

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy skies and seasonably mild. High 41, low 29.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Burning hearts: Fire doesn't stop Christmas for Buhl family.

Page B1

MONEY



Retail gamble pays off: Las Vegas goes luxury as high-end boutiques proliferate.

Page D1

COMPUTERS & TECHNOLOGY

Creating a buzz: Sony gaming machine poises to be a global hit.

Page A9

SPORTS



Riding high: Armstrong nabs AP Male Athlete of the Year award.

Page C1

OPINION

The federal freeze: Domestic spending merits a long overdue inspection for cutbacks, today's editorial says.

Page A10

COMING UP



Eat strategically

How to order in specialty restaurant without busting your diet.

Wednesday in The Times-News

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Death toll mounts in Asia

Disaster could be costliest the world has seen

The Associated Press

GALLE, Sri Lanka - Bodies washed up on tropical beaches and piled up in hospitals Monday, raising fears of disease across a 10-nation arc of destruction left by a monster earthquake and walls of water that killed more than 22,500 people. Thousands were missing and millions homeless.

Humanitarian agencies began what the United Nations said would become the biggest relief effort the world has ever seen.

The disaster could be the



Acehnese people wait in a long line for gasoline in Banda Aceh, Monday. The oil-rich Indonesian province of Aceh was one of the few places hit by both southern Asia's massive earthquake and the tsunamis it caused.

costliest in history as well, with "many billions of dollars" of damage, said U.N. Undersecretary Jan Egeland, who is in charge of emergency relief coordination. Hundreds of thou-

sands have lost everything, and millions face a hazardous future because of polluted drinking water, a lack of sanitation and no health services, he said.

More than 12,500 people died in Sri Lanka, nearly 5,000 in Indonesia, and 4,000 in India. The International Red Cross, which reported 23,700 deaths, said it was concerned that diseases like malaria and cholera could add to the toll.

Late Monday, Indonesian Vice President Yusuf Kalla was quoted as saying he believed the toll in the country could be as high as 25,000, that would be 20,000 more deaths than con-

Please see TSUNAMI, Page A2

Bin Laden endorses al-Zarqawi

Tape broadcast calls for boycott of elections

The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt - In an audio-tape broadcast Monday by Al-Jazeera satellite television, al-Zarqawi endorsed Abu Musab al-Zarqawi as his deputy in Iraq and called for a boycott of next month's elections there.

The voice on the tape described al-Zarqawi as the "emir" or prince of al-Qaida in Iraq and said Muslims there should "listen to him."

The man speaking on the tape also referred to an October statement in which al-Zarqawi, a Jordanian, declared allegiance to bin Laden and changed his group's name to al-Qaida in Iraq. The speaker called that "a great step on the path of unifying all the mujahideen in establishing the state of righteousness and ending the state of injustice."

The voice on the tape broadcast Monday sounded like bin Laden's and the statement used language that appeared to conform with previous statements by the Saudi-born terror mastermind.

However, there was no way to independently confirm the speaker's identity.

In Washington, U.S. State Department spokesman Adam Ereli said it had not been determined whether the speaker was bin Laden but "it's a message from terrorists" and an attempt "by murderers to propagate their evil trade."

Al-Jazeera broadcast excerpts of the tape while showing a still photo of the bearded bin Laden, wearing a white robe and head covering.

Al-Zarqawi's group is believed responsible for numerous car bombings and kidnappings of foreign hostages in Iraq. The United States has placed a \$25 million bounty on both bin Laden and al-Zarqawi.

Al-Zarqawi is believed to have escaped from his head-quarters in the insurgents in the Baathist stronghold of Fallujah during the massive U.S.-led assault in the Iraqi city last month.

The speaker said al-Zarqawi and those with him are fighting "for God's sake."

"We have been pleased that they responded to God's and his prophet's order for unity, and we in al-Qaida welcome their unity with us," the speaker said.

The speaker also said he was "pleased" with al-Zarqawi's "giant operations" against the Americans and interim Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's "apostate government."

Iraqis are scheduled to elect a 275-member National Assembly on Jan. 30 and those lawmakers will draft a new constitution.

There have been calls to postpone the election because of the ongoing insurgency, but President Bush has insisted the vote be held as scheduled.

The speaker condemned those elections.

A decade with the wolf



Part three of a four-day series

A BATTLE TO SURVIVE



Avid anti-wolf activist Ron Gillett rents cabins in Stanley and operates an outfitting business in the Sawtooth Valley. Gillett advocates the complete expulsion of wolves from central Idaho.

Outfitter's design: Remove wolves from Idaho

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

Inside

- Opponents say wolves harm game animals Page A4
- Lawsuits over wolves cost time and money Page B1

Coming tomorrow

- Where do wolves go from here?

STANLEY - For a moment, a crack seems to appear in Ron Gillett's steely armor.

Fiercy anger washes over his face, which, only moments before, flushed red with flame.

"I love Idaho," Gillett says. "I love the Sawtooth Valley."

Just when you think Gillett is about to wax poetic about the land he calls home, his words takes a gruesome turn.

"I don't want to be out walking in the forest and come upon an elk calf with its nose chucked off and three of its legs ripped off," Gillett says. "I don't want to see its mother, belly ripped open, entrails hanging out, tripping over its guts."

The reintroduction of wolves to central Idaho, he says, created the worst wildlife disaster the state has ever known. That disaster harms outfitting operations, like Gillett's, that cater to elk and big game hunters.

For nearly five years, Gillett has been consumed with one thing: getting wolves out of Idaho. And, Gillett is willing to remove wolves at all costs. His call to action echoes the early rebelliousness of the Idaho state legislature a decade ago as they threatened anarchy over the federal government's plan to reintroduce wolves to the state.

"I think that some of us are real tired of 2 or 3 percent of the population - these wolf lovers - dictating to us how its going to be," Gillett says.

Please see ANTIWOLF, Page A4

Original wolves gained following

By Michelle Dunlop Times-News writer

BOISE - Caracats covered much of The Old Man's eyes.

In his last years, he lost some of his youthful independence and shed his lion status; he learned to rely more on the kindness of others.

"He must have been good to the younger members of the pack for them to take care of him when he was older," said one who watched him grow.

Suzanne Stone, a spokeswoman for Defenders of Wildlife, always reserved tender thoughts for The Old Man - one of the original wolves released in central Idaho in January 1995.

"It was the first one I locked eyes on," Stone says quietly.

Please see WOLVES, Page A4

Kids make it their mission to help soldiers phone home

The Associated Press

BOSTON - For all the billions of dollars being spent on the war in Iraq, 14-year-old Brittany Bergquist is surprised that the U.S. military doesn't do what she and her little brother are doing: helping soldiers phone home free.

"I'm kind of happy that they didn't supply them," she said, "because we've always wanted to do something for the soldiers."

