

## GOOD MORNING

### WEATHER

Today: Early fog giving way to sunshine. High 22, low 8.  
Page A2

### MAGIC VALLEY



**Grinchy:** Holiday ornament thieves appear.  
Page C1

### MONEY

**Toy train maker:** It's tough times for a classic as Lionel copes with lawsuit, bankruptcy.  
Page E1

### OUTDOORS



**Chukar Christmas:** You can still find the birds in late December.  
Page D1

### SPORTS

**On a high note:** Bruins enter winter break with win over Idaho Falls.  
Page B1

### OPINION

**Steering on Blue Lakes:** Reward those drivers who tidy up their bad habits, today's editorial says.  
Page A6

### COMING UP



**A masked ball**  
'Phantom of the Opera' reaches the silver screen.  
Friday in The Times-News

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# Suicide bomber suspected

## U.S. military says attack indicates attacker had inside knowledge of base

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The U.S. military said Wednesday that a suicide bomber likely carried out the explosion at a U.S. base near Mosul, spraying a crowded mess tent with small pellets and killing 22 people — nearly all of them Americans. The announcement raised questions about how the attacker infiltrated the base, which is surrounded by blast walls and barbed wire and guarded by U.S. troops. However, as in many other U.S. military facilities, troops do a variety of jobs at the base, including cleaning,

cooking, construction and office duties. The apparent sophistication of Tuesday's operation — the deadliest single attack on U.S. troops since the war began — indicated the attacker probably had inside knowledge of the base's layout and the soldiers' schedule. The blast came at lunchtime. "We have had a suicide bomber apparently strap something to his body ... and go into a dining hall," Gen. Richard Myers, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters at the Pentagon. "We know how difficult this is to prevent people bent on suicide and stopping them."



Gen. Richard Myers

Lt. Gen. Thomas Metz, commander of the multinational force in Iraq, ordered an investigation. Troops found "no physical evidence of a rocket, mortar, or other type of indirect fire weapon," according to a statement issued early Thursday by military authorities in Baghdad. "There was little apparent sympathy for the dead Americans on Mosul's deserted streets, where hundreds of U.S. troops, backed up by armored vehicles and helicopters, blocked bridges and cordoned off Sunni Muslim areas of Iraq's third-largest city. "I wish that 2,000 U.S. soldiers were

killed," declared Jamal Mahmoud, a trade union official. "Initial reports said a rocket had ripped into the tent. Later, however, a radical Sunni Muslim group, the Ansar al-Sunnah Army, claimed responsibility, saying it was a "martyrdom operation" — generally a reference to a suicide bomber. Military officials in Iraq said Wednesday that shrapnel from the explosion included small ball bearings, which are often used in suicide bombings but are not usually part of shrapnel from rockets or mortars. The attack sparked renewed concerns about the ability of U.S. troops and their Iraqi allies to secure elections Jan. 30. The military said they had expected an increase in violence as insurgents attempt to derail the vote for an assembly that will draft Iraq's new constitution.

# Doing the dam circuit

## Troubleshooters keep the lights on in Magic Valley

By Rebecca Meany  
Times-News writer

HAGERMAN — Jeff Jester is not one to be rattled by a dam alarm.

A voice over his two-way radio Wednesday broke the quiet of a morning drive near Hagerman.

The Upper Salmon A general alarm — the voice said. Making a left onto U.S. Highway 30, Jester, a generation specialist for Idaho Power, headed for the power plant. This time he was in luck, having to drive only a few miles to reach the scene of the problem.

"That's the beauty of electricity," he said. "It's really, really fast. You're not going to outrun it. If you're a half hour away, you're a half hour away."

Ducking out of the howling wind into the power plant, Jester quickly determined that the headwater alarm had sounded.

"I was driving, the headwater got too low," he said. "If you can believe this, wind can actually push water back if it's blowing hard enough against it."

It's a typical day for Jester, one of numerous power plant employees who keeps the juices flowing in Magic Valley. He and other generation specialists conduct walk-throughs of seven power plants that form the Hagerman Hydro Team.

One of their tasks is to set water levels as close as possible to the top of the flume so water doesn't go over the edge, nor sink too far down. Even a few inches off the mark will activate a sensor.

Power plant systems are able to self-adjust, fixing many problems before an employee even arrives at the source.

"These are my favorite ... beautiful at 3 o'clock in the morning." Please see DAM, Page A4



Jeff Jester, generation specialist for Idaho Power, looks over and makes notes on maps to reflect wiring changes at the power plant.



Two geese swim in the water at the Upper Malad Power Plant Wednesday morning. The seven power plants in the Hagerman Hydro Team can produce 120 megawatts of electricity.

# State asks store to pull slot machines

## Officials say units are illegal

By Megan Hinds  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Looking for a toy slot machine as a last-minute Christmas gift? Don't bother looking at Costco Wholesale.

Friday, the Issaquah, Wash.-based warehouse retailer with a store on Pole Line Road was asked by the state of Idaho to remove a number of Japanese-style slot machines from its three Idaho stores.

The S289 machines — which accept tokens and look similar to the slot machines found in casinos — are illegal to own or sell under the state's gambling laws, said Bob Cooper, spokesman for Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden.

The attorney general's office Friday received a complaint about the machines being sold at the Costco store in Boise, Cooper said. Idaho Lottery Director Roger Simmons, a representative from the attorney general's office and an Idaho State Police investigator looked at the machines in question and determined they violated Idaho law.

"All you have to do is take a look at them and see that they are slot machines," Simmons said. "It's my understanding that they could be modified to take coins instead of tokens."

According to Idaho code, gambling is prohibited in Idaho except for the state's lottery, pari-mutuel betting on horse races and approved bingo games and raffles held by charitable organizations. The law states: "No activities shall employ any form of casino gambling including, but not limited to, blackjack, craps, roulette, poker, baccarat, keno and slot machines, or employ any electronic or electromechanical instrument."

Please see SLOT, Page A2

# Coalition lobbies for Nez Perce agreement

By Julie Pence  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A powerful coalition that favors pushing the Nez Perce Agreement through the Legislature early in the session began contacting lawmakers Wednesday.

Rep. Doug Jones, R-Filer, said Dick Ives, who works for the state's most powerful business lobby — the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry — called him to discuss Jones' position on the agreement.

"I was surprised they would call me, since I've been so public in supporting it," Jones said. Rush explained he is contacting all members of the Legislature's resource committees. Jones sits on the House Resources and Conservation Committee.

Rush said the coalition is marshaling forces against another group that is aggressively contacting voters and lawmakers urging them to turn against the agreement. He did not name the group.

But recently the Idaho Farm Bureau began campaigning with a strong state position to defeat the agreement. Considered a notable lobby force to contend with at the Legislature, the farm group said it preferred to fight the American Indian claims on all the water in the Snake River Basin in court rather than settle.

"Going to court is very risky, very expensive, and you have no idea how it would come out," Rush said. "With this agreement, we know how it will

Please see COALITION, Page A2

# Bush tweaks policy on forests

## Plan gives managers more discretion on logging, drilling

The Times-News and The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A Bush administration initiative that will allow forest managers more discretion to approve logging and other commercial projects has environmentalists fuming.

"The president's forest regulations are an early Christmas gift to the timber industry masquerading as a government streamlining measure," said Rodger Schlickelstein, president of Defenders of Wildlife.

The long-awaited rules, announced Wednesday, overhaul application of the landmark 1976 National Forest Management Act, which sets guidelines for managing 191 million acres of national forests and grasslands and protecting wildlife



President Bush

there. The new plan gives regional managers of the nation's 155 — forests more discretion to approve logging and other commercial projects has environmentalists fuming.

"The president's forest regulations are an early Christmas gift to the timber industry masquerading as a government streamlining measure," said Rodger Schlickelstein, president of Defenders of Wildlife. The long-awaited rules, announced Wednesday, overhaul application of the landmark 1976 National Forest Management Act, which sets guidelines for managing 191 million acres of national forests and grasslands and protecting wildlife

Forest Service Associate Chief Sally Collins said the new rules will make forest planning more open, understandable and timely. Forest managers will be able to respond more quickly to changing conditions, such as wildfires and emerging threats such as invasive species, she said.

"We really have a process that takes way too long — that really isn't as responsive — as it should be," Collins said. "The complex forest management rules have not been updated since the 1970s, and officials have long complained that detailed analyses required under the law take years to complete. For example, a 15-year management plan for the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forest in Colorado took seven

Please see FOREST, Page A8

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cloud with early fog clearing way to safety afternoon sun. Highs from 27 to 31.
Tonight: Partly cloudy and cool with light fog. Low: 20. High: 25 to 31.
Tomorrow: Partly cloudy and mostly fog. Morning fog is best. Highs from 27 to 31.

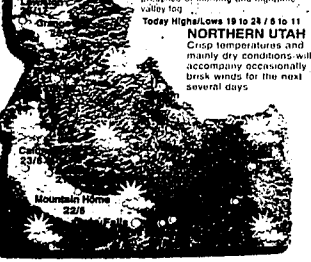
BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Fog clearing way to afternoon sun. Some clearing likely by afternoon. Cold with highs from 12 to 16.
Tonight: Partly cloudy and cool. Areas of freezing fog developing late. Low: 10 to 14.
Tomorrow: Not as cold. More freezing fog possible. Afternoon partly cloudy. Highs from 26 to 32.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.: Many dry conditions will prevail for the next several days. Higher elevations will be partly cloudy with no problems. Valley areas are going to see a lot of freezing fog on the days to come.
BOISE: Generally dry weather and milder temperatures will prevail through Christmas. One minor snow squall will be the persistent possibility of morning and nighttime valley fog.

TODAY Highs 3 to 18 & Lows -10 to -10.
NORTHERN UTAH: Crisp temperatures and mainly dry conditions will prevail. Occasionally brisk winds for the next several days.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 41 at Payette, Low: 1 at Mackay. Weather key: sun/sunny, partly cloudy, mostly cloudy, cloudy, cloudy, in clouds, drizzle, snow, sleet, rain, showers, blizzard, wind, no wind.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

MOON PHASES

Table with 4 columns: Today, Jan 3, Jan 10, Jan 17. Includes moonrise and moonset times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Saturday. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, and Pocatello with their respective forecasts.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists major cities like New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago with their respective forecasts.

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, Hi, Lo. Lists weather for various cities like Boise, Burley, and Pocatello.

SUNRISE AND SUNSET

Table with 2 columns: Sunrise, Sunset. Lists times for Twin Falls and other locations.

Pollen Count

Table with 2 columns: Pollen Level, Count. Lists pollen levels for various allergens.

U.V. INDEX

Low Moderate High. The higher the index the more sun protection needed.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities from various countries like London, Tokyo, and Sydney with their respective forecasts.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CREDIT EXPRESS logo and contact information for credit services.

CANADIAN FORECAST table with columns for City, Today, and Tomorrow.

The Times-News contact information including publisher, news editor, advertising director, and circulation details.

Coalition

Continued from A1. come out, and it will take away this cloud that is sort of hanging over all our water rights. It's just a good business deal for the all the people of Idaho.

Slot

Continued from A1. state crackdown. But the machines have been deemed illegal-to-sell-by several states including Oregon, Washington, Nevada, and now Idaho.

Cat cloner appeals to pet owners

Los Angeles Times. A Texas woman who said she paid \$50,000 to a northern California biotech company has received an eight-week-old clone of her dead cat, Nicky.

Magical Valley

Magical Valley, there's too much at stake not to go along with the agreement. The Nez Perce agreement gives the tribe annual rights to 50,000 acre-feet of water in the Clearwater River and \$100 million in cash and land in return for dropping claims to nearly all the water in the Snake River and its tributaries.

Mail information for The Times-News, including subscription rates and contact details.

Lottery and Weather information, including a phone call to 735-3350.

Weather Information section with a 'Press 3' button and weather icon.

Lottery Information section with a 'Press 2' button and lottery icon.

CORRECTION section regarding a woman's name in a previous article.

U.S. Cellular advertisement featuring a tent and the slogan 'How do you keep an eye on mother nature?'.

U.S. Cellular advertisement with the slogan 'Two months FREE easedge access on select plans.' and 'Application and overage charges still apply.'

NATION

# Insurgent attack shows vulnerability of U.S. troops

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP)—American troops in Iraq must work around a wide range of vulnerabilities: soft-skinned tents instead of concrete buildings, a shortage of body armor and open or unprotected vehicles. They also try to boost the Iraqi economy by hiring Iraqis for such tasks as picking up trash and delivering food — leaving the door open for possible infiltrators.

Some weaknesses defy quick solutions: Permanent bases take time to build, budget constraints can prevent speedy deployments and U.S. troops are inherently at risk in a war zone like Iraq.

Tuesday's explosion at a U.S. base near Mosul highlighted the concerns. The military now believes the attack, which killed 22 people and wounded dozens, was carried out by a suicide bomber, further evidence of how insurgents can exploit the American policy of hiring Iraqis.

At Camp Fallujah, Iraqis drive truck convoys full of food, gravel or other supplies and man the grounds clearing trash. They eat at the base's two mess halls, often sitting at tables to chat with the Americans.

Some troops worry the Iraqis are not well supervised. They say it is a common belief that the Iraqi workers are feeding information to insurgents.

"Iraqis here on this base are supposed to be essential, but you see them walking around by themselves," said Lance Cpl. Chris Roell, member of a K-9 unit deployed to Iraq. "They've got better digital cameras than we do."

"We've got Iraqis trying to make us feel better, saying this is the holiday season, cheer up, and then they're leaving base and giving their buddies grid coordinates."

U.S. officials have acknowledged the hiring policy can be risky, particularly in a country with no database of criminal records. But they maintain it is a sound practice at this sprawling base southeast of the city of Fallujah.

"They should be the ones who have the jobs and get the income and plow it back in for their fam-



AP Photo

Workers and U.S. soldiers tend to the wounded after Tuesday's attack near Mosul that killed 22 people. The attack shows weaknesses in the effort to protect U.S. troops.

lies," said Lt. Gen. John Sattler, commander of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force in Iraq. "There has to be a starting point and this base is a starting point."

One Marine, who spent three months at the camp guarding Iraqi detainees, said interrogators told him to watch Iraqi workers because prisoners were

reporting the base had been infiltrated by insurgents.

"The interrogators say to check the Iraqis on the base, to be aware of their actions — if they walk past a certain area too many times, writing down stuff, that kind of thing," the Marine said, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

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# Weight, activity both affect longevity, study indicates

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Physical activity can offset some of the harmful health consequences of being overweight but cannot fully erase them, according to the biggest study to examine the relative benefits of being fit versus fat.

The study of more than 115,000 female nurses found weight and activity levels are both powerful predictors of longevity, and that being either overweight or sedentary independently increases the

risk of death.

But the study concluded that the healthiest people are those who are both thin and physically active, a blow to those who have argued that fitness is more important than fatness and can offset the risks of being overweight.

Women who were obese and inactive had the highest mortality — 2.5 times that of women who were thin and active. Those who were physically active despite being obese were still nearly twice as likely to die as those who were lean and active.

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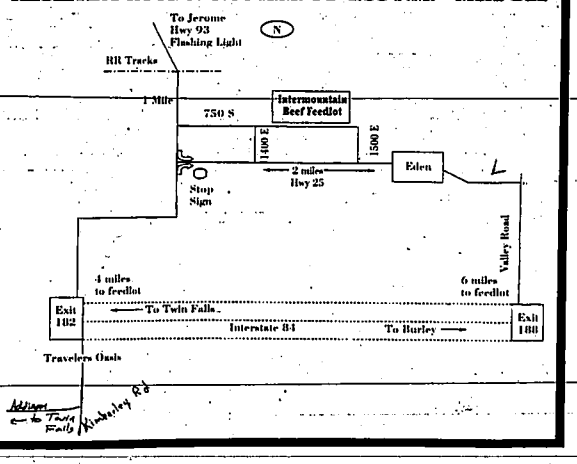
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NATION

# Airport search rules see changes

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Airport security screeners this week will be instructed not to touch women passengers between their breasts as part of new pat-down procedures, the Transportation Security Administration said Wednesday.

The agency said it is making a modification to its searching methods that began in September after more than 400 passengers — mostly women — formally complained that the experience was invasive, humiliating and akin to being molested.

Screeners had been instructed to use their hands to touch women between and underneath their breasts to inspect for explosives that might be hidden beneath clothing. Now, the agency said, security screeners will be directed to pat down only the "chest perimeter" of female passengers and not to touch women between their breasts unless they set off a hand-held metal detector in the chest area.

# Democrat pulls ahead in recount of Washington votes



Christine Gregoire

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — After losing the first two counts in the extraordinarily close Washington governor's race, Democrat Christine Gregoire pulled ahead by 10 votes after King County reported its hand recount results on Wednesday.

Gregoire's slim margin could widen on Thursday when Democrat-heavy King County officials plan to count 700-plus belatedly discovered ballots. Over Republicans' objections, the state Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that those ballots should be counted.

"The election results are not official. They will likely be challenged in court. Republicans voted to keep fighting."

"When Christine Gregoire was 261 and then 42 votes behind, she referred to it as a tie," Rossi spokeswoman Mary Lane said, quoting Gregoire's reaction to Rossi's victories in the first two power-ids vote counts.

"We're not going to call this a tie but it is extremely close. It's certainly too close to call and Dino is not conceding," Lane said. "This election is not over."

Gregoire, 57, a three-term at-

torney general, was the favorite going into the election against Rossi, 45, a real estate agent and former state senator.

But Rossi surprised political experts by squeaking out a 261-vote win over Gregoire. His lead was whittled to 42 votes in a subsequent machine recount.

Democrats paid \$730,000 for the hand recount, though by law the state has to repay the party if the recount reverses the results.

"We asked for a hand count because we knew machines make mistakes," said state Democratic Party spokeswoman Kirstin Brösi. "We believe that the hand count is the most accurate count and we're very excited by these results."

Gregoire won another victory on Wednesday when the state Supreme Court ruled that King County should include hun-

dreds of recently discovered ballots in the hand recount of the still-undecided governor's race.

"There is a sacred American right to have legitimate votes counted," Gregoire said in a news release after the ruling. "The justices recognized that principle today."

Republicans said they will now seek out Rossi voters whose ballots were disqualified because of election workers' errors and fight to have those ballots counted as well.

"We'll be taking them to canvassing boards in counties across the state and asking those canvassing boards to review their decisions and to consider these ballots," Lane said.

King County officials discovered last week that up to 735 ballots had not been counted because of mistakes made by election workers.

At a hearing Wednesday morning before the high court, Republicans argued that a recount should be a mere rehabilitation, and that was too late for counties to go back and correct errors.

# Administration says care improves with access to data

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 35,000 fever nursing home residents are kept in restraints on a daily basis — down 23 percent from two years ago — according to a federal report released Wednesday that also found fewer patients in pain.

The Bush administration, the nursing home industry and patient advocates said the declines show the value of the administration's 2-year-old program to tackle serious quality problems in many homes by requiring the nation's 16,400 nursing homes to disclose data on care.

"The information is posted to help consumers make better choices and to prompt the homes to improve their performance. It is available on the government's Web site, www.medicare.gov, or by calling 1-800-633-4227."

"When we made these measurements public, then people paid attention," said John Roth, policy director for the 35-million member seniors' group AARP.

All the information is based on data the nursing homes must routinely collect from residents as part of their participation in the federal Medicare program.

About 1.6 million people live in nursing homes daily. During a year, more than 3 million people have a nursing home stay, the report from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said.

In the middle of 2002, 9.7 percent of nursing home residents were restrained on any day. Two years later, the number was 7.5 percent.

Patients kept in restraints can become weak, lose their ability to go to the bathroom on their own and develop bed sores. Restraints should only be used when ordered by a doctor as part of a patient's medical treatment, according to federal law.

Measurements of pain among long-term and short-term nursing home patients also improved, dropping 38 percent and 11 percent, respectively.

The report showed a slight increase, 2 percent, in the percentage of patients with pressure, or bed, sores. But among a select group of homes that focused on the problem, there was an 8 percent decline in the percentage of residents with painful sores that can lead to serious infection and can indicate neglect.

# Dam

Continued from A1

morning," Jester said. "Ninety-five percent of the alarms are like this, but they pay me for the other five percent."

Despite the false alarms, Jester clearly loves his job.

"It's a troubleshooting, responding to alarms and performing preventative maintenance on the mechanical and electrical parts that make up the hydroelectric power plants."

# Putting technology to the test

The lower flyball motor was spinning in the governor.

"Everything is looking good," Jester said, conducting an inspection of the Upper Malad Power Plant.

Every week, he'll add a drop of oil and check linkages on the mechanism that controls wicket gates, which, in turn, control how much water goes in the turbine.

"If something happened the night before, we have to react to that," he said. "Troubleshooting is a big part of our job."

Moving 20 feet to the left, he lowered himself into a hole. He dangled his legs over a pool of water and lightly kicked a pipe.

"Let's see if that will do it," he said.

The pool of water meant something was slowly leaking and perhaps needed a jiggling.

In addition to generation specialists, utility and maintenance crews and technicians work to keep things running at the plants.

Workers have to be adaptable because each of the seven plants has different technology.

"There's a regular list we go through, we visually check everything," Jester said. "Most importantly we walk around and listen and smell. You can hear that hum. It just becomes real obvious if anything changes."

He walked around the vertical generator and listened to the drone.

"As soon as you hear a clang or something — it's noisy in here — but it really sticks out."

# Adapting to changes

Due to lack of water in the region, only two of four generators have been running at the Lower Salmon Falls Power Plant for the past few years.

"We're dictated by water," Jester said. "We're a run-of-the-river power plant."

With freshly-painted light lemon chilton and pale avocado walls and machinery, the plant is reminiscent of a 1950s school.

Indeed, some of the equipment predates the employees who oversee it.

Most of the major machinery has been around for 50 years, said Steve Wood, an Idaho Power employee. "As long as you maintain them, they'll last another 50 years."

"That's what's interesting, is getting the old and the new technology to blend together," Jester said.

Tuesday staff at the Upper Malad Power Plant installed updated technology that will help protect the system from internal faults.

"These guys are good," Jester said of his fellow workers.

He inspected the payout, a long plastic box that bundles wires together. "I told them I wasn't going to be able to do it this morning and they've done it."

Meanwhile, the technicians had moved on to another task.

"You might want to run your rheostat and test it," said technician John Bergh.

"Did you call Boise?" Jester asked.

