

**GOOD MORNING**

**WEATHER**

**Today:** Partly to mostly cloudy with a slight breeze. High 41, low 14.  
Page A2

**LOCAL**

**Mining its business:** Company plans to mine gold, fertilizer.  
Page B1

**MONEY**

**2004 in review:** U.S. economy recovers by degrees, a pace that frustrates workers.  
Page D1

**FAMILY LIFE**



**Hall and farewell:** Dave Barry takes a rueful look in his rereview mirror at 2004.  
Page E1

**SPORTS**

**Kid in the Hall:** Glenns Ferry product plays key role on Boise State's defense.  
Page C1

**OPINION**

**Idaho's new house:** Simple plot mansion donation will create impressive legacy for the state, today's editorial says.  
Page A14

**GENTLEMAN**

**Precious water:** Lakes, cascades figure prominently in southern Idaho's historical photos.  
Page D6

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**A decade with the wolf** Part one of a four-day series

## Living with WOLVES



Photo courtesy of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Wolf advocates and opponents continue to debate the importance of the gray wolf in central Idaho and often use literature and legend to shape public perception.

### Wolf reintroduction still polarizes sides

By Michelle Dunlop  
Times-News writer

**STANLEY** - When Bob Griswold wants entertainment at his home in the Sawtooth Valley miles from the nearest movie theater, bowling alley or shopping mall, he turns and looks out the large window in his living room.

On a clear day in mid-December, snow fresh from the previous evening coats the landscape outside Griswold's home. At this time of year, the trip up the driveway to his house from the main road requires four-wheel drive and a

**Inside**

- Wolves influence literature ... **Page A2**
- Timeline of wolves in the region ... **Page A7**
- Politics hamper recovery ... **Page A7**

couple of tries. Another good snowstorm will diminish travel to snowmobiles only. For many of us, a glance out the window might garner

Please see **WOLVES**, Page A7

### Update on wolves in Idaho

Total population as of Nov. 30, 2004: 419  
Documented number of packs: 44  
Reproductive packs: 34  
Breeding pairs: 28  
Idaho pup count: 112  
Number of new animals fitted with radio-collars: 56  
Wolves lethally controlled: 17

Wolves illegally killed: 10  
Other or unknown wolf deaths: 9

Wolf packs: Bear Valley, Bennett Mountain, Big Hole, Buffalo Ridge, Caldenvood, Castle Peak, Chamberlain Basin, Chesimta, Cold Springs, Cook, Coolwater Ridge, Copper Basin, Eagle Mountain, Eldorado, Five Lake, Butte, Florence, Galena, Gold Fork, Golden Creek, Gospel Hump, Hazard Lake, Hemlock Ridge, Jerome Mountain, Koly Creek, Landmark, Lupine Creek, Magdover, Marble Mountain, Monumental, Morgan Creek, Moyer Basin, O'Hare Point, Orphan, Packer John, Partridge Creek, Red River, Scott Mountain, Selway, Soldier Mountain, Steel Mountain, Thunder Mountain, Timberline, Twin Peaks, Warm Springs

### Prayers for peace, fears of violence categorize Christmas

The Associated Press

**LONDON** - Worshippers brought hopes for greater peace in the coming year as they flocked to Manger Square in Bethlehem and to St. Peter's Square in the Vatican to hear Christmas messages urging an end to violence, particularly in the Middle East. But from Indonesia to Iraq, fear overshadowed the festivities.

Few worshippers dared attend services in Baghdad on Saturday, and tens of thousands of police stood on guard at packed churches in Iraq. Gang violence cast a pall over Christmas in the Indonesian city of San Pedro Sula, where suspected gang members wielding assault rifles

boarded a public bus and killed 28 people two days earlier. In a message left on the bus windshield, the gunmen promised more violence, saying: "People should take advantage of this Christmas because the next one will be worse."

Friday night, jittery last-minute Christmas shoppers scurried for cover in the city when fireworks went off and rumors spread that street gangs were preparing to fight.

But festivities were light-hearted in other corners of the globe. Australians in bikinis and Santa suits took their parties and Christmas barbecues to the beach. And in London, Madrid and Paris, the streets were nearly empty as families stayed home for their traditional Christmas dinners.

Queen Elizabeth II urged religious and cultural tolerance in multicultural Britain in her traditional Christmas message broadcast on television and radio.

"Religion and culture are much in the news these days, usually as sources of difference and conflict, rather than for bringing people together. But the irony is that every religion has something to say about tolerance and respecting others," she said.

The queen also praised Britain's troops overseas.

In the United States, President Bush issued a Christmas message for his country's troops just days after an attack on a U.S. military hall in the Iraqi city of Mosul killed 14 U.S. service members as well as eight others.

"In Afghanistan, Iraq, and elsewhere, these skilled and courageous Americans are fighting the enemies of freedom and protecting our country from danger," Bush said.

At the Vatican, thousands - Please see **CHRISTMAS**, Page A2

### St. Benedicts nurses say they're happy to work on Christmas

By Mogan Hinds  
Times-News writer

**JEROME** - They call it the "menopausal shift." While most folks are at home with family on Christmas Day, one group of nurses diligently staffs the holiday shift at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome - just in case you slice off a fingertip with the carving knife or twist an ankle making a dismount from that

new pogo stick.

For the most part, the four nurses on staff at the hospital Saturday volunteered to work on the holiday. With grown children that live outside Magic Valley and husbands also working (or at home watching football), the women say they're happy working in the place of colleagues with small children.

"It all works out the best for those with kids at home," says licensed practical nurse Joy

Humbach of Jerome, who has worked at St. Benedict's off and on for nearly 40 years. She used to pull all-nighters on top of day work in a doctor's office, but she gladly works eight-hour shifts now.

"I have eight-hour feet," she says.

The nurses say it's either extremely busy and hectic in the hospital on Christmas Day or

Please see **HOSPITAL**, Page A2



Registered nurse Rowan Brons of St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome fills an intravenous bag with medicine for a patient Saturday afternoon. Four nurses worked at the hospital on Christmas Day while other nurses with young children stayed at home with their families.

HEARST IMAGE/ THE TIMES-NEWS

**7 days, 7 reasons to read**

**Feeling the burn**  
How to hold off heartburn this holiday season.  
Monday

**A decade with wolves**  
The series continues.  
**Eat strategically**  
How to order in specialty restaurant without ruining your diet.  
Wednesday

**Lewis and Clark**  
Winter of 2005 marks actual bicentennial of Lewis and Clark in Idaho.  
Thursday

**Cheers!**  
Everything you ever wanted to know about champagne.  
Friday

**New beginnings**  
On New Year's Day, how to start fresh.  
**Out of Africa**  
A Magic Valley woman finds magic far from home.  
Saturday

Sunday

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy with a light breeze. Highs from 38 to 44.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy and cool. Lows from 23 to 29.
Tomorrow: Cloudy and brisk with a few flurries not out of the question. Lows from 23 to 29.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cloudy, breezy and cool with little in the way of precipitation likely. Highs from 39 to 45.
Tonight: Cloudy and brisk with a few flurries not out of the question. Lows from 23 to 29.
Tomorrow: Comfortable with a blend of clouds and patchy sunshine. Highs from 41 to 47.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS.
Today: Snow showers possible today and tonight, becoming much less likely after dark. Relatively dry Tuesday. Snow chances returning mid-week.

BOISE
Relatively dry and warming with cloudy periods expected through Monday. Snowing lightly Tuesday with rain and snow chances increasing overnight into Wednesday.

NORTHERN UTAH
Fair, mostly dry and breezy today. A slight chance of precipitation and clouds moving through on Monday.



Yesterday's State Estimates: 40 at Boise. Low: 1 at Ketchum.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 7 columns: Today, Tonight, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Yesterday's Weather. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

MOON PHASES

Table with 4 columns: Day, Full Moon, Last Qr, New Moon, First Cr.

REGIONAL FORECAST

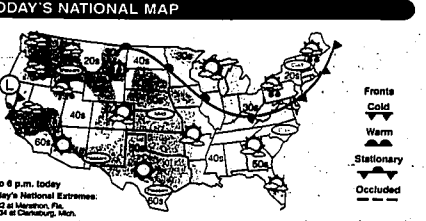
Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High, Low. Lists various Idaho cities.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High, Low. Lists various national cities.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, High, Low. Lists various world cities.



TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP

U.V. INDEX

Highly to extremely hazardous. The higher the index the more protection needed.

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table with 2 columns: Monday, Tuesday. Lists moonrise and moonset times.

POLLEN COUNT

Table with 2 columns: Monday, Tuesday. Lists pollen counts for various types.

DAY WEATHER

Day Weather. Includes a small weather icon and text.

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Christmas

Continued from A1. Many cheering and waving flags - flocked to St. Peter's Square to hear Pope John Paul II's traditional 'Urbi et Orbi' Latin for 'to the city and to the world,' message and holiday wishes in dozens of languages.

Hospital

Continued from A1. 'Just plain quiet.' Thankfully, Saturday afternoon was pretty peaceful, with only four patients in the 25-bed facility and a slow but steady stream of patients in the emergency rooms.

Literature livens up the wolf debate

HAILEY - Beware of the Big Bad Wolf. Children's literature and folktales are full of frightening images and cautionary stories of the creature, painting the wolf sometimes as demonic and often as being worthy of fear.

Literature livens up the wolf debate

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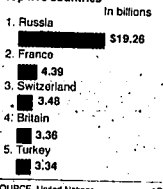
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**Oil-for-food program**

According to an U.N.-ordered inquiry, these are the top five countries that purchased oil from Iraq under the oil-for-food program from 1996 until 2003:



SOURCE: United Nations AP

**Companies hinder U.N. probe into oil-for-food**

GENEVA (AP) — The U.N.-ordered probe into oil-for-food corruption is being seriously hampered by an elaborate system of ghost firms set up around the world to cover the tracks of bribes to Saddam Hussein as he cheated the \$80 billion program, a top investigator said.

Some front companies in this global oil trading center and elsewhere that dealt with Saddam have been liquidated or have hidden ownership, complicating the search for evidence of financial improprieties, said Swiss criminal lawyer Mark Pleth. He's one of three commission members leading the probe headed by former U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker.

Major oil trading companies and individuals — from American businessmen to French, Chinese and Russian officials — are suspected of benefiting from lucrative Iraqi oil contracts that involved kickbacks, according to the independent panel's initial findings.

Those who profited may have been able to hide behind a web of fiction by making transactions through ghost firms that exist mostly on paper, Pleth told The Associated Press.

Despite the thin trail, Pleth said he was confident investigators would ultimately trace the funds back to those who may have made illicit profits — or allowed Saddam and his regime to profit illegally during the oil-for-food program, which existed from 1996 until 2003.

"It is a problem. Yes, of course it is, but on the other hand we also have means of finding the beneficial owners," Pleth said. "There is usually a file if the banks have done their job."

Pleth said national authorities and banks in Switzerland and other nations where front companies handled oil-for-food deals should have their own records of who was behind the firms.

"Switzerland and Liechtenstein have promised to help," Pleth said of the two countries where more than two dozen companies got oil under the program, according to an AP examination of records.

Neither nation is known for having oil reserves of its own. But according to a list Volcker released of 248 companies that "lifted," or exported, Iraqi oil under the program, companies based in Switzerland took more than those from any other country except France and Russia. The tiny principality of Liechtenstein — which has 33,000 inhabitants — came in eighth on the list.

Volcker has said that being on the list doesn't necessarily imply guilt in paying kickbacks. Switzerland and Liechtenstein are among countries whose lax regulations and traditions of discretion in business and banking make them attractive for trading companies.

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**Ukrainian judges change voting law before election**

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — On the eve of Ukraine's hotly contested presidential vote, the nation's highest court threw out some of the election law changes aimed at battling fraud, a possible setback for opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko.



Election commission official Artem Lovyagin installs a ballot box at a polling station in the regional center of Donetsk, eastern Ukraine, Saturday. Ukrainians will vote for a second time for the new president today.

The Constitutional Court ruling poses a last-minute logistical challenge to election officials and could provide grounds for a protracted dispute over the results of the vote — a repeat of a November vote that was thrown out because of fraud.

The ruling came as Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich took a legally required day off from campaigning before Sunday's vote, and some 12,000 international observers — the largest election monitoring mission ever launched — fanned out across the country.

Sunday's vote marks the culmination of a month of upheaval in Ukraine, marked by huge protests in the streets of Kiev by Yushchenko supporters.

Supreme Court ruling that voided Yanukovich's victory in the Nov. 21 vote, tension between Russia — which backs Yanukovich — and the West, and revelations that Yushchenko, a pro-Western reformer, was poisoned by diodes.

Saturday's court decision brought a new twist in the final hours before polls open. The court ruled that amendments allowing people with only certain disabilities to vote at home were unconstitutional, and it ordered that all who were unable to reach polling stations because of a disability or ill health be allowed to vote at home.

Saturday's ruling could benefit Yanukovich, who pushed for the restrictions to be lifted, saying they would deprive millions of their right to vote.

However, it could also throw an unexpected monkey wrench into his campaign team's announced plans to help disabled voters reach polling stations. They are considered a key source of backing of Yanukovich because the prime minister missed positions during his two years in office.

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**Afghan presidential runner-up congratulates President Karzai**

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The runner-up to Hamid Karzai in historic presidential elections congratulated the Afghan leader Saturday on the formation of his Cabinet, and said he is in the process of forming an opposition political party.

Yousaf Qanooni said he had deep respect for the Cabinet ministers and for Karzai himself — but that he felt he could best serve the nation by becoming a leading opposition figure.

He said he would call the party New Afghanistan, and that it would be created in the coming weeks.

"We will raise our voices and we will struggle against that," Qanooni said. "What is important is to resolve our differences through politics. We are no longer living in a time of war."

The sentiments echoed those expressed by Karzai himself Friday after he swore in his new Cabinet. The president described Qanooni as "a friend" and said he left him out of the Cabinet so he could start an opposition party ahead of parliamentary elections scheduled for April.

"We need political parties, because in the absence of political parties, politics will become ethnic or linguistic," Karzai said.

"We will support any positive steps taken by the government, but if they do something wrong,



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 Monday in Image

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**Shoppers in Honduras city worry after bus massacre**

SAN PEDRO SULA, Honduras (AP) — In a jittery last-minute Christmas shoppers scurried for cover at rumors of Mara street gangs gathering for battle one day after gunning shot up a bus, killing 28 people in a gruesome massacre. One of the more than 1,000 officers patrolling the outskirts of this city Friday said the panic may have been caused by some fireworks — a Christmas tradition here — that the crowd thought were gunshots.

"I was buying some shoes when somebody shouted, 'Here come the Maras.' And everybody started running," said shopper Norman Moreno. Sobbing women and crowds of men scurried for cover. Police cars hurried to the scene but failed to find the cause of the panic. Thursday's "massacre" has made Honduras' anti-crime campaign seem more like an open war between street gangs and authorities.

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NATION

# Troops wait to serve

Servicemen live in limbo until they get orders



Marine reservist Kevin Lackey sits with his parents Bruce and Theresa Lackey on Tuesday in Willowbrook, Ill. Lackey is one of more than 2 million National Guard and Reserve troops who have put their lives on hold as they wait and wonder if they'll be sent to Iraq.

AP photo

CHICAGO (AP) — Kevin Lackey is eager to take what he's learned in the Marine Reserves into war in Iraq. Theresa Lackey can't bear to watch the news, for fear she'll see soldiers searching for the enemy in houses pockmarked by bullet holes — the kind of work her son has been training for.

The Lackeys live in suburban Chicago, but their story could be told from anywhere in the country. As accounts of the war and the soldiers fighting there dominate the headlines, there is a quieter story for more than 1 million National Guard and Reserve troops waiting and wondering if they'll be sent to Iraq. Or sent back.

They've put their lives on hold, put off college, buying homes and cars, knowing they could join nearly 186,000 of their Guard and Reserve colleagues now on active duty, more than 60,000 of whom are in Iraq or Afghanistan.

"They've said their goodbyes only to be told at the last minute they're not going, anywhere — not yet, anyway — as their families brace for their deployment."

Kevin Lackey, 20, said his commanders were so sure his unit was going to be activated and deployed to Iraq this fall, "They told us to make our wills, tell family members to have a life without you and life with you in a combat zone. Then that fell through."

"It's like a roller coaster," said Theresa Lackey. That's particularly true during the holidays, which she suspects will be her son's last at home before he ships out. "It makes us all more desperate to spend time with him."

Matt Comeaux also uses "roller coaster" to describe the last few months. A sergeant in the Illinois National Guard, Comeaux said he learned last spring that his battalion was being activated in November or December.

Knowing he would be gone for 18 months, the 36-year-old divorced father moved out of the house he was renting and put his belongings in storage. He even found a new home for his dog.

"How do you ask somebody to baby-sit your dog for a year-and-a-half?" he asked.

A couple months before the unit was to leave, though, Comeaux found out he wasn't leaving because "there wasn't enough slots at my rank for me to go with my battalion."

After being told he was next

up if someone of his rank needed to be replaced, he found out he would not be going at all. Then, almost as soon as he told his 13-year-old son and 6-year-old daughter that he was staying home, he started hearing that he might be deployed after all.

In November, he was told he was being activated in one week. "I got to see my kids two weekends a month," Comeaux said. "I didn't think I would be able to say goodbye to my kids."

About two days later, those orders were canceled, too.

Such uncertainty is a reality of being at war, when needs for more troops can change rapidly, said Major Tim Franklin, spokesman for the Illinois Army National Guard. "Those decisions are made at the Pentagon and 4th Army Forces Command, based on the needs of commanders on the ground in Iraq," he said. "And those needs change."

Comeaux isn't angry but describes the situation as "very emotional."

"It's up and down, not knowing what is going on," said Comeaux, who is staying at a friend's house, living out of a suitcase.

Comeaux said most of the guardsmen he knows don't want to go to Iraq, and some cringe when he calls to give them an update, but even those who cringe are willing to go. "They know that's their job," he said.

The wait is tougher for many because they are afraid to make long-term plans. Lackey has delayed enrolling in Western Illinois University as well as buying a car. And Comeaux doesn't bother looking for another place to live yet.

Some, like Corey Wilson, try to make plans. They just keep get-

ting interrupted. "I joined (to pay) for school," said Wilson, a mechanic with an Army National Guard unit in Peoria. "When I enlisted, I figured we'd never get deployed except for a flood or something."

But since January 2003, he's reported for duty thinking he was being deployed to Kosovo. He came home when those orders were canceled, enrolled in Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and dropped out two weeks later when his unit was sent to Iraq for 15 months.

Wilson is back at SIU, but he can be called back to active duty for the next 3.5 years — something he expects to happen.

"I'm still a 21-year-old freshman, and if I go again I will be like 50 when I graduate from college," said Wilson.

As tough as the wait is for Wilson, he said it may be tougher on his mother.

"As a parent, I wouldn't have let him sign up if I thought there was any chance of going to war," said Barbara Wilson.

## Comair cancels all flights after system crash

HEBRON, Ky. (AP) — Comair canceled all of its 1,100 flights on Saturday after a computer system managing flight assignments crashed, a spokesman said.

Nick Miller, a spokesman for the Delta subsidiary based at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Regional Airport, said the cancellations affected 30,000 travelers in 118 cities.

"There was a cumulative effect with the canceled flights and trying to get crew assigned that caused the system to be overvied," he said. "It just stopped operating."

Olio was just beginning to recover from a paralyzing winter storm that socked the state Wednesday and Thursday. Comair canceled most of its Thursday flights after it ran critically low on de-icer fluid. Half of the airline's flights out of the Cincinnati airport Friday were also canceled.

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WORLD

# One of Turkey's richest men appears in hostage video

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. forces captured two senior figures of al-Qaida's branch in Iraq, the U.S. military said Saturday, and one of Turkey's richest businessmen was reported kidnapped, appearing in a video along with a sleeping employee saying they were being held hostage.

In Baghdad, police uncovered more bodies under the rubble after a suicide bomber blew up a gas tanker in an upscale Baghdad district, bringing the death toll in the Friday night attack to at least nine people.

The video of the two Turkish hostages was the first report of a kidnapping of foreigners in Iraq in weeks — and it appeared the abduction netted one of the most high-profile victims yet.

Kahraman Sadikoglu is the president of the Istanbul-based Tuzla Shipyard and is wanted in Turkey for having renovated and saved from ruin the "Savaronia" — one of the world's largest yachts, once used by Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey.

Sadikoglu appeared in the video, aired on Turkish television, alongside Ahmet Yurdas, the captain of one of his ships. No kidnappers appeared in the footage or issued any statement claiming responsibility and no demands were made. The video's authenticity could not be confirmed.

"Today is Dec. 23. We were captured four or five days ago," Sadikoglu said. "We're fine and they will check us out, what we're doing here, and will hopefully release us. God is Great."

Sadikoglu said he was working for the United Nations and the Iraqi government on a project clearing harbors of sunken ships. "We don't have any problems with the Iraqi government, we're creating jobs and food for the Iraqis," he said. "If that is a crime, too, then we will accept the punishment."

The two men had not been heard from since they left the southern Iraqi city of Basra by land on Dec. 16, according to their families.

Several Turkish newspapers said a ransom demand of \$25 million had been made, but Foreign Ministry officials and family members of the hostages refused to confirm the reports.

More than 170 foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq this year, and at least 34 of them, including seven Turks, have been killed by their captors. Besides the two Turks in Saturday's video, at least four foreigners are known to still be held, three of them Americans.

The U.S. Marines said Saturday they captured two men who led cells in Anbar province for Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi's Al-Qaida in Iraq. The province is a center for the insurgency and home to the cities of Ramadi and Fallujah.

A Marines statement identified the men as Saleh Arayagan

Kahil and Bassim Mohammad Hazem. Their cells kidnapped and executed 11 Iraqi National Guardsmen carried out car bombings and other attacks in the Ramadi area and "smuggled foreign terrorists into the country," the Marines said.

"This group is responsible for intimidating, attacking and murdering innocent Iraqi civilians, Iraqi police and security forces, and business and political leaders throughout the-

Anbar province," the statement said.

Al-Zarqawi's group, once known as Jaysh and Jihad, recently changed its name to Al-Qaida in Iraq and pledged allegiance to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network. It has claimed responsibility for numerous deadly attacks against U.S. troops and government forces.

Violence has persisted across Iraq despite the U.S. military's offensives last month aimed at

putting down insurgents in several hotspots — including their stronghold Fallujah, which U.S. forces captured.

Friday night, a suicide bomber detonated a butane gas truck in the upscale Mansour district near the Libyan and Moroccan embassies, hours after Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld left the capital, ending a one-day visit to speak to U.S. troops.

Rescuers on Saturday un-

covered seven more bodies under the rubble of one of three houses wrecked in the blast, bringing the toll to nine Iraqis. At least 14 people were seriously wounded by the explosion.

The escalation in violence has come in the run-up to national elections scheduled for Jan. 30. While majority Shiites have embraced the polls as a chance to assert their numerical strength, radical elements within the minority Sunni community are

leading the campaign to prevent the vote.

In other violence Saturday, a car bomb exploded as a U.S. military convoy was passing through the southern town of Ein al-Nus, killing three Iraqis and wounding two, police said.

Günmen killed Hasan Abdul-Ghani al-Rubai, a professor at Baghdad University's medical school, as he drove his car along the Haifa street where militants often launch attacks.



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# Anonymous man doles out \$35,000 to shelter residents

DENVER (AP) — Residents of Samaritan House didn't know what to expect when the bearded, middle-aged man parked his sport utility vehicle in front of the downtown homeless shelter Christmas Eve.

The man walked into the building, pulled out a thick roll of \$100 bills, and began passing them out to each of the approximately 300 residents.

When he was finished, he had given out \$35,000.

"It was like seeing Santa Claus and God all at once," said William Chengelis, who has lived at the shelter since November. "You hear about stuff like that but you don't think you'll be there when it happens."

As a crowd gathered, the man said he had once been homeless and knew what it was like to be in need. He did not identify himself and said only that he lived in Denver and had also distributed money at a Las Vegas shelter.

Possibly the man's biggest single donation was \$5,000 to a family of six to fund housing. Louis Quezada, Tressi Wirtner and their four children had been living with Quezada's parents but were thrown out after an argument. They had been in the shelter several days.

"He asked if he gave us the money, would we get a house with it," said Quezada, 23. "We said yes."

# Charge against rancher draws fire

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Friends and colleagues are critical of a manslaughter charge against a Benson rancher whose livestock is blamed for a traffic death.

The charges were filed after a woman was killed last month when her vehicle collided with one of Daniel Kuntzer's Black Angus steers on State Road 30 in northern Utah.

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

On Thursday, Kuntzer appeared in court on one count of manslaughter, a second-degree felony. A judge set a scheduling hearing for Jan. 3. Manslaughter carries a possible prison sentence of up to 15 years.

Kuntzer, a longtime member of the Utah Cattlemen's Association and one of Governor Walker's appointees to the state Livestock Brand Board, is "torn... to pieces... absolutely devastated" by the death, said defense attorney Greg Skordas.

Prosecutors claim Kuntzer "recklessly" caused the death of Kimberly Johnson, 40, a mother of six from Auburn, Wash., who was in Utah visiting family members for Thanksgiving.

At about 1:15 a.m. on Nov. 27, Johnson was driving north of her children on state Road 30, west of Logan, when she struck a black steer that had wandered onto the roadway, where the speed limit is 60 mph. Johnson was dead at the scene from head injuries.

Police say the steer rolled up the Subaru Legacy's hood and landed on the roof, crushing it down onto Johnson's head. She lost control of the car, which struck an embankment, rolled onto its top and slid into an irrigation canal.

Johnson's two children who were in the car survived, as did a woman who hit the dead cow immediately following the fatal crash. Two other cow-car collisions occurred in the area in November 2003 and October 2004.

Kuntzer was charged with five class A misdemeanor reckless endangerment charges in connection with the accidents' survivors.

Brent Tanner, executive vice president of the cattlemen's association, says animals can be unpredictable.

"If a rancher has made reasonable efforts to contain them, the law has generally come down in favor of the rancher," Tanner said. "We're talking about a large animal with a mind of its own."

Tanner said he has never heard of a rancher charged with homicide as a result of loose livestock.

"It concerns me that it's setting a precedent," he said, noting that many areas of Utah are designated "open range," where animals are unfenced.

# Police arrest man for attempted murder

NAMPYA (AP) — A Nampa man arrested on Thursday faces an attempted murder charge.

Police suspect Jacob John Custodio, 23, of Nampa, was one of the participants in an exchange of gunfire last month that injured a 19-year-old man.

Investigators said a Nampa detective was able to track down the man who had been injured in the Nov. 21 shootout at a duplex in town.

Police initially reported that no one had been hurt when 14 shots were reportedly fired. But investigators were later able to

confirm that someone had been hit. The victim, whom police declined to identify, led investigators to the suspect.

The detective located Custodio as an inmate in the Canyon County jail, where he was being held on a \$2,500 bond for violating a no-contact order.

Police have more names of possible suspects and charges could be filed against more people involved, the chief said.

The shootout led police to a cache of stolen property. Numerous items were seized from the residence.

# Flying out of Salt Lake's airport? Get ready to open your wallet wide

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — If you're flying out of Salt Lake for the holidays, this piece of news won't exactly shock you.

Taking flight from Salt Lake City International Airport is getting more expensive, according to recent data from the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Comparing the second quarter of 1995 to the second quarter of 2004, the study found that commercial airfares in Salt Lake City increased 16.9 percent over the decade. By comparison,

tourist hub Las Vegas saw a smaller increase — 16.1 percent, during the same period.

Salt Lake City had the 17th-highest percentage increase out of 45 major airports surveyed.

If only the lower 40 states are counted, Utah's capital saw the eleventh-biggest rise in the nation over the decade.


But airport officials say since prices back then were relatively low, airfares remain a good bargain despite the rise.

"Generally speaking, Salt


Lake fares have been reasonably low," said Tim Campbell, Salt Lake City Department of Airports executive director. "We still may be well below those other airports."

Many cities in the Intermountain West — defined by the Census as Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming — saw far smaller increases than Salt Lake. In Phoenix, for instance, fares increased only 6 percent in 10 years.

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WORLD

# Interim Palestinian leader Abbas promises to uphold Arafat's legacy



New Palestinian policemen and officers celebrate during a graduation ceremony in Gaza City, Saturday. The campaign for the upcoming Jan. 9, Palestinian presidential elections started Saturday.

Abbas and pledged loyalty to the man who has come to symbolize Palestinian aspirations since his death Nov. 11.

Abbas and Arafat once had a contentious relationship. Abbas resigned as Palestinian prime minister in September 2003, 60 months after taking office, because of conflict with Arafat. The two men did not speak again until Arafat fell ill.

Most of the speakers who introduced Abbas invoked Arafat's legacy and praised Abbas' commitment to follow Arafat's path. Speakers included more than a dozen religious leaders and representatives of student groups, refugees and people injured during four years of fighting with Israel.

"Out of respect for Arafat, we are with Abu Mazen," said Ihsan Jamni, a top Islamic cleric. Abbas is widely known by his nickname, Abu Mazen.

Israel and the United States shunned Arafat, accusing him of promoting terrorism attacks. But they have quietly supported Abbas, whom they see as a pragmatist.

Arafat's stated goals mirror those of Arafat — and most Palestinians. He repeated his promise to hold Palestinian parliamentary elections early next year and urged Israel to free all Palestinian prisoners, especially jailed leader Marwan Barghout, a Fatah rival who withdrew from the election race under intense party pressure.

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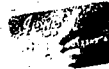
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WORLD

# Protectorate may be Haiti's best hope

Los Angeles Times

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — In a faded red dress and broken flip-flops, Sonya Noel watched with resignation as gangsters erected burning barricades to block Cite Soleil's street market just two days after United Nations troops had cleared away earlier impediments to commerce.

The fruit and snack vendors in the sprawling seaside slum here had been driven off the streets by violence for months, deprived of livelihood and threatened by gunmen demanding the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

"There's shooting all over the place now. It's worse since the U.N. came in," Noel lamented.

With Haiti's interim government halfway through its 18-month mandate and the Brazilian-led U.N. peacekeeping mission nearly at full strength, life remains cheap and security elusive in a society so broken it can't cobble together even the means to accept humanitarian aid.

Effortless efforts to impose peace and pave the way for elections after years of dictatorship and chaos have given rise to debate about whether Haitians are capable of resolving their own crises or should have their country placed under international control.

In a briefing paper prepared for American military commanders on security challenges in Latin America, Gabriel Marcella of the U.S. Army War College warned that Haiti was undergoing an implosion and suggested that an international protectorate might be the only way to contain the disaster.

"Haiti's violence is the consequence of a predatory state, a nonexistent political culture, economic collapse and ecological destruction," Marcella wrote in the November advisory. "Long-term measures are necessary, to the point of considering Haiti for protectorate status under a Brazilian-led regional coalition, if one can be created that is willing to support a 10-year restoration initiative."

In an interview, Marcella said

the efforts of U.N. peacekeepers and international aid agencies were helpful but insufficient. Neither has tackled such long-term goals as revitalizing schools, roads, hospitals and agriculture, he said.

The U.N. forces are responsible only for enhancing security. Their six-month mandate, which began in June and was recently extended for another six months, lacks any long-term strategic planning.

The protectorate idea, tantamount to foreign occupation that could last at least a decade, has ignited more enthusiasm among Haitian intellectuals than might have been expected in a year marking the bicentennial of the country's independence. Celebrations of the anniversary have been muted by catastrophic floods that killed at least 5,000, armed rebellion and repression.

"People are exasperated and exhausted. If you took a poll, 65 percent to 70 percent of the population would support a protectorate," said Claude Beaubouef, a noted economist who compares Haiti today with Afghanistan after the ouster of the Taliban government.

Unguarded borders, a corrupt and overwhelmed police force and armed gangs eager to collaborate with well-heeled smugglers of guns and drugs could make this country a fertile ground for terrorists, Beaubouef said.

"Haiti is not a strategic threat (to the United States) now," he said, "but we should not underestimate its potential to become one."

Politicians and historians note that one of the few periods of stability in Haiti stemmed from a 1915-34 U.S. occupation, now fondly regarded by many

here as an act of benevolence rather than imperialism.

"There is a strong nationalist current in this country because of our history, but the bottom line is that people are more interested in better living conditions than in the abstract concept of sovereignty," said Michel Georges, a fruit exporter from the city of Cap-Haitien who has joined a lively Internet debate, among academics such as Marcella and editorialists in South Florida about prospects for bringing lasting peace to Haiti.

"Sovereignty is not an absolute thing. It's something you have to work at, to be more independent every day," said Jean-Claude Baxex, a human rights activist who argues that, in effect, Haiti is already occu-

pled and administered by foreign forces.

Caribbean political analysts such as Daniel Erikson of the Inter-American Dialogue, a think tank in Washington, express doubt that the countries taking part in the U.N. mission would be enthusiastic about expanding their role.

Noting that the United States already is "resource restrained" in Iraq, Erikson said responsibility for any U.N. protectorate in Haiti would fall to Latin American countries, and that "Latin America as a whole tends to be a little bit uncomfortable with interventions."

Although there has yet to be any enthusiasm expressed by the international community to take on the administration of Haiti, Erikson agrees with protectorate advocates that recovery is unlikely unless the U.N. and Western powers engage in more hands-on efforts to repair the country's broken institutions and infrastructure.

“Haiti is not a strategic threat (to the United States) now but we should not underestimate its potential to become one.”

— Claude Beaubouef, a noted economist

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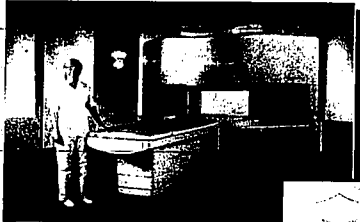
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NATION

# Brothers head for Washington

Congressmen come from humble roots in Colorado

MANASSA, Colo. (AP) — Ken and John Salazar sat on a sofa with their 82-year-old mother in the living room of the modest ranch that has been home to their family for 150 years. Four siblings and extended family members huddled under bookshelves packed with family photos, religious mementos and encyclopedias.

The brothers were dressed up and headed for a hometown celebration of their simultaneous election to Congress on Nov. 2.

As usual, festivities began at home. "This family has been at the core of all the values that we share," said Ken Salazar, the 49-year-old state attorney general and Colorado's next senator. "They were at the core of our campaigns and the core of everything that we've done in life."

John Salazar, 51, who will share an apartment with his brother in Washington as the new representative of the sprawling 3rd District, nodded to his mother. "It started here."

In a Salazar still-soaking in her sons' successes, replied softly: "It just happened."

Democrats fared miserably on Election Day, but not in Colorado. Even though President Bush won the state for a second time, the Salazar brothers scored an eye-catching coup by reaching out to rural areas and self-described "conservatives," including evangelical Chris-



Ken Salazar, front, U.S. senator-elect from Colorado, joins his brother, John, middle, U.S. representative-elect from Colorado, and nephew Elliott Salazar Jr. in talking to reporters outside the family's farm in the San Luis Valley, Nov. 20, near Manassa, Colo.

tians to win seats vacated by Republicans.

"What Democrats ought to do is look at guys like the Salazars and how they won," said Al From, head of the centrist Democratic Leadership Council, which helped put Bill Clinton on the path to the White House in 1992.

He and others say the brothers' campaigns are possible blueprints for making inroads in the West and other traditionally Republican states.

During a tour of tiny Manassa, made famous in 1919 by native-son-and-heavyweight champion Jack Dempsey, the Salazars said the formula is simple: It's all about family.

The Salazars' roots date back four centuries to northern New Mexico, where their ancestors helped settle Santa Fe. They moved north at the end of the Mexican-American war to start a new life on land tucked into the hills' southeast of Manassa, where the San Antonio River

era veteran. They are determined to pass on those values to their own children. John Salazar and his wife, Mary Lou, who run a seed potato farm with the family, required their three sons to work at home to earn money. Ken Salazar and his wife, Hope, acquired a Dairy Queen franchise in the Denver area in part so their two teenage daughters could learn the ropes of a family business.

The brothers also stressed the importance of education. Their mother and late father, Henry Salazar, bought encyclopedias in the early 1960s instead of trading in their pickup truck for a car.

"We sometimes used to sit out here around the table, and my father would go around and say, 'I can't leave you riches, and I can't leave you large ranches, but the one thing I want to make sure you get is a good education,'" Ken Salazar said.

All the children became first-generation college graduates. Much has been made of the fact that Ken Salazar is Colorado's first Hispanic senator and that he and Republican Mel Martinez of Florida are the first Hispanics elected to the Senate in nearly 30 years. Salazar said he is proud of his background but doesn't want to dwell on it.

cuts through sagebrush and piñon and juniper trees.

Growing up on Los Luncones, or the Corners, named for the angle the hills form, the family had no money for toys. John Salazar said he, Ken and older brother LeRoy used sticks to make their own playthings.

"We know the values of hard work, integrity and honesty, and we know the struggles that people have in rural communities," said John Salazar, a state legislator and Vietnam-

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## Cassini launches European probe on course to Saturn moon Titan

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — A probe once attached to the International Space Station was on its own Saturday for the first time, headed on a slow, tumbling course into the hazy atmosphere of Saturn's planet-size moon Titan.

The European Space Agency's Huygens probe carried instruments that may reveal more about the moon's chemistry and whether Titan actually has lakes or seas of liquid methane and ethane that have been theorized by scientists.

Cassini used springs to gently push the 705-pound probe away late Friday at a rate of one foot per second, sending it on a three-week free-fall toward Titan. Cassini will make a course change next week to avoid fol-

lowing the probe into the moon's atmosphere.

The probe's successful launch from Cassini put smiles on the faces of scientists in the control room at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

"This was a big one partly because we had to do this right on no mission at all," said David Southwood, the European Space Agency's science program director.