With \$14 from their piggy banks, she and 12-year-old brother Robbie started Cell Phones for Soldiers. In less than nine months, the organization has provided \$250,000 worth of prepaid calling cards to American soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait.

They raise money by collect-

ing old cellular phones and selling them to companies that refurbish them for resale.

It all started in April, when the family heard about a Massachusetts soldier who ran up \$7,600 in cell phone charges calling home from Iraq. T-Mobile forgave much of the bill. But Brittany and Robbie figured there must be other soldiers - including a cousin of theirs - who are stationed in Iraq and want to call home more often but can't afford it.

The Bergquist kids pooled their money and got friends to kick in \$7 more.

They opened a bank account at South Shore Savings Bank, which was so impressed it contributed \$500. Yard sales followed, along with newspaper articles and TV interviews. Hundreds of schools and organiza-

tions, from Lowell to Georgia, have started local chapters and become drop-off centers for used cell phones.

"It's hard doing everything," said Brittany, an eighth-grader from the Boston suburb of Norwell. "But it doesn't matter to us. We think about how hard the soldiers work every day and they don't have a choice to stop."

Last week, the IRS granted Cell Phones for Soldiers nonprofit status, meaning contributions to the cause are tax-deductible.

The USO, the private organization that entertains U.S. troops overseas, runs a similar program, called Operation Phone Home. A \$10 donation will buy a serviceman or servicewoman a 100-minute global calling card.



Brittany Bergquist, 14, foreground, and her brother, 12-year-old Robbie, left, pose with parents Gall and Bob in their Norwell, Mass., home Dec. 20.

AP photo

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy skies and seasonably mild temperatures. Highs in the lower 40s.
Tonight: Periods of clouds. Lows in the upper 20s.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with developing rain or snow showers. Highs in the upper 30s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 41, Low 29).

Yesterday's Weather

Table listing weather for Boise, Burley, Chubbuck, Coeur d'Alene, Elgin, Idaho Falls, Jerome, Ketchikan, Lewiston, Madras, Malheur, Mars, Meridian, Pocatello, Salmon, Shoshone.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

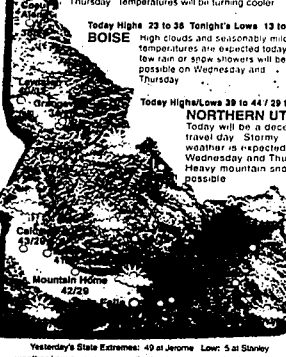
Today: High clouds and mild temperatures. Highs in the low 40s.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy skies. Lows in the upper 20s.
Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with developing rain or snow showers. Highs in the upper 30s.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes monthly and yearly statistics.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. It will be mild today with increasing clouds. Snow will be falling on the mountains on Wednesday and Thursday. Temperatures will be turning cooler.



MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for Jan 5, Jan 10, Jan 15, Jan 20, Jan 25, Jan 30.

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table showing moonrise and moonset times for Today, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

U.V. INDEX

Table showing U.V. Index levels: Low, Moderate, High.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Boise, Burley, Chubbuck, etc. with weather icons and temperatures.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Atlanta, Baltimore, Boston, etc. with weather icons and temperatures.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, etc. with weather icons and temperatures.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CREDIT EXPRESS advertisement with logo and contact information.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, etc. with weather icons and temperatures.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 2 columns: Today, Tomorrow. Lists cities like Accra, Addis Ababa, Algiers, etc. with weather icons and temperatures.

The Times-News Aides play growing role in classroom

By Brad Hurd, 735-3345

BALTIMORE (AP) — With students huddled around her, Sandra Davis quizzed them on dates and times, a part of life that doesn't come easily for developmentally disabled children.

And when 7-year-old Darryl Washington got his birthday right after a year of trying, using a checklist to correctly point out Nov. 9 on the calendar, Davis shouted in joy.

"Ms. Valentine" Davis said to fellow instructor Florence Valentine, "I hate to disturb your group, but Darryl found his birthday. He didn't say it, but he found it!"

Davis is among roughly 1 million people in the nation's classrooms who strive for such breakthrough moments with students. She's also not a teacher.

She is a teacher's aide, a job that's become such a major part of instruction to provide the quality and experience — just as teachers must.

Since the 1950s, when aides were recruited for clerical work, their role has become a hybrid of teaching and lesson planning along with supervising the playground and cafeteria.

Often assigned to help students with disabilities and limited-English learners, aides also have quietly gained a big presence in mainstream classes.

Three decades ago, schools used to have 35 teachers for every teacher's aide. The ratio is now lower than 5-to-1, as the number of full-time and part-time aides has almost doubled.



Yet aides still lack clear identity, right down to the various names they go by — including paraprofessional and paraeducator.

Valentine, to pull aside two students who weren't as advanced as they were expected to be, worked with a soft calendar and needed to work with a soft calendar.

"In my classroom, I decided there's going to be no line between because ultimately, we're all teachers," Valentine said.

That's the attitude in the school, where aides are expected to understand the curriculum, know teaching techniques and participate in faculty training, said principal Sandra Ashe.

They make a difference in the classroom," she said. "And besides, they're around the teacher all the time. The difference is, they may not be degreed or have had the professional experience yet."

In some cases nationwide, the sharing of the teaching line has led to trouble, with untrained aides put in charge of classes. A federal study in 2000 found more than four in 10 aides in the neediest schools spent at least half their time running classes without a teacher.

"People expect fully qualified teachers to be running their children's classes," said Linda Hodge, president of the National APTA. "The expectations of aides is that they'll be exactly that — an aide. It helps the whole class, and they can break activities into small groups. But we never expect a teacher's aide to be teaching a class."

Congress sought to draw a firm line under the No Child Left Behind Act of 2002. Under the law, paraprofessionals are to play supporting roles, remain in proximity to teachers and refrain from introducing new content to students.

The law also set higher qualifications for instructional aides, many of whom never got a college degree and typically get paid \$10,000 to \$24,000 for full-time work.

To keep their jobs, aides in schools that receive federal poverty aid have until January 2006 to complete at least two years of college study or earn at least an associate's degree.

Their other option is to pass a test proving their knowledge of reading, writing and math and their ability to help students with those topics. Newly hired aides must have such qualifications before they can get the jobs.

Teachers unions say the law set those standards without requiring states or districts to help aides get qualified, and that schools will soon be scrambling to comply. An AFT study this year warned that more than half the states are not on pace to meet the 2006 deadline.

Davis, the Baltimore aide, has passed a test that will allow her to stay in class. And in her 15th year in her school system, she has no interest in pursuing a teaching degree.

"When teachers go home, they have to take it home — grading papers, doing report cards, setting up tests," she said. "When I go home, I can leave it there. It's a paraprotection and I'm proud to be one. I just wish we could get the respect that teachers get."

The Times-News 735-3350 Lottery and Weather Information advertisement.

