny." Come June, Weeks and 13 high school students will be laughing all the way to Stuttgart. Times-News reporter Chip Thompson can be reached at the newspaper's Mini-Cassia bureau at 677-4042, Ext. 708, or by e-mail: cthompson@magicalvalley.com.

The Times-News NEW Information Line 735-3350. Lottery and Weather Information are just a phone call away! Lottery Information Press 2, Weather Information Press 3. ... or check out our website: www.magicvalley.com

NATION/WORLD

Analysts: Bin Laden tries to burnish image with message

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Osama bin Laden's latest message — his first directed specifically at Saudis in years — has been widely seen as an attempt to show he is still a player in his homeland despite a security clampdown that has sharply limited al-Qaida's field for terrorist operations in the conservative kingdom.

The message, released Thursday, was issued after powerful blinks by Saudi security to bin Laden's supporters in the oil-rich country, where security forces have made inroads in weakening the insurgency both with arrests and anti-insurgency operations.

Osama bin Laden

that undercut support for the militants.

At the same time, however, bin Laden's audiotape followed up on an al-Qaida show of strength in the country he attacked weeks ago. Five militants attacked the U.S. consulate in Riyadh and stormed into the inner courtyard, firing guns, grabbing American shields and killing five people. Two of the attackers were killed and one was wounded in an ensuing battle with Saudi forces. No Americans were killed.

And keeping up the drumbeat Sunday, the Saudi branch of al-Qaida called in a Web statement for attacks against oil infrastructure in the Persian Gulf. The statement called on "all mujahideen ... in the Arabian Peninsula" to target "the oil resources that do not serve the nation of Islam."

The statement urged al-Qaida members and sympathizers around the Arab world to unite "to strike all the foreign targets in the Arabian peninsula and attack all the infidels' havens everywhere."

Analysts described the Saudi-born terror suspect's Thursday message, which included a call to followers to "concentrate your operations" on oil facilities, as a reminder that he can still cause trouble. Some also saw it as a sign he is worried about blows to his credibility or that he might lose more influence if local elections prove a success.

"It's a kind of encouragement for Saudis influenced by him after the blow they have received," said Dina Rashwan, an Egyptian expert on militant groups. It's a way for him to tell them he supports them, he cares about them and will, through his statement, put their cause in the international spotlight."

In the audiotape, posted on an Islamic Web site, bin Laden exonerated Islamic militants of responsibility for the violence in the kingdom, saying it was the ruler "who has exposed the country to God's punishment."

He also reiterated longstanding accusations that the royal Al Saud family has misused public funds and allied itself with the "infidel America against Muslims."

Addressing the Saudi rulers, bin Laden said: "You must know that people are fed up ... security will not be able to stop them."



White House Chief of Staff Andrew Card, gives his holiday greetings to the waiting journalists, as he leaves ABC studios after a taping of ABC's Sunday talk show "This Week" Sunday in Washington.

Bush aides won't rule out hike of Social Security tax cutoff

WASHINGTON (AP) — Two of President Bush's top advisers refused on Sunday to rule out the possibility that wealthy people might have to pay more to help cover the cost of his move to partially privatize Social Security.

Neither Treasury Secretary John Snow nor Andrew Card, the White House chief of staff, would say whether Bush's ideas about overhauling the federal retirement program would include raising the limit on incomes subject to Social Security taxes.

People currently pay those taxes on income up to \$7,900. That level will climb to \$90,000 next year. One proposal to help compensate for the private accounts would raise or eliminate the tax cutoff, which would mean that wealthier people would pay more.

Asked on ABC's "This Week" whether that was possible, Card said: "The rate that you and I pay, contribute, to our Social Security, the president does not want to see that rate increased." He would go no further in subsequent questioning.

Both Card and Snow, who appeared on "Fox News Sunday," said Social Security is beyond repair as it now stands. They said details of a plan to overhaul

it remain to be worked out.

Card suggested "an open and honest debate about all of the ramifications" of Bush's ideas.

"Let's get smart people like Alan Greenspan involved, and members of the House and the Senate, and the president will be looking for wise counsel as he prepares to put a package together." Greenspan is the longtime chairman of the Federal Reserve, highly respected in Congress for his stewardship of the economy.

Asked whether Bush's ideas would remove guarantees of Social Security benefits to younger workers, Card said: "Under no one's plan will younger workers receive benefits they've been promised

because the Social Security system doesn't have the financial underpinning, the foundation to support the expectations of social security 75 years from now, 50 years from now."

Bush expects to present a plan to Congress in his budget proposals in February. What has been laid out so far is that people retiring or near retirement would suffer no cuts in benefits. Social Security taxes would not go up and younger workers could opt into a 401(k) style private investment plan with part of their contributions.

Estimates of the costs run close to \$2 trillion over 75 years; under current rules, Social Security would be spending more than it takes in by 2018.

Traffic accident kills U.S. soldier

KUWAIT CITY (AP) — Two U.S. soldiers were killed and two were injured in a traffic accident outside Kuwait City on Sunday, the U.S. military said in a statement.

The statement said the "hit and run" accident happened in the morning, and the injured soldiers were admitted to a civilian hospital. A Kuwaiti security official said the driver of

the vehicle that hit the soldiers later surrendered to police.

The names of the soldiers were withheld pending notification of next of kin, the statement said.

The U.S. military and Kuwaiti authorities were investigating. On Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy warned Americans here about the possibility of terrorist attacks.

Christmas Packages

Electric Guitar Package

Starting at **\$279**

Includes: Ibanez Guitar, Ibanez Amp, Cable, Electronic Tuner, Gig Bag, Strap & Picks

WELCH MUSIC

Around here it's always play time.

837 Pole Line Rd • Twin Falls • 733-9010
1328 Overland Ave • Burley • 678-3388

Olson's Ski & Snowboard Tuning

Holiday Special Hours

Mon. Thur. Fri. 12/20 Thru 12/24 Mon. Thur. Fri. 12/27 Thru 12/31

9:00am-5:30pm or by appointment

- Base Welding & Repair
- Hot Waxing • Binding Work
- Tuned to Manufacturers Specs

Used Skis & Snowboards

Olson's Ski & Snowboard Tuning

246 2nd Ave. N. Twin Falls, ID 83301
731-5839

CASH - CHECK - BANKCARDS WELCOME

LAST CHANCE

SALE ENDS FRIDAY FOREVER

BLUE LAKES SPORTING GOODS - TWIN FALLS
1236 BLUE LAKES BLVD. NORTH

QUITS

SALE POSITIVELY ENDS FRI., DEC. 24TH

CASH · CHECK · BANKCARDS WELCOME!

EXAMPLES OF REGULAR PRICES	SALE PRICE MON. DEC. 20	SALE PRICE TUES. DEC. 21	SALE PRICE WED. DEC. 22	SALE PRICE THURS. DEC. 23	SALE PRICE FRI. DEC. 24
\$5.50	\$2.08	\$1.97	\$1.67	\$1.37	87¢
\$9.00	\$3.97	\$3.87	\$3.27	\$2.87	\$1.67
\$14.00	\$6.87	\$6.77	\$5.77	\$4.77	\$2.97
\$29.00	\$12.87	\$12.37	\$9.87	\$7.87	\$4.87
\$44.00	\$19.87	\$17.87	\$12.87	\$10.87	\$7
\$64.00	\$22.87	\$21.87	\$15.87	\$12.87	\$9
\$109.00	\$43.87	\$41.87	\$34.87	\$29.87	\$16
\$128.00	\$48.87	\$47.87	\$39.87	\$34.87	\$19
\$188.00	\$88.87	\$82.87	\$54.87	\$44.87	\$27

GET YOUR SHARE AND SAVE 75%-83%-91%

ABSOLUTE LAST DAY EVER
DEC. 24 10am-3pm
OR WHEN SOLD OUT

SALE HOURS:
MON.-THURS. 10-7 pm
FRI. 10am 'til SOLD OUT

GUNS
ALL REMAINING FIREARMS WILL BE SOLD BELOW COST

OFFICIAL PRICE CHARTS IN STORE - GUNS NOT ON PRICE CHART!

Blue Lakes Sporting Goods

1236 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Twin Falls, Idaho

- SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE
- ALL SALES FINAL
- WHERE IS AS IS

GIFT CERTIFICATES

The perfect gift for friends, family or employees in any amount, anytime.

JAKERS
STEAK, RIBS FISH HOUSE

Bring in this ad when purchasing GIFT CERTIFICATES and we'll give you \$10 off your next dining experience at Jaker's for every fifty dollars in gift certificates you buy.

Stop by or call in and we'll mail them for you!

1398 Blue Lakes Blvd N. 733-8400
OFFER EXPIRES 12-24-2004

SCHOOL DAYS

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

FHS students show talents

Filer High School is "celebrating" and that is the "Wildcat Word" for the day.

We're celebrating our students who have been demonstrating outstanding talents throughout the community.

The Economic Summit teams had a strong showing at the Nov. 23 competition at the College of Southern Idaho. Team Zimbalab's economic advisers, Dustin Lymas, Sarah Haney, Nicole Miller, Trent Garner and Russ Bridges, took third overall out of 55 teams. Filer teams also grabbed five of the top 10 places.

The speech team hit the road to compete at the Boise State University Speech Tournament Dec. 11.

The team accumulated enough points to take home first place over schools with fewer than 900 students.

Individual winners were: Camille Aguilar and Sara Harmon, fifth in duo interpretation; Allison Ko and Jillane Rainsdon, second in duo interpretation;



WILDCAT WORLD
Diana Haflinger and Amy Huddleston

Kelsy Newton, second in after dinner; Brady Moore, second in after dinner; Amy Huddleston, second in serious interpretation; Andrea Tapia, fourth in expository; Larry Madsen, first in expository; Larry Moore, fourth in sales; and Colby Vance, sixth in panel discussion.

In the Veterans of Foreign Wars Voice of Democracy speech competition, Robin Critchfield won the local competition, earned \$100 and

placed third at regionals. Brady Moore placed second at the local level and won the regional contest and \$200. Brady will go onto the state competition in January.

Our music department and students deserve songs of praise for their recent Christmas concert. Canned food items were collected as admission. Performances were given by the concert band, jazz band, choir and Madrigals.

Congratulations to the Students of the Month for November: Freshmen Emily Nussbaum and Davis Hurley; sophomores Hannah Sackett and Jeff Hite; juniors Colby Vance and Andy Pospischal and seniors Lara Schmidt and Tad Gill.

As we look forward to our holiday break, we hope our students and community recognize that Filer students are truly worth celebrating.

Diana Haflinger and Amy Huddleston are Filer High School students.

Holidays include penny wars, concerts

Merry Christmas from the Jerome Tigers.

The penny wars are on. That's where students collect change to make Christmas brighter for needy families. Each class competes for the most money raised.

The JHS pep and jazz bands and choir are combining their efforts in a holiday concert at 7 p.m. today in the auditorium. Directors Riqui Heintemann and Brady Campbell have enjoyed planning the production together.

Audiences thoroughly enjoyed the first school dramatic production of the year, "A Christmas Carol," directed by Shane Brown. Wade Sugden



TIGER PRINTS
Patti O'Dell

started as Scrooge in the adaptation of Dickens' work, which included clowns as the ghosts of Christmas past, present and future. The Tiger Troupe will perform for the student body on Tuesday afternoon at the Christmas assembly.

Jena Babak will be honored at the assembly as the recipient of this year's Wendy's Heisman Award. Two students in the state

of Idaho are named each year for this prestigious award. Jena will receive a medal and a plaque that will remain in the school's trophy case.

More Tiger honors go to Ryan Musgrave who was named to the Idaho Statesman All-State Second Team in football. The wrestling and basketball seasons are off to a great start. The Tigers look forward to seeing their fans at the events slated for the new year.

Everyone at Jerome High School wants to wish our community a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Patti O'Dell is principal of Jerome High School.



Actor Tim O'Neill, as Capt. Merriweather Lewis, leader of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, makes a presentation to Magic Valley High School students in Twin Falls. McNeill enacted highlights of the journey taken from letters written by Lewis to his mother and excerpts from journals. The students had an opportunity to ask questions afterwards. O'Neill also made a presentation at the Twin Falls Public Library.

Christmas giving grows into school-wide project

A Christmas project that started as an idea and grew to include the entire school wrapped up this week.

Students donated personally and earned enough money through candy sales to buy clothes and toys for needy children.

In addition, many food items were collected thanks to a class contest, with Kim Har's class the definitive winners.

The Snake River Bros contributed to this fund-raiser. Student council and National Honor Society members spent after-school Thursday packaging

MVHS MOMENTS Jennifer Miller

ing and wrapping the donations for delivery Friday morning.

Superstars for the week are Alisha Livingston, Sherry Britz, Megan Banyan, Kandida McNeill, Jessica Clark, Amber O'Brien, Shannon Kessler, Melissa Gomez, Brent Walls and Nikki Watts.

The Main Street Players received their club sweatshirts on Friday, with another order

planned for the spring. Money for the shirts was raised by a bake sale and from members and donations by Kelleen Chapman, Diome Davidson, Jennifer Miller, Peggy Carr, and Cheri Miller. Donnelly Sports created the shirts.

As the days count down to winter, MVHS students strengthen the holiday spirit through acts of kindness, donations large and small and a dedication to community.

Jennifer Miller is the English and speech teacher at Magic Valley High School in Twin Falls.

Kimberly BPA stays active

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly High School Business Professionals of America is an active club.

Officers of the 73-member chapter are president Jaysa Crist, vice presidents Trevor Barron and Ashley Cochran, secretary Erin Leumann and treasurer Charlene Borba. Class representatives are Whitney Egbert, seniors Megan Stradley, juniors Sara Shaver, sophomores and McKay Nield, freshmen. Advisers are Diane Neale and Sharon Meeks.

Regional competition will take place at the College of Southern Idaho Jan. 17. More than 200 students will compete in four areas: financial services, administrative support, information technology and managing, market and human resources with 51 tests offered. The top two or three qualifiers

in each event will attend the state competition in Boise in March. Nine members are working towards earning their Diplomat Torch Awards at the regional conference. This is a cumulative awards program that recognizes activity, leadership and service within the national organization.