Generation dispatchers at the Boise headquarters have to be informed when equipment tested so alarms don't trigger, he said.

Jester eased a dial marked "rheostat" a quarter turn to the right and eyed an indicator.

"Everything I'm doing is fixing stuff out," he said. "We do that on a weekly basis to make sure alarms are working."

Later in the day, Jester donned work gloves and hiked over rock piles near Cove Creek.

He peered down into the water at a gunk that had built up over the past 24 hours on the trash rack.

He lowered a weed hook into the water and dragged up his algal prize.

"Pulling trash" allows water to flow better into the upper flume, he explained.

"You could get a big machine to do this but it wouldn't be cost-effective," he said.

He lowered the hook one more time and heaved a big wet pile of green slop over his shoulder.

"One time we pulled a bull out," he said, grinning.

"The coolest part of my job is that my days are always different," he said.

Times-News writer Rebecca Meyer can be reached at 735-3259 or by e-mail at [rmeyer@nwgaville.com](mailto:rmeyer@nwgaville.com).

# Stewart sends holiday message

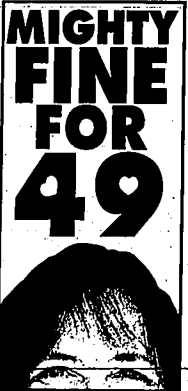
NHW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart, in a Christmas message posted on her personal Web site, called Wednesday for sentencing reform and took a swipe at the "bad food" in prison.

Stewart, who is roughly halfway through a five-month sentence for lying about a stock sale, urged fans to think about the woman she has met in prison who are "devoid of care, devoid of love, devoid of family."

She suggested Americans should push for reforms in federal sentencing guidelines for nonviolent first-time offenders and particularly for drug offenders, who she said would be better served by rehabilitation than prison.

Stewart, who built a billion-dollar empire in homemaking, reported that her job at the federal prison camp in Alderson, W.Va., has been cleaning — including sweeping, vacuuming and raking leaves.

"I have had time to think, time to write, time to exercise, time to not eat the bad food, and time to walk and contemplate the future," she said.



# 30 ORNAMENTS & DECORATIONS

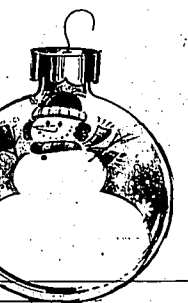
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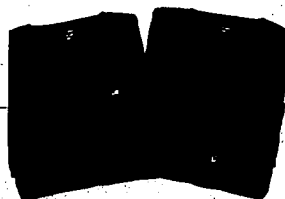
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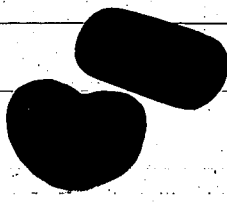
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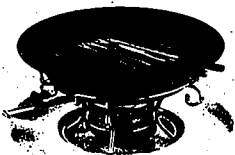
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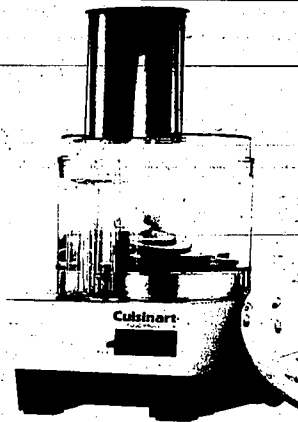
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EDITORIAL

Driver training works best before the costly accident

Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh may sound exciting for winter travel. But if you're really seeking thrills and chills on the holiday roads, nothing beats the shopping rush on Blue Lakes Boulevard.

Twin Falls police apparently have decided that the NASCAR circuit doesn't belong on Blue Lakes. Officers have stepped up enforcement in recent weeks, in an effort to stop speeders and reckless drivers.

In addition to more patrol cars, we want the City Council to approve a four-hour driver's education class. Ticked drivers would have the option of attending the \$50 class, or paying the \$53 citation. Cited drivers, however, would not see driving points reduced for attending.

Heavier enforcement and drivers' education represent worthy attempts to put the brakes on bad driving. But the problem is both solutions come after drivers are caught speeding or are involved in an accident.

To make that happen, private industry and state government should give drivers some incentives for correcting their bad habits, and re-learning safe driving skills.

A good model to follow would be the AARP's very successful "55 Alive" driver safety program. "55 Alive" involves trained instructors who discuss defensive driving skills, sharp reactive

skills, freeway driving and other pointers with drivers who haven't been in drivers' ed for decades. Even though the class is specifically geared for drivers 51 and older, Twin Falls instructor Charlie Siegel says younger drivers are common. The Idaho Department of Transportation refers some drivers to the class when they are about to run out of driving points.

Our view: More private insurance incentives would be the best way to improve bad driving skills on busy Twin Falls streets. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

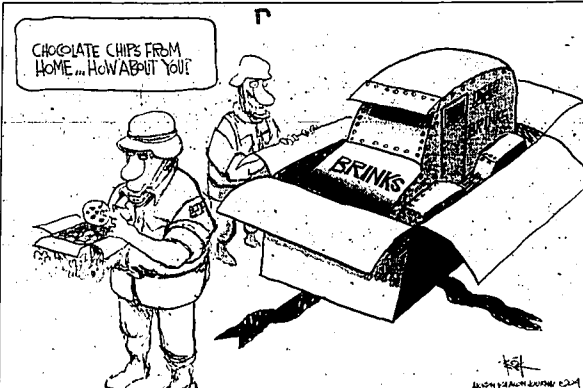
companions to give a discount to class participants 65 and older. Siegel says students even younger than that have earned similar insurance discounts.

Private industry would be wise to extend that benefit to more drivers who use these classes to correct bad driving behavior.

Today's drivers have learned every bad habit possible, from cell phone use at the wheel to not using turn signals and even running red lights.

If a driver volunteers for a class - before he or she gets in an accident or earns a ticket - why shouldn't it pay off with a few dollars off the monthly premium?

That small reward could go a long way in avoiding speeding tickets, accident costs and more speed patrols. And who knows, before long Blue Lakes Boulevard may become safe for the holidays.



No excuse for failing the troops

When I invaded Iraq nearly two years ago, I understood that it was an invasion on short notice and I was willing to accept the risk inherent in beginning combat operations without a steady stream of supplies and Humvees with no doors that was left over from the Persian Gulf War.

It was, after all, a new war, and we went with what we had. But last month, our warriors in Iraq invaded Fallujah, at times driving trucks and Humvees without upgraded armor kits.

We have been in this war for 20 months. We are the greatest wealthy nation on earth. How can we deliver billions of dollars in welfare to corporations, farmers and other groups and seek to make tax cuts for the wealthy permanent when our troops need equipment and services overseas?

What is American about putting the well-being of the wealthy over the well-being of the defenders of freedom?

I have the people who once appeared to convince a majority of Americans that Saddam Hussein had a hand in the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and that Iraq possessed weapons of mass destruction also convinced Americans that we can run a "war on the cheap" without seeing our troops suffer?

The violence and intensity of the combat is higher today than during the invasion, but the wounded-survives-in-exponentially higher numbers, requiring services for lost limbs and eyesight. This "low killed-in-action statistic is

ANDREW M. BORENE

Young heroes display physical courage on the front lines in the global war on terror, yet even as our troops accomplish mission after harrowing mission, our politicians fail them:

misleading Americans. But some politicians talk about the successes in Iraq and an improving situation. Young heroes display physical courage on the front lines in the global war on terror, yet even as our troops accomplish mission after harrowing mission, our politicians fail them.

It's time to demand that our politicians stand up and show some moral courage, as did Army Spc. Thomas Wilson in Kuwait before Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld. Supporting the troops means more than placing a yellow sticker on a vehicle's bumper. It also means buying up-armed Humvees and small arms protective vests inserts in body armor, offering the best training in the world and reducing excessive deployments of the Reserves and National Guard. These things cost money.

It will take a new generation of great Americans to turn around the devastation that the continued failures and excuses of this administration have caused. It will take Americans who aren't afraid of the truth. Americans who understand that sometimes success requires sacrifice, Americans who put thoughtful decision-making before dogmatic political mantras.

We have a lot of work to do before our troops, veterans and their families get what they deserve, and it has nothing

to do with party politics. It's about taking care of those who take care of us.

Young men and women are fighting for us as I write, but who is fighting for them? If every concerned American wrote the members of Congress who put tax cuts for the wealthy before troop welfare, demanding that our veterans and soldiers be given their due, perhaps we could make some headway honoring America's contract with its veterans.

May our political leaders show their thanks and take responsibility for their decisions by taking care of those who protect us all.

Andrew Borene, a adviser to Operation Truth, a veterans organization, is president of the National Security and Law Society at the University of Minnesota. He was an intelligence officer with the 1st Marine Division during the invasion of Iraq.

City zoning enforcement went too far

Almost two years ago, my wife and I were looking at a small business at 1105 Kimberly Road.

The people who work for the property are always smiling and encouraging. They waited until after we were legally bound to purchase the property before they told us we would have to take out 10 feet of our parking lot all the way around for landscaping. That's a 3,300 square feet that would have reduced access and parking to almost nothing, making it impossible to make a living out of this location. It would have devalued the property so much we wouldn't be able to sell it.

READER COMMENT Ken Stevens

We asked for a hardship to keep our parking lot. Planning and Zoning said no. They gave us a temporary certificate of occupancy and forced us to sign a commitment to do the landscaping. That gave us a year to landscape. A year later, we still didn't have the money to landscape. The city gave us a deadline 10-7-15. As I was writing the letter, I read and re-read the ordinance, and I found the following:

"A landscaped strip of at least 10 feet in width shall be provided immediately behind the sidewalk or future sidewalk when existing buildings are being remodelled." P&Z knew we weren't remodeling and yet it was going to take out 10 feet of our parking. We couldn't afford to landscape.

I went back to the city manager and gave him the letter I wrote asking P&Z for an extension. I had him get out his ordinance book and open it to the ordinance they were using against us. He went stone-faced and said he was going to talk to the city attorney and get back to me.

Less than two days later, the P&Z ordinance was rescinded and my certificate of occupancy had been issued and was in the mail and that I was going to receive a letter from the city. The certificate arrived Nov. 29. I couldn't believe it.

I received the letter from P&Z. It said, "We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused."

The inconvenience they were talking about just happens to be my life. Nearly two years of them justifying their paychecks at my expense was more than an inconvenience.

I wrote P&Z another letter requesting information about the people who were directly involved. All of their job descriptions say that they are to know and apply the laws and ordinances in a fair, equitable and responsible manner with a high level of integrity. Why they don't follow their own rules is a question that still needs an answer.

Kenneth D. Stevens is the owner of Magic Valley Polycoating on Kimberly Road.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be mailed to PO, Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; or called to (208) 734-5538; or emailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

The Times-News

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

LETTERS

political leaders) often referred to God and sought his guidance and blessing for our nation.

Moses holding the Ten Commandments is engraved on the front of the Supreme Court building. The Ten Commandments are engraved on the two big oak entrance doors to the Supreme Court courtroom. The Ten Commandments are displayed above where the judges sit.

James Madison, known as the Father of our Constitution, stated, "We have asked the whole of all our political institutions upon the capacity of mankind for self-government, upon the capacity of each and all of us to govern ourselves according to the Ten Commandments of God."

Patrick Henry said, "It cannot be emphasized too strongly or too often that this great nation was founded not by religionists, but by Christians, not on religion, but on the gospel of Jesus Christ. Since 1777, every session of Congress has begun with prayer.

The first Supreme Court Justice, John Jay, said: Americans

should select and prefer Christians as their rulers.

The Bible says, "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord." That reference is to God the creator who sent his son, Jesus Christ, to be the savior of all that would accept his plan of eternal life.

God promises are to you that will honor him as Lord and Savior. Merry Christmas. CARTER KILLINGER Twin Falls

America's religious past can't be ignored

Just wanted to say "amen" to Dr. Hagerman's letter the first of the week and add a few comments of my own.

No, the time has not come and I hope it never will when we take Christ out of the holiday greeting "Merry Christmas." Our founding fathers have probably already turned over in their graves because of what we have already allowed to happen to this great Christian nation. What we have allowed in our schools and other public places is shameful. We have yielded to

the whims and desires of those minor organizations and individuals to the point we wonder what they will try to do next.

The time has come when we must make a stand and say enough is enough. I am very opposed to any further discussion about changing the Scout Oath, removing "In God We Trust" from our coins and bills and removing "under God" from the Pledge of Allegiance.

I still take a great deal of pride in standing at attention with hand over heart while the National Anthem is being played, proud to recite the Pledge of Allegiance as it is presently worded, and I think we ought to sing "God Bless America" to the top of our lungs.

Let's all go forth unitedly together and preserve and defend those principles upon which this great nation was founded. May we all be willing to do our part in preserving those freedoms that we have so long lived and enjoyed.

God bless America and Merry Christmas! MURK LANCASTER Wendell

Vets must band together for medical care answers

I would like to bring to the attention of every Idaho veteran a problem that none of us should have to be dealing with.

The pitiful detail of basic, much-needed medical care for hundreds of veterans by the Boise Veterans Administration Medical Center.

I have been denied basic and emergency medical care while dealing with intimidation from the Boise Veterans Administration Medical Center personnel - a problem I never encountered in any other Veterans Administration facility in the United States. I've talked to many other area veterans who have dealt with the same outrage but have too many medical problems or are too intimidated to challenge it.

Well, I have a suggestion for every veteran in Idaho. Every one of you who has dealt with similar problems to the above can join together to try to resolve them by calling Sens. Craig and Crapo or Reps. Simpson and Otter at (800) 839-5276. It's free and

it's effective! Let's make sure that every veteran in this great state gets the medical care they deserve. They've given their best, now let's give them ours! JOE MORAN Boise

Christmas traditions lose their spiritual touch

2004 Christmas reflections. Jesus is or was the reason for the season.

In 1914 through 1950, I remember the Christmas plays and songs in December at Washington Grade School on the corner of Blue Lakes and Addison in Twin Falls depicting the birth of the promised one, Jesus Christ the savior.

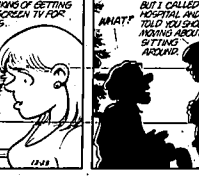
I remember the daily Bible reading at Washington School and O'Leary Junior High in Twin Falls. I remember the love and passion of my eighth-grade teacher at Blackfoot Junior High teaching us the songs and Christmas carols of our savior's birth.

I remember being taught in history the Pilgrims came to America for freedom of religion and our founding fathers (early

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



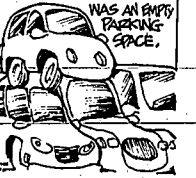
By Bruce Tinsley



Doonesbury



Doonesbury



## National pastime will redeem capital



DAVID BRODER

Normally, any time that President Bush is one of his rare, full-length news conferences, that's the top news event of the day. But on Monday, Bush's answers on Iraq, Social Security and other topics were overshadowed by the 12-minute "summit" meeting between D.C. Mayor Anthony Williams and City Council Chairman Linda Cropp.

Their topic was the future of major league baseball in the nation's capital. And my purpose is to explain to you why this is a matter of national import, not just of parochial interest.

Many theories have been offered about the causes of the increasingly bitter partisanship that has infected Washington, D.C. Things have reached such a sorry state that Bob Novak, the most garrulous of TV quarrelers, has advocated simply muzzling the Senate Democrats by stripping them of the right to filibuster judicial nominees.

When a born contrarian like Novak says the dissonance in the Capitol building has become so screechy even he can't stand it, you know things have hit bottom.

What has been missed by most of the historians and political scientists is the fact that political conditions in Washington began to decline in 1971, the year the baseball Senators decamped for Texas and became the Rangers.

Baseball was the tonic that soothed Washington's nerves. After a hard day in the Senate, members on opposite sides of the foreign-aid bill debate could repair to Robert F. Kennedy Stadium, 22 blocks away, knock back a few beers and watch Frank Howard pound the stuffing out of the ball. By the same token, disgruntled bureaucrats, bloody from fighting to save their pet programs from the fiscal surgeons in the Bureau of the Budget, could sit in the stands and enjoy the sight of Camillo Pascual baffling the Yankees with his curveball.

That tonic has been missing from Washington for these many years, and look at the mess we are in. The city and its resident politicians now fixate on the football Redskins, who play only eight home games a year — and in one of the ugliest stadiums ever constructed, with no certainty except that the traffic will be maddening on the way in and worse on the way out. And you wonder why the atmosphere is poisoned by anger and frustration.

Our dear friends, the Canadians, saw our suffering and graciously agreed a few months ago to send us the Montreal Expos. The news that they would open the season at RFK Stadium and then move in a few years to a brand-new ballpark on the Anacostia River, even closer to the Capitol, was greeted with joy — and thousands of season ticket deposits.

(Full disclosure: I was part of a newsroom consortium of nine fans, with deposits on four seats, and could hardly wait for the season to start.) Then — zap — Ms. Cropp and her City Council colleagues voted to scotch the deal for the new stadium, unless half the money was raised privately. And baseball said: No deal.

Opinion in Washington was badly divided on what should happen. Pulitzer Prize-winning Post columnist Colbert I. King,

seconded by the sports pages' Sally Jenkins, cheered Cropp and the other City Council opponents for standing up to baseball and telling off "the suburbs, where most of the baseball fans make their home." The equally estimable Post sports columnist, Thomas Boswell, pointed out that those suburbanites will pour money into the city coffers when they come to the games and spark the economic revival of what is now a blighted section of the District.

In the end, the mayor, the council chairman and baseball executives agreed on a compromise, apparently saving the Washington franchise. The resolution is greatly in the nation's interest.

Baseball is the sovereign remedy for what ails our government. It teaches respect for the rules — especially since the Expos/Nationals are National Leaguers, playing a game uncontaminated by the abomination known as the designated-hitter rule.

Furthermore, baseball is a slow game. A single contest lasts three hours; a season, six months. It focuses your mind on long-term goals; the playoffs, the Series. It accustoms you to errors — it cushions the pain of losses. It provides heartwarming comebacks. It teaches patience. (Especially to

Baseball is the sovereign remedy for what ails our government. It teaches respect for the rules — especially since the Expos/Nationals are National Leaguers, playing a game uncontaminated by the abomination known as the designated-hitter rule.

those of us who have been Cubs fans.) All these lessons apply directly to politics. Just think what it will mean when Republican Tom DeLay and Democrat Nancy Pelosi walk off the House floor after another marathon roll call, where Republicans have squeezed out the narrowest of wins. Instead of sulking and scheming revenge, she turns to him and says, "Hey, Tom, let's go to the ball game. I've got good seats and we can still see six innings!"

That way lies salvation.  
David Broder's e-mail address is davidbroder@usaipost.com.

## LETTER

### Hansen Christmas lights deserve fanfare

We recently went to see the beautiful lights displayed about 10 miles south of Hansen. I was astounded at the beauty, thought, work, months and money that must be involved, plus lots more. I'm wondering why this isn't advertised more or why pictures aren't in the paper

so more people know about it. I definitely suggest that Idaho Power would make the payments of those people's power bill or at least a good portion of it.

I am grateful for people like

those who have gone to all of that time to create a place so incredible for all of us to see and enjoy.  
It's a wonderful time of year.  
CHARLENE LOOS  
Buhl

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NATION

# Parachute system keeps planes from crashing

WASHINGTON (AP) — A small rancher Alton Kolk's small plane banked uncontrollably in darkness over the Monashee mountains, then began spiraling toward earth. "Seat belts!" he barked to his teenage grandson and two young friends. Then he reached for a red lever in the cockpit.

Suddenly, an orange-and-white parachute, as big as a house, opened above the plane and gently knifed his stricken aircraft in a rocky clearing.

If the maker of the parachute that saved Kolk's life this past spring succeeds, one day commu-

nication and regional commuter jets may have similar safety systems. First, though, there's the challenge of creating a parachute robust enough to rescue bigger, faster planes.

"Weight and speed are always the challenge," acknowledged Robert Nelson, chairman of Ballistic Recovery Systems Inc., which sold about 500 of its \$16,000 parachute systems this year for use by small private planes and pilots like Kolk.

The company's most advanced parachute right now can accommodate nearly 1,000 pounds. While small planes can weigh up to

2,000 pounds and cruise about 175 miles per hour, regional jets weigh 40,000 pounds and fly at more than 600 miles per hour.

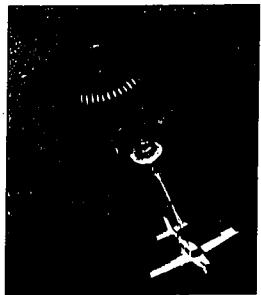
That's why Ballistic Recovery Systems is working with NASA — which gave it \$270,000 for research — to design a new generation of emergency parachutes that would work on small jets and could be steered by pilots as they drift to the ground.

Kolk, who was piloting his private plane April 8 from Seattle to his ranch in British Columbia, remembered reaching for the parachute handle as his plane slipped into a dangerous flat spin

over the mountains in British Columbia. "Like how a dog chases its tail." A seasoned pilot, Kolk said he had never experienced such a disaster in over a decade of private flying.

"I knew I was in trouble. I couldn't straighten out," Kolk said. "When that chute opened, it was a peaceful, wonderful feeling."

Kolk's experience is one of four cases where parachute-equipped planes landed safely beneath a canopy since U.S. regulators approved the system six years ago. Ballistic Recovery Systems, based in St. Paul, Minn., says eight lives were saved in those four incidents.



In this undated photo, an emergency parachute system is deployed on a small private plane.

## Forest

Continued from A1

years and \$3.5 million to revise. Under the new rules, forest plan revisions could be completed within two to three years, officials said.

Idaho's two Republican U.S. senators, Larry Craig and Mike Crapo, welcomed the Bush administration's initiative. Crapo, who serves as chairman of a Forestry, Conservation and Rural Revitalization subcommittee, believes the plan will allow for effective public participation while still utilizing the best available science.

"The revision of the planning regulation is both overdue and much needed," Crapo said. "I applaud the Forest Service for developing a rule that will allow the on-the-ground experts to manage the resources more effectively."

Craig challenged environmentalists to give the change a chance and lauded the plan as coming into the 21st century.

"This new forest planning rule is so vastly superior to the one produced in the waning days of the Clinton administration that even the environmental groups will have to admit its merit, if they will just take the time to read it," Craig said.

Environmentalists reacted with skepticism, saying the administration was catering to the timber and paper industries and weakening standards for protecting endangered or threatened species.