Tsunami information section with text about the disaster in the Indian Ocean and the impact on various regions.

Tsunami information section with text about the disaster in the Indian Ocean and the impact on various regions.

Comair tries to get back on feet Wintery mix snarls Eastern Seaboard

Carrier hopes to be fully operational soon.

HEBRON, Ky. (AP) — Luggage was stacked in rows longer than a football field Monday as airlines struggled to recover from the delays and mix-ups caused by regional carrier Comair's systemwide cancellations during the holiday weekend and the failure of US Airways' baggage system.

Travelers moved slowly along the long rows at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport in Hebron, looking for bags that had been misdirected or were caught up by flight cancellations.

"This is fun, isn't it?" said Pete Lindsay, 54, a swimming coach at Miami University in Oxford, still trying to find a bag lost on a Delta flight from San Diego to Cincinnati, even though Delta told him Sunday it had found the missing piece.



A Transportation Security Administration worker stands among stacked lost luggage Sunday, at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport in Hebron, Ky. Comair's computer system that manages flight assignments crashed Friday night.

He needed it for a flight out Tuesday to a swim meet in Florida.

Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky was showing signs of recovery from the weekend with information monitors displaying far fewer canceled flights.

However, Comair officials

did not respond to numerous calls seeking comment Monday, and airport officials said only the airline could provide details on its flights.

On Sunday, a day after all 1,100 of Comair's flights were canceled, frustrated customers got some relief when the airline resumed 172 flights, about 15

percent of its normal schedule.

"We anticipate Comair will be able to operate on a full schedule by Wednesday," Nick Miller, a spokesman for the Delta subsidiary based at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky, said Sunday. "That is our goal."

Comair's computer system that manages flight assignments failed Friday night, overwhelmed by cancellations and delays caused by the winter storm that socked the Ohio Valley. Miller did not know how many customers were affected, but said the airline serves 30,000 travelers in 118 cities on a normal day.

US Airways was recovering from what its chief executive called an "operational meltdown," with its planes flying out of Philadelphia International Airport at a near-normal pace Monday. Hundreds of US Airways flights were canceled from Friday to Sunday, the result of severe weather that stranded and large numbers of baggage handlers, ramp workers and flight attendants calling in sick.

BOSTON (AP) — A storm spread sleet, freezing rain and more than a foot of snow along the Eastern Seaboard, knocking out power Monday to thousands in New England, stranding hundreds of motorists along icy highways in the Carolinas and causing airport delays.

At least two traffic deaths were blamed on the weather in North Carolina.

Fourteen inches of snow had fallen Monday in Virginia and 18 inches fell in eastern Massachu-

setts as the storm skinned the coast on a northeasterly track. Up to 20 inches of snow was possible in southeastern Massachusetts, the National Weather Service said. Just over 8 inches fell on the eastern tip of New York's Long Island.

The snow limited Boston's Logan International Airport to a single runway until a second was opened late in the morning. That caused "substantial" flight delays, said Logan spokesman Phil Orlandella.

Governor undergoes mastectomy

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Gov. M. Jodi Rell underwent breast-cancer surgery Monday after doctors discovered the disease in its very early stages, the governor's office said.

Rell, 58, was expected to be hospitalized for about three days at Danbury Hospital, officials said.

The governor's office said tests showed the disease had

not spread to her lymph nodes. Spokesman Rich Harris said Rell will probably not require radiation or chemotherapy after the surgery.

The cancer was discovered after a routine mammogram, her office said. The cancer did not appear on the mammogram itself, but was discovered during a biopsy of a non-cancerous calcium deposit.

Mississippi goes far in restricting abortions

JACKSON, Miss. (AP) — Outside are protesters, praying or offering pamphlets with grisly photos. Inside, women sit quietly in a room furnished with a TV set and a gumball machine, waiting for their appointments at Mississippi's only abortion clinic.

These are busy — but worrisome — days for the Jackson Women's Health Organization, which has added many clients since the other remaining clinic closed last summer. The clinic's staff and supporters know their adversaries will try relentlessly to shut their office down, taking another step toward making legal abortions in the state virtually nonexistent.

For both sides in the national debate over abortion, Mississippi has become Exhibit A: It is widely considered the state with the most thorough arsenal of laws, policies and public pressure aimed at curtailing the procedure. There used to be seven abortion clinics in the state; now it is the most populous of a handful of states with only one.

"Mississippi is the picture of the future," said Susan Hill, a North Carolina-based businesswoman who owns several clinics, including the one in Jackson. "It's the perfect laboratory for any restriction—there's no way, politically, that it won't sail through the legislature."

Roy McMillan, an anti-abortion activist who's been protesting outside Mississippi clinics for 25 years, is delighted that he no longer has to ponder which clinic to target.

"Thankfully, we've arrived at a time I always wanted — when the women have to come

through us," said McMillan, dressed in a well-worn Santa Claus suit as he confronted clinic employees and patients on a recent weekday.

"I would love our state to be the first to be abortion-free," McMillan said. "The governor should send the Highway Patrol and the National Guard to close this clinic down."

Abortions reached a peak in Mississippi in 1991, when 8,814 were reported. The number dropped to 3,605 in 2002, the last year for which figures are available, producing one of the lowest abortion rates in the country — less than one-third the national rate.

Many hard-to-measure factors may have contributed to the drop, such as more effective use of birth control or an upsurge of Mississippi women getting abortions in other states. But activists on both sides believe the strict laws and community pressure have had a significant impact.

Though many states have laws restricting abortion, Mississippi has striven to lead the pack. For example, it recently enacted the nation's most sweeping conscience clause — allowing any health care provider to refuse to provide any abortion-related service, including emergency referrals.

Mississippi is one of only two states, along with North Dakota, requiring consent of both parents before a minor can get an abortion. It is one of two states, along with Texas, requiring that women seeking abortions be told, in contradiction of National Cancer Institute findings, that abortion might increase their risk of breast cancer.



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Weekly Highlight

We wish you and yours a Happy Holiday Season!

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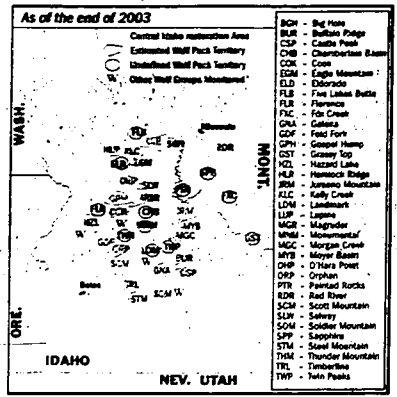
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A decade with the wolf Part three of a four-day series

Wolves affect other wildlife



Idaho wolf distribution



Idaho hunters and outfitters worry that wolves may negatively impact elk and other wildlife populations in the state.