During December, BPA sponsored the second annual Mr. KHS pageant. The proceeds will support travel to state and national competitions. The winners were: Non-finalist talent — Kendal Nield; Mr. Personality and People's choice, Patrick Chavez; second runner-up, Darin Musser; first runner-up, Trevor Barrott; and Mr. KHS, J. J. Shaver. The event chairmen were Megan Stradley and Ashley Cochran.

Money from the People's Choice, which is chosen by the

student body, is used to sponsor an "Angel Tree Child."

BPA sponsored the Sadie Hawkins Dance Nov. 19, which was a success with proceeds going to support state and national competitions, the club reported.

The chapter also supported the 60 Hours to Fight Hunger sponsored by Mix 103. Students took turns working shifts all day to gather turkeys and canned food.

On Oct. 20, the Region 6 Officer Training Conference was hosted by Kimberly BPA with workshops on leadership and community service and a special presentation by Mayor Jim Sorensen about the importance of voting. A mock city, state and national election was held. Ten Magic Valley schools attended with 80 students participating.

CITIZENS OF THE WEEK



Citizens of the Week at Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert were, from left, from Jerod Shiner, Lygia Alves, Brynn Parker, Austin Gillest and Ariana Rocha; second row: Nikki Chavez, Kayla Wilkie, Rebecca Child, Skyler Snarr, Mariah Kottel and Missy Falconer; third row: Cecilia Leon, Dominik Pedraza, Shar Lynn Dixon, Luis Artega and Shanice Arzpe.



More Big Valley Elementary School Citizens of the Week were, from left, front: Ashley Hall, Imoni Morales and Krissy Coats; second row: Stetson Houston, Briana Son, Jacob Jones and David Leon; third row: Abrina Blynt, Diamon Marín, Adriana Rivera and Troycen Williams.

SCHOOL NEWS

Community School seniors win AP scholar awards

SUN VALLEY — Eight students at The Community School have earned the designation of Advanced Placement Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program Exams.

Michelle Baham, Reed Bogger and Delanero Rege, qualified for the Advanced Placement Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least a 3.25 on all exams taken and grades of three or higher on four or more of these exams.

Charlie Baser, Caitlin Cairncross, Lexie Praggastis, Ben Roth and Connor Wade qualified for the award by completing three or more examinations, with grades of three or higher.

The AP program allows students the opportunity to take college-level courses while in high school and receive college credit, advanced placement or both.

Burley drama wins third in state competition

BURLEY — Drama students at Burley High School qualified for state and won third overall in recent competition.

Qualifying to semifinals were Monica Deloro, Courtney Sandilan, Vicki Crater and Jasmine Belt, ensemble serious; Sonja Schmitzer, Rossy Simmons, Kessie Feit, Melissa Fuelling and Devon Gibby, ensemble humorous; Kira Burgess, solo pantomime; and Hannah McCombs, solo audition.

Qualifying to finals were DeAnna Rock and Tyler Piratzello, ensemble pantomime. Qualifying to nationals include taking fourth in scenic design was DeAnna Rock. Coming in at third in ensemble humorous were Tasha Jones and Scott Ringle. Melissa Fuelling placed second for costume. First in make-up was Rossy Simmons, Sonja Schmitzer and their model, Emily Whitmore.

St. Nicholas School announces honors, events

RUPERT — St. Nicholas

Catholic School recognized honor roll students at a lunch with the principal. Honor students were:

As: Skye Dausie, Lauren Nesbit and Kody Miller.

As and B's: Braxton May, Emma Preilburger, Chyenne Onishi, Raylee Reeves, Hunter Garro, Erin Feltz, Abraham Ortiz, Kayla Kerbs, Rok Holmes, Daishu Fuentes, Kody Andrew, Austin Seidler, John Dwight, Christina Evans, Daniel Shoup, Cody Vgg, Katie Miller and Marissa Pena.

The sixth-grade student council will meet twice a month with Principal Marlene Boettcher and schedule projects and service to the school. The new members are Kody Andrew, Christina Evans, Katie Miller, Kody Miller, Lauren Nesbit, Brandon Rucker and Daniel Shoup.

The school also shared food baskets, clothing and books with the church and the Christmas Council.

Gooding-learning-center releases honor roll

GOODING — The Gooding

Accelerated Learning Center has released its second block grades:

All As: Cody Koski, Tom Mong, Jen Reed and Katie Valentine.

All As and B's: Brenda Garcia.

All B's: Sarah Eaves, Jose Hernandez, Hannah Jones, Victoria Martin, Kasey Perkins and Chase Reinger.

Perfect Attendance: Alicia Bigler, Amanda Campbell, Tim Engman, Brent Hogley, Tom Jones and George Serrano.

Richfield announces holiday, other events

RICHFIELD — Richfield School will perform "The Top 10 Christmas Songs in Richfield" at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the school, 555 N. Tiger Drive.

Phyllis Witcheil is conductor. The Parent Teacher Organization needs help preparing goody bags at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in the cafeteria. The bags will be handed out at the Christmas program that evening.

The school has an ongoing recycling program for newspapers and aluminum cans.

Proceeds go to the library. Recycle bins are located throughout the building and larger bins are in the parking lot. To have a custodian pick up recyclable items, call Teri Turnage to set up an appointment.

For more information, call 487-2790.

Dietrich School seniors hold fund-raiser

DIETRICH — The Dietrich School seniors are having a fund-raiser dinner starting at 5 p.m. Tuesday at the school gym, 106 N. Park, before and during the boys basketball game against Carey.

Advanced tickets are \$3 for a single, \$18 for a family of six and \$30 for a larger family. At the door, tickets are \$3.75 for a single and \$20 for a family of six. Home delivery is free.

Dinner includes turkey, mashed potatoes, corn, rolls and dessert. For more information or to place an order, call Mr. Mc-

Daniel or any senior at 544-2158.

Kimberly student shares thoughts on forests

KIMBERLY — Kimberly High School student Beverly Talbot received an honorable mention of the ninth annual Forest Products Week Essay Contest sponsored by the Idaho Forest Products Commission.

Students shared their ideas for how they would ensure healthy productive forests for future generations in their essays.

Hollister students hold Christmas play Tuesday

HOLLISTER — Hollister Elementary School students will perform "Santa Makes a Change" at 1 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tuesday at the school, 2463 Salmon Ave.

The play is directed by Bill Sweet. Admission is a canned food item, which will go to needy area families. For more information, call 655-4215.

Electricity lit up Broadway for first time today in 1880

This day in history: There's a broken heart for every light on Broadway, they say. All those broken hearts were made possible on Dec. 20, 1880, when electric lights went on in Broadway's theater district for the first time.

The dodo tree produced fruit that the dodo bird loved to eat. Unfortunately, its seeds needed to pass through the dodo bird's digestive tract in order to germinate, so over the three centuries since the dodo went extinct, the species dwindled to just 13 trees. Scientists found a solution, though — they discovered that passing through turkeys worked just as well. The dodo tree was saved.

Too bad you missed the heyday of the flea circus. The tiny performing insects had their golden age in the century between the 1830s and the 1930s. Flea circus shows tended to be short — like three to eight minutes — and attended by only a few people at a time. It's not like fleas can do many tricks, after all, and seeing them was awfully hard from a distance. 1826 was a disastrous year



RANDOM KINDS OF FACINNESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

screwed up in front of bigwigs. Consider the pressure on a royal executioner. When Mary, Queen of Scots, was beheaded, not only did the executioner have to take four whacks at her neck to finish the job, but when he lifted her by the wig, her head fell out, bouncing and rolling across the floor.

History records that Sir Isaac Newton — tired of having his concentration interrupted by his pet's constant caterwauling — invented the cat door.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at twinnathroomcompanion.com

MPC Computers Bowl
Dec. 27, Fresno State vs. Univ. of Virginia
kickoff at 12 noon, Bronco Stadium
Tickets: Select A-Seat or at the BSU Ticket Office
208-426-4737
www.mpccomputersbowl.com

Holiday Lights Tour
East and West Coles, Thru Dec. 30
For tickets: 228-225-1494, www.colostours.net

Winter Garden
Idaho Botanical Garden, Thru Jan. 2, 6-9pm
208-343-8849, www.idahobotanicalgarden.org

Winter Years Family Party
The Alamo Theater, Dec. 31 and Jan. 1
Includes pizza makers, party hats, and sparkling cider
208-336-7383, www.pdpayhouse.com

Idaho Steelheads Hockey
Bank of America Center, Dec. - Mar. 208-383-0080
www.idahosteelheads.com

Holiday Shopping, Skating at Boggs Basin, theater performances, attractions and more!

Movies Dec. 20 - 21

Orpheus 10th Anniversary Edition
Blade: Trinity (R) 7:00 - 9:20

Odyssey 6 10th Anniversary Edition
Closer (R) 7:00 - 9:15
Sponglish (13) 7:00 - 9:30
Finding Neverland (PG) 9:00 - 9:15
Spongebob Movie (PG) 7:00
Alexander (R) 7:30 - 9:00
Bridget Jones's 2 (R) 7:15 - 9:30

Jerome 4 10th Anniversary Edition
Polar Express (G) 7:10 - 9:20
Lemony Snicket's (PG) 7:10 - 9:45
Ocean's 12 (R) 9:45 - 7:15 - 9:30 - 9:55
Shorts (PG) 7:30

Twin 12 10th Anniversary Edition
Shall We Dance (13) 7:15 - 9:45
Lodger 49 (13) 9:45
Incredibles (PG) 7:15 - 9:55
Polar Express (G) 7:00 - 9:15
National Treasure (PG) 6:45 - 9:30
Ocean's 12 (R) 9:45 - 7:15 - 9:30 - 9:55
Shorts (PG) 7:30

Flight of the Phoenix (13) 7:15 - 9:45
Lemony Snicket's (PG) 7:10 - 9:45
Napoleon Dynamite (PG) 7:30 - 9:45

ACROSS

- Spanish holiday
- Scoffer's comment
- Granular seasoning
- Potts and Lennox
- Pub purchase
- Bit of evidence
- Impasse
- Horse holder
- Cowboy Mix
- Penitentiary makers
- Cogito ___ sum
- Dada artist
- Max
- Jiggly dessert
- Waterborne
- ___ Penn
- Put to rest
- Luster
- Unnaturally pale
- One with regrets
- Fronts of calves
- Walk in water
- Part of mph
- Type of newspaper
- Coffee shops
- Finns fault
- Interfere with
- General reference book
- Long strider
- Crude character
- Epic tales
- Sigma follower
- Take the bait
- Single
- Baukite and galena
- Highlander's hat
- Like
- Rollerblades
- Polanski film
- Pacino and Hirt
- Black and Eastwood

DOWN

- Expedition
- Fascinated by
- Maker of cloisonne
- Immoral misdeed
- Mack or Koppel
- Give aid to
- Lure
- Appalachian range
- Greeks
- Piercing cry
- On one's toes
- Pirandello
- Mortise partner
- Blasting letters
- Leoline cry
- Turndown vote
- Chansy of "The Wolf Man"
- Org. for seniors
- Ventilation duct
- Collins and Ochs
- Manmade waterway
- Far from thick
- Fruit drinks
- Cozy place
- Roanne's river
- Small specks
- Science rick
- Jewels
- Isn't wrong?
- Shoshones
- L. Michaels' show
- Actor Wallach

12/20/04

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

M	P	G	C	A	P	E	K	P	A	T	E	S		
O	E	R	O	L	L	I	N	E	A	R	O	M		
W	A	I	S	T	L	I	N	E	R	E	A	I		
E	L	M	O	S	E	E	P	A	N	D	R	E		
R	E	E	N	T	E	R	S	O	D	A	S			
N	U	T	T	A	K	E	S	T	E	N				
A	L	I	E	N	D	A	K	A	R	O	N	E		
R	U	N	T	D	O	R	E	V	Z	O	O	M		
M	R	T	R	O	P	E	S	C	E	L	L	O		
S	E	E	S	A	W	E	D	T	U	B				
S	H	I	N	S	A	V	E	R	T	E	D			
A	C	T	A	S		H	A	T	S		A	R	L	O
C	R	A	V	E		E	X	T	E	N	S	I	O	N
M	E	T	E	R		E	L	A	T	E		A	P	U
E	W	E	R	S		T	E	R	S	E		D	E	T

(C)2004 Tribune Media Services, Inc. All rights reserved. 12/20/04

Virgo: Expect an upcoming bonus

IF DECEMBER 20 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... Keeping the proverbial nose to the grindstone has given you a firm sense of accomplishment and by adhering to this work ethic you can win time for more pleasurable pursuits in 2005. Don't let brief setbacks in the early summer undermine your optimism. In February, July and August your personal charm will be at its height, so you can make incredible progress in business or attract a new love into your life.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): There is still time to balance the budget and make sure you have all necessities taken care of before the end of the tax year. Participate in group or community events to increase your sphere of influence.

TAUROS (April 20-May 20): Listen to significant others today who may reveal secrets or entrust you with confidences. Reach career goals by networking in the neighborhood or participating in community activities.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A cunning mind can cut through to the essence of situations, so avoid potential financial pitfalls by making strategic moves now. Relationships are shifting to a new level; enjoy camaraderie with new groups or associations.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't ignore bills or payments that are due or take chances by skirting the rules. Take care of those little details now so you can enjoy the holidays without worry. Economy and frugality are your best friends today.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Al-

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

though a temporary downturn may mean you must curtail spending, others close might be extremely resourceful and offer provocative ideas. Go with the flow, as unexpected shifts in relationships will prove fortunate.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Unexpected bonuses in your pocket could solve long-term troubles, so put your thinking cap on and create a tactical game plan. Overlook temporary setbacks that block immediate gains.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): With Jupiter in your sign it is possible to attract good will from strangers or stumble upon helpful information. Welcome the unexpected and be willing to experiment with the new and unusual to get the best results.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get infinite pleasure from a few dollars well spent. You are like a magpie fascinated by shiny

baubles and bright lights. Take a flight on the wild side and spread your wings over something excitingly different.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Trust in the universe and it will provide. Buddies and casual acquaintances might give you valuable hints about how to succeed in business without really trying. Those close might give you helpful personal observations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't be fooled by a few grumpy moments or too many "Bah, humbug!" When all is said and done, the holiday spirit will prevail.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Concentrate on the business at hand and head off trouble before it occurs. Use valuable foresight to forestall scheduling conflicts with loved ones at home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Enigmas are solved and puzzles pieced together as others reveal crucial information. Make headway in business today by developing new acquaintances and keeping the lines of communication open wide.