The groups say the plan eliminates analyses required under the National Environmental Policy Act, which mandates that federal agencies assess potential environmental impacts of their actions and submit the results to the public. The act also would scrap wildlife protections established under President Reagan and limit public input into forest management decisions, they said.

"We can't imagine it's going to be satisfactory for replacement of the wildlife safeguards and public involvement that the public has enjoyed for the last 25 years," said Sam Anderson of the Wilderness Society.

Collins disputed that, saying the new rule directs forest managers to make decisions about the management to deliver clean air and water and sustainable habitat for wildlife. The new approach could cut costs by as much as 30 percent, Collins said. She also noted the new rules require independent audits of all forest plans.

The audits, to be conducted in some cases by private firms and in others by federal employees, are based on a concept known as environmental management systems. Such standards are frequently used by the timber industry as a way to address environmental issues and comply with the law, Collins and other officials said.

Environmentalists said there is no evidence a corporate model will ensure accountability for managers of public lands.

"It sounds like they are keeping on track with putting the logging interests in the driver's seat while shoving wildlife and the public to the back of the bus," said Marty Hayden, legislative director of the environmental advocacy group Earthjustice.

The new rules take effect following publication in the Federal Register, expected next week.

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SPORTS

Blackfoot pins Minico, 40-21

The Times-News

REPORT - The Minico wrestling team couldn't maintain the momentum from a strong performance at this past weekend's Bear-Cat...

Blackfoot dominated the lower weight classes, winning six of the seven matches between 103 and 140 pounds...

Local sports

overall came at 171 pounds when Wes Cooper pinned Alex Owen, ranked No. 2 in the state...

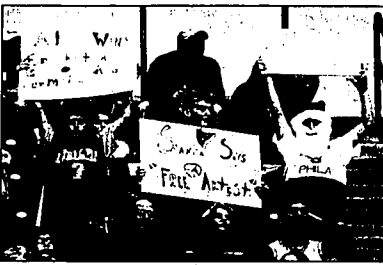
Boys Basketball

Jerome 45, Burley 44

BURLEY - Jerome's Brett Boesiger hit a shot with one second remaining to lift Jerome to a 45-44 Great Basin Conference win over host Burley...

Anthony Carriel led Burley 33-0 overall, 0-1 conference with 21 points, but missed all three of his free throw attempts...

Jerome 45, Burley 44
Jerome 45, Burley 44
Jerome 45, Burley 44



Indiana Pacers fans hold signs about suspended players Ron Artest and Jermaine O'Neal as the Pacers played the Philadelphia 76ers in Indianapolis, Wednesday...

76ers rally past Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Allen Iverson got exactly what he wanted Wednesday night, and it wasn't a third straight 50-point game...

Iverson scored 40 points, ending his streak of 50-point games at two. More importantly, he led the Philadelphia 76ers to a 102-90 win over the Indiana Pacers...

The Pacers led by five with just over six minutes to play, but Philadelphia closed the game with a 19-2 run helped by two technical fouls called on Jamal Tinsley...

Nets 92, Cavaliers 90
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - New Jersey's Richard Jefferson capped the highest-scoring night of his career with an early layup off and inbounds pass with 0.8 seconds left...

Raptors 98, Jazz 86
TORONTO - Donyell Marshall scored 12 of his 22 points in the fourth quarter, and Chris Bosh added 18 points for Toronto to a 2-2 season trading Vince Carter to New Jersey last week...

Poll

Continued from B1
The BCS could just stick with those two and change the weighting system. Or it could add more computers. Or maybe it could even revive the strength of schedule component, which was eliminated because it was deemed redundant...

Trail Blazers 104, Bucks 95

MILWAUKEE - Nick Van Exel had season highs with 26 points and six 3-pointers, and Zach Randolph added 22 points to lift the Portland Trail Blazers to a victory over the reeling Milwaukee Bucks...

Bulls 89, Pistons 82

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - Ben Gordon scored 19 points and fellow reserve Tyson Chandler had 13 points and 11 rebounds as the Chicago won its fifth straight game...

Magic 93, Spurs 87

ORLANDO, Fla. - Steve Francis scored 29 points to lead Orlando over San Antonio, breaking the Magic's seven-game losing streak against the Spurs...

Celtics 114, Knicks 109

BOSTON - Mark Blount scored 22 points, Paul Pierce added 21 and Kendrick Perkins had a career-high 13 rebounds for the Celtics...

Hawks 113, Mavericks 100

ATLANTA - Antoine Walker scored 25 points, and the Hawks snapped a five-game losing streak...

Explosive Bowling Green dumps Memphis, 52-35

By John Zeno Associated Press writer

MOBILE, Ala. - Omar Jacobs passed for 365 yards and five touchdowns, leading Bowling Green to a 52-35 victory over Memphis Wednesday night in the GMAC Bowl...

The Falcons (9-3) turned a shootout into a blowout after leading 35-28 at halftime to win their fourth consecutive bowl game...

Jacobs got them started with four first-half touchdown passes - two apiece to Charles Sharon and Steve Sanders - and P.J. Pope helped carry them the rest of the way...

Pope ran 28 times for 151 yards and a pair of 13-yard touchdowns, also scoring on a 13-yard reception for the only score of the third quarter...

The Tigers (8-4), playing in back-to-back bowl games for the first time, couldn't keep up with the nation's No. 4 offense, which totaled 558 total yards...

At halftime, the teams seemed poised to take aim at the 2001 GMAC Bowl, the highest-scoring bowl game in history with 125 combined points for Marshall and East Carolina...



Bowling Green running back P.J. Pope, left, runs past the Memphis defense during the first quarter in the GMAC Bowl, Wednesday, in Mobile, Ala.

The offenses stopped themselves early in the third quarter. Jacobs threw only his fourth interception of the season to give the Tigers the ball at Bowling Green's 41...

The Tigers then squandered another trip across midfield when a scrambling Wimprine fumbled the ball and Bowling Green's Mike Thaler recovered 31 yards behind the line of scrimmage...

Even the weather worked in the offenses' favor, however, with driving rainouts subsiding a few minutes before kickoff to clear the way for Jacobs and Wimprine to go to work...

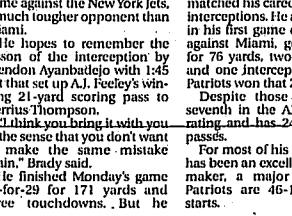
Wimprine was nearly as good, throwing for a 42-yard score to tight end John Doucette, a 69-yarder to Chris Kelley and a 38-yarder to Maurice Avery on a screen pass...

The Falcons also set the MAC record for scoring average in a season. Wimprine, meanwhile, went over 10,000 career passing yards...

Patriots QB hopes to learn from bad decision

By Howard Ulman Associated Press writer

FOXBORO, Mass. - Tom Brady flashed his customary smile as he talked about the bad decision that led to one of the worst passes of his NFL career...



New England Patriots' Tom Brady looks for an open receiver against the Baltimore Ravens in this Dec. 5 photo in Foxboro, Mass.

"We've seen him bounce back time and time again," wide receiver David Patten said. "It's the guy that we trust and believe in. I don't see losing that this week..."

He finished Monday's game 18-for-29 for 171 yards and three touchdowns. But he matched his career high of four interceptions. He also struggled in his first game of the season against Miami, going 7-for-19 for 76 yards, two touchdowns and one interception...

Filer

Continued from B1
opportunities and was forced to fold. Kendra Koyle and Lacy Miller each hit free throws for the final 10-point advantage...

through the first quarter. Helms tossed in six first-quarter points to pace Filer to a 12-11 lead after one. Mecham hit her first basket midway through the quarter and Helms added a pair of jumpers...

against SCJC rival Gooding for the top spot in league standings. Filer 51, Jerome 41

Filer 51, Jerome 41
Jerome 41
Jerome 41



SPORTS



Carroll Scott, right, and others walk through a buffet line at the Unity Church of Dallas fellowship hall, Nov. 21, in Dallas. Dallas Cowboys take on the Minnesota Vikings following church service.

'Holy Huddle' helps fans keep the faith

By Bobby Ross Jr.  
Associated Press writer

DALLAS — For a long time, the Cowboys cost the Church of Dallas people and money. On Sundays when the Cowboys kicked off at noon, some members stayed home. Others left worship early — before tithing time — to avoid missing the opening kickoff.

"They were putting up announcements saying, 'Don't trample the children when you stampee out of here before the service ends,'" church member Denise Mairdelde said, perhaps stretching the truth just a bit.

Then church members Ken Sutherland and Mike Connor approached the pastor with a suggestion: Why not show Cowboys games on a big screen in the church fellowship hall?

The Rev. Ellen Debenport thought a "Holy Huddle" was a fine idea.

"My first commitment is to the Lord, so I'm going to be there. But that doesn't mean I'm not a little bit edgy and twitchy wondering how the Vikes are doing."

Larry Ghan, an elder at the Central Christian Church in Pocatello

way coming out of church are gonna be very sorry," he joked.

Larry Ghan, an elder at the Central Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Pocatello, Idaho, said he almost always picks God over football.

Occasionally, though, a Minnesota Vikings kickoff at 11 a.m. Mountain time is just too much to resist.

On a recent Sunday, Ghan had to choose but to attend services: The congregation was counting on him to preside over the communion.

"My first commitment is to the Lord, so I'm going to be there," he said. "But that doesn't mean I'm not a little bit edgy and twitchy wondering how the Vikes are doing."

In Brentwood, Tenn., south of Nashville, the lone of the Tennessee Titans played into one

church's decision to start a Saturday night service.

"They get the same sermon and most of the same hymns," said the Rev. Howard Olds, senior pastor of Brentwood United Methodist Church.

Most importantly, they get Sunday morning free to watch the Vikings, let their children play in a youth soccer game or engage in other family activities, Olds said.

In the Green Bay, Wis., area, it's not uncommon for churches to review the Packers' schedule before setting the times of events. So when the NFL recently moved two noon games to 3 p.m., the Rev. Don Behrendt of Peace Lutheran Church found it difficult to hide his displeasure.

All of a sudden, the church's 4 p.m. children's Christmas program found itself smack in the path of the Packers.

At the last minute, the church changed the December program to 1 p.m. to avoid the conflict.

A newspaper editorial criticized the decision, describing any parent who would miss a child's Christmas program to watch a football game as a jerk.

"I would agree with that," Behrendt said. "But you don't want kids to find out their parents are jerks any more than they have to."

At the Unity Church of Dallas, Holy Huddle has brought a halt to the previous 11:45 a.m. exodus of Cowboys fans.

In a fellowship hall with a piano and stained-glass windows — a place where church members munch pizza, get to know each other better (during commercials) and watch the first half of the game — At half-time, they drive home, presumably in time to catch the second half.

Similar teams meet in Fort Worth

By Stephen Hawkins  
Associated Press writer

FORT WORTH, Texas — There are plenty of similarities between Cincinnati and Marshall besides their 6-5 records.

The Fort Worth Bowl will be the last game for each before moving to different conferences. Cincinnati is going to the Big East from Conference USA, the league Marshall will join next year after winning five of the last seven Mid-American titles.

If not for winning streaks after poor starts, neither senior-league team would be playing Thursday night. It's the eighth bowl for both the Bearcats and Thundering Herd.

"We've sort of been roller-coaster type teams, played some really good games, played some games we'd both like to

have back," Marshall coach Bob Pruett said. "Our quarterbacks are very similar — if they have a good day, we usually have a good day. If they have an off day, we sort of have a tough day."

Cincinnati knows that too well. The Bearcats lost their regular season finale 70-7 to No. 7 Louisville when quarterback Gino Guidugli was out with a broken bone in his throwing hand.

Before that, they had won four straight with Guidugli completing 71 percent of his passes for 1,022 yards with 12 touchdowns and no interceptions. He had a career-best 377 yards passing one game, and a career-record five TDs in another.

Without Guidugli, the Bearcats got 33 yards passing from two quarterbacks and

trailed Louisville 63-0 before scoring.

"Nobody wants to end the season on a game like that," said Guidugli, whose 24 TD passes are one short of the school record.

The Thundering Herd, whose last losing record was in 1983, began this season with three straight losses, including at No. 8 Georgia and No. 24 Ohio State. They then won their first five MAC games, but losses to Akron, and Bowling Green denied a departing championship.

"We get to play one more game, a chance to prove we're a good team," said Josh Davis, only the second receiver in an NCAA history with 300 career receptions. "It was one of the toughest schedules Marshall ever had. We overcame a lot of things."

Wyoming tries to end bowl drought

By Ken Peters  
Associated Press writer

LAS VEGAS — The last time Wyoming won a bowl game, Cowboys' coach Joe Glenn was still in high school. Most of his players wouldn't even be born for another 18 years or so.

Wyoming beat Florida State 28-20 in the 1986 Sun Bowl, then lost in six consecutive bowls.

The 55-year-old Glenn, wrapping up his second year as the Cowboys' coach, obviously hopes to end that 38-year drought for a number of reasons. Among other things, he doesn't want to disappoint a pul of fans.

"Tom Frazier, a captain on that team that beat Florida State, is a friend of mine, still very active in the program," Glenn said as the Cowboys prepared to face UCLA in Thursday night's Las Vegas Bowl.

"It sent a very nice letter to our team, hoping that we could

get it back on track. Our kids obviously are very aware of how long it's been."

The Cowboys haven't even played in a bowl since a 52-17 drubbing by Kansas State in the 1993 Copper Bowl.

Glenn said his players realize just getting to a bowl for the first time in 11 years isn't enough.

"Our goal wasn't just to go to a bowl; our goal is to win a bowl," Glenn said.

Both Wyoming and UCLA, which have never met in football before, finished the regular season with 6-5 records.

UCLA, in a bowl for the seventh time in eight years, will make its second appearance in the Las Vegas Bowl. The Bruins beat New Mexico 27-13 in the 2002 game.

Last year, they lost 17-9 to Fresno State in the Silicon Valley Classic to finish their season with five consecutive defeats.

Bruins coach Karl Dorrell, like Glenn, is in his second year on the job, and he noted the simi-

larities between the teams.

"It's two programs trying to prove themselves, get themselves in position to get some national recognition," Dorrell said. "We hope to use this game to keep moving on, to jump start us for next year."

Neither team was highly regarded heading into this season, with Wyoming picked to finish last in the Mountain West Conference and UCLA predicted to finish eighth in the Pac-10. The Cowboys wound up fourth in their conference and the Bruins tied for fifth in theirs.

"I guess we've had kind of a chip on our shoulder," Glenn said. "Our guys wanted to prove people wrong."

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Litke

Continued from B1.

job to make him the lethal-est — if that's a word."

It's not, but O'Neal had no problem getting his point across.

Winning is still about making everyone play better. While his own numbers are down slightly this season, Wade's are up across the board — points, minutes, assists, even rebounds. And with season-best winning streak to rest up for the weekend, Wade produced a 33-point, 11-assist performance to lead the Heat past the Celtics, extend their season-best winning streak to nine games, and improve their Eastern Conference-leading record to 20-9.

The Lakers, meanwhile, are 13-11 and still smarting over consecutive losses to Washington, for the first time in a dozen years, and Memphis, which hadn't won in 18 tries in Los Angeles, dating when the franchise began play in Vancouver in 1955.

Their shortcomings are evident, but none is more glaring than the weakness in the middle. Bryant still thinks he can play — at least yet, talk — his way out of any jam, and so he tries to paper over the holes by playing at a triple-double pace every night. But all he's proved is that live guys will almost always beat one. That was Phil Jack-

son's mantra, too, and when Bryant finally tired of hearing it, he simply ran off the coach.

Just before O'Neal met the same fate, he warned Lakers owner Jerry Buss that hanging on to Bryant at all costs would come back to haunt the franchise.

"They say I'm getting older. Of course, I am. But can't nobody mess with me," he said. "I'm like toilet paper, Pampers and toothpaste. I'm definitely proven to be effective."

O'Neal made his case once he and Bryant were separated, and now comes his first chance to make it when they share a court. Everything about their relationship will be different, but in one important sense, nothing has changed.

"Kobe's got all-world talent," O'Neal said a few years back.

when it still seemed possible they might iron out their differences. "But you have to learn to play with other people who can score."

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at [jlitke@sp.org](mailto:jlitke@sp.org)

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Many offices will be closed Friday

TWIN FALLS — Many offices and places of business will be closed Friday for Christmas Eve. Here's a rundown of what's closed and open:

Police arrest juvenile in stabbing incident

HEROME — Jerome Police have arrested a juvenile suspect in connection with a stabbing that occurred Tuesday afternoon, according to a news release from the Jerome Police Department.

At about 3 p.m. Tuesday, two Jerome youths were involved in a fight in the 200 block of Third Avenue East. A 12-year-old male suspect stabbed the 14-year-old male victim in the stomach, the news release said.

Based on information obtained during investigation of the incident, police located the suspect at a residence on East Main Street. The suspect was taken into custody without incident at about 9:55 p.m. After further investigation, the suspect was taken to the Snake River Detention Center and held for the crime of aggravated battery.

Blue Cross to issue new ID numbers

BOISE — In an effort to protect its members' privacy and prevent identity theft, Blue Cross of Idaho on Wednesday announced it will no longer base enrollment identification on Social Security numbers, according to a news release from the insurance company.

Instead of using members' Social Security numbers, identification numbers will be randomly assigned. Most of the 380,000 members in Idaho will receive their new identification cards in the mail during the first week of January. Blue Cross of Idaho does not anticipate that the changes will cause any disruption of service.

Incidence of identity theft has increased during the past several years, the news release said, according to a U.S. Federal Trade Commission survey, in the past five years 27.3 million Americans have been victims of identity theft. Consumer out-of-pocket expenses in the past year alone totaled \$5 billion, the news release said.

Fair Board office is closed for holidays

ROPER — The Minidoka County Fair Board office will be closed until Jan. 3. The next fair board meeting is scheduled for Jan. 5. For more information call 436-9748.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels table with columns: Watershed, % of Avg., % of season peak. Rows include Selmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Henry Fork/Teton, Upper Snake Basin, Oakley, Selmon Falls.

\*A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with a 30-year average. \*\*An indicator of basin snowpack for the winter season.

HOLIDAY CRIME



Kevin Koonce, his wife Tammy and 10-year-old daughter Taylor stand in their front yard in Twin Falls. On the night of Dec. 2, someone stole a 12-foot inflatable snowman from their yard.

Thefts take the merry out of Christmas decorating

By Karln Kowalski Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Katie Carothers isn't feeling very merry this Christmas, at least not merry enough to decorate the outside of her house.

After years of sprucing it up for every major holiday, she's had enough. Last year the baby Jesus doll in her Nativity scene was stolen from her yard. This year, some of her decorative Halloween lights and costumed dolls suffered the same fate.

Rather than the baby Jesus to the manger, she's given up her decorations. "Why put out the money and the time when somebody's going to steal it?" Carothers said.

She said she's appalled at the lack of common decency in the decoration thieves.

The Christmas season brings a lot of joy, but it also has seasonal problems. "It's sad and unfortunate, but it does happen," said Staff Sgt. Mike Covington of the Twin Falls Police Department. "It's a crime of opportunity."

Decorations set out in yards are easy to swipe. Covington said some people take them for their own yards, while others take them as pranks.

Covington remembers a spree of thefts several years ago where people took decorations and left them in yards in different parts of town.

He said this year's holiday theft levels are average — they happen at least once a week during the holiday season. Kevin Koonce also lost a large decorative snowman out of his yard earlier this month.

Covington said police confiscate stolen decorations, then wait for their reports to match about them.

When he went to sleep, Frosty was standing in the yard. He woke up the next morning to find nothing left except for several straps and an extension cord.

If the culprit was a young person pulling a prank, who knows what the person will steal next. "It's not an adult stealing decorations for a family, he would have given them money if they had just knocked on the door and asked for it."

Either way, he's angry. "I didn't appreciate it," Koonce said. Now he feels his yard is marked for theft. He'll keep his lights set up because they're high out of reach, but he doubts he'll be decorating much in the yard again.

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Times-News writer Karln Kowalski can be reached at kowalski@magicvalley.com or 735-3231.

Civil rights case goes to federal court

By Karln Kowalski Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A civil rights case against the Twin Falls Highway District has moved to federal court.

Cody Robinson, a highway district employee of 11 years, is suing the district, its director Dave Burgess and 10 John Does for wrongful termination.

The Robinson man also claims his civil rights were violated. The Robinson man also claims his civil rights were violated.

Mike Kane, an attorney for the highway district, said he requested moving the case from the 5th Judicial District Court to United States District Court because it is a more appropriate place to try a federal issue.

Robinson's civil complaint states that he was wrongly terminated from his job operating heavy equipment in August 2003 because of who he voted for in a highway district election. It was eight days after Herman Osterkamp was elected to a second term in that position.

Osterkamp defeated challenger Jim Lanting by a vote of 445 to 256.

Robinson's attorney Thomas Kershaw previously said Robinson supported Lanting, but was not excessively vocal about it.

Kane said he has yet to answer the criminal complaint, but he is a highway district employee. Robinson's first civil suit in any way. This is the first civil rights case against the highway district that he knows about.

According to the civil complaint, Robinson is seeking compensation for lost income and benefits, mental and emotional distress and deprivation of his constitutional rights.

It's also seeking compensatory damages, punitive damages, court costs and fees.

Times-News writer Karln Kowalski can be reached at kowalski@magicvalley.com or 735-3231.

Jerome enters into Idaho Power franchise agreement

The agreement is expected to generate \$41,000 annually

By Dixie Thomas Reale Times-News correspondent

HEROME — The city of Jerome has entered into a 10-year franchise agreement with Idaho Power Co. that should generate an estimated \$41,000 in revenue.

The City Council voted to set aside half of the franchise fee revenue for road maintenance in the city. City Administrator Travis Rothweiler said Tuesday that he would like to see the council eventually devote all of the franchise fees toward street maintenance.

Councilman Bob Lundgren said he supported "the idea of passing the cost of road and street maintenance on to the customer."

The franchise agreement gives the power company the nonexclusive right to place power lines in the city's streets, highways and other public places and the right to service those lines.

Rothweiler explained and clarified language in the franchise agreement. "The agreement does not give Idaho Power the exclusive right to provide electricity to residents of the city," he said. "Other electric companies could provide power if they wished."

However, the city will not pay for upgrades for developments that are now coming in, he said. "The developers need to help pay for it." The sewer study was prompted by visits from developers such as Lauri Maher, manager of Springs Plains LLC, who visited with the council last month. Maher questioned the city's ability to handle new sewer hookups. She asked the council if 100 units could be approved for hook-ups into the city sewer system.