Hunters claim wolves harm elk population

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

“B.O.S.H.” The word is out among the hunting community in Idaho: no wolves.

For hunters who depend on outdoor state numbers for business, that’s not the kind of publicity the industry needs, said Curt Simonds, executive director of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association. Not surprisingly, Simonds’ organization didn’t welcome wolves back to Idaho 10 years ago.

Land-based outfitters have been concerned from day one, Simonds said. Some outfitters believe some elk herds have been impacted by wolf predation.

“Wolves are known to prey on elk, deer and other wildlife. In the year, since reintroduction, hunters, among hunters, and outfitters have a general view that wolves impact wildlife populations. Environmentalists had the notion of the wolf for restoring balance back into an ecosystem,” wolf opponents fear that without proper management, wolves will eventually diminish elk and deer populations and in turn harm the businesses, and individuals who rely on those populations to be healthy.

Simonds did not even specify an incident in which wolf predation on elk negatively impacted an outfitters’ business. Hunters from out of state, he said, ask Idaho outfitters how much wolves have impacted their specific area.

“There is that stigma to overcome,” Simonds said.

Similar to many livestock producers, Simonds stresses management as the best means to living with and tolerating wolves in Idaho.

“OGA has supported state management,” he said. “We

“Wolves have become a great scapegoat for hunters not getting their elk.”

— Curt Mack, wolf biologist for the Nez Perce Tribe

supported that at the state Legislature. We’re very much interested in the day that wolves will be delisted in Idaho.”

Perhaps the killing of wolves who prey on elk remains more controversial than does eliminating wolves who kill livestock. Even experts dispute whether wolves significantly impact wolf elk herds to the point that eliminating wolves would be beneficial.

“The population of wildlife illustrates that recently, said Curt Mack, wolf recovery leader for the Nez Perce Tribe. A variety of factors have an effect on these populations – disease, habitat changes, winter severity, hunting and predation.”

“How are you supposed to figure in this tiny little piece?” Mack said. “It’s very difficult for us to tell the specific effect of wolves on elk.”

“Certainly, wolves are going to have an effect on their prey populations,” he said. “So far, we haven’t seen an immediate effect. Wolves have become a great scapegoat for hunters not getting their elk.”

However, that’s not what the outfitters want you to believe, says Western Watershed’s Jon

Marvel. Instead, Marvel said they will tell you that there aren’t any elk left.

“There’s all dead inside a 500-pound wolf,” he says laughing.

“If wolves are such effective killing machines they already would have affected other wildlife populations,” he said.

“It’s not just this constant killing field out there,” Marvel said. “These other animals co-exist. I just don’t think the fears of these hunting groups is born out by reality. These animals interact in ways that maybe we don’t understand in being prey and predators.”

Wolves could be killed for having a negative impact on an elk herd if an amendment to the Endangered Species Act – the 10th proposal is approved, said James Caswell of Idaho’s Office of Species Conservation. However, Caswell said, the rule would not be applied without careful consideration.

“You’ve got to have some basis for this conclusion,” Caswell said. “There’s a bunch of things that happen before the decision to eliminate a wolf is made.”

“Some outfitters believe some elk herds have been impacted by wolf predation.”

— Grant Simonds, executive director of Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association

“If you lose this court case, we will see civil disobedience. When you get a bad law, you change it.”

— Ron Gillett, Idaho Anti-Wolf Coalition

percent this last year. Out-of-state hunters inject a significant amount of money into the Sawtooth Valley economy, Gillett said.

While the Fish and Wildlife Service, in conjunction with the Nez Perce Tribe, estimate wolf numbers in Idaho to be over 400, Gillett’s group believes the population is nearly twice that size.

“I can see there’s a minimum of 1,000 statewide,” Gillett said. How does Gillett’s organization make such a determination? Many of the members are outfitters, like Gillett, or live-

stock producers – people who work on the land. Besides their estimates, Gillett receives numerous phone calls of wolf sightings.

“These wolves have populated like rabbits in Australia,” Gillett says. “And, don’t tell me that the alpha male and female are the only ones having babies in the pack.”

Gillett and his organization equally dispute the Fish and Wildlife Service’s calculations of the elk population. For instance, Gillett says, federal recovery coordinator Ed Bangs tells people that vehicle accidents kill more elk each year than do wolves, Gillett disagrees.

The Idaho Anti-Wolf Coalition publicizes different figures for the amount of horned wildlife – including elk and deer – that the average wolf kills per year.

Every wolf kills 16 to 24 elk or deer per year for food, Gillett says. The calculation doesn’t sound so different from that of the Fish and Wildlife Service until Gillett adds, “each wolf kills twice that many for sport bunge killing.”

For outfitters and wildlife lovers, this creates a dire situa-

Idahoans also need to keep the impact of elk feeding grounds in perspective, Mack said. When humans provide food for elk at winter feeding grounds, wolves will prey on the unnatural concentration of elk, he said.

“That is so artificial,” he said. “You don’t see that in nature. We’re not creating this unnatural concentration of elk that can’t go anywhere. They’re wolves, see this whole freezer full of food.”

Although hunters have complained about declining elk numbers due to wolves, one Stanley resident, Bill Leavell, dismisses their claims. Leavell manages the Idaho Rocky Mountain Ranch in the Sawtooth Valley.

“I don’t think it’s had any effect up here,” he said. “I tend to think there’s much ado about nothing here.”

However, Leavell suspects that elk have changed their habits as a result of wolves in the area. Elk typically can be found grazing on a meadow on the ranch. Hot water running underground keeps the meadow cleared of snow even in winter. Since wolf reintroduction, Leavell said, elk herds on the meadow tend to be smaller and stay for shorter periods of time.

While elk behavior has adapted to wolves’ presence, hunter behavior has not, Leavell said. Hunters haven’t quite figured out habit changes by elk over the years. Instead, sportsmen continue to hunt elk in the same manner they have for countless years.

“I think what hasn’t changed is the hunters,” Leavell said. “I can say that as an elk hunter.”

“In the early years of reintroduction, every person who worked on the project personally knew each wolf,” said Curt Mack, wolf recovery leader for the Nez Perce Tribe, the group who maintains surveillance of the animal in Idaho.

“I don’t feel like that anymore,” Mack said. “Now, they’re just numbers to us.”

However, he said, that’s how these type of projects usually go for biologists. With wolf recovery in Idaho, those involved had a unique experience.

“We can basically watch the wolf population grow from its original numbers,” Mack said. “We basically got to see the family grow.”

Since the spring of 2000, Lynne Stone has been watching wolf families grow in the Boulder-White Cliffs mountain region of Idaho. The region has seen its share of wolf packs over the years, including the Stanley and White Hawk packs. Wolf packs picked Stone’s interest beginning with the White Cliffs pack.

“They were like our wolves,” she said.