Attn: Wood Workers

Your Project Custom Cut
• Hardware, Finishes & Wood Available

Engberg & Soh's
639 Eastland Dr. S. Twin Falls 420-3580
Hours: Mon-Fri. 8am-5pm • Sat. - by appointment

MALL WIDE

Late Night Sale

Wednesday, December 22

All Stores Open Until 11 P.M.

Save Late...

only at **Magic Valley Mall**

Magic Valley Mall Holiday Hours 12/19 thru 12/25

	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Mall Stores	10-8	9-10	9-10	9-11	9-10	8-6	Merry Christmas
Santa (Center Court)	12-6	2307:30	2307:30	12:7:30	11:7:30	10:2:30	

Shippers

BUY ONE GET ONE FREE

3-Piece Fish & Chips

Buy one 3-Piece Fish & Chips at regular menu price and receive the second 3-Piece Fish & Chips of equal or lesser value FREE.

334 BLUE LAKES BLVD. N. TWIN FALLS 733-6977

No cash value. Must be purchased at regular price. Not valid with other coupons or discounts. One coupon valid for all in one party. Redeemable at any Skippers location. Present before ordering. *SEA Expires 1/23/05.

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
twined@magicvalley.com

Ad Deadline is
Wednesday, Dec. 22nd
at Noon

Zachary Hollon
Merry Christmas to our lil' buddy!
Love, Mom & Dad

Any questions? Call 733-0931 ext. 2

Western views

A weekly roundup of editorial viewpoints from newspapers around the West.

Keep hunting licenses in states' own hands

Nevada Appeal (Carson City)

The hunting world has been in a mild uproar for several months now since the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that states can't discriminate against non-residents when it comes to issuance of hunting licenses.

da and Ben Nelson of Nebraska are sponsoring a bill in Congress to give states the authority to set their own rules - something we support, even if we don't think it should be necessary.

anyone who has wanted to go fishing in another state knows you pay a higher fee for a license than a resident would. Nothing wrong with that.

Cabinet picks show true diversity

The Record (Stockton, Calif.)

Former President Clinton promised an administration that "looks like America."

state, the Cabinet's senior position. Attorney General-designate Alberto Gonzales, if confirmed, will be the highest-ranking Latino in U.S. history.

much fanfare and little attention or credit. Clinton played up his Cabinet's makeup, pointing to its diversity as being radical and reformable.

U.S. chances for tariff win are slim

The World (Coos Bay, Ore.)

No matter what happens, Canada won't be happy unless it wins.

But despite cross-border negotiations, the matter essentially is out of this country's control thanks to the United States opting to embrace NAFTA and the World Trade Organization.

outcome of this dispute pretty clear. Unless Canada's happy, this country is going to be forced to continue cutting tariffs and cheap Canadian lumber is going to continue to flood U.S. markets.

Find middle ground on the sled issue

The Casper (Wyo.) Tribune

This year's snowmobile season in Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks will be too restrictive to suit snowmobile enthusiasts and not restrictive enough for environmentalists.

Yellowstone. Snowmobiles in Yellowstone will be limited to 720 sleds per day.

and both seem to be digging deeper trenches...

LETTER

Make holidays a time to bring nation together

The elections are over, and we are closing our another year. No matter if our favorite candidate was elected or not, it is time for this nation to heal itself and back our leaders and our military, especially those in combat.

have us fighting each other. We need to work toward peace with our neighbors, co-workers and our own families. Look at our sporting events how the spectators and players fight with each other?

"Made in the United States." Be honest with yourself, and you will find the majority look mainly at the price. When the big Wal-Mart and other large chains have squeezed out the competition, prices won't be cheap any longer.

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



Comics a serious matter for papers

Some readers take the funny pages very seriously.

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR Chris Steinbach

Brad Hund. It's nice to know the crossword puzzle fans have noticed.

If I didn't know that before, I've learned it since we published a "B.C." strip on Dec. 10, that used a cliché in an attempted joke about teachers.

Times-News will debut a new panel on the comics page on Jan. 3.

Brevity: by Guy Endore-Kaiser and Rodd Perry, will take the place of "The Family Circus," which will be moved to the classified section of the newspaper.

For the punch line, Johnny replied: "teach."

If you've ever been to a movie, you've probably already seen their work. As producers at The Art Fun, one of Hollywood's biggest animation picture advertising agencies, they've overseen trailers and TV commercials.

While we may have thought we already knew those things about our readers, it was a good reminder for everyone on our staff who participated in the meeting.

A teacher probably encouraged Johnny first in much the way Mrs. K. pushed me. I first started drawing "B.C." 17 years ago, so maybe he can be forgiven for the occasional clichéd comic strip.

Happy reader: Marcella Ladd of Twin Falls wrote me to say she likes another change in The Times-News.

We're looking forward to having the leadership class join us again next year.

LETTER

Estate tax goes beyond powers of Congress

The powers of the federal government were described by James Madison in Federalist Paper 47 as "separated and limited."

aristocracies. The truth is that estate and gift taxes fall upon citizens whose property ownership would never amount to dynastic proportions.

ular interstate and foreign commerce. To this end, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Department of Commerce have been created.

It declares that the estate tax was designed "...to protect the social and economic base of our democracy and free enterprise system."

The congressional taxing power was created in the Constitution only to raise revenue needed to support those functions of government which were also established in the Constitution.

The estate and gift taxes smack of the policies of plundered government-managed economies of the defunct Soviet Union, eastern and even western Europe.

It is not the business of the government to meddle or restrict this basic right. After assets have been earned and applicable income taxes on them have been paid, government has no further business taxing them again.

Congress has adequate power to regulate predatory economic behavior and protect the public under the constitutional authority to regulate interstate and foreign commerce.

These countries have practiced varying degrees of socialism with similar results - sluggish economies, stagnant growth and bloated welfare programs. They are all available to us as bad examples. We should stop emulating them.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest.

with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Boise offices, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

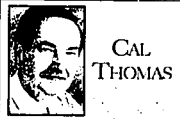
Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



OPINION

Opposition struggles for relevance



CAL THOMAS

Democrats, having started their decline in 1994 and losing more ever since, have announced plans for a set of "hearings" during which they will examine the policies and conduct of the Bush administration.

This could be a good thing since individuals, like politicians, need people to whom they should be accountable. If the hearings are conducted properly, without rancor and in what seems to be the best interests of the country, Democrats would perform a valuable service to their party and to the nation.

But if the hearings resemble those conducted on Dec. 8 by Rep. John Conyers, Michigan Democrat, which sought to portray the Ohio vote as wrong and, therefore, question the legitimacy of President Bush's re-election, it will be seen as another political ploy and be dismissed by the people Democrats need to reach.

The planned hearings are scheduled to begin next month and organizers say Republicans will be invited to participate (good luck getting any). Suggested topics look like more of the same we have come to expect from Democrats: contract abuses in Iraq, mistakes by the administration in its use of prewar intelligence and misleading cost estimates for the Medicare program.

(Democrats should be careful with the last point, since it was a Democrat president, Lyndon Johnson, who pushed Medicare through Congress with the promise it wouldn't cost much. Then, it was projected the health benefit would cost \$9 billion by 1990. The actual cost

was \$67 billion. Today, thanks to President Bush's prescription drug benefit, projections for the drug benefit alone are \$540 billion over 10 years.)

Senator Byron Dorgan, North Dakota Democrat, pledges, "This is not about gotcha politics... This is about oversight. If the majority party won't do it, we will."

For the sake of "healing" and bipartisanship, let's say Dorgan and company are serious. How should they approach their hearings in a way that would protect the Republicans' accountability, fulfill their role as the "loyal opposition" and benefit the country, if anyone cares about such a thing these days? Start with the war and what is behind it. Do Democrats recognize evil as a moral concept, or are they willing to negotiate just about anything in their pursuit of lost power? Can Democrats move beyond multilateralism and the ineffectual United Nations and confront evil, as one of their patron saints, Harry Truman, once did?

Dorgan held up a picture of Harry Truman during a Capitol Hill news conference to announce the hearings. But Truman, who ordered Hiroshima and Nagasaki obliterated with nuclear bombs to end the war, is a man and president our American lives are about as far from this Democrat Party as East is from West.

Modern Democrats need to break the grip of MoveOn.org and Michael Moore and prove they can be trusted with the nation's security by saying how they would fight terrorists and whether they could envision pre-emptive strikes against an enemy.

On Social Security, another topic announced for the hearings, Democrats have repeatedly said they favor the current system, which, like Medicare, is headed for bankruptcy — or substantially higher taxes — if present spending trends continue. It is simply not credible to say that Social Security should not be touched.

Education? Democrats say their hearings will focus on the failure of Republicans to fund the No Child Left Behind law, which called for substantial increases in education funding. Here's a way Democrats can break with Republicans and achieve meaningful results: come out for school choice for the poor.

They won't, of course, because that might cost them the teachers unions. But with many public school teachers now placing their own children in private schools, freeing the poor from the prison of failed public schools would rightly earn Democrats the thanks of generations yet to come.

I can't imagine Democrats taking my advice, but if they are interested in making a difference, instead of making trouble for Republicans, they had better break their habit of opposing for opposition's sake.

Cal Thomas is a nationally syndicated columnist and Fox News Channel commentator.

Spice up your life with the Food & Home section, every Wednesday in The Times-News

30% Off

ORNAMENTS & DECORATIONS

Closing 4pm Christmas Eve



Black Rock
Clothing 543-2500



Monday thru Saturday: 10am to 6pm
918 Main Street (P.O. Box 62), BUHL
"Designs for the Discriminating at Affordable Prices"
Petite thru 3X sizes • www.blackrockclothing.com

LAURA'S SWEET POTATO HASH BROWNS

- | | | | |
|-------|---|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 4 | large sweet potatoes, peeled and cut into 3/4" pieces | 1/2 | teaspoon pepper |
| 1 1/2 | tablespoons chopped fresh rosemary | 1/2 | medium-size purple onion, chopped |
| 3/4 | teaspoon salt | 2 | tablespoons olive oil, divided |
| | | 6 | teaspoons honey |

Cook sweet potato in boiling water to cover 8 minutes or until barely fork tender (not soft); drain well. Spread potato in a single layer in a 13" x 9" pan. Cool; cover and chill at least 8 hours.

Stir together rosemary, salt, and pepper. Sauté onion in 2 tablespoons hot oil in large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat until golden. Remove onion to a large bowl. Increase heat to high. Add 2 more tablespoons oil to skillet, and heat oil until hot. Add half of sweet potato, and sauté 10 minutes or until well browned. Stir in half of rosemary mixture. Add sautéed potato to onion in bowl. Repeat procedure with remaining 2 tablespoons oil, sweet potato, and rosemary mixture; add to potato and onion in bowl; drizzle with honey, and toss gently. Serve immediately. Yield: 8 servings.

222 Shoshone East, Twin Falls (208) 733-5008
1801 South Lincoln, Jerome (208) 324-0202

REMAX

LETTERS

Overload for defense attorneys is unfair

Who protects the rights of the inmates? Is it not the court's job? Are they not the justice?

Yes, I'm an inmate. I've been in jail for 108 days. I've had two attorneys. I'm currently waiting to find out who my new conflict attorney is. For the last 2-1/2 months, I've asked my last attorney for three important things to prove my innocence. But because of his case overload and being the first of only three conflict attorneys for the public defender's office, he becomes very busy. And with every conflict case comes a set pay rate. Because of that set pay rate, it's easier to plea bargain than to do a lot of work for free!

This is my question: When did our civil rights and our liberty receive a price tag on a set pay rate? Wasn't this why the Constitution was established? To establish justice; promote the general welfare and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity.

Yes, even inmates are innocent until proven guilty. The 14th Amendment states, "Nor shall any state deprive any person of life, or liberty, without due process of law; nor to deny any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

Am I wrong in saying my rights have been violated? If I had the money to pay for my protection, this wouldn't happen. But I'm unable to, so will I fail to get equal protection of the laws because of a set pay rate, because I can't pay for the extra work? When did it become OK to forget federally protected rights? When the county only depends on three attorneys to handle the conflict cases, it makes these three very busy, and it's harder to do their jobs to their fullest. Maybe they should add to the list there's a big one in the phone book.

Today is Dec. 5 and Jan. 5 is my day for justice. I have trial that day. My hope now is that my new conflict attorney isn't as overloaded as my last, and will represent me to the fullest of his ability or will I fail to get my

American-born rights protected because of a set pay rate?
WILLIAM HEDGECOCK
Twin Falls

Letter proves such thing as a sore winner

Kathy Rooney's letter of Dec. 6 regarding liberal whining could have been shortened to, "Shut up. We won and that's all there is to it. You lost. You have no more right" to his whining reference to noting a study done before the election that revealed significant misconceptions on the part of Bush supporters regarding the reality of his performance and policies.

Per Ms. Rooney's editorial-type demand, I include a reference for a University of Maryland study titled "The Separate Realities of Bush and Kerry Supporters." It can be accessed at www.plpa.org/OnlineReports/Pres_Election_04/Report0_21_04.pdf. Sponsors of the study, results and methodology are all available.