However, the city will not pay for upgrades for developments that are now coming in, he said. "The developers need to help pay for it." The sewer study was prompted by visits from developers such as Lauri Maher, manager of Springs Plains LLC, who visited with the council last month. Maher questioned the city's ability to handle new sewer hookups. She asked the council if 100 units could be approved for hook-ups into the city sewer system.

Springs Plains is shooting for May to have the first 100 units completed of a 140-home housing complex on the north end of Shoshone.

Maher said she had heard that Shoshone's sewer system is having problems meeting Environmental Protection Agency

and Department of Environmental Quality requirements. Shoshone council members are in the process of seeking grants for the sewer engineering study.

Maher said she saw no problem in selling the units because the price is affordable housing for people who work in Blaine County is skyrocketing.

The development would include nine acres of commercial space for restaurants, a motel and retail shops.

Two- and three-bedroom condos along with 40 single-family homes would be included.

Springs Plains is one of two developers now trying to get subdivisions annexed into Shoshone. Two more are planning developments inside the city, Haught said.

In other business: The council has been grappling with writing a business license ordinance, but has tabled the issue until the ordinance can be rewritten again. Once the ordinance is rewritten, Please see STUDY, Page C3

Other business

PSI contract — A five-year contract to Twin Falls-based PSI to supply sanitation services to Jerome residents was approved by the council. The city recently advertised for the contract and PSI came in with the lowest bid. City Administrator Travis Rothweiler said that as of Jan. 1, residents of Jerome will see their sanitation bill drop by about \$1.50 per month. The average sanitation bill is now around \$5.97. It will drop to about \$4.44 per month. After the initial drop the bill will increase an average of 1.4 percent per year to an estimated \$4.59 per month in 2006, \$4.56 per month in 2007, \$4.63 in 2008 and \$4.69 in 2009.

Emergency repairs — Council members approved emergency repairs of up to \$24,000 for the H Street wastewater lift station. The city's wastewater treatment plant manager told the council that an air conditioning unit had been installed in the lift station but not before considerable heat damage was sustained to the computer, transformers, diesel engine and associated electrical equipment. The station is the main wastewater lift station in town. Boyd said.

The temperature inside the station should not exceed 104 degrees, Boyd said. "But it has experienced 180-degree temperatures," he said.

Shoshone gets proposals for study

Engineers will study long-term sewer needs

By Loraine Cavener Times-News correspondent

SHOSHONE — The City Council has received proposals from eight engineering firms with bids to do the city's sewer study.

The council is planning a Jan. 6 work session to discuss the proposals and plans to choose an engineering company by Feb. 1.

The sewer study will assess the long-term needs of Shoshone's sewer and water systems and will outline plans for future development for the growing town. The company selected should have the study done by mid-April, said Councilman Ken Haught, who added that impact fees should be included in the sewer study.

Serving their country

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

Advertisement for Staff Sgt. Jason T. Cordova, featuring a photo of him and contact information for his family.

Local Family: Parents, Tim and Becky Cordova of Cordova; sister, Angie and Randy Durham of Bull; niece and nephews, Megan, Matt, Mark and Morgan Durham.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

DEATH NOTICES

Leonard Guy Revels
TWIN FALLS — Leonard Guy Revels, 88, former Twin Falls area resident, died Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2004, at Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Elroy, Wis.

Mary Conrad
MURTAUGH — Mary Conrad, 70, of Murtaugh, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at her home.

Nolan Victor
TWIN FALLS — Nolan Victor, 81, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday,

Dec. 21, 2004. A funeral will be held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2004, at the 5th Ward LDS Chapel, 421 Maurice St., N., in Twin Falls. A viewing will be held from 4 to 8 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 27, 2004, at White Mortuary, and from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. on Tuesday at the church. A complete obituary will appear in a later edition.

Alberta D. Grant
EDROY — Alberta D. Grant, 90, of Edroy, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Reuben A. Ward
ALBION — Reuben A. Ward, a 95-year-old Albion resident, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

Sydney Herbert McNeely
Sydney Herbert McNeely returned to his Heavenly Father on Dec. 21, 2004, in his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, the son of Mertha Elizabeth Hansen and Roy H. McNeely.

OBITUARIES

Sydney Herbert McNeely



Sydney Herbert McNeely returned to his Heavenly Father on Dec. 21, 2004, in his home surrounded by his family. He was born in Twin Falls, Idaho, the son of Mertha Elizabeth Hansen and Roy H. McNeely.

OBITUARIES

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

Clayton M. Halbert



Clayton M. Halbert passed away at his home in Buhl, Dec. 21, at the age of 77. Born Jan. 4, 1927, Clayton grew up in Mt Ranch, Calif., where he actually walked 3 miles in the snow each day to school. As a teen he moved to Oakland, Calif., and lived in the Oakland and Marin County areas until moving in 2001 to Idaho to live with his son, Terry and his wife, Stevie, in Buhl.

Clayton is survived by his son, Terry Halbert (Stevie) of Buhl; daughters, Tyrie Perata (Pedro) of Novato, Calif., and Tammy McKinney of Clarksville, Ind.; brother, Marvin Halbert, (Sharon) of Sebastopol, Calif., and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

"Uncle Grandpa." Clayton is survived by his son, Terry Halbert (Stevie) of Buhl; daughters, Tyrie Perata (Pedro) of Novato, Calif., and Tammy McKinney of Clarksville, Ind.; brother, Marvin Halbert, (Sharon) of Sebastopol, Calif., and numerous grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Darvin Schieve



Darvin Schieve, 49, Twin Falls, Idaho, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004. Darvin was born Aug. 23, 1955, in Bismarck, N.D., the son of Arnold and Edith Schieves. He attended Bismarck High School and graduated in 1973.

He was preceded in death by his brother, Arvin Schieve. A celebration of Darvin's life will be held at 4 p.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park" with Pastor Larry Wedder, Immanuel Lutheran Church officiating.

Johnette Prather Braga



Johnette Prather Braga, 86, of Gooding, Idaho, died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at Magic Valley Manor Assisted Living in Wendell.

companion to care for people and animals. She leaves a legacy that there is always someone in greater-need-than-yourself and that we all have a responsibility to take action to that need.



(Matt) Clark and her son, Derek of Jerone; Don (Sharon) Braga and their children, Darcil Shaver of Raleigh, N.C.; Tubey Braga and her son, Blake Maxwell of Nampa and Jordan Braga of Gooding. Many nieces and nephews also survive Johnette.

Johnette was preceded in death by her parents, Van and Fern Prather; her husband of 31 years, Fred Braga; and her brother, Gene Prather. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. today, Thursday, Dec. 23rd, at Demary's Gooding Funeral Chapel. Services will conclude at the chapel with cremation arrangements under the direction of Demary Funeral Service.

Johnette continued her nursing career for more than 25 years at the Idaho School for the Deaf and Blind during which time she also served as a specialty nurse at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital and the Holy Family Hospital. Johnette continued service to her fellow mankind, even in her retirement. She devoted many hours of care to the people she came to know-in-her retirement park in Mesa, Ariz. Johnette was a free-spirited person and was driven by an intellectual curiosity in all avenues of life and a deep

Ciera Michelle Livia

Ciera Michelle Livia, age 8, daughter of Laura Johnson and Cesar Livia died Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho as the result of an auto pedestrian accident near Buhl, Idaho.

at Buhl Elementary school, Survivors, in addition to her parents, Laura and Cesar, include her siblings, Mariah, Erik, Ryan and Alishia; grandfathers, Bacille Livia, Leona Hill, Frank and Debbie Johnson; great-grandmother, Afton Johnson, numerous

SERVICES

Duane Edward Hanson of Twin Falls, friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Parks Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road. Funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at

today in the Jerome 1138 7th Ward Chapel, 50 E. 100 S., Jerome; visitation one hour before the service at the church (Farnsworth Mortuary).

LINCOLN COUNTY COURTS

SIOSHONE — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Lincoln County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Ruben C. Baldwin, 46, use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use possession of controlled substance; pretrial conference Dec. 16; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram. Matthew Erik Larson, 27, driving without license; pretrial conference Dec. 1; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Deborah K. Roth, 51; driving without privileges assessed to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$60.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram. Missy Mayo, 38; two counts fraud - insufficient funds check; first count: \$63.50 court costs; six months supervised probation; second count: \$63.50 court costs; prosecutor: Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Jose M. Furtuno-Garcia, 17; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; sentencing Dec. 15; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Juvenile misdemeanor sentencing

Rex N. Caswell, 17; driving without privileges assessed to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$60.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs. \$10 public defender fee; Magistrate Judge Mark A. Ingram.

Civil

Mary Moreland; Casey Moreland and Andy Boyer vs. Royce Adams; Randy Adams, John Doss and Jane Doss 1 through X, individuals; Corporations A through Z; General Corporations AA through DD, and their heirs, successors and assigns. Seeking \$10,000 special damages, \$10,000 general damages, attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant failed to keep a calf enclosed in a fenced area, which resulted in a vehicle accident and damages to plaintiff's property. Plaintiff alleges that defendant failed to make payments on a loan.

Divorces

Dorothy L. Jones vs. Eric C. Jones

Federal judge ends an order blocking immigration initiative

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — A federal judge cleared the way Wednesday for an Arizona initiative to become law, more than a month after voters decided to deny some public benefits to illegal immigrants. Opponents of the law said they would appeal the decision. Backers of Proposition 200 praised the outcome.

An attorney for MALDEF: Bury said in his ruling that he didn't believe it was likely that opponents' arguments would succeed in court. Additionally, while the court initially found "serious questions" regarding Proposition 200, further review led the judge to believe that those questions were resolved in favor of the measure's backers, the ruling said.

ing all state agencies to implement Proposition 200, to conduct internal audits to make sure all employees are trained to comply with it and to make periodic checks to determine that recipients of affected services are eligible under Proposition 200.

Convicted rapist pleads innocent to murders

LOS ANGELES (AP) — An imprisoned man who police say could be the most prolific serial killer in Los Angeles history pleaded not guilty Wednesday to charges he killed 10 women since the late 1980s.

convicted. He was ordered held without bail until his next court appearance on Feb. 23. Turner is currently serving an eight-year sentence at the Sierra Conservation Center state prison near Stockton for the no contest rape plea.

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# INEEL removes tons of waste

ARCO (AP) — Almost 5,000 pounds of nuclear material containing highly enriched uranium has been moved out of Idaho to South Carolina and Tennessee, said officials overseeing the cleanup project.

That's the first shipment of many destined to leave the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory over the next five years.

The single shipment actually

took place four months ahead of schedule in August.

It was announced only Tuesday as the U.S. Department of Energy keeps a tight lid on details of nuclear-related activities at the site.

"We're going to get this stuff out safely," Sneyce Francis, a spokeswoman for the Idaho Completion Project, the entity overseeing the clean up of nuclear waste generated from

years of atomic research at the Eastern Idaho site.

The material — about 2.4 tons of a product called denaturator product — had been stored at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory since being produced by a fuel reprocessing project in 1992.

The material was shipped to the Department of Energy's Savannah River facility in South

Carolina and Nuclear Fuel Services, Inc. in Erwin, Tenn., where it will be processed into commercial nuclear fuel and used to generate electricity in reactors.

Francis said the ICF is under contract to have the entire stock of 40 different classifications of nuclear material moved offsite to an appropriate destination by September 2009.



With a package in one hand and her son Trey Burkes, 7 months, in the other, Judy Burkes and her son Kevin Burkes, 8, carry a load of packages to be mailed at the West Sacramento (Calif.) Regional Mail Processing and Distribution Center on Monday. Monday was considered one of the busiest days for the center as thousands of packages and other pieces of mail were handled for the holiday rush.

# Groups demand fuel investigation

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Local leaders of the Sierra Club on Wednesday demanded an independent investigation of a diesel leak from a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway Co. refueling station that threatens the only drinking water for 400,000 people in two states.

The leak of wastewater containing diesel fuel and motor oil was discovered Dec. 10 at the fueling station at Holdrege, Idaho, about 25 miles northeast of Spokane.

The state-of-the-art refueling depot, intended to relieve train congestion in the Seattle area, opened Sept. 1 over the objections of many residents and environmental groups who feared it would pollute the underground water supply for the greater Spokane region.

"This mistake shows the utter failure of government to provide basic protections for our sole source of drinking water," said Rachael Paschal Soborn, a lawyer who represents the Aquifer and the Sierra Club.

Gus Melonas, a spokesman for the railroad in Seattle, said BNSF is keeping state and county officials apprised of the situation.

While it does not appear that drinking water is at risk, BNSF scientists are studying engineering methods to make sure no contamination occurs in the future, Melonas said.

"The fractured pipe has been taken out of service and the entire wastewater system has been pressure-tested to ensure its integrity," Melonas said in a

telephone interview.

The refueling station remains in operation, he said.

Officials for the railroad proudly showed off the 500,000-gallon refueling depot Aug. 31, declaring it too well designed to pollute the aquifer that runs from the Bradnmin Prairie of Idaho to Spokane.

But a crack occurred at some point in an 8-inch plastic pipe, allowing wastewater mixed with small amounts of diesel fuel and motor oil to get into the soil.

Melonas said an investigation is under way to determine when the crack might have occurred, how much pollution was leaked and what effects it may have had on the aquifer. The investigation will not be concluded until next week,

he said.

State regulators said this week that it appears at least some diesel and oil leaked into the aquifer.

The Sierra Club and Friends of the Aquifer also want Kootenai County, Idaho, officials to determine if the railroad performed the 33 conditions imposed in the permit issued by the county to the railroad in 2000.

"This depot was supposed to be built to the highest engineering standards," said Julian Powers, board member of Friends of the Aquifer. "It is critical that a competent and independent engineering team be hired at BNSF's expense to review construction of the facility."

# Ada County voters will decide on district Crash victim identified

BOISE — Ada County voters will get to decide whether to pay more for their cash-strapped ambulance district.

County commissioners decided unanimously to hold an election over the contentious issue. But they'll wait until at least next month before they settle on the amount of a proposed increase or when to hold the vote.

It could be held in February, May, August or November.

The Ada County Ambulance District is being pinched because of a 2002 federal Medicare rule change that prohibits the district from collecting fees from some patients whose care costs exceed federal reimbursements. That's drained reserves and left tax-

Idaho in brief

payers to cover the difference.

At the current rate, taxpayers pay about \$12 per \$100,000 of assessed value each year.

Increasing that to about \$30 per year would allow the district to continue functioning at its current level of service for the next two years.

The decision to let voters decide means the County Commission won't raise Enterprise Medical Services taxes on its own. There's also no guarantee that voters will choose to raise their taxes.

"It still leaves the district in a lot of uncertainty," Commissioner Fred Tilman said.

Blue Cross won't use Social Security numbers

BOISE — Blue Cross of Idaho will no longer base its customer identification numbers on Social Security numbers in a move to curb the theft of the identities of its 380,000 members.

The changes will take effect Jan. 1. After that, the insurer plans to start using randomly assigned numbers for its customers' IDs.

Some people have already requested that their identification numbers be converted to the new system as the company's second term at the new numbers last May. But about 140,000 people who haven't yet switched will get

new numbers come next year.

Identity theft has grown as a concern in recent years as more and more people use electronic or computer-based systems to process financial transactions.

A report by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission shows that 27.3 million Americans have been victims of identity theft in the last five years, costing consumers some \$5 billion.

"While we have had any known cases of identity theft associated with our members' Social Security ID numbers, we are proactively taking these steps to reduce the risk of this happening," said Ray Flachsbach, executive officer of Blue Cross in Idaho.

— compiled from wire reports

The Times-News

MALTA — A Meridian man was killed Tuesday afternoon when he lost control in icy conditions on Interstate 84 and the car overturned.

Tracy Moffett, 53, was traveling westbound near milepost 230 east of Malta when the accident occurred.

His passenger, Muriel Moffett, also 53, sustained minor injuries in the crash.

Both were wearing seat belts.

A number of other slide-off accidents were reported along the stretch of I-84 during Tuesday's snow storm.

Crash victim identified

plans to build a four-plex on the lots.

The council granted Weaver's request after Bennett said that Shoshone planning and zoning recommended that the changes be made.

Weaver said she plans to build one four-plex first, but could build more depending on demand.

"I'll see if it gets filled," she said.

Times-News correspondent Lorraine Cawener can be reached at 208-838-8446 or lcawener@pmt.org.

# Some cities cut back on Christmas decorations

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — City Christmas lights are a tradition in Utah, but some cash-strapped towns are trimming their decorations literally, cutting back on lights and turning those costs to the private sector.

Salt Lake City, for instance, quit supplying labor and maintenance costs for Main Street lighting displays in the mid-1990s. Over the past decade, the city has stopped being responsible for downtown lighting displays, send that duty to the city's Redevelopment Authority, Downtown Alliance and other private entities.

"The city said, 'We can't do

that anymore.' Financially, they were having some budget difficulties," said Bob Darrington, executive director of the Downtown Alliance.

That's why private groups, including The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, combine to spend what Farmington estimates at \$1 million to light up Utah's capital city.

Salt Lake City isn't alone. In Davis County, the Kaysville-Fruit Heights City Council holds a July Fourth fund-raising breakfast to pay for the annual Christmas ball for the mountainside above the two cities.

Ogden relies heavily on pri-

vat donations to fund its Christmas-Village display. Alreday, Ogden and Weber County spend \$200,000 in taxpayer funds for the village. But Carolyn Bachman, Ogden's special events coordinator, said that isn't enough, so each miniature building in the display is sponsored by a private company.

In South Jordan, the city is looking to take its Christmas lighting needs to the private sector. One idea the city is considering is seeking sponsorships from local businesses.

"Christmas decorations are very expensive," Ponzuric said. "We'd like the city to be beauti-

ful, but we want to make sure we plan for it right."

Some Utah cities are opening their wallets to spread Christmas cheer, with some governments paying hundreds of dollars to paint the town with lights and decorations.

Sandy spends about \$17,000 a year on holiday decorations. Layton's holiday display, near City Hall, runs about \$19,000 a year.

It's hard to put a price on the spirit of a community," said Ryan Meacham, Sandy city spokesman. "It helps with that spirit of identity."

# Study

Continued from C1

ten, a public hearing will be held to allow business people to comment about the ordinance.

City Clerk Mary Kay Bennett said the ordinance had to be rewritten to address concerns about home-based business inspections and several other concerns.

Patricia Weaver addressed the council about some lots she owns east of the breeding alley. Weaver requested that the lots be changed from residential to mixed plan development because she

Deal

Continued from C1

competes with Idaho power by providing electricity or power lines to residents. The city reserved the right to maintain wires for its own internal communications for fire, police and governmental services.

As compensation for the franchise, Idaho Power will collect from city residents and pay the city 1 percent of its quarterly gross revenues. According to the agreement, if the city wishes to increase the franchise fee it can raise it up to three percent with the approval of the majority of the voters in the city.

Bob Ruebel, an Idaho Power spokesman, said the average residence in the city of Jerome

# In farewell, Walker asks for lower tax structure

Governor says policies would provide stability

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — In her farewell address Wednesday night, Gov. Glenn Walker urged the Legislature to pass tax policies that will provide greater financial stability to the state.

"We have presented a plan that will broaden the base and lower tax rates, which will make Utah a more desirable place to provide quality jobs while leveling the highs and lows of the economy," Walker said.

Walker, 74, became Utah's first female governor after she took over for former Gov. Mike Leavitt, who left the office to become the head of the federal Environmental Protection Agency in Nov. 2003.

Walker said in her speech from the Governor's Mansion.

In addition to her call for a new tax code, Walker devoted much of her final address to what will be remembered as the focus of her short term education.

"We must recognize that quality jobs are only possible with outstanding education systems and that the two will always go hand in hand together."

Walker counted securing the funds for a state reading program as one of her greatest accomplishments in the 2003 Legislative session.

As governor she initiated a program to encourage adults to read to their child for at least 20 minutes each day.

She said the state must continue in its efforts to ensure every child masters basic education skills, as well as recognize the potential that comes from higher education.

"We must strengthen our universities and colleges so that quality jobs flow from ideas to job creator in order to meet the needs of our citizens," she said.

In her roughly ten-minute speech, Walker thanked her

family and staff and recalled some of the most memorable moments of her term.

"I shall miss the sleepovers with my grandchildren at the Mansion, the invitations to come to your schools and the suggestions you have given on how to be a better governor," she said.

"Yes, I leave the governorship with wonderful memories, but I also leave with the strong conviction that the future of Utah is secure because the people who live here," Walker said.

Before becoming the state's 15th governor, Walker served as the lieutenant governor for 12 years under Leavitt. She lost her bid for a second term at the state Republican convention.

Walker holds bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees from Brigham Young, Stanford and the University of Utah, respectively.

From 1981 to 1989, Walker served as a member of the Utah House of Representatives, including a term as assistant majority whip and majority whip.

From 1989 to 1992, she served as the vice president of a family business, Country Crisp Foods.

She and her husband, Steve Walker, have been married 50 years. She is the mother of seven children and has 25 grandchildren.

Utah's Gov.-elect Jon M. Huntsman Jr. will take the oath of office on Jan. 3.

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**CENTURY CINEMA 5 & BURLEY THEATRE**

All Theatres Closed Christmas Eve

Christmas Day Century Cinemas will start all movies at 5:00 p.m.

**MEET THE FOCKERS** P S N V  
New Movie, Rated PG-13, Double Feature, Double Release  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG-13)

**OCEAN'S TWELVE** P S N V  
Campy Comedy, Best Film, Best Music, Critical Acclaim  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG-13)

**FLIGHT OF THE PHOENIX** P S N V  
Dramatic Comedy in Action/Adventure Best Film  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG)

**NATIONAL TREASURE** P S N V  
Holiday Comedy in Action/Thriller Best Film of Year  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG)

**LEMONY-SNICKEY'S** P S N V  
An Academy of Motion Picture Arts  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG)

**BURLEY THEATRE ALL SEATERS ONLY 12:20**  
CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE • OPEN CHRISTMAS MORNING  
**SHARK TALE** P S N V  
New Movie, Rated PG-13  
7:30 • 9:45 (PG)

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

County clears plan for wind farm

POCATELLO (AP) — The Power County Planning and Zoning Board has approved plans from two Boise-based companies to build large-scale wind farms south of American Falls.