Today, Stone serves as director of the Boulder White Cliffs Council, an organization interested in preserving wilderness areas in central Idaho. However, Lynne Stone seems an unlikely supporter of wolves given her childhood growing up on a sheep ranch.

Yet, Stone was angered when federal officials determined that five members of the White Cliffs pack should be eliminated for killing livestock in the region.

“We didn’t have enough wolves,” Stone said. “When the White Cliffs Council director that happened that was really disturbing to a lot of people.”

Stone and others soon adopted the Stanley pack as their Chat Chaah, the Stanley pack and its successor, the White Hawk pack, also had members killed for preying on domestic livestock grazing in the mountainous area. Remaining members of packs dispersed, creating new packs.

The Galena pack has now taken over the territory. Stone believes the region will support one pack that she intends to monitor just as others observed The Old Man. However, Lynne Stone takes a realistic approach to getting too emotional over wolf packs.

“If you’re going to work on the wolf issue, you better harden your heart a bit,” she said.

“Times-News reporter Michelle Dunlop can be reached at 735-3237 or by e-mail at mdunlop@magicalvalley.com.”

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Wolves

Continued from A1

“In the months and years immediately following reintroduction, wolf enthusiasts eagerly followed the movements of the animals as did those in charge of monitoring the species. With the number of wolves in Idaho today forming a personal attachment to any one wolf proves more difficult. Instead, many residents now pay close attention to certain packs.

A wistful look passes over Stone’s face as she recalls Idaho’s most noted wolf. His technical name B2 was given to him by the scientists who would track his journeys over nearly a decade. Nez Perce school children named him Chat Chaah, meaning Older Brother in their language. He became known by many as The Old Man.

At the time of Chat Chaah’s relocation to central Idaho’s wilderness, biologists estimated the wolf’s age at 4 years. He was already old by wolf standards – a species with a life expectancy of approximately 8 years.

“He was an older wolf then,” Stone said. “He was pretty special.”

In February 2004, Chat Chaah’s radio collar sent out a mortality signal. Months passed before snow would recede enough to allow investigators to find the elk’s remains. A dead bull elk lay near Chat Chaah, but no discernible signs of death marked the wolf, leading Stone to believe he died principally of old age.

“That he died of old age, that’s definitely a success for a wolf,” she said.

“If you’re going to work on the wolf issue, you better harden your heart a bit.”

— Lynne Stone, Boulder White Cliffs Council director

“Update on wolves in Idaho”

Total population as of Nov. 30, 2004: 419

Documented number of packs: 20

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, Caldenwood, Castle Peak, Chamberlain Basin, Chesmia, Cold Springs, Cook, Coolwater Ridge, Copper Basin, Eagle Mountain, El Dorado, Five Lake Butte, Flora, Galena, Gold Ridge, Golden Creek, Gospel-Hump-Hazard Lake, Hemlock-Rodrig, Juniper Mountain, Kelly Creek, Landsend, Lynne Creek, Magrade, Marble Mountain, Monumental, Morgan Creek, Moyer Basin, O’Harra Point, Orphan, Packer John, Partridge Creek, Red River, Scott Mountain, Selway, Soldier Mountain, Steel Mountain, Thunder Mountain, Timberline, Twin Peaks, Warm Springs

Antiwolf

Continued from A1

“The organization Gillett formed in February of 2000, the Idaho Anti Wolf Coalition edges closer daily to filing a lawsuit against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s reintroduction. Membership has increased to 1,000 and grows every day, Gillett says.

“We’re small businessmen trying to survive against these wolves,” he says.

“It was promised there would be no economic loss to rural Idaho,” Gillett continues. “They have lived from day one.”

Gillett’s grandfather herded sheep in the Sawtooth Valley. Today, Gillett concentrates on outfitting over livestock production to eke out a living in the same rugged, majestic terrain.

“Her hunting is taking it in the shorts over this wolf thing,” Gillett says. “We’re just tired of her lies.”

“If these wolves were such a great asset to their ecosystem, management as the best means to living with and tolerating wolves in Idaho.”

“OGA has supported state management,” he said. “We

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WORLD

Epic disaster claims a generation of young Asians

CUDDALORE, India (AP) — The buzz of grim conversation in the darkened morgue was broken by a man's shriek as the small body was lowered on a bed. "My son, my king" wailed Venkatesh, hugging the limp shrouded bundle.

Thousands of miles away in Indonesia, farmer Yusya Yusman wistfully searched the beaches for his two children lost in Sunday's tsunami. "My life is over," he said emotionlessly.

In country after country, children have emerged as the biggest victims of Sunday's quake-born tidal waves — thousands and thousands drowned, battered and washed away by huge walls of water that have wiped away huge numbers from an entire generation of Asians.

"The power of this earthquake, and its huge geographical reach, are just staggering," said UNICEF Executive Director Carol Bellamy. Hundreds of thousands of children who managed to survive in the affected coastal communities now "may be in serious jeopardy," she added.

The U.N. organization estimates at least one-third of the tens of thousands who died were children, and the proportion could be up to half, said UNICEF spokesman Alfred Inrosile in New York. He said communities are suffering a double loss: dead children and orphaned boys and girls. "Our major concern is that the kids who survived the tsunami now survive the aftermath. Because children are the most vulnerable to disease and lack of proper nutrition and water."

Children make up at least half of the population in Asia. Many of them work alongside poverty-stricken parents in the fishing or related industries in coastal areas, so they were in harm's way when the tidal waves came. Many children from the more affluent families would also have been on the beaches for a stroll or for Sunday picnics.

In Sri Lanka, which suffered the biggest loss of life in the tsunami, crowds had come to the beaches to watch the sea after word spread that it was producing larger-than-normal waves.



Relatives of victims who were killed by tidal waves grieve at the site of a mass burial in Cuddalore, India, Monday.

Thousands of children joined their elders to see the spectacle. The waves brought in fish. The old and the young collected them. Many waited for more fun.

Then the 15 feet-to-20 feet tidal waves hit the tropical island of 19 million people.

"They got caught and could not run to safety. This is the reason why we have so many child victims," said Rhenzie Perera, a police spokesman who said reports from affected police stations indicated children made up about half the victims in Sri Lanka.

On Monday, parents wept over the bodies of their children in streets and hospitals across the island, even as some dead children still dangled unclaimed from barbed wire fences.

The scenes of unimaginable grief and mourning were repeated across Asia.

"Where are my children?" wept 41-year-old Absah, as she searched for her 11 missing children in Banda Aceh, the Indonesian city closest to Sunday's epicenter. "Where are they? Why did this happen to me? I've lost everything."

On the day disaster struck,

Malaysian Rosita Wan recalled watching in horror as her 5-year-old son was gulped by the sea while he swam near the shore at Penang.

"I could only wail helplessly while I heard my son screaming for help. Then he was underwater and I never saw him again," said a sobbing Rosita, 30.