Initially, I was not inclined to respond to her letter, most of which seemed to be a personal attack designed to put me in my place vs. an intelligent discussion; but this entire controversy is symptomatic of why Bush remains in the White House despite his dismissing the Geneva Convention, creating astonishing debt, making unprecedented appointments of his "elites" as heads of government agencies, and whitening

First Amendment rights. Ms. Rooney's identification of the one truism being "reds won, blues lost" illustrates the success Bush has had by spreading lies and misinformation and creating great divisions among the American people so that the real issues go by the wayside.

Any expectation of "blues" compromising by stepping to the right is the first thing Ms. Rooney has said that is truly amusing.

Those who worked so hard to defeat Bush know far too much about the man and his history to ever align themselves with his policies.

These people are disgusted with his outright lies regarding Iraq, "Saddam was a bad man," pales in comparison to what Bush has done in that country and to all those put in place to carry out his plans.

Originally, I did not raise the difference between ignorance and stupidity to call attention to a grammatical error but to illustrate that being ignorant of issues is a common situation affecting many who find their lives too busy to allow much time for political investigation. I would certainly have classified myself as politically ignorant prior to 2003.

But I continue to believe that blind allegiance to this administration's policies and parroting Bush responses without some investigation is sheer stupidity. SHARON METCALF Gooding

Grand Opening

Tuesday Dec. 21st, 2004
Buffet Chinese & American

Lunch 11:30-3pm \$5.95
Dinner 5pm-9pm \$8.99
Banquet Party Room Available

FREE Soft Drink with purchase of meal

Wonderful House
Come meet the new owners & new management

120 W. Main • Jerome • 324-9888

Christmas Super Buys!



Microfiber Sofa NOW ONLY \$499



All Wood Curios STARTING AT \$299

FRIGIDAIRE Laundry Pair

Washer: Extra Large Capacity Wash Tub • 2 Agitate/Spin Speeds • 3 position water level adjustment
Dryer: 5.7 Cu. Ft. Super Capacity Drum • Balanced Dry System • Reversible Door



2 Leather Touch Recliners \$598 PAIR

FRIGIDAIRE Built-In Dishwasher

2 wash levels • Adjustable Rinse Aid Dispenser w/Indicator

BANNER

The Largest Furniture, Appliance & Floor Covering Store in Magic Valley
201 MAIN AVE. E., TWIN FALLS • 733-1421
0 Down • 0 Interest Charges • 6 months same as cash OAC

Store Hours:
Mon.-Fri. 9am-6pm
Sat. 9am-5:30pm

How do you know who's winning this?

While you're at this?

Get sports scores and news updates on the go. We make it easy with easyedge™.

Two months FREE easyedge™ access on select plans.
Application and coverage charges still apply.

U.S. Cellular
We connect with you.

MORNING BREAK

Sales parties are no fun for woman on a budget

DEAR ABBY: I would like to share my pet peeve with you. It's being invited to "sales parties" for kitchenware, beauty products, etc. I can't afford to spend money at these so-called parties because I have three children to feed.



DEAR ABBY: Jeanne Phillips

I would prefer not to disclose my financial situation to everyone who issues these invitations, which arrive sometimes on a weekly basis. I have tried to tell friends that I am busy that night, and they either find out that I really don't have plans or try to sign me up for a "outside order." I have shared with a few friends that I am on a strict budget, and they reply with "just come and don't buy anything."

That's not a workable solution, because the consultants see the word "no" as a challenge and won't take "no" for an answer. Also, it's intimidating to see everyone else plunk out their checkbooks. How can I get an invitation permanently so I can stop avoiding the mailbox?

—CANT AFFORD MY FRIENDS IN ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.
DEAR ABBY: Real friends don't subject friends to embarrassment or use them to get special deals—by promoting commercial products. Ignore the solicitations as you would any other, and don't feel guilty if you're not interested. Just say you weren't interested in buying—it's the truth.

DEAR ABBY: I recently attended several "sales parties" for 8-year-olds. One boy on the team, "Timmy," is so obese he can barely run. His mother screams at him from the sidelines, giving him directions every few minutes. Sometimes the poor child "runs" in the wrong direction and scores for the opposing team. I personally believe he suffers from attention deficit disorder. "Timmy" said to his mother, "I can't run"—and he can't. His large belly and huge thighs prevent him from running. One can see his frustration.

After the game, each player is given a paper sack of refreshments. One time, it was a chocolate cupcake, a bag of chips and a cold drink. At the end of the game, after the snacks, "Timmy" ran to his mother, who was crying. She was talking on her cell phone. She said, "Here's 50 cents—go buy a candy bar." My heart aches for this boy. What would you suggest?

—CONCERNED PARENT, BLOOMINGTON, IND.
DEAR CONCERNED: Since you can't change Timmy's mother, speak to the coach. That's the only person the boy should be listening to during a game. Perhaps the mother will take guidance from the coach regarding a healthy diet and exercise regimen for her son. Another thing you might do is volunteer to provide some healthy snacks for the players after the games, and organize the other team moms to do the same.

DEAR ABBY: My 14-year-old son was invited to a 14-year-old neighbor's birthday party. On the invitation it said, "Suggested gift—\$20." The boy's parents were woe that he put it on the invitation. I think it's inappropriate to ask for a specific gift, especially money. What is your opinion?

—OFFENDED IN MAJORISSETTS
DEAR OFFENDED: My opinion is the same as yours. The fact that the parents didn't put a stop to the gift "suggestion" shows they either endorsed it or didn't know any better. By allowing it, the parents did a disservice to their son.

The Times-News: Your guide to living in the Magic Valley

Soprano Renata Tebaldi dies at age 82

ROME (AP) — Renata Tebaldi, an Italian soprano renowned for her angelic voice, her stardom at New York's Metropolitan and Italy's La Scala and her media-fueled rivalry with Maria Callas, died Sunday at age 82.

The opera singer died at her home in San Marino, a tiny, independent republic in north-central Italy, after a long illness, said her doctor, Dr. Nikosa Simetovic.

Tebaldi was considered to have one of the most beautiful Italian voices of the 20th century, relying on rich, perfectly produced tones. The late conductor Arturo Toscanini once said she

had "the voice of an angel." "Tebaldi, because of her memory and your voice will be etched on my heart forever," noted Luciano Pavarotti said Sunday, quoted by the ANSA news agency.

La Scala music director Riccardo Muti praised Tebaldi as "one of the greatest performers with one of the most extraordinary voices in the field of opera."

At Venice's La Fenice theater, the audience observed a minute of silence in her memory.

Tebaldi, who was at her peak in the 1950s, was recalled for her renditions of Puccini and Verdi with a voice praised for its

purity of timbre and exceptional range of color and shadings. For years, opera fans delved details of what they perceived as a prima donna duel between Tebaldi and Callas, and La Scala devotees were divided into two camps: such as Milan's soccer fans are hotly split over the city's two soccer teams.

NEED HELP WITH NEED BOOKS?? Call Lisa at 737-0087 TRAINING, SETUP & SUPPORT

Crossword puzzle and horoscope on page A5. HOLIDAY CASH AAA Quick Cash 732-5626 No credit checks • Fast service

NOTICE TO AT&T CUSTOMERS IN IDAHO Effective December 30, 2004, AT&T will migrate from the Public Payphone... AT&T Residential customers: 1-800-222-0300 AT&T Business customers: 1-800-222-0400

REX YOU ALWAYS PAY LESS FREE 2-YEAR PARTS & LABOR WARRANTY \$500 OFF HD CAPABLE PLASMA TV'S \$200 OFF ALL OTHER PLASMA TV'S

You'll Save Plenty of Green When You See RED! Rex Announces The RED TAG SALE BRING IN THIS COUPON AND SAVE AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF SUNDAY 10AM-8PM • MON. & TUES. 9AM-10PM

Grid of product advertisements including Sharp AQUOS LCD TVs, Hitachi Plasma TVs, RCA 32" 16:9 Projection TV, Sony 51" 16:9 Wide Screen Projection TV, JVC 200-Watts Total Power CD Receiver, and various home appliances like Roper washers and dryers.

Idaho: Boise policeman shoots teen who brandished rifle with bayonet.
- Page B2

Assistant City Editor: Troy Pomeroy 735-3234

The Times-News

Monday, December 20, 2004

Section B

AROUND THE VALLEY

Youth nominated for academies

WASHINGTON, D.C. — U.S. Sen. Larry Craig has nominated three Magic Valley youth among the 33 nominated statewide for appointment to the nation's military service academies for the year 2005, according to a press release.

Burley High School students Preston Goodrich and Joseph Peterson were nominated for the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Jeremy Wisniewski, of Wendell's Liberty Christian Academy, was nominated for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.

Craig said he was impressed by the leadership record, academic credentials and strong character of the nominees and that it was an honor to nominate them, the release said.

Council postpones rezoning proposal

TWIN FALLS — The City Council meets today at 5 p.m. for its regular meeting.

At 4 p.m. beginning of the regular meeting on a proposed rezoning at the corner of Filer Avenue West and Wendell Street has been postponed until January.

The proposal, put forth by Jenego, was denied by the city Planning and Zoning Commission in October.

Fire department schedules tree burn

PAUL — The firemen of the West End Fire and Rescue District will hold their annual Christmas Tree Burn and Hot Dog Feed at noon Jan. 15 at the Paul City Park.

Anyone who wants to bring their tree to burn or just come for the food is welcome.

Irrigation district hearing continues

BURLEY — The Cassia County Commission will continue its hearing on the formation of the Goose Creek Irrigation District at 9 a.m. today during its regular meeting.

Other agenda items include reports from Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service officials at 11 a.m. and a discussion of hearing dates regarding a change to treasurer's fees.

The commissioner's meet in the basement of the county courthouse and the meeting is open to the public.

Officials will meet with legislators today

HEYBURN — Elected officials from both Bladock and Cassia counties are scheduled to meet with local legislators today beginning at 11:30 a.m.

The meeting will be held over lunch at Connor's Cafe near Interstate 84. Edit 208 and is open to the public.

Commissioners mull tax cancellation

RUPEIT — Minidoka County commissioners are scheduled to consider a property tax cancellation request during their regular meeting today.

Other agenda items include a discussion of a conflict public defender contract scheduled for 9:30 a.m. and commissioner reports.

The commission meets at the county courthouse beginning at 9 a.m. and the meeting is open to the public.

- compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season
Salmon	82%	26%
Big Wood	86%	28%
Little Wood	84%	26%
Big Lost	86%	27%
Little Lost	81%	27%
Henry's Fork/Teton	89%	28%
Upper Snake Basin	77%	25%
Oakley	117%	34%
Salmon Falls	104%	32%

*A comparison of basin snowpack, on Friday, with a 30-year average. **An indication of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in April.

REASON FOR THE SEASON



Jesse Torres stands in the yard of his Paul home, which he takes great care to decorate each year in an effort to remind people of what he considers the true miracle of Christmas.

Paul resident celebrates real meaning of Christmas

By Chip Thompson
The Times-News

PAUL — Three camels stand in the yard of a home on East Ellis St. in Paul, roughly a quarter mile east of the intersection with Idaho Highway 27 on the north side of the road.

The camels are silhouettes cut from plywood and painted, but to homeowner Jesse Torres they are real and they represent the arrival of three wise men who have come to honor the newly born Jesus.

Each of the last 10 years, Torres, 62, has invested time and money to create a display he hopes will snap people out of what he calls a frenzied holiday pace and remind them of the true meaning of Christmas.

"A lot of people are not really enjoying Christmas because of this consumerism," Torres said. "They get so wrapped up in the giving and receiving and they forget the coming of our Lord."

"You won't find a plastic Santa Claus, Froxy the Snowman or even a Christmas tree in the Torres house."

"I don't have any problem with people who have a Santa and a tree," Torres said. "But I'm

if you go

The display is set up at 405 E. Ellis St. in Paul, roughly a quarter mile east of the intersection with Idaho Highway 27 on the north side of the road.

trying to get everyone to go back and remember what it's really all about."

The display, which Torres says he sets up a little differently each year, has proven popular in the community, Torres said. He regularly sees cars slow down as they pass the house and many are back a few minutes later with cameras.

Thursday afternoon workers from Magic Valley Equipment shuffled around various pieces of heavy equipment in their storage yard next to Torres' home because they obscured the view of the display for passing motorists.

A native of Monterey, Mexico, Torres recalled that following church services on Christmas, he and the other children would line up to receive a small bag with a piece of fruit and maybe a few pecans. He said those

were the best gifts he could imagine.

"People say they hate Christmas because they want to give more and they can't afford to. I say, give them a hug," Torres said.

Torres said he knows people who borrow thousands of dollars during the holiday season to buy gifts and then struggle the rest of the year to pay back the loans. The power of tradition has become so strong that if a person doesn't get everything they want at Christmas they don't know how to handle it and the holiday is ruined, he said.

"You go to Wal-Mart and look in people's eyes, they're really not happy," Torres said. "If you don't get what you want that's OK."

In his youth, Torres said he and his family traveled throughout the southwest U.S. as migrant workers. No matter where the family was, they would always return to Monterey for Christmas.

"It was about family and being with grandma," he said. "Being in good health and having enough food to eat are what's important."

Torres moved to the U.S. in 1949 and served in the U.S.

Army during the Vietnam War. He moved to Paul in 1991 and works at Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert as a teacher's aide.

The display represents a great deal of work on Torres' part. The camels stand nearly 6 feet tall and each one was cut out with a hand saw before being decorated. Torres said he also has cutouts of cattle and sheep in his stable and signs with religious statements are placed around the home.

"The wind has blown the camels down twice already," Torres said, pointing to where he's installed a metal bracket between two trees to secure the plywood animals.

Despite the amount of work involved, it's unlikely Torres will stop decorating his home any time soon.

"You do it once a year and you do it to remember the birth of our savior," he said. "As long as I'm alive I will do it."

Times-News writer Chip Thompson can be reached at the newspaper's Mini-Cassia bureau at 677-0412, ext. 768, or by e-mail at ctompson@magicvalley.com.

Donor pledges \$10,000 to Hagerman library

By Sandra Wisecaver
Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — An anonymous donor has pledged \$10,000 for a new Hagerman library.