A detailed analysis of the release was under way, but there were no indications of any problems, said Earl Maize, the Cassini deputy program manager at JPL.

"We are quite confident we had a very clean release," he said.

Titan is the only moon in the solar system known to have a significant atmosphere.

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# Traditions link Christmas joy to Mardi Gras exesses

By Bill Broadway  
The Washington Post

Much is said about the commercialization of Christmas. But the liturgical connections between Christmas and Carnival, the period of raucous merriment preceding Lent, are rarely discussed.

Linking Christmas and Easter in a continuous flow shows how the religious and secular can come together in ways many people don't think about.

Here's the chronological framework on which the sacred and profane often intertwine:

The Christmas season begins with Advent, four Sundays before Dec. 25, and concludes Jan. 6, the 12th day of Christmas, also known as Epiphany (from the Greek for "manifestation"). Carnival begins on Twelfth Night, the eve of Epiphany, and concludes on Mardi Gras, Fat Tuesday, the last day of sensual indulgence before Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the 40-day period of fasting that leads to Easter.

The Twelve Days of Christmas, of which Twelfth Night is part, originated sometime after the 4th century, when church leaders decided that Dec. 25 was the day to celebrate Jesus' birth, said Monsignor Anthony F. Sherman, associate director of the liturgy office at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Before that time, the birth of Jesus and the arrival of the Magi often called the Three Wise Men — were celebrated on Epiphany.

The following 12 days, beginning with Dec. 26, developed their own traditions, taking on religious significance but never matching the importance of Advent, the beginning of the annual liturgical cycle, Sherman said.

Incorporated into the 12 days are celebrations marking key moments and people in Jesus' life. Dec. 28, Holy Innocents Day, recognizes the martyrdom of the first-born sons King Herod killed in his effort to eliminate the Christ child. (Joseph and Mary had fled with Jesus to Egypt). Jan. 1, New Year's Day, is the Feast of Mary, Mother of God, and the anniversary of Jesus' circumcision and presentation in the temple.

Epiphany recalls the visit of the Magi, Jesus' baptism in the River Jordan and his first miracle, turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana. In some countries, Spain and the Netherlands among them, Catholics celebrate Epiphany on Jan. 6 as Three Kings Day and exchange gifts then rather than at Christmas.

In the United States, Jan. 6 is not a holy day unless it falls on Sunday so Epiphany is celebrated on the Sunday that falls between Jan. 2 and Jan. 8. The Baptism of the Lord is celebrated the following Sunday. (In 2005, Epiphany is celebrated Jan. 3; the Baptism of the Lord, Jan. 9; Ash Wednesday, Feb. 9; and Easter, March 27 on the Western calendar and May 1 on the Eastern Orthodox calendar.)

The origins of Twelfth Night celebrations — usually held Jan. 5 — are difficult to trace, in part because they took on lives of their own in different countries. Some accounts say they started in the Middle Ages, and by the early 1600s, when William Shakespeare introduced his comedy "Twelfth Night," the eve of Epiphany had evolved into a rowdy occasion of banquets, plays and partygoers dressed in disguise.

Twelfth Night festivities, usually featuring a King Cake or Twelfth Night Cake, made their way to the American colonies

and were a popular way of bringing the Christmas holidays to a glorious conclusion. (King Cake recipes are available on the Mount Vernon and Colonial Williamsburg Web sites.)

In New Orleans and other U.S. cities, Twelfth Night assumed a different role — concluding one holiday season and kicking off another with Carnival, a decidedly secular celebration despite its religious origins. The orgiastic free-for-all debuted in Louisiana in the 1820s after students returned from school in Paris, put on strange costumes and danced in the streets, and became part of the first Mardi Gras parade in 1837.

Whatever their origins — and meaning — Twelfth Night celebrations continue today.

Little Falls Presbyterian Church in Arlington, Va., for example, has held Twelfth Night potluck suppers as far back as anyone can remember, said Greg Kurasz, a member for 24

years and, with his wife, Rae, coordinator of recent Twelfth Night events.

One highlight of the evening is when Epiphany cakes are served to everyone present — more than 100 people in recent years. The cutting of the cake coincides with the selection of a king and queen who will begin reading Bible passages about Jesus' birth and pick others to join in.

At first, Little Falls Twelfth Night chose a king by placing a dried bean in the cake mix. Whoever found the bean in his slice of the cake became king or queen for the evening and selected someone of the opposite sex as a royal partner. Two years ago, fearing someone might break a tooth, organizers began using alternative methods such as placing a winning card under a chair.

The dried-bean-in-the-cake motif has been used for centuries and has many variants. One version calls for three white

fava beans (symbolizing the Magi) and one black bean (used to select the king). Others use a coin, pea, pecan or a tiny plastic baby Jesus instead of the dried bean.

Kings and queens of Mardi Gras balls' often are selected in similar fashion, but they lead the dances rather than Scripture readings.

Another part of the Little Falls celebration is the recitation of religious analogues to the "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Here's a sampling: The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus; two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments; three French hens stood for faith, hope and love; the four calling birds were the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John; the eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes; and the 12 drummers drumming symbolized the 12 points in the Apostles' Creed.

The Little Falls Twelfth Night

booklet says the song originated between 1580 and 1820, an era when Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to express their faith openly and used the song as a catechism to teach their children. Naysayers consider the allegorical reading a fraud, a type of urban legend, and argue that the song was used to teach basic counting skills.

Legitimate or not, the religious interpretation of what many think is a nonsense poem for children makes sense to Kurasz.

"When I hear the song I always think of the 'hustle and bustle Christmas has become,'" he said, noting the chaos of people "flying and leaping around" as they shop for gifts, travel and go to parties.

"Maybe that's the real basis," he said of the allegorical reading. "When I put it all together I thought, 'There has to be something to it.'"

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## Pope offers Christmas Day message to world

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II shared his fears about Iraq, Sudan and other hot spots and expressed his hopes in a Christmas message Saturday that peace-building efforts will bring the world a more tranquil future.

Shielded by a canopy from bone-chilling drizzle, the pontiff greeted thousands of Romans, tourists and pilgrims who turned out at noon in St. Peter's Square to hear his traditional "Urbi et Orbi" (Latin for "to the city and to the world") message and holiday wishes in dozens of languages.

Children screamed in delight and adults cheered and waved flags as the pope, in gold-colored robes, was driven into the square in his white pope-mobile.

"Babe of Bethlehem, Prophet

of peace, encourage attempts to promote dialogue and reconciliation, sustain the efforts to build peace, which hesitantly, yet not without hope are being made to bring about a more tranquil present and future for so many of our brothers and sisters of the world," John Paul said, slowly pronouncing each word and often pausing to catch his breath.

"I think of Africa, of the tragedy of Darfur in Sudan, of the Ivory Coast and of the Great Lakes Region," John Paul said of those conflict areas.

"With great apprehension I follow the situation in Iraq. And how can I fail to look with anxious concern, but also with invincible confidence, toward that Land of which you are a son?" the pontiff said in reference to the Holy Land.

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## EDITORIAL

### House on the hill should bring cheer to Idahoans

As far as Christmas gifts go, it's hard to top J.R. Simplot's \$2.8 million present to the state of Idaho.

Simplot, the man who became a billionaire selling Idaho's famous potatoes, returned a favor on Tuesday when he donated his "house on the hill" for use as the governor's mansion.

long run. Idaho has no official governor's residence, and Gov. Dirk Kempthorne currently receives a \$4,500 monthly allowance for housing. Spending that money made little sense, especially since that money did not build equity in a permanent asset owned by the state.

Built in 1979, the Simplots lived in the sprawling mansion until two years ago. To be sure, some work and renovation will need to be done to the home, most likely with funds raised by the public. And it may be a year to 18 months before Dirk and Patricia Kempthorne can move in.

#### Our view: The

donation of J.R. Simplot's Boise home as Idaho's new governor's mansion is a gift worth saving.

#### What do you think?

We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

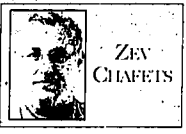
But once these tasks are complete, Idaho will have a palatial home that can last for many years. The \$1.5 million fund set up years ago by the Legislature for a governor's mansion could be used as an endowment. The interest it draws could then be used annually for maintenance of the home.

Idaho has a peculiar history with governor's mansions, with the last one serving an unimpressive tenure until 1987 when Gov. Cecil Andrus refused to live in it.

That should now change with the majestic home that can be a source of visible pride for all Idahoans.

## Bush bravado lacks theme song

During the presidential campaign, John Kerry vacillated between two anthems: Bruce Springsteen's "No Surrender" and "I Won't Back Down" by Petty. Bush used "Still the One" until its composer, John Hall, told him to cease and desist. There is no indication the president cared. He's not a music lover. His very administration needs a theme song. Since Kerry no longer needs one, Bush should borrow one of his.



ZEV CHAFETZ

"No Surrender," despite its title, is a melancholy tale of youthful determination gone soft. Petty's hard line — "You can stand me up at the gate of hell, but you'll back down" — is a better fit for the president. Of course, it is Bush's pugnacious self-confidence, even more than his Texan Christianity, that drives critics berserk. Sophisticates trained to value irony, self-doubt and skepticism (except, of course, regarding global warming), they see uncertainty as the mark of intellectual honesty. In fact, they're certain of it.

Now Bush's critics (including some self-interested Republicans) want him to admit that the war in Iraq has gone wrong by firing Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. The immediate justification is equipment



shortages, an issue that made headlines when a G.I. complained to Rumsfeld that he and his buddies had to rummage in scrap heaps to "up-arm" their vehicles. The president has no reason to do this. For one thing, his policy in Iraq is not a failure. But it will be if he listens to his detractors.

The U.S. can't lose a shooting war in Iraq, its military might is too great. But insurgents are fueled by optimism. The hope of the jihadis and Saddamites is that they can persuade Americans that this war, like Vietnam, is unwinnable.

Bush's job is to take that hope away by making America's enemies, in Iraq and beyond, believe that the U.S. might not be stopped.

marriage, abortion or Social Security reform. It was seen as a mandate for war. Bush is the strong horse, and he has been given four more years to run. The Arab world understands the determined use of force at most as much as it is mystified by irony (bitterly cynical humor is another story). Bush's victory, followed by the successful election in Afghanistan and the brutal capture of Fallujah, has had a clarifying effect. Suddenly, the Sunnis in Iraq are talking seriously about participating in the Jan. 30 election. This is not due to a spontaneous outbreak of Jeffersonian enlightenment in Saddamland. On the contrary, it is a cool appreciation of which way the strong horse is running.

Similar appraisals are taking place around the world. Cairo wants to help the U.S. broker a Palestinian peace with Israel, and pro-American articles are breaking out in the usually poi-

sonous Egyptian media. The Palestinian leadership has admitted that armed uprising is counterproductive and is preparing for its own free election.

It's too early to declare victory, but this is progress. Nothing would halt it faster than Rumsfeld's forced resignation. Everyone from Gasbalian to the Khyber Pass would take it as a declaration of defeat.

To win the president can afford to be Hamlet, or even Bruce Springsteen. This is Tom Petty time: "Gonna stand my ground, won't be turned around/I'll keep this world from draggin' me down... I won't back down."

Bush should get the song translated into Arabic, Persian and French and have the Marine band — conducted by Donald Rumsfeld — play it at his inauguration.

Zev Chafetz is a columnist for the New York Daily News.

## 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

### Government hatches up trouble on asbestos

It looks like a few people are concerned about the bureaucrats' control and over the control that has been pushed on us concerning asbestos. This is purely another way that the big boys have hatched up more control.

I have worked as a builder for about 60 years in and around Burley, I and the people who have used a number of different asbestos building products have never been affected in any way from using these asbestos products.

I consider this mess nothing but a bunch of hatched-up lies to cause us trouble and inconvenience. Isn't it time we kicked a bunch of government dead-heads out of our government so that we can progress a little bit?

Thanks to Mr. Ralph Maughan for being smart enough to see through what some of the rest of us can about what Washington, D.C., is doing through our state, county and city government and their help.

LOYD ELDON COX  
Burley

### Don't take the wheel without time, self-control

It's quite interesting how the state of driving has become. Let me try this straight. Someone getting to turn off a busy street is worse than assault and battery, i.e., road rage. I always thought that a driver has the right to turn off of a street, no matter how busy it is. Let's see. New traffic rule: Do not turn off any street until after hours as to prevent other drivers from popping a blood vessel. There are other classes that people can take. They are anger management classes.

Speaking of driver's license tests and classes, quite possibly the biggest problem of all is taught in all of these tests and classes. Perhaps some of you remember that long ago standing, yet apparently unpopular rule about speeding. You know the one that says drivers are

### Write to us

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supposed stay within speed limits and only if the weather permits. What happened to the old-fashioned traffic limits. "Murder on the Highway" or something like that? Like a story about "Roll-over Richard" and "Slide-off Suzie" that have shiny, indestructible, ego-boasting four-wheel drive. They can go as fast as they desire, even if on icy roads, until they realize that their vehicle isn't as almighty as they so proudly thought. Unfortunately, speed limit enforcement appears to have become way too lax anymore.

Once I saw an advertisement for radar detectors that stated: A person is not speeding unless they are going in excess of 10 miles over the speed limit. I should have known, speed limits have become more of a nuisance to most of the impatient people from impatient drivers. Practically on a daily basis, I'm seeing people going considerably over the speed limit. I realized people have been putting their priorities out of order the day I read a letter where a driver had claimed fascism had taken over because he had to slow down in a school zone.

I believe a lot of problems could be solved if people would just slow down, relax and maybe even think about people besides yourselves once in awhile. If you're going to be late to your destination, try leaving earlier. However, if you have time to spare — and trust me you do — then perhaps you might consider occasionally driving like a sane person. Believe me when I say a lot more people would be more than patient drivers than drivers that never turn.

JAMES GLANDON JR.  
Twin Falls

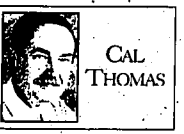
## Schwarzenegger flexes too hard for votes

In the new Broadway play "Democracy," actor Richard Thomas plays the part of an East German spy who manages in the midst of the Cold War to penetrate the upper echelons of West German Chancellor Willy Brandt's government.

California Republican Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger could be the Democrat party's "plant" inside the GOP, or so it seems from an interview. Schwarzenegger gave recently to a German newspaper. In that interview, Schwarzenegger suggested that the Republican Party should move left in order to attract more voters.

What is interesting about this suggestion is how it contrasts with what Schwarzenegger told the Republican National Convention in New York last summer. Then, he said it was Richard Nixon and his conservative policies that persuaded him to become a Republican after emigrating from his native Austria. Nixon famously created the Southern strategy, which doomed the GOP's liberal wing and began the Democrat Party's long decline into its current anemic state.

Why would Schwarzenegger want to trade a winning strategy for one that has a proven record of failure? When the Republican Party was controlled by liaries like Nelson Rockefeller and House Minority Leader Charles Halleck, the party lost elections. For 40 years, the moderate-liberal wing of the Republican Party never achieved majority status in the



CAL THOMAS

House of Representatives. The change began with Barry Goldwater in 1964 and culminated in the election of Ronald Reagan in 1980. By then, the once "Solid South" on which Democrats could rely for electoral and congressional base had all but disappeared.

In 1994 the GOP "revolution" erupted, led by Newt Gingrich. Republicans have maintained — and to the last election, they expanded — their majorities in the House and Senate. None of this was done by appealing to liberal voters.

Schwarzenegger told his interviewer Republicans could win 5 percent more of the vote by moving "a little to the left." Since Schwarzenegger ran and has mostly governed as an economic conservative and social liberal, he can only be talking about the party moving to the left on abortion and same-sex marriage, among other social issues.

But what he failed to acknowledge was that even if the GOP picked up an additional 5 percent support, it would lose a far bigger percentage of social and religious conservatives, who tend to vote more on principle than they do political pragmatism.

The Schwarzenegger "strategy" of flexing too hard for votes would gain favor with editorial page editors in Los Angeles, San Francisco and New York, but so would return the Republican Party to minority status virtually overnight. Conservatives would either stay home or vote for a third-party candidate, not so much in protest as to demonstrate that for them convictions mean more than party loyalty.

This is an ideal plan, but only for Democrats. It's a lousy plan for Republicans, at least those who think winning elections is the preferred way to advance policies.

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This is an ideal plan, but only for Democrats. It's a lousy plan for Republicans, at least those who think winning elections is the preferred way to advance policies.

The Schwarzenegger suggestion is for "glim men," not for political leaders who want to "terminate" their opponents. You won't find Democrats moving right in order to attract more conser-

## LETTERS

### Time will tell if President Bush is a crook

In 1972, the American people re-elected Richard M. Nixon as president in spite of the mass of evidence that indicated Nixon was little more than a

common crook. In less than two years, both Nixon and his vice president, Spiro Agnew, were forced to resign to avoid impeachment.

By a prearranged pardon by his successor, President Gerald R. Ford, Nixon escaped the gallows. Many of his entourage were not so lucky, being convicted and sent to prison. Nixon's crimes, in dollars, only involved a few million, not billions or trillions, and Ehrlich Hunt was the only fatality directly involved with the Nixon escapades, not untold thousands.

Let's see if reality sinks into the American people this time. RICHARD E. BYRD  
Rogerson

# Portland mayor was her own trailblazer

**P**ORTLAND, Ore. — "Feisty" is the word I have used in two previous columns about Vera Katz — the first in 1985 when she had just become the second woman in American history elected as speaker of a state House of Representatives, and the second in 1998, when I wrote about her ambitious plans as mayor of Portland to remake her city's downtown and waterfront.

Feisty is what she remains as she winds up 12 years as mayor this week and closes three decades of public service that mark her as one of the pioneers and pacesetters for the women's movement in education, reform, health care and urban planning.

"When I saw her, during a brief visit earlier this month, deliver her final 'state of the city' address to the Portland City Club, she was the same tiny figure, bright-eyed, chin out, I had met almost 40 years ago, when she was a volunteer in Robert F. Kennedy's doomed presidential campaign. She's 71 now, locked in a four-year-long battle with a persistent form of cancer, but she has yielded nothing to time or disease.

She used the occasion to throw out fresh challenges to her successor and to her constituents, turning what could have been a sentimental and even tearful occasion into a political learning experience for the civic leaders who filled the hotel ballroom and the larger audience of Portlanders who would later read or see videos of her speech.

As always, her main concern was the schools. In her 20 years in the Legislature, she had written and passed the measures that set standards for education in Oregon, later imitated and adopted by scores of governors, including George W. Bush. As mayor, she had intervened more than once to head off teacher strikes and other crises, and, in the recent Oregon budget crunch, persuaded Portland-area voters to tax themselves more heavily to avoid the cuts in the school calendar taking place elsewhere in the state.

Virtually her final words this day were a plea to Portland's business leadership to "show the same passion for the schools you show for limiting taxes."

The biggest single change — and by all odds, the most positive — have witnessed in American politics has been the emergence of strong women like Katz in leadership positions.



DAVID BRODER

Each of them has her own story of obstacles overcome and her own set of experiences from which she drew the strength needed to break the mold.

Katz was a refugee, born in Germany, fleeing the Nazis as a child, then walking with her family away from Nazi-occupied France through the Pyrenees to Spain, Portugal and finally, New York. As a young mother in Portland, she was inspired by the Kennedy campaign of 1960 and after his murder, remained active on behalf of migrant workers and other liberal causes. She was elected to the Legislature in 1972, part of a sizable group of women. Democrats and Republicans alike, determined to alter the cozy "good old boy" atmosphere in Salem, often working across party lines, they helped set the state on a progressive course by demonstrating they could count votes — and, in Katz's case, deal with the intricacies of state budgets as well.

In 1985, when she set her cap on becoming speaker, Oregon, like every state but North Dakota, had never seen a woman in that leadership role. It took her 101 ballots to prevail in a contest with two male legislators. But she served as speaker for six years until Republicans won control. During that time, the

Legislature passed the nationally influential Oregon Health Plan and many pieces of social legislation.

As mayor, Katz has had the usual array of problems — police, schools, transportation, you name it. Some of her dreams were never realized. She wanted to put a concrete lid over a sinking four-mile stretch of Interstate 405, six lanes of traffic slashing through the heart of the city. The American Society of Landscape Architects offered a plan for parks, apartments, office towers and civic buildings on the site surface. But it never came to pass.

On the other hand, in that 1998 visit, she showed me a factory and warehouse straddling the shoreline of the Willamette River that could be — she hoped — cleared and converted into a glorious green riverfront park. And this year, the completed Eastbank Esplanade was named in her honor.

Her imprint on her adopted city is permanent. And she is herself an important reminder of what this country has gained by opening its doors to immigrants, by recognizing the talents of women — and, as this proud product of Idaho's College would insist — by investing in public education.

David Broder's e-mail address is davidbroder@msnpost.com

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# BUHL HAPPENINGS

## January Community Calendar

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 New Year's Day   | 17 Cards at Senior Center 6-9 p.m.  |
| 3 Cards at Senior Center 6-9 p.m.                          | 18 Chamber Lunch at 12 noon at Grandstands  |
| 4 Chamber Lunch 12 noon at Grandstands                     | Speaker: TBA  |
| Speaker: Mimi Ford from Mimi's Flowers & Gifts             | 19 Kiwanis at 12 noon at Grandstands  |
| 5 Kiwanis 12 noon at Grandstands                           | 19 Bingo at Moose Hall at 7 p.m.  |
| 6 Bingo at Moose Hall at 7 p.m.                            | 20 Rotary at 12 noon at Grandstands   |
| 7 Rotary 12 noon at Grandstands                            | 21 West End Men's Association at Grandstands at 6:30 a.m.                             |
| 7 West End Men's Association at Grandstands at 6:30 a.m.   | 21 "The Standards" at Buhl Middle School Auditorium 7 p.m. \$15 per person            |
| 7 City Council at 7 p.m. at City Hall                      | 24 Cards at Senior Center 6-9 p.m.  |
| 10 Cards at Senior Center 6-9 p.m.                         | 26 Kiwanis at 12 noon at Grandstands  |
| 12 Kiwanis at 12 noon Grandstands                          | 26 Bingo at Moose Hall at 7 p.m.  |
| 12 Bingo at Moose Hall at 7 p.m.                           | 27 Rotary at 12 noon at Grandstands   |
| 13 Rotary at 12 noon at Grandstands                        | 27 Regular meeting at Moose Hall at 8 p.m.  |
| 13 Regular meeting at Moose Hall at 8 p.m.                 | 27 West End Men's Association, at Grandstands at 6:30 a.m.                            |
| 14 West End Men's Association, at Grandstands at 6:30 a.m. | 28 Community Breakfast at Senior Center from 8 to 10 a.m. \$3.00 for all you can eat. |
| 15 Community Breakfast at Senior Center from 8 to 10 a.m.  | 28 60th Chamber Banquet at the Clear Lake Country Club                                |
| 17 NO SCHOOL   | 31 Cards at Senior Center 6-9 p.m.  |

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NATION

### Muslims seek OK for cemeteries

SMITHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Muslims planned to turn an old sod farm near Memphis into a cemetery, but angry neighbors protested, complaining the burial ground could become a staging ground for terrorists or spread disease from unembalmed bodies.

It was not the first time a group faced opposition when trying to build a cemetery or a mosque, but the dispute stood out for the clarity of its anti-Muslim rhetoric.

"We know for a fact that Muslim mosques have been used as terrorist hideouts and centers for terrorist activities," former John Wilson told members of a planning commission last month.

Similar disputes have arisen elsewhere when Muslim groups sought to develop mosques or cemeteries, which are often the first Islamic institutions in some communities.

Opponents of a proposal to open a mosque in Voorhees, N.J., distributed an anonymous flier warning that Islamic worshippers might include "extremists and radicals." Arguments over a proposed Muslim cemetery near Atlanta persisted for more than a year before officials approved preliminary plans.

Critics of the projects generally complain about potential damage to the environment, reduced property values and traffic congestion, but many also associate Islam with terrorism.

Rabiah Ahmed of the Council on American-Islamic Relations said she noticed more protests of Muslim building proposals after the 2001 terrorist attacks, so she was not surprised by the cemetery critics near Memphis.

"It's not shocking, but it is discouraging," Ahmed said from the council's headquarters in Washington.

Opponents told the Fayette County planning commission in November that power lines would be prime targets for terrorists in the region, about 20 miles east of Memphis.

"Ladies and gentlemen, you may think this is farfetched, but that is what the Jewish people thought when the Nazis started taking a small foothold, a little at a time, in their community," Wilson said.

In a telephone interview later, Wilson said he and his neighbors are primarily worried about their property values, but he added, news reports cannot be ignored.

"I don't think anyone who has read the newspaper or seen what investigations have gone on about other mosques would not have those kinds of concerns," he said.

Belinda Ghoshch, owner of the five-acre plot being considered for the cemetery, said a meeting of planning officials drew such a hostile crowd she feared for her safety. One woman yelled, "We don't need bin Laden's cousins in our neighborhood."

Ghoshch and her husband, a native of the Middle East who has been a U.S. citizen for more than 20 years, live in neighboring Shelby County.

"These people would possibly have been our neighbors if we had decided to build on that property," she said. "If this doesn't go through, we're still getting rid of it. I would never live out there now."

Annette Cutliff, a planning commission member who voted for the cemetery, was also at the meeting. "When I walked to my car, I looked over my shoulder," Cutliff said. "I was concerned because emotions were running high."

Critics also complained that the cemetery could be a health hazard because Muslims traditionally do not embalm their dead.

But Muhammad Zaman, a physician and associate professor of medicine at the University of Tennessee, said the practice is safe. "The decomposition of the human body does not do anything different than what it is," Zaman said.

One neighbor, Herbert Howell, said a cemetery should not be allowed regardless of who would be buried there.

"We are not at war with all the Muslims," Howell said. "I have no problem with who they are or what they are. If it was a filling station, I wouldn't want that either."

### Ranchers suffer as cattle fail at high altitude

Los Angeles Times

LMICAMIE, Wyo. — The patients huddled behind the wooden fence, eyes downcast, chests heaving. If they could, they'd be wearing oxygen masks.

"Their hearts are the size of volleyballs," said Mark Stayton, a professor of microbiology at the University of Wyoming. "They should be the size of salt balls."

Stayton and colleague Rich McCormick are on the cutting edge of research into altitude sickness — in cows.

Once they get 5,000 feet above sea level, some cattle get woozy from the thin air. Blood collects in their hearts and lungs. Lethargy sets in. Death follows. The symptoms are similar to those seen in people suffering from emphysema, where every breath is a struggle. The scientists are taking

blood samples from sick cows and compiling a database, looking for a genetic marker that might indicate which animals are prone to altitude sickness. That way, animals could be identified before being brought to ranches in the Rocky Mountain West, where the problem is most severe.

"The ability to predict what animals are predisposed to this, would be invaluable," McCormick said.

The University of Wyoming is perfectly suited for such experiments. It's at an elevation of about 7,100 feet, and maintains a working cattle ranch.

Young cows suffering from the ailment stand in muddy ponds beside healthy animals. The sick ones have swollen necks; they weigh about one-third less than they should.

"What's happening is that it's hard for these cows to force blood through their lungs," Mc-

Cormick said. "They have a lot of stress, their hearts enlarge and they begin to do poorly."

Stayton bent down and looked closely at the ill cattle. Many were likely to die of congestive heart failure unless they were moved to a lower altitude.

"If we found a genetic fingerprint that could identify which animals would develop this, the ultimate goal would be to try and breed the tendency out of them," Stayton said.

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They made Wayne Newton sound edgy

I was rattling around a rarely used cupboard the other day when I discovered both oil and gold. It was an old family collection of easy-listening records, known to rock 'n roll fans as supermarc — or lounge — music. All the old masters were there in long-playing vinyl: The Ray Conniff Singers, The Four Seasons and His Orchestra, the Mike Kerb Congregation, Horst Jankowski, Bert Kampmier — even Mitch Miller and the Gang.

These were all the neo-conservatives of the '50s and '60s — musicians who couldn't get their arms around rock 'n roll. Mitch Miller, who was also the head of artists and repertory at Columbia Records, actually refused to sign Buddy Holly to a record deal. Mike Kerb, who held the same job at MGM Records, was the guy who discovered the Osmond Brothers. He so loathed rock 'n roll that he refused to consider any edgier acts, and MGM Records went out of business. And Conniff for a time refused to let his singers actually sing; instead they made instrumental noises with their voices. Anybody over 45 has heard all this stuff, whether he or she wants to admit it or not; it was the wallpaper of the Baby Boom era. When I was growing up in Pocatello, there was a radio station — KSEI — that played it exclusively to the point that they'd fire any DJ who dared slip in any song with a backbeat. It was to music what tapoca is to dessert: Comfort food, served cold. Most of the easy-listeners started their careers in the '30s and '40s playing jazz but by the '50s they'd buffed their music down to the consistency of Formica.

Sid, that doesn't make it any less fascinating to be in retrospect. It's remarkable the lengths to which a musician can go to avoid a blues riff. Lawrence Welk, of course, was the leader of the pack, and my one, only, could get enough of his Champagne Music. He specialized in taking rock, pop or folk tunes, grinding the redeeming social value out of them and then filling them up with happy bibles. Welk's rendition of Jim Croce's "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown" is a sound to behold. He turns Croce's "south side of Chicago" into Disneyland, and Leroy Brown into Jim Dale.

Coniff topped the charts as late as 1967 with "Somewhere My Love," the theme from the movie "Dr. Zhivago." It succeeded the Beatles' "Paperback Writer" atop the Billboard charts. Why? Never underestimate the power of treacle during troubled times. Vietnam and the sexual revolution were rocking America to its core during lounge music's heyday. Lots of folks took lots of solace in vinyl Valium. So why is it still worth listening to today? You wouldn't have to ask if you'd heard a Frank Sinatra recording in my newly discovered collection called "Mama Will Bark."

In 1958, Miller paired Sinatra with a big-breasted blonde singer named Dagmar, a comedy star of the late-night Jack Paar TV show. Old Blue Eyes made barking and growling noises on the record. And through the miracle of the Internet, I found a Web site from which I could download ring tones for my home telephone of the Conniff Singers doing "The Twelve Days of Christmas." Penunia, the Lhasa apso with whom I live, fled to the basement the first time the phone rang out a partridge in a pear tree in 12-part harmony. She hasn't been back upstairs since. But I put Mr. Conniff & Co. on my answering machine. Now telemarketers hang up on me.

Group wants to buy Albion campus

ALBION — There have been several recent proposals to resurrect the dormant Albion State Normal School. Now there's another. Christians Helping Others, a charitable organization based in Whittier, Calif., has approached Albion Mayor Don Danner about purchasing the campus, which has been vacant for most of the last 50 years. No further details about the organization have been given, but at least one city council

member has expressed concern about giving up ownership of the property in case the venture fails. Danner said he requested the organization send a written proposal to the council. The group might be asked to make a verbal presentation at a future meeting, he said. A team of engineers from the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory toured the campus recently in preparation for an update to an architectural survey published 15 years ago. INEEL has agreed to donate 40 hours of technical

assistance toward the survey. The city received a \$50,000 Idaho Gem Community Implementation Grant from Idaho Commerce and Labor, Danner said. The grant requires \$15,000 in matching funds. The agency has also offered services to assist in the restoration of the campus. The grant money was originally going to be used to develop a business plan and perform the architectural survey but it is now slated for repairs to buildings on campus property.

The Albion Campus Foundation, a grassroots organization made up of Mini-Cassia residents, has been given tentative permission to begin repairs to the roofs of two buildings and the grant money may go toward the repairs. The 32-acre campus was established as the Albion State Normal School in 1893 as a teacher training college. It closed in 1951 because it couldn't meet state enrollment requirements but reopened from 1958 to 1969 as Magic Valley Christian College. Its six buildings have been

A proposal in April to establish a youth drug and alcohol rehabilitation center on the campus met with generally favorable reviews but failed in June when one of the investors was asked to step down. But the proposal sparked renewed interest in the historical site and officials have explored other options, such as a resort, summer stock theater or both. The city of Albion owns the property and some residents have said they fear the buildings will need to be destroyed if restoration isn't started soon.

MINING ITS BUSINESS



Arlen DeMeyer stands in front of a proposed gold mine site some 20 miles east of Boise in Elmore County that would use cyanide in its ore processing. The site is not far from DeMeyer's property or from Blacks Creek and he worries about cyanide leaking into the creek and seeping on the rough, dirt road that provides access to the mine.

Company plans to mine gold, fertilizer

MOUNTAIN HOME — While escalating gold prices have many amateur and professional miners alike heading for the hills, one mine owner hopes to make his fortune from an unlikely source. Desert Mineral Mining LLC, plans to mine gold in Elmore County and eventually turn its waste products into organic fertilizer — a golden idea in itself, said the company's owner.

Ways to comment • Contact person: Bruce Schuld or Tad Gregory • By fax: (208) 373-0154 • By e-mail: tgregory@eeq.idaho.gov • By mail: Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Management and Remediation Division, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706 • By phone: (208) 373-0502

For additional information • Contact person: Dan Terzo • Telephone: (714) 403-7858

note the use of cyanide in the mine. However, the company is still experimenting with methods that would allow it to do so. Terzo plans to operate the mine, which could employ between 15 and 20 people, for at least four to five years, but left room for continued mining after that point.

"We think we've got something that's a win-win for everybody," said Dan Terzo, who operates the Nevada-based business. By reprocessing the wastes, Terzo portrays his operation as an environmentally conscious gold mine. However, residents in the area and interest groups don't view the mine, which will be located on Blacks Creek Road, as quite so golden. Currently, Desert Mineral Mining awaits permit approval by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to use cyanide in extracting gold from ore. If approved, Terzo's company could begin the mining portion of its operation by spring.

Mine operation Desert Mineral Mining proposes to open a small mine on private land near the Boise National Forest. The company will construct an ore processing facility on the site. Its permit allows the mine to prepare no more than 100 tons of ore per day. "It's a completely closed in system," Terzo said. The entire project will occupy 2,400 square feet. The milling machine, Terzo said, would fit inside a garage. "It's pretty much a low-volume operation at this point," he said. During the mine's initial phase of operation, the company will focus on mining for gold. After the ore is processed, waste rock and wastewater will be

treated and neutralized before being discharged into the tailing pond, said Bruce Schuld, spokesman for DEQ. Although the wastewater contains cyanide, it's treated in order to significantly reduce cyanide concentration, he said. Within nine months, Terzo wants to utilize new technology that would allow the company to turn tailing material into organic fertilizer. The business of organic fertilizer is quite profitable in itself, he said. The company has already identified customers all over the country who would purchase the fertilizer. Better yet, reprocessing the tailings further reduces the amount of harmful chemicals, such as cyanide, that remain. Eventually, Terzo said, he would like to see the company elimi-

nate the use of cyanide in the mine. However, the company is still experimenting with methods that would allow it to do so. Terzo plans to operate the mine, which could employ between 15 and 20 people, for at least four to five years, but left room for continued mining after that point. "As long as we can keep it going and there is room for growth, we'll stay," Terzo said. Cyanide use Although Desert Mineral Mining may intend to discontinue cyanide use in the long run, at least one resident in the area expressed concern in the meantime. Arlen DeMeyer owns property not too far from Desert Mineral Mining's proposed location. A cyanide leak tops DeMeyer's list of concerns over the mine. "Naturally, I'm concerned if there were to be a spill or leak," DeMeyer said. "Our primary concern was if the containment pond would fail." Cyanide could seep into Blacks Creek if that happened, he said. High levels of cyanide can harm the brain and heart and those who are best qualified to handle the situation, he said. "I certainly wouldn't want to call the shots at a fire, and I'm certain (the chief) wouldn't want to be the only one in charge at a law enforcement situation," Higgins said.

Police arrest Rupert man for grand theft

BURLEY — Faustino Franco Jr., 27, of Rupert, was arrested Dec. 16 for grand theft by possession and criminal possession of a financial transaction card, according to a press release issued by the Cassia County Sheriff's Department. An investigation into a vehicle burglary Dec. 11 led to the arrest. A purse containing a Wal-Mart gift card was stolen from a car parked at the Burley Best Western Motel. The card then was cashed out at the Burley Wal-Mart store and security video tapes allowed police to identify Franco as a suspect, according to the release. Franco admitted to using the card but denied breaking into the car, claiming he had traded drugs for the card, there-

al event — will be held on New Year's Day in the Hagerman area. The local Audubon Society Chapter is looking for regulars and new volunteers to help count the species of birds that either winter over in Magic Valley or are passing through on their way to southern climes. The group will assemble at 8 a.m. Jan. 1 at the U.S. Highway 30 rest area that's just west of the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area, chapter spokeswoman Sarah Harris said. Groups of volunteers will fan out from there to observe and count species of birds within 15 miles of Hagerman. Locations will include the Snake River, Billingsley Creek, Sand Springs, Ritter Island, Hagerman Fossil Beds and the wildlife

management area. Local volunteers will be among the more than 50,000 people who make part throughout the Americas this winter. The effort has collected more than 100 years' uninterrupted data on migrations, habitat and environmental threats to birds. Harris said volunteers should be prepared for cold, wind and perhaps rain or snow. They should wear boots appropriate for all terrain. Hot food, drinks and a mineral pool at Miracle Hot Springs will be available for those who finish the day's compilation. Volunteers may contact Harris in advance at 734-2546 or at sjharris@peabone.com for more information. — compiled from staff reports

Magie Valley in brief lease said. Franco was arrested and was being held on \$20,000 bond. Investigations into the burglary and several others in the area in recent weeks are continuing and additional arrests may be made, the release said. Residents are advised not to leave valuables in their cars even if the doors are locked, as some of the break-ins have involved smashing windows to gain access. Audubon chapter seeks volunteers for bird count

Burley clarifies emergency protocol

BURLEY — When it comes to incident command at the scene of an emergency, just who is in charge? The sheriff and fire chief both say it doesn't matter. The Burley City Council recently changed the wording in a city ordinance defining incident command in an effort to eliminate confusion among emergency personnel. City officials said they saw a need to clarify the ordinance because fire fighters at an "olive branch" are attending medical requests and becoming emergency responders and the department will begin responding to accidents and certain other ambulance calls. "We worked together and I don't see any problem arising out of who is to be in charge," said Cassia County Sheriff Jim Higgins. Burley Fire Chief Bruce Alcott asked for additional language in the ordinance, which is specific to the department, because of the specialized training and the broadening scope of the department's services. Randy Stone, the city's attorney, said the changes give fire department personnel the jurisdiction to respond and take charge in events other than fires. "Chief Alcott is training his personnel to be emergency responders and he felt the ordinance needs to reflect that change," Stone said. The ordinance now spells out who emergency responders under the fire department's scope of responsibility, including fires, medical and rescue emergencies — hazardous — materials incidents and disaster situations in the community. The chief's duties were expanded to take charge at emergencies other than fires and he was given the authority to "step people, other than emergency responders, outside an established perimeter. Some council members questioned if a conflict could arise about who is in charge among emergency responders. Higgins told city leaders emergency responders use an incident command system that designates who is in charge at an incident. That person then delegates authority as needed, and those who are best qualified to handle the situation, he said. "I certainly wouldn't want to call the shots at a fire, and I'm certain (the chief) wouldn't want to be the only one in charge at a law enforcement situation," Higgins said.