The plans are contingent upon signing power contracts with one of the three electric utilities whose grids are accessible from near American Falls.

Windlend-Shell's proposed wind turbine farm on the edge of the Deep Creek Mountains, near Bowen Canyon Eagle Reserve, would create 150 jobs in Power County during a six-month construction period and about a dozen full-time jobs throughout the project's 30-year life, Heckler said.

Another company, Bridgeline Energy, got approval Nov. 22 for a wind farm of up to 200 turbines to be built in phases south of American Falls according to power demands.

Detectives work to identify body

Autopsy doesn't show signs of trauma to body

COBURN (AP) — An autopsy revealed no signs of trauma to the decomposed body of a man found by a duck hunter in the Pend Oreille River over the weekend.

Sagle and Sandpoint. Two shoes of a type worn by Chune washed ashore in the weeks after his disappearance.

Investigators were seeking dental records of Dan Chune, a man who disappeared near the river almost two months ago, said Detective Steve Feldhausen of the Sandpoint Police Department.

Chune is a 29-year-old software programmer who vanished in the early morning hours of Nov. 6 after a night out with friends at the Long Bridge Grill in Sagle.

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Chune is a 29-year-old software programmer who vanished in the early morning hours of Nov. 6 after a night out with friends at the Long Bridge Grill in Sagle.

GOODING COUNTY COURTS

GOODING — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Gooding County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Jesse W. Hucker, driving under the influence, court trial Jan. 23; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Maurice R. Danks, driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$750 fine, \$63.50 court costs, one year supervised probation; one year unsupervised probation; one year unsupervised drug paraphernalia with intent to use; \$300 fine, \$400 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$100

public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation, 180 days in jail, 170 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Daniel Hinds-Quinn, reckless driving without privileges, amended to driving without license; \$750 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

John H. Folan III, possession of a controlled substance, \$300 fine, \$63.50 court costs, one day in jail, credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

William John Hunsinger, driving under the influence (excessive); \$2,000 fine, \$1,500 suspended, \$750 court costs, one year supervised probation, 365 days in jail, 360 suspended, credit for 40 days served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Carlos Canoy Santibon, driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$615.00 fine, \$63.50 court costs, failure to provide proof of insurance; \$750 fine, \$550 suspended, \$750 public defender fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 170 suspended; credit for 10 days served; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

to provide proof of insurance; \$750 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Donna Marie Thurman, driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$750 court costs, \$15 public defender fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 170 suspended; credit for two days served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Stephan Kyle Barbes, placing debris on public/private property; \$50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Thomas Raymond Lattery, battery — domestic violence, amended to battery; \$300 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 170 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Brenda Hulse Owens, battery; \$500 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, one year supervised probation, 30 days in jail, 30 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

JEROME COUNTY COURTS

JEROME — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Jerome County included the following:

Misdemeanor arraignments

Erin Smith Galtre Aragon, 34, battery, trespass, pretrial conference Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Douglas Anthony Duran, 23, driving without privileges; fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer; resisting or obstructing officers, exceeding the speed limit, failure to provide proof of insurance, pretrial conference Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Eric G. Johns, 29, driving without privileges, pretrial conference Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Alma Diane Ramirez, 32, driving without privileges, exceeding the speed limit, failure to provide proof of insurance, pretrial conference Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Cassey T. Ward, 34, driving without privileges, failure to provide proof of insurance, pretrial conference Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

probation; 180 days in jail, 170 suspended, credit for 10 days served; one-day driver's license suspension; driving without privileges, amended by prosecutor, Separate case failure to purchase/invalid driver's license, dismissed by prosecutor exceeding the speed limit; \$250 fine, \$125 court costs, failure to provide proof of insurance; \$75 fine, \$32.50 court costs, failure to use safety restraint, dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Louise Ramirez, 45, reckless driving under the influence; \$800 fine, \$750 suspended, \$750 court costs, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 163 suspended, credit for 17 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Samuel H. Rojas-Benitez, 45, reckless driving, dismissed by prosecutor; driving without privileges; \$300 fine, \$800 suspended, one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 156 suspended; credit for 24 days served; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Gabriel Cisneros, 22, driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$750 suspended, 180 days in jail, 90 suspended; credit for one day served, 70 days discretionary, 180-day driver's license suspension, open container, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Catrina Chavez Flores, 50, wrongful conviction; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation; 90 days in jail, 180 suspended; credit for one day served, one year eligible for work program; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Jedon Byrd Kocher, 21, battery — domestic violence, amended to disturbing the peace; \$300 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 89 suspended; credit for one day served; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Kenneth P. Krause, 22, driving without privileges, amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$43.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Patricia H. Rippey, 46, driving under the influence; \$750 fine, \$550 suspended, \$750 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 170 suspended; two days eligible for work program, 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Tonya H. Roholt, 28, use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, two years supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 174 suspended, credit for six days served, 30 days in jail, 170 suspended; separate case; driving without privileges; dismissed by prosecutor; failure to provide proof of insurance; dismissed by the court; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Gary Lee Westlake, 42; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$750 suspended, \$750 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 118 suspended, 60 days discretionary, two days eligible for work program; 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Truce Lee Atkinson, 48; abuse, exploitation, neglect of a vulnerable adult; judgment withheld for one year; \$300 fine, \$250 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee, one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 90 suspended; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Maria T. Augustus, 61; petit theft, amended to willful concealment; judgment withheld for one year; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended, \$63.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation; 90 days in jail, 89 suspended; credit for one day served; 10-year community service; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Clindy K. Barnett, 41; open container, driving under the influence, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

David H. Slotten, 39; driving on a divided highway/restricted access; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Jeremy Richard Heruag, 29; driving without privileges; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Antonio Balson, 30; possession of a forged check; forgery, making, passing or receiving notes, checks, status hearing Dec. 20, Separate case; bail jumping; status hearing Dec. 20, Separate case; two counts bail jumping; status hearing Dec. 20, District Judge John K. Butler.

Ronald Lee Sears, 37; two counts grand theft; dismissed by prosecutor; burglary, three years determinate, penitentiary time, five years indeterminate, credit for 121 days served; unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge John K. Butler.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Angela M. Crowlode, Seeking \$225 monthly support for Nitsaha M. Heitrich and Skylee D. Heitrich, plus 50 percent of child's medical expenses; \$1,047 for public assistance for a prior period; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Carlos Perez Leyva and Marissa Jesus Valencia Lopez, Seeking \$200 per month of child's medical expenses for Kelly Leyva Valencia; \$2,304 for his pro rata share of birth costs; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Sergio G. Cardenas, Seeking 50 percent of child's medical expenses for Shantel Marie Hoskover; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Esteban Cardenas and Verette Flores, Seeking of Mr. Cardenas; \$310 monthly support for Isen L. Flores, plus 85 percent of child's medical expenses; \$1,262 for his pro rata share of birth costs; attorney fees.

Darin Eugene Stump vs. Maggie Anna Stump

Kirt Lindsay vs. Fred Leroy Lindsay

Teressa G. Scruggs vs. Jeremy H. Scruggs

Christmas Packages Drum Set Starting at \$399 5 Piece Includes cymbals, stands, seat, sticks, 2 videos! WELCH MUSIC Around here it's always a little time. 837 Pole Line Rd • Twin Falls • 734-9010 1328 Overland Ave • Burley • 678-3388 Business to Business

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Hispanic advocate dies

BOISE (AP) — Richard Cortez, a businessman who launched the Jalapeno Open golf tournament and was one of the nation's foremost advocates of Hispanic entrepreneurship, died Saturday after a battle with cancer. He was 69.

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Twin Falls Canal Company NOTICE of Regular STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the Stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 11th of January, 2005. The meeting will be called to order by the Director's at 9:00 a.m. in the Rick Allen Room in the Herrest Center at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. A Director from District 3 (Filer) will be elected for a three-year term. Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2005 water supplies, water quality issues, Snake River Aquifer studies, the Endangered Species Act, the SRBA, and other matters of interest. The corporate books will close for the transfer of stock on January 3, 2005. The polls shall be open at the office of the Company at 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. on January 11, 2005. Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company Office on or before January 7, 2005. DATED this 8th day of December, 2004. TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY Brian Olmstead, Assistant Secretary



# Blair proposes Mideast conference

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — British Prime Minister Tony Blair offered Wednesday to host a one-day Mideast conference in the new year to help rehabilitate the battered Palestinian Authority, encourage reform and serve as a bridge to renewed peace talks, stalled by four years of violence.

Blair, the highest-ranking visitor to the West Bank since Yasser Arafat's death on Nov. 11, said a growing sense of hope



Tony Blair

Wednesday was the first time

must now be translated into action, while endorsing Israel's pre-conditions for peace talks — an end to Palestinian attacks — and the Palestinian goal of an independent state.

Blair talked in public about his proposed London conference, considerably scaling down the expectations of many who expected a full-blown British Mideast peace-push.

Instead, Blair said the conference would be a one-day affair in March dealing only with reforms in the Palestinian administration and additional aid. He said it would serve as a "bridge to the road map," the stalled international peace plan

leading to a Palestinian state, but calling a conference to discuss substantive issues "is not for me to undertake."

Interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas said he welcomed the idea of the conference, although the Palestinians initially hoped for a broader agenda, including key disputes with Israel over Jerusalem, the fate of Palestinian refugees and the borders of a Palestinian state.

# Yushchenko warns of troubles during runoff

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko praised thousands of his supporters Wednesday night, telling a roaring, orange-clad crowd that they changed the country without bloodshed — but he also warned of trouble during this weekend's presidential runoff.

Yushchenko did not say who was plotting against Sunday's court-ordered vote, but told supporters at a rally in Kiev that he was "calling on your courage to defend the results of the election."

"The vote on Dec. 26 will not be an easy political walk," Yushchenko said in freezing

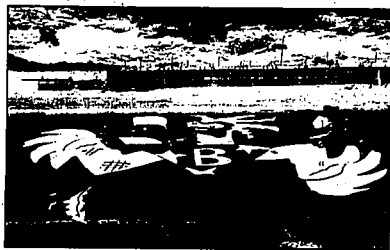
temperatures on Independence Square to mark one month since the beginning of the "orange revolution" protests. "There are some forces preparing to disrupt and they are preparing brigades, groups who are readying to come to Kiev."

"We will come on this square, this stage, after the vote on Dec. 26, and will stay until our victory is celebrated," he said.

The call echoed an appeal he made after the Nov. 21 runoff that his rival Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich won until the Supreme Court annulled the vote, citing fraud. It ordered a new vote for Sunday.

# Artwork in road latest in U.S., Cuba dispute

HAVANA (AP) — Cuban art students and cartoonists painted an American eagle cartoon Wednesday on the asphalt of Havana's coastal highway so cars can drive over it as they pass the U.S. district mission, the latest salvo in a spat over pro-disident Christmas decorations hung by the Americans.



Cars pass over a giant bird called "Super B" in front of the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba, on Wednesday. The artwork refers to the U.S. "blockade," or trade sanctions, and was painted by cartoonists and art students in an escalating protest.

Police closed off two blocks of the highway where the students drew the colorful cartoon of an aggressive-looking eagle with an enormous "B" on its chest — referring to the U.S. "blockade," or trade sanctions. The government has used the figure in a long-drawn-out campaign to criticize four decades of sanctions.

"This character represents the blockade and will be squashed by all the cars and people who pass by here," said Ernesto Padron, a well-known cartoonist working on the painting.

Dozens of other artists worked on billboards outside the mission. They said they planned to paint a caricature of James Cason, chief of the U.S.

Interests Section, as well as images protesting the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

U.S. officials declined to comment Wednesday on the painting.

The row began last week when Cason ignored orders by

the Cuban government to remove Christmas decorations including a sign reading "75" — a reference to 75 Cuban dissidents arrested in a crackdown last year.

The Cuban government then erected a billboard outside the

U.S. mission emblazoned with photographs of U.S. soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners and the "made in the USA" stamp.

"We reject the U.S. operations against Cuba and against Iraq," Lisandra Ramirez, 18, said as she painted.

Earlier in the week, thousands of university students rallied outside the U.S. Interests Section to protest the Christmas display.

U.S.-Cuba relations, never good during four decades of communist rule on the island, have deteriorated during President Bush's administration, which has toughened economic sanctions and publicized its plan for a democratic Cuba after Fidel Castro.

# Russia test-fires ballistic missile

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia successfully test-fired a heavy intercontinental ballistic missile on Wednesday in a launch intended to extend the life-time of aging Soviet-built weapons.

It was the first time that an RS-20V Voevoda, which NATO identifies as the SS-18 Satan, had been fired from its combat positions in Russia since the 1991 Soviet collapse. Previously, such missiles had been launched from the Russian-leased Baikonur cosmodrome in the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan.

The missile, which was launched from a silo in the Orenburg region in the southern Ural Mountains, hit a designated target on a testing ground on the Far East Kamchatka Peninsula, more than 3,750 miles away.

The main result of the launch was the confirmation of the technical characteristics of the missiles, which have no analogues in the world," Russia's Strategic Missile Forces said in a statement.

It added that the missile had been on combat duty for 16 years before the launch.

# Court opens hearings for Pinochet

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — The Supreme Court opened hearings Wednesday on whether to uphold the indictment and house arrest of Gen. Augusto Pinochet on human rights charges, as the former dictator was released from hospital after five days recovering from a stroke.

The Santiago army hospital said Pinochet, 89, was taken to his home to continue his treatment and rehabilitation there.

Pinochet was indicted and ordered to remain under house arrest last week by Judge Juan Guzman, and on Monday the Santiago Court of

Appeals upheld both decisions.

Pinochet's defense lawyer Pablo Rodriguez appealed to the Supreme Court and on Wednesday he opened the hearings requesting the annulment of the indictment and house arrest on health grounds.

# You'll be the life of the party, Taurus

IF DECEMBER 23 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... It isn't the time to follow your impulses or give into whims. Stick to the tried-and-true path unless you are absolutely sure you have outgrown a situation. Even so, hold off until later in the year ahead to take any action. April, when you are at your charming best, could bring helpful people and conditions that put a positive spin on your hopes, dreams and wishes. July and August might be filled with brief restrictions, but you will be on a positive roll next November and December when both love and money can drop in your lap without impediment.

## HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

share your last cent to make others glow with pleasure.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** As they say, there are plenty of fish in the sea — so don't limit yourself to one partner if you are single. Married folks may need to give their mates room to roam as friendships take top billing today.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Spend some relaxing hours with familiar faces. Maybe the party mood rubs off at the workplace and coworkers receive your attention. The perfect gift of the day is something with a new edge, favor or the latest techno gadget.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** A whirlwind of parties over the next few days can be exciting and you are at your entertaining best. Fresh faces might appear in the crowd and new friendships are possible. Secular annual one-of-a-kind items that might appeal to your new age tastes.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** You can't have too many friends, so don't put all your eggs into one basket. Sultry glances during a chance encounter may lead to a fling — but the attraction might be based on differences rather than similarities.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Throw a party or go out caroling. Mix with others to have the most fun under these holiday stars. Perfect strangers could become bosom buddies within an hour and chance friendships could set your heart

beating wildly.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Don't cast aside solid relationships or succumb to sudden urges to abandon obligations. Catch-a-catnap because late tonight romance might rear its lovely head. The way to enjoyment is to buy something for someone else.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** You are at your best when paired with a congenial other today, so take a friend along on last-minute shopping jaunts. Turtleneck cards and aromatherapy candles might make perfect stocking stuffers to delight staid souls who are just learning to stretch their wings.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Under these amiable stars you can get away with wearing that battery run flashing red-nosed reindeer tie or the outrageous T shirt that shocks and amuses. Stand out in a crowd by being a little different — and others will love you more.

**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	Many
Santa (Center Court)	12-6	2:30-7:30	2:30-7:30	12-7:30	11-7:30	10-2:30	Many Christmas

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

MORNING BREAK

**ACROSS**

- Crackers or bananas
- "Star Trek" alien
- Training room
- Ciao on Lanai
- Lake by Reno
- Actress: Gabor
- Oregon-capital
- Point a finger at
- Five after five
- L. Michaels' show
- Had a meal
- Meals
- Buddhist and Hindu principles
- Dieter's word
- Treaty of Versailles' region
- Sleak picks
- On vacation
- One who fails to make the team
- Uh-huh
- College A team
- Make up facts
- Authorization to act
- Disposition
- Permanent places?
- Very beautiful
- Coagulate
- Warm air current
- Nath class
- NYC arena
- Has been
- Obvious toupee
- Singer Frankie
- Access Davis
- 100 square meters
- Prima donnas
- Merits
- Plot for roses
- 67 Strides
- Frook

**DOWN**

- Deep singer
- Ladd or Thicke
- Road charge
- Who's... Boss'?
- Piano maker
- Swiss rescue breed
- Sidekick
- "A Rage to Live" author
- Reaches agreement
- Hang on to
- Enters
- Ms. Mimioux
- Presbyterian paragonages
- Water between two Chinas
- Very much
- Uninteresting
- Moral of the story
- Set down
- Be indebted to
- Sharp knock
- Purchase
- Haphazard
- Moving vehicle
- Old card game
- Debtor's note
- Beglay and McMahon
- Set dust particle
- Dinger Torrie
- Egyptian beetle
- Enticement
- Recorded
- Prevented from speaking
- Divide in two
- TM underwear
- "Those... the... Days"
- Sheridan and Sothorn
- Mouth of
- Track circuit
- Corn serving

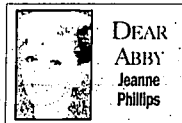
**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

C	L	A	S	S	C	O	A	L	P	R	A	M
R	E	L	I	C	A	L	M	A	R	O	M	A
A	N	G	L	O	L	E	N	O	B	I	S	
S	T	E	E	R		C	O	N	D	I	M	E
H	O	R	N	E	D		D	O	D	O		
						T	R	E	A	D		N
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						E	K	E		C	L	O
						T	R	I	L	L		N
						S	A	L	O	O	N	
						A	S	E	A		P	R
						A	L	D	E	A	G	L
						A	L	A	I		R	O
						R	E	I	N		B	R
						B	E	R	G		Y	A

12/23/04

# Husband's verbal abuse only stops after he leaves for good

DEAR ABBY: You printed a letter from "Beaten Down in Oklahoma," who said that although she had a history of severe depression, her verbally abusive husband refused to allow her to get medication "because he didn't believe in it." He told her she was "worthless" and said he only kept her around so he could be near the kids. That letter could have been written by me five years ago.



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

I was nine years into a physically and emotionally abusive marriage. I heard the same things from my husband. And afterward, when he was trying to make up, he too always said he "didn't mean it."

DEAR FULL OF HOPE: I heard from many readers who identified with that letter and felt it was important for her to break away. Read on:

Well, it turned out he did mean it. Once he found his next victim — a younger woman — he walked out. As he left, he announced it was because everything he'd said had been the truth. I was ugly, fat, worthless, lousy in bed, and he'd only stayed because he wanted to be around the kids.

DEAR ABBY: A husband who tells his wife she's worthless and stupid is using verbal abuse to wear her down and control her. Marriage counseling and psychiatrists won't help. The man has low self-esteem and tries to make himself appear powerful and intelligent by making his wife feel inadequate. Every day she stays with him is far more harmful to the children than taking them and leaving. Abuse is not always physical.

You should have advised "Beaten Down" to see a lawyer in addition to a counselor, while she still has a shred of self-esteem. Following my divorce, I got counseling. Once I felt better about myself, I met a wonderful man. We're married now. I wish I could give "Beaten Down" a hug, because she's

not alone. She's in my prayers. — FULL OF HOPE IN GEORGIA

DEAR DIANE: It's true; children model their behavior on what they're exposed to.

DEAR ABBY: As a clinical so-

cial worker and therapist with a strong background in the field of domestic violence, I must comment on your response to "Beaten Down in Oklahoma." Your suggestion of marital counseling is not recommended in such situations. It can render the victims more vulnerable to abuse and manipulation after they leave the counselor's office. Your suggestion of going alone and building her own strength is helpful. Contacting her local domestic violence organization, for support is also recommended.

— LSCW IN MAINE

DEAR LSCW: Thank you for the input. The toll-free number for the National Domestic Violence Hotline is (800) 799-7233.

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December 19 ~ 3:00 PM Christmas Concert  
December 24  
7:00 PM Family Christmas Eve Services  
9:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve Service

Sunday Services:  
Contemporary Worship Service 8:30 AM  
Sunday School 9:45 AM  
Traditional Worship with the Chancel Choir 11:00 AM

## Christmas poem was published in 1823

This day in history: "Twas the night before Christmas," The Dec. 23, 1823, Troy Record published an anonymous poem under the headline "Account of a Visit from St. Nicholas." Fourteen years later, Clement C. Moore would take credit for the famous poem — to the chagrin of poet Henry Livingston's children, who remembered their late father writing the poem in 1808.

"Math students," remember this request: "May I have a large container of coffee? Thank you." [You can get the letters of each word you get 91 to ten digits: 3.141592653. (Coffee and pi? Mmmmm)]

The Constitution says that a president has to be native-born, yet eight were not born in the United States. How can this be? The first eight presidents were born in the American colonies, before the revolution brought the United States into existence. A crucifixerball is a crossword puzzle fanatic.

English beekeepers used to deck their hives with holly on Christmas Eve, believing the



**RANDOM KINSHIP FACINESS**  
Jack Mingo  
Erin Barrett

bees would hum Christmas carols.

P.T. Barnum's conjoined "Siamese Twins," Chang and Eng, got rich enough as a sideshow attraction to buy a tobacco farm in the mid-1800s, complete with slaves. They married twin sisters, and the lack of privacy didn't seem to be a problem: Chang had 10 children, and Eng had 11.

Of the 11 U.S. Poet Laureates so far, three were born on March 1.

A study by an anthropologist a few years back claimed that people drink alcohol more

quickly while listening to country music than to any other musical genre. He also found that the slower the tune of any genre, the faster the drinking.

Spiders keep from getting stuck in their webs by spinning two kinds of silks: non-stick anchor threads, and sticky snare threads. If it accidentally gets stuck in its own snare thread, a spider has an emergency escape clause: it can secrete an oily-solvent that neutralizes the stickiness.