The unidentified Hagerman resident has pledged to match up to \$10,000 in local donations for the construction project and has secured it with a \$1,000 contribution. Half of that already has been matched.

A new facility is on librarian Wilma Butigan's wish list this year. A building fund was established in 2000 and has a balance of \$5,425.

Hagerman's 756-square-foot public library on State Street in downtown Hagerman was recently presented the first-ever Library of the Year award by the Idaho Library Association.

The library was recognized

because of how the community rallied to help after an April 2000 fire and Butigan's efforts to reach out to the community, especially children.

Inside the library a sign is posted with the legal capacity of 75 persons. Yet the book inventory numbers more than 9,100, along with audio tapes, music CDs and computers for patron use.

Hagerman Mayor Todd Bas-

sett said he'd like to schedule some type of fund-raiser for the library this spring.

Donations can be sent to the Hagerman Public Library, P.O. Box 330, Hagerman, ID 83332.

Inquiries can be made by calling Butigan at the library at 837-6520. The library is open from 1 to 4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturdays.

Forest Service looks for seasonal firefighters

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Applications will soon be available for people who are interested in fire fighting and other seasonal jobs with the USDA Forest Service.

Sawtooth National Forest will fill a number of firefighting positions for the upcoming fire season, recruiting coordinator

Heath Cota. The Sawtooth National Forest generally hires 130 seasonal employees each year. The number of new hires will vary, depending on how many of last year's seasonal employees will return this year.

To help people who are interested in learning more about how to apply for fire jobs, the

Sawtooth NF will conduct an "Introduction to Wildland Fire" course in cooperation with the College of Southern Idaho. The course will be held at CSI from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, from Jan. 18 to March 10.

"Thinking the class does not guarantee anyone a job," Cota said. "The course is designed to give students information and

training to make them more marketable for wildland fire jobs in a highly competitive job market."

For information, call Cota at 737-3320 or Ron Shoppell at 732-6268.

Information regarding applications and Sawtooth NF jobs is available at www.fs.fed.us/fs/sawtooth.

THIS WEEK AT CSI

Today
CSI Golden Eagle men's basketball vs. Mesa College, 7 p.m., Mesa, Ariz. (Broadcast live on KTFM-AM 1270.)

Tuesday
CSI Faculty Art Show, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, Jean B. King gallery (through Jan. 15), Herrett Family Night, 6 p.m.

(free "Mingle in the Jungle" and \$1 per person sky viewing in Centennial Observatory).

"The Christmas Star," 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium.

Idaho Native Plant Society monthly meeting, 7 p.m., Taylor 276.

Wednesday
CSI campus closes at 1 p.m. until 8 a.m. Jan. 3 for semester break.

Valley Theater Company presents "The People," 7 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium (\$6 admission), Sixx-Narcotics Anonymous meeting, 7 p.m., Desert 113.

Friday
Herrett Center for Arts and

Science closed all day. Narcotics Anonymous weekly meeting, 7 p.m., Desert 113.

Saturday
United Church of God weekly meeting, 10 a.m., Aspen 145.

Sunday
CSI baseball camp, all day, Eldon Evans Expo Center.

Serving their country

Profiles of servicemen and women with local ties deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan. Information supplied by their families.



Lucas Heidemann
• Age 21
• Hometown: Kimberly.
• Local Family: Ben and Connie Heidemann; and brothers, Greg and Curtis of Kimberly.
• Service, date of enlistment: U.S. Army, June 2001.
• Rank, Assignment: Sergeant, 82nd Airborne.
• Task: Provides security for upcoming elections.
• Additional information: Second deployment to Iraq, stationed in Baghdad.

To send a message to those serving in the military, go online to www.servicemembersonly.com and click on "Military Messages." To submit information and photos about local servicemen and women involved in Iraq and Afghanistan, please call Times-News clerk Jani White at 325-4278 or e-mail jwhite@magicvalley.com. Please include your own name and contact information.

Israel OKs release of 170 Palestinian prisoners

Jerusalem — Israel on Sunday approved the release of 170 Palestinian prisoners in a goodwill gesture to Egypt and encouragement to interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas in hopes for future negotiations.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon also neared agreement Sunday with the moderate Labor Party to expand his coalition government and ensure approval of next year's pullout from Gaza.

The developments added impetus toward ending four years of bloody Israeli-Palestinian violence and moving back to the negotiating table in the post-Yasser Arafat era.

The Palestinian prisoner decision followed Egypt's Dec. 5 release of Azzam Azzam, an Israeli Arab who served eight years in prison on an espionage charge in exchange for six Egyptians suspected of planning attacks on Israeli soldiers.

Sharon called the decision a "goodwill gesture" and spoke of "deep friendship" for Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Cuba prepares for potential U.S. attack

Havana — Cubans awoke to air raid sirens Sunday and practiced shooting, putting on gas masks and doing duck-and-cover drills as the communist nation wrapped up a week of defense exercises to prepare for any possible attack by the United States.

The activities, called the Strategic Bastion 2004 Exercise, were intended as an evaluation

World in brief

of how prepared Cuba is to face military attack during a second term by President Bush. State-run newspapers reported Sunday that the exercises were a success, and that Cuba's "capacity to resist and overcome an imperialist aggression" was demonstrated.

Since even before the United States launched its unilateral attack on Iraq last year, Cuba has insisted that a similar U.S. strike on their country is possible.

American authorities have repeatedly rejected that idea, saying there are no plans to attack Cuba.

Al-Qaida rallies fighters to strike oil infrastructure

CAIRO, Egypt — The Saudi branch of al-Qaida called for attacks against oil infrastructure in the Persian Gulf in a Web statement posted Sunday.

The statement came four days after al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden urged Islamic militants to stop Westerners from obtaining Middle Eastern oil, saying such a blow would be fatal to the West.

"Try your best to stop the biggest theft in history," bin Laden said in the Thursday tape, referring to the West's purchase of Arab oil.

Sunday's statement called on Muslims to "target the oil resources that do not serve the nation of Islam."

It was not possible to authenticate the statement, which was

signed by the group Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula. It was posted on an Islamic Web site known as a clearinghouse for al-Qaida statements.

The statement said the call came after "the infidels insisted on turning the land of Islam into a place where infidels and polytheists are free to roam everywhere."

Pinochet remains in hospital after stroke

SANTIAGO, Chile — Gen. Augusto Pinochet was conscious and mobile but remained hospitalized after suffering a stroke, the Army Hospital said Sunday, while the former dictator's family insisted that he's too ill to be tried on human rights charges.

The Court of Appeals was to decide Monday whether to uphold Pinochet's indictment and house arrest on human rights charges. He has been indicted for the kidnapping of nine people and killing of one during his 1973-90 regime.

Relatives and associates said the stroke shows that the 79-year-old former ruler is unfit to stand trial. Prosecution lawyers called his hospitalization "an old maneuver" to impress the court.

Pinochet fainted during breakfast Saturday and was rushed to the hospital, where doctors said he'd had a new stroke.

Turkmenistan officials lug ballot boxes door-to-door
ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan — Polling stations were nearly empty Sunday in elections for Turkmenistan's rubber-stamp parliament, forcing officials to carry ballot boxes door-to-door in this nation ruled by a former Soviet Communist boss who has been declared president-for-life.

The 131 candidates contesting Parliament's 50 seats all represent the Central Asian country's only party, the Democratic Party led by President Saparmurat Niyazov.

Niyazov reduced Parliament's role in 2003, stripping it of the right to make constitutional changes, and made the People's Council — a hand-picked assembly of more than 2,000 top officials and elders headed by himself — the country's highest legislative body.

— compiled from wire reports

carry ballot boxes door-to-door in this nation ruled by a former Soviet Communist boss who has been declared president-for-life. The 131 candidates contesting Parliament's 50 seats all represent the Central Asian country's only party, the Democratic Party led by President Saparmurat Niyazov.

At Rudy's... CHEESE!

Try something different for your Christmas celebration...
The Best Of 3 Continents.
 We've just received a huge shipment of cheeses and other exciting foods from around the world (and the USA!).

Rudy's A COOK'S PARADISE
 147 Main Ave. W. 733-5477
 Open Mon-Fri 9:00-7:00 • Sat 9:00-5:10

Accepting new patients:
Connie Wolcott, CNM
 Certified Nurse-Midwife

Connie is the nurse-midwife at Shoshone Family Medical Center. She specializes in women's health including prenatal care, delivery at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center and postpartum care.

886-2224 for appointments
FREE PREGNANCY TESTING

Shoshone Family Medical Center
 113 South Apple • Shoshone, ID

Historic Downtown Twin Falls
 100

Come See What's New!
SEIKO CLOCKS
Melodies in Motion
 Clocks that play music every hour, blinking lights and whirling dials. Volume control and a light sensor that quits everything at bedtime. Make time fly again...

Bennos FINE JEWELRY
 217 Main Ave., Twin Falls • 733-2453

For All Your Holiday Gifts and Services...
 Historic DOWNTOWN TWIN FALLS
 From All Of Us... Happy Holidays!

Reg. \$449.99
NOW \$299.99
 Complete

Music Center INC.
 Est. 1947
 221 Main Ave. E. Historic Downtown Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
 208-733-8609 800-972-5462

MO N gallery

Temporarily located at 148 N. Main, New Law, Historic Downtown Twin Falls, Open Tuesday-Friday 12 to 5 and Saturday 11 to 4 • (208) 734-ARTS

Professional Frame & Canyonside Gallery
 Don't trust your valuable artwork to a craft store clerk! We have over 30 years of experience and our prices are comparable or lower!

20% off All Framing Orders
 COUPON GOOD THRU DECEMBER 24, 2004

101 N. Idaho Ave. • Downtown Twin Falls, Idaho
RONALD E. HICKS CPF 132 MAIN AVE. SOUTH 733-3293

Treasures from the Past
ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES

Spode, Shelley, Roseville, Pfaltzgraff, Candlewick, Bossons and Dolls.

We buy quality antiques & collectibles. Bring us your treasures!
 227 Main Ave. E. Across the Street from the Downtown DE Evans
 Open 10:30 to 5:00 Mondays-Saturday

CROWLEY'S 30 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS

#9 PEPPERMINT FLOATS Reg. \$2.29 NOW \$1.50

#8 SPINACH SHRIMP SALAD w/ Garlic Bread Reg. \$6.99 NOW \$5.99

#7 FRAGRANCES CROWLEY CLASSICS
 SHALIMAR • CIARA • WHITE SHOULDERS
30% OFF WEEK!

JUST 3 OF THE REASONS TO SHOP FOR CHRISTMAS AT...
CROWLEY'S SODA FOUNTAIN & GENERAL STORE
 144 Main Ave. South • 733-1041

STOP IN GREAT GIFT GIVING IDEAS
 Plus Gift Certificates!
 New Heidi-Grace-Acrylic Embellishments!

Scrapbooking
 Just Arrived
 • Scenic Backgrounds
 • Glin-X • Studio Backgrounds
 • Rusty Pickle • New
 • Christmas Stickers
 • Embellishments
 • Christmas Brass Stencils

EMPHASIS ON YOUR CHRISTMAS CARDS

Tiffany Square
 132 Main North • Downtown Twin Falls • 736-7886
 TiffanySquare@hotmail.com

IMAGE

Great holiday gifts for pets

It seems Santa Claus is a busy elf! His elves have been busy this year making toys, treats, gifts and gifts that any dog or cat would love to have under the tree.

First and foremost, the practical.

• Need a humane, non-chemical deterrent to keep cats off the kitchen counter or around the Christmas tree? When a cat approaches a no-no zone, the S55AC electronic motion detector deters them with sound and air spray. Given an Editors' Choice Award by Cat Fancy Magazine, (http://www.s55acat.com)

• The Kryptaglow Nightglow collars and leashes by Co-leash will keep your pet safe on the streets. They glow in the dark and provide up to 12 hours of "shine" after minimal exposure to light. These collars and leashes are a fun way for your pet to stand out and stay out of harm's way. (http://www.co-leash.com)

• Here's a gift that will please the pet and the person! WalkyDog by WalkyDog USA allows bicyclists to take their dogs on a ride without worrying about holding a leash. Bikers focus on the road while dogs run safely alongside, comfortably connected to the bike by the shock-absorbing WalkyDog system. (http://www.walkydogusa.com)

• Miracle cure for hair loss was voted the best new pet product of 2004 at the American Pet Products Manufacturers Association (http://www.appmma.org)

• Spionless Paw keeps dirty paw prints out of your home and car. The sophisticated micro-fiber fabric on this glove attracts dirt like a magical magnet and is machine washable. (http://www.spionlesspaw.com)

• Big Mama's Scratch-O-Rama is an all-natural sisal-scratching mat to aid in grooming, while providing a catnip-filled ground time. Watch your kitties Zoom-n-Groom. Your furniture will thank you! (http://www.fatecainc.com)

• Give your cat a hands-free message and send it to sensory



THE BOND
Marty Becker

heaven with the CatSpa. For your cat's rubbing pleasure, this ingenious plastic platform features a variety of textures from low dimpled areas to plastic brushes that can be removed for easy cleaning. A hidden cache of catnip insures your cat's interest. (http://www.drforesford.com)

• Instant grooming solution: Holiday guests arriving and no time to wash the dog? Earthbath Between Bath Grooming Spray, to the rescue! Heavenly-scented with essential oils, these spritzes deodorize, condition and add luster to any dog's coat in seconds flat. Simply spray on and brush through. Available in seven fragrances. (http://www.earthbath.com)

• Lost kitties a problem? Also a Cat Fancy Editors' Choice Award winner, the LoCATOR Pet Tracking system features a lightweight transmitter that attaches to the cat's collar and sends out a signal that is picked up by a handheld receiver. Using the same technology biologists used to track wild animals and police used to recover stolen cars, the LoCATOR is great for finding lost cats outside or hiding cats inside. (http://www.thecatlocator.com)