Snowpack levels

Table with 3 columns: Watershed, % of Avg., % season peak. Rows include Upper Snake River, Salmon Flats, Oakley Basin, Big Wood, Little Wood, Henry Fork, Little Lost, Little Lost.

A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average. An indicator of basin snowpack for the season. — compiled from staff reports



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W. Nolan Victor



W. Nolan Victor, Twin Falls, passed away peacefully on Tuesday morning, Dec. 21, 2004. He was in his real estate office of 47 years (Ace Realty), where he collapsed at his desk of an apparent heart attack. He was born on Aug. 14, 1923, to Laura Mae Cranney and George Victor in Brigham City, Utah, the third of their five children, sister, Rija Richardson (Ric), St. George, Utah; and brothers, Paul Victor (Ruby), Twin Falls; Duane Victor (Alene) Bellevue, Wash.; and Roger Victor (Marilyn) Bellevue, Wash. He married Ruby Christensen of Logan, Utah on July 30, 1943, in Oklahoma City, Okla., and they were later sealed in the Logan, Utah, Temple. Married for 61 years, they have three children, Mike Victor (Sue), Bliss, Idaho, Janis Rasmussen (Ward), Sandy, Utah, and Steve Victor (Sally), Twin Falls, Idaho. He leaves behind 22 grandchildren and 24

great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents. He served in the Navy during World War II, graduating first in his class of 200 as an airplane mechanic. He and Ruby moved to the Magic Valley in 1948 where they owned and operated several businesses. He has been a prominent builder, businessman and re-

altor for the past 50 years, owning and operating Ace Realty. Nplan was a true conservative and loyal patriot who ran on the Independent ticket for Idaho State Governor in 1974. He was very active in the American Independent Party and served as Idaho's chairman for eight years. He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, serving as a Bishop and many other positions. Blessed with a very loving, positive, quick-witted, hard-working, motivated personality, he accomplished many wonderful things during his lifetime! He will be greatly missed by his wife, family and friends. A funeral will be held at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2004, at the Maurice Street LDS Chapel, 421 Maurice St. N., in Twin Falls. Interment will follow the service at Sunset Memorial.

Erin Elizabeth Atkins Hobson



Erin Elizabeth Atkins Hobson, age 24, of Pocatello, formerly of Burley, passed away peacefully, surrounded by those who loved her, on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, of causes incident to leukemia. Erin was born Oct. 14, 1980, in Logan, Utah, the daughter of William "Bill" and Valerie "Evans" Atkins. She moved with her family to Burley in 1983, and graduated from Burley High School in 1998. While at Burley High, Erin was involved in student government, serving as a sophomore class senator and Junior Class President, as well as being active in the band program and a yearbook editor. In her freshman year of college at Utah State University, Erin was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma. After battling Hodgkin's for two years and undergoing a stem cell transplant, Erin emerged victorious. Her experiences with cancer left Erin with a strong desire to become a nurse, leading her to enroll first in the College of Southern Idaho, then at Idaho State University where she was accepted into the baccalaureate nursing program. It was at ISU that she met her future husband, Matthew Daniel Hobson. Matt and Erin were married for time and all eternity on July 23, 2004, in the Logan, Utah, Temple.

Erin was radiant on her wedding day, and it, along with the five blissful months of marriage that followed, were the happiest times of her life. In September of 2004, Erin was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. Erin was exceptionally strong in heart, mind and spirit, and with Matt and her family ever by her side, she valiantly fought her third round of cancer. She never complained of being sick, though she did often demand of Matt, "Just kiss me!" Erin was an active member of the LDS church with a strong testimony of her Heavenly Father and her Savior, Jesus Christ, and she loved going to church. She held her nursing classes, scrapbooking, cooking,

homemaking, and especially taking care of her husband and little brother. She also loved children and was greatly looking forward to having a family. Other favorites were pizza and mint chocolate chip cream, but her best loved treat was just snuggling up close to her sweet husband. Erin is survived, remembered, and dearly loved by her husband, Matthew Hobson of Pocatello; her parents, Bill and Valerie Atkins of Burley; three brothers, Corey of Austin, Texas, Tyler of Seoul, South Korea, and Spencer of Burley; grandfathers, Erick Bruce Evans of Blackfoot, Idaho, and Calvin C. Atkins of Logan, Utah; a very special aunt, Vicki Evans of Shelley, Idaho; and her other aunts, uncles, and cousins. Erin's funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004, at the Burley LDS Stake Center, 2050 Normal Ave., with Bishop H. Reese Mitchell officiating. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Tuesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, and from 10 until 10:45 a.m. Wednesday at the church. Erin talked about starting a scholarship for survivors of cancer. A trust has been set up in her honor for this purpose at First Federal Savings Bank in Burley.

Olive A. Messenger



Olive A. Messenger, 93, of Jerome, passed away Dec. 23, 2004, in Twin Falls, Idaho, at Desert Rose Retirement Estates. Olive was born Aug. 30, 1911, in Lamar, Kan., the daughter of Omer Dorman and Ethel Mary Sanders Dorman. Olive moved to Idaho with her family in 1923. She graduated from Jerome High School in 1930. Olive married Ed Messenger Feb. 1, 1933. They raised three children together. She was a charter member of the Jerome Church of the Nazarene and taught Sunday school for 40 years. She loved to garden and prepare family dinners. She was a talented seamstress and loved to sew. Olive was a wonderful wife, mother

and grandmother. She is survived by her children, Dennis (Mary) Messenger of Twin Falls, Betty (Gene) Helmgartner of

Alberta Grant



Alberta Grant, 90, passed away Tuesday, Dec. 21, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls, Idaho. She was born May 24, 1914, at St. Louis, Mo. She was raised in Eden, Idaho, by her mother, Gertrude and father, Thomas G. Davis. She attended Eden Schools. She married Robert Grant Oct. 10, 1932, in Rupert, Idaho, and worked side by side with him as a full partner on their farm south of Eden. She is survived by three sons, Jim (Kathy) Grant of Hazelton, Idaho, Rob (Bev) Grant of Jerome, Idaho, and Jack (Charlotta) Grant of Sugarland, Texas; 26 grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren and 11 great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and by her husband, Robert, in 1957.

In her younger years, she worked as an LPN at Twin Falls County Hospital and was an active member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Eden, Idaho, as well as the Dixon

Ladies Club. She was on the board of Silver & Gold Senior Center in Eden and loved playing Bingo every Wednesday night. She served many years as an election clerk for the school board and attended Valley Presbyterian Church in Hazelton. A funeral will be conducted at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004, at White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park," with Pastor Kevin Anderson of Valley Presbyterian Church officiating. Entombment will follow in the Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at White Mortuary. Memorial contributions are suggested to Valley Presbyterian Church in Hazelton or the Silver & Gold Senior citizens Center in Eden.

Helen S. Johnson

Helen S. Johnson, 79, of Indian Cove, Idaho, passed away Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 at her home with family by her side. Helen was born August 8, 1925 in Arbon Valley, Idaho to the proud parents of Frank and Hazel Swain. After graduating from High School Helen went on to Idaho State University and graduated with an associates' degree in business administration. Helen married her husband Siger E. Johnson on October 25, 1950 and moved to Indian Cove where they lived 54 years and raised their family. Helen's life goal was to be at home, raise and educate her five children. Helen was a wife, mother, grandmother, seamstress and a devoted Christian. Helen enjoyed quilting, sewing, music and her friends. Helen loved many and was loved by all. Helen is survived by her husband, Siger of Indian Cove; son, Andrew, his wife, Loma, and their three children (Travis, Ryan and Andrea) of Indian Cove; four daughters, Debbie Johnson of Boise, Cassie Ragenovich and her husband, Michael, of College Place, Wash., Julie Johnson and her husband, Kim, of Twin Falls, Melissa Perry of Idaho Falls, Marvin, and daughter (Dianne) of Roy, Utah; one brother, Hugh Swain and his wife, Helen of Melba; one sister, Dorothy Gaudin and husband, John, of Salt Lake City, Utah. Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 27, 2004 at the Seventh Day Adventist Church, 2425 American Legion Blvd. in Mountain Home, Idaho. Memorial contributions may be made in Helen's name to: Desert View Christian Church, 2425 American Legion Blvd., Mountain Home, Idaho 83847. Arrangements are under the direction of Rost Funeral Home of Mountain Home.

Leonard Guy Revels, 89, longtime resident of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2004 at Heritage Manor Nursing Home in Elroy, Wisconsin. Leonard was born on January 9, 1915 in Wisconsin, the son of Jerry and Caroline Slater Revels. He grew up and attended school in Wisconsin. In 1944 Leonard married Janice Bovee, to this union eight children were born, they were later divorced. In 1963, he married Violet Ingalls in Morrison, Ill. Shortly after their marriage they moved and settled in Twin Falls. Leonard worked in the Magic Valley working various jobs to support his family. In 1993, Leonard moved to Wisconsin to be close to his children. Leonard is survived by his eight children, Paul (Caroline) Revels of Janesville, Wisconsin; Barbara Jean Augustin of La Place, Louisiana; Larry Revels of Mauston, Wisconsin; Ronald (Christine) Revels of Twin Falls; Cindy (Roger) Williams of Morgate, Florida; Sandy (Fred) McPhillips of Wisconsin; Bobbie (Mike) Kemper of Aloha, Oregon; and Jim Nielson of Wisconsin. Also surviving are two sisters, Rose Van Lew of Joplin, Missouri and Tina May Hunter of Whitewater, Wisconsin; one brother, William Fay Revels of Ontario, Wisconsin; 25 grandchildren and 30 great grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife, Violet, in 1994. A celebration of Leonard's life will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 27, 2004 at Reynolds Funeral Chapel with Rev. Jim Winko officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. Friends may call one hour prior to the services at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, Twin Falls.

Leonard Guy Revels

Henry, Rita, Chris, Brian, Tosha & Amber would like to thank all our loved ones and friends for the food, plants, flowers, phone calls, drop-ins and cards. They were greatly appreciated. Our Andy was dearly loved and will be greatly missed by all who knew him or passed through his path of life. ~ God Bless ~

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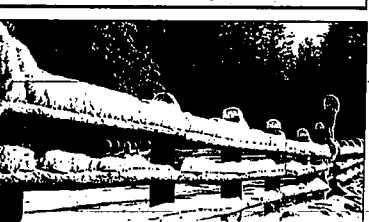
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# Man makes his livelihood by outfitting cowboys in sparkles

Los Angeles Times

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Wrapped in tissue paper, tucked inside envelopes, rhinestones arrive here from Austria for the last of the great rodeo tailors.

Manuel is white-haired now, and the age of the spangled cowhand has given way to the kind of celebrities who wear jeans and T-shirts. But inside his studio, the work continues: hot pink roses embroidered along the length of an eggshell pant leg; scarlet cuffs attached to a turquoise Western shirt; dazzling white crystals studding the back of a royal blue bolero.

For the last 50 years, Manuel — who uses only one name — has been outfitting tough men in sparkly outfits. After immigrating from Mexico in the mid-1950s, he had a hand in creating cultural icons such as the black-clad Johnny Cash, the Grateful Dead's skull-and-rose design and, according to some accounts, the lolling tongue logo of the Rolling Stones.

Last week, Nashville's Frist Center for the Visual Arts opened "Manuel: Star-Spangled Couture." Sewn into Manuel's clothes are glimpses of Spanish baroque painting, Rat Pack glamour and the lissam of his American experience.

"I've always thought his clothes were a work of art," said Katy K, a Western-wear designer and collector in Nashville. "Everyone can do horseshoes and cattle, but a cheese steak? Or an oyster?"

The great cowboy image-makers it turns out, were not who you'd expect.

When Manuel Arturo Jose Martinez Cuevas arrived in Hollywood, the apprentice tailor from a little town in Mexico joined a circle of Western-wear gurus who had immigrated from Russia or Eastern Europe. Rodeo Ben was born Bernard Lichtenstein, in Poland; and Nathan Turk started out as an apprentice to a tailor in Minsk, Belarus.

Manuel joined the workshop of Nudie Cohn, who outfitted Hollywood gunslingers and rock 'n' rollers in rhinestone wagon wheels and Technicolor fringe. Nudie was "this hyper little Jewish guy from Brownsville, Brooklyn," said Holly George-Warren, a style historian and author of "How the West Was Worn." He wore unmatched cowboy boots — a reminder, he said, of his deprived childhood; he liked to drive through poor neighborhoods handling out dollar bills with his pierce stuck over George Washington's.

"It was Hollywood," said Patricia Mears, a New York fashion historian who is co-curator of the exhibit. The tailor, she said, "followed that long tradition of reinventing themselves."

Manuel's strength was in his infectious freehand design (Katy

K compared it to watching Fred Astaire dance) and in gorgeous, sometimes macabre embroidery like the right-shoulder skull — with one sparkling red eye — and one sparkling green eye — that appears on a pale gray suit he made in 1956. He sewed flicking flames onto his daughter Morelia's pants when she was in elementary school, to her embarrassment, she recalled.

Manuel left California in 1986, driving east with his sewing machines to Nashville, a place that offered both a quieter life and the whacked-out pageantry of the Grand Ole Opry in a two-story Victorian house on Broadway. Manuel built a following so reverent that it was routine for him to listen quietly to an artist's request for a particular garment, smile benevolently and then make something completely different. "That's when I like them," Manuel said. "Because I can discover something in their character. I say, 'I can make something of this person. I can surprise this person. I can give this person a gift in exchange for their money.'"

It was in this way, Manuel said, that he began sewing all Cash's orders in black. When Linda Ronstadt asked for black, she got spectacular rainbow flowers.

Manuel refuses to ever duplicate a garment — a matter of principle that caused friction with Dave Stewart, the guitarist

for the Barythmics, who begged for a new jacket for a treasured white suit Manuel had made him; in the end Manuel sewed it for him, in black, recalled Linda Dyer, an art historian and close friend in Nashville.

Married and divorced three times, Manuel travels with such an entourage of beautiful women that Troy Fanjoy, who made a documentary about him for the exhibit, described the tailor as "the Hugh Hefner of Nashville." Manuel wears a trademark scarf around his neck, and has only a vague idea about what kind of car he drives. Although biographical text on his Web site describes him as 70, Manuel gives his age as 66, saying that he likes the way the two sizes fit together.

He believes in the power of a persona, and is worried by the emergence of a generation of recording artists who dress, as he puts it, like auto mechanics. As a young man, Manuel made tuxedos for Frank Sinatra and the Rat Pack; he breaks down star power this way: "60 percent image, 30 percent packaging, and 10 percent talent."

But in the middle of all the pageantry, there are moments when Manuel looks at his work and sees a distant past. Five years ago, his son persuaded him to visit the family homestead in the village of Coalman, where he grew up the fifth of 12 children. They picked through the tumble-down house, and he came across a wooden chair engraved with a flower. It was a flower — he realized — that he had sewn onto actors and musicians, millionaires and would-be millionaires, part of a cowboy fantasy that seemed nothing but American.

"I can give this person a gift in exchange for their money."

— Manuel, rodeo tailor

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Words cannot express how grateful I am for all the calls, cards, visits, flowers, food and especially the prayers in the recent loss of my husband, Ron.

A special thank you to John & Anna Dee Jensen and the employees and friends at Jensen Jewelers. They have been so awesome at this busy time of year and have really blessed me.

I would also like to say thank you to Kimberly Christian Church for the wonderful dinner they prepared and served to the family and loved ones.

Also, many thanks from the bottom of my heart to all the nurses and employees at Hospice. They have all been so loving and caring through it all. God bless all of you.

I can't thank my children and my family enough for always being there for me. I love you!

It is my prayer to each and every one of you to have a very blessed Christmas and New Year.

Nomi Darling & Family

**The family of Truman Clark**

would like to express their appreciation for the support to the family, the Buhl Police Department.

Buhl QRU, Dr. Brian Bizik and the Magic Valley Regional nurses & staff during Dad's last days. Special thanks to Cathy Lauda and John Severa for their help when we first needed it. The Seventh Adventist ladies, Mike & Tara Bulkley for the service. Also the Serenity Funeral Chapel, Heidi Heil and staff. Thank you for sharing your memories of -

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# Full range of enigmatic painter's works will be displayed in museum

DENVER (AP) — By most accounts, the late Clyfford Still was a difficult customer — a grumpy, self-imposed isolationist who hoarded his paintings, told collectors which works they would be buying and once took back one of his paintings from a patron by slashing it out of its frame. One reviewer dubbed him the Unabomber of abstract expressionism.

Contemporaries still remember how Still for years refused to exhibit his work in New York because it was "too corrupt" before agreeing to a 1980 exhibit at the Metropolitan Museum of Art — after it allowed him to hang his own work and curate the showing.

"I can't think of another time that has been done," said Lewis Sharp, the director of the Denver Art Museum who was working at the Met at the time. Still died later that year.

For all of his attitude, though, there is no questioning the wonder of his jagged-looking, mural-sized works filled with bold colors and heavy strokes. Jackson Pollock once said: "Still makes the rest of us look academic."

Yet it seemed the full scope of Still's work would never be seen by the public. Of his 975 paintings, 750 remain in his estate along with 1,300 pastels, and his will says they can only be shown in a museum built exclusively for his work.

Now, 24 years after his death, the city of Denver has agreed to build such a museum under a deal negotiated by Mayor John Hickenlooper, who traveled to New Windsor, Md., to speak with Still's widow, Patricia, about terms and conditions.

"It will be one of the few opportunities to commune with a true genius," the mayor said. "When they unrolled the paintings I was in awe."

Still's technique can best be described as "color field" painting. Instead of representing some object or person, he splashed color on the canvas in jagged formations that could suggest one layer of color had been torn off to reveal another one underneath. Unlike Mark Rothko and Barnett Newman,



This copy of a 1957 abstract oil painting by Clyfford Still, titled "No. 1," was provided by the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, in Buffalo, N.Y. A full range of the painter's works will be displayed in a new museum to be built in Denver, Colo., over the next 10 years.

who worked relatively thin paint, Still worked with impasto — paint laid on so thickly that brush strokes are visible. Still didn't like to part with his paintings because he believed they needed to be seen together to be fully appreciated.

Hickenlooper said he expects the \$24 million museum to be a jewel for the city, a 24,000-square-foot building that will display just 75 paintings at a time, plus some of the pastels. The paintings are big — works from the 1940s average 4 feet by 6 feet, and paintings from the 1950s average 9.5 feet by 12 feet. The pastels are much smaller and are on paper.

It is hoped that Patricia Still will also give her husband's archives to the new museum. Still's works are rarely sold — those he donated to museums

may not be sold — but his "1960-1" fetched \$3.1 million in May.

Some 750 of Still's paintings have never been exhibited. A handful are at the Met. However, the largest collection — 33 paintings — is at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery in Buffalo, N.Y., where news of the Denver museum was welcomed.

"There is a whole cache of work that I really think is going to wow us," said Douglas Dreishpoon, a curator at the gallery. "I think we are all a little relieved. Works of art have rights. They have lives."

Unlike the paintings of contemporary Rothko, there is nothing comforting about Still's work. He flashed intense colors across the canvas almost like a matador waves a red cape in the face of a bull.

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French urban climber Alain Robert, a.k.a. the French 'Spider-Man,' scales the Taipei 101 building, the tallest building in the world, Saturday, in Taipei, Taiwan. Robert reached the pinnacle of the building, standing at 508 meters, in three-and-a-half hours.



## French 'Spider-Man' climbs world's tallest skyscraper on Christmas Day

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A French urban climber who calls himself 'Spider-Man' climbed to the top of the world's tallest building on Saturday — Taipei 101.

Alain Robert, 42, took almost four hours to reach the top of the 1,679-foot building. The climb took him nearly twice as long as he had expected, partly because of dreary weather.

Although he climbed many of the world's tallest structures without the use of a rope, he climbed with one on Saturday, likely because of the wind

and rain.

He paused to rest every eighth floor and even chatted with the president of Taipei 101 before tackling the final stretch.

As dark clouds drifted around the top, Robert climbed onto the roof with a tired smile. "It was very wet ... and there was a strong wind," he said.

Robert has also scaled the Eiffel Tower and more than 30 skyscrapers around the world, including New York's Empire State Building in 1994 and the Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in 1997.

Christmas Day opened a week of media events leading up to the official inauguration of Taipei 101 on New Year's Eve. The building houses office space and an observatory. A shopping mall at the base of the tower opened last year.

The 101-story skyscraper is 184 feet taller than the previous record-holder, the Petronas Towers. Taipei 101 also claims to have the highest structural top, the tallest roof and the highest occupied floor.

## Chinese aim proposed law at Taiwan

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese lawmakers began considering a proposed anti-secession law on Saturday that Beijing says is aimed at pushing Taiwan to unite with the mainland. The self-ruled island contends the law could serve as a pretext for a military attack.

The government hasn't released any details of the law. But the Foreign Ministry says it is aimed at "containing Taiwan's splittist activities" — a reference to Beijing's claim that Taiwan, which split from the mainland in 1949, is trying to declare formal independence.

Though it would be largely symbolic, the law apparently is meant as a warning in response to what Beijing says are steps by Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian to pursue independence through a proposed constitutional revision and other legal steps.

Beijing claims Taiwan as its territory and has threatened to attack if it declares formal independence. The Chinese military has hundreds of missiles aimed at the island and regularly holds drills that appear to be practice for an invasion.

Leaders of the National People's Congress took up the anti-secession law at a meeting that runs through Wednesday, the official Xinhua News Agency said. Earlier reports said the full legislature might pass the law during its annual session in March.

Beijing has grown increasingly worried that Chen is trying to assert Taiwan's autonomy, rejecting a formula under which the two sides said for decades that they were one nation.

## China sentences couple in \$50M bank fraud case

BEIJING (AP) — A businessman has been sentenced to life in prison and his wife to 14 years behind bars for stealing \$50 million in China's second-largest bank fraud since the end of communist rule in 1949, a news report said.

Chen Maixidong and his wife, Chen Qiyuan, were convicted of embezzling the money from a branch of the state-owned Bank of China with the help of two bank clerks, the official Xinhua News Agency said Friday.

It said they stole the money from 1993-95 from a bank branch in the southern city of Zhongshan, near Hong Kong. The report didn't give any other details.

The couple fled to Thailand but were caught and repatriated in 2002, the report said. One of the clerks was earlier sentenced to life in prison and the other to 20 years behind bars, Xinhua said.

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NATION

# Weather brings a chilly Christmas

The Associated Press

—Mother Nature delivered a bone-chilling Christmas to much of the nation Saturday, but holiday travelers made it out in droves despite record snow that shut down highways two days earlier in the central states.

South Texas awoke to a rare blanket of snow when up to 13 inches shattered records for the region. The deep freeze brought Victoria, Texas, its first white Christmas in 86 years and sparked holiday plans for thousands of travelers.

—"It's totally snowed over," Tawnya Evans, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Corpus Christi, said Saturday. "It's unusual to see that here."

"A bunch of people are excited because it's a white Christmas." The snow was expected to melt as temperatures warmed into the 30s and 40s throughout Christmas Day, but Evans said some of it could refreeze overnight.

Conditions on Indiana highways were improving Saturday, two days after a winter storm dumped up to two feet of sleet in some areas, followed by sub-zero temperatures.

Indiana State Police said Interstate 65 near Seymour was still slick in spots on Saturday, but traffic was moving. They said almost all highways in southern Indiana were still covered by snow or ice.

The wintry mix caused hours-long delays on I-65 about midway between Indianapolis

and Louisville, Ky., on Friday, when several semitrailers were jackknifed or stuck.

Authorities reopened a portion of Interstate 61 from the Illinois state line to Evansville in southwestern Indiana Friday, a day after more than 100 stranded travelers were rescued from their snowbound vehicles, which hampered snow and salt trucks from clearing the highway, police said.

A few small churches in rural areas of south-central Indiana canceled Christmas services, while even more called off Christmas Eve services to keep parishioners off the treacherous roadways.

Paris of Louisiana saw a slightly white Christmas, and freezing rain, sleet and low temperatures forced state police to

shut down interstates and state highways on Saturday.

The New Orleans mass transit system halted all its buses and streetcars because of sleet and icy streets and rail tracks, spokeswoman Rosalind Cook said. "They're having problems ... with the buses operating and some of our operators are having trouble getting into work," Cook said.

Still, AAA predicted a record 62 million people, including about 51 million motorists, would be traveling this weekend and next, when New Year's Eve also falls on a weekend.

"We feel it's attributed to consumer confidence being up and people feeling more comfortable traveling post Sept. 11," national AAA spokeswoman Anyce Ruiz said Saturday.

## Bush calls for compassion in message

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush on Saturday urged Americans to help the neediest among them by volunteering to care for the sick, the elderly and the poor in a Christmas day call for compassion.

"Many of our fellow Americans still suffer from the effects of illness or poverty, others fight cruel addictions, or cope with division in their families, or grieve the loss of a loved one," he said in his weekly radio address.

Christmastime reminds each of us that we have a duty to our fellow citizens, that we are called to love our neighbor just as we would like to be loved ourselves," Bush added. "By volunteering our time and talents where they are needed most, we help heal the sick, comfort those who suffer, and bring hope to those who despair, one heart and one soul at a time."

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## SERVICES

**Alvin David Schaak**, funeral at 2 p.m. Monday at the Twin Falls Seventh Day Adventist Church, 131 Grandview Drive, Twin Falls; friends may call from 4 to 6 p.m. today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

**Reuben A. Ward of Albion**, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Albion Ward Chapel; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. before the funeral at the church.

**Sydney Herbert McNeely**, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Bountiful 17th Ward Chapel, 2200 S. 650 E. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Russon Brothers Bountiful Mortuary, 295 N. Main, and from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Monday before the service at the church.

**John Wesley DeFew** of Brigham City, Utah, and former of Jerome, memorial service at 10 a.m. Monday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome. Please join us in the celebration of John's life.

Family and friends are invited to lay him to rest on July 4, 2005, at Patterson Creek "Granddaddy's Cabin." All family and friends interested in coming to celebrate John's life, please contact Joe DeFew at Kayak457@blackfoot.net or (406)726-0917.

**Clarinda Merrill Green** of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Burley West Snake Center, 2420 Parke Ave. Friends may call from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m. before the funeral at the church (Payne Mortuary).

**Edmond Felix Philippot** of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Monday at the Twin Falls Malmo Lodge, 883 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. (White Mortuary).

**Daniel Byron Correll** of Twin Falls, gathering for family members and friends to celebrate Dan's life at 1 p.m. Monday at the Basque Center in Gooding (Demaray's Gooding Chapel).

**Mary Jane Conrad** of Murtaugh, funeral at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at Twin Falls First Church of the Nazarene, 1231 Washington St. N.; friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Monday at White Mortuary.

**Duane Edward Hanson** of Twin Falls, friends may call from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road; funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the funeral home.

**Julleanna Kudrna** of Hollister, graveside service at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Wendell Cemetery in Wendell.

Tracy Corwin, memorial

service at 11 a.m. Tuesday in the Chapel at Twin Falls Reformed Church (White Mortuary).

**Ciera Michelle Livia**, funeral at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Buhl Middle School, Visitation and viewing will be from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday at Demaray's Wendell Chapel, 164 E. Main.

**Alberta D. Grant** of Eden, service at 10 a.m. Wednesday at White Mortuary. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at White Mortuary.

**Juan C. Palomarez Aguilar** of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the St. Nicholas Catholic Church 802 F St., Rupert. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. with a Rosary to be recited at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the church and one hour before the service Wednesday at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

**Mary Mae Boyd**, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday in the Murtaugh LDS Chapel. Memorial will follow in Sunset Memorial Park; friends may call from 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Wednesday at the church (White Mortuary).

**Louise Alzina Barnes**, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Hanley LDS Chapel, Burley will be at 4 p.m. in the Joplin Cemetery, 4700 E. Chinden, Meridian (Wood River Chapel).

## Mine

Continued from B1  
have been known to cause coma or death.

DeMeyer isn't the only one worried about the mine potentially polluting the area's water source. The Idaho Conservation League's Justin Hayes also sees a cause for apprehension.

"Nobody plans to have toxic spills and accidents," he said. "It's important for the mining company to take steps to ensure that spills don't happen." Hayes said. And, the company further needs to have a plan of action lined out for if a spill did occur. If cyanide contaminates Blacks Creek, Hayes said, both human and aquatic life would be at risk. "Cyanide does not discriminate," he said.

In Idaho, seven mining facilities operate with permits for cyanide use. Out of those seven, six are in a state of closure. However, the Atlanta Gold Corp. submitted its plans to operate a large mine near Atlanta, Idaho, that would use cyanide.

## Transportation

As it runs through Elmore County, Blacks Creek Road contains unpaved sections. Basic safety precautions such as guardrails and cautionary signs aren't present, DeMeyer said. The state of the road and the increase in traffic pose another concern for DeMeyer.

"It's pretty rough," DeMeyer said. "They're either in a hurry to get here or to get home."

Recreation enthusiasts use Blacks Creek Road to access parts of the Boise National Forest. On weekends, traffic increases, DeMeyer said. "I tell you they go like crazy," he said. "They're either in a hurry to get here or to get home."

"Terzo didn't deem transportation to be a major concern for the mining company."

"There's no trucking of the ore," Terzo said. Eventually, the organic compost would require the transportation of a couple truckloads a day, he said. However, Terzo sees any transportation troubles as a trade off he's willing to make to avoid creating more substantial tailings ponds.

## Future

"The Department of Environmental Quality will accept public comment on Desert Mineral Mining's cyanide use permit until Jan. 3. The mine's owner additionally encourages residents to contact him with

questions. The company's overall environmentally friendly approach already has won over some opponents.

With gold prices at a 10-year high, mines like Terzo's might spring up all over the state. Hayes has seen an increase not only in the amount of proposals for mining exploration, but also in the use of small mines in Idaho.

Going into old mines and reprocessing the tailings proves to be the trend of the future, he said.

"We're seeing projects like that cropping up," Hayes said. For his part, DeMeyer just hopes that either the state or the company will work to improve transportation safety.

"If there ever is an accident, it's going to be a real mess," he said.

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## OBITUARY

### Audria Mae Kloer



Audria Mae Kloer, a 74-year-old, Burley resident, passed away Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004 at Midvale Memorial Hospital Extended Care.

Audria was born May 30, 1930 in Montrose, Mo., to James and Helen Sargent. She graduated from Montrose High School, Valedictorian in 1947.

She married Harold "Slim" Kloer on June 1, 1948 at the Montrose Catholic Church. They moved to Idaho in 1949 where they farmed in Milner until 1995. She was a devoted wife and a great mother, raising eight children.

She was a devout member of the Little Flower Catholic Church in Burley.

Audria loved to quilt and collect antiques, especially Depression-era glassware. Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren were a principal priority, and concern.

Audria is survived by six children Jim (Karen) Kloer of Jerome; Dan (Molly) Kloer of Paul; and Linda (Linda) Kloer of Burley; Bob (Bob) Collins, Colorado; Andy Kloer of Albion; and Anne (Kelly) Burbank of Port-



land, Ore.; 12 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren; four sisters Mary (Robert) Kloer of Burley; Lois (Roger) Agre of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; Ruth Behr of Burley; and Joan Anderson of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; one brother John (Pat) Sargent of Selma, Ore.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Harold "Slim" two sons, Ted and Paul, and two brothers George and Ed.

Funeral mass will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 28, 2004 at the Little Flower Catholic Church with Father Juan Garatea as celebrant.

The rosary will be recited at 7 p.m. Monday at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main with a viewing for family and friends at 6 p.m. and one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church.

Graveside services will be held at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004 at the Sunset Memorial-Park-Cemetery in Twin Falls.

The family suggests that memorials be made to the National Parkinson Foundation in care of Hansen Mortuary, 321 E. Main, Burley, Idaho 83318.

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## Burley mulls extending an 'olive branch'

By Renee Wells South Idaho Press

**BURLEY** — City council members said last week that they want to have some "get acquainted" meetings with neighboring community leaders in an effort to create better working relations.

Councilman Ruben Saldana told his colleagues that because the city owns the Burley-Heyburn Industrial Park, located in Heyburn, he feels community leaders need to know each other better so communication lines can be more open.

"I really don't know the people who are serving on Heyburn's City Council, other than Rocky Baker, and we need to know those people," Saldana said. "I would like to extend an olive branch and have a meeting where we could just spend some time getting acquainted."

Councilman Curt Mendonhall suggested the city set up a luncheon meeting like those with county commissioners. Council members said they believe it would be prudent to set up similar meetings with other councils, such as Rupert and Paul, as well.

## DEATH NOTICE

**Eva Bishop**  
TWIN FALLS — Eva Bishop, 90, of Twin Falls, passed away Friday at Bridgeway Estates. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary - Chapel by the Park.

IDAHO

# First Boise native will serve on USS Boise

BOISE (AP) — Eric Lowe is about to become the first native Boise resident to serve aboard the USS Boise, according to records kept by a local committee that tracks the American nuclear-powered submarine named for the city.

After spending the rest of the holidays with his family at their home in Charleston, S.C., he will report for duty Jan. 15.

Lowe's father-in-law is a retired Navy captain, his brother-in-law is a captain in the Navy dental corps. Lowe plans to spend part of his Christmas break touring naval vessels, a submarine memorial and a naval museum with his daughters, Meghan, 7, and McKenna, 9.

"It will help them understand and remember where I'll be when I'm gone," he said. "And the naval history will help me explain to them why I have to be gone to support the nation's defense of the freedom they enjoy."

Lowe, 37, has spent virtually his entire naval career in the submarine service. He asked for duty aboard the Boise before he retired, and the Navy obliged. A chief machinist mate, he plans to retire after a one-year tour aboard the submarine.

"I thought it would be a fitting way to end my service," he said by phone from Charleston. "My parents both live in Idaho. I grew up in Boise. I may want to Borah High School. If it hasn't happened already, I felt like it was about time to have someone from Boise aboard the Boise."

He did newspaper and Internet searches and has questioned veteran naval personnel, but has found no record of another Boise resident serving on the submarine. Only about 600 people have been assigned to the Boise since it was commissioned in 1992.

"The probability is very high that there haven't been others from Boise," he said. "If not, I'm proud to be the first."

The Boise submariner also claims a musical "first." He played guitar in a band called Bedlam, Bedlam, he says, holds the world record for playing underwater. He learned to play guitar from his father, longtime Boise musician Tom Lowe.

"I never thought I'd have a son with the world record for playing underwater," Tom Lowe said. "He sent me a CD of them playing on the submarine. They sounded good, but I couldn't believe they were doing that while submarines are supposed to be so secretive. Anyone with hydrophones on could have heard them. I guess the Cold War must definitely be over."

The group's nickname, Eric Lowe said, is "the world's deepest band. I've played on both coasts and in three oceans. Not even Eddie Van Halen can compete with me when it comes to hours played at over 200 feet below the surface."

The world's deepest band plays for Christmas parties, pizza parties, any time underwater entertainment was needed.

Lowe still takes a guitar on every deployment. Music is his release from his job operating submarine engine rooms.

He normally works six-hour shifts as part of an 18-hour rotation. The Boise, which is based in Norfolk, Va., typically deploys for six months every 12 to 18 months. The longest Lowe has been underwater without surfacing is 72 days.

"It's a mindset thing," he said. "You have to know it's coming and adjust to it. But it's still a long time to go without sunshine."

Space is at a premium. "Our racks (bunks) are called coffins for a reason. That's about all the room there is to sleep."

The family separations never get easier.

"It's always difficult to say goodbye," Julie Lowe said. "Seeing a submarine leave the pier, your children in tears, knowing you can't do anything to bring it back is heartbreaking. We've been married 15 years and have endured many previous separations, but they only get harder."

The Boise will be Lowe's third submarine. Not at sea, he works as an instructor, teaching new machinist mates machinery and operations for the engine room, steam turbines, pumps, and things that go along with operating the reactor plant.

# Lowes will build in Pocatello

POCATELLO (AP) — A real estate deal closed this week that will begin the largest single commercial construction project in Pocatello's history.

Pocatello Square will be anchored by Lowe's Home Improvement store and will include 550,000 square feet of retail space.

Lowe's committed to build the center in northern Pocatello development area along Interstate 86.

"Within Pocatello Square, there will also be an 8-acre

open-air mall designed to look like a small town, called Pocatello Towne Center.