About half of the nearly 400 people who perished in Cuddalore in India's Tamil Nadu state were children, leaving the town stunned.

Under Hindu tradition, children are buried instead of being cremated like adults. For the grim task in Cuddalore, two pits, together about half the size of a basketball court, were dug near a river at the edge of this coconut palm-fringed town.

After one couple laid the body of their daughter in the deep pit, a bulldozer shoveled in sand and the little girl disappeared from view. They then stepped aside for others to bury their children, denied any chance for a service or private mourning.

Most of the children, ages 5-12, were buried as they were found — in their Sunday clothes — without the luxury of a shroud.

Local officials wanted to quickly finish the burial, and the cremation of adult victims, so they could turn their attention to helping those left alive.

There will be a time for crying, but that will come later. Now the priority is to shelter those who survived," said fisherman Akilan, 28, who lost two

nephews when waves struck their house. Akilan uses only one name.

Bodies of young and old lay unclaimed at the town morgue, awaiting identification by relatives. Doctors called them in one by one over a public address system, while vans with yelling sirens brought in newly discovered bodies.

Many emerged from the morgue shaking their heads in silence after failing to identify any of the bodies as that of their loved ones.

Venkatesh, who uses only one name, found his 11-year-old son Sumant as his body was lowered on a gurney.

The 37-year-old man had been in Dubai, where he went three months ago as a construction worker. When his wife called from Cuddalore to tell him their boy was missing, Venkatesh flew home immediately and went straight to the morgue.

There, he found his wife and daughter minutes before Sumant's body was brought in.

"I never thought I would only see my son's body" cried Venkatesh, refusing even a sip of water.

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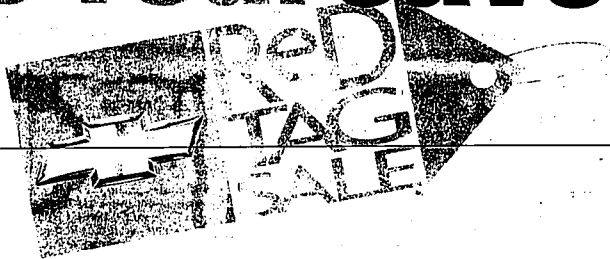
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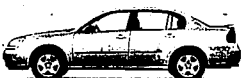
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WORLD

Yushchenko's opponent refuses to concede

KIEV, Ukraine — Opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko celebrated his apparent victory in Ukraine's presidential election on Monday, but his opponent refused to concede defeat and vowed to challenge the results before Ukraine's Supreme Court in what could be a protracted legal battle.

The cast tent camp set up by orange-clad Yushchenko supporters on Kiev's main avenue after the hand-planned Nov. 21



A supporter of Ukrainian opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko shouts during a rally in Kiev's main Independence Square on Monday. A Polish flag is shown in the background.

World in brief
 in place, indicating his backers were prepared for further tensions, although no election-related violence was reported Sunday. Orange was Yushchenko's campaign color. With ballots counted from 98.7 percent of precincts, official results gave Yushchenko 52.1 percent of the vote, compared with 44.1 percent for Kuchma-backed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Yushchenko held a 2.3 million-vote lead with just 100,000 votes remaining to be counted at 133 polling stations.

Just more than 77 percent of eligible voters cast ballots.

Top Shiite politician escapes assassination

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A suicide car bomber killed 75 people Monday in trying to assassinate the head of Iraq's strongest Shiite party before parliamentary elections next month, while the biggest Sunni Muslim political group dealt a blow to ballot plans by withdrawing from the campaign because of the lack of security.

The bomber tried to drive his car through the gate at the home of Abdul Aziz al-Hakim, leader of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, but detonated his explosives when guards blocked the way.

Fifteen people died and at least 50 were wounded in the explosion, which shook Baghdad's Adiriyah district and sent a cloud of smoke billowing into the sky, police Capt. Ahmed Ismail said. Thirty-two cars on the street were destroyed or damaged. Al-Hakim, who was inside, was not hurt.

Japan panel will study female ascent to throne

TOKYO — The Japanese government will establish an advisory council to begin deliberations early next year on the wisdom of granting female members of the imperial family the right to ascend the throne, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirotsugu Hosoda said on Monday.

The council will comprise about 10 intellectuals to review the Imperial House Law, the basic law governing the imperial family system, the chief government spokesman said in a press conference.

Under the existing law, female members of the royal

family are banned from becoming emperor.

Gas explosion destroys apartment building

MULHOUSE, France — A gas explosion tore through a five-story apartment building in eastern France, killing 17 people and injuring 15, authorities said Monday.

Rescue workers, who initially found two bodies in the wreckage of Sunday afternoon's blast, discovered 15 more bodies early Monday.

Most of the deaths were caused by the collapse of three floors above where the explosion took place, officials said. The victims ranged in age from 15 to 60, they said.

Dozens of rescue workers equipped with body-detecting dogs and mechanical diggers pored over the wreckage in a hunt for several people who remained missing, said Capt. Bertrand Weckel, a spokesman for regional emergency services. Efforts to locate the missing were complicated by the need to remove collapsed concrete beams.

Opposition barred as Uzbeks vote for parliament

TASHIKENT, Uzbekistan — Uzbeks voted in a parliamentary election Sunday in which opposition groups were barred from running, sparking criticism from Europe's top election watchdog and a fierce defense from the country's authoritarian president, who insisted Uzbekistan has no "real" opposition.

The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, which sent 21 observers, has said Uzbekistan provided insufficient conditions for a democratic vote. OSCE said its presence should not be construed as a sign that the vote was legitimate.

— compiled from wire reports

Israel releases 159 Palestinian prisoners as goodwill gesture

BETUNIA CHECKPOINT, West Bank (AP) — Israel released 159 Palestinian prisoners Monday as a gesture to the new Palestinian leadership.

Interim Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas, the frontrunner in Jan. 9 presidential elections, welcomed the release but said Israel must free those sentenced to lengthy terms. Israel is holding some 7,000

Palestinians on security-related charges, and Abbas is under intense pressure to win their freedom.

The prisoners released Tuesday had no more than two years left in their sentences, and none were imprisoned for attacking Israelis.

Dozens had been held for staying in Israel without entry permits.