• Like infants, pets can't tell you when they're feeling sick. The Pet-Temp Instant Ear Thermometer from Advanced Monitors makes it extremely easy to monitor your pet's health. In only one second, it measures your pet's core body temperature. (http://www.adm.com)

• Toys that decrease boredom and weight? Regardless of your pet's size, an interactive toy that involves both of you in play should top your list. The Blinky Ball by Pet Qwerks is a new interactive toy that has blinking

lights and grabs your pet's attention. Similar to a disco strobe light effect, the Blinky Ball has a battery activated bright light that flashes at the pet's touch. (http://www.petwerks.com)

• Like an NFL quarterback without straining your arm. Plus, its claw/cup lets you pick up slobber-slick tennis balls without bending over. (http://www.caninehardware.com)

• Planet Dog has unleashed several new fall waggings creatures such as the Holly Jolly Ring, a red and white whimsically shaped dog toy that is curiously durable, awkwardly bouncy, unsinkably buoyant and peppermint-scented like a candy cane. (http://www.planetdog.com)

• Combat Extreme Dog Toys from Bamboo are constructed of the most durable fabric for aggressive and persistent chewers and come in a variety of shapes from fetch to sniff toys. (http://www.bamboopet.com) • A feline version of the ultimate interactive toy is the Kitty Tease. This exercise and entertainment device will keep your cat bouncing around and frolicking, as you sit in your chair. Kitty Tease features a little piece of cloth that mimics a real bird or mouse at the end of a rod keeps felines engrossed and excited. Voted the top cat toy of their first 30 years by the editors of Cat Fancy magazine, Kitty Tease is the only toy all of my cats enjoy every time I bring it out. (http://www.kittytease.com)

• Customize your own patent leather dog or cat collar with rhinestone and matte silver slide-on letters or rhinestone pendant letters. My wife, Teresa, dolls her little dog. Outkute up with a shiny non-patent-leather collar and matching leash from Haute Diggity Dog and swears they watch the other dogs heads turn with jealousy. (http://www.hautediggitydog.com)

• Howling Pet's full line of

designer pet beds offer cats and dogs the ultimate in sleep comfort. What's more, the beds are designed with home decor in mind. From elegant sleigh beds to day beds and even Persian chaises, there's one for every dog and home style. The new Riviera Pudo Bed offers outdoor comfort for pets that enjoy lounging around in nature. (http://www.hawlingpet.com)

• Now, there's a gourmet gift basket specifically to pamper your pet. Spa Dog Botanicals offers "pet" pails filled with luxurious shampoos, lotions and other grooming products. The company has one geared for older pets and another for "welcome home puppy." (http://www.spadogbotanicals.com)

• You can't forget the taste buds this holiday season. Halo, Purely for Pets, offers a great stocking stuffer in Dinner Party. This is a delicious, 100 percent natural, USDA-approved, scanning dog pet food. Sprinkle it on and watch your dog chow down. The company makes a variety of natural pet food that is safe enough to be consumed by humans. (http://www.halopets.com)

• Your dogs and cats will absolutely go wild for delicious steak treats from Omaha Steaks, Cut from genuine round steaks, cut from genuine round steaks, cut from genuine round steaks, cut from genuine round steaks, cut from genuine round steaks. (http://www.omahasteaks.com)

• Santa Claus always has his hands full delivering the latest and greatest to kids, who sure look forward to the arrival. This year, our four-legged friends are no exception.

Former Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker is the author of the book "Chicken Soup For The Horse Lover's Soul" and a popular veterinary contributor for ABC's "Good Morning America." Write to him in care of Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, 750 National Press Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

Local lit

What's new and local in books in the Magic Valley this year.

Friday in WeekEnd

THE HEALTH FOOD PLACE

"Twin Falls Largest Health Food Store"

CLIP & SAVE COUPON

15% OFF
YOUR NEXT PURCHASE

Offer good thru December 24, 2004.

May not be used with any other discount.

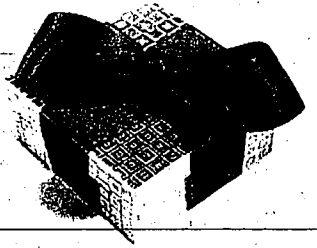
THE HEALTH FOOD PLACE

"Twin Falls Largest Health Food Store"

Centre Pointe Plaza • 1111 Burdette Blvd. N. • 733-1411
• M-F 9:30am-6:30pm • SAT 10am-5:30pm • SUN 12 noon-4pm

Give yourself a gift for the New Year.

Have your varicose and spider veins treated using minimally invasive techniques.



Translucent
VEIN CARE
Laser & Sclerotherapy
David A. Johnson, M.D. FACS
Board Certified Vascular Surgeon
734-9066
630 Addison Ave. W., Ste. 260, Twin Falls

ANNIVERSARY THE ROEMERS



Alex and Ruth Roemer

TWIN FALLS — Alex and Ruth Roemer celebrated their 75th wedding anniversary with a family dinner on Nov. 27. The event was hosted by their children.

Roemer and Ruth first were married Dec. 1, 1934.

They formed in the Paul area until he retired and where she was a homemaker. He served on the Idaho State Beet Commission for many years and was Paul County commissioner as well as Minidoka County commissioner for 12 years. They have both been active in Trinity Lutheran Church in Rupert, serving in many capacities.

They have lived in independent living at Bridgeway Estates in Twin Falls for the past three years.

They have four children, Jim (Doris) Roemer of Indianapolis, Ind., Don (Karen) Roemer of Whidbey Island, Wash., and Mesa, Ariz., Karen (Chuck) Langley of Twin Falls and Doris (Jerry) Mores of Ketchum.

The couple has 11 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Leftovers 101
They're not as dull as you think.
Wednesday in Food & Home

MVRMC offers CPR for babies

Infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Tuesday for the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls.

The program is offered as part of the prepared childbirth classes. New parents, grandparents and children are encouraged to attend to learn about infant CPR, choking, child safety and prevention of injury.

The class is free and pre-registration is not required. For more information, call 737-2900.

'Baby and Me'

St. Benedict's Family Medical Center will hold a "Baby and Me" Christmas Party from 10:30 to 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Health Education Center, 115 Fifth Ave. W., Jerome.

The "Baby and Me" program is for parents of children from infancy through toddler years. For more information, call 324-7262.

The Times-News: Your guide to Magic Valley

SENDING OUR VERY BEST TO YOUR VERY BEST!
Assorted chocolates or English toffee, dipped nuts, caramels, nuts & caramels, cordial cherries and caramel pecan squares
ORDER EARLY!
All Boxed Chocolates 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3 & 5 lb. boxes
Made Fresh In Our Shop Daily!
FREDERICKSON'S CANDIES
309 2nd St. E. • 733-7629
10am-5pm MON-SAT • CLOSED SUN

To do for you

Refresher course

Childbirth refresher course will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls.

The class is for those who have previously taken childbirth classes. Childbirth preparation and procedures will be reviewed, and will include a tour of the Women's and Infant Center.

Cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required, call 737-2900.

To do for you is a calendar listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Image section. Mail notices to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 16, Twin Falls, ID 83403, or deliver to our office at 124 Fairfield St. W.

Rincinol P.R.N.
SOOTHING ORAL RINSE
Rinse Away CANCER SORE Pain.
• Fast Cancer Sore Relief
• Promotes Healing
• Great for Mouth Sores & Other Irritations
• No Numbing
• No Singing
Lasts Up To 6 Hours!
If we haven't got it... You probably don't need it.
Since 1938
Sav-Mor Drug
123 W. Main St. • 733-8322
DOWNTOWN TWIN FALLS

Barry

Continued from C1

wildly at its leash, still entranced by the light stand. Clearly the dog had detected some hostile intent in this particular light stand, something that we humans, with our inferior senses, were not aware of. We humans were thinking "What's wrong with that dog?" Whereas the light stand was thinking "Where? That was closer!" These are just a couple of examples of the practical benefits provided by dogs. There are many more, and I have tried pointing them out to my wife, but she doesn't see it. This is why, in our house, we have fish. They're nice fish, but they're not a whole lot of fun. Although they are excellent drivers.

Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him at The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla. 33132.

Many New Books!!!
GIFTS WORTH GIVING!
Lowest Prices & Largest Selection
Book Plaza-Burley
For Christmas Giving

RANDALL SLICKERS MD
General Family Medicine
1235 Filer Avenue East
Lynwood Shopping Plaza
Twin Falls
Health Care for Children & Adults
734-3226
Accepting New Patients
Same Day and Evening
Appointments Available

IMAGE

EPOC: Feeling the after-burn

By John Briley
The Washington Post



After I strode from the gym the other night and headed directly to yet another holiday party, I dove into the bonbons, refreshments and eggnog with confidence. Not only had I obliterated 500 calories on the treadmill but I knew—they, I read it on the Internet—that my body was continuing to burn calories at a higher-than-normal rate even after my workout. But waddling home afterward, I wondered about the extent of that so-called after-burn, formally known as excess post-exercise oxygen consumption (EPOC).

"The magnitude of the effect is exaggerated," said Cedric Bryant, chief exercise physiologist for the American Council on Exercise. Bryant, who holds a PhD in physiology, has reviewed numerous studies on EPOC and concludes that after-burn—which can last from two to 16 hours after a workout, depending on exercise intensity—amounts to about 10 to 15 calories for every 100 calories burned during the actual exercise.

"If you go the gym and burn 300 calories, your after-burn will be around 45 calories. That's one bite of a Snickers bar," Bryant said. (Duch, at least he didn't say bonbon.) "People should not look at this as a license to eat and drink all day thinking that their earlier workout is melting calories away."

After-burn, however minus-

cule, is at least real. Conrad Earnest, director of the Center for Human Performance and Nutrition Research at the Cooper Institute in Dallas, explains that during exercise, especially at higher intensities, "your muscles require more energy than can be obtained from oxygen alone during elevated exertion. In essence, they create an oxygen deficit."

"When you finish exercising, areas of the body that are in oxygen deficit work to recover what they loaned to the muscles; the body works to restore hormone balance and to cool down. All of that requires oxygen, and EPOC occurs until the body restores resting-state balance."

Both experts agree that, for typical exercisers, how you burn the calories—running, weight lifting, rebounding—does not significantly affect after-burn. However, key studies have

shown an elevated EPOC effect for people who lifted very heavy weights: 90-minute sessions of lifting to failure, compared with lighter lifting or mid-intensity cardio work.

But, Earnest notes, such heavy lifting "is not what the average soccer mom is doing in the gym"—nor what she's likely to do to justify that extra bite of a candy bar.

Intensity does affect after-burn, but not to the extent some Web sites claim. An oft-cited 1997 study published in the Journal of Applied Physiology showed higher after-burn for people running at 70 percent of maximum oxygen consumption, spiked with even higher-exertion intervals, than for people exercising steadily at 40 percent of their max. But, the study's authors cautioned, "the major contribution of both (study groups) to weight loss is

After vigorous exercise, your body continues to burn calories at an elevated rate. But we're talking dozens of calories, not hundreds.

via the energy expended during the actual exercise," not the after-burn.

Fad

Continued from C1

through the Lance Armstrong foundation—with most of the money going for every 100 research. Embellished with the mantra of the cancer survivor and six-time Tour de France winner, they were the fashionable accessory of the summer.

But now yellow has given way to the virtual rainbows that adorn the wrists of many women—with a color for just about every cause. What bumper stickers are to the back of a car, these bracelets are to the human wrist.

There's a pink "Sharing the Promise" band for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. There's the hotter-pink Melissa Etheridge "Be Strong MFL" bracelet, also for breast cancer. Lots of pink ones for breast cancer. There's the lime green to fight medical malpractice, royal blue to encourage bone marrow donations, cornflower blue for colorectal cancer. College groups, high school sports teams and elementary schools have all ordered batches of them.

Kids are trading them with friends, mothers are stuffing them into birthday goodie bags, private school kids are breaking the rules to wear them. ("We can only have one at a time, but a lot of kids hide them under their sweaters," said Natalie Abrams, 10, who goes to the McLean School in Virginia and wears eight when she can get away with it.)

"It's crazy how this has taken off—everybody's got one for whatever they're peddling," said Joel Spivack, a spokesman for the Campaign for Tobacco-

Free Kids. (That group sells a red bracelet imprinted with "1200," the number of Americans who die every day from tobacco use or second-hand smoke exposure.)

"I have four. I keep mine on all the time, when I sleep and take a shower. And it's not just for fashion either," said Paige Keller, 10, of Rockville, who knows a kid in the neighborhood diagnosed with autism. One of her four bracelets is stamped with "Embrace, Engage, Enable, Expand, Express" the motto adopted by a group advocating autism education and research.

"Kids are not the only ones buying them. My wife is a cancer survivor," said Robert Footer, a Potomac, Md., physician who waited patiently behind the tweeneragers at On Cloud 9. He paid for his two pink wristbands with a hundred dollar bill.

While forking over a couple of dollars for a bracelet is easy, figuring out if those dollars are going to scanners or legitimate charities can be tough. The Internet is awash with bands sporting motives similar to Armstrong's: "Live Long," "Stand Strong." And what's not to like about the words printed on the rainbow-colored bands on sale at many 7-Elevens: "Courage,"

"Strength," "Believe?" The package says "Show your support," but—doesn't—specify what that support is for. It's no surprise that the "LiveStrong" bracelets, \$1 apiece, spawned copycats, considering the star power they have attracted. And it's no surprise that the colorful wrists flashing Armstrong's benevolent bling: Tom Hanks, Matt Damon, Armstrong's girlfriend Sheryl Crow, Robin Williams, Lindsay Lohan, Angelina Jolie, Derek Jeter, Halliwell Lauren, Washington Mayor Tony Williams, Sen. John Kerry and President Bush. Jay Leno not only wore one, but also gave them to audience members for a while.

Since ordering from the official "LiveStrong" Web site means at least a three-week wait, a slew of resale brokers have stepped in to offer faster deals on the Internet. A quick check on eBay shows almost 10,000 auctioneers selling them at a sometimes hefty markup—with a note—the extra money benefiting Armstrong's group or other legitimate groups.