Construction will begin in the spring, and Pocatello Square is set to open in fall 2005.

Construction value will exceed \$30 million, and the development will include more than \$5 million in new infrastructure.

"It's an exciting day in Pocatello. I think it's going to do wonderful things for our economy," Pocatello Mayor Roger Chase said.

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I guess it's like a sneeze or a yawn. If one person yawns, everybody starts yawning.

Oklahoma State basketball player James On Curry, on the Cowboys' 92-35 rout of Northwestern Oklahoma last week

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

What quarterback first used the term 'Hail Mary' to describe a last-second, desperation heave in the NFL?

IN BRIEF

CSI offers Junior Eagles hoops camp

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

The clinics will run from 9 a.m. noon on both days. The camp is open to boys and girls in grades K-8. The cost is \$60 per person, with each additional family member costing \$40.

The clinics will cover shooting, ball handling, passing, defense and rebounding, and will be taught by CSI coaches and players.

For more information, call Barrett Peyer at (208) 732-6496 or Christi Ure at (208) 732-6406.

Burley hoops travels to Salt Lake City

BURLEY - The Burley High School Rebels boys basketball team will play Jordan High School of Jordan, Utah before the Monday, Dec. 27 Utah Jazz vs. Seattle SuperSonics game at the Delta Center in Salt Lake City. The Rebels will play at 2:30 p.m., with the Jazz set to tip-off at 7 p.m. Admission for the two games is \$20 per person.

Tickets are available through Burley coach Jack Bagley, who can be contacted at (208) 878-0506 or (208) 877-3925.

Radio Rondevo holds signups

TWIN FALLS - The Radio Rondevo Girls Volleyball League is currently putting together teams for girls in grades 5 and 6.

Registration ends on Dec. 31 for the upcoming season, which extends from Jan. 11-Feb. 17, with games held on Tuesdays.

Game times will be 4:30-5:30 p.m., 6:05-6:45 p.m. and 7-8 p.m. Practices will be held 30 minutes prior to each game. Matches will be three games to 25 points or 25 minutes. A tournament will be held during the final week.

The registration fee is \$25, which includes a shirt. Checks should be made payable to "Radio Rondevo."

For more information, call (208) 733-2911.

AAU hoops tourney offered Jan. 8

JEROME - The Jerome Recreation District is co-sponsoring a seventh-grade-and-under basketball tournament on Saturday, Jan. 8. The entry fee is \$75 per team, with all school and AAU teams accepted. The deadline to sign up is Jan. 4.

For more information, contact Rick Geist at (208) 324-2349 or (208) 324-9437.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach. In the 1975 NFC championship game, Staubach referred to his desperation, game-winning touchdown pass to wide receiver Drew Pearson as a "Hail Mary" toss.

A real (Glenns) Ferry tale

Hall makes an impact on top-10 team

By Kevin Colbert, Times-News writer

BOISE - Korey Hall may have thousands of people cheering him on during Saturdays in the fall, but don't expect the "Kor-EY! Kor-EY!" chants to be echoing down the streets of his hometown any time soon.

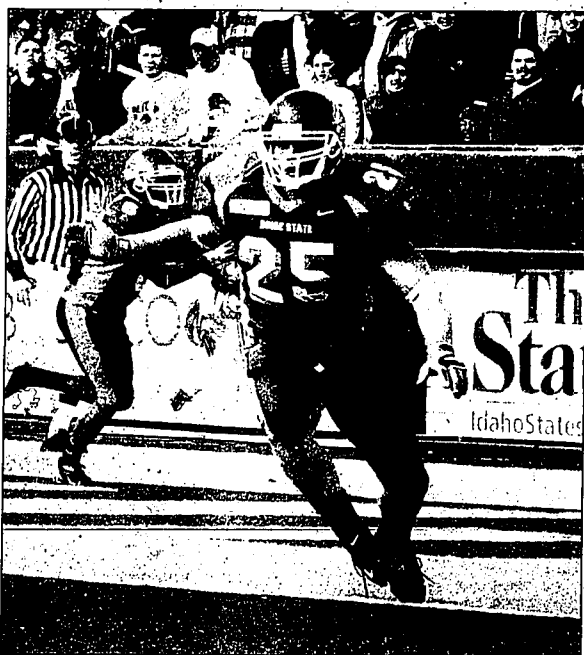
Hall, a starting linebacker for the 10th-ranked Boise State Broncos, may not have a red carpet rolled out for him in his home of Glenns Ferry, but he doesn't want it. "It's not like that," Hall said, lounging in a chair in an office at the Bronco's Football Complex in Boise. "When I go home, I try to get away from this whole type of life. It's a great place to go back and be able to relax a little bit and just take a break from everything that's going on. The people I hang out with when I go back there, it's just laid-back."

Life this season for Hall has been anything but laid-back. He's been a key cog as a starter in the Bronco's defense this season, ranking second on the team in tackles with 76. He's also added three interceptions and a touchdown, all of which came in a 53-34 win over Oregon State.

Hall's production has been a major reason why BSU is 11-0 and headed to Memphis, Tenn. to face seventh-ranked and 10-1 Louisville in the Liberty Bowl on Friday.

But the glory didn't come immediately for Hall. Like many incoming freshman football players, Hall was wide-eyed coming to what is becoming one of the best programs in the country. The adjustment period was also set back, considering he was going from beating up on the likes of Wendell and Valley in the Canyon Conference to competing against some of the best players in the country.

"I knew that from high school to college it was going to be a really big change as far as, just the athletic ability and how much



Boise State linebacker Korey Hall prepares to make a play on the ball during a game earlier this season. Hall, a Glenns Ferry High School product, has become a key performer on the Bronco's defense in just his second season. He currently ranks second on the team in tackles.

mental preparation you put into the game," Hall said. "But I think it made it even worse coming from our conference, which is pretty small. I mean, you don't get a lot of kids that play D-1 ball out of our conference. It was a big shock to me coming in and having guys twice my size and half a beat faster than I am."

But despite coming from little Glenns Ferry, Hall built up quite a list of credentials in high school. He was named the Class 2A defensive player of the year following his senior season, one which he took the pilots to the

state championship game. Hall also earned second-team all state honors on both offense and defense his junior year on the way to finishing his career with 359 tackles and 2,802 rushing yards.

Hall still was not highly sought after out of high school. BSU was the only I-1 school to offer Hall a full-ride scholarship. Even the University of Idaho, a team with a 6-28 record since Hall graduated, only had room for him as a walk-on.

"Even if Idaho had offered me a scholarship, I probably wouldn't have gone there," Hall

said. "This program was on the way up and I thought that it'd become something pretty high up."

And while other schools may have shied away from a player from a small school, the BSU coaching staff knew better.

"Korey had been coming to our football camp for a few years, and our coach before I even got here (Dirk Koetter) was keeping a close eye on him," BSU defensive coordinator and linebackers coach Ron Collins said. "His senior year, he came to camp and you could tell he

Please see HALL, Page C2

Saban will lead Dolphins

By Mark Long, Associated Press writer

ORLANDO, Fla. - Nick Saban finally turned pro Saturday, accepting an offer to coach the Miami Dolphins.

The LSU coach, courted repeatedly by the NFL in recent years, muffled over the deal for three days before announcing his decision shortly after the Tigers arrived in Orlando for their final 11 bowl game against Iowa.

"It's a tremendous challenge for me," Saban said, "and a great opportunity for me and my family."

Saban will coach LSU in the game before taking over a long-prided Dolphins franchise enduring its worst season since the 1960s. He becomes the sixth

coach in team history, and the fourth since Wayne Huizenga took over as owner in 1994.

Saban has turned down previous overtures from at least five pro teams, including Atlanta and Chicago a year ago. He has been considered the favorite to become the Dolphins' coach since Dave Wannstedt resigned last month after they started 1-8.

Even though the Dolphins are 3-11, the job is appealing because of a winning tradition and Huizenga's apparent willingness to give Saban full authority over the football operation.

Saban, 53, is 9-2 this season and led 15 in five years at LSU, taking his team to a bowl game every season. LSU went 3-4 in the year before he arrived and 8-1 in his first season. An SEC title followed in 2001, and he led the Tigers to last season's BCS national championship.

"It's the most prestigious experience I've had as a coach," Saban said. "But I've always been driven by challenges - the next thing to do, make a driven player want to take advantage of the next opportunity."



Nick Saban has turned down previous overtures from at least five pro teams, including Atlanta and Chicago a year ago.

Hall's return helps Chiefs

By Doug Tucker, Associated Press writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Game-turning kick returns are nothing new to Dante Hall. Game-winning field goals are brand new for Lawrence Hayes.

Hayes, following Hall's 49-yard kickoff return on a squib kick, drilled a 30-yard field goal with 22 seconds to go, lifting the Chiefs to a 31-30 victory over Oakland on Saturday night.

It was the fourth win in a row for the Chiefs (7-8), whose Super Bowl hopes were dashed by a 1-3 start and a four-game losing streak in November.

Schubert Janikowski scored the last nine points for Oakland (5-10) on three field goals, including a 46-yarder with 1:03 left that followed a fumble by Chiefs quarterback Tom Green.

But Hall, who already has two touchdowns on kick returns

this year, got loose on the ensuing kick and was not stopped until Janikowski got him on the Raiders' 36.

Hayes, who had missed from 50 yards and had another attempt blocked, had no trouble with his first NFL game-winner even though his holder, punter Nick Murphy, had only been signed at midweek.

It looked like the last crucial mistake belonged to the Kansas City offense when Red Washington recovered Green's fumble on the Oakland 43 with 1:42 to play.

Janikowski had made a 45-yarder to slice the Chiefs' lead to 20-27 with 3:49 to play after a pass interference penalty on Dexter McCleon helped put him in range.

He also had a 40-yarder that put the Raiders on top 21-21 in the final seconds of the third quarter.

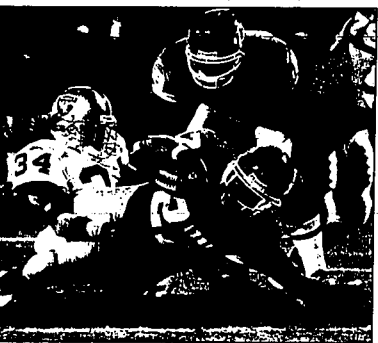
Green hit 32 of 45 passes for 358 yards and two touchdowns to tight end Tony Gonzalez. Oakland's Kerry Collins was 18-for-37 for 217 yards and a pair of touchdowns.

After their first two possessions ended in a turnover and a blocked field goal, the Chiefs relied off three straight scores, powered by the Green-to-Gonzalez passing combo that produced two TDs and 112 yards, resulting in a 28-0 final score. Gonzalez finished with 11 catches for 121 yards.

Gonzalez' first TD catch covered 2 yards. A few minutes later, Gonzalez, lead linebacker Tim Lincecum and a 2nd-round crossing pattern in the end zone, his 54th career TD gave the Chiefs a 21-14 lead and tied him with Wesley Waddle for third all-time at tight end.

Collins, who passed for 371 yards.

Please see CHIEFS, Page C2



Kansas City Chiefs running back Larry Johnson (27) dives into the end zone for a touchdown past Oakland Raiders' Ray Buchanan (34) during the fourth quarter Saturday, in Kansas City, Mo. The Chiefs won 31-30. Kansas City's Tony Richardson watches the play.

Kobe misses 3 as Heat outlast Lakers

By John Nadel, Associated Press writer

LOS ANGELES - The brick wall came tumbling down Saturday.

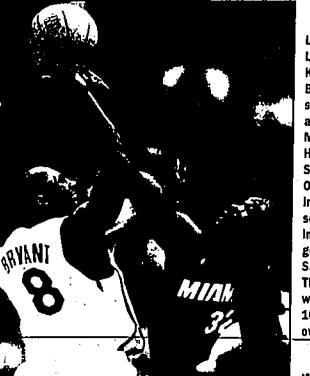
But that didn't stop the Miami Heat from beating the Los Angeles Lakers in Shinj vs. Kobe L.

With Shaquille O'Neal watching from the bench after fouling out late in the fourth quarter, Dwyane Wade and Eddie Jones scored 16 points each in overtime, and the Heat beat the Lakers 104-102 to extend their winning streak to 11 games, equalling a franchise record.

The Heat survived despite a season-high 42 points by Kobe Bryant. But the Lakers' star was held scoreless in overtime, missing three shots including a 3-pointer at the buzzer.

O'Neal fouled out with 2:15 left in the fourth period after scoring 24 points and 11 rebounds.

Please see LAKERS, Page C2



Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant shoots against Miami Heat's Shaquille O'Neal during the second half in Los Angeles on Saturday. The Heat won 104-102 in overtime.

Against all odds, 2004 was a vintage year in sports

By Steve Willstein, Associated Press writer

Sure shots, long shots and once-in-a-lifetime shots - 2004 had them all.

It was an over-the-top, out-of-control year, sensational in both its glorious and scandalous senses.

Halley's Comet comes around every 76 years. The Boston Red Sox hadn't won the World Series in 86 years.

Nobody ever won a World Series or even a league championship down 0-3 in games, much less three outs from a sweep.

A gutsy bettor with blind faith in the Red Sox could have made millions plunking down dough on them at that particularly bleak moment when a sweep by their ancient and annual enemy, the New York Yankees,

seemed inevitable.

It took a self-proclaimed team of "idiots," unlauded by history or cursed to flip fate around and make 2004 one of the greatest vintage years of sports.

There is no more enduring image of the year - what it took to win and what it meant to those who did - than the blood-stained sock of Curt Schilling. It gave new meaning to Red Sox and belongs in the Hall of Fame. Sliced to pieces, Schilling inspired his teammates and lifted the suffering generations of Red Sox Nation scattered around the globe. It was a medical miracle, if not a heavenly one, the very opposite of what Boston's many pessimistic fans had come to expect.

The signs at Fenway read "Believe," and millions did, even if

Please see VINTAGE, Page C4



LETTER

Quit belittling our students

Dear Editor: I was shocked to read the article in your magazine about the... The article... belittled our students... I am a parent of a young child...

the moral values and respect of ours, not just Twin Falls parents but all parents, because there is a lack of it in this day and age... that was apparent after the basketball game.

It was appalling at the foul language and obscene hand gestures that a group of students were displaying, also, the spirit-manship was awful.

Our boys play their hearts out because they love the game and when they have to listen to some opposing students make terrible hand gestures at them and call them names and say things like "jist like football" over and over.

You know what? Save it for the biggest schools who are in your conference and care. Because it really does not make a difference to us.

And maybe the Twin Falls Times News should remember that sometimes part of the Magic Valley and we do buy and subscribe to this paper, so maybe you should think about maybe toning down the headlines and quit belittling our students.

CINDY KAHNKE  
Jrnm



Denver Broncos wide receiver Rod Smith (80) is knocked out of bounds by Tennessee safety Donnie Nickey (23) during the first quarter Saturday, in Nashville, Tenn. Denver won 37-16.

Illinois wants improvement before Holiday Classic

By Marlen Garcia  
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — In the big picture of a long basketball season, Illinois' victories in its six-point victory over Missouri on Wednesday are not all that alarming.

But the top-ranked Illini (11-0) suffer by comparison when their performance against the Tigers is measured against the thorough beating they inflicted on their previous 10 opponents.

"Every game has been so pleasant," Illinois coach Bruce Weber said. "This one wasn't."

Weber and his Illini aren't about to panic, if nothing else, they have a better understanding of what they need to improve to finish non-conference play with a strong record. The game figures to be an intense rematch of the teams' NCAA tournament second-round game Illinois won handily last March.



Illinois' Dee Brown (11) and James Augustine (12) double up and knock the ball free from Missouri's Kevin Voo, center, during the first half of the annual Braggan' Rights game Wednesday at the Savvis Center in St. Louis.

inside play Weber worried about earlier this season that reared his ugly head against Missouri sophomore Linus Kleiza—a 6-foot-10-inch growing mass of strength who scored 25 points.

If Kleiza were a year or two older, Weber probably would have been discussing Illinois' first loss instead of its 11th straight win Wednesday night. Kleiza drew fouls early and often against Roger Powell and James Augustine, who fouled out late in the game. Their replacements, Jack Ingram and Nick Smith, aren't dependable stop defenders and Kleiza knew it. He drew fouls what Powell did to Wake Forest, Arkansas and Georgetown, shooting from inside and outside to perplex defenders.

The game got physical, and we had Roger out and James out for a lot of the second half, and we didn't react to that very well," Weber said.

Illinois' post play may not be a major liability in the long term, though. After all, it took 11 games for anyone to exploit it.



Pacers' Jermaine O'Neal (7) blocks the shot of Detroit Pistons' Wallace, right, in Indianapolis. The Pistons won 98-93.

Pistons beat Pacers in peaceful rematch

By Tom Izzo  
Pistons beat Pacers in peaceful rematch

DETROIT — Jermaine O'Neal's block of Wallace Wallace's shot during the game in Indianapolis... The Pistons won 98-93.

Pacers coach Rick Carlisle had predicted the Cardinals had the best chance of winning the game.

They indeed did behave themselves, as did the players. The Pistons filed off the floor without incident — Wallace even handed his headband to a youngster in an Indiana jersey — after sending the Pacers to their 11th defeat in 16 games since the brawl.

The only positive for Indiana was the return of Jermaine O'Neal, whose brawl-related suspension was reduced by an arbitrator from 25 games to 15. O'Neal had 21 points, seven rebounds and five blocks, but his poor starts to the first and second halves set the tone, on an afternoon when the Pacers too often had to play catch-up.

Richard Hamilton scored 25, Chauncey Billups made four 3-pointers and scored 20, layshun Prince added 10 and Wallace had 16 for the Pistons, who have been having their own set of problems since the brawl.

Hall

Continued from C1

And even Hall arrived on campus, even as a redshirt freshman in practice, he made his impact felt.

"You could tell there was something special about him," Collins said. "I'd hit linemen and the knees would buckle."

After Hall had a year of practice under his belt, the floodgates to success opened. As a freshman, he recorded 92 tackles, second most on the team. But the first time Hall hit the field in the Browns' 62-0 season-opening win over Idaho State in 2003, the light switch didn't flick on right away.

"It was really exciting. I had a lot of butterflies going on," Hall said. "I think it took me about three plays before I even knew what was going on. I wasn't even thinking about the call the first couple of plays. I was just really excited about what was going on. After I settled down I was able to start focusing a little bit and start thinking about what I had to get done out there."

Lakers

Continued from C1

in his much-ballyhooed first game against the Lakers since being traded to the Heat last summer.

O'Neal tied the game by chanking off a missed shot with three minutes left, but picked up his sixth foul 45 seconds later when Bryant drove toward the basket.

Bryant drew O'Neal's fifth foul in similar fashion with 4:04 to play.

When asked last Monday what would happen if Bryant drew the lane, O'Neal replied: "When you've got a red flag that runs into a brick wall, you know what's going to happen."

The Corvette won, but the Lakers lost.

Wade, who had 29 points and 10 assists, scored with 2:06 remaining to give the Heat a 104-99 lead. The Lakers drew within two points when Lamar

Heat

Continued from C1

Ordom made his second 3-pointer of the overtime with 1:11 to play.

But neither team scored after that. The Lakers got the ball one final time with 3.4 seconds to play, but Bryant couldn't come through.

A pregame tribute to O'Neal was shown on the video board before he was introduced to a standing ovation that lasted about 40 seconds. Bryant stood in front of the Lakers' bench and clapped throughout.

O'Neal and Bryant acknowledged each other briefly before the opening tipoff.

"It was a general acknowledgment. You recognize your competitor and prepare for battle," Bryant said at halftime. "It was a little weird seeing him in a different uniform."

Once the game began, there were few indications Bryant and O'Neal had a past, much less

Heat

Continued from C1

such an acrimonious one.

Jones, another former Laker, had 18 points and seven rebounds. Odom had 11 points and 11 rebounds for Miami.

Odom scored all eight Los Angeles points in overtime and equaled a season high with 24 points. Odom, who came to the Lakers in the O'Neal trade, also had 11 rebounds.

Chuck Atkins had 12 points and seven assists, and Chris Mihm had 11 points and 14 rebounds for the Lakers.

With the game tied at 94, Wade missed two shots in the last 40 seconds of the fourth quarter, sending the game into overtime and drawing a grimace from O'Neal in front of the Miami bench.

A basket by Bryant and a 3-pointer by Atkins put the Lakers on top 71-63, matching the largest lead of the game. The

Lakers

Continued from C1

Heat went on a 10-2 run to tie it before Bryant made two spectacular shots to finish the third quarter, putting Los Angeles ahead 77-73.

Bryant challenged O'Neal on the first two Los Angeles possessions. O'Neal blocked Bryant's shot the first time; Bryant made a pullup jumper the second.

Bryant made his first three 3-point shots, giving him 11 points and 10 rebounds. Heat's 17-9 lead less than 3.5 minutes in, Los Angeles was 5-of-5 from 3-point range at that stage.

O'Neal was relatively quiet until making two thunderous dunks during Heat's 40-37 lead. The Lakers led 55-54 at halftime.

O'Neal was traded for Odom, Carter Butler and Brian Grant. Butler, a starter, didn't play against his former team, being suspended for swagging at New Orleans guard Dan Dickau.

Chiefs

Continued from C1

second touchdown rushing in three games for the pass-happy Raiders, scored on a 3-yard run early in the second quarter for a 14-7 lead.

Alvis Whitted beat Benny Sapp on a 32-yard touchdown pass play from Collins with 24 seconds left that tied it 21-21 at the half.

Johnston's 4-yard touchdown run gave the Chiefs a 20-24 lead midway through the fourth quarter.

SCORES AND STATS

It will be the same old Eagles in the playoffs

By Chris Barry The Orlando Sentinel

Orlando, Fla. — Call me a fatalist, Philadelphia fans, but now that the best wide receiver in the NFL — and maybe the game's Most Valuable Player outside of Indiana — is gone, what makes the current Eagles any different than the versions that gagged on their cheese steaks the past two seasons? I say two because losing as underdog in the NFC Championship Game at St. Louis after the 2001 season was expected and respected. Against the Buccaneers and Panthers, quarterback Donovan McNabb was thoroughly frustrated by an inability to connect on big plays (even little ones) in the passing game. The acquisition of Terrell Owens from San Francisco changed all that. When Owens' ankle and leg tumbled to the turf last week, it all changed back.

Against the Buccaneers and Panthers, quarterback Donovan McNabb was thoroughly frustrated by an inability to connect on big plays (even little ones) in the passing game. The acquisition of Terrell Owens from San Francisco changed all that. When Owens' ankle and leg tumbled to the turf last week, it all changed back. Philly Coach Andy Reid knows what solid press coverage and an outstanding pass rush can do to a passing game when his top targets are felled. They can and Freddie Mitchell can't. They can't run Ronde Barber and Ricky Manning Jr. into "NFL films" icons. Some numbers: \* With Owens as the focal point, the Eagles' passing game ranks fifth in the NFL. He caught 77 passes for 1,200 yards and a league-best 14 touchdown passes before last week's injury against Dallas. In fact, Owens was one TD catch away from making the round Reid honor a preseason pledge that he would wear a pair of tights if his new star scored 15 times. \* Without Owens, Philly's remaining three wideouts have caught 16 for 60 receptions and one touchdown. Pinkston showed his mettle a couple of Sundays ago against Washington, displaying a less-than-enthusiastic effort at a pass thrown in the direction of Redskins nose safety Sean Taylor, pulling up on the play rather than risking the contact. Mitchell has 14 receptions.

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Table listing TV schedules for Basketball and Football, including regional games and national broadcasts.

Area ski report

Days Basin — (F) 10:37 bed and 25-49 lbs at 52 mph, 4 of 7 min. 100% open. Weekday: Max-Fri (10:30-11:30). Weekend: Sat/Sun, 9:45-10:30.
Frederick — Sat 5-24 24 Express 1000 pm. Weekday: Max-Fri (10:30-11:30). Weekend: Sat/Sun, 9:45-10:30.
Lookout Pass — Sat 5-24 24 Express 1000 pm. Weekday: Max-Fri (10:30-11:30). Weekend: Sat/Sun, 9:45-10:30.

Table listing various sports events, including basketball games, football games, and other sports activities.

Bruijn camp will take place in January

TWIN FALLS — Registration is currently being held for the Brujn Basketball Little Drummer Basketball Tournament. The boys-and-girls grades-K-3 camp will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15 and Saturday, Jan. 22 from 8-10 a.m. in Baun Gymnasium. Competition finals will be held on Monday, Jan. 24 from 7:30-8:30 p.m. Every camper will receive a reward. Cost of the camp is \$25. There is a 200-camp limit for each session. All Little Drummer will receive a camp T-shirt and a custom Brujn basketball. Campers will receive a reward. Cost of the camp is \$25. There is a 200-camp limit for each session. All Little Drummer will receive a camp T-shirt and a custom Brujn basketball.

FOOTBALL

Table listing NFL American Conference games, including matchups between teams like the Packers, Vikings, and Bears.

Bruijn camp will take place in January

Table listing NFL National Conference games, including matchups between teams like the Cardinals, Rams, and Panthers.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Assistant coach Alvin Williamson will take over for Phillips on an interim basis. Athletics director Judy MacLeod said, Tulsa is 2-5 this season. Phillips was 61-42 in his three previous seasons at Tulsa. The Golden-Hurricane went 27-7 in his first season as head coach, but Phillips was unable to maintain the program's strength as Tulsa finished 9-20 last season.
Party-crashing Texas knows pressure's on. AUSTIN, Texas — Texas players and fans are crashing the Rose Bowl party, and they know it. Some Longhorns players even welcome the criticism that has come with Texas getting caught in the Rose Bowl instead of California. The move that smashed the game's tradition of pitting a Pac-10 team against a Big Ten team. Now the sixth-ranked Longhorns (10-1) say they must move to local elementary schools, or may be picked up by Donnelly Sports or the Twin Falls High School office. For more information, contact Matt Hart at (208) 737-5208, Ext. 3050.

Jerome Red holds open gym through Dec. 30

Jerome Recreation District will have an open gym for basketball on Monday, Dec. 27 through Thursday, Dec. 30. Call (208) 324-3389 for more information.

Minco Boosters meeting set for Jan. 3

Minco Boosters will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 3, at the Minco High School library. Parents with students in grades 9-12 are urged to attend. Call (208) 438-5670 for more information.

Phillips resigns as Tulsa basketball coach

TULSA, Okla. — John Phillips resigned as Tulsa's basketball coach on Saturday after a sharp decline in the program's performance. Phillips coached Tulsa for three seasons, compiling a 27-7 record.

CSI offers baseball camp Dec. 27-29

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho will be holding its 22nd annual Southern Idaho Baseball Camp. Dec. 27-29. The camp will be held inside the Eldon Evans Expo Center on campus. The camp offers instruction in the following fundamentals: hitting, pitching, fielding, catching, infield/outfield skills, and base running. Instructors include major league players, professional scouts, college coaches, and CSI staff and players. For an application or more information, visit http://www.csi.edu/SouthernIdahoBaseballCamp/act/athletics/baseballcamp.html, or call Skip Walker at (208) 732-6650 or (208) 734-6285.

Canada, Czech Republic win opening games

GRAND FORKS, N.D. — Patrice Bergeron and Sidney Crosby combined for seven points to help Canada beat Slovakia 7-1 in the opening round of the World Junior Hockey Championship on Saturday. The favored Canadians scored the first four goals — two each by Bergeron and Crosby — and outshot Slovakia 36-23. Then they held on to win 6-2. Clarke MacArthur also scored two goals — including one on a penalty shot — for Canada, which has finished second in the tournament in each of its previous four appearances. In another opening-round game, Petr Vrana scored three goals to lift the Czech Republic to a 7-2 victory over Belarus.

Jerome Red needs youth hoops coaches

JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District is in need of coaches for all levels for its youth basketball program, which begins in January. If interested, call (208) 324-3389.

HARRAH'S ODDS

Table listing odds for various sports events, including horse racing and other betting markets.

Phillips resigns as Tulsa basketball coach

Table listing odds for various sports events, including horse racing and other betting markets.

Phillips resigns as Tulsa basketball coach

Table listing odds for various sports events, including horse racing and other betting markets.



# YOUR SPORTS

Your Sports Desk: 733-0931, Ext. 239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

## FIRST DEGREE JUNIOR BLACK BELT

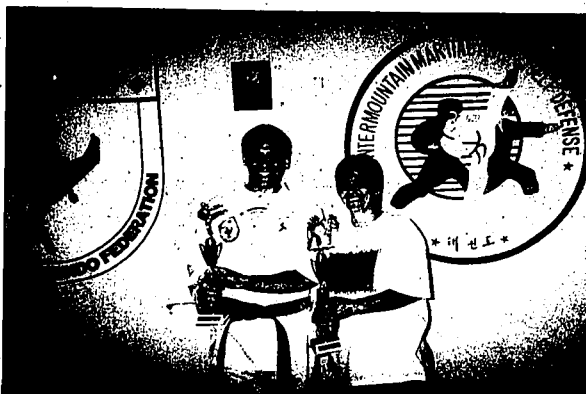


Photo courtesy of INTERMOUNTAIN MARTIAL ARTS

Bojan Samardzic was promoted to first degree junior black belt. The 14-year-old Bojan is a ninth grade honor student at O'Leary Middle School and just received his U.S. citizenship. He has been a student of Master Hartwell's Intermountain Martial Arts for four years. He has won many trophies at regional and national competitions and has set his sights on the HTF Nationals in Seattle in June.

## PLACING SECOND



Photo courtesy of INTERMOUNTAIN MARTIAL ARTS

Hunter Myneer recently placed second at the Northwest Tae Kwon Do Championships in Eagle in the Little Ninja division. Hunter has been training with Intermountain Martial Arts Little Ninjas for one year.

## Mathis brothers come out on top

In their first national competition, Jacob and Jordan Mathis garnered the two top spots in their division for sparring/one-steps. The brothers took defeating other opponents to finally face each other in the championship match in Seattle at the recent national competition. Their match was tied and went into the breaker round. Jacob, edged out his brother Jordan to capture first place. The event, which draws Tae Kwon Do stylists from Washington, Oregon, California, New Mexico, Idaho and Canada saw over 500 competitors at the annual event.

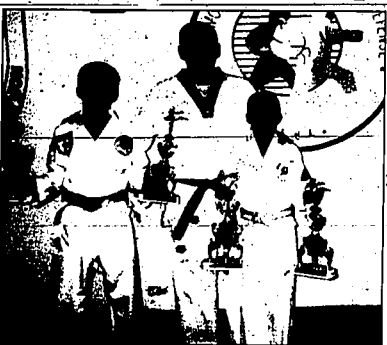


Photo courtesy of DON RIDER

Brothers Jacob and Jordan Mathis recently claimed the top two spots in their sparring/one-steps division at the national Tae Kwon Do tournament in Seattle. Jacob edged out his brother in the final match.

## HEAVY LIFTING

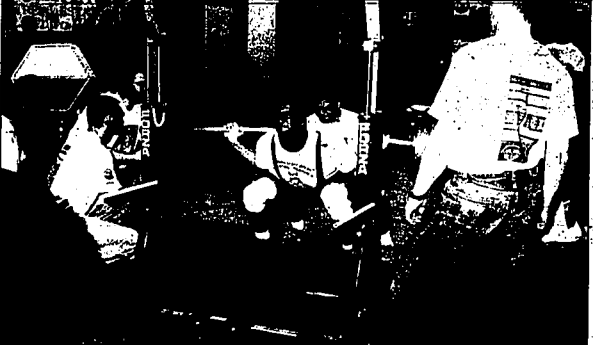


Photo courtesy of TWIN FALLS FITNESS CENTER

Bart Wojcik of Twin Falls won first place in his weight class in the Idaho State Powerlifting Competition held Nov. 20 in Pocatello. He is shown competing here.

## Minico Special Olympics team competes in Boise

The Minico Spuds Special Olympics team went to Boise for the State Bowling meet held the weekend of October 8-10th. Athletes Charlie Rawlings, Corinna Laughlin, Mat Braden and Phillip Lee all took home silver medals. Taking home the bronze medals were Chantell Okelberry, Vadian Dougal, Lacie Beitia, Indira Angulo and Jacob Hilling. Fourth Place ribbons went to athletes Rolando Martinez, Roy Aguiluz, and Fred Stauder.



Members of the Minico Spuds Special Olympics team are shown in Boise, where they competed at the state bowling meet on Oct. 8-10. The participants competed, took part in the opening ceremonies and visited various sites in the city.

## Let us know

Do you know of a local sporting event that ought to be in the paper? Tell us about it!

Send e-mail to [jpsaley@magcvolley.com](mailto:jpsaley@magcvolley.com).

- Please include:
- First and last names.
  - Home towns for people mentioned.
  - Date and place of the event.
  - Scores or places won for the participants.
  - Name and phone number for more information.
  - Photographs are encouraged. Please send a self-addressed envelope if you want your picture returned.
  - Other ways to get info of us.
  - Call The Times-News at 733-0931, Ext. 239.
  - Drop photos and information by our office at 132 3rd St. W.
  - Or mail items to EO, Box 548, Twin Falls, 83305-0548 or FAXed to 734-5538.

## BOWLING

Here are the scores reported from the arena reported for the current week.

**SHANE RYDER BOWL, BURLEY**  
**MALE CLASSIC TRIOLES**  
 GAMES: Jay McQuinn 118, Bob Brewer 58, Don Pines 75, Bob Brewer 58  
**WOMEN CLASSIC TRIOLES**  
 GAMES: Heather Williams 113, Alexie Bell 106, Christine Johnson 94, Carter Rodriguez 86  
**LADEE CLASSIC TRIOLES**  
 GAMES: Heather Williams 113, Alexie Bell 106, Christine Johnson 94, Carter Rodriguez 86  
**WED. MIXED**  
 GAMES: Tom Hanson 27, Albert Luskov 34, Mary Johnson 48, Joseph Hanson 48  
**THURSDAY**  
 GAMES: Tom Hanson 27, Albert Luskov 34, Mary Johnson 48, Joseph Hanson 48  
**FRIDAY**  
 GAMES: Tom Hanson 27, Albert Luskov 34, Mary Johnson 48, Joseph Hanson 48  
**SATURDAY**  
 GAMES: Tom Hanson 27, Albert Luskov 34, Mary Johnson 48, Joseph Hanson 48

**BOJAN SAMARDZIC**  
 GAMES: Bojan Samardzic 195, Dan Carson 150, Dan Carson 150, Dan Carson 150  
**JACOB AND JORDAN MATHIS**  
 GAMES: Jacob Mathis 118, Jordan Mathis 118  
**BART WOJCIK**  
 GAMES: Bart Wojcik 118, Bob Brewer 58, Don Pines 75, Bob Brewer 58  
**MINICO SPUDS**  
 GAMES: Charlie Rawlings 118, Corinna Laughlin 118, Mat Braden 118, Phillip Lee 118

**BOJAN SAMARDZIC**  
 GAMES: Bojan Samardzic 195, Dan Carson 150, Dan Carson 150, Dan Carson 150  
**JACOB AND JORDAN MATHIS**  
 GAMES: Jacob Mathis 118, Jordan Mathis 118  
**BART WOJCIK**  
 GAMES: Bart Wojcik 118, Bob Brewer 58, Don Pines 75, Bob Brewer 58  
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 GAMES: Charlie Rawlings 118, Corinna Laughlin 118, Mat Braden 118, Phillip Lee 118

WORLD

# Christmastime *around the* WORLD



Snow-covered cars in a parking lot are seen in Corpus Christi, Texas. A rare blanket of snow greeted residents of south Texas on Christmas morning. The area got 13 inches of snow, breaking previous snowfall records.



Christian worshippers light candles at the Church of the Nativity on Christmas Day in the West Bank town of Bethlehem.

AP photos



Zakka Iwas, the Patriarch of Antioch and the leader of the Orthodox Syrian church prays at a church in downtown Damascus for Christmas.



The Independence Square decorated with a Christmas tree is seen during fireworks that mark the key-Christian Christmas festivities in Kiev.



Malaysian children dressed as Santa Claus and an angel wait for their parade during the national-level Christmas celebration in Kuala Lumpur.



Father Floyd Lottio, right, places food on a tray for a volunteer to serve to needy people at St. Anthony Dining Room's 55th Annual Christmas Meal for the poor and homeless in San Francisco.



Andy Orr, right, and Anthony Moyles of Dublin, Ireland, attempt to ride the waves on Sydney's Bondi Beach. Hundreds of travelers flock to Australia's beaches to celebrate Christmas.

TWIN FALLS COUNTY COURTS — TWIN FALLS ARRAIGNMENTS

TWIN FALLS — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls County included the following:

Misdemeanor sentences

Solomon Vega, 26, 1122 Washington St., No. 81, Twin Falls: one count fraud-insufficient funds check, felony; amended to misdemeanor; plead guilty, \$625.00 court costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; \$407.67 restitution to victims; one count fraud-insufficient funds check, felony; amended to misdemeanor; plead guilty, \$99.50 in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; one count fraud-insufficient funds check, felony; amended to misdemeanor; plead guilty, \$63.50 court costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; 12 months probation; Magistrate Judge Charles B. Brumback.

Misdemeanor dismissals

John W. Rogers, 54, 306 Cross Drive, Ketchum: one count possession of marijuana; one count possession of drug paraphernalia; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations; Magistrate Judge Randy L. Stoker.

Felony sentences

John Phillip Saur, 37, 684 Addison Ave. W., No. 79, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine; pleaded guilty; four years penitentiary; two years determinate; two years probation; suspended; three years probation; three years probation; one count misdemeanor; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; shall not consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; refrain from employment or be enrolled in school; 90 days discretionary jail time; \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; \$433.36 restitution; District Judge John C. Hohmann.

Misdemeanor sentences

Mark Pierre Werner, 32, 1437 Fourth St. E., Twin Falls: one count burglary; eight years penitentiary; four years indeterminate; to participate in Residential Substance Abuse Program; to be served concurrently with all other felony cases; District Judge John C. Hohmann.

Child support cases

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Joshua Todd Howell. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

two and one half years indeterminate; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days of medical expenses not covered by insurance; \$1,000 fine with \$1,000 suspended; \$80.50 court costs; \$250 attorney fees; defendant pled guilty at a later date; to be served concurrently with all other felony in District Judge John C. Hohmann.

Felony dismissals

Dustin Michael Bowman, 21, 1720 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance, amphetamine/methamphetamine; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations; Magistrate Judge Mark Ingram.

Juvenile sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Brian Rick Bradley. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; \$55 monthly support plus 52 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Juvenile sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Edward R. Vargas, 15, 436 Walnut St., Twin Falls; one count unlawfully one count petty theft, and one count arson in the third degree; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Dec. 16, 2004; \$100.00 in jail with 29 suspended; credit for one day served; 24 months probation; Magistrate Judge Randy L. Stoker.

Juvenile sentences

Emmanuel Acosta, 15, 376 Ogden St., Twin Falls; one count discharge of a firearm and one count grand theft by possession; pleaded guilty; committed to the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections; suspended; 270 days detention, credit for 32 days served; 20 days discretionary; 40 hours community service; restitution as ordered; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; inquire into drug, alcohol and anger education/treatment and anger counseling; shall not possess or use any alcohol, tobacco or illegal drug; submit to alcohol/drug testing; apologize to victim; shall not possess any firearm; 40 hours community service; \$30 per month probation fee; one count possession of a weapon by a minor; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge John Varrin.

Felony sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. John D. Galster. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Civil filings

Jan H. Olson, Edith H. Olson vs. Vicky Olson; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Divorces filed

Cruz David Munoz Hernandez vs. Desheire Marie Alamo Munoz. Dirk Howard Herрман vs. Lisa Ann Herрман. Gary Shene Motzner vs. Stephanie Lynn Motzner.

Child support cases

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

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TWIN FALLS — Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls included the following:

Driving under the influence sentences

Joshua Aaron Michener, 22, 2371 Pinrose Path, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$78.50 court costs; 90 days in jail with 90 suspended; credit for one day served; to be served as 48 hours house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 90 days; 12 months probation; \$25 per month probation fee; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages; submit to alcohol/drug testing; attend court alcohol school; Magistrate Judge Howard Smyser.

Driving under the influence sentences

Robert W. Shell, 46, 348 Casswell Ave. W., Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 23, \$1,000 bond. Rodney Larson Haglund, 26, 4069 Chimarridge Drive, Kimberly; possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 23, \$1,500 bond.

Driving under the influence sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. John D. Galster. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Shawn Warren Fairchild, 46; one count misdemeanor; dismissed; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Misdemeanor sentences

Deborah Coleman, 51; inattentive/careless driving, pleaded guilty; \$25 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Larry R. Duff.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.



\$25,000 bond. Laura N. Escobar, 37, 507 Addison. Twin Falls; trespass; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial conference set for Dec. 23, \$25,000 bond; grand theft no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 30; bond posted.

Robert W. Shell, 46, 348 Casswell Ave. W., Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 23, \$1,000 bond.

Misdemeanor dismissals

John W. Rogers, 54, 306 Cross Drive, Ketchum; one count possession of marijuana; one count possession of drug paraphernalia; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations; Magistrate Judge Randy L. Stoker.

Misdemeanor sentences

John Phillip Saur, 37, 684 Addison Ave. W., No. 79, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine; pleaded guilty; four years penitentiary; two years determinate; two years probation; suspended; three years probation; three years probation; one count misdemeanor; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; shall not consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; refrain from employment or be enrolled in school; 90 days discretionary jail time; \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; \$433.36 restitution; District Judge John C. Hohmann.

Misdemeanor sentences

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MINIDOKA COUNTY COURTS

RUPREKT — Recent activity in 5th District Magistrate Court, Minidoka County included:

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

jury/battery amended to domestic violence/battery; amended to driving while intoxicated; Magistrate Judge Larry R. Duff.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

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State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

jury hearing set for Dec. 30; \$50,000 bond. Jason David Holton, 23, 320 13th St. N., Buhl; possession of a controlled substance; pretrial conference set for Dec. 23; \$25,000 bond; grand theft no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 30; \$25,000 bond.

Robert W. Shell, 46, 348 Casswell Ave. W., Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver; no plea entered; public defender appointed; preliminary hearing set for Dec. 23, \$1,000 bond.

Misdemeanor dismissals

John W. Rogers, 54, 306 Cross Drive, Ketchum; one count possession of marijuana; one count possession of drug paraphernalia; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations; Magistrate Judge Randy L. Stoker.

Misdemeanor sentences

John Phillip Saur, 37, 684 Addison Ave. W., No. 79, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance, methamphetamine; pleaded guilty; four years penitentiary; two years determinate; two years probation; suspended; three years probation; three years probation; one count misdemeanor; complete any treatment/counseling ordered by probation officer; shall not consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; refrain from employment or be enrolled in school; 90 days discretionary jail time; \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; \$433.36 restitution; District Judge John C. Hohmann.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. John D. Galster. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Shawn Warren Fairchild, 46; one count misdemeanor; dismissed; Magistrate Judge Rick L. Bollar.

Misdemeanor sentences

Deborah Coleman, 51; inattentive/careless driving, pleaded guilty; \$25 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Larry R. Duff.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentences

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Laverne Barlow. Seeking establishment of paternity; birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father; 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$249 for costs of birth; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

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MORNING BREAK

# Man discovers new comet in time for the New Year

In the early morning hours of Aug. 27, California amateur astronomer Don Machholz was scanning the southeast sky with his telescope when he spotted something out of place. The fuzzy blob that appeared in his eyepiece turned out to be his tenth comet discovery. Now named Comet Machholz, the 229-million-mile-away and closing on schedule to pass by Earth on Jan. 6 and the sun on the 24th. When comets are close

### SKY WATCH Chris Anderson

to the sun, their eyes are boiling off at fastest, making them bright, but ironically they are frequently lost in solar glare. Machholz's fortuitous orbital fill places it high in the dark nighttime sky throughout its tour of the inner solar system. In fact, after perihelion, it will remain above the horizon all night long. Start looking for the comet

### Planets:

One hour before sunrise:  
Venus: SE, very low  
Mercury: SE, very low  
Mars: SE, low  
Jupiter: S  
Saturn: W, low  
One hour after sunset:  
Comet Machholz: ESE, low

### Sky calendar

• Moon: Full moon today, 8:08 a.m.  
Near Jupiter Monday night/Tuesday morning.  
• Other: Earth reaches perihelion (closest point to sun) at 6 p.m. on Saturday (91,403,150 miles).

telescope — are your best bet, since a telescope's narrower field of view and higher magnification will dim the comet and truncate its tail.  
To find Machholz, look to the southeast after 8 o'clock for Orion's belt; three similarly bright stars in a nearly-perfect line. Extend the belt line to the upper right until you reach reddish-orange Aldebaran, the eye star of Taurus the Bull.

Scan slowly to the right of Aldebaran until you see Machholz, looking like a cotton ball with a bright center. Its tail will extend to the lower left. Its brightness peaks on Jan. 11, when it sits directly above the Pleiades star cluster. It won't be another Hale-Bopp, but it will be brighter than most comets, and well worth a few nights' efforts to track.  
*Next week: See all the naked-eye planets at once.*

Chris Anderson is the observatory manager at the Faulkner Planetarium. Write to him at [anderson@twf.edu](mailto:anderson@twf.edu).

late this week, after the moon leaves the evening sky. Get away from city lights and allow your

eyes at least twenty minutes in low light to become dark adapted. Binoculars — not a

## Couple's spats signal meltdown

**DEAR ABBY:** A month ago, I celebrated my 10th wedding anniversary. My husband and I have been together for 12 years. He didn't lay a hand on me until a year ago.

We got into an argument on Valentine's Day, and he slapped me twice that night. It happened again last month. We separated after the second incident, but I couldn't afford to move out because I've been a stay-at-home mom for six years.

Tonight we had a minor spat, and he broke my nose. An hour later, his 21-year-old girlfriend drove over and picked him up, and here my 7-year-old son and I sit, while he not only gives sympathy, but also companionship and sex.

Abby, please tell young women that getting involved with married men isn't just stupid; it's dangerous — and often to the woman he's married to when the single woman comes into his life.

**DEAR BRUISED:** I'm broadcasting your message, but don't expect much response. Men who cheat on their wives are not above lying to their girlfriends. No doubt he has filled her head with what a terrible wife you are and how unhappy you have made him. That's the "lure" to snag her in the role of "rescuer."

Perhaps you should warn her so she doesn't become victim



### DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

No. 2. Since a picture is worth a thousand words, have some taken of you before your bruises heal. The police should also be contacted, and the battery put on record.

**DEAR ABBY:** My husband and I have one child, and we have decided that we are having no more. People frequently ask when we're having another child, and when we say, "Never," they always demand to know why.

When we tell them our reasons, they go on and on about how we shouldn't make our little girl an only child and how "cruel" that would be to her.

**DEAR HAVING FUN:** I certainly do, because that question is often painful to answer. You might catch less flak if, instead of saying "Never," you reply as my friend Sherry does. She says, "I had the first one. It's up to my

### Write to Abby

Send letters to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069, or via her Web site at <http://www.DearAbby.com>.

husband to have the second." That usually stops 'em.

**DEAR ABBY:** I think my sister has an eating disorder. She's rail-thin and is always watching her calorie intake. My concern is that she does it with my 3-year-old nephew, too. She has the child on a strict diet, counting his carb and calorie intake. Her little boy is still eating baby food (made for ages 6 to 9 months), and I'm afraid he will develop an eating disorder, too. What can I do?

### — WORRIED AUNT

**IN VIRGINIA**  
**DEAR WORRIED AUNT:** Children have very different nutritional needs than adults, and your sister needs to be aware of what they are. Encourage your sister to consult her son's pediatrician about the eating program her child learns to assure he's getting the nutrients he needs for optimum brain and body development. A session with a dietitian who's credentialed by the American Dietetic Association would also be a good idea. (They have "R.I.T." after their names.)

Dear Abby is written by Jeanne Phillips.

## Capricorn: Concentrate on resolutions

IF DECEMBER 26 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... Ample chances to make important dynamic changes have come your way recently, but final alterations in your lifestyle are yet to come in the next few weeks. In late January and early February you can put finishing touches on those things dearest to your heart. You will have ample energy to achieve your ambitions and deal with new conditions. Throw aside outmoded traditions and routines while you have the power to reach for the stars and reach a higher plateau. Once you have launched your hopes, dreams, and wishes this winter they will glide forward effortlessly without interference, so launch them well.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** A smug sense of satisfaction can descend today now that the holiday rush is over and relaxation is on the agenda. Changes in the home or family might become apparent creating a need to discard old outworn traditions.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** The holiday atmosphere gives you time for personal reflection and major decisions can be reached as pieces of information fall into place. That special someone is not content to sit still, so don't plan on being a couch potato today.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Maybe those holiday bonuses are burning a hole in your pocket, but a wise old owl puts

### HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

money aside for unexpected rainy days. Cozy hours with your favorite partner are in the stars today — let your imagination run wild.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Today's full moon may bring everything to a head. Maybe that final gift is exchanged or that last holiday guest arrives. Trying something new and unusual is just the ticket to bring you and a friend closer together.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** You are at your best spending time with that special someone or your latest bosom buddy. You are more adventurous than usual and ready to try out something new. Make sure you take time for exercise, as overindulgence is in the air.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** If you want peace and tranquility make your home a communication center where everyone can touch base. An important goal may be forming and it is time to discuss your heartfelt thoughts with your partner.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Your free spending may have put a dent in your wallet, but you are having so much fun you don't care. Home and family might take up all your time today even if your heart is really focused on pursuing

personal pleasures.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Some pleasant surprises may disrupt your day and keep holiday increment glowing brightly. A new hobby, a new gadget or a new game can light the fire of enthusiasms that you can share with others.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Being surrounded by smiles and beaming faces may make all that holiday spending seem entirely worthwhile. With Venus in your sign, your social instincts are accentuated; touch base with friends and back in appreciation.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** The full moon today casts emphasis on relationships and partnerships. Plans of jolly ho-ho-ing with close companions can make the future look bright, so concentrate on developing New Year's resolutions now.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Some newfangled gift might test your learning skills, so time alone to build through instructions might be required. Unexpected visits from friends or attention-seeking partners could interrupt your concentration.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** A mood for having fun and playing games is in the air, so turn off the TV and try out some of the new toys under the tree. Or jump in the car and visit friends. The same old routine won't work today.

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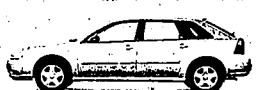
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BRIEFLY  
IN MONEY

CSI center offers  
stock options class

TWIN FALLS - An "Introduction to Stock Options" class will be offered by the Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho during spring semester.

The class will cover fundamentals of stock options and demonstrate basic strategies that can be used to manage investment risk more effectively. Topics include whether a stock option is, how it is valued, where to find information, some basic strategies and real-world examples.

Instructor Stephen VanZandt is a member of the options market maker at the Chicago Board of Options Exchange and Chicago Board of Trade for five years in the mid-1980s. He now has no professional affiliation with any securities firm.

Class will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 26 through Feb. 16, in Shields 107 on the CSI campus. Cost is \$35. For information or to register, call 732-6290 or 732-6288.

Resume creation  
class will take place

TWIN FALLS - The Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho will hold a "Resume Creation and Interviewing Skills" class from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturdays, Jan. 29 through Feb. 19, in Evergreen A23 on the CSI Campus.

The course will cover the creation of a professional and accurate resume detailing the applicant's qualifications and abilities, and helpful tips on interviewing and how to best sell oneself to a prospective employer, organizers said. When the class is finished, students will have completed resumes they can use immediately.

Instructor Jill Bushue has a master's degree in business administration. She travels as a trainer and consultant and teaches computer classes at CSI.

Cost is \$35 plus \$5 for resume supplies, payable to the instructor. For information or to register, call 732-6288 or 732-6290.

National Potato Council  
will award scholarship

TWIN FALLS - The National Potato Council will award a \$2,000 scholarship to a graduate student interested in an agriculture-related business.

For an application, write to Kathy Horsch, 1931 S. 2700 W., Aberdeen, ID 83210, or call (208) 397-4925. Those who call are encouraged to leave a name and address to have the application mailed.

Deadline to return completed applications is April 1.

Make a will with  
these things in mind

Many of us don't have a will. But if you're a minor, to make one, there are a few things to remember.

The October issue of Consumer Reports' Money Adviser newsletter offers a few tips.

• **Don't dictate from the grave:** Attaching some strings to your assets is fine, but don't teeter into the realm of the unreasonable. For example, mandating a divorce or marriage for an inheritance. Such issues invite legal challenges.

• **Contradicting other documents:** Jointly owned properties and documents that specify beneficiaries supersede a will. Make sure you don't meddle with those provisions in your will.

• **Revenge from the grave:** Despite how you may feel about certain relatives, resist the urge to air all your issues. The will becomes public when it's filed in probate court, so your vitriol could just cause embarrassment for everyone.

• **Dishonor explicitly:** If you're cutting someone out of getting anything, make sure you say so. If contested, your clear intention will fare better.

• **Don't be too specific:** Yes, your Little League baseball glove may mean the world to you and you want your nephew to have it. But avoiding getting too specific with sentimental items, such as year when products will, every other time you shop.

- compiled from staff and wire reports

2004  
Oh, SO SLOWLY

The year in  
newsmakers'  
own words

By Rachel Beck  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK - Donald Trump made headlines with the phrase "You're fired," and now could lose control of one of the companies bearing his name. And Martha Stewart's claims that she had "done nothing wrong" didn't keep her out of prison.

This was another year of scandal, too, with big troubles emerging from the insurance industry and plenty of executives coming under fire for their poor decision-making.

How best to sum up the last year in business? Let's hear from some of the newsmakers, in their own words.

Chances are that what went on in 2004 didn't help boost the public's view of Wall Street or corporate America. Just when it seemed that all the misdeeds of the recent past had been rooted out of the business world, more trouble appeared.

"There's a large body of the general public ... who are still upset by the shenanigans," Securities and Exchange Commission chairman William Donaldson said in an October interview with The Associated Press. "People are angry, still angry; they feel the perpetrators have not been disciplined yet; they want the money back in some form; and, most importantly, they want justice."

This year's biggest case of alleged wrongdoing came in the insurance business. New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer sued Marsh & McLennan Cos. and implicated American International Group Inc. and several others, alleging brokers had been taking payoffs from insurance companies to steer corporate clients their way rather than get the best prices for policies, as they are required.

"The damages are vast, the corruption is remarkable," Spitzer said when announcing the probe in October. "I don't know how far up we will establish criminal liability, but those who are implicated will face criminal charges."

Spitzer went on in the past when Spitzer takes something to task, he doesn't back down easily. Just ask former New York Stock Exchange chairman Dick Grasso. The scandal that erupted over his \$187 million compensation package may be last year's news, but Spitzer kept it alive in 2004 by suing Grasso. To get at least \$100 million back.

"You can't pay the head of a no-profit firm that much money - nearly \$200 million. It's simply too much. It's not reasonable."

Please see YEAR, Page D4



Ray Victoria, 42, of Marysville, Wash., assembles a hydronic heating system during a commercial/industrial refrigeration and heating ventilating and air conditioning technology class at Bellingham Technical College Dec. 8, in Bellingham, Wash.

Economy recovers by degrees

The pace frustrates workers

The Associated Press

Two years after Ray Victoria lost his place in the old economy, he's nearly finished rebuilding his career to ride out the uncertainties of the new ones.

When factories around Bellingham, Wash., started shedding workers a few years ago, Victoria and scores of others sought retraining. This spring, the former mechanic at a Boeing Co. aircraft plant will graduate from Bellingham Technical College as a much-in-demand heating and air conditioning technician.

But he'll enter an economy that continues to deliver limited returns. Victoria expects to earn only about 60 percent of what he did at Boeing. And while administrators at the college say new admissions are beginning to tail off, retraining enrollment remains roughly triple what it was three years ago.

The uncertain fortunes of the school and its students offer a window into the economy as 2004 nears an end. It was near the best of times, nor the

worst of times. After the late 1990s boom and the steep drop that followed, the business climate is warning in a way that has been slow to reach many people. Some economists describe it as a transition year, but it's unclear what the next stage will be.

Many workers remain skeptical. Many businesses remain cautious, especially on whether to expand their payrolls. While some workers are enjoying surging valuations, the prospects of higher interest rates could temper the housing boom. Factors ranging from record gasoline prices to the continued war in Iraq rising national

debt are exerting strong pulls on the economy. "We're not really sure where all that's headed," said Carl Van Horn, director of the John I. Hiedrich Center for Workers' Development at Rutgers University. "This is the new normal."

By many broad measures, the business climate during the past year has improved. In the quarter ended in September, the economy expanded at an annual rate of 3.9 percent.

Consumers are spending, maybe not lavishly, but steadily. Corporations are reporting

strong profits and are expanding. A weak dollar is giving U.S. manufacturers a boost, making their products cheaper for overseas buyers. The stock market has delivered limited gains to investors.

“There are a lot of job opportunities out there. The only part that is kind of unfortunate now is that I have to start back over.”

Ray Victoria, former mechanic

With worries about terrorist attacks diminishing and corporate scandals fading, decision-makers and investors have regained some confidence. "We transitioned from crisis to crisis to a more normal economic environment," said Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors in Holland, Pa.

The upturn has created new opportunities, evident at the technical college in Bellingham, two hours north of Seattle.

Workers flocked to the school starting in 2001 when Georgia-Pacific Corp. shuttered a local pulp mill. Layoffs at Alcoa Inc.'s aluminum smelting plant sent even more workers to the school. Now many of those students are moving on to jobs that pay well, if not as much as many of them were earning before. Employers come to the school to recruit from Victoria's class, their demand for new workers fueled by a continued construction boom.

The drawback, Victoria says, is that most of those jobs pay \$14 to \$16 an hour, compared to \$25 an hour he made at Boeing. "There are a lot of job opportunities out there," he says. "I'm only part that is kind of unfortunate."

Please see ECONOMY, Page D2

Drug industry weathers horrid year; outlook appears rocky

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - The pharmaceutical industry endured a disastrous 2004, and the aftermath will linger into the new year.

Regulators at the Food and Drug Administration are likely to take a more cautious approach about new drug approvals in the wake of Merck & Co.'s withdrawal from the American Medical Association because of potentially lethal side effects. And the ensuing firestorm has yet to die down about whether Merck muzzled the drug's dangers to keep selling it.

Drug makers already are struggling with growing generic competition and lackluster prospects for new medicines now in the pipeline. Some analysts believe further industry consolidation is likely because expense reductions resulting from mergers may be the key to increasing earnings at a time when revenues are stagnating.

"This has been a tough year, largely of their (the drug companies) own making," said Dr. Catherine D. DeAngelis, editor-in-chief of the Journal of the American Medical Association. "Drug companies were not as honest and forthcoming as we expect them to be."

Besides Merck's debacle, Carilion Corp. got a black eye earlier this year when products from the British plant where it was to

produce half the country's flu vaccines were blocked by state officials. Plus the industry was buffeted by revelations that negative clinical trial data from studies examining anti-depressant use in children.

Those woes came amid mounting anger over the price of prescription drugs and increasing demands for the legalization of importing cheap drugs from Canada and Europe. And not to be outdone in a federal official testified before Congress that the sale of five drugs approved by the FDA should be stopped or curtailed because they are unsafe.

Stocks shriveled and reputations sank as few positives emerged to balance the negatives. As of Dec. 10, the S&P 500 Pharmaceutical Subindustry Index was down 12.8 percent for the year while the S&P 500 was up 6.8 percent.

Twenty-one new drugs were approved by the FDA through September, the last date available, including novel cancer treatments Avastin, made by Genentech Inc., and Erlotinib, from ImClone Systems Inc. and Bristol-Myers Squibb Co. Merck and Schering-Plough Corp. also got a green light for Vytorin, a cholesterol-lowering agent with blockbuster potential. But beyond those, analysts were hard pressed to name new products that were either major medical advances or potentially huge



Merck chairman, president and chief executive officer, Raymond V. Gilmarin, is shown during a press conference announcing Merck's voluntary withdrawal of Vioxx, its arthritis and acute pain medication, in New York Sept. 30.

money makers.

Evidence that the hurdles for drug approvals are going to get higher came in late October when the FDA said it wouldn't approve Arcoxia, Merck's successor drug to Vioxx, until it received additional information. And an FDA panel refused to recommend approval for a Johnson & Johnson patch to restore a woman's sex drive until more studies are conducted to determine its risks.

Carl Seiden, an analyst at UBS AG, said regulators may be

come more circumspect about approving any drug that is the third or fourth competitor in a class because it isn't filling a major void, and he predicted they won't OK any novel compound without vast safety data. Both will delay launches, depriving companies of revenues.

Generic competition has already caused problems for firms such as Bristol-Myers and Schering-Plough. Pfizer Inc. said it will lose \$14 billion in sales in the next three years because of generic competition.

Barbara Ryan, a managing director at Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., said additional mergers are a possibility. "There is tremendous overcapacity in the industry," she said.

Analysts surveyed by Thomson First Call predicted overall industry earnings' growth of 8.37 percent this year, up from 4.75 percent in 2003. But growth rates are then likely to slow to the 7 percent range in 2005 and 2006, according to these forecasts.

Seiden noted that after the industry reported single-digit growth in 1992 and 1993, there were six major mergers in 1994 and 1995.

The Vioxx disaster has some calling for a new agency to track drug safety. Meanwhile, the 11 members of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors said they won't publish studies unless all the authors are registered in a public repository when they begin a public registry will make it more difficult to squelch negative studies.

Jell Trewhitt, a spokesman for the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, said he hopes this year's problems don't trigger new regulations and requirements that would place undue burdens on the industry.

While he acknowledged the industry needs to repair its damaged reputation, he said, "By and large the system works well."



# YOUR BUSINESS

## CAREERS

### Sorina Simion-Rodgers

TWIN FALLS - Dr. Sorina Simion-Rodgers joined Southern Idaho Mental Health Clinic as a psychiatrist.

Rodgers and her husband recently moved to Magie Valley from Danville, Va., where she operated a private practice and served as assistant medical director for the Southern Virginia Mental Health Institute.

She obtained her medical degree from the Carol Davila School of Medicine/Institute of Medicine and Pharmacy in Bucharest, Romania, and served her general medicine residency at Brasov County Hospital in Brasov, Romania. She came to the United States in 1989 and served her psychiatry residency at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville and Long Island Jewish Medical Center-Hillside Hospital in Glen Oaks, N.Y.

Rodgers' patient population includes those age 16 through senior citizens. She accepts pa-

tients with or without insurance as well as Medicaid and Medicare.

### James Siggaard

TWIN FALLS - James Siggaard recently achieved National Board Certification status. Siggaard has been with the Twin Falls School District since 1993 and is the industrial technology teacher at Robert Stuart Junior High School.

Becoming a nationally certified teacher can take one to three years and culminates in a performance-based assessment that measures what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do. The state Department of Education and the Twin Falls School District provide a \$3,000 annual incentive for five years to teachers who achieve national board certification.

### Transportation leaders

GOODING - Trinity Trans-

port Inc. President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Banning visited the company's Gooding office recently and presented the company's Rising Star Award to both Mark Spitz and Mickey Cockerham.

The limited annual award is given to team members who have been employed for less than two years. It honors the best and brightest who can show initiative, are team players, display a sense of ownership, have leadership potential and in a short time have made a difference. Trinity Transport said.

Spitz, a team manager, has been employed by Trinity Transport since July 2003 and may be reached at 934-9333 or mark.spitz@trinitytransport.com.

Since the Gooding office opened in July 2003, Cockerham has been the office manager and may be reached at mickey.cockerham@trinitytransport.com.

### Commercial drivers

TWIN FALLS



Miguel Hernandez



Samuel Salinas

The Top Gun Truck Driving Academy in Twin Falls announced two Dec. 17 graduates, who earned Class A commercial driver's licenses with all endorsements. Morgan Diaz of Jerome and Miguel Hernandez of Burley.

Samuel Salinas of Twin Falls graduated Dec. 23 with a Class A commercial driver's license and all

## CONTRIBUTIONS

### EDUCATION GRANT



Lois Skaug, right, reading specialist at Oregon Trail Elementary School in Twin Falls, receives a Wal-Mart Education Grant of \$1,000 for use in the school's reading program. The grant was presented by Jeff Hansen, manager of the Jerome Wal-Mart Superstore, following approval from the Wal-Mart Foundation in Bentonville, Ark. The grant is meant to promote reading materials and reading opportunities, resulting in further excellence in reading comprehension and enjoyment.

## MILESTONES

### Trailways Express opens new shuttle location

BURLEY - Trailways Express opened a new shuttle location in Burley.

The new stop is in the parking lot between Wal-Mart and D.L. Evans Bank in north Burley. Trailways Express is based at 427 Glacier Drive in Jerome.

Business manager is Tom Price, and manager is Kathy Pope. Price has been operating from southeastern Idaho for more than six years.

The business has grown to more than 27,000 passengers per year. There are two shuttles per day to Salt Lake City. Shuttles start at 8 a.m. at Wal-Mart in Jerome, then travel to the HIOP restaurant in Twin Falls, followed by Wal-Mart in Burley and Shell in Declo. From there the shuttle travels to Trenton, Utah, and to the Salt Lake airport and downtown. The second shuttle starts in Jerome at 4:15 p.m. The business plans to expand to Boise in early 2005.

The business opened its Magic Valley operation Nov. 15. Grand openings were held Dec. 9 in Jerome; Dec. 15 in Twin Falls and Dec. 16 in Burley.

The business can be reached at 736-UTAH1 or 1-800-356-9799.

### Qwest announces

#### affinity partner program

TWIN FALLS - Qwest Communications International Inc. last week announced the Qwest affinity partner program in Idaho, designed to support fund-raising efforts for community organizations. Participating community groups can generate money through the sale of Qwest services.

Community partners receive monthly commission checks for the sale of Qwest services - high speed Internet, wireless, long-distance or Choice TV services - to their members. Affinity program partners can earn as much as \$105 per member, and each member can receive up to \$140 in Visa Gift Card opportunities, purchase qualifying Qwest products.

Qwest provides its program partners with account management and training. Currently, 20 organizations across Qwest's multi-state region have begun participating.

Interested organizations can visit <http://residential.qwest.com>



A ribbon cutting commemorates the new shuttle stop for Trailways Express in Burley. From left are Steve Thompson, Carleen Clayville, Anna Lee Aragon, Chrissy Bailey, Trailways Express manager Kathy Pope, Matt Fygar and Ward Maxfield.

qwest-affinity.com/ or call (303) 896-0061 for information.

### Zions Bank makes

#### Internet study list

TWIN FALLS - An Internet study released this month by financial services consulting firm Javelin Strategy & Research ranked Zions Bank's online bill payment system ([www.zionsbank.com](http://www.zionsbank.com)) No. 1 for its services and features.

The survey, titled "Bill Payment and Presentation Features Evolve," examines a variety of online bill pay factors, including: ability to view multiple statements at one site, alerts to customers for payments and reminders, and access to credit card activity. The report says these functions represent "the future in distinguishing diverse online offerings of competitor financial sites."

Javelin Strategy & Research used a mystery-shopper approach to survey e-bill pay offerings of 40 financial services companies across the United States. Wells Fargo Bank was ranked No. 2, and Bank of America, Key.com, SouthTrust and US Bank all tied for third place. Salt Lake City-based Zions said.

More than 215,000 Zions Bank clients - about 50 percent of Zions' customer base - are

## PROMOTION



The Organization of Rupert Businesses held an ORB Christmas Cash promotion. Winners of the baskets filled with gifts and certificates from Rupert-area merchants were, from left, Angie Doyle and Kathy Hall. At right is Wally Studer, ORB president.

enrolled in Zions Internet Banking. Also, 53,000 customers are enrolled in Zions Bank's online bill pay program. More than 1

million online customer interactions are completed each month through Zions Internet Banking.

## GIFT TO THE UNITED WAY



Lawrence Flournoy, left, vice president of US Bank, presents the 2004-05 corporate gift from the US Bancorp Foundation - \$5,750 - to Mike Alix, executive director of the United Way of South Central Idaho. That amount represents a 100 percent match of the 2005 employee-contributions for a total of \$11,500. In 2003, the foundation contributed \$6.6 million to United Ways and human service organizations. In 2003, United Way served 44,000 people in the eight counties of south-central Idaho.

## FOR BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS



Jarrod Ball, at center left, and staff from Twin Falls Title & Escrow present a \$1,500 check for a Platinum Booster Membership to Scott Martin and Alex Castaneda from the Boys and Girls Clubs of Magic Valley.

## Economy

Continued from D1

note now is that I have to start back over."

For the vast majority of people with jobs, the gradual recovery means only limited improvements in pay and other job opportunities, the measures most people use to calibrate their personal economic circumstances.

The nation's unemployment rate among groups, a 6.3 percent in June of last year - has gradually ticked down to 5.4 percent. Employers have added to payrolls intermittently. Through November, the economy had regained roughly 2.3 million of the 2.7 million jobs lost during the recession.

Meanwhile, average pay has edged up, from \$15.45 an hour at the end of last year to \$15.83 in November - an increase of less than 2.5 percent. That is behind inflation, and much of the

small gains in pay are eaten up by surging gasoline prices and the steeply higher health care costs shouldered by most workers.

"When you get down to the microeconomic picture, I think things have not been as good as they could have been, the best example being the job market," said Sung Won Sohn, an economist with Wells Fargo & Co.

More than three years after the economy started to expand again, the pace of improvement may only pick up slightly in 2005. Pay increases will probably begin to accelerate by next spring, according to a forecast by business publisher BNA Inc. But the larger increases and a corresponding pickup in hiring will be modest, said economist Ian Hopkin, who authors the forecast.

Even as the economy improves, the job market appears

fundamentally changed to some workers. Some have decided their best chances lie in retooling.

That's what David Boyd of Chattanooga, Tenn., did. When the Wheeland Automotive Industries foundry closed in 2002 - eliminating his and 1,300 other jobs - he spent months unable to find work.

So the maintenance mechanic went back to school, re-emerging as a licensed practical nurse. He roughly matches the \$15 an hour he earned at Wheeland, working at a hospital. But with so many of his former co-workers settling for low-paying service jobs, Boyd knows he's an exception in the current economy.

"The Lord blessed me," he says, "but I can't sit back and wait for something to come to you. Now you have to get out there and fight for yourself."

## Don't get caught in degree-mill scam

### Knightridder News Service

NEW YORK - If you want to get ahead in your field but don't have time to attend daily courses at your local college, you might consider a distance learning opportunity.

But before you spend the time, effort and money to get a higher education degree through correspondence courses or the Internet, make sure you aren't signing up to become a victim of fraud. The country has more than 2,600 diploma mills - set-ups that will take your money and, after little or no work on your part, give you a useless "degree."

So warns John Bear, co-author of the new book "Degree Mills." Getting a degree through a diploma-mill is "putting a time bomb in your resume," he says. "Once you get a degree and put it on your

resume and post it on the Internet, that albatross stays with you forever."

Before you apply, make sure the learning organization is legitimate, Bear says. Here's what to look for:

Check the school's accreditation with the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. You should look for a nationally or regionally accredited school, which means that the credits earned there will be recognized and accepted at other institutes of higher education.

Don't take the school's word on accreditation, Bear says. There are more than 200 fake accrediting agencies with names resembling those of legitimate organizations. You can visit the CHEA at [www.chcea.org](http://www.chcea.org) for the contact information of recognized regional and national

accrediting agencies.

Watch out for schools that offer to credit your experience. If offered credit in a field that counts toward a master's or doctorate degree, or if the school bases your admission solely upon review of your resume, beware. Legitimate colleges will at least want to see your academic record, graduate test scores and grade point average.

If you're still not sure, make a two-minute phone call to the registrar of a legitimate college or university in your area. Tell them you're thinking of applying for a distance learning program at such-and-such. Ask if their college would accept those credits.

Registrars know which schools are fakes, says Bear - if you've mentioned a diploma mill, "you'll get an immediate 'no.'"

MONEY

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YOUR BUSINESS



Feeder cows are shown in the pens at Lubbock Feeders, a feedlot near Lubbock, Texas. Consumers across the country continue to eat beef despite the aftermath of the country's first confirmed BSE case in December 2003, and beef producers have been enjoying record-high prices for their cattle.

2004: Good, bad, ugly

Ag Weekly

TWIN FALLS - Like all years, 2004 had its ups and downs for Gen State producers...

2004 In review

Farmbeat

Highlights of this week's Magic Valley Ag Weekly. The Times-News' weekly report on agriculture.

Water The ongoing drought and resulting water shortages were the major concern for irrigation managers and crop producers alike...

Wheat and barley growers. 'Production was actually up a little but because of the rains that fell during first, second, third, fourth and whatever cuttings, hay quality was down.'

Sugar Amalgamated Sugar Co. enjoyed its third best canyonwide yield at just over 29 tons...

Beef The cattle and beef industry waded through some tough times this past year. But, surprising to many was that a first-ever case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy...

Potatoes Topping events in the potato industry was the formation of a new grower co-op - United Fresh Potato Growers of Idaho.

Grain In general, I think we could call this an above-average year productionwise. That was posi-

signed up, UFPGI officials believe the group represents 60 percent of the states fresh production. The initiative is meant to manage supply and demand to boost prices for growers.

Potato growers also dealt with the effects of the low-carb diet trend that influenced consumer purchases.

Beans Idaho's dry edible bean growers enjoyed much higher prices for pinto beans this year. Prices increased from a high of \$17 cwt. last year to \$30 cwt. this year.

The humpedweight prices for other beans are up, too. Garbanzos rose \$9. And pinks, small reds and great northern's increased \$2-\$3.

It has been wonderful to have a market where we can sell beans and farmers can make some money.

Aquaculture Water was the dominant issue for aquaculture in two-thousand-four, said Gary Fornsfield, University of Idaho extension aquaculture specialist.

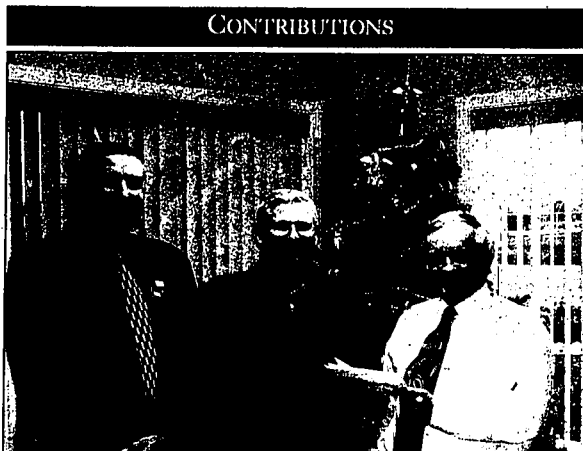
Hogs The hog market in a word was "phenomenal." Over-the-top profits of \$22-per head compared to \$6-per head last year will no doubt keep hog producers in business.

Domestic pork demand was stronger than ever but international export markets saw a startling jump-over last year as well.

Sheep Sheep growers are crediting a co-op formed about three years ago for good prices and growing markets.

Henry Etechevery, president of the Idaho Wool Growers Association, said he could not be happier with the progress of recently formed Mountain States Lamb Cooperative.

Prices are some of the best we've had in years, he said. It shows a stability in our industry.