After the American Revolution, Christmas fell out of favor, because it was considered an English custom by the colonists. Congress met as always on Dec. 25, 1789, the first Christmas under America's new Constitution. It wasn't declared a federal holiday until Jan. 26, 1870.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at [uwbathroomcompanion.com](mailto:uwbathroomcompanion.com)

See Horoscopes on page C5

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Blade: Trinity (R) 7:00 - 9:20  
**Odyssey 6** (Vale)  
Glenn (R) 7:30, 9:30, 11:30  
Spanglish (R) 7:30, 9:30, 11:30  
Finding Neverland (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Alexander (R) 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Bridget Jones 2 (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30  
**Jerome 4** (Twin Falls)  
Meet the Fockers (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Lemony Snicket's (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Polar Express (G) 12:30, 2:30  
Ocean's 12 (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
National Treasure (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
**Twin 12** (Twin Falls)  
Ladder 49 (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Incredibles (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30  
Polar Express (G) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
National Treasure (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Ocean's 12 (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Shark Tale (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Flight of the Phoenix (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30  
Lemony Snicket's (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30  
Meet the Fockers (R) 12:30, 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30  
Christmas with the Kranks (R) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45

Robert De Niro • Ben Stiller • Dustin Hoffman • Barbra Streisand

# Meet the Fockers

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**MASTERS AUCTION SERVICE**

Thank You to all our many, many friends, clients, buyers and sellers for another tremendous year. We appreciate your business and support at our auctions.

Not only did we once again conduct over 120 auction sales during 2004, we also conducted many fund raisers plus our usual participation in the 4-H/FFA sales.

Also, we received some special honors during 2004. Masters Auction Service was nominated for the "Entegrity Counts" award given by the Better Business Bureau of Idaho for 2004, and was selected as an Honoree for that award.

Lyle Masters was awarded "The Extra Mile Award" from the Twin Falls City Chamber of Commerce, and he was also entered into the National Register of Who's Who in Executives and Professionals for the 2005-2006 edition.

Thanks to all of you! These accomplishments could not have happened without the continued support that you have given Masters Auction Service for the last 46 years.

As we begin our 47th year in business, we once again are booking auction sales for the 2005 season. Call any of our auction personnel for more information concerning your auction or visit our web site: [www.mastersauction.com](http://www.mastersauction.com)

Again, thank you all for another great year and from all of us at Masters Auction Service, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

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For and about  
the Latino  
community

# Comunidad

Comunidad editor: Pat Marzantonio - 735-3288

## Couple brings the Word to Mexico

By Coreen Hart  
Times-News correspondent

**RUPERT** — The Rev. Dago and Mrs. Guadalupe Martínez are again planning a trip to Mexico and hope to take with them a trailer full of Bibles and blankets.

The pastors of La Boca Firme, a Pentecostal church in Rupert, will leave Jan. 5 for Hermosillo, Mexico.

"We have a pickup that we will load, and rent a U-Haul trailer," the Rev. Martínez said. "We hope it will be filled to the top with Bibles and blankets."

They have already purchased three cases of Bibles but hope to buy more.

Since a part of their ministry is to the prisoners in Hermosillo's jail, the Bibles are entitled, "Libre Entre Rejas" or "Free Behind Bars."

A barber by trade, he will also cut hair while there.

Martínez chose Hermosillo to visit because he has known a pastor there for several years. He also knows of the poverty.

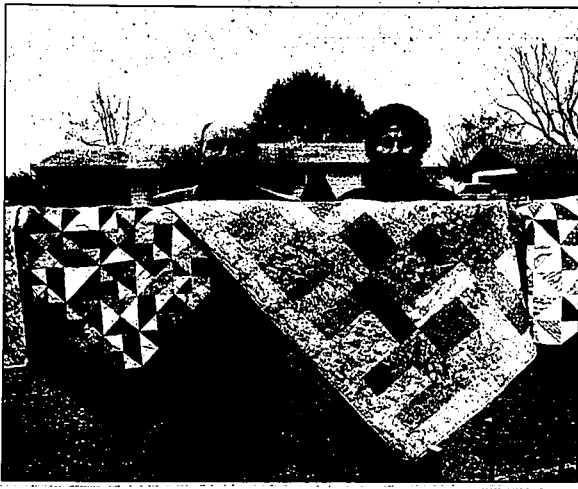
Connecting with the Hermosillo pastor in Phoenix, Ariz., and accompanied by another couple, he and his wife hope a three-vehicle caravan will travel five hours south to the Gulf of Mexico, to the city of 2.2 million people.

"Many of the people in his church (in Hermosillo) are Tarazco Indians who do not speak Spanish, so I have an interpreter for when I preach to them," Martínez said.

The large church in Mexico is built from two by fours and corrugated metal and cardboard. The Idaho couple has promised to raise money for trusses so a roof can be constructed.

"The people are extremely poor in the city, he said. Some families live in rusted out car bodies.

In a community where a full day's wages translate to less than \$1 in U.S. currency, the liv-



The Rev. Dago and Mrs. Guadalupe Martínez show some of the blankets they will take to Mexico next month.

### Want to help?

If you can donate a new or nearly-new blanket or quilt, or money to help buy Bibles, call the Rev. Dago Martínez at 312-3080. During business hours, bring contributions to his barber shop, Dago's Barber Shop, on the square in Rupert.

ing standard is bare subsistence, he said.

Items taken by the couple will be distributed at the church there, but the majority goes to Colonia Sahara, a community of cardboard shacks in the suburbs of Hermosillo.

These people also receive food baskets and glasses.

Among the quilts taken to Mexico will be those made by Alice Walter, 63, and her daughter, Deb Hopkins, both of Burley.

They enjoy making quilts together, especially children's quilts.

Two years ago, Walter's pastor, John Ramey of Calvary Baptist Church, asked if she would be willing to donate some quilts to Martínez's project. This is her third year to donate.

Martínez says she's donated some 48 quilts.

Each one is pieced in bright fabric, bound and machine

quilted. Most are baby blanket size.

"My heart's for the kids," said Walter, who has probably given away 350 to 400 quilts over the years.

A few other people have also donated quilts, but there is room for many more in the pickup, Martínez said.

The Reverend said he will also preach wherever the opportunity arises in Mexico, just as he does in the United States. He may drive over to Tijuana, as well.

Times-News correspondent Coreen Hart can be reached at 208-436-1186 or by email at [jimmurrie@safelink.net](mailto:jimmurrie@safelink.net).

## Hispanic college graduate says 'Don't settle for less'

**MOSCOW** — If Isaac Jiménez had one message to send back home to his peers, it would be that "college is an opportunity for you to choose."

"Often, young Hispanics can turn to gangs or hard labor in the fields as their pathways, but I'd encourage them not to give in to the pressures. Instead, strive for what you really want to be," said Jiménez, son of a migrant farm family from Caldwell who will pick up his Bachelor of Science in physical education at the University of Idaho commencement.

He came to the university five years ago on the College Assistant Migrant Program. He was cut from the track team in his freshman year, and through his own determina-

tion, became one of the only athletes to make it back on the team — and subsequently, even earn an athletic scholarship, the University of Idaho reported.

"I guess I was motivated by the fact that I wanted to prove myself to those who doubted me," Jiménez said. "The team friendships I made and being able to be on the team with my brother, Jordan Zamora, made all the work worthwhile."

Jiménez continues his motto to "never give up," by continuing on to graduate school to earn a master's degree in biomechanics to study human movement and become a personal trainer and educator.

He said he also plans to set a record as the first in his family to earn a master's degree.

### PRAYER EXCHANGE



Gina Vaccaro, 19, from Los Angeles, Calif., sings during a binational Christmas posada in honor of undocumented migrants at the International border fence on Dec. 18, in Tijuana, Mexico. People on both sides of the border exchanged songs, prayer and food at a section of the wall which is still made of cyclone fence material.

### Keep up

Read the Computers and Technology page every Tuesday in The Times-News

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FIRST FEDERAL



# Centennial

Centennial Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins - 735-3242

Page C-8

Thursday, December 23, 2004

The Times-News

## Magic Valley scrapbooks

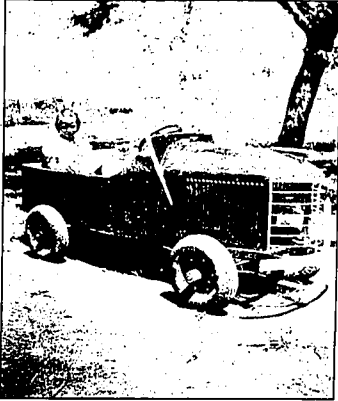
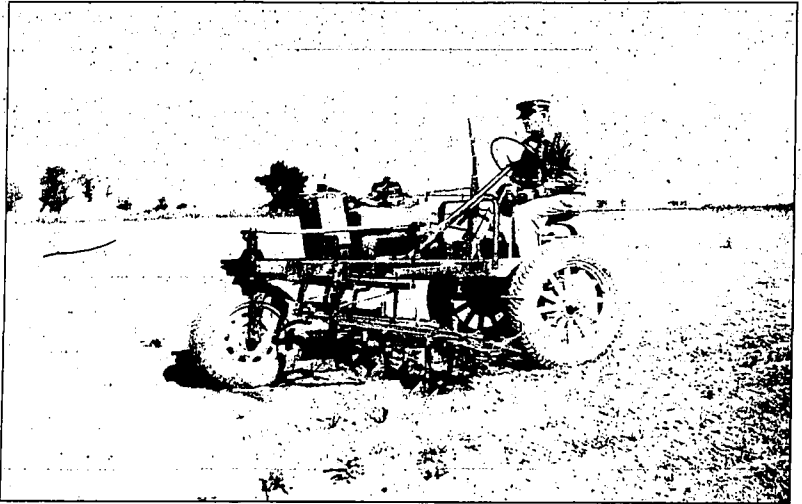


Photo courtesy of descendants of HOWARD JOE MISTLE ELIASSON CONVIN  
In 1940, Lila Conklin (Stauffer) and cousin Curtis Eliasson sit in a homemade car on Hagerman's Main Street. My father (mechanic Howard Conklin) built this car with an industrial washing machine motor, says Lila, now a Twin Falls resident. It had gears, ran on gas. For about 20 years it was in all the parades in Hagerman, representing Cady Auto Co. After pondering for months, the motor vehicle department in Boise licensed it as a motorcycle.



Herschel Malone — father of Twin Falls resident Hazel Aslett — cultivates a crop on a Maroa district farm in the 1920s. Herschel and his brother-in-law Arthur Childers built this tractor from parts of other equipment and made it work, Aslett says.

Three cheers for the inventors!  
Not just the ones who file for patents and find their way into history books. But the everyday folks who have perfected a fine style of "making do" — with the flair of originality instead of the martyrdom of need.

The people on this page found a better way to load manure, and to brighten a far-from-home holiday. They built what they needed from what they had and what they could scrounge or recycle.  
The results of their ingenuity? An oil-revised Christmas tale for a new city. A new wardrobe. Low-cost construction. And, in the case of the homemade car, a little perplexity for a government agency. That's as it should be. Amusement is one of the perks of invention.

—Virginia S. Hutchins



Photo courtesy of JOAN WELLS-HITE BARKLEY of Eden

Siblings Roy and Joan Willis get onto a school bus in Murtaugh in 1939 or 1940. After the family moved to an Eden farm a few years later, Joan recalls, trucks used to deliver feed for the family's farm animals. For three or four years, Roy and Joan, along with their mother and sister, used to pick out enough matching food sacks for their dresses, blouses and shirts — "just like going to a fabric store," says Joan, whose last name now is Barkley. "It sounds kind of embarrassing now, but everybody was doing it then."

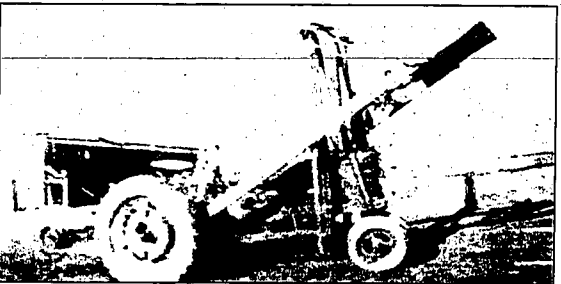


Photo courtesy of CHUCK STEINMETZ of Eden

Chuck Steinmetz of Eden says this homemade manure loader was built by his dad when manure forks were the only way to load manure out of a corral. It was made out of the frame of an old car and rear end pulleys used on hay derricks, Steinmetz says. The only thing bad about it was it held too big a load and broke down a lot of the old wooden horse spreaders, busting out their wooden bottoms. This photo was taken in the early 1940s on the family farm in Eden. "It was quite a few years later before manufactured manure loaders were mass marketed," Steinmetz says.

In 1938, William R. and Cloe Bell stand in front of one of the chicken houses on their farm at 723 Sparks St. in Twin Falls. The couple raised about 3,000 laying hens and sold eggs to local stores and bakeries, says granddaughter Patricia Cogswell of Twin Falls. Cogswell's father — Lawrence Bell, youngest son of William and Cloe — built his family a house out of one of the chicken houses. It still stands at 723 Sparks. "There was a lot of scrounged material and volunteer labor from Mother's brothers and brother-in-laws," Cogswell says.  
Photo courtesy of PATRICIA R. COGSWELL of Twin Falls



## Two inventors save Christmas

Anna Hansen Hayes, wife of the man who led the survey work on the Twin Falls townsite in 1904, wrote an article on the new city's first Christmas for the 1962 publication "A Folk History of Twin Falls County."

The '62 book — a local observance of the Idaho Territory's 100th anniversary in 1963 — was a project of the Twin Falls County Centennial Committee, which Anna Hayes led as chairwoman.

Here, we reproduce most of her account of "How a sagebrush became a Christmas tree":

"Children began to come to Twin Falls in late summer (1904). Their fathers had come as teamsters, carpenters, laborers, or land seekers and, deciding to stay, had gone back for the family or sent for its members to come to the nearest railroad station, Shoshone, about thirty-five miles away ...

"By mid-December, there were sixty-eight children of school age, which, with the little ones, added up to about one hundred. Where there are children at Christmas time, there must be Christmas observance. A few heroic mothers had been holding Sunday school in a tent in Rock Creek Canyon, adjoining the townsite. With these women as leaders, the townspeople assembled to discuss the prospect of a Christmas celebration.

"Enthusiasm ran high — perhaps to mask the homesickness which had threatened most of them in this dust-ridden land. 'We must have a Christmas tree,' they agreed, 'but where can it be found?'

"For miles around there was nothing but sagebrush, dull grey-green sagebrush — symbol of desolation and dust! On the foothills some twenty-five miles distant could be seen dark spots of juniper — but not a pine or spruce tree within fifty or sixty miles.

"The Christmas committee set to work, drilling the children for their share of the program. Others agreed to make festoons of popcorn, and cranberries, and even ornaments of colored paper. There were no tree toys to be bought at either of the two grocery stores in the town and only a small amount of tinsel could be found. One woman had tucked in some tree candle holders and a dozen glass ornaments with the other few things she had been able to bring to the new home. At least, there would be candles.

"Day after day, the children looked hopefully at the blue,

unclouded sky. Surely it would snow soon. But the white flurries stirred by the cutting winter wind were flurries of dust. There seemed to be no snow in Idaho's sky that year.

"Twenty-five miles to the junipers seemed a long journey when men were so busy and teams at such a premium, but there must be a proper Christmas tree, so the women set about to find someone willing to take a day off and drive to the Rock Creek foothills to secure one. Two young men, Sam Hamilton and Fred Eichoff, volunteered to go and were instructed to get the largest, the tallest, the most beautiful juniper on the hillsides.

"Two days before Christmas, the young men set out for the foothills equipped to stay overnight, if necessary, in order to get the best Christmas tree these ever children had ever seen. As their team made its way over the dim, narrow road through the sagebrush toward the foothills, Sam began to speculate about the 'best Christmas tree.'

"A juniper is a good tree, all right, if you can't get any better — but I wonder —"

"Anything would be all right Sam, if the snow would come, but this trying to dig Christmas out of the dust with the sun blazing on your back, gets me." Fred took out his handkerchief, pretending to mop his brow. Really he was thinking about Christmas last year, back home, when he had helped draw in a great pine, bound to the top of a hay sled. "Looks to me like even a juniper would lose the Christmas spirit this year."

"That's just it," returned Sam, contemplatively, "that's just what I was thinking. It seems inappropriate to bring in one of those mountain trees for our desert celebration. A sagebrush would be more appropriate."

"True, the sagebrush in the valley stood proudly straight and tall ... With their roots sent deeply in rich volcanic ash which overtops the lava beds, they grew to giant proportions — for a sagebrush — some six, eight, or even ten feet tall, with trunks four or five inches in diameter ..."

"About sixteen miles south of town, the road dipped sharply into a gulch, through which ran a tiny stream of water. 'What say we let the horses drink,' Fred said, pulling them to a stop on the brink of the stream.

"Sam, unconcerned about the horses just at that moment was looking intently up the gulch. 'There she is!' He announced with an air of finality. 'There she is!'

"Who is?" countered Fred.

"The Twin Falls Community Christmas Tree for this first celebration of 'the blessed feast in our magic city.'"

"Fred looked around, after he had unfastened the check rein to permit the horses to drink. Sam was already beside the tree, a giant sagebrush fully eight feet tall, with a spread somewhat greater than its height. Sheltered from the wind, watered by the stream, it stood straight, its branches as symmetrical as the branches of a juniper.

"You wouldn't dare bring that thing in for a Christmas tree!" laughed Fred. "We would never be able to get it out of town fast enough."

"Sam chuckled half to himself, thinking of the irate woman who would greet his discovery — his innovation for a Christmas tree. Then he walked back to the buggy and took out the saw and the ax.

"After dark that night, they set the giant sage in one corner of the newly completed school house and went quietly away.

"Fred was right about what the women would say. 'Who ever heard of anything so ridiculous!' Spilling Christmas is going a bit too far for practical jokers, even!" they said indignantly. And the sputtering and scolding went on. But they were pioneer women in the truest sense. They recognized the need for meeting a situation. Tomorrow was Christmas. No one could face the disappointment of a failure now so they set to work.

"After lacing strings of gleaming white popcorn and crimson cranberries over the branches, they began to appreciate the tree more charitably. After all, it is beautifully symmetrical and how those berries show upon the gray background!" As the decorating progressed, it became apparent to the women that every bit of ornamentation they added was more effective — on that great sagebrush than on a conventional Christmas tree.

"Candy and nuts for the children were tied on in bags made of gay paper napkins, oranges and apples hung from the sturdy inner branches. When the candle holders were snapped on and the red, white and green candles set in place, none were left who did not admire the tree.

"It is certainly something different," sighed the chairman, "something we will tell our grandchildren about, this having a sagebrush for a Christmas tree ..."

"Nothing could represent better the spirit of the people who had come to make their home in this new land."

—Anna H. Hayes

## Don't shoot the baby ducks, Dad

The hunting scene has a lot of hairy-chested, macho types that I can't help thinking would benefit from having a daughter like my Katie May.



COUNTRY LARKS  
Sam Hutchins

Katie's natural inclinations do not in any way favor an interest in hunting, yet, countless times when I have arrived home tired and lousure after a long day spent chasing game, Katie has met me at the door, bursting with joy at my safe return. As if that were not enough to give me a big head, she will take one look at my string of birds and reward me with a jubilant shout of congratulations as she whirls and bounds in to report the wonderful news to mom.

"Mommy! Mommy! Daddy caught-up some ducks!"

I know it's silly, but it always makes me feel a little like the mighty hunter who's just saved his tribe from starvation.

That's how she greeted me on one occasion a few years ago. She was about 10 years old then. After giving me my customary hero's welcome, she watched with intense interest as I laid the ducks out for cleaning. She expressed wonder at the beauty of the birds, but as she studied their lifeless forms, still resplendent with color, her mood grew a bit more contemplative.

"Daddy, do these ducks like to get shotted?" she asked.

"Well, I don't think that's something ducks think about."

I replied.

Her eyes fell on the small crumpled form of a green-wing teal and Katie reacted with instant shock.

"Daddy! You shotted a baby one!" she exclaimed, fully expecting me to be just as horrified as she. "It's not a baby!" I tried to reassure her. "That's just all the bigger it gets."

I could see the doubt in her eyes. "But it's so little, won't his mommy miss him?"

I made a mental note to scratch teal from my personal list of game birds.

"He hasn't been with his mommy for a long time, honey. He's all grown up."

Reluctantly she accepted my explanation, but her jubilant mood was gone. I felt a little less heroic.

Katie got over it quickly, and in a few minutes was back to her bubbly self, but the incident forced me to once again consider the paradox of being a hunter.

The greatest lovers of nature and the most thoughtful, compassionate people that I've ever known have been avid hunters. We do kill things and we admittedly bring a measure of pain to the natural world, so how can this be?

Our hunters' old instructors, told us that following the game laws is what elevates the true and decent sportsman from the simple killer. I'm sure that's true in part, and yet, I find men who smugly keep their actions within the perimeter of what is legal and still manage to dishonor completely the virtues of hunting many of us hold dear. So what is the difference? What makes a decent hunter? I'm not sure there's a concrete answer to this question, but there is one thing I do know. The only guys I enjoy sharing a duck blind with are the ones who ask themselves that question from time to time.

I'm sorry if I sound a bit mushy, but, it is Christmas time and perhaps it doesn't hurt to pause for a little introspection. I'll leave that up to you, but I would like to wish all my kindred spirits out there the very best this holiday season.

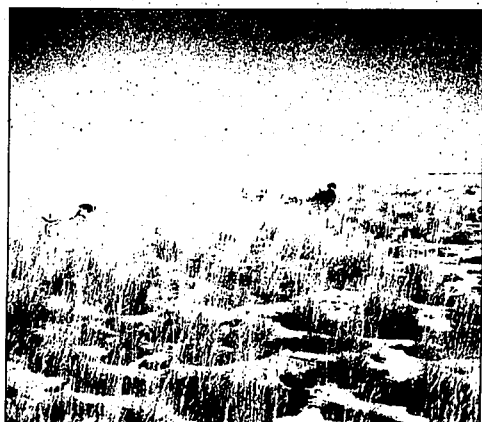
May you shoot straight instead of often and, if you don't mind too much, let a few of those teal fly on by for Katie's sake. Merry Christmas!

Sam Hutchins is an outdoors columnist who lives in Twin Falls.



Photo by Bill Studabaker

T.J. Newton, left, Axel, BB, and Andy Pierce show off a fruitful day in the hills.



Axel honoring BB Chukars up ahead.

# Chukin' FOR Christmas

## Hunters can find birds if they're willing to hike

Bill Studabaker  
Times-News correspondent

Chukar hunting is for the hardy with good ankles. The primary defensive terrains are cliffs, boulder-strewn slopes, and steep slide-rock faces which the hunter must traverse.

### Chukar season

Area 1, including the western half of Owyhee County north through Hells Canyon to Sandpoint from September 18 through January 15

Area 2, including Ouster and Lemhi counties from September 18 through January 15

Area 3, including Twin Falls County and eastern Idaho from September 18 through December 31.

Daily bag limit in all areas is 8 in possession.

Licenses expire December 31.

Southern Idaho, particularly the Owyhee canyon lands and Brunent River breaks, provides a perfect habitat. In spring and fall the canyon terraces are laden with palatable grass shoots, a preferred food of the chukar. In summer they primarily eat seeds from such grass as the cheat grass. They also will scratch for tuberous roots.

Unlike the Hungarian partridge, chukar partridge (sometimes referred to as the red-legged partridge) rarely eat insects. In good chukar country there are plenty of errant ants, but they're generally passed by.

To make a chukar hunt a little easier, it's advisable for the hunter to take time to check the first bird's crop. The crop is where food is stored before it's ground up in the gizzard, and what this bird is eating, the others are also.

Pick the niche where the food source is.

Luckily for road hunters, folks who prefer not to walk, often in late fall chukars are up on the flats above the canyon rims eating grass shoots from grasses that have a fall growth. As these hunters zigzag back and forth over the flats, they can jump covers and get a few shots before the birds dive along the canyon walls for protection.

Early season hunters often have it rough. The birds are working the canyon slopes where the grasses are ripe and where the creek is near. In the later summer, and early fall, hunting water sources is often productive.

"The first introduction of the chukar, made into North America was in 1893," according to Glenn C. Christensen, author of *The Chukar Partridge*, and it was introduced in Nevada by 1935 and Cali-



After a 10-mile hike, hunters TJ Newton, Axel, and Andy Pierce head for the truck.

ornia by 1937.

The chukar ranges primarily in the Intermountain corridor from eastern Washington down into Nevada. Populations have developed in northern Utah and central Wyoming as well.

To establish Nevada's population more than 13,000 chukars were released between 1955 and 1966, per Christensen's count.

The chukar is an exotic bird (non-native), and to maintain a good population for hunting, supplements are often required. Although in Idaho there are areas that sustain "adopted" flocks primarily because, as Christensen writes, the terrain is similar to that of the bird's native environment in India, Pakistan, and Afghanistan.

Besides stalking water and food sources, hunters can locate chukars by calling. Chukars are sociable birds, and when separated they call one another to regroup.

After a predatory causes them to flush and get separated, and they start the most common call, the "chuck, chuck" chatter that brings them back together.

They also have hawk warning and general danger calls.

Chukars are particularly venerable to hawks, falcons, and other raptors. Several times a brave falcon took a bird from a flock I flushed. The first time it hap-

pened, I was miffed. The falcon was unable to fly with the chukar in its talons and had to swoop into a draw just below us. I went after it.

I'm not sure what I thought I was going to do; give it a lecture, chase it off, steal my chukar back, or kick the heck out of it.

When I got to where the chukar and falcon hit the ground, the falcon was still hanging onto the partridge. With nerves of titanium, the falcon stared at me. I stared back, gun dangling in my hand. The little bird and I had a meeting of hunters' hearts. He was looking for dinner and so was I. He got his first.

The falcon may be fast, but I have additional help which nearly always makes my hunts successful. My friends and I follow behind our "bird" dogs.

Bird dogs are skilled hunters, and their ability to track and scent not only allow identification of game birds, but when running against a good breeze, they can pick up the scent of coveys hundreds of yards away.

But the miracle to me is that a dog will run down slots in cliffs, over boulders, and nearly tumble across steep drop slopes to retrieve a bird. My dog saves me hours of exhausting work.

Perhaps a greater bonus comes from hunting with a dog: a hunter doesn't leave downed birds. A dog's nose will find a bird



BB and Axel and the illusive limit.

in brush and rocks where the human eye can't see. In these circumstances when a nose versus an eye, the nose wins.

If you are an upland game hunter and don't hunt chukars, pick up the challenge. Get fit and hit the canyons. If you do hunt them, don't lose them. Bring every bird home.

OUTDOORS

State releases bighorn sheep

Idaho Fish and Game

JEROME - Thirty-five California bighorn sheep...

This is the second release of bighorn sheep to the area...

Currently, there are nearly 80 California bighorn sheep ranging across the Jim Sage Mountains...



California bighorn sheep make their way to Independence Peak after being released. During the past two weeks 35 bighorn sheep have been released in the area.

2006. For more information on the California bighorn sheep in the Magic Valley Region...

Aerial surveys begin for deer and elk

JEROME - Beginning this week, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game will conduct aerial surveys for deer and elk in several management units in the Magic Valley Region.

Idaho Fish and Game wildlife management decisions will be based for determining future hunting seasons.

The flights are scheduled to cover the same units at the same time every year to make the information gathered comparable from year-to-year.

A helicopter flying low and slow over some of the most remote areas of the state is the most efficient tool for gathering

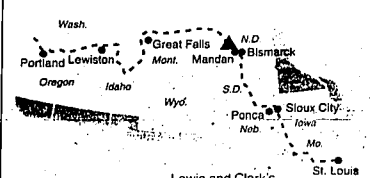
big game herd information. Aerial surveys are conducted mostly during winter months when the animals are gathered on lower elevation winter ranges.

The winter months also bring two requirements needed to conduct accurate surveys, clear weather for good visibility, and snow covering that aid in locating and identification of the animals.

Data gathered in the aerial surveys will be presented to sportsmen at the upcoming big game open houses in Twin Falls, Burley, and Halley in February.

'a Great medician day'

In anticipation of Christmas, the captains had distributed to the three messes flour, dried apples, pepper and other items of holiday fare.



Trail to the mouth of the Columbia River. Lewis and Clark's location 200 years ago this week.

December 25, 1804 - I was awakened before Day by a discharge of 3 platoons from the Parry and the french, the men merrily Disposed, I give them all a little Taffia and permitted 3 Cannon fired, at raising Our flag. Some men went out to hunt & the Others to Dancing and Continued until 9oClock P.M. when the frolic ended &c.

December 25, 1804 - I had the Best to eat that could be had, & continued firing dancing and frolicking during the whole day. The Savages did not Trouble us as we had requested them not to come as it was a Great medician day with us.

December 25, 1804 - we hosted the American flag in the garrison, and its first waving in fort Mandan was celebrated with another glass.

Journal excerpts of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, edited by Gary E. Moulton, will appear each Thursday. Copyright Lee Enterprises.

Deer hunting creates many businesses

Question: "What's a deer worth?" Answer: As a continuation of last week's column I'll focus on various spin-off activities that have developed to turn deer hunting into legal and illegal "profit" businesses.



ASK THE OFFICER Gary Hompland

video-age trophy bucks year-around. Their information, GPS locations, and videos are in turn sold to the highest bidding hunter. In many states, hunters purchasing this information are also the wealthy buyers of governor's tags or landowner permits.

Several years ago an acquaintance had a friend that started a small computer company. As the industry grew so did the size of this company. An avid hunter, he joined Safari Club International and started nibbling shoulders with some very wealthy hunters.

found this large mule deer buck. Realizing the value of trophy mule deer the friend declined to give the member the information.

American Indians are also drawn to harvest large bucks. Over 20 trophy mule deer bucks taken by American Indians in 1992 and 93 have been documented by conservation officers during 2004.

From my observation of this activity, I'm convinced there is not a trophy mule deer buck in Idaho that is not being watched and video-taped with the intent of selling the information to the highest bidder.

We've come a long way from the days when deer hunting was for food. As I said in last week's column, maybe we should re-examine why we hunt.

Pomerelle invites all 'Santas' to ski free

ALBION - Pomerelle Mountain Resort wants to hear your "Ilo, ho, ho." On Christmas Day, all the Santas who come dressed in their jolly red Santa suits need to ski or board, will receive a full day lift ticket.

You must be dressed head to toe in your Santa suit. Lift ticket is for Christmas Day only. Please come to Pomerelle's ticket office and spread the holiday cheer.

For information call 673-5539 or log on to www.pomerelle-mtn.com.

Loasa chapter will meet over holidays

TWIN FALLS - The Loasa Chapter will meet Tuesday, Dec. 28 at 7 p.m. in Room 276 of the Taylor Building at College of Southern Idaho.

Come follow in the footsteps of Lewis and Clark and enjoy a beautiful slide show of Idaho's native plants and landscapes. Many plants collected by Lewis and Clark grow right here in the Magic Valley.

Meetings and programs are always open to anyone interested in plants and Idaho's out-of-doors.

Cross-country Idaho day slated for January

Cross-country Idaho, the annual statewide ski day sponsored by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, will be Saturday, Jan. 8 at Magic Mountain Ski Resort.

Event sponsors will provide free cross-country ski equipment for use and skiing lessons. Magic Mountain Ski Resort is located approximately one hour from Twin Falls.

A special ski day is offered in conjunction with Pomerelle Ski Resort. The package includes a one-hour ski-snowboard session, lift ticket and lunch. Cost is \$25, and rental equipment is available from Pomerelle for \$10 to \$15 extra.

A paintball session will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday 50 by the Hansen Bridge.

Yellowstone cutthroats show progress

Native trout increases in number on South Fork of Snake River

Idaho Fish and Game

IDAHO FALLS - For the past few years, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game has been working to slow the impact of non-native rainbow trout on native Yellowstone cutthroat trout.

IDFG lifted the limits on native rainbow and rainbow x-cutthroat hybrids last January and extended the year-round season to the entire river. Recent fish population surveys in the South Fork of the Snake River indicate that anglers may be starting to have an impact on rainbow trout.

Each year the IDFG electrofishes, fishes, electricity to temporarily stun fish to sample portions of the river to assess overall numbers, species composition, and size. According to Jim Fredricks, Regional Fishery Manager, the 2004 fish population survey was encouraging in that they were starting to see evidence that anglers are reversing the trend of increasing rainbow population.

Native rainbow trout went from being nearly nonexistent in the upper South Fork in the mid-80s to over 1,300 per mile in 2003, when they outnumbered native Yellowstone cutthroat trout for the first time.

Fredericks said the rainbow trout size structure indicates that the decreased population was the result of harvest. "A large percentage of the rainbow population was yearling fish - those in the seven to ten inch range, compared to last year when there was a greater percentage of twelve to twenty inch fish."

The had news is that the cutthroat population is still struggling. "Unfortunately, we've seen drought years and the resulting low stream flows in the tributaries lead to weak cutthroat year-classes," Fredricks said. "Whereas the rainbow population was made up of a large

percentage of yearlings, the cutthroat population was mostly older fish.

Officials are optimistic that 2004 should provide a stronger age-class of cutthroats, and fewer rainbows. Rob Van Kirk, an Assistant Professor at Idaho State University has worked with IDFG evaluating the effect river flows have on rainbow and cutthroat trout reproduction.

Van Kirk believes two things likely favored cutthroat reproduction in 2004. First, the Bureau of Reclamation worked with water users and fishery managers to store additional water in Palisades Reservoir last winter by decreasing winter flows.

Second, the cooler, wetter summer and fall meant much better conditions in the tributaries juvenile cutthroat trout depend on. Biologists won't be able to accurately estimate the

2004 age-classes until next fall, when those fish are yearlings.

From the eyes of anglers looking to keep harvesting rainbows, Van Kirk believes we'll ever get rid of rainbows entirely, it's just a matter of keeping them in check. "Many anglers still have a hard time killing wild trout," Scott Yates, director of the Idaho Water Office for Trout Unlimited, sees the need for anglers to help.

"Decades of espousing and practicing catch-and-release have made it hard for some people to start harvesting fish," notes Yates. "Nobody is questioning the far reaching efficacy of catch-and-release fishing and the benefits it provides in terms of protecting quality wild and native trout fishing, but people are realizing there is a time and place for a catch-and-keep ethic, especially when a trout trout fishery is at-risk. The South Fork is one of the most unique native trout fisheries in the world, and anglers who are helping to keep it that way ought to feel pretty good about themselves."

Elk hunter gets her prayer answered with game permit

Knight Ridder News Service

ATLANTA, Mich. - Kendra Chambers' father has applied for an elk permit since Michigan's lottery hunt began two years ago. Her husband, Jim, and her brother also have applied for years, hoping to strike gold in a drawing where the odds of winning are far lower than in the world's leading lotteries.

Which was why she found herself literally praying as she waited in the snow for a big elk to come walking out of the woods on the second day of the eight-day season. She was one of

126 people to get permits out of more than 40,000 who applied.

"To tell you the truth, after seeing how fast those elk were, I wasn't sure I could pull this one together," said Chambers, a former nurse from Swartz Creek and a mother of three - Lennie, 15; Savannah, 11, and Hunter, 8. Michigan holds the lottery elk hunt to keep the herd down to about 80 in the northeast Lower Peninsula. If the herd gets much above that number, more animals stray off public land where the elk spend most of their time, and they go to nearby farms, bringing crop damage complaints.

Kendra Chambers had shot several deer since she started hunting with her cardiologist husband seven years ago, including six- and eight-point bucks last season.

"But they always kind of walked in slowly and stood there for a while so you could get a shot," she said. "The elk didn't give you any time. If you saw one, you'd run off so fast you couldn't even get your scope on them."

"As we were riding out in the truck, a big part of my hunting was praying, 'Lord, let me do this. You've got to help me, be-

cause I can't do it alone,'" she said. "I was worried that I'd miss the elk because I forgot to take the safety off, or because I flinched. I began visualizing a successful hunt, how I took aim at it, controlled my breathing, let the safety off and fired. I was doing everything I could think of because I was scared."

"We'd been waiting half an hour, and we didn't know if it was coming our way or not," Chambers said. "I had my gun sitting on a tripod, and then we heard a stick break and the elk came out. I got my scope on him. I didn't even know how

many points he had, but when I saw that big rack, I knew he was the one I wanted."

Chambers guessed the elk was 150 yards away, but her husband measured the shot on a laser range-finder at 250.

The elk ran away, and for a few minutes she was afraid she had missed, but then Simmons found hair and blood in the snow. They tracked the elk to a nearby stand of trees, where Chambers administered the coup de grace. "It was huge," she said of the bull that weighed 660 pounds field-dressed and had antlers 6-by-6.

Take it from SPOT... BABELS CLEANERS is doggone good at removing stains. THURSDAY ONLY Bring in This Ad & Your Order On Thursday & Receive 20% Off. BABELS CLEANERS 228 Shoshone St. Twin Falls, Idaho 83301 733-2258

COMICS

COMICS

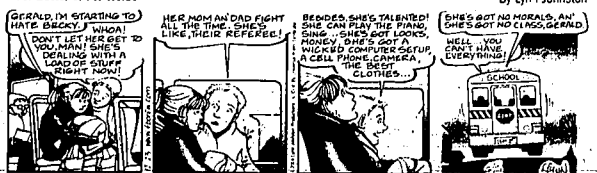
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



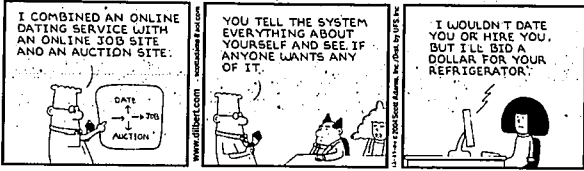
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



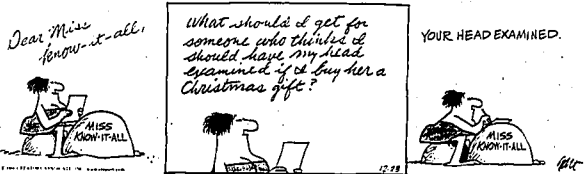
Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



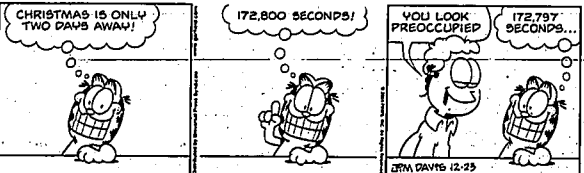
Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Luann

By Greg Evans



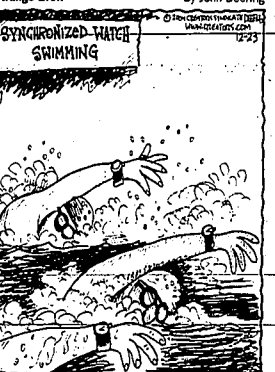
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



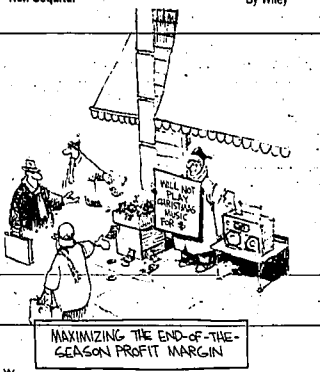
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequiter

By Wiley



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip







Murky future:  
Washington Mutual  
faces new challenges.  
Page E2

The Times-News

Thursday, December 23, 2004

Section E

BRIEFLY  
IN MONEY

Ameristar Casinos  
purchases casino

JACKPOT Nev. — Cactus Petes Resort Casino and The Horseshoe Hotel & Casino have a new sibling in Colorado.  
Las Vegas-based Ameristar Casinos Inc., parent of the pair of jackpot casinos — announced Wednesday that it had completed the acquisition of Mountain High Casino in Black Hawk, Colo., adding the largest casino in Colorado to its portfolio and increasing the company's geographic diversification.  
Ameristar bought Mountain High from Windsor Woodmont Black Hawk Resort Corp., which was operating as debtor-in-possession in a Chapter 11 bankruptcy case, for about \$117 million in cash, plus the issuance of 58,343 shares of Ameristar's common stock valued at \$2.5 million.  
Ameristar said it intends to invest about \$90 million in capital expenditures to improve the casino's competitiveness and will rebrand the property as Ameristar Black Hawk once the first phase of enhancements is complete.  
"The acquisition will not impact our ability to continue our cash dividend policy or to pursue other development opportunities," said former Twin Falls resident Craig H. Nielsen, chairman and chief executive of Ameristar.

Microsoft fails to  
suspend EU ruling

BRUSSELS, Belgium — A European Union court ruled Wednesday that Microsoft Corp. must immediately divulge some trade secrets to competitors and produce a version of its flagship Windows operating system stripped of the program that plays music and video.  
The court ruling effectively thwarts Microsoft's attempt to delay while it appeals the EU's landmark antitrust decision in March that demanded changes in the software giant's business practices.  
The implications for Microsoft are huge, though the company did not immediately disclose whether it intended to offer a version of Windows without its Media Player in Europe alone or more broadly. Software that plays media files is increasingly in demand as more consumers get broadband connections to the Internet and use their PCs as entertainment centers.  
There is also the question of precisely what computer code Microsoft will share with competitors so those companies' programs work better on networks running Microsoft server software.

Money tip: Seeking  
many happy returns

The nation's annual *Trek* to the Return Counter exercise is nearly here.  
ConsumerReports.org, the online site of the popular consumer magazine, has a few tips to increase your chance of a happy resolution.  
Rule No. 1: Arrive armed with a sales receipt. This is the sweetest method of settling through initial confusion and smoothing the transaction.  
Work toward yes: Don't assume a clerk's no is the final word on the matter. Take the issue to another employee, who may understand the store's return rules better (or worse) than the initial clerk. If all else fails, speak to the manager.  
Don't discard tags or other product packaging until you're positive you keep them. With some electronic items, doing so can result in a hefty restocking fee.  
Above all, be polite. Store clerks see the worst of humans' dealings with each other, so a smile and beneficent attitude can go a long way toward a satisfying experience.  
— compiled from staff and web reports

TOY TROUBLE



Matthew Kekel and son Andrew, 3, look over the train display at the Lionel headquarters in Chesterfield Township, Mich., on Dec. 15. Kekel, 36, got his first train set as a Christmas present from his father when he was 7 or 8.

Classic toymaker copes with problems

The Associated Press

CHESTERFIELD TOWNSHIP, Mich. — After chugging along for more than a century, Lionel LLC, the venerable maker of model trains, is struggling to stay on track following a nearly \$41 million judgment that pushed it into bankruptcy.  
The ruling against Lionel, once the world's biggest toy maker, has exacerbated the company's existing problems in an industry where there is intense competition for a small and demanding group of customers. Despite the confidence of the Lionel's new management, reviving the company is no easy task in an era of video games and Wal-Mart-style retailing, in which all toy train makers are struggling to appeal to new generations of hobbyists.  
And critics say Lionel has let its younger competitors get an edge by failing to aggressively pursue technological innovations.



Andrew Kekel, 3, plays with the switches on the train display at Lionel in Chesterfield Township, Mich., on Dec. 15.

In the 1950s, they had Lionel trains and American Flyer trains, and that was their prized toy. They are to some extent reliving the joys of their childhood.  
So intense is the world of toy trains that Lionel chief executive Jerry Calabrese held an online chat three days after the company filed for bankruptcy to slow the rumor mill and assuage fears that Lionel might go under. Calabrese — who became CEO in October and previously worked for comics heavyweight Marvel Enterprises Inc., a similar hobby-driven business — said he would hold such sessions regularly.  
Lionel's current troubles date back at least to 2000 when MTH Electric Trains, formerly known as Mike's Train House, sued Lionel. MTH, a one-time Lionel contractor based in Columbia, Md., accused the company of selling trains based on designs stolen from a South Korean manufacturer working for MTH.

peaked in 2000. But business slumped as a result of overproduction and of post-Sept. 11 economic uncertainty, Besouglhoff said.  
George Hoffer, an economist and toy train enthusiast who has studied the industry and testified on behalf of MTH at the trial, said Lionel is to blame for the market glut because it produced trains similar to MTH's from stolen designs.  
Andy Edlerman, vice president of marketing at MTH, said MTH had just about caught up to Lionel in market share before 2000. He said Lionel began to slip because it continued to put out the same old models while MTH was pioneering new technology and enhanced realism.  
"They have lived off their reputation," he said.  
Calabrese says Lionel has made more than his share of innovations, but he agreed that MTH and other competitors have forced it to become a better company.  
"Lionel is at least 50 percent of the business," he said. "It's very easy to become complacent when you're that big."  
Today, high-tech features such as sophisticated sound systems and digital remote controls are something customers have come to expect.  
Meanwhile, Lionel and other companies are struggling to expand their customer base. Their primary customers aren't getting any younger, and if the industry is to survive into the future, they need to bring children back to the hobby.  
"Today's generation doesn't have the same fascination with trains that children used to have. The popularity of train-themed

Overtime rules at work

Lots of workers gladly take on overtime work. They may want the extra pay or feel obligated to help the company finish a project. But can a company require an employee to work overtime?  
Question: My employer sometimes will post a job vacancy within our firm. The job description says a certain amount of overtime is required as a condition of getting the job, but does not say how much is required.  
I did not think an employer could force an employee to work overtime. What is the legality of such a request?  
Answers: Diane Seltzer, a Washington attorney who has represented workers and employers, said there is nothing in the Fair Labor Standards Act, which sets wage regulations, that prohibits employers from requiring employees to work overtime or even limits the number of working hours beyond the normal 40 a week.  
"Mandatory overtime can be and often is a job requirement," she said.  
Nonetheless, she added that at some workplaces, a union



might negotiate a limit on the number of overtime hours required in a seven-day period. However, she said the company's overtime demands could "interfere with (some employees') religious observances and the workers could ask for a religious accommodation" that would allow them to attend services even if they also are working overtime hours the same day.  
She said that while companies can require overtime work, they must pay time and a half on the employee's regular wage for any hours beyond 40 in a week, unless the employee is exempt from the overtime pay rules.  
"Exempt employees are executives, professionals and administrators, who generally have managerial duties of one sort or another."

ConAgra's quarterly  
profits slip 10 percent

The Associated Press

OMAHA, Neb. — Packaged foods giant ConAgra Foods Inc. reported a 10 percent drop in second-quarter profits Wednesday, citing lost revenue from discontinued operations.  
For the first six months of the months ending Nov. 28, the maker of Banquet, Chef Boyardee and La Choy products earned \$242.3 million, or 47 cents a share, on sales of \$4.12 billion, compared with net income of \$270.1 million, or 51 cents a share, on \$3.80 billion in revenue from the same period the year before.  
ConAgra's second-quarter results beat estimates of 46 cents a share from analysis surveyed by Thomson First Call.  
ConAgra has the Lamb Weston Inc. potato-processing plant in Twin Falls and various other business operations around Magic Valley.  
ConAgra has been shedding

businesses that sell low-margin products like fresh meat and fertilizers and concentrating heavily on its packaged food divisions.  
"As a result, earnings for the second quarter did not include revenue from discontinued operations that had contributed 6 cents a share to last year's second quarter, the company said.  
For its first six months, ConAgra reported net income of \$377.3 million, or 73 cents a share, on \$7.61 billion in sales. A year ago, the company earned \$465 million, or 87 cents a share, on \$7.03 billion in sales in the same period last year.  
ConAgra said it expects year-over profit growth in the second half of its fiscal year, largely due to operational improvements.  
"Our team is focused on marketing, operating and information systems initiatives that will help expand profit margins over the long term," ConAgra chief executive Bruce Rolde said.

State guards  
unclaimed  
property

The Times-News

JEROME — The state is safeguarding unclaimed property for hundreds of people and businesses whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley.  
The Idaho State Tax Commission is looking for those folks, and hoping they'll call to claim the property.  
It's stuff for which I'd a lot of businesses have been unable to find the rightful owners, such as payroll checks, contents of safe deposit boxes, tax refunds, stock dividends, workers' compensation benefits and the like.  
The Idaho Legislature in 1997 changed state law governing unclaimed property. Now after property that's safeguarded by the tax commission remains unclaimed for 10 years, it will transfer to state ownership and be deposited in Idaho's general fund.  
"The first time that will happen is 2007. Before the 1997 law, the tax commission held unclaimed property for its rightful owners in perpetuity."  
The Times-News on Thursdays prints names of a sampling of unclaimed-property owners whose last known addresses are in Magic Valley communities.  
Today's list is from Jerome and Ketchum. The tax commission said each person, or business listed today — or the persons, their heirs, owns unclaimed property worth more than \$100. Watch for other towns in coming weeks.



- |                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Jerome</b>      | Tanner              |
| Arthur L. Anderson | Tiger Step          |
| Murlin Brock       | Callie R. Toile     |
| Mabel Brock        | Randall T. Tolman   |
| Tim Bussye         | Karen Wells         |
| Le Gravel          |                     |
| Bywater            |                     |
| Chase Callen       | <b>Ketchum</b>      |
| Canyonside         | John Berolli        |
| Auto Body          | Donna Billa         |
| Ell R. Culver      | Suzie Botter        |
| Debra Jean Dean    | Kerri Cooke         |
| Dan Dunlop         | Debi Cook           |
| Robert Eliot       | Erin Davidson       |
| Kenneth Erwin      | David R. Gittins    |
| Cheyl A. Fred      | Francisco           |
| Giltner Inc.       | Gomez               |
| Carl E. Harrell    | Maria Gomez         |
| Graciela           | John Goodman        |
| Hernandez          | Janes Isley         |
| Santos             | Carolyn Jensen      |
| Hernandez          | Ketchum             |
| Donald Joergler    | Debra Jensen        |
| Larry Johansen     | Ketchum             |
| Mary Johansen      | Motors              |
| Pauline Layso      | Michael J. Kuchucki |
| Paula Gordon       | Kubacki             |
| Rana M.            | Cecilia Lovqvist    |
| Lugardo            | Louise M.           |
| Magie Valley       | Pauline Perry       |
| Darryl Persson     | Linda A. Miller     |
| Mark               | Victoria A.         |
| Nickelston         | Mogliner            |
| Bob Morrison       | Victoria            |
| North Side         | Mogliner            |
| Kathie Sedy        | Kathie Lee          |
| Max Owens Jr.      | O'Donnell           |
| Andrew Potter      | Peregine            |
| Efrain Pulido      | Limited             |
| Antonio            | Pinocchio Inn       |
| Romero             | John Ramage         |
| James Sargent      | Charles Risio       |
| Gary Sederlund     | Richard G. Self     |
| Jon Sederlund      | Charles Thompson    |
| Kimberly           | Mark H.             |
| Michael            | Korral              |
| Sobotka            | Mary Waggoner       |
| Michelle M.        | Warm Springs        |
| Starr              | Investment Co.      |
| Jason Sturt        | Emily West          |
| Douglas            | Richard Young       |

**What to do**  
See your name on Idaho's unclaimed-property owners list? To claim your property, do one of the following:  
• Call 1-800-972-7660, ext. 7623 or ext. 7627.  
• Write to the Idaho State Tax Commission, Unclaimed Property Section, PO Box 36, Boise, ID 83722-0410.  
• Send e-mail to lostfound@tax.state.id.us.  
• Log on to www.tax.idaho.gov and click on "Unclaimed Property" for instructions and claim forms that can be printed and mailed to the commission. The site also provides a search link for other names and a link to other states' unclaimed-property listings.



MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for Mon Commodity High, Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, and Beans.

MARKETS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for Oil, Natural Gas, and various futures contracts.

MARKETS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for Cattle, Hogs, and various futures contracts.

MARKETS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for Gold, Silver, and various futures contracts.

Micron boosts 2005 first-quarter profit

BOISE (AP) — Micron Technology Inc., the world's second-largest maker of computer memory chips, boosted 2005 first-quarter profits as prices stabilized and it paid less for restructuring and as it cut research and development expenses.

BEANS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for Soybeans and other bean futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for various cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for potato futures.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for wheat, corn, and soybean futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for various cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for potato futures.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for oil, natural gas, and coal futures.

Fannie Mae woes shouldn't affect U.S. mortgage market

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Reserve of Franklin D. Roosevelt said last week that Fannie Mae hardly ends the turmoil at the nation's second largest financial institution.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for wheat, corn, and soybean futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for various cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for potato futures.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for oil, natural gas, and coal futures.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, 52-Week High, 52-Week Low, 12-Month Return, 3-Month Return, 6-Month Return, 1-Year Return, 5-Year Return, 10-Year Return, Assets Under Management.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for wheat, corn, and soybean futures.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for various cheese futures.

POTATOES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Includes sections for potato futures.

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Table with columns: Fund Name, 52-Week High, 52-Week Low, 12-Month Return, 3-Month Return, 6-Month Return, 1-Year Return, 5-Year Return, 10-Year Return, Assets Under Management.





Continued from previous page
In the Interest of ISABELLA SUZZANA LYN RAMIREZ...
A Child Under Eighteen Years of Age...

Mayor Glenda Thompson
PUBLISH: Thursday, December 23, 2004
NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE TO WATER RIGHTS
Notice is hereby given

An Application for Transfer has been filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources...
ID 83227 filed Application No. 7,1264 on 10/29/2004...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On the 8th day of April, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

TS No. 04-13996
Doc ID 00026359132005N
Title Order No. 4033173
Parcel No. RPT51010020110A

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:
The Idaho Transportation Department, through the Office of Highway District 4, is offering for sale on a "Sealed Bid Basis" the following items:

Notice of Public Hearing
The following individuals are invited to appear at a public hearing on Monday, January 10, 2005...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on Thursday, the 24th day of February, 2004, at 10:30 a.m., of said day, at the front (East) Steps of the Twin Falls County Courthouse...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On the 8th day of April, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

TS No. 04-13981
Doc ID 00026359132005N
Title Order No. 4033173
Parcel No. RPT51010020110A

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

ITEM NUMBER DESCRIPTION
S405020 CHEDY LUMINA
S405021 2 WAY FLOW
S405022 1 WAY FLOW
S405023 1 WAY FLOW
S405024 1 WAY FLOW
S405025 1 WAY FLOW
S405026 1 WAY FLOW
S405027 1 WAY FLOW
S405028 1 WAY FLOW
S405029 2 WAY FLOW
S405030 1 WAY FLOW
S405031 WOODEN POSTS
S405032 AUX FUEL TANK
S405033 AUX FUEL TANK
S405034 AUX FUEL TANK
S405035 AUX FUEL TANK
S405036 LUCENT PHONE

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE SEVENTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
MAGISTRATE JUDICIAL OFFICE
Case No. CV-2004-006075
NOTICE TO CREDITORS FOR PUBLICATION

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

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Doc ID 00026359132005N
Title Order No. 4033173
Parcel No. RPT51010020110A

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

CONTACT FOR THE ITEMS above will be Mike Praeger at 208-866-7860 or Shad Flores at 208-866-7875. These items can be seen at the Shoshone Yard

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given by the City Council of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 10, 2005...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in lawful money of the United States...

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CONTACT FOR THE ITEMS above will be Mike Praeger at 208-866-7860 or Shad Flores at 208-866-7875. These items can be seen at the Shoshone Yard

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
Notice is hereby given by the City Council of Twin Falls, Idaho, that a public hearing will be held on Monday, January 10, 2005...

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TS No. 04-13981
Doc ID 00026359132005N
Title Order No. 4033173
Parcel No. RPT51010020110A

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50 LEGALS

736-3003 or visit www.idwr.state.id.us with detail provided under "New Water Right Applications"...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Thursday, 17th day of April, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m. of said day at Alliance Title & Escrow, 311 Gooding St. N., Twin Falls...

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 23rd day of March, 2005, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. of said day, (recognized local time), in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

Case No. CV 2004-5557 CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS First American Title Company of Idaho, Inc., an Idaho Corporation, as successor trustee, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for certified funds, or the equivalent, which is lawful money of the United States...

NOTICE OF PROPOSED WATER RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that four Applications for new Water Rights have been filed with the Idaho Department of Water Resources...

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LEGALS

RESCHEDULED NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On the 23rd day of January, 2005 at 10:00 A.M. of said day (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Teton, Idaho...

SALES
TOYOTA sales are great value a super new model line. You'll also be selling the sharpest used cars in town.

NEED A PART TIME JOB?
Keep your civilian job, or stay a full-time student, and earn extra money.

MARKET RESEARCH DISCOVERY
If you are interested in the following:
O A Land-Back Work Environment
O Absolutely No Sales or Only Market Research

NEED A PART TIME JOB?
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DRIVER D&D Transportation Services
OTR available for CDL A drivers. Excellent pay package. Earn up to \$2/mile depending on experience.

DRIVER
Senior Milk Collector
OTR - Flat rate of 35c per mile. Full-time. Class A CDL required.

BOOKKEEPER/HR
Must be organized and experienced in general accounting, payroll, workers comp, sales tax, Excel & Human Resources.

CLERICAL
Part-time accounts receivable clerk. Excellent pay. Send resume to Office Manager.

CONSTRUCTION
Siding Installers
We are seeking experienced siding installers for Magic Valley.

CORRESPONDENTS
The Times-News is looking for freelance correspondents to report news from the Magic Valley.

DRIVERS
Triple ELL Transport, is expanding its company drivers with company operated vans.

DRIVERS
Glitter Trucking
Local milk hauler. CDL required. Excellent pay and benefits.

DRIVERS
Local delivery drivers needed. CDL required. Excellent pay and benefits.

DRIVERS
Top Gun
Put Your Tax Return to Good Use This Year! Start Your Own High Paying Career in the Trucking Industry!

DRIVERS
We have the miles if you have the motivation. Vans, Reefers, 48-States.

DRIVERS
We have the miles if you have the motivation. Vans, Reefers, 48-States.

FEED MILL OPERATOR
Must have CDL. Good salary & medical benefits. 206-280-5579

GENERAL
Positions will be available in January for the following: Production Manufacturing Construction

PERSONNEL PLUS
111 Foyard Dr. Twin Falls, ID 83301
733-0140 678-4000

MANUFACTURING
Spars Manufacturing Company is accepting applications for the following full-time positions:

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NEWSPAPER DELIVERY
SUBSTITUTES
We are looking to gain extra cash delivering The Times-News.

PROFESSIONAL
Psychosocial rehab specialists. B.A. in Social Science. \$18/hour to start. Call 208-733-3350.

SALES
Advertising Representative
Position on Open A/G Weekly/Fair Times. Has an immediate opening for a Sales Representative.

NEED A PART TIME JOB?
Keep your civilian job, or stay a full-time student, and earn extra money.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a job.

ALTERNATE DELIVERY
The Times-News is looking for individuals interested in delivering newspapers or alternative products to households.

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LOST AND FOUND

FOUND dog, Pointer, male, near Abbot, Idaho. Call to identify 312-0127.
FOUND Retriever male, about 1 year old, West of Buhl. Call 208-353-5324.
FOUND Siamese cat, declawed, friendly, house broken, gorgeous. Needs a home. Call 208-316-1002.

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS

Have you forgotten to pickup your birthday photos? We have the photos for you. We are sure you would want these. Call 208-316-1002.

PLACE YOUR AD ONLINE

Now, you can place your ad online. Visit our website at www.magicalvalley.com. Call 208-316-1002.

PREGNANCY ALTERNATIVES

107 PREGNANCY ALTERNATIVES
PREGNANCY TESTS
CENTER FREE TESTS
Always Confidential. Call 735-7472.

108 PROFESSIONAL

BANKRUPTCY
Competitive rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcy. Call 208-734-8452.
BANKRUPTCY
Inexpensive. Williams Law. 735-0699.
BANKRUPTCY
All-in-one payment plan. Accidents, divorce & criminal matters. Call 208-734-3367.
BANKRUPTCY
Guaranteed lowest price. Free consultation. Call 1-888-888-2399.
BANKRUPTCY
Elderly Care \$10 an hour. Call 208-734-8452.
BANKRUPTCY
Looking for a lawyer? Call for a free consultation. Call 208-543-4237.
BANKRUPTCY
Child Care Services. Call 208-734-8452.
LITTLE TIGERS
Located between Twin Falls and Filer. Call 208-734-8452.
PLAYTIME Child Care
CPN/FIT Aide. LICP certified. Call 734-1259.

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HEARN AN EXTRA \$500 TO \$1000
Earn the extra cash you need as an independent contractor. The Times-News with early morning delivery. You'll discover the satisfaction of running your own business - without sacrificing your time to the demands of a full-time job. Interested parties must be self-motivated, dedicated, and have dependable transportation. Deliveries are every day scheduled for early morning hours. If interested please contact the Circulation Department at 733-0931 ext. 1. Profits vary and could be more or less than this amount.





Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"There is in the worst of fortune the best of chances for a happy change"

Table with bridge scores for North, South, West, and East hands, including card counts and trick counts.

Today's deal from Omar Sharp's latest book, "Omar Sharp Talks Bridge," features many familiar world champion Christian Maras' South.

"How would you have played six spades on the lead of the diamond five?"

One declarer won the diamond lead in dummy and played a trump to the club. West won with the queen and returned another diamond, taken in the South hand.

Vulnerable: Neither Dealer: East

Table with bridge scores for South, West, North, and East hands, including card counts and trick counts.

Opening lead: Diamond five

BID WITH THE ACES

Table with bridge scores for South, West, North, and East hands, including card counts and trick counts.

ANSWER: Bid three hearts. Two spades is forcing for one round, so you cannot pass. You are minimum; but since you have decent trump support (in context) and a key card in each major, you can bid three hearts without being ashamed of your hand.

Have you had the Times-News Classifieds? Call today at 800-658-3883

UNFURNISHED APARTS DUPLEXES TWIN FALLS...

AGRICULTURE NOTICE TO CREDIT ADVISORS...

BORDER COLLIE pups ready to go...

GERMAN SHEPHERD puppies, black and white...

SHIH-TZU AKC puppy, black and white...

TWIN FALLS... 701 LIVESTOCK & POULTRY...

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE...

CHEAPER GOLDEN LAB RETRIEVER puppies...

JACK RUSSELL Terrier puppies...

SHIH-TZU pups AKC Reg. first shots & dewormed...

JEROME Large farm... 605 ROOMS FOR RENT...

BURLEY BUYING STATION competitive prices...

CHIHUAHUA AKC registered Brindle female...

LAB puppies, AKC reg. black & wavy...

705 FARM EQUIPMENT FORD 4000 SERIES tractor...

TWIN FALLS... 607 OFFICE & RETAIL RENTALS...

1 FOOT SHOEING... 608 COMMERCIAL RENTALS...

COCKATILES (2) with cage & stands...

LAB puppies, AKC reg. black & wavy...

716 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE... 717 MISC. AG...

KETCHUM... 609 ROOMMATES WANTED...

GELDING 17 yrs. old... 704 PETS & PET SUPPLIES...

COCKATILES bred... 705 HORSES & TACK...

LABS Chocolate, AKC 2 wks. old...

718 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE... 719 MISC. AG...

TWIN FALLS... 706 HORSES & TACK...

HORSE BOARDING... 707 HORSES & TACK...

COCKATILES bred... 708 HORSES & TACK...

LABS Chocolate, AKC 2 wks. old...

719 MISC. AG... 720 MISC. AG...

TWIN FALLS... 721 MISC. AG...

PAINT painting, yearling registered...

ENGLISH BULLDOG puppies, AKC...

ENGLISH BULLDOG puppies, AKC...

722 MISC. AG... 723 MISC. AG...

TWIN FALLS... 724 MISC. AG...

ALASKAN HUSKY puppies, AKC...

ENGLISH BULLDOG puppies, AKC...

ENGLISH BULLDOG puppies, AKC...

725 MISC. AG... 726 MISC. AG...

716 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE... 717 MISC. AG...

Professional Parrier... 718 AG BUSINESS & SERVICE...

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS... 719 MISC. AG...

720 MISC. AG... 721 MISC. AG...

722 MISC. AG... 723 MISC. AG...

LEATHER BOMBER JACKETS black & matching vests...

COMPUTERS... 724 MISC. AG...

725 MISC. AG... 726 MISC. AG...

727 MISC. AG... 728 MISC. AG...

729 MISC. AG... 730 MISC. AG...

Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

The best chess player in Christendom may be little more than the best player of chess, but proficiency in which implies capacity for success in all these more important undertakings where mind struggles with mind.
—Edgar Allan Poe

NORTH 12:33 A
7 2
AK 10 9 5 3
K Q J 2
WEST EAST
10 8 7 3 AK K Q 10 9
AQ J 8 4 6 6
AB 6 10 7 4 3

One of the hardest decisions in defending against a no-trump contract can be to give up on a good plan to move to a better one. On today's hand, from the 1998 U.S. Trials, both East-West pairs started off on a sensible route, but only one of the two pairs found the critical improvement to scupper declarer in his game.

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: West
The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass 1 Pass
2 Pass 2 Pass
3 All Pass
Opening lead: Heart three

In three no-trump, declarer took East's heart king with the ace and then led a diamond to dummy's nine. The good news was that the nine held the trick; the bad news was that the 9 split gave him some problems.

BID WITH THE ACES
South holds: 12:33-B
7 2
5 K
AK 10 9 5 3
K Q J 2

In the identical position in the other room, one of the world's top players continued hearts when with the diamond queen, allowing declarer to take nine tricks.

ANSWER: You must reepen, of course, but you cannot double two hearts with only two spades. While a call of three clubs is acceptable, a better way to show your suit disparities in the minors is to bid two no-trump. This is not natural, but shows six diamonds and four clubs, letting partner choose between the minors with an accurate idea of what your holdings are.

South West North East
2 Pass Pass
3 All Pass

WOOL LATHE 36 inch bed, 16 inch swing. Call 208-734-9361.

RUGER 10/22 stainless, with synthetic stock, 2.547 Weaver, S&W Ruger M77 30.06, open striper, S375. Winchester model 1400, Mark II, 12 gauge with wicks, \$250. Call 453-4067 or 308-1159.

RUGER M77 V8 25.06 in. 12.5, 30.9 scope, \$450. Browning BPS pump 12 g., 30 in. barrel, \$275. Call 308-2688 or 420-1926.

SMITH & WESSON 4053, 40 caliber, 3 magazines, \$300. Call 208-420-9118.

UZI MODEL B man carrier, folding stock, bayonet lug, shroud, IMI receiver, lower with wear markings, 8 IMI mags, loader, case, all accessories, \$820. Call 208-733-8800. Call 208-733-4455 or 208-733-4748.

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WANTED 1997 Ford 1/2 ton, 2008-420-5081.
WANTED TO BUY 1,500 feet of aluminum pipe, 6 inch dia. Call 731-8067 talk to Jose.

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BOW Hoot Split Limb XT 2000. Cobra sights, drop away rest, 1/2 doz carbon arrow cases, cam over quiver, \$600/lot. Call 208-255-3796.
BUCK'S BAGS, Giant Call, 6 ft, ponoon boat, exc. cond. \$150. Call 208-308-3033.

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816 MISC

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