"Just be patient and buy them from us, instead of lining the pockets of profiteers," said Michelle Milford, spokeswoman for the foundation, which has persuaded eBay to take down some of the most egregious auctions.

Day of giving
Maybe it means more than presents.
Saturday in Religion

The Natural Way Health Store
Over 29 Years Professional Experience, Quality Products & Personalized Service
A TWIN LAB RETAILER
Holiday Season Sale!
20% DISCOUNT
ALL MERCHANDISE
November 29th - December 31st
Downtown Twin Falls
• 117 Gooding Street West
• 733-7735

QUESTIONS? WE CAN HELP!

ASK The Expert



Debbie Clough
High Desert Tile Floor to Ceiling
Tile, Natural Stone & Fabrication Expert



William E. Baxter, CPA
Sevens Pierce & Associates
Estate Planning & Elder Care Expert



Ann Bybee, RN
St. Benedicts
Medical: Diabetes/General Wellness

Your Local "How To" Guide!
magicvalley.com

Log on to www.magicvalley.com
Click on Ask the Expert
Submit your question online and a local expert will answer it for you with ease and speed!
www.magicvalley.com
Questions answered by local experts
Get the information you need NOW!



Originally I had only thought about sending out flyers. However, due to my new location in Centre Pointe Plaza people didn't know I had reopened. Since I've run an ad in the Times-News, my sales have been phenomenal. Thank you Times-News.
- Esther C. Loman - Owner
Brown Magnolia

Advertising Will Increase Sales

By running ads in the Times-News, you will create awareness, and sales will increase. Let us run one for you. Call today!

The Brown Magnolia
Invites the Public to View Beautiful Antiques

European Truck
Great to make any Enterprise more visible 400-900-0000

European Truck
Business opportunity with starter top

European Truck
Great for the job 1000's more

See us at our new location
1111 Blue Lakes Blvd. & 1st St. E.
Come in for more information
Hours: Mon-Sat: 10 - 6:30 • 735-1150

For Advertising Information Call 733-0931



2" Faux Blinds
Enjoy the look for 1/2 the price!
18 designer colors & shades.
All sizes have equal discounts.
STARTING AS LOW AS... **\$34.00** EA
Sale Ends 12-04-2004
MAGIC BLIND CLEANING
Bring You The Ultrasonic Process™
310 2nd Ave. East • Twin Falls • 733-0674

Elder Law Forum
Straight Talk on Elder Law and Estate Planning
Doris L. Barker
Junk L. Lawlor

FAR-FLUNG INTERESTS!
QUESTION: My uncle left me interests in Kansas and Texas oil and gas wells. What's the best way to evaluate these interests and simplify estate settlement at my death?
Forming a revocable living trust to hold title to these assets is a good solution—it is easy to implement and will simplify title transfer at your death.
Oil and gas interests, like condominiums and cooperative apartments, are interests in real estate and require a probate proceeding in the individual states where they are located to transfer title at your death. While Idaho probate is generally a simple process, it can get complicated and time-consuming for survivors of an Idaho resident who owned interests in land in other states.
The trust can be set up to hold only these out-of-state real property interests, leaving the rest of your property in your name and governed by your will or account beneficiary provisions.
You can name yourself the trustee and a family member as the successor trustee to transfer title at your death in accordance with trust terms.

Voornes LawMure LLP
Key Bank Building - 2nd Floor • 208.736.6000
Certified Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation
Certified Estate Planning Law Specialist by the Estate Law Specialist Board, Inc.

Invest in your future
Read the Money pages in The Times-News

POOL TABLE SALE!
Over 50 tables to choose from!
In-stock & ready for pro-Christmas delivery!
FREE installation!
Plus, make no payments, pay no interest for 12 months OAC.
Fun for the whole family at...
Snake River POOL & SPA
We deliver to you... 1014-1015-0000
940 Blue Lakes Blvd., Ste. 234-3183
(208) 889-7727
1-block N. of Fall's Ave.

The latest from the area basketball teams.

More NFLD2
College hoopsD3
ComicsD4

Sports Editor: Joe Paisley, 735-3239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

The Times-News

Monday, December 20, 2004

Section D

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I don't accept losing. I have no time for it. I think it might be one of the most stupid things in the world to do.

Illinois women's basketball coach Theresa Grentz, who has more than 620 career wins

TRIVIA QUESTION:

Who was the last defensive player to win the Heisman Trophy?

...answer below.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- HS Boys Basketball: Oakley at Valley, 6 p.m.
Rickland at Richfield, 6 p.m.
Shoshone at Camas, 4:30 p.m.
HS Girls Basketball: Murnigh at Castleford, 6 p.m.
Shoshone at Camas County, 6 p.m.
Lighthouse-Christian at Hansen, 7:30 p.m.
College Basketball: CSI men at Mesa College, 7 p.m.

IN BRIEF

CSI offers Junior Eagles camp

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team will host the Junior Eagles Basketball Camp on Wednesday, Dec. 29 and Thursday, Dec. 30 at CSI Gymnasium.

AAU hoops tourney deadline is Jan. 4

JEROME - The Jerome Recreation District is co-sponsoring a seventh grade and under basketball tournament on Saturday, Jan. 8.

Jerome Rec needs youth hoops coaches

JEROME - The Jerome Recreation District is in need of coaches for all levels for its youth basketball program, which begins in January.

CSI booster luncheon set for noon today

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho booster club luncheon will be held at noon Monday in the Taylor Administration Building's Room 277 on campus.

Fans and boosters are welcome to attend. Coaches will be on hand to discuss their teams. Athletes will be on hand as well.

Fans and boosters can go through the food line in the cafeteria, buy their food and bring it to Room 277.

Compiled from staff reports
TRIVIA ANSWER: Michigan cornerback Charles Woodson, whose prowess as a kick returner and receiver also helped earn him the award in 1997.

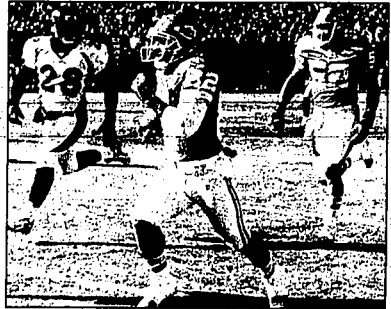
Chiefs humble faltering Broncos

The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - The Kansas City Chiefs looked like a playoff contender while the Denver Broncos stumbled around like a team just hoping to get to .500.

four games knocked them at least temporarily out of a tie with Baltimore for the second wild-card spot. Baltimore played later Sunday night.

bounds, making it a touchback and giving Kansas City possession on the 20.



Kansas City Chiefs kick returner Dante Hall (82) is trailed by Denver Broncos safety Kenoy Kennedy (28) and Chiefs linebacker Quinton Caver (52) as he returns the opening kickoff 97 yards for a touchdown in Sunday's win at Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, Mo.

Not so fast

Ravens defense delays Peyton's bid for TD record

The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS - Peyton Manning couldn't get a record-setting touchdown pass against Baltimore's rugged defense.

Manning led two second-half touchdown drives, pulling within one of Dan Marino's record for touchdown passes in a season.

Manning has 47 TD passes; Marino had 48 in the 1984.

The fans even booed when Manning knelt down twice in the final minute at the Baltimore 4, running out the clock with a chance to tie the record.

Before the game, city officials agreed to build a new retractable roof stadium that would keep the team in Indianapolis for 30 more years.

The Ravens snuffed out that celebration by using extra defensive backs and shifts to confuse Manning and control the clock when Baltimore had the ball.

Manning fell short of Marino's record for the second straight week, but extended his own NFL record of consecutive 4,000-yard seasons to six.

Baltimore's playoff hopes took a hit. The Ravens (8-9) are now tied with Buffalo, Jacksonville and Denver for the final wild-card spot in the AFC race.



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning throws a pass against the Baltimore Ravens Sunday night in the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

first-half field goals to give Indianapolis a 6-3 lead in its second-lowest scoring opening half of the season.

turning inside. That gave the Colts a 13-3 lead.

Indianapolis sealed the win when Gary Brackett picked off Bolter's pass and ran it 71 yards to the Baltimore 4, giving Manning one more chance to tie the record.

Jazz road woes continue

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Not since Michael Jordan broke Bryon Russell's ankles in the 1998 NBA Finals has a member of the Utah Jazz been so thoroughly faked out by a crossover dribble.

OK, perhaps that's a stretch. But Jamal Crawford's move on Raja Bell was pretty sweet nonetheless.

Crawford scored 11 of his 24 points in the final five minutes, including a rare four-point play and a crossover move that led to his basket in New York's 94-93 victory over Utah on Sunday.

"I was kind of saving that one," said Crawford, who had noticed throughout the game that Bell kept expecting him to drive left. "He thought I was going left, and I thought I was going right."



New York's Stephen Marbury (3) gets puled by Utah Jazz' Raul Lopez (24) as Raja Bell (19) looks on Sunday Madison Square Garden.

beating Bell made it 90-86 with 27 seconds left, and Stephen Marbury's two free throws with 6.4 remaining gave New York a four-point lead. Marbury had 19 points and 12 assists.

The Knicks' 29 rebounds as New York won at home over the Jazz for the first time in more than eight years.

FIFA rejects female soccer player signing

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY - World soccer's governing body rejected Dominguez's signing as a professional men's team in Mexico.

"There must be a clear separation between men's and women's football," FIFA said from its Swiss headquarters Sunday.

Maribel Dominguez signed a two-year deal Wednesday with the second-division club Celaya, which deferred to FIFA on whether a woman could play in the league.

"This is laid down in league football and in international matches by the existence of gender-specific competitions and the laws of the game, and

FIFA's regulations do not provide for any exceptions," the committee said in a statement.

Dominguez scored 45 goals in 46 games for the Mexican women's national team.

The 5-foot-4 Dominguez would have been outweighed by 65 pounds by some players in the First Division A, Mexico's second division.

"After the signing, the decision was met by approval as well as concern. Former men's national team coach Manuel Lapunete recalled what his father had told him: 'You don't touch a woman even with a rose petal... imagine how far you would have to go to get a woman and have to slide in her. Well, what am I going to do?'"

ON FOOTBALL

Dave Goldberg

They were 4-12 last year and looked to be little better in 2001. A forecast that was reinforced when they lost two of their first three games.

Still, given their sorry history over the last decade, they acted more like high school kids who just won the big game than seasoned pros to whom winning is second division.

Several players were wearing AFC division title patches in the locker room to celebrate their first crown since 1994 and first playoff berth since '95.

Couch Marty Schottenheimer who does have a lot of playoff seasoning, was asked what made his team special and replied "probably the character."

But it might have been something much more elemental in

Please see CHARGERS, Page D2

Chargers prove they're for real

CLEVELAND - When the San Diego Chargers were forced to practice in the rain last month, they were unhappy.

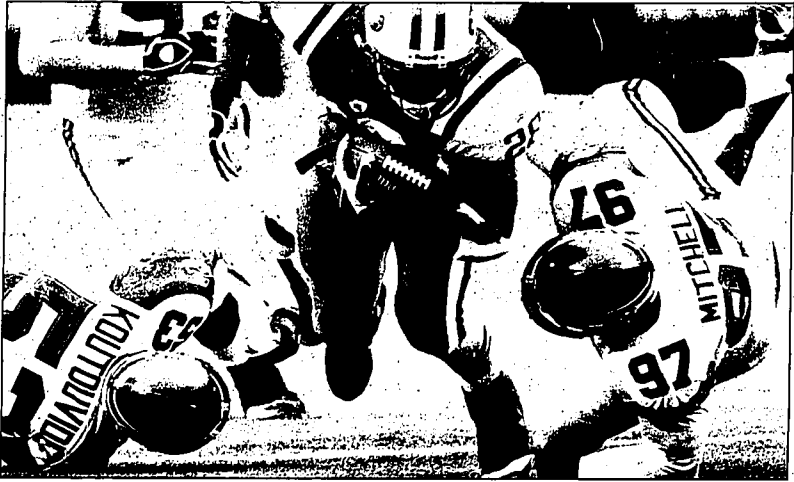
"They feel the same way about clinching the AFC West title in the cold and snow of Cleveland."

"That rain turned out to be a blessing. Maybe this will be the same," said Drew Bates, who needed to pass only six times in the 21-0 win over the Browns.

That the Chargers are up there with the Patriots and Steelers is remarkable in itself.

SPORTS

Seahawks stumble in NFC West chase



New York Jets running back Curtis Martin cuts between Seattle Seahawks linebacker Niko Koutouvides, left, and defensive end Brandon Mitchell as he gains six yards during the fourth quarter Sunday at Glants Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J. Martin rushed for 134 yards and two touchdowns as the Jets beat the Seahawks, 37-14.

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) - Chad Pennington threw three touchdown passes and Curtis Martin had 134 yards and two touchdown runs, helping New York keep its lead in the AFC wild-card standings.

The Seahawks (7-7) had another disappointing day in their bid to stay atop the NFC West, with three turnovers the Jets (10-4) converted into 14 points in a 37-14 win.

Quarterback Matt Hasselbeck injured his right elbow later in the quarter, and Trent Dilfer came on in relief.

The Seahawks also were on the losing end of another call of officials, appeared to blow Martin scored on a 3-yard run in the second quarter even though replays showed he never reached the goal line. Coach Mike Holmgren challenged the call, but referee Scott Green determined the TD should stand.

The jets had their highest output since a 41-14 win over Miami on Nov. 1, and second highest of the season. They never punted.

Chargers 21, Browns 0

CLEVELAND - The San Diego Chargers have turned it all the way around.

Talibanian Tomlinson rushed for 111 yards and two touchdowns, Antonio Gates tied a record with his 12th TD of the season and San Diego captured the AFC West title on Sunday, sliding through the snow for a 21-0 win over the Cleveland Browns.

One season after they were a 10-5 season in '03, the Chargers (11-4) won their eighth straight and earned their first postseason berth since 1995. They're also division champions for the first time since 1994, clinching the top spot when Denver lost 45-17 in Kansas City.