CONTRIBUTIONS

From left to right are Ken Robinette, South Central Community Action Partnership executive director; Bill Bryant, US Bank region president; and Bill Lehman, SCCAP housing director.

US Bancorp Foundation gave \$8,500 in operating support to South Central Community Action Partnership to assist its transitional housing program for homeless families.

Transitional housing allows previously homeless families housing and additional resources for up to two years to stabilize their lives and work toward self sufficiency.

SCCAP has properties in the counties of Twin Falls, Jerome, Cassia and Minidoka. The agency expects to add additional houses to its inventory in 2005 and will partner with Mercy Housing next year on a

joint self-help housing project in the area. For information about SCCAP's transitional housing for homeless families, call Bill Lehman at 733-9351.

Zions Bank invited elementary school students from throughout the state to decorate a Christmas tree with handmade ornaments in the lobby of each Zions Bank branch.

On Dec. 16, students, teachers, parents and bank employees gathered in the branch's lobby for the "Lights On" ceremony and refreshments. The tree is on display in the bank's lobby.

made cash donations of 35 cents per ornament to each participating school.

This year, Morningside Elementary School fourth-grade students decorated a tree inside Zions Bank's Twin Falls Canyon Park office, at 1863 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. For their 100 ornaments, the school received \$35.

TELL US YOUR BUSINESS

Your Business is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it:

- Promotions and staff changes.
New certifications.
Seminars and workshops.
Awards and achievements.
Charitable business activities.
Other business news.

Please e-mail items to Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins at virginia.hutchins@lee.net

Or contact her at: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83302, 733-9931, Ext. 242, Fax: 677-4543 or 734-5538

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MONEY

# Broadband growth changes lifestyles

The Associated Press

You could say Mark Suhre is a believer in broadband. When he built his five-bedroom, three-car garage home in Maryland near the Chesapeake Bay, Suhre made sure each room had its own high-speed network jack. Wireless access points extended the Internet's reach to the swimming pool.

Most evenings, the whole family is online at once: Suhre wrapping up work as a computer network engineer, his wife, Terri, preparing school lessons or ordering from an e-tailer; his teenage sons Gary, Josh and Brandon, playing online video games, instant messaging with friends, maybe even researching homework.

The Suhres' lives, online and off, have been transformed by their broadband connection.

As prices dropped over the past year, broadband use at home has surpassed that of dial-up in the United States, reaching 53 percent of residential Web users in October, according to Nielsen/NetRatings.

For now, when people do online hasn't changed as much as its frequency and duration, although some people are beginning to make telephone calls on the Internet or use cheap webcams for video chatting.

Surveys from the Pew Internet and American Life Project find that 69 percent of broadband users go online on a typical day, compared with 51 percent for dial-up. Broadband users who went online averaged 107 minutes surfing the Web, checking e-mail and otherwise engaged, 21 minutes longer than dial-up users.

"Taking advantage of their always-on connection, they practice 'infosnacking.'"

"People are more able and willing to just walk up to the In-



Jim Bankoff, executive vice president of programming at America Online, talks during an interview with the Associated Press at their headquarters in Dulles, Va., Nov. 29.

## 2004 in review

Internet to get a quick snippet of what they need, send a quick e-mail, read a quick news article, check a sports score," said Jim Bankoff, executive vice president for programming at America Online Inc.

Not having to wait several minutes to log on to a dial-up account, broadband user Jeannie "Jann" will quickly check prices before heading out to a store. The Spring, Texas, Web designer will visit Blockbuster's site to see if a new release is out yet, noting that with dial-up, "I would take less time to pick up the phone and call."

Telephone books? Gathering dust on the shelf.

"AdSense? What are they?"

Communal behavior also is tempered by the broadband effect.

Family members arguing a point over dinner are more apt, if they have broadband, to "look it up online rather than continue to yell at each other," said Lee Rainie, Pew's director.

Or, in the absence of verbal interaction, families can have heated discussions in Internet chat rooms - individual members each sitting in separate rooms in front of computer screens.

That happens when broadband users take their Internet habit a step further by setting up home networks. Suhre wired his home so his network can one day accommodate Internet-enabled refrigerators and TVs.

Tivo Inc. had such networks in mind in designing features for its popular digital video recorder. Already, users can schedule recordings online - from the office, say. But unless they have broadband, the updates can take up to a day to make.

Tivo is soon expected to launch a service that lets users move recorded programs to lap-

tops. In the future, Tivo spokeswoman Kathryn Kelly said, users will be able to send programs to other recorders they own, in a vacation home, for instance.

"Microsoft Corp. recommends broadband for its PCs running Windows XP Media Center Edition, which lets users view photos and movies on regular TVs or listen on a stereo system to music stored on a hard drive."

The version out in 2003 makes it easy to buy programming for download. The latest version, released in October, has an optional "extender" for sending programs to other rooms through the home network.

Suhre said his kids have grown to take broadband for granted and were miserable when they had only dial-up for two weeks while moving. Suhre got first dibs, then his wife and finally the children.

"They could see they would be hovering around, almost like dinner time when they are hungry, trying to figure out when she would get off," Suhre said.

The online convenience changes offline behavior as well. Rainie goes to the office late and leaves early, avoiding rush-hour traffic, because he knows he can make up the hours at home.

Content creators, meanwhile, find the broadband audience now big enough to make it worthwhile to produce resource-hungry features. Amazon.com commissioned five short films to view for free at its site this holiday season.

Americans are hardly pioneers, however, in embracing broadband.

The United States trailed 12 of the 15 top economies, including Canada, in broadband penetration, according to a September report from U.N. International Telecommunication Union ana-

lyzing 2003 data. South Korea topped the list at more than double the U.S. rate.

Broadband helped spur a social and political renaissance in South Korea, where thousands of citizens contribute to an alternative news site called OhMyNews, shaking the traditional media and political establishments.

In sixth-ranked Denmark, Internet-based telephones have become popular as they allow customers to avoid per-minute local phone charges, said John Strand, a telecommunications consultant in Copenhagen.

By comparison, Americans are only starting to figure out what they can do with broadband, said Maribel Lopez, a Research Analyst. And until they get it, households simply can't be sold on such advanced services as Internet calling and telemedicine.

Broadband does have its share of downsides, of course.

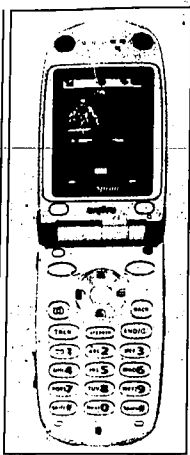
Computers now stay connected 24 hours a day, extending the window of exploitability by hackers.

And with only one or two companies in many markets controlling the main pipelines into the home, consumer advocates fear they might give preferential treatment to content from business partners, or make competitors content difficult to find or slow to load.

In the meantime, Internet usability expert Jakob Nielsen has a word of caution for the broadband crowd:

"Respect the dial-up population. It remains large. Think twice before sending friends large photo files as attachments. These photos could sour their Internet experience."

On the other hand, come to think of it, those photos could encourage them to finally spring for broadband.



A MobITV version of Fox sports is displayed on a cell phone in this updated photo provided by MobITV.

## Telephone business gears up to deliver TV

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - If everything goes as planned, the telephone industry will be all about television in 2005.

## 2004 in review

TV over your home phone line. TV on your cell phone. Few topics have been as popular this past year among phone companies and their technology partners.

"There's one application knocking on the door and consumers are truly hungry for it: real-time TV and streaming TV," Anssi Vanjoki, general manager for multimedia at cell

Please see TELEPHONE, Page D5

## Year

Continued from D1

It's not right. It violates the law," Spitzer said in announcing the lawsuit in May.

Spitzer wasn't alone in his corporate crackdown. Shareholders took action in their own right in 2004.

Among their biggest victories came at Walt Disney Co., which agreed to split the top two executive posts in March after shareholders delivered a vote of no confidence in chairman and CEO Michael Eisner by withholding 45 percent of their votes for his re-election. In September, Eisner announced he would retire in 2006 after a 20-year reign.

"I'm going to Disneyland!" wrote Eisner in a letter announcing his retirement intentions.

He might want to head there fast, especially with a verdict expected in the coming months in the case against Disney's board of directors over whether they adequately scrutinized former Disney president Michael Ovitz's 1995 hiring and his 1996 firing, when he received \$140 million in severance.

The case is being closely watched in boardrooms around the country because its outcome could potentially raise directors' personal liabilities.

Maybe the directors at PeopleSoft Inc. should have kept

that in mind before they lavished as much as \$50 million in severance and other benefits on former CEO Craig Conway, even though his lying to Wall Street analysts got him fired. Or how Merck & Co.'s board signed off on a severance plan for 230 executives in November, just two months after the company's mulling of its Vice president from the market left it facing billions of dollars in potential liabilities.

At Colgate-Palmolive Co., the company will be eliminating 1,400 jobs but still offers perks to 800 executives to cover the costs of such things as pet sitters and exercise equipment.

Plenty of other executives didn't have it so good in 2004. Martha Stewart was found guilty to conspiracy in January and then helped the government obtain indictments against his former bosses, Kenneth Lay and Jeffrey Skilling at the once-dominant energy giant.

"I don't fear jail because I'm not guilty," Lay said in an interview last spring with The Associated Press.

Martha Stewart was found guilty in March of obstructing justice and lying about her well-timed selling of ImClone Systems Inc. stock in late 2001. And even though her case is on appeal, she volunteered to

begin a five-month prison sentence in October.

Yet it's not all bad news for Stewart. She could make out big should Kmart Holdings Corp.'s acquisition of Sears, Roebuck & Co. go through.

Shares of Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., of which Stewart holds a majority stake, have shot higher on the prospect of wider distribution of Martha Stewart-branded products.

There are also plans for her to revive her daily homemaking show next September with production help coming from "The Apprentice" producer Mark Burnett.

"Millions of people feel that Martha got a raw deal," Burnett said. "America loves

comeback stories."

And speaking of comebacks and "The Apprentice," Donald Trump knows a thing or two about both. His fame shot to new heights this year thanks to the popularity of his reality show, where he relies on the line "You're fired" to oust those contestants who don't have the business acumen that he waxes.

The irony in that: Trump is expected to lose control of his ailing casino business, Trump Hotels & Casino Resorts Inc., after it emerges from its second Chapter 11 bankruptcy court reorganization, though he will stay on as chairman and CEO. So it went in 2004. In many ways, the year finished up largely as it started. There are still plenty of crooked executives

getting caught for their misdeeds, companies are keeping up some questionable business practices and boards are still asleep at the wheel.

Yet here and there, was a glimmer of change happening in spots around corporate America. Let's hope for more of that in 2005.

Rachel Beck is the national business columnist for The Associated Press. Write to her at rbeck@ap.org.

Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

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**WHY SUMMER ONLY?**

QUESTION: What season is best for household moves?  
ANSWER: The great preponderance of household moves takes place during the summer. However, there are a lot of good reasons to consider an off-season move.

Complaints and damage claims against movers increase drastically during the summer, when they're swamped with jobs and work harder and longer.

Summer is not as much of a disruption to children as generally assumed. The child can make friends faster and not have the whole summer to dread the first day at school.

Many excellent home buying opportunities are lost during off-season months due to this "summer only" syndrome.

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# Doing the bare minimum

The Washington Post

Oh, it was such a hard week. I worked for 14 hours yesterday. Feel sorry for me. ...  
 Sound familiar? It may be, because many of us speak words like those quite often.

But what did we actually do with those hours? Did we really sweat over them? Rest and spend that time focused on our work? Or did we hunker up our day a little bit with, say, some lingering on a Web chat?

I think I can say rather fairly that we all take a little rest now and then. We need it, right? We have to clear that brain a bit. ...  
 Well, the fact is, some of us just don't have enough work to do and don't care to look for more. Others are so miserable in their jobs, they will do the bare minimum to get through the day.

And for some employers, that seems to be just fine. ...  
 A perfect example is a full-time temporary worker I spoke to who has spent seven months at the U.S. Department of Labor. This employee was hired to do backup administrative work, he said. Which, he said, mostly means he delivers a package every day.

So as the rest of us are (pant) sweating over our (pant) columns, reports and (pant) whatever else it is we do with our day, some people are trying to figure out how to fill 40 hours a week. As for the employee at Labor, he sure has accomplished a lot.

"I never knew how much I could do," he wrote in an e-mail during work hours. ...  
 So far, he has taught himself the Internet's HTML coding, started a blog and taken up several pen pals, including one who speaks Spanish. Why? Because our friend here is also teaching himself the language.

"But mostly, he likes to read. In the past few months, he has read 'The Wealth of Nations' by

Adam Smith, Upton Sinclair's 'The Jungle' and Sun Tzu's 'The Art of War.' How can he sit and read a book at work? Welcome to looking busy while you stare at — the computer — screen-  
[www.online-literature.com](http://www.online-literature.com).

This woman probably falls into the "rare" category. Most people I speak with who are bored at work are not happy there.

In fact, most of the people who spoke to me about their time-wasting methods were in jobs they despised for various reasons. ...  
 About a year ago, four friends around the country in different, but equally miserable, jobs formed an e-mail clique. They e-mailed one another all day long, talking about serious life matters or sending Photoshopped e-mails in which they put one another's heads into 1970s TV show still shots.

"Once in a while we'd write round-robin, fiction, a James Bond-type story that had a member's bicycle, Liu Pai, as the heroine," wrote one of the former clique members. ...  
 She doubted, she said, that any employers would see it this way, but said the ongoing chats built job skills for the members, who held jobs as a New York City public relations writer, an Oregon newspaper reporter, and a magazine designer in Atlanta. (It probably didn't help the mining-equipment engineer in New Mexico, however, she said.)

All of the e-clique's members quit their jobs within a year of one another, with no other jobs lined up. "That's how miserable we were," she said. But no more. These days they are all much happier, particularly because three of the four work for themselves.

However, there is probably some truth to the thought that some full-time jobs could really be part time. "I can get my job done in less than 20 hours a week some weeks," wrote one woman. "I surf the Web, blog ... plan vacations I can't afford, read craigslist.com and pretend

to look busy (easy to do: huff a lot, and groan! Did I mention I love to acft?)."

She works in bursts and furious units, she completes her tasks as a nesting bird. She has no desire to move on, find a new job or ask for more work, she said. "I'm no high-striving career climber," she wrote. "I made a good living at it, and am fine with my title."

Others decide that spending time on things other than work, at work, is well-deserved. One reader writes that her day is spent doing non-work-related online research. "I grab the opportunity every chance I get since I am working answering phones now after a long career in accounting. And I spend my time this way because I am soooooo tired of working, so this is sort of an extra compensation to me, from me!"

Wasting a lot of time at work is usually a sign that one isn't happy with what, in fact, most people who find they spend their day shopping online, playing fantasy football (sorry, folks) or liming their old college pals should probably spend some of their own free time dusting off the resume to find a better job.

But managers should notice this lack of output and think about how they can change their workplace to inspire people, said Nolla G. Barkley, a life and work coach with Krystal-Barkley Corp. "Not to be more observant about output demonstrates lax controls internally," she said. "People respond to the fact that expectations aren't very high, and they develop a so-what attitude."

However, there is probably some truth to the thought that some full-time jobs could really be part time. "I can get my job done in less than 20 hours a week some weeks," wrote one woman. "I surf the Web, blog ... plan vacations I can't afford, read craigslist.com and pretend

# Telephone

Continued from D1

phone maker Nokia Corp., proclaimed at a recent investment conference.

Industry bold pronouncements have been emanating from a growing list of powerful names, from local phone giants Verizon Communications Inc. and SBC Communications Inc. to wireless chipmakers Qualcomm Inc. and Texas Instruments Inc., to Walt Disney Co., News Corp. and none other than Microsoft Corp.

Such talk is hardly new. But this time telephone companies are backing their words with billions of dollars to upgrade their networks.

Both wired and wireless players are intent on moving beyond simple phone calls, a business where revenues and customers are being lost to price wars and new rivals — especially with the arrival of cheap voice-over-Internet phone services from cable TV companies. AT&T Corp. and dozens of smaller players.

While the strategy includes video games and other interactive offerings, the biggest revenue target is the cable TV market. In 2004, consumers paid more than \$36 billion for their cable TV, and that programming generated nearly \$19 billion in ad revenue, according to the National Cable Telecommunications Association.

The challenge in grabbing a share of that pot, or expanding it with new digital services, is very different for residential phone companies compared with cell phone carriers.

On the wired side, the question is more about competitive edge than technology, though there are few similarities in how Verizon and SBC are retooling their telephone networks to deliver video.

Both companies are expected to introduce TV services in at least a few markets by midyear without much of a hitch. Less clear is whether their version of TV will feature enough new bells and whistles on top of the usual cable fare to set it apart and lure customers away from traditional providers of such programming.

There's no doubt that the fiber-optic cables and digital technologies they are deploying

Both wired and wireless players are intent on moving beyond simple phone calls, a business where revenues and customers are being lost to price wars and new rivals — especially with the arrival of cheap voice-over-Internet phone services from cable TV companies, AT&T Corp. and dozens of smaller players.

are robust enough to deliver interactive services such as Caller ID on the TV screen or more heavy-duty offerings like video-on-demand without the current limitations on selection.

But neither Verizon or SBC will be specific thus far about what they'll offer right out of the starting gate.

Both, however, have asserted that they'll be very competitive on price — a promise that bodes well for snagging customers but not so well for a speedy recovery of the billions of dollars it will take to upgrade their networks and buy programming from cable channels, movie studios and other content providers.

If they're too aggressive with pricing, Verizon and SBC will risk triggering the same price wars that have devastated the telephone industry.

By contrast, cell phone TV faces multiple barriers.

Although mobile service providers are rolling out next-generation technologies that are speedy enough to deliver a TV signal, there are limits to

how much network capacity they can divert away from phone calls and wireless Internet access. And just as they interfere with calls, gaps in network coverage may disrupt a TV feed.

On the device side, while screen quality has improved, TV presents a challenge in terms of battery life, processing power and storage capacity.

And then there's the pesky question of whether people truly want to watch TV on such a tiny screen and would be willing to pay much extra for it.

Nevertheless, the buzz on cell TV has been coming in loud and clear on multiple fronts, with many proponents pointing to strong demand for mobile video services in South Korea. Usage became so heavy on one Korean carrier's network that it withdrew an all-you-can-eat pricing plan for subscribers to a pay-as-you-go approach.

Sprint Corp. already offers two premium TV services to its cell phone customers, using MobliTV from Idetec Inc., though the quality is crude compared with real television. Sprint won't disclose how many subscribers have signed on, but says the positive response to its first service was a driving force in launching the second this past summer.

Among content providers, Fox recently announced plans to produce one-minute episodes of its "24" television series for Vodafone Group PLC, the world's biggest cell phone company. Disney plans to launch an ESPN-brand cell phone company in 2005 featuring a wide range of sports content including streaming audio and video.

Qualcomm and Texas Instruments also appear to see potential in cell TV. The two rivals are developing competing wireless chips to receive and process TV signals in an efficient, high-quality manner.

Qualcomm is even hoping to address other obstacles to mobile TV beyond its normal expertise.

The company plans to launch a national cellular TV service in 2006 over its own spectrum, broadcasting up to 20 channels for wireless carriers to sell their customers.

# What's your bill-paying personality?

Knight Ridder News Service

**NEW YORK** — Although everyone has to pay bills, not everyone approaches the task in the same way.

When it comes to paying bills, Americans fall into one of six personality types, reports Lieberman Research Group. Which are you?

**Es-savy planner:** You are most excited by new technology products and services for financial management. When it comes to money management, you're more willing to spend money on software and other tools that will help you be

more efficient.

**Convenience seeker:** You don't want to spend a lot of time and effort paying bills. You look for the "quick and easy" way to money management. You prefer to pay all your bills from one place — usually your bank's Web site, where you can also track and control your spending.

**Self-improver:** You find financial management to be stressful and time-consuming, so you actively seek out help to manage your finances. You're most likely to look for an organizational system that will help you make a budget and pay down debt.

**Maximizer:** You actively man-

age your money to get the most — whether you're aiming for a lower interest rate, better credit score or more frequent bill miles. You may pay bills online, and pay them early, to optimize cash flow.

**Desperate avoider:** You're most likely to be overwhelmed by financial planning and debt. One of your key behaviors is avoiding opening (and paying) bills.

**Paper pusher:** You prefer to handle the entirety of your bill paying on paper, rather than take the security risks of making banking transactions on the Internet.

The report is published in the November issue of the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators' Journal of Student Financial Aid. ...  
 The study was conducted by the Georgetown University Credit Research Center, with account data from active accounts from 2000 to 2001. The work was a continuation of a General Accounting Office study.

# Study finds little difference between students, older adults, in credit card use

The Associated Press

The warnings over the past few years about college students getting too deeply into credit card debt might be sinking in. A study of about 31,000 credit card accounts found little difference in the way students and older adults use their credit cards.

About 88 percent of students'

accounts were paid up, compared with 92 percent of older adults and 88 percent of young adults not in school. The average college-age balance was \$552, compared with \$1,465 for young adults and \$2,342 for older adults.

However, the percentage of delinquent accounts was higher among students (12 percent) than adults (8 percent).

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# Tense times for beard-growing contests

**B**REMERTON, Wash. (AP) — It takes Bruce Roe a solid 30 minutes of twisting, tweezing and hairspraying to get his 18-inch-wide Wild West mustache competition-ready.

His wife hunts stray whiskers with a pair of scissors before he goes on stage.

Such is life, for those who competitively cultivate their facial hair.

It's a little-known world that features nearly every type of mustache and beard imaginable — from the Musketeer to the Dali, the handlebar to the Fu Manchu, each of 17 categories rigidly defined by dimension, shape and styling aid.

It's a world where men travel thousands of miles to show off a defining male characteristic where they drink and joke across language barriers, make friends and enjoy other cultures.

As with so many competitive endeavors, however, it is not without controversy.

International rifts have formed over where and when to hold the whisker championships, how to define varieties of facial hair — Should the Dali really be its own category? — and perhaps most significantly, over who should regulate the pastime.

There have been stealth votes, boycotts and power plays.

Among those caught in the fray are Roe and his hirsute friends in the Whisker Club, a Bremerton-based group primarily concerned with promoting facial hair, having fun and helping charities.

Roe, 53, has sported whiskers since about 1970.

He shaved them off "for about 10 minutes" after he got married, but has had at least a mustache ever since.

His wife, Tommie, likes to say, "A kiss without a tickle isn't worth a nickel."

Roe learned of the World Beard and Mustache Championships in 1997 and went to Trondheim, Norway, for the competition that year.

He knew right away his outlandish whiskers had found a home.

"I was overwhelmed," he says. "I had no idea there would be all these costumes, and the styling of the beards and mustaches... Extreme — that might be a word for it."

Roe was the only American in the competition. He didn't win any awards, but he now had a goal: "I thought, we have to get something like this going."

Roe could find no evidence of a beard or mustache club in the United States. But he worked at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard with another enthusiastic whisker-bearer — Gary Johnson, whose hobbies include waxing his 22-inch-wide mustache and pointy beard and dressing up as Buffalo Bill Cody.

Roe and Johnson began meeting once a month for drinks and the Whisker Club was born.

Its members, 40 in all, must have facial hair, but those lacking it — wives, for example — may join the fan club. A handful of active members attend the regular meetings.

"It's a good way to get together, have a cocktail and shoot the breeze," says Doug Clausen, 52, attending the group's December meeting, wearing a Santa hat. He makes a credible Saint Nick, his gray-white goatee so massive you hardly notice his cheeks are hairless.

The world's oldest whisker club is the Handlebar Club of London, founded in 1947. Members must sport a "hirsute appendage to the upper lip with graspable extremities."

Though one Italian club dates to 1965, the idea didn't catch on in the rest of Europe until the 1980s, when clubs began proliferating in the land of bratwurst, oom-pah bands and Oktoberfest.

Germany now has 10 clubs with hundreds of members, more than any other nation, and the whisker champi-



Displaying their prize whiskers, from left, are Doug Clausen, Gary Johnson and Bruce Roe at the monthly meeting of The Whisker Club, on Dec. 14, in Bremerton, Wash. The club promotes the growth of facial hair and supports competitions among those who are proud of their whiskers. Each man placed at the World Beard and Mustache Championships held in Carson City, Nev.

onships are from page news. It was a German club that organized the first world championships in a small Black Forest town in 1990.

The same club hosted the second championships in 1995 in the nearby city of Horzheim.

But then things started to get, well, hairy.

In 1997, the Norwegian and German clubs held the world championships in Trondheim, and the Germans put on their own just months later.

"People boycotted because it was the same year," said Roe, who attended both events. "They thought the Germans were trying to steal the limelight from the Norwegians."

The issue was resolved in the matter of trade disputes and nuclear disarmament by international summit, following the 1999 championships in Sweden, the clubs agreed that the world championships would be held every other year.

The Association of German Beard Clubs, being the biggest and hairiest, emerged to set rules and location.

Phil Olsen, a 55-year-old lawyer from Tahoe City, Calif., attended the 1999 championships as a spectator and hit it off with the German participants, whose language he spoke.

Eventually, his new friends inquired whether the United States might host the 2003 competition.

Olsen agreed, putting up \$25,000 to finance the event, which drew 120 competitors from nine countries to Carson City, Nev.

Roe, outfitted as Wyatt Earp, took third place in the Wild West category. Clausen, dressed as a New York gang member circa 1865, took third for natural goatee.

Johnson, doing his Buffalo Bill, took first in the Musketeer category.

Once again, things turned political. Some of the Germans objected to changes Olsen made.

For example, in addition to picking winners in 17 categories, the judges — including the chief justice of the state Supreme Court and Miss Nevada — broke with tradition and named three overall winners.

There was also a tangle over how certain upward-turning mustaches should be judged — Imperial or freestyle?

It's not quite the Olympic figure skating scandal, but you get the idea.

"A lot of the people think it's gotten completely out of hand, that some of the Germans take the competition way too seriously," Olsen says.

In October, he attended a meeting of the German association; the group waited until he

left to start voting on where to hold the 2009 and 2011 championships, he says.

German cities were awarded both events, even though Olsen had suggested Anchorage, Alaska, (Berlin and London had already been given 2005 and 2007).

Pertious, Olsen met with met with Ted Sedman — the president of London's Handlebar Club and owner of a navel-length Fu Manchu — in Berlin for Thanksgiving weekend.

Representatives from five other countries, including Germany, attended.

They formed the World Beard and Mustache Association and declared they would begin accepting bids for hosting a rival championship event in 2009.

Anchorage is expected to enter, one, as is the Whisker Club. "In my mind, a democratic union of groups is the way to go," Roe says. "But I think it's going to be a deep row to hoe. Most of what I see at these competitions is everybody's there to have a good time. But there are some clubs that want to take home as many trophies as they can."



Bruce Roe, who has been sporting facial hair for over 30 years, speaks during the monthly meeting of The Whisker Club on Dec. 14, in Bremerton, Wash.

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# Hometown of Steinbeck plans to close libraries

SALINAS, Calif. (AP) — Mary Jean Gamble organized the John Steinbeck historical archives, supervised the Steinbeck literature collection and ranks as an authority on local history and genealogy.

After nearly 23 years with the Salinas Public Library, she may know more about the "Grapes of Wrath" or "Cannery Row" than anyone else in the author's humble hometown.

Gamble doesn't hesitate when asked how Steinbeck might react upon learning that the city's libraries are scheduled to close permanently next spring.

Facing record deficits, the Salinas City Council voted Dec. 14 to shut all three libraries, including the branches named after Steinbeck and labor leader Cesar Chavez.

"He'd obviously be upset. He knew that literature can lift and elevate the spirit and enable humans to rise above any situation," Gamble said, peering beyond her oversized, gold-framed glasses and pulling tight her blue cape. "He probably even read some of the great literature at the Salinas Library."

Salinas, nicknamed "salad bowl of the nation" for the production of lettuce and broccoli fields nearby, is best known as the 1902 birthplace of the Nobel Prize winning author of "Cannery Row" and "Of Mice and Men."

Steinbeck described the region as "pasture of heaven," memorializing Salinas in his 1952 novel "East of Eden."

But after voters rejected a ballot measure Nov. 2 that would have boosted sales tax to preserve city services, Salinas has earned the sobriquet of bibliophiles worldwide and an ugly distinction.

The blue-collar town of 150,000 residents could become the most populous U.S. city without a public library.

Administrators plan to close all three branches by May or June.

Nearly three dozen employees will be fired by July 1. Salinas' budget woes are so serious that assistance from California's Public Library



A statue of author John Steinbeck stands in the courtyard at the John Steinbeck Library in Salinas, Calif. Starting next month, Salinas will begin to close all three of the city's libraries because of budget shortfalls, giving Steinbeck's hometown the embarrassing distinction of the biggest city west of the Mississippi without any public libraries.

Foundation would be insufficient.

The agency helps public libraries, particularly in communities without large tax revenue.

The city reduced its budget by \$8 million in the last year, and faces another \$8 million reduction in the 2005-06 fiscal year, 13.3 percent of its overall \$60 million budget.

In a November report to council members, City Manager Dave Mora described the local economy as "terrible," warning that additional cuts would be "devastating to quality of life."

Some residents remain hopeful that a private donor will rescue the library. Librarians are considering corporate sponsorship.

But a top library official said the prospect of a white knight emerging to foot the ongoing operational expenses, roughly \$3.2 million per year, is as remote as buying a winning lottery ticket.

She was pessimistic that the libraries could close and then seamlessly reopen if the economy improves in a year or two.

"Operating a library isn't as simple as selling cans of tomato soup at a retail store," said Jan Neal, administrative manager at the Steinbeck Library. "Do you think that the librarians who have worked here would stay around in hopes that the libraries would reopen someday? And what would you do about lapsed subscriptions to periodicals such as Congressional Quarterly?"

Editorials in newspapers from New Zealand to London

have condemned the closures. Residents receive incredulous phone calls and e-mails from long-distance friends and relatives.

"It's embarrassing, not to mention inconvenient," said Ben Lopez, 69, a Salinas resident since 1945 who visits the Steinbeck branch at least twice a week.

"Where else will I go to check out material — Prunedale?" he said, referring to a relatively spartan branch of the Monterey County Free Libraries system.

Librarians nationwide are struggling through record budget shortfalls, prolonged recessions and shrinking revenue from sales taxes.

According to an April study by the Chicago-based American Library Association, libraries in 41 states absorbed more than \$50 million in funding cuts in the past year.

Alabama cut \$80 million from the state's 2003-'04 education budget, and another \$140-\$190 million is projected to be cut from its 2004-'05 budget.

There is virtually no money for public school library enhancements, including new materials.

Colorado reduced its library operating budget by 77 percent, forcing libraries to eliminate \$6.5 million in expenses, including upgrades to electronic filing systems and computers with public Internet access.

Operating a library isn't as simple as selling cans of tomato soup at a retail store.

—Jan Neal, administrative manager at the Steinbeck Library

closures, the bleak situation facing many libraries worries Carol Brey-Casiano, American Library Association president and director of the El Paso Public Library.

At the library association's annual meeting in Boston next month, she plans to use Salinas as a cautionary tale and launch an initiative for librarians and library supporters regarding the hidden costs of tax cuts and the perils of budget shortfalls.

"We risk returning to the mid-1800s, where libraries kept subscription lists and you could only use it if you paid a fee," Brey-Casiano said. "It would be a very sad day to return to that era."

Because of Salinas' large percentage of low-income workers and immigrants, the city's libraries are popular destinations for people seeking citizenship primers, literacy courses, English-as-a-second language tapes, Internet access and after-school programs. Roughly 1,900 people visit on an average day.

"The reality is that we live in a blue-collar community where people are struggling, and they're afraid of new taxes," said Mayor Anna Caballero, who has received an estimated 2,000 letters from local students decrying the closures. "I don't think they realized the enormity of what we were facing."

Caballero plans to begin working on a new tax measure to put before voters next summer or fall.

## Some California college students struggle to pay higher tuition, fees

BERKELEY, Calif. (AP) — In 1960, California leaders pledged a tuition-free ride for state high school graduates with the smarts and gumption to pursue a degree at a public college or university.

Four decades later, it seems a distant promise.

This year, Nick Bolton, a freshman at the University of California, Santa Barbara, is working 30 hours a week scrubbing washing machines to help foot a college bill of more than \$6,000, a figure that has increased for four consecutive years and may well go up for a fifth year.

"It's a burden," said Bolton, 18. "They just keep increasing the price and cutting the funding."

Recent fee increases at the 10-campus UC, the 23-campus California State University system and the state's 109 community colleges spring from a multibillion-dollar state deficit. But they also are part of a longer trend that has seen the state swing away from its 45-year-old vision — the Master Plan for Higher Education, which promised accessible and affordable college and has been lauded as a national model.

"We have built wonderful institutions and were trying to hang on by our fingernails here to maintain that commitment to the master plan," said state Assemblywoman Carol Lutz, La Jolla, Calif., and chairwoman of the Assembly's Committee on Higher Education. "But we are struggling without resources."

In 1960, when the master plan was new, it cost \$84 in "incidentals" to attend UC. Today, the state still doesn't technically charge students tuition, but fees have mounted to the point where they are no longer incidental.

"We crossed that bridge a long time ago about whether it was going to be free or not," said Patrick M. Callan, president of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education in San Jose.

In a recent study, the center found that college is less affordable for most Americans than it was a decade ago.

Despite the hikes, California

college administrators point out that the state's schools still compare favorably with the rest of the nation.

At UC, fees have increased about 60 percent over the past decade. They rose from about \$5,200 (including miscellaneous campus fees) in 2002-03, to the present total of about \$6,700 for a student with a full-time class load. UC officials said that is about \$1,100 less than projected averages for comparable prominent public institutions in other states.

Still, there is concern that California isn't measuring up to its own standards.

Three decades ago, state funds comprised 41 percent of the general operating budget of UC, the system that includes the world-famous campuses of Berkeley and UCLA and serves about 260,000 students. This year, the total was 19 percent, said Jerry Kessel, UC's assistant vice chancellor of budget.

For Bolton, the numbers translated this way: He initially

expected to have to come up with \$19,000 to cover total costs of his freshman year. But as fees started to rise, he found he was going to need about \$21,000.

Bolton, who has four siblings and whose single-parent father makes only about \$40,000 a year, made up the difference by applying for eight or nine scholarships, winning two worth about \$12,000.

The rest of the money he earns. He has seen others overwhelmed by debt and doesn't want to graduate with a massive loan hanging over his head.

Meanwhile, he's cramming as many courses in as he can, no easy task since his goal is a double-major in business economics and communications.

"Because the price is so high, I can't take classes slower. I have to finish in four years," he said. "That's a lot of pressure."

It costs less to go to CSU than UC, but fees at the larger system have followed the same upward trajectory, also rising about 60 percent since 2001. Please see D05T5, Page D9

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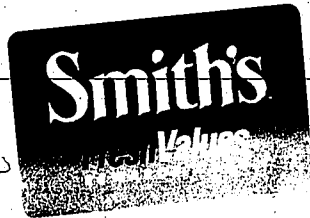
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# Costs

Continued from D7  
 percent over the past 10 years. As at UC, Cal State fees are increasing for 2005-06, to about \$3,100, including miscellaneous campus fees.

Meanwhile, community college fees have risen from \$11 a unit two years ago to \$26.

Bolton's sister, Lindsey, has some scholarships and a job, two in her case. But school sometimes seems like a nonstop financial drain, from the \$90 she recently paid for a textbook to the cost of the parking pass that doesn't guarantee parking.

"It comes straight out of your pocket," she says. "It's really frustrating. The only way to really get a good job is to have a good education. They make that so hard, it's no wonder so many people give up or just drop out."

The latest fee hikes are part of a six-year pact worked out between the CSU and UC systems and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who ousted former Gov. Gray Davis in 2003 on a promise to bring order to state finances.

Critics say school officials should have fought for more funding. Administrators say cuts had to be made in light of the state's multibillion-dollar deficit. They note that financial aid has increased to help the poorest students and say the pact was a good deal because it provided predictability and the promise of increased state funding in future years.

"I think given the state's fiscal crisis, that's a pretty powerful statement, that's a pretty powerful commitment from this governor," said H.D. Palmer, deputy director for Schwarzenegger's Department of Finance.

Under the pact, UC and CSU undergraduate fees could rise by as much as 10 percent for 2006-07.

Officials will get a clearer idea of whether that will happen when the governor releases his proposed budget next month.

The state is projected to have a budget shortfall of \$8.1 billion next year.

Fading support for higher ed-

ucation began long before the Schwarzenegger administration. One reason for the dwindling funds is Proposition 13, the 1978 voter-approved property tax revolt, said UC's Kissel. Another reason is that just as college-age baby boomers fueled the burst of higher education spending in the 1960s, the now aging boomers are eating up health dollars.

The bottom line is that there is less state taxpayer support for higher education nationally and in California, Kissel said. Meanwhile, a second wave of teenagers, the boomers' children, is rising. UC alone expects 60,000 more students between 1999 and 2010.

That makes the current budget crisis much more acute than previous cycles of good-time spending followed by belt-tightening, said Callan, of the San Jose policy center.

"We've never had this kind of perfect storm situation, where you've got more kids graduating (high school) as the budget gets tighter," he said.

Forty years ago, the investment in higher education paid off, producing an educated work force that fueled the economic engines of Silicon Valley, Hollywood and the biotechnology industry.

"An educated work force is even more important in today's knowledge-based economies, where work can easily be farmed out to other states and countries."

"Do we really think that we can compete against people who will take less money if our people have less education and less training?" Callan said. "This is a very high stakes game."

For students, the stakes are personal. "It's horrible," said Teresita Alvarez, a UC Berkeley student who feels conflicted about recruiting students from her low-income high school in Los Angeles, knowing the kind of costs they'll face.

Alvarez, a senior, expects to graduate with \$10,000 debt, despite winning several scholarships.

"If we keep looking at the short-term goals that we might achieve through these increases, we lose sight of the long-term goal, which is to have a population of Californians who are educated," she said.

# TV sends a year of mixed messages

**Newsday**

We were shocked, shocked, or so we have been told.

It's actually not so impossible to get a clear reading on whether Janet Jackson's "wardrobe malfunction" during the Super Bowl

halftime show in February — or Nicollette Sheridan's locker-room towel drop months later in a "Monday Night Football" teaser — scandalized tens of millions of Americans or merely the vociferous handful that peppered the FCC and the stations it oversees for exposing innocent, unsuspecting Americans to a flash of taboo flesh but also cracked down on radio shock jocks such as Howard Stern and the stations that air them.

Either way, the FCC saw a mandate in "Nipplegate." The commission not only fined CBS and the stations it oversees for exposing innocent, unsuspecting Americans to a flash of taboo flesh but also cracked down on radio shock jocks such as Howard Stern and the stations that air them.

Uncertain about what the FCC would deem offensive — an understandable confusion considering, for instance, the ubiquitous Victoria's Secret commercials that outed Jackson's breast exhibition in quantity if not specificity — TV networks and stations sometimes panicked — and embarrassed themselves. NBC, for instance, made the producers of "ER" fuzzle over a shot of an elderly woman's uncovered bosom in a surgical sequence. Fully a fifth of ABC's affiliates declined to carry the network's Veterans Day rebroadcast of "Saving Private Ryan," an Oscar-winning movie about World War II that had passed their muster a year earlier. They feared they would be fined for the profanity.

Understanding the apparent double standard at work, the other big TV story of 2004, ABC's prime-time comeback, was fiddled in large part by one show, "Desperate Housewives." A nervous and randy satire of being married with children in the suburbs. Despite the seemingly prudish social and political climate, the Sunday night series' tales of adultery, suicide, murder and maternal misgivings made

it the fastest-starting hit in years — No. 2 in the Nielsen ratings for the season, topped only by the high-tech necrophilia of "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation."

In television news, the big story of the year was another "gate," this one involving CBS' Dan Rather and memos that purportedly documented Presi-

dent Bush's shirking years ago in the Texas Air National Guard. Rather at first stood fast, then caved and apologized for allowing himself to be duped.

In late November, while an internal investigation was still under way at CBS, Rather said he would step down as "Evening News" anchor in March. His announcement did not steal any thunder from the actual retirement of his longtime NBC News rival, Tom Brokaw, who gracefully passed the baton to Brian Williams Dec. 1. Brokaw's farewell broadcast garnered the already top-rated "NBC Nightly News" its best Nielsen in several years.

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NATION

# Musicians add voices to political battle

**Newsday**

Thanks to a highly emotional and polarizing election season, 2004 became the year when musicians finally realized that staying out of politics isn't cool — it's a cop-out. Punk rockers Green, Day and Grand

**2004**  
Charlotte delivered their anger and most incisive albums yet: Bush video for "Mosh," and a small army of rockers, teamed with Bruce Springsteen in the hopes of ousting the president. None of it worked, but that's not the point. No matter for whom you voted, be grateful that

artists are still willing to take chances and take a stand in the play-it-safe world of pop music.

Not every album on the following list is full of revolutionary fervor, but each one makes a bold statement — be it political, personal or both. • 1. Kanye West, "The College Dropout" (Roc-A-Fella). Black people dress funny, rappers should respect God, college is for losers — how can West make such outrageous statements? Because he also makes some of the best hip-hop music around. Whether rapping about being a wage slave at The Gap ("Space-ship") or making drug-dealing sound like a charming sitcom ("We Don't Care"), West keeps the beats banging and the hooks hot. "The College Dropout" is the funniest, sharpest, bravest

rap album in years.

• 2. Scissor Sisters, "Scissor Sisters" (Universal/Polydor). Who knew there was any juice left to squeeze out of disco, glam-rock and '70s pop? Somehow, New York's Scissor Sisters whip these old genres into something new, refreshing and oh-so-tasty. The secret ingredient: stellar songwriting from singer Jake Shears and bassist Scott "Babydaddy" Hoffman, who take their cues from Elton John, David Bowie and The Bee Gees. If Scissor Sisters don't get you, up and dancing, you're dead inside.

• 3. Joanna Newsom, "The Milk-Eyed Mender" (Drag City). Newsom's full-length debut is a thing of beauty and rare magic. But be warned: It's not for everyone. Newsom is a classically trained harpist who writes-

flitting chamber music and lyrics that border on medieval poetry: "I thank the Lord and I thank his sword / Tho' it be minging up the morning / Slightly bored." Her squawking voice will either captivate you completely or drive you from the room, but here's a guarantee: "The Milk-Eyed Mender" is like nothing you've ever heard.

• 4. TV on the Radio, "Desperate Youth, Blood Thirsty Babes" (Touch and Go). When was the last time an art-rock band actually freaked you out? TV on the Radio's frightening power comes from the commanding guitar lines of David Sitek (producer of the Yeah Yeah Yeahs) and the soulful, shiver-inducing voices of Tunde Adebimpe and

Please see MUSIC, Page D11.

The Times-News:  
Your guide to Magic Valley

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Clive Owen  
**CLOSER**  
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WESLEY SNIPES  
**BLADE**  
TRINITY  
Now at the Odyssey 6  
(R) Today 5:00 - 7:20 - 9:45

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**CHRISTMAS WITH KRANKS**  
6th Smash Week  
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8th Big Week  
Now at the Twin Cinema (PG)  
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Today 7:00 - 9:30  
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Today 12:15 - 3:30 - 6:45 - 9:30

**NATIONAL TREASURE**  
Now at the JEROME CINEMA (PG)  
Today 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:00 - 9:30  
Now at the TWIN CINEMA (PG)  
Today 12:15 - 3:30 - 6:45 - 9:30

**THE INVENTION OF SOLITUDE**  
Now at the JEROME CINEMA (PG)  
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:10 - 9:45  
Now at the TWIN CINEMA (PG)  
Today 12:30 - 1:00 - 3:45 - 4:00  
8:45 - 7:15 - 9:30 - 9:55

**Meet the Fockers**  
Robert DeNiro  
Ben Stiller  
Dustin Hoffman  
Barbra Streisand  
Now at the JEROME CINEMA (13)  
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:10 - 9:45  
Now at the TWIN CINEMA (13)  
Today 12:30 - 1:30 - 3:45 - 4:30  
7:00 - 7:30 - 9:30 - 9:55

Anna Paquin Lena Olin  
**DARKNESS**  
Now at the Odyssey (13)  
Daily 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Leonardo DiCaprio Cate Blanchett  
Kate Beckinsale Jude Law  
**THE AVIATOR**  
Now at the Orpheum (PG-13) Daily 4:00 - 7:30

**Spanglish**  
Now at the Odyssey 6 (13) Daily 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30

**ALEXANDER**  
Now at the Odyssey 6 (R) Daily 2:30 - 7:30

# Good films rise amid big-budget blockbusters

Newsday

## 2004 In review

To quote Frank Sinatra, it was a very good year... for big-budget films... that lived in the mall. Also, for documentaries and Taiwanese comedies. As it turns out, the ordinary and high-quality releases didn't really happen in 2004 — good films trickled out all through the year, while the holiday season has seen as many disasters ("Beyond the Sea," "Closer," "Spanglish," "The Phantom of the Opera") as it has award-worthy movies. Good. As they say about holiday gluttony, it isn't what you eat but what you eat. Thanksgiving and Christmas that will fill you, it's what you eat between Christmas and Thanksgiving. This past year, the diet was balanced — full of outrage, of course, but occasionally delicious.

"Vera Drake" — The provocative subject matter — the life and plight of a back-alley abortionist in postwar England — is part of "Vera Drake's" power. But equal to it are the waves of seismic disruption expected by the people in Mike Leigh's devastating story as they

stand outside their lives as those lives are being ruined. Imelda Staunton, in the title role, is flawless, and Leigh just gets better and better.

\* 2. "Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind" — An onion of a movie — layers peel away the more you pick at it or, in this case, peer into its multifaceted, multidimensional soul. Jim Carrey gives the performance of his career, while Kate Winslet is her usually glorious self as the movie's slightly finked beanie who has Carrey erased from her mind. Not exactly a time-travel film, not exactly parallel-universe shock, it probes at all the things we call memory, and desire, and, ultimately, love, leaving a haunted feeling of loss and redemption — and amazement at how seamlessly writer Charlie Kaufman, director Michel Gondry and their stellar

company pulled it off.

\* 3. "The Five Obstructions" — A documentary — of sorts — this battle of the wits by the esteemed Danish directors Lars von Trier and Jorgen Leth functions as a treatise on art, a buddy movie and a kind of psychological thriller. It is also a tribute to both men: Leth, because it reveals the depth of his soulful talents as a filmmaker, von Trier because he's willing to make himself the villain of his own film and then, ultimately, subordinate to Leth. The concept is that Leth has to remake his own '60s short, "The Perfect Human," albeit with perverse strictures prescribed by von Trier. That Leth overcomes the "obstructions" — and does so with such ingenuity, generosity and fealty to his own artistic scruples — makes it the feel-good movie of '04.

\* 4. "Sideways" — Its people and story are far off the beaten track, as Paul Giamatti and Thomas Hayden Church — both of whom are spectacular — travel on their wine tour of the mind in this hilarious but never implausible Alexander

Payne comedy. It had everything, frankly — laughs, love, a terrific set of co-stars in Virginia Madsen and Sandra Oh and one of the more stirring salutes to pliant noir likely to hit the screen for some time. As much as we here sneer at Oscars, it would be great, and well-deserved, for Giamatti to get one.

\* 5. "Goodbye, Dragon Inn" — This distillation of the very singular style of Taiwanese eminent Tsai Ming-liang is set in an all-but deserted movie palace showing the kung-fu feature of the title, as straggling customers play out small dramas and the life of outsized cinema receives a poignant visual eulogy. Not for the short-attention-spanned or those who need something exploding every four minutes — virtual inactivity is Tsai's medium, and in his hands it leads to hilarity, heartbreak and the essence of film.

\* 6. "Notre Musique" — Jean-Luc Godard's meditation on war is elegant and worrying, a poetic study of the image, cinema, the siege of Sarajevo, American Indians and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Divided into three

parts — Heaven, Hell and Purgatory — the film continues Godard's splunking into the nature of text and image, his virtuosic use of video and his comparative study of the morality of man and the morality of cinema — the ethics of a camera angle, the validity of a tracking shot. Godard shows himself again to be so far ahead of what we casually think of as cinema that while some filmmakers might be on the space shuttle, Godard has morphed into anti-matter.

\* 7. "Free Radicals" — Austrian director Barbara Albert's moving tapestry of youth, chance, sex and fortune is a movie that perfectly choreographs its various elements into a whole that is not just greater than its parts but celebrates them with its unity. Ursula Strauss gives a tremendous, and sure to be overlooked, performance.

\* 8. "Born Into Brothels" — One of the more celebrated and cinematic documentaries of the year, Zana Briski and Ross Kauffman's film is the kind of drama that happens only in the

realm of nonfiction. But then, they have quite a cast of stars — the children of Sonagachi, the red-light district of Calcutta, whose spirit and broken beauty light up the movie.

\* 9. "The Aviator" — Martin Scorsese doesn't so much regain his form as forge a new one in the crucible of biopic and via the considerable mettle of Howard Hughes — inventor, industrialist, aviator, lover, enemy of Congress and obsessive-compulsive neurotic. Leonardo DiCaprio may seem a bit callow for a giant like Hughes, but the actor creates a fully realized character in Hughes, who was an enigma but whose accomplishments were very real.

\* 10. "Million Dollar Baby" — That old softy Clint Eastwood's slick chick flick is as moving a movie as he's ever made — perhaps because his heart has never quite been this far out on his sleeve before. Hilary Swank, as the big-hearted prizefighter who persuades Eastwood's Frankie Dunn to manage her career, is as good as Eastwood, while Morgan Freeman effortlessly pulls their story together.

## Music

Continued from D10

Kyp Malone. This stuff is a whole new genre. Call it punk-gospel or futuristic R&B. The Brooklyn band took home this year's prestigious Shortlist Prize, awarded by panelists such as Robert Smith, Jack Black and John Mayer.

\* 5. Lansing-Dreiden, "The Incomplete Triangle" (Kemado). One of the craziest, most enjoyable debuts in recent memory comes from an anonymous graphic-arts collective with roots in Brooklyn and Miami. They offered the disc at gallery shows last year, but it wasn't available in stores until Kemado released it in April. It's not pretentious — in fact, it's totally free-veering between reggy psychedelia and Gothic dance-rock. Sadly, Lansing-Dreiden, does not tour.

\* 6. Green Day, "American Idiot" (Reprise). Finally, a punk album that questions the establishment — imagine that! Green Day attacks bigotry, the Bush administration, all within an ambitious (if scattered) rock-opera featuring multi-part songs and recurring characters. Always a revivalist act, Green Day here runs through British rock, doo-wop, glam and other routing genres. It's a near-perfect piece of pop art.

\* 7. The Good Life, "Album of the Year" (Saddle Creek). The title isn't a boast, it's a description: These 12 songs describe a year-long romance between a drunken musician and a wary nursemaid (this is not a well.) Front man Tim Kasher dissects himself and his mate with brutal honesty, never forgetting his sense of humor or his gift for melody. This may be a once-in-a-lifetime achievement — such emotional intensity is hard to repeat — but Kasher has the potential to be our next rock poet.

\* 8. Good Charlotte, "The Chronicles of Life and Death" (Epic). Surprise! The poster boys for lightweight punk have made an album that's — well, kinda deep. "Chronicles" tackles the big questions: not just life and death, but happiness, purpose, love and war. And the tunes are some of the band's catchiest yet, with big, joyous, jump-on-your-bed hooks.

\* 9. Zero 7, "When It Falls" (Elektra). This album of warm, down-tempo soul sounds just like its predecessor ("Simple Things"), but that's a good thing. It's hard to argue with pure sonic perfection, and studio craftsmen Henry Blinn and Sam Hardaker have achieved it a second time. The usual syrupy-voiced singers are back — Sophie Barker, Moezz and Sia Puafor — plus newcomer Tina Dico, who co-wrote one of the best tracks, the dusky "Home."

\* 10. Nellie McKay, "Get Away From Me" (Columbia). OK, she lied — she's not a precocious 19-year-old, she's a talented 22-year-old. That takes away some of her Salingresque charm, but the double-disc "Get Away From Me" is still a darling, delightful lark. McKay dashes giddily from genre to genre, including cabaret ("Manhattan Avenue"), sloppy rap ("Sun") and even an advertising jingle ("Clonier"). Her coolness is absolutely infectious — just don't ask the lady her age.

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NATION

# Bush looks to 2005 with ambitious agenda

WASHINGTON (AP) — The first-born son achieved what the father could not — a second term in the White House — and now, an emboldened President Bush envisions using his tenure to push for far-reaching policy changes on issues from Social Security to taxes.

After a bitter, high-spending campaign measured in years rather than months, Republican George W. Bush defeated Democratic Sen. John Kerry on Nov. 2 — a clear-cut winner whose more than 60 million votes marked the most in history.

The candidate who came to power under a cloud of hanging chads left little doubt the second time around, painting wide swaths of the electoral map Republican red and boosting the GOP to stronger majorities in the House and Senate.

At noon on Jan. 20, 2005, Bush will take the oath of office at the West Front of the Capitol.

## 2004 In review

the fifth time for a member of the Bush family, George H.W. Bush, the father, was sworn in twice as vice president, once as president and denied a second term by Bill Clinton in 1992.

The son embarks on his next four years armed with an ambitious agenda and a new look Cabinet, but fully cognizant of the obstacles — an ongoing war in Iraq that has claimed more than 1,200 U.S. military lives, a growing budget deficit and the constant threat from the shadowy enemy of terrorists.

Politically, Democrats may have been relegated to the minority party, but Kerry received more than 57 million votes — the second highest in history — and the partisan divide seems even



President Bush

more pronounced.

Republicans will be five votes short of the 111-vote threshold for a second term in the Senate, increasing the importance of compromise.

Opposition party, especially for such an ambitious second-term agenda.

Still, the chief executive is convinced he has a mandate for his policies. "I earned capital in the campaign — political capital — and now I intend to spend it," Bush said just hours after capturing a second term.

The commander in chief certainly has the GOP troops in Congress to carry out his orders as the Republicans gained four seats in the Senate on Election Day and seized several Demo-

cratic seats in the House, thanks in part to a redistricting plan for Texas pushed by House Majority Leader Tom DeLay.

On the president's to-do list are:

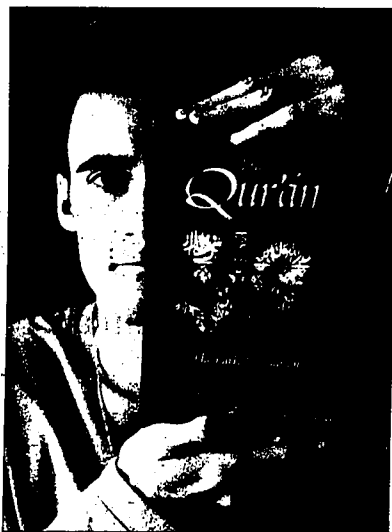
- Partial privatization of Social Security with personal investment accounts, similar to 401(k) plans, that would be voluntary for younger workers.

Republicans and Democrats agree that some changes in the system are warranted. The nation's benefits program for retirees faces a \$3.7 trillion, 75-year shortfall, and as more baby boomers retire, the system will start paying out in benefits more than it collects in taxes in 2018.

Democrats, however, question partial privatization of the longstanding government program.

- Making permanent the sweeping tax cuts of his first term and simplifying the nation's tax code.

Please see BUSH, Page D13



Kris Wampler, a University of North Carolina junior, holds a copy of 'Approaching the Qur'an: The Early Revelations' on Nov. 16, in Chapel Hill, N.C. Wampler was one of the three students who sued the university in an effort to block the university's requirement that new students read the book about the Quran.

## Latest academic freedom fight

Conservative students take on liberal professors

The Associated Press

At the University of North Carolina, three incoming freshmen sue over a reading assignment they say offends their Christian beliefs.

In Colorado and Indiana, a national conservative group publicizes student allegations of left-wing bias by professors. Faculty get hate mail and are pictured in mock "wanted" posters; at least one college says a teacher received a death threat.

And at Columbia University in New York, a documentary film alleging that teachers intimidate students — who support Israel — draws the attention of administrators.

The three episodes differ in important ways, but all touch on an issue of growing prominence on college campuses.

Traditionally, clashes over academic freedom have pitted politicians or administrators against instructors who wanted to express their opinions and teach as they saw fit. But increasingly, it is students who are invoking academic freedom, claiming biased professors are violating their right to a classroom free from indoctrination.

In many ways, the trend echoes past campus conflicts — but turns them around. Once, it was liberal campus activists who cited the importance of "diversity" in pressing their agendas for curriculum change. Now, conservatives have adopted much of the same language in calling for a greater openness to their viewpoints.

Similarly, academic freedom guidelines have traditionally been cited to protect left-leaning students from punishment for disagreeing with teachers about such issues as American neutrality before World War II

and U.S. involvement in Vietnam. Now, those same guidelines are being invoked by conservative students who support the war in Iraq.

To many professors, there's a new and deeply troubling aspect to this latest chapter in the debate over academic freedom: students trying to dictate what they don't want to be taught.

Even the most contentious or disaffected of students in the '60s or early '70s never really pressed this kind of issue," said Robert O'Neill, former president of the University of Virginia and now director of the Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression.

Those behind the trend call it an antidote to the overwhelming liberal dominance of university faculties.

But many educators, while agreeing students should never feel bullied, worry that they just want to avoid exposure to ideas that challenge their core beliefs — an essential part of education. Some also fear teachers will shy away from sensitive topics, or fend off criticism by balancing their syllabus with opposing viewpoints, even if they represent inferior scholarship.

"Faculty retrench. They are less willing to discuss contemporary problems and I think everyone loses out," said Joe Losco, a professor of political science at Ball State University in Indiana who has supported two colleagues targeted for alleged bias. "It puts a chill in the air."

Conservatives say a chill is in order. A recent study by Santa Clara University researcher Daniel Klein estimated that among social science and humanities faculty members nationwide, Democrats outnumber Republicans by at least seven to one; in some fields it's as high as 30 to one. And in the last election, the two employers whose workers contributed the most to Sen. John Kerry's presidential campaign were the University of

Please see ACADEMIC, Page D13



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# Google vs. Yahoo: Heavyweights attack from different angles

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Even as they trade counterpunches punctuating their similarities, Internet heavyweights Google Inc. and Yahoo Inc. have strived for different goals — distinctions that may become more apparent as the fierce rivalry moves into 2005.

## 2004 In review

research report.

Google, owner of the leading online search engine, is devoted to a single-minded mission: transforming the way the world finds and stores information, even if that means sending people somewhere else.

Yahoo, owner of the world's most popular Web site, is taking a more multidimensional approach as it strives to be all things for all people — a one-stop destination for recreation, work and research.

The differing visions of the companies' founders and management teams will likely lead them down very different paths, UBS analyst Benjamin Schachter predicts in a recent

The philosophical contrasts already influencing how the rapidly growing companies spend the money that's cascading into their bank accounts.

**Mountain View-based Google** devotes significantly more of its budget to research and development, with more than \$300 million — about 30 percent of its operating cash flow — earmarked for capital expenditures this past year. Meanwhile, Sunnyvale-based Yahoo is expected to spend \$215 million to \$235 million on capital expenditures or about 20 percent of its operating cash flow.

Schachter believes the capital expenditure gap will widen in

2005 when he projects Google will spend \$450 million while Yahoo melts about \$250 million. If those estimates pan out, Google's capital expenditures, broken down as a percentage of operating cash flow, will be similar to such technology leaders as Microsoft Corp. and Intel Corp.

Google also takes a more laissez-faire approach toward innovation, embracing new ideas and products long before the company's management figures out how everything fits into the overall business plan.

"We are compiling this collection of very cool technologies and taking our sweet time figuring out what to do with them," Google chief financial officer George Reyes said during an investment conference in early December.

The strategy has produced an exotic casserole that includes e-mail, shopping and news services, three-dimensional

maps, digital photography, tools for creating Web logs, or blogs, and software for searching the information stored on computer hard drives.

Yahoo takes a more practical approach to technology, first identifying what people want and then building or buying a product designed to give visitors one less reason to leave its Web site — already the world's most popular online destination.

Yahoo wants to be "essential to people's personal and professional lives," spokeswoman Mrgy Osako said.

The emphasis has pushed Yahoo into territory that Google hasn't tread upon. The list of Yahoo services unavailable at Google include instant messaging, music, gaming, fantasy sports leagues, job placement, matchmaking and broadband service.

While it offers free versions of all its services, Yahoo constantly

looks for ways to charge its visitors for extra bells and whistles. Google, in contrast, gives just about everything away except a recently acquired 3-D mapping product called Keyhole, which charges \$29.95 for its basic software.

As it continues to sprout more tentacles, Yahoo is morphing into a media company and its 7,000 employees vastly outnumber Google's

2,700 workers. Yahoo already promotes heavily to spread its message, spending \$551 million, or 22 percent of its revenue, on sales and marketing through the first nine months of 2004.

Google so far only has bought ads to attract job applicants. Through the first nine months of 2004, Google spent \$170 million, or 8 percent of its revenue, on sales and marketing.

## Academic

Continued from D12

California system and Harvard University. Many teachers insist personal politics don't affect teaching. But in a recent survey of students at 50 top schools by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni, a group that has argued there is too little intellectual diversity on campuses, 49 percent reported at least some professors frequently commented on politics in class even if it was outside the subject matter.

Thirty-one percent said they felt there were serious issues in which they needed to agree with a professor's political or social views to get a good grade.

Leading the movement is the group Students for Academic Freedom, with chapters on 135 campuses and close ties to David Horowitz, a one-time liberal campus activist turned conservative commentator. The group posts student complaints on its Web site about alleged episodes of grading bias and unbalanced, anti-American propaganda by professors — often in classes, such as literature, in which it's off-topic. Instructors "need to make students aware of the spectrum of scholarly opinion," Horowitz said. "You can't get a good education if you're only getting half the story."

Conservatives claim they are discouraged from expressing their views in class, and are even blackballed from graduate school slots and jobs.

"I feel like (faculty) are so disconnected from students that they do these things and they can just get away with them," said Kris Wampler, who recently publicly identified himself as one of the students who sued the University of North Carolina. Now a junior, he objected when incoming students were assigned to read a book on the Quran before they got to campus.

So far, his and other efforts are having mixed results. At UNC, students lost their legs to the book but the university no longer uses the word "required" in describing the reading program for incoming students (the plaintiffs' main objection).

In Colorado, conservatives withdrew a legislative proposal for an "academic bill of rights" backed by Horowitz, but only after state universities agreed to adopt his views.

At Ball State, the school's provost sided with Professor George Wolfe after a student published complaints about Wolfe's peace studies course, but the episode has attracted local attention. Horowitz and backers of the academic bill of rights plan to introduce it in the Indiana legislature — as well as in up to 40 other states.

At Columbia, anguished debate followed the screening of a film by an advocacy group called The David Project that alleges some faculty violate students' rights by using the classroom as a platform for anti-Israeli political propaganda (one Israeli student claims a professor taunted him by asking, "How many Palestinians did you kill?"). Administrators responded this month by setting up a new committee to investigate student complaints.

In the wider debate, both sides cite the guidelines on academic freedom first set out in 1915 by the American Association of University Professors.

The objecting students emphasize the portion calling on teachers to "set forth justly... the divergent opinions of other investigators." But many teachers note the guidelines also say instructors need not "hide their own opinions under a mountain of equivocal verbiage," and that their job is teaching students "to think for themselves."

Horowitz believes the AAUP, which opposes his bill of rights, and liberals in general are now on the establishment side. He abandoned their commitment to real diversity and student rights.

But critics say Horowitz is pushing a political agenda, not an academic one.

"It's often phrased in the language of academic freedom. That's what's so strange about that," said Ellen Schrecker, a Yeshiva University historian who has written about academic freedom during the McCarthy era. "What they're saying is, 'We want people to reflect our point of view.'"

## Bush

Continued from D12

don't tax laws. "We must reform our complicated and outdated tax code," Bush said shortly after his election. Among the options to replace the current income tax are a national sales tax, some form of a consumption tax or a simplified flat tax — all alternatives certain to face an uphill fight.

The notion of making the tax cuts permanent carries a hefty price tag in a time of record budget deficits — \$1 trillion.

• **Renewing efforts for peace in the Middle East.** The death of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat provides an opportunity to bridge the divide between the Israelis and Palestinians. British Prime Minister Tony Blair, a Bush ally, has stressed the need to move on this crisis. For Bush, all foreign policy moves will be made with a new secretary of State as Colin Powell departs and Condoleezza Rice steps in.

• **A Constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.** Conservatives expected that Bush won a second term and they expect him to follow through on his election-year pledge to prohibit same-sex marriage. Eleven states adopted similar measures on Nov. 2, but the constitutional amendment lacked the necessary votes in Congress.

A number of presidents have

had a rough time in their second terms — Nixon resigned in his, Ronald Reagan survived the Iran-Contra scandal and Clinton was impeached over a sex scandal.

In his second term, Bush faces the possibility of an unprecedented opportunity: the chance to reshape the nation's high court for decades to come. Chief Justice William Rehnquist, 80, is being treated for thyroid cancer, and if he steps down, Bush would have the first appointment to the court since 1994. In fact, the president could make at least one appointment to the Supreme Court and probably more.

Justices John Paul Stevens, 84, and Sandra Day O'Connor, 74, are considered the most likely to step aside after Rehnquist.


Bush has already moved to change the look of his Cabinet, tapping Rice to replace Powell, Alberto Gonzales to take over as attorney general for John Ashcroft and Carlos Gutierrez to head Commerce for Don Evans among other steps.

All will require confirmation by the Senate while Republicans hold 55 seats in the Democrats' 41 with one Democratic-leaning independent. The Cabinet choices are expected to sail through without much opposition from the Democrats.

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# In 2004, the world reaps the whirlwind

The Associated Press

The winds blew unrelentingly through 2004 — and not just the tempests that smashed the Atlantic and Gulf coasts again and again.

Gales of war and suffering battered Iraq and the Sudan; political gusts roiled America and Ukraine. And countless squalls — baseball steroid scandal, the vaccinated-gone-AYCO, Janet Jackson's bare right breast — left many disoriented and disgruntled.

"We're overwhelmed," just overwhelmed," said Al Jackson, a Pensacola firefighter, after Jan. 11. "Clearly, and Frances in a lethal procession through Florida, to be followed by Jeanne.

But 2004 was a bewildering year in nearly every way. Rarely has so many people been so overwhelmed, in so many places.

At Camp Koumoungo in Chad, where Mohammed Azib recalled the moment when his son was gunned down by a helicopter that circled overhead, and how his family then fled their village — joining the accused 1.8 million refugees from the Sudanese insurgency and counterinsurgency. "Every day, I see my son lying under that tree," said Azib, tearfully.

In the Russian town of Beslan, where 34-year-old Georg Kozarov recounted his part in a mob that lynched one of the terrorists who had launched the bloodbath at a local school, leaving more than 330 dead. "How does one understand this? How do you forgive it?" he asked.

In Omaha, Neb., where Shane Kielion's high school sweetheart, April, gave birth to their first child — just hours after the Marine rifleman died in the battle for Fallujah. His family's hearts were stretched from exultation to sorrow.

"It's time for them to do some healing," said the father's old football coach, Jay Ball.

The father Shane Jr. will never know what happened among more than 1,300 American military personnel dead in Iraq. Every day seemed to bring news of more deaths — Iraqis, American troops, hostages like Nicholas Long, the young American whose severed head was brandished as a trophy by his captors.

Americans showed their support for the troops by affixing magnet ribbons to their SUVs, even as they were appalled by pictures of jaunty GIs humiliating naked Iraqi prisoners at Abu Ghraib.

The war against terrorism entered its fourth year, and Iraq's rising death toll was not the only bad news. Iran and North Korea flirted with nuclear capabilities and Osama bin Laden, still at large, vilified the United States via video tapes in March, in Madrid, 19, died when four commuter trains blew up almost simultaneously — bombed by militants linked to al-Qaida.

And yet, President Bush could tell the Republican National Convention that "freedom is on the march," and he had a point.

Even as Iraq tottered shakily toward a Jan. 20, 2005, election, Humid Karzai became Afghanistan's first popularly elected president. Yasser Arafat's death opened the way to Palestinian elections, tantalizing strife-weary Israelis and Arabs.

In Ukraine, defiant thousands wore orange and blockaded government buildings to protest an election that they — and international observers — said was rigged. The country's highest court agreed, ordering a new vote and setting off a gleeful celebration.

"We have proven that we are a nation that could defend our choice," opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko told the hordes in Independence Square. "Justice and freedom are coming back to Ukraine thanks to you, real heroes."

The American election was not nearly as dramatic. There was no reprise of 2000, no 11th-hour court decision anointing a new president.

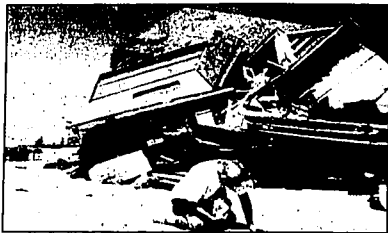
But it wasn't pretty, either. The 2004 election, said political analyst Norman Ornstein, was "the nastiest in our lifetimes. It doesn't maybe equal the 19th century but it's hard to watch this without getting an upset stomach if you care about politics."

## 2004

There was the Howard Dean zepplin, inflated by Internet buzz, deflated by disappointing results and the former Vermont governor's primal caterwaul after the Iowa caucuses. There was the John Kerry juggernaut, wrapping up the Democratic nomination on Super Tuesday. And then the Bush campaign took Kerry apart, painting him as a flip-flopping liberal who wanted to submit American decisions to some kind of global test.

The Republicans got a lot of help from the Swift Boat Veterans for Truth and their commercials questioning Kerry's heroism during the Vietnam War. The Democrats, meanwhile, were aided by Bush-bashing cadres like MoveOn.org and by Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11."

Even aside from the independent 527 groups, Bush and Kerry raised a record \$689 million. They unleashed that bonanza in a torrent of ads and appearances in battleground states, interrupted by three televised debates (it was widely believed that Kerry "won" them, and widely rumored that a suspicious bulge in the president's jacket was some sort of radio receiver).



The owner of this house on Cape San Blas kneels to pray in front of the rubble, Sept. 17 in Cape San Blas, Fla. The home was destroyed by the winds and waves of Hurricane Ivan as it passed through the area.

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four votes in the House of Representatives and four in the Senate, and knocked off Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle.

Did Americans just not warm to Kerry? Did they better trust Bush to guide their country through the shoals of Iraq and terrorism?

Or, as many suggested, was their vote for Bush a reflection of the moral values of a country that this year mourned the passing of its conservative lodestar, Ronald Reagan, at age 93?

Clearly, many oppose gay marriage. Voters in 11 states were asked if they wanted to ban it in all 11, they said yes.

Their zeal was stoked by a Massachusetts high court decision giving gay couples the right to marry; clerks there issued more than 4,200 marriage licenses to same-sex couples. The mayor of San Francisco married 3,995 same-sex couples, too, before the California Supreme Court ruled the weddings invalid.

"It gave me a feeling like you were kicked in the stomach," said Margot McShane, who was

married — briefly — to Alexandra D'Amario.

It is a feeling shared by Dina Matos McGreevey, who stood by numbly as her husband James, the governor of New Jersey, announced that he was resigning — because he is a gay American, "and because he had had an affair with a male staffer."

It is a feeling shared by domestic diva Martha Stewart, who went to jail (but not by basketball star Kobe Bryant, who didn't). It is a feeling shared by the suffering people of Haiti, for whom 2004 was a year of almost unrelenting misery — first, a violent revolution, and then a tropical storm that killed thousands.

And it certainly shared by the people of Florida, battered by hurricanes that came and went with the regularity of a cross-town bus, killing 117 Floridians and causing damage in the billions. Ominously, experts predicted intense storm patterns for the next 30 years, or more.

The good news: 2004 is over. The bad news: The 2005 forecast is for more of the same.



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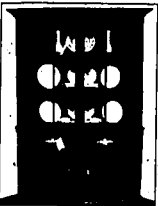
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**TWIN FALLS** E. county, 3 bdrm., 2 bath throughout. For rent. \$900+ dep. 324-5523.

**TWIN FALLS** LUXURIOUS house, close to bdrm, 2 bdrm, 2 bath. No smoking/pets. \$1,100 + utilities. For info 208-543-5619 or 661-258-1930.

**TWIN FALLS** NE location, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, family room, gas heat, AC, lg. 2 car garage. 734-7437 or 420-6025.

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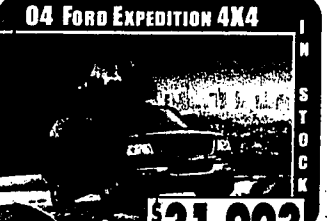
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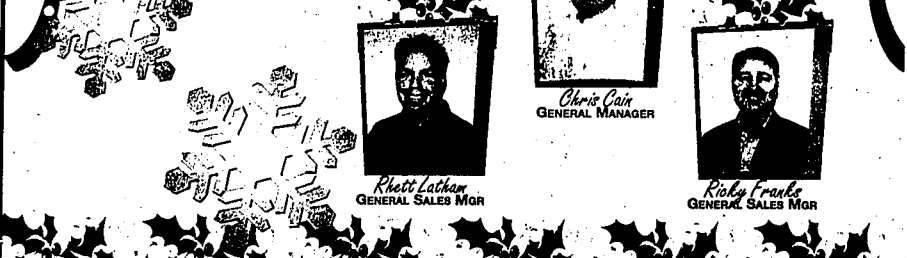
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**COCKER SPANIELS** Born Dec. 7th, AKC registered, black & white/brown. Very cute, parents on site! Asking \$350. Call Terri at 208-677-3950.  
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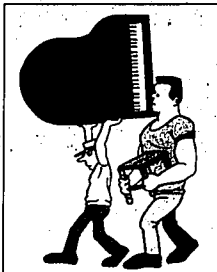
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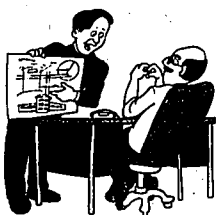
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Sunday, Dec. 26, 2004

## THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
What are the correct responses to an opening bid of a gambling three no-trump? I held ♠ 8-3, ♥ A-Q-10-4, ♦ A-J-7-6-2, ♣ 5-4 and decided to pass three no-trump, hoping that my partner would have length in spades or the guarded queen, or that they would find the wrong lead. No dice!

Hopeful Hannah, Troy, N.Y.

**ANSWER:** With your hand you should assume that spade leads will be fatal to three no-trump. Jump to five clubs (clubs should be partner's long solid minor) and hope that you can find a way to 11 tricks. If feeling pessimistic, bid only four clubs to try to ensure your plus score.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
What am I allowed to do if I want to correct my call when using a bidding box?

Shadow Boxer, Erie, Pa.

**ANSWER:** If you accidentally pull out the wrong bid (as opposed to changing your mind about what you wanted to bid), you can correct your bid up until your partner has acted, even after your LHO has bid. However, the next player can then also change his call, of course.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
If a cuebid or a splinter gets doubled, what should a redouble or a pass signify? Should one show second-round control, or first-round control, or is this not a situation in which players have a firm agreement?

Wandering Eyes, Columbia, S.C.

**ANSWER:** Redouble should always show a first-round control.

As for pass, after partner has splintered, it should be used as an encouraging noise but deny first-round control, while a pass of a double of a regular cue-bid may be played as neutral. However, the idea of playing a pass to promise a second-round control has something going for it.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
Do you recommend Reverse Drury for a beginning duplicate player? If so, what responses do you advocate?

Tyro Mania, Lorain, Ohio

**ANSWER:** With reservations (because beginning players need to learn how to play and defend, not how to master conventions), yes, I do recommend Reverse Drury. After partner opens one of a major in third seat, your response of two clubs, if not in competition, shows a maximum pass and a fit for partner. Opener's rebid of his major is the weakest option; rebidding two diamonds is a tempo-rizing move suggesting opening values. Responder signs off with a minimum, or bids descriptively.

**Dear Mr. Wolff:**  
As responses to weak-two or to three-level pre-empts, should new suits be forcing, invitational, or nonforcing?

Follow-up Freddy, Detroit, Mich.

**ANSWER:** I'd play a new suit as forcing for one round, but not to game. Thereafter, anything that sounds nonforcing is nonforcing, so if either party repeats their suit, that can be passed.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at [bobby@bridgeguy.com](mailto:bobby@bridgeguy.com).  
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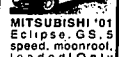
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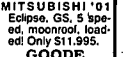
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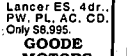
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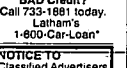
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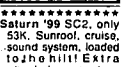
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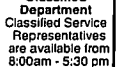


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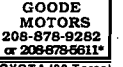
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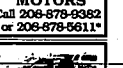
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## I'm not ready to take down the tree yet

Denise Turner is off this week. Here's her column from Dec. 27, 1998.

The presents are unwrapped. The aroma of turkey and pecan pie is fading fast. The Christmas tree is starting to look lonely.



LIFE AND TIMES  
 Denise Turner

Just when I was beginning to think about taking down the tree, I happened upon a book written by a man named Billy Romp, the ultimate Christmas tree expert. He wrote the book, "Christmas on Jane Street," about his experiences selling Christmas trees in New York City.

For the past 10 years, Billy Romp, with his wife and their three children, has journeyed from his Vermont farm to Greenwich Village to set up shop outside a tiny camper atop the family pick-up truck. It is a great adventure that lasts a month and has made the Romp family dear to the hearts of New Yorkers.

No small feat. According to a recent press release, New Yorkers leave their keys with the Romps and offer them access to apartments and meter maids forget to ticket the Romp camper.

Meanwhile, Billy Romp matches people with the trees that are perfect for them — because Billy Romp believes that every tree has a unique personality and story to tell.

This makes me look at my Christmas tree a little differently, more like I did when I was a kid.

One Christmas, when I was about 7 years old, I cried so hard when my mother tried to take down the Christmas tree that I talked her into leaving it up until Feb. 1. It was a live tree, and I think the needles have moved beyond dry into moldy by the time the tree came down.

Today, just thinking about that recipe for disaster scares me to death.

After I grew up and had my own kids, I guess I allowed the Christmas tree magic to wane. I started thinking of the Christmas tree as something that dropped pine needles onto the carpet — or as something to hold my favorite ornaments until someone in my immediate or extended family decided it was time to play "grenade."

I read about Martha Stewart's theme trees and thought, "I bet she doesn't have one that would blend in with the carry-out pizza box and the gym shorts on the Christmas tree and my daughter's posters of Leonardo DiCaprio."

A few years ago, I clipped out a magazine article with kids' letters to Santa. One, written by an 8-year-old boy, requested a tank, a jet fighter, 20 toy soldiers and a bazooka gun, "so I can plan a surprise attack on my brother."

Talk about real life. And yet, I think I am ready to consider the more pleasant aspects of Christmas trees, once again.

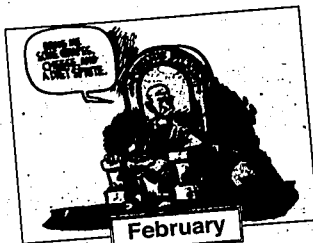
In checking a few references, I have discovered that the idea of decorating a tree dates probably back to ancient Rome, but Christmas trees as we know them have their "roots" in 16th-century Germany.

The Germans often decorated their Christmas trees with fruits and nuts, and, on Christmas Day, the children shook the trees to collect the goodies.

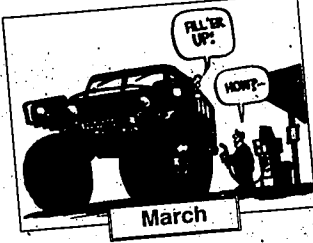
According to a book titled "Traditional Holiday Recipes," evergreen trees became popular in Pennsylvania in the late 18th century, but before that, different trees were brought home to decorate.

One of these trees, the Grischdaagsmoije (let's all sing, "O Grischdaagsmoije, O Grischdaagsmoije"), is actually a Christmas maypole made out of the limb of a mountain laurel. Another tree, the Oblaten, was a cluster of branches hung from the ceiling.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.



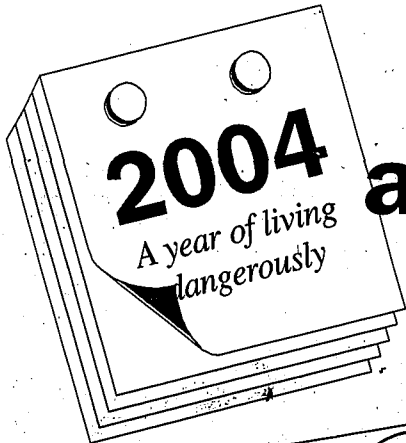
February



March



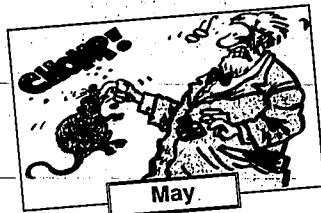
April



# The year according to Barry



January



May



June

Looking back on 2004, we have to conclude that it could have been worse.

"HOW??" you ask, spitting out your coffee.

Well, OK, a giant asteroid could have smashed into the earth and destroyed all human life except Paris Hilton and William Hung. Or Florida could have been hit by 20 hurricanes, instead of just 17.

Or the Yankees could have won the World Series.

But no question, 2004 was bad. Consider:

- We somehow managed to hold a presidential election campaign that for several months was devoted almost entirely to the burning issue of Vietnam.
- Our Iraq policy, despite being discussed, debated and agreed upon right up to the very highest levels of the White House, did not always seem to be wildly popular over there in Iraq.
- Osama bin Laden remained at large for yet another year (although we did manage, at long last, to put Martha Stewart behind bars).
- Perhaps most alarming of all, Cher yet again extended her "farewell" tour, which began dur-

ing the Jimmy Carter administration and is now expected to continue until the sun goes out. So all things considered, we're happy to be entering a new year, which according to our calculations will be 2005 (although the exit polls are predicting it will be 1997). But before we move on, let's swallow our anti-nausea medication and take one last look back at 2004, which began, as so many years seem to, with ...

### JANUARY

... a month that opens with all the magic, excitement and glamour conjured up by the words "Iowa caucuses." All the political

experts — having gauged the mood of the state by dining with each other at essentially three Des Moines restaurants — agree that the Democratic nomination has already been locked up by feisty yet irritable genius Vermont governor Howard Dean, thanks to his two unbeatable weapons: (1) the Internet, and (2) college students wearing orange hats.

But it turns out that the Iowa voters, many of whom apparently do not eat at the right restaurants, are out of the loop regarding the Dean strategic brilliance. Instead, they vote for John "I Served In Vietnam" Kerry, who served in Vietnam and also has many policies, although nobody, including him, seems to know for sure exactly what they are. Dean, reacting to his Iowa loss, gives an emotional concession speech that ends with him making a sound like a hog being castrated with a fondue fork. Incredibly, this fails to improve his poll standings.

Meanwhile the Bush administration, increasingly disturbed by the bad news from Iraq, cancels the White House's lone remaining newspaper subscription (Baseball Digest).

In lifestyle news, the hot trend is "metrosexuals" — young males who are not gay but are seriously into grooming and dressing well. There are only eight documented cases of males like this, all living in two Manhattan blocks, but they are featured in an estimated

Please see BARRY, Page E5



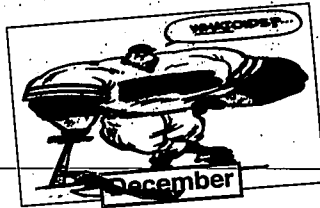
July



August



September



December



November



October



**FAMILY LIFE**

**ANNIVERSARY**

**THE CHILDS**

**RUPERT** — Mr. and Mrs. Dale Child of Rupert will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 5:00 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 29, at the Rupert LDS 1st Ward meeting house, corner of Eighth and G streets in Rupert. The event will include dancing to music by the Twin Falls Centennial Dance Orchestra until 9:30 p.m.

Child and his wife Susie were married Dec. 29, 1954, in Roy, Utah. They have lived in Idaho for

41 years. He worked as part owner of Cameron Sales Inc. for 30 years and worked for Idaho Investment Corp. in Twin Falls. He also spent two years in the U.S. Army, serving in Germany.

The couple has been active in the LDS Church, serving missions in Nigeria, West Africa and Des Moines, Iowa. They have also been active in the Minicassia Christmas Council and many other community charities and activities.

Their children include Michael (Christ) Child, Stephen (Janet).



Sue and Dale Child.

Child and Jane (Todd) Wall, all of Rupert, Debra Campbell of Boise, Daniel (Teresa) Child of Las Vegas, Nev., and the late Nancy Williams (Dad) Williams of Ellettsville. The couple has 32 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

**WEDDINGS**

**BLACK-THOMAS**

**TWIN FALLS** — Ron and Gaele Black of Twin Falls announce the marriage of their daughter, Donella (Doni) Marie Black, to Cedric DeMarcus Thomas, son of Betty Jean Moore of Longview, Texas.

The wedding was held Sept. 18 at Myrtle Beach, S.C., in between Hurricane Ivan and Hurricane Jean. Family and friends were present at the beachside ceremony. A reception was held in Myrtle Beach following the ceremony.

The bride is a 1999 graduate of Twin Falls High School and is employed by the U.S. Army as a drill sergeant leader at the Drill Sergeant School in Fort Jackson, S.C. She holds the rank of sergeant first class in the U.S. Army. She is also working at finishing her master's degree in business management.



Donella and Cedric Thomas

The bridegroom is also employed by the U.S. Army as a drill sergeant leader at the Drill Sergeant School in Fort Jackson. He holds the rank of staff sergeant in the U.S. Army. He is currently working on his bachelor's degree in business management.

They are residing in Columbia, S.C.

**TRAUGHBER-GAILEY**

**WENDELL** — Kimberly Traugber and Josh Gailey were married July 17 at the New Life Community Church in Wendell.

The bride is the daughter of Mike and Theresa Traugber of Jerome.



Kimberly and Josh Gailey

The bridegroom is the son of Ric and Carla Gailey of Jerome.

Both the bride and groom are the bridesmaid of honor. The bride's cousins, Sara Traugber and Katelyn Draper, along with her friend, Devin Walker Wilmot, were the bridesmaids.

Jason Hill, a cousin of the bride, was the flower boy. The best man was the bride's brother, Adam Traugber. Travis Hiett, Mike Amaya and the bridegroom's brother, Jason Gailey, served as groomsmen.

Jason Creech, cousin of the bridegroom, was the ringbearer. Ushers were Zach Creech, cousin of the bridegroom, and Chad Traugber, brother of the bride.

Solists were Austin Amaya, Steve Lins and Devin Walker Wilmot.

The bride's cousin, Megan Traugber, attended the guest book.

Special guests included the

groom's grandmother, Jennette Gailey of Twin Falls, the groom's grandfather, Jack DeKewiet of Wendell, and the bride's grandparents, Mac and Margaret McLean of Jerome and Clyde and Sharon Traugber of Burley.

A reception was held immediately following the ceremony. Cake and punch were served by the bride's aunts, Jennifer Traugber, Chris Allison, Michelle Amaya and Tarryn Meane.

The bride is a graduate of Jerome High School and is attending the College of Southern Idaho, working towards a degree in elementary education.

The bridegroom is a graduate of Jerome High School and is employed at Rie Gailey Construction.

The couple honeymooned in Cancun, Mexico. They reside in Wendell.

**ENGAGEMENT**



Stella Parks and Eric Fredericksen

**PARKS-FREDERICKSEN**

**JEROME** — Terri Durham of Boise and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Parks of Eagle announce the engagement of their daughter, Stella Marie Parks, to Eric Don Fredericksen, son of Gene and Judi Fredericksen of Jerome.

Parks graduated from Borah High School and attended Boise State University, graduating with a degree in accounting. She is currently working towards her master's in business administration at BSU. She is employed as an internal auditor for Boise Cascade LLC in Boise.

Fredricksen graduated from Jerome High School in 1995. He attended the University of Idaho, where he ran track for the Vandals, and earned an undergraduate degree in criminal justice. He was admitted to the U of I College of Law in 1999 and earned a juris doctorate degree in 2002. He is currently an appellate attorney for the state of Idaho.

The wedding is planned for Saturday, Jan. 8, 2005, at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in Boise.

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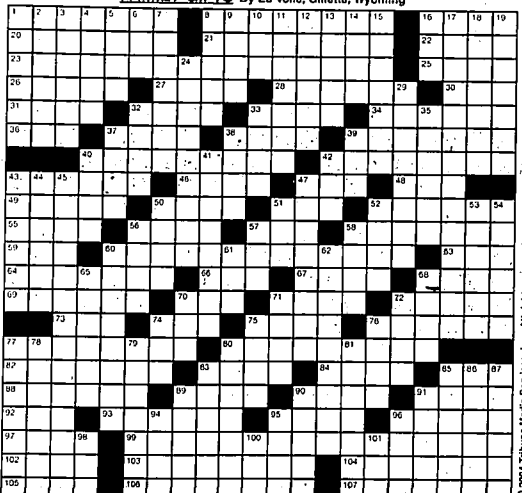
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**Sunday Crossword** Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

**FAMILY GIFTS** By Ed Voile, Gillette, Wyoming



12/26/04

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- |        |                      |                       |                       |                        |
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| 35     | 23 Tinsly            | 64 Roplopnish         | 107 "The Many Tylor   | 43 Sick fast           |
| 25     | 26 Spanish river     | 65 Periods of         | Moore Show"           | 44 Remove              |
| 28     | 27 Ownership         | 66 First murderer     | co-star               | 45 Fruity family gift? |
| 30     | 31 Gypsay Rose       | 67 Play about         | 1 Wine and dine       | 46 Rummagers           |
| 31     | 32 Resistance        | 71 Neighbor of        | 2 Worked for          | 47 Sandra Day and      |
| 33     | 34 Picking           | 72 El CA              | 3 Uttered             | 48 Carroll             |
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| 37     | 36 Too much          | 74 Brown with a       | 5 Extremes            | 43 Sick fast           |
| 38     | 37 Bern's river      | band                  | 8 Boozie, butts and   | 44 Remove              |
| 39     | 38 S.F. cathedral    | 75 "M-A'S'H" co-      | 9 Storage structure   | 45 Fruity family gift? |
| 40     | 39 Soft family gift? | star                  | 10 RPM part           | 46 Rummagers           |
| 41     | 40 Reflection of a   | 76 Large merchant     | 11 Bullies            | 47 Sandra Day and      |
| 42     | 41 Financial subj.   | 77 Act of excretion   | 12 Slanted            | 48 Carroll             |
| 43     | 42 Repair            | golf?                 | 13 Robstone and       | 49 Woman               |
| 44     | 43 Solder            | 82 Alphabetizing      | Russell               | 51 Wilsey              |
| 45     | 44 Component         | 83 Bro's bros         | 14 Novous spasms      | 52 Tank up             |
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| 47     | 46 Put in the hold   | 84 Part of RSVP       | 16 Vigoda or          | 54 Prolific English    |
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| 49     | 48 Inhering          | 86 Execrable          | golf?                 | 56 Goddoss of strife   |
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| 51     | 50 Robbican          | 88 Ballerina's skirt  | Addams Family"        | 58 Romanov title       |
| 52     | 51 Winter            | 89 Succotash bean     | 9 Last to finish      | 59 More culpable       |
| 53     | 52 Dovesovsky        | 90 Kelt jazz          | 24 Progress in        | 60 Second person       |
| 54     | 53 Anton or Wilhelm  | 91 Elminilor          | Religion              | 61 Address Mentil      |
| 55     | 54 North Carolina    | 92 Helmut's three     | 29 Restrictors        | 62 Humorous            |
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|        |                      |                       | town                  | 66 Sawbuck             |
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|        |                      |                       | 36 Swear              | 68 Resembling: suff.   |
|        |                      |                       | 37 Pack number?       |                        |

**SENIOR CALENDAR**

**Twin Falls Senior Center**

530 Shoshone St. W.  
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. The cost is \$5 for non to seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12.

A Pool room open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center will be open Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Menu:**  
Monday: Beef and noodles, veggies, bread, salad, dessert

Tuesday: Hot turkey sandwich, potatoes and gravy, spinach, fruit and Jell-O, bread, dessert

Wednesday: Barbecue chicken, au gratin potatoes, veggies, green salad, bread, pudding

Thursday: Italian meat ball, sandwich with cheese, green beans, salad, apple crisp

Activities:  
Today: Closed

Monday: Quilting, 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday Blood pressure

Wednesday: Elks Card Club, 7:30 p.m.

Quilting  
Thursday: Center pinocle, 1 p.m.

Friday: New Year's celebration, noon

**West End Senior Citizens Inc.**

1010 Main St., Buhl

**Menu:**  
Today: Pork chop dinner

Monday: Tuna casserole, green salad, peas and carrots, apricots, bread, dessert

Tuesday: Spaghetti, four-way veggies, green salad, French bread, fruit salad, bar cookie

Wednesday: Cook's choice

Thursday: Swiss steak, potatoes and gravy, green beans, green salad, peaches, bread, Jell-O

Activities:  
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m. Seniors, \$4, under age 60, \$4.50.

Monday: Exercise, 10 a.m. Cards, 6 to 8 p.m.

Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Crafts, 1 to 4 p.m.

Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m. Farmer's Market, 5 to 7 p.m.

Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

**Friday: Exercise, 10 a.m.**

**Filler Senior Haven**

222 Main St.  
Dinners served at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home to delivered meals are available each mealtime.

**Menu:**  
Tuesday: Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes, green beans, Jell-O salad, fruit crisp

Thursday: Oven fried chicken, mashed potatoes, spinach, hot roll, fruit salad, cake, ice cream

**Jerome-Senior Center**

212 First Ave. E.  
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.

**Menu:**  
Monday: Salisbury steak, potatoes and gravy, pickled beets, fruit cookies

Tuesday: Beef stew, green salad, biscuits, fruit, raisin squares

Wednesday: Hashbrown casserole, mixed veggies, Jell-O with fruit, blueberry shortcake

Thursday: Chicken salad casserole, scalloped potatoes, beets, fruit salad, lemon cake

Friday: Closed

Activities:  
Monday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.

Tuesday: Pinocle, 1 p.m.

Wednesday: Aerobics, 11 a.m.

Friday: Closed

**Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc.**

310 Main St. N., Kimberly

Milk, coffee and tea served.

**Menu:**  
Monday: Potato soup, sandwich, Jell-O, crackers, brownie

Wednesday: Oven fried fish, onion rings, glazed carrots, colcassou bread and butter, cinnamon rolls

Friday: Closed

Activities:  
Tuesday: No bingo, 7 p.m.

Wednesday: Board elections 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Thursday: Closed

Friday: Closed

**Gooding County Senior Citizens**

308 Senior Ave.  
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Center closed.

**Hagerman Senior Center**

140 E. Lake  
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Lunch is served at noon and Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Suggested donation is \$3, non to seniors \$4 and children under 12, \$2.

**Menu:**  
Monday: Turkey casserole, potatoes, vegetables, fruit, bread, dessert

Wednesday: Lasagna, vegetables, fruit, salad, bread sticks, dessert

Friday: I-lun dinner, sweet potatoes, vegetables, fruit, salad, rolls, dessert

**Silver and Gold Senior Center**

Eden  
Suggested donations for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Tuesdays are cookie and bread bake days and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days.

**Menu:**  
Tuesday: Pork roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, salad, fruit, cake and ice cream

Thursday: Soft shell tacos, beans, rice, salad, fruit, cookies

Activities:  
Wednesday: Bake Day Bingo, 7 p.m.

**Golden Years Senior Citizen, Inc.**

218 N. Hall St. W., Shoshone

Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

Center closed

**Richfield Senior Center**

Orange juice, milk and coffee served daily.

**Menu:**  
Monday: Fried chicken, potato salad, baked beans, birthday cake, ice cream

Thursday: Tuna fish sandwich, cream of broccoli soup, lemon pie

**Blaine Senior Center**

721 Third Ave. S., Halley

**Menu:**  
Tuesday: Cubed steak with gravy, rice, mixed NORMandy vegetables, biscuits, baked apples, chocolate pudding parfait

Wednesday: Pot roast with potatoes, onions, carrots, celery.

Please see CALENDAR, Page E5

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# COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

## AN ELKS CHRISTMAS



The Rupert Elks Lodge held its annual Kids Christmas party on Dec. 13. Members served dinner, and Santa handed out treats to the children. This event was chaired by Amber Blincoe and Robynn Freilburger.

Photo courtesy of CHRIS MOLLEY

## STORK REPORT

### Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Alexia Leeann Spencer, daughter of Stephanie Nicole and Jeremy Robert Spencer of Twin Falls, was born Sunday, Dec. 12, 2004.  
Olivia Rianne Sharp, daughter of Elizabeth and Collin David Sharp of Jerome, was born Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004.  
Trevor Maclean Yancey, son of Carrie Maclean and Allen H. Yancey of Twin Falls, was born Thursday, Dec. 16, 2004.

To announce a birth Send a copy of the birth certificate to:  
Jami Whited  
The Community Page  
The Times-News  
P.O. Box 548  
Twin Falls, ID 83303  
Or fax to: 735-5538  
Deadline: noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper.  
More information? Call Jami at 735-3278

### Cassia Regional Medical Center

Parker Cole Blauer, son of Brian and Summer Blauer of Rupert, was born Friday, Dec. 17, 2004.  
Laynie Marie Campbell, daughter of Grant and Michelle Campbell of Heyburn, was born Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2004.

### St. Benedict's Family Medical Center

Ashur Walter Lierman, son of Douglas and Lina Lierman of Jerome, was born Friday, Dec. 10, 2004.

Kylie Ray Cervantes, daughter of Adrim and Misty Cervantes of Wendell, was born Friday, Dec. 10, 2004.

Lilly Patricia Thomas, daughter of Joe and Shanate Thomas of Jerome, was born Saturday, Dec. 11, 2004.

Charles Vincent Crews, son of Joey Crews and Angel Burch of Twin Falls, was born Monday, Dec. 13, 2004.

Trentin Manuel Lopes, son of Eric Lopes and Kimberly Hollon of Bliss, was born Monday, Dec. 13, 2004.

Itzel Sanchez Campos, daughter of Feliman and Veronica Sanchez of Jerome, was born Monday, Dec. 13, 2004.

Kiersten Marie Sears, daughter of Steve and Hailey Sears of Wendell, was born Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004.

Hellen Lorene Karn, daughter of Robyn Parry and Jesse Karn of Hollister, was born Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2004.

Nicholas Enrique Reynoso, son of Enrique and Sandra Reynoso of Jerome, was born Friday, Dec. 17, 2004.

Erika Gallegos, daughter of Jose and Maria Gallegos of Jerome, was born Friday, Dec. 17, 2004.

## SERVICE NEWS

### Cannon completes U.S. Navy training in Nevada

Navy Seaman Recruit Cody Cannon, son of Toni B. Sims of Elks, Nev., and David Q. Cannon of Winnemucca, Nev., has completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. During the eight-week program, Cannon completed a variety of training that included classroom study and practical instruction on naval customs, first aid, firefighting, water safety and survival and shipboard and aircraft safety. Cannon is a 2003 graduate of Lovely High School of Winnemucca, Nev.

### Rivas completes cannon crewman training

Marine Corps Pfc. Benington A. Rivas, son of Yoni and Steve Rivas of Twin Falls, has graduated from the Cannon Crewman Course while assigned with Marine Detachment, U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Okla. During the course, Rivas received instruction on the identification and use of ar-

### Marine graduates from training in San Diego

Marine Corps Pfc. Alex M. Newbert, son of Nancy K. and Harvey L. Newbert of Burley, has completed 12 weeks of basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif. Newbert is a 2004 graduate of Burley High School. Newbert spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments, which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

### Thompson graduates from combat training

Army Pvt. Forrest L. Thompson has graduated from basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. During the nine weeks of training the soldier studied the

### Rivas completes cannon crewman training

Marine Corps Pfc. Benington A. Rivas, son of Yoni and Steve Rivas of Twin Falls, has graduated from the Cannon Crewman Course while assigned with Marine Detachment, U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Okla. During the course, Rivas received instruction on the identification and use of ar-

### Marine graduates from training in San Diego

Marine Corps Pfc. Alex M. Newbert, son of Nancy K. and Harvey L. Newbert of Burley, has completed 12 weeks of basic training at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif. Newbert is a 2004 graduate of Burley High School. Newbert spent numerous hours in classroom and field assignments, which included learning first aid, uniform regulations, combat water survival, marksmanship, hand-to-hand combat and assorted weapons training. They performed close order drill and operated as a small infantry unit during field training.

## A GIFT OF FOOD



The Silver Sage Daisy Troop 461 of Twin Falls spent the month of October collecting nonperishable food. The Girl Scouts then presented their donations to Major Ann Patterson at the Salvation Army to distribute to needy families.

Photo courtesy of MELISSA FUSTOS

## FFA CHAPTER AWARD

Members of the Castleford FFA Chapter attended the 77th National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., recently where they were recognized as one of the Star chapters in the National FFA Chapter Award Program. From left are members Wesley Rodgers, Echo Frey, Angle Gonterman and Melissa McCoy with adviser, Roger Wells.



Photo courtesy of National FFA

The chapter recognizes members for conducting a variety of activities focusing on student, chapter and community development. Members are encouraged to develop a detailed program of activities and projects that provide citizenship, personal and leadership development opportunities by giving students a chance to work with community leaders, partner groups and school organizations. FFA is a national youth organization.

## Oakley schools name honor roll students

- |   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <b>OAKLEY - Oakley Junior and Senior High School</b> has announced honor roll students for the first quarter. | Taylor Hale<br>Dustin C. Robinson   | James T. Cooper<br>Joshua R. Greenwell<br>Elise Starnum<br>Temperance A. Davis<br>Colton J. Bedke<br>Marla E. Felzer<br>Timber L. Muhlestein<br>Lindsay Nilsen<br>Suzanna A. Wooten<br>Keli Cooper<br>Michele J. Bedke<br>Macie A. Jeffrey | Thomas J. Whittle<br>Amy Muller<br>Natasia Robinson<br>Levi J. Walker<br>Karen M. Wells   | Amy K. Wells<br>Twelfth Grade<br>High honors<br>Seeth A. Hale<br>Evan M. McBride<br>Gary R. Nilsen<br>Anthony M. Clark<br>Lexie Scott<br>Jessica P. Wooten<br>Velecie C. Bedke<br>honors<br>Jessen Cooper<br>Hayley M. Hawkes<br>Owen J. Wadsworth<br>Blake E. Bedke<br>Bianke E. Cristofield<br>Jesse L. Larsen<br>Kathrina L. Smith<br>Mantie B. Washburn |
| <b>Seventh grade</b><br>High honors   | William H. Arneil<br>Andrew Nelson<br>Jonathan E. Hale<br>Jeffrey W. Cooper<br>Justin B. Cooper<br>Chloe V. Woodhouse<br>honors<br>Cody L. Muhlestein<br>Hilsieth L. Rose | Tori S. Emery<br>Whitney J. Smith<br>Brian P. Rollitt<br>Kelsey L. Spanger<br>Brandon T. Matthews<br>Caleb Taylor  | <b>Eighth grade</b><br>High honors<br>Ellian K. Hale<br>Taja C. Hawkes<br>Reagan B. Jones<br>Bryson G. Lind<br>Colten J. Wadsworth<br>honors<br>Tori S. Emery<br>Whitney J. Smith<br>Brian P. Rollitt<br>Kelsey L. Spanger<br>Brandon T. Matthews<br>Caleb Taylor | <b>Tenth Grade</b><br>High honors<br>Judy C. Goven<br>Korj Wadsworth  |
| <b>Ninth Grade</b><br>High honors   |   |  |   |   |

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### 'Freeze on Skis' raises money for fund

GOODING - This year's 19th annual Snake River Freeze on Skis, which raises money for a variety of charities, will also raise money for an education fund for Blake and Caitlin, the children of the late Marine Capt. Alan Rowe of Gooding, who died in Iraq on Sept. 3. At the New Year's Day event, volunteers collect sponsors and water-ski at Shoshone Falls. Rowe's widow, Dawn Haynes Rowe, was a Magic Valley Joyce who participated in the Freeze on Skis event several times. This year, she will travel from Yucca Valley, Calif., to participate. The funds she raises will be donated to the Family Readiness Program, which assists Twin Falls, Jerome, Hatley and Gooding families with loved ones in Iraq, said Alan Rowe's sister, Diana Rowe Pauls of Gooding. "It is so helpful for our troops to know their communities are there for their families at home. They can focus on their jobs knowing America will be taking care of their families. I know my brother Alan appreciated all of the support given to his wife and children while he was deployed," Diana Rowe Pauls said. Sponsorship donations can be sent to: Diana Rowe Pauls, 405 Colorado St., Gooding, ID 83330. Make payable to: Snake River Freeze On Skis, Inc.

### CSI enrichment classes catalogues now available

TWIN FALLS - Catalogues for twenty enrichment classes running from January through May through the Community Education Center at the College of Southern Idaho are now available. The catalogues feature class descriptions, times, dates, costs, instructor information and information on how to register. New classes include, "Computing Pick & Mix," "Music Downloading 101," "Intro to Stock Options," "Self-Hypnosis," "Journaling & Memiors" and "Resumes & Interviewing." In addition, popular repeat courses, such as "Computers for Seniors," "Pottery" and "Dog Obedience," will be offered. For more information, to receive a complete catalogue of classes, or to register, call 732-6290 or 732-6288.

### Daughters of the Utah Pioneers holds party

HUKLEY - The annual Christmas party for the Cassia Company of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers was held Dec. 4 with 34 members attending from the five "camps" in the organization. President Janet McFarland presided, invocation was offered by Maxine Thompson and a salute to the flag led by Carol

### Barksdale, Group singing was led by Lilyce Cox with Carol Barksdale accompanying.

A luncheon was served, followed by a program consisting of McFarland reading a humorous cowboy poem. Nola Holyoak talked about the experience of the pioneers on their first Christmas in the Utah Valley. Daughters of the Sarah Yeaman Camp sang. A humorous reading was given by Joyce Evans. Piano selections of Christmas music was played by Edna Cahoon and Audrey Holton also sang. Christmas stories were presented by Aleta Springham.

### CSI offers seniors Computers classes

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave. E., is offering zero-credit workshops for seniors interested in learning various computer skills in a hassle-free setting and without the pressure of a grade. "Computers for Seniors" will teach the basics. The course has been especially designed for seniors who want to get started with computers, but feel a need to build extra confidence to proceed. The class will be held from 9 a.m. to noon Saturdays, Jan. 29 through Feb. 26 in the Shields Building, Room 101. The cost is \$60. "Advanced Computers for Seniors" is designed for seniors

### who have taken "Computers for Seniors I" or have a solid computer background and are ready to take their knowledge to the next level. Word processing, internet and e-mail, downloading programs from the internet, computer troubleshooting and maintenance and adding and removing software and hardware will be covered. The class will be held from 9 a.m. to noon

### Saturdays, Jan. 29 to Feb. 26 in the Shields Building, Room 102. The cost is \$60.

For more information, or to register, call 732-6288 or 732-6290.

## SINUSITIS or COLD?

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SYMPTOM	SINUSITIS	COLD
Facial pressure/pain	Yes	Sometimes
Duration of illness	Over 10-14 days	Under 10 days
Nasal Discharge	Thick, yellow or green	Thick whitish or thin
Fever	Sometimes	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes
Pain in upper teeth	Sometimes	No
Bad Breath	Sometimes	No
Coughing	Sometimes	Yes
Nasal Congestion	Yes	Yes
Sneezing	No	Yes

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## Magic Valley scrapbooks

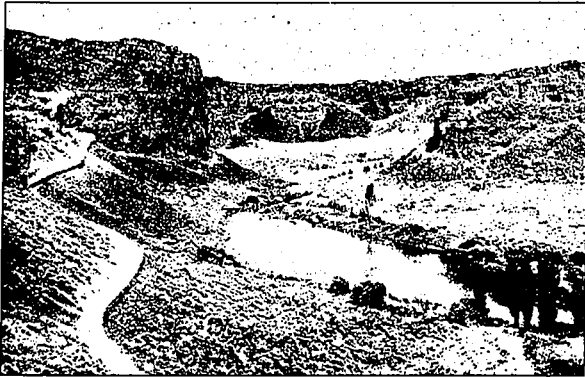


Photo courtesy of RUTH MOORE of Twin Falls

This photograph of the Blue Lakes is from a postcard postmarked Sept. 16, 1914, and mailed to Fred Hodder in Salt Lake City from his Twin Falls daughter-in-law, Maud Hodder, Ruth Moore of Twin Falls is Maud's daughter and Fred's granddaughter.

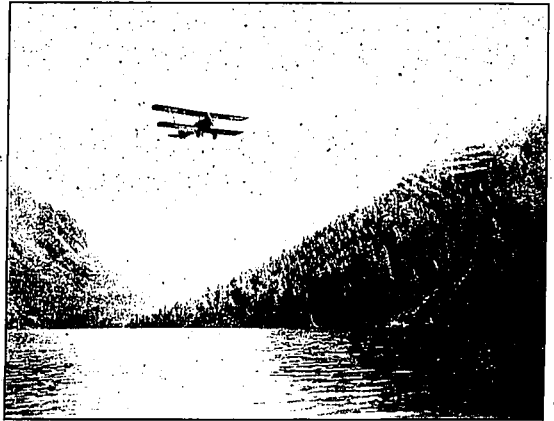


Photo courtesy of ANNABEL LUSTY of Natchez

Burton Perrine II dumps trout to stock a mountain lake in the Sawtooths in the 1940s.

In dry southern Idaho, it's no wonder that early Magic Valley residents with cameras photographed water. Now, as then, water draws wonder, contemplation, admiration. In these old photos from our readers, lakes and cascades serve as backdrops for outings with friends, as fitting spots for exercise and

fresh air, and as showpieces for promoting Magic Valley to the rest of the world.

A few of these scenes are no longer visible in the same wet glory you see in these images - after agriculture and industry claimed shares of southern Idaho's precious water.

-Virginia S. Hutchins



Photo courtesy of ANNABEL LUSTY of Natchez

This photograph from the early 1900s shows off the amount of Perrine Coulee water that is spilling into the Snake River Canyon. This scene is from the south grade of I.B. Perrine's canyon-bottom Blue Lakes Ranch.



Photo courtesy of ANNABEL R. FRAZIER of Twin Falls

This merry bunch at Blue Lakes in 1916 or 1917 includes, in front from left, Vera (Brown) Conover, Nita Crater, Fred Rudolph, Alice Brown and Charles Conover. The two people at back left are unidentified.

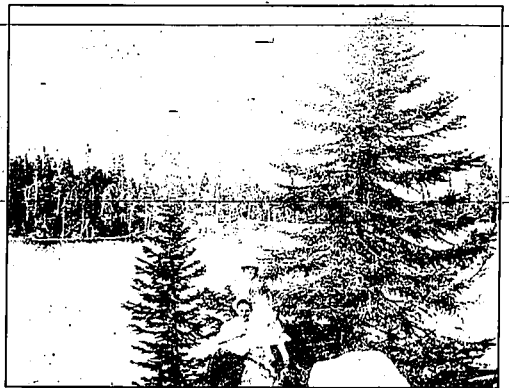


Photo courtesy of ANNABEL R. FRAZIER of Twin Falls

Alice Brown and Fred Rudolph enjoy the lake breezes after a long climb to Lake Cleveland, near Albion, on July 4, 1915 - before the modern road was built very far up to the lake. Alice and Fred, parents of Annabel Frazier of Twin Falls, were married several years later, in March 1919.

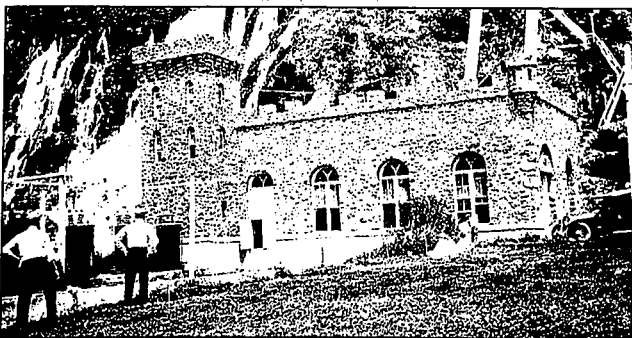


Photo courtesy of ANNABEL R. FRAZIER of Twin Falls

Visitors admire the power house at Thousand Springs in 1916. "Those springs aren't pretty like they were then," says Annabel Frazier of Twin Falls, daughter of the photograph's original owner. The display put on by Thousand Springs today is nothing like it was even in Frazier's childhood, she says. "It was beautiful."



Photo courtesy of ANNABEL LUSTY of Natchez

Stella Perrine and another person canoe on Alpheus Creek in 1910 at Blue Lakes Ranch. Stella called this boat, made by her grandfather Donald McKay, "Tippy Canoe."