San Diego, which has its longest winning streak since 1987, ignored the blowing snow, a game-time temperature of 18 and a subzero wind chill to post their first shut out since 1993 and easily handle the Browns (3-11), who lost their eighth straight.

Tomlinson scored on a pair of 1-yard runs, his 15th and 16th.

TDs this season, and Gates tied a league single-season record for TD catches by a tight end with a 72-yarder in the second quarter.

The shutout was the Chargers' first since Nov. 25, 1993, a 31-0 win over Indianapolis.

Eagles 12, Cowboys 7

PHILADELPHIA - Dorsy Levens' 2-yard touchdown run with 1:57 left helped Philadelphia clinch home-field advantage throughout the playoffs.

But the win was costly for Philadelphia, which lost star wide receiver Terrell Owens to an ankle injury. Owens didn't return after spraining his right ankle early in the third quarter.

Philadelphia plays its first playoff game on Jan. 15 or 16.

The Eagles (13-1) set a franchise record for regular-season victories. Donovan McNabb threw for 223 yards and one TD, but was intercepted twice.

Many testverde also was intercepted twice, including a pick by Lito Sheppard on Dallas' final drive. Keyshawn Johnson had a TD catch for Dallas (5-9).

Vikings 28, Lions 27

DETROIT - Detroit botched an extra-point kick with 8 seconds left that would've tied the game, allowing Minnesota to hang on for a much-needed victory.

The Lions went 80 yards in 1:25 to punt within a point on Roy Harington's second touchdown pass to Troy Williams. Then, Don Muhlbach's snap bounced to holder Nick Harris, who was tackled before he could get the football spotted

for kicker Jason Hanson. Despite losing five of their previous seven games, Minnesota (8-6) can win the NFC North with a victory Friday at home over Green Bay and at Washington.

Bills 33, Bengals 17

CINCINNATI - Takeo Spikes returned an interception 62 yards for a pivotal touchdown against his former team, and Buffalo turned in another dominating defensive performance.

Buffalo (8-6) bolstered its playoff chances with a solid all-around game. Jason Peters blocked a punt and recovered in the end zone for a score, and the defense turned Jon Kinia's latest comeback into a bad flashback.

Kina, filling in for the injured Carson Palmer, threw two interceptions and fumbled a snap,

dooming the Bengals (6-8) to their 14th consecutive season without a winning record - one of the longest streaks of futility in NFL history.

Texans 24, Bears 5

CHICAGO - Houston allowed the fewest points in its three-year history and got four turnovers to beat the bumbling Bears.

With the temperature 9 degrees at kickoff and the wind chill 10 below zero, it was the Texans (6-8) who handled Soldier Field's frigid conditions better than the Bears.

Cardinals 31, Rams 7

TEMPE, Ariz. - Josh McCown threw for two touchdowns and ran for two more and the Cardinals snapped a four-game losing streak. McCown, starting

his second game since being benched for three, went 22-of-31 for 287 yards. He had TD passes of 8 and 4 yards to Larry Fitzgerald, and scoring runs of 1 and 9 yards.

The Rams fell to 6-8, just one game ahead of the Cardinals (5-9), who are still alive in the division race.

Raiders 40, Titans 35

OAKLAND, Calif. - Kerry Collins threw for 371 yards and connected his career high with five touchdown passes, hitting Jerry Porter for three scores, and outdueling Billy Volek.

Volek had the second-best passing day in franchise history with 492 yards and four touchdowns. But it wasn't enough to keep Tennessee (4-10) from losing its fourth straight game.

Jaguars 28, Packers 25

GREEN BAY, Wis. - Byron Leftwich threw two touchdown passes. Fred Taylor rushed for 165 yards and a touchdown and Rashawn Mathis picked off Brett Favre twice, helping the Jaguars stay in the thick of the AFC play-off race.

Jimmy Smith caught two touchdowns for Jacksonville (8-6).

Favre turned over the ball four times and fell to 31-4 at home after Dec. 1, losing for just the second time in 40 cold-weather games at home. The Packers fell into a tie with Minnesota atop the NFC North. They travel to Minnesota for a Christmas Eve matinee that will likely decide the division.

Saints 21, Buccaneers 17

TAMPA, Fla. - Aaron Brooks threw two touchdown passes in the last four minutes, including a 7-yarder to Donte Stallworth with 32 seconds left, to keep alive the Saints' playoff hopes.

The victory lifted the Saints (6-8) into a tie with Carolina and St. Louis for the last wild-card spot in the weak NFC.

Broncos

Continued from D1 capped a 10-play, 99-yard drive that included Denver penalties against Bailey for illegal use of hands and AJ Wilson for roughing the passer.

Rookie Samie Parker got behind the Denver defense for a 40-yard catch-and-run in the third period that put Kansas City on top 35-10. He took Hill just 13 seconds to put the Chiefs

Chargers

Continued from D1 the NFL today: Philip Rivers' holdout.

"I'd like to think the same thing would have happened if I'd been playing," Rivers said Sunday, standing alone and almost ignored in the middle of the Chargers' locker room shortly after an exuberant Brees finished talking in an interview room.

Despite Ben Roethlisberger's success in Pittsburgh, it's highly unlikely that Rivers could have done the same. Maybe he would have struggled as Manning has in New York. But he certainly wouldn't have been

on top. Taking the opening kickoff on the 3, he went right, cut left and found a clear path down the left side, going the distance virtually untroubled for his second kickoff return TD of the year.

Plummer threw the ball right to Dexter McCleon in the second period and the Chiefs returned it 22 yards to the 27.

Six plays later Kennison beat

Bailey in the end zone for a 7-yard TD catch and a 21-7 lead.

Johnson made it 28-7 when he appeared to catch the Denver secondary out of position and went through a big hole up the middle for his 32-yard TD.

Plummer hit Rod Smith on a 22-yard TD pass in the first quarter and Jason Elam's 27-yard field goal cut the lead to 28-7 with 11 seconds left in the half.

It was minus-10. It won't be anywhere near that when the Chargers open the playoffs in San Diego.

But the second game almost surely will be in Foxboro, Mass., or Pittsburgh, where it could be that cold or colder.

"It was all about the weather," said Schottenheimer, who coached in Cleveland and Kansas City.

"I have a little bit of experience at it. You have to manage the game. Not losing the ball is often more important than making a first down."

Sunday's experience may serve the Chargers well in a month or so.

TWIN STOP Business Center
At 688 Pole Line Road, Twin Falls

Hurry, time is running out!
Let us help with your Christmas gift wrapping and shipping!

- UPS FedEx DHL USPS
- Copies Faxes
- Wireless Internet Connection Available
- Custom Foam In-Place Packaging Available for Fragile Items
- Utility payments
- Christmas Wrapping
- Idaho Power & Qwest Payments
- Greeting Cards
- Scrapbook Supplies & More!

TWIN STOP Business Center
688 Pole Line Road, Twin Falls

Make Sure Your Vehicles Are Safe For Holiday Travel!

ALL TUNE LUBE Grand Opening!

FREE Oil Change, Lube & Filter

Wash, Wax & Tire Shine
Twin Falls • 2196 W. Addison Ave (1/4 mile past the hospital)
734-LUBE

Hours: Mon-Sat, 8am-5pm

Quality Oil Change

From **\$12.93*** Most vehicles

Includes:
• Change oil (up to 5 qts.) & replace filter
• Lubricate chassis
• Free vehicle maintenance inspection
• Waste disposal fee & some filters add'l

*Most vehicles with this coupon. Offer expires 1/7/05 TN

Maintenance Tune-up

From **\$39.93*** 4-cyl & Best

Includes:
• Check fuel & emission systems
• Install new Bosch spark plugs
• Inspect filters, belts & hoses
• Other engine performance parts add'l
• Platinum spark plugs add'l

*Most vehicles with this coupon. Offer expires 1/7/05 TN

Radiator Service

From **\$24.93*** Most vehicles

Helps protect engine and coolant system from rust:
• Drain radiator, replace with new anti-freeze (up to 1 gal., extended life anti-freeze add'l)
• Check Radiator & hoses, belts and pulleys,
• pressure test system for leaks

*Radiator Flush Available Starting At \$59.93

*Most vehicles with this coupon. Offer expires 1/7/05 TN
• Multi-grades higher "Star" ign. & add'l parts are extra. Some vans, pick-ups, transverse & hard-to-tune engines add'l
• FWD & some metallic brakes are higher; service may require add'l parts & labor at an extra charge. Environmental fee may apply.

30/60/90,000 Mile Scheduled Maintenance

From **\$179.93*** 4-cyl & Best, Higher

Includes:
• Maintenance tune-up
• New PCV filter, oil filter & spark plugs
• Lube, oil & filter
• Cooling system service w/ new anti-freeze (up to 1 gal.)
• Transmission service (filter additional)
• Clean & adjust brakes
• Rotate & inspect tires
• Inspect wiper blades

*Most vehicles with this coupon. Offer expires 1/7/05 TN

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

ALL-TIME EASTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Lists teams like New York, Boston, Detroit, etc.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct. Lists teams like San Antonio, Dallas, Houston, etc.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV events: Princeton at Temple, Patriots at Dolphins, etc.

Area ski report

Briggs Basin - Saw 4-53 in 20-30... 21.4-28.5 in 5-12 hrs... 100% open...

Packers reach playoffs, make NFL history

GREEN BAY, Wis. - The Green Bay Packers clinched a playoff spot Sunday...

Canada's Grand ends - 12-year wait for first win

ALTA BADA, Italy - The night before Christmas Grandi finished with a 1-0 victory...

Oregon State downs Boise State men

BOISE - Chris Stephens scored 21 points and Nick Dewitz added 17 points to lead Oregon State past Boise State...

NBA SCORES

Table with columns: Game, Final Score. Lists games like Boston at Cleveland, etc.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns: Game, Final Score. Lists games like Pittsburgh at Cleveland, etc.

Johnston splits decision over Tarver

LAS ANGELES - Glen Johnson knows what it's like to put his fate in the hands of boxing judges...

Utah State wins BYU men by 20 on road

PROVO, Utah - Spencer Nelson scored 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead Utah State past Brigham Young...

Idaho State men take third in Reno tournament

RENO, Nev. - Silm Millien scored 17 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Idaho State Bengals...

No. 22 Gonzaga pulls off big upset over Ga. Tech

LAS VEGAS - Adam Morrison scored 24 points to lift No. 22 Gonzaga to a 65-57 victory over Georgia Tech...

NEWSPAPER

Table with columns: Team, Score. Lists games like San Antonio at Dallas, etc.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns: Team, Score. Lists games like Pittsburgh at Cleveland, etc.

Richfield knocks off Mackay boys

MACKAY - Mackay overcame Tarver's 4-inch height advantage to win, mainly by the aggressive play of most of the 12 rebound boys...

Locked-out NHLers lose again in Sweden

LINKÖPING - Sweden's Boston Bruins forward Mike Knuble had one goal and two assists to lead Swedish Elite League club Linköping past the visiting Toronto Maple Leafs...

Utah State wins BYU men by 20 on road

PROVO, Utah - Spencer Nelson scored 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead Utah State past Brigham Young...

Idaho State men take third in Reno tournament

RENO, Nev. - Silm Millien scored 17 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Idaho State Bengals...

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Table with columns: Game, Final Score. Lists games like Pittsburgh at Cleveland, etc.

AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Table with columns: Game, Final Score. Lists games like Pittsburgh at Cleveland, etc.

Richfield knocks off Mackay boys

MACKAY - Mackay overcame Tarver's 4-inch height advantage to win, mainly by the aggressive play of most of the 12 rebound boys...

Locked-out NHLers lose again in Sweden

LINKÖPING - Sweden's Boston Bruins forward Mike Knuble had one goal and two assists to lead Swedish Elite League club Linköping past the visiting Toronto Maple Leafs...

Utah State wins BYU men by 20 on road

PROVO, Utah - Spencer Nelson scored 25 points and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead Utah State past Brigham Young...

Idaho State men take third in Reno tournament

RENO, Nev. - Silm Millien scored 17 points and grabbed 12 rebounds to lead the Idaho State Bengals...

COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



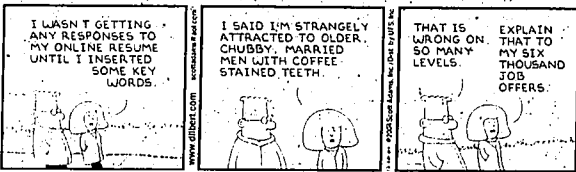
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis



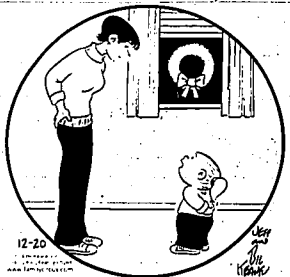
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

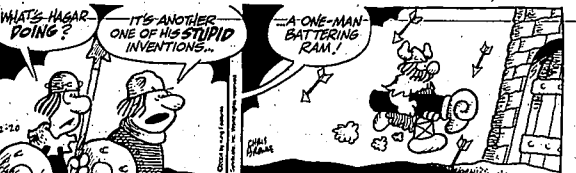


ROSE IS ROSE



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



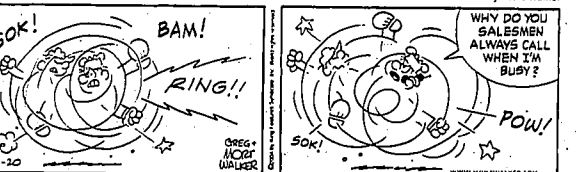
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



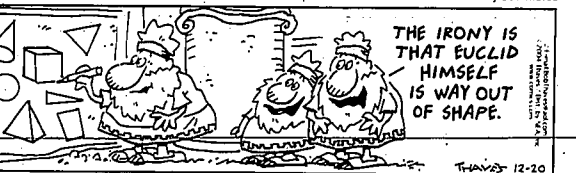
Luann

By Greg Evans



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip