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Birthday today? Presents will come – but with strings attached

IF DECEMBER 28 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY... A cosmic Santa Claus may shower you with gifts in the next few weeks, but there will seem to be strings attached and something won't quite ring true. Hang in there because from March through June you will riding high on a wave of newfound popularity and can take positive steps to build a more satisfying way of life. Things you have always counted upon may change in the year ahead, so you must become more self-reliant. The more you embrace the changes and new ideas that appear and accept with serenity the shifting tides of time, the more fulfilling and joyful your life will be.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): "Neither a borrower or a lender be" is a good motto for today. Misunderstandings are in the air that could spoil the tranquility of relationships or make a minor loan a major headache. Hold off on major decisions.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): It may have a difficult time really understanding you today, so be as clear and forthright as possible. Under these celestial foggy conditions it is best to refrain from passing judgment on others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): You may be able to convince someone of the error of his or her ways because you have the cosmic gift of gab early in the day. However, you could mis-gauge the emotional atmosphere and stir up some hostilities.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): problems that have popped up need immediate attention, so strike while the iron is hot. It is a good time to work on your own to get pressing tasks accomplished. Avoid making promises or asking for favors now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't rock the boat while sailing through these temporary rough waters. A little patience will get you to port without mishap. People are likely to take offense or get the wrong impression if you approach them today.

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You are in danger of misinterpreting social signals and might tread on some toes, so remain neutral and tactful. Romantic misunderstandings are possible. Put off important agreements and decisions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Putting someone on a pedestal can be troublesome because there is always a danger of falling. Illusions could be shattered if you read too much into thoughtless words. Avoid being the victim or the hero today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Misplaced sympathies could stir up a hornet's nest, so back away from situations where you could be torn two ways or where meaning is unclear.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): There is still a tendency to exaggerate the positive and overlook the negative, so balance is lacking. Wait for better zodiacal conditions when your judgment is better to make agreements or important purchases.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Don't brood over imagined slights or small social injustices. Put some muscle into your work and burn off excess steam

by being constructive. The path of true love could hit a road-block today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Playing the role of the martyr or being insincere can create mix-ups. This is not the day to pursue the object of your affection or to ask for favors, as you may not make the best impression.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Too much of a good thing can undermine your position. The

fervent need for social contact can act like quicksand to suck you in and keep you from making progress. Keep on an even keel and don't fritter your time away.

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Insulators net small fortune

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — Turns out there's quite a collector's market for 100-year-old glass electric insulators.

One such item, purchased for peanuts at a garage sale, netted \$10,313 on eBay recently. It's not diamond-encrusted, it wasn't owned by a celebrity and it has no vision of the Virgin Mary involved here.

Phil Uhrine and Jeanie Quimby came up with two of the insulators, one ceramic, one glass, for \$5 for the pair. Quimby thought she could make a buck — posting the glass model with a starting price of \$5.99.

Just a few hours later, she checked to see how it was doing — and found 10 urgent messages from collectors, telling her that the glass insulator dated to the 1890s, was extraordinarily rare and listed in price guides at up to \$10,000.

"I almost freaked out," said Quimby, 55. "I couldn't talk."

The winning bid of \$10,313 came from a man in Helena, Mont. Collectors said they're not surprised at the price.

"This particular piece, I would guess that there are fewer than 12 of them that have been found to date," said John McDougald of Sedona, Ariz., who has published insulator price guides.

Because the hobby is not well known, it's not uncommon for collectors to make rare finds. Last year, a collector bought a box of rare insulators from an antique shop for a song and netted \$150,000, McDougald said.

Glass insulators were used beginning in the mid-1850s atop telegraph, telephone and power poles.

Pet of the Week

"Izzy" is a spayed female adult calico who can't figure out why she has been at the shelter since September. Please help her find a home!

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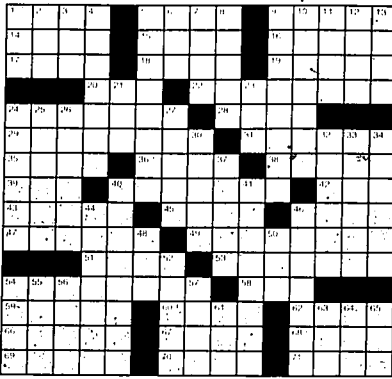
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ACROSS

- 1 Bosc or Anjou
- 5 Gent
- 9 Blusher
- 14 Driving force
- 15 Yard-work tool
- 16 Mistake
- 17 Hive dwellers
- 18 Send forth
- 19 Passport stamps
- 20 Launch area
- 22 Control a ship's course
- 24 Of heat
- 28 Writer, Alther
- 29 Willing to follow advice
- 31 Champagne cocktail
- 35 007
- 36 Camera part
- 38 More kindly
- 39 'Gitch
- 40 Doing ushtering
- 42 Muscle spasm
- 43 Bury
- 45 Change decor
- 46 Comic Carvey
- 47 Of a common culture
- 49 Stayed behind
- 51 Urban blight
- 53 Earnest
- 54 Intervened to settle differences
- 58 Rebellion leader Turner
- 59 Straighten
- 60 Roman garment
- 62 Once more
- 66 Political platform policy
- 67 Revise measurement
- 68 Josip Broz
- 69 Spicy sauce
- 70 Part in a play
- 71 Vivacity



12/28/04

- 6 Cured pork
- 7 Related by blood
- 8 Flower part
- 9 Amending a text
- 10 Paper folding
- 11 Bear of stars
- 12 Billy or nanny
- 13 Scottish Gaelic
- 21 Coach
- 23 Parseghian
- 24 Get-up-and-go
- 25 Taxi driver
- 25 Quantity
- 26 Ruler
- 27 Transparent
- 30 Join in
- 32 Anti-knock number
- 33 Net user
- 34 Roofed passageway
- 37 Viewpoints
- 40 Ceylon, today
- 41 Propose for election
- 44 Ships' flags

Monday's Puzzle Solved

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

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- 46 Command with authority
- 48 Sancta
- 50 Santa ___ winds
- 52 Poetic measure
- 54 Travelers' guides
- 55 Jazz great
- 56 Gauge face
- 57 Extinct flightless bird
- 61 McDougald or Hodges
- 63 Zero, in soccer scores
- 64 Greek letter
- 65 Came in first

- ## DOWN
- 1 Tavern by a tube stop
 - 2 Alore
 - 3 Ripen
 - 4 Answer
 - 5 Plausible

Covered?

When it's a matter of life or death, modesty must sometimes take a back seat.
See Dear Abby on page A-11

Magic Valley Mall Holiday Hours 12/26 thru 1/1/2005

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National Treasure (PG)
Today 12:15 - 3:30 - 6:45 - 9:30

Lemony Snicket's (PG)
Today 12:30 - 1:00 - 3:45 - 4:00
6:45 - 7:15 - 9:30 - 9:55

Polar Express (G)
Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

Flight of the Phoenix (13)
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:15 - 9:45

Christmas with the Kranks (PG)
Today 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Incredible's (PG)
Today 1:30 - 4:30 - 7:15 - 9:55

Ocean's 12 (PG)
Today 12:15 - 3:30 - 6:45 - 9:30

Life Aquatic with Steve Zissou (R)
Today 1:30 - 4:15 - 7:25 - 9:55

Fat Albert (PG)
Today 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

Jerome Cinema 4

955 West Main - Jerome 324-8877

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG)
IN STEREO SURROUND
Today 12:30 - 3:30 - 7:00 - 9:30

Polar Express (G) Today 12:30 - 3:30

OCEAN'S 12 (13) Today 7:00 - 9:30

MEET THE FOCKERS (13)
IN STEREO SURROUND
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:10 - 9:45

LEMONY SNICKET'S (PG)
IN STEREO SURROUND
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:10 - 9:45

Odyssey 6

Magic Valley Mall - Twin Falls 736-8369

Finding Neverland (PG)
Today 12:15 - 2:30 - 4:45 - 7:00 - 9:15

Spongebob Squarepants (PG)
Today 12:15 - 2:30

Alexander (R) Today 2:30 - 7:30

Spanglish (13)
Today 1:00 - 4:00 - 7:00 - 9:30

Closer (R)
Today 12:30 - 2:45 - 5:00 - 7:15 - 9:30

Blade: Trinity (R)
Today 5:00 - 7:20 - 9:45

Darkness (R)
Today 12:45 - 3:00 - 5:15 - 7:30 - 9:45

MATINEES EVERY DAY AT ALL THEATRES DURING THE HOLIDAYS

Meet the Fockers

Today 12:30 - 3:45 - 6:30 - 7:00 - 7:30 - 9:30 - 9:55

Average greenback lasts about 18 months

This day in history: William L. Sample of Mount Vernon, Ohio, patented "the combination of rubber with other articles adapted to the formation of an acceptable chewing gum" on Dec. 28, 1869. Sample, a dentist, wrote that the "scouring properties" of his gum will "serve the purpose of a dentifrice."

A \$1 bill lasts about 18 months in normal circulation. Other denominations last longer because they don't get as much use.

You've heard of a laughing stock, no doubt, but how about a **roaming** stock? It means someone or something that brings on open-mouthed stares.

Dracula ants, otherwise known as myrmium, live in Madagascar. They got their interesting name from the way they get food. When a grown myrmium gets hungry, it scratches the back of one of its larvae until the little rye bleeds. The adult drinks its blood.

Australian doctor Barry Marshall discovered that helicobacter pylori, corkscrew-shaped bacteria, cause ulcers. However, when he presented his findings to disease experts in the early 1980s, he was laughed out of the medical conference. Doctors were so positive at that point that ulcers were caused by stress, they couldn't fathom that they could be the result of a bacterial parasite. So how did Dr. Marshall convince them? Unfortunately, he discovered that the usual research subjects, pigs and rats, were immune to helicobacter

RANDOXI KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

pylori. Finally, he stewed up a batch of the bacteria and swallowed it himself. Within two weeks, Marshall was saddled with a raging ulcer. Voilà!

After years of messing with game rules and regulations, the very first American football game took place between Princeton and Rutgers in 1869.

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

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COMPUTERS AND TECHNOLOGY

CREATING A BUZZ

Sony's new gaming machine poised to be a global hit

By Yuri Kageyman
AP Business Writer

TOKYO — Even if you don't particularly like video games, you'd best resign yourself to what appears certain to anyone who's spent a little time with Sony's new PlayStation Portable:

This is a gadget that's likely to eventually become a worldwide household hit. That holds true especially if your household includes, as mine does, a young man who grew up with the original PlayStation.

Yet while the PSP is a dazzling game machine, delivering sharp graphics on a 4.3-inch display and weighing just 10 ounces, it is also a multimedia player designed for music and movies. And within the sleek, black plastic shell of this 7-inch by 3-inch wonder, there is Wi-Fi wireless connectivity and a USB 2.0 port for mating with computers.

The only big drawback is Sony's decision to go with a proprietary format for the PSP's main media: a 1.8-gigabyte disc. It's the sized UMD for Universal Media Disc.

That's what the games come on — and Sony Corp. promises to also deliver Hollywood movies on the discs, though it hasn't said when or offered a lineup.

The PSP went on sale in Japan this month and won't be available in the United States and Europe until next year. It's likely that the U.S. price will be similar to the \$190 the device costs in Japan. That feels like a bargain to anyone who remembers paying more than \$299 for the original PlayStation in the mid-1990s.

But then, the PSP has a competitor this time around in Nintendo's DS handheld. Per-



Measuring 7 inches by 3 inches and weighing just 10 ounces, the sleek, black PSP is a dazzling game machine, delivering the excitement and gorgeous computer graphics of a PlayStation 2 console, all in a nifty compact size. It won't be available in the U.S. until next year.

haps that's why the PSP is stoked with enough technology to be worth twice its price tag — it's got a Memory Stick slot for storing music and photos when the 32 megabytes of onboard memory don't suffice. You'll have to buy the Memory Stick, though.

There's good news, also, for music fans who prize to open MP3 standard for music. Sony formerly pushed its ATRAC proprietary standard. No longer. The PSP is an MP3 adherent, and its sound quality is quite good.

If you want to play video that doesn't come on a UMD disc,

Sony recommends you buy special \$10 computer software that will convert it to the MPEG-4 video format that the PSP and Memory Stick support.

Because of its networking capabilities, the PSP looks to have an edge on Nintendo DS. The new Nintendo handheld works strictly as a game machine.

As for recording your own content for playing on the PSP, Sony hasn't said whether it will sell recordable versions of UMD discs.

PSP games range in price from \$24 to \$46, but unfortunately there aren't many yet. About a dozen are available so

far in Japan, including "Hot Shots Golf" from Sony Computer Entertainment and "Vampire Chronicles: The Chaos Tower" from Capcom Co.

Sony says some 100 games are in the works, with about 20 titles promised by the end of the year.

By contrast, about 15 Nintendo DS games are on sale in Japan so far. But Nintendo DS, which costs about \$145, can also play all the Game Boy Advance games.

In the games I played on the PSP the attention to detail in the graphics was impressive.

In scenes from "Ridge Racer" made by Namco Ltd., camera flashes blink from roaring crowds and frothy waves break on sandy beaches. I found myself pushing on the joystick button for steering until my thumb got sore, happily tilting the PSP with the twists and turns as roaring race cars zipped through a swerving course, screeching on corners and sending tire-skidding virtual sparks on the screen.

The display, from Sharp Corp., is surprisingly easy on the eyes. The removable Lithium Ion battery lasts about four to six hours for games on a single charge. And the built-in 602.11b Wi-Fi chip allows up to 16 PSPs to play together.

PSP also has a microphone slot for future software with voice-recognition and an infrared connection whose uses aren't yet spelled out.

My son needed just a few minutes of checking out PSP before deciding he's definitely going to buy one.

Never mind that he isn't exactly sure how he's going to use its non-game functions (he's already got an iPod, a digital camera, a cell phone and a laptop).

Don't worry, mom, he said, everybody is going to figure it out.

Opera Software browser gives the Web a voice

By Frank Barnako

Opera Software released a new version of its Internet browser that reads Web pages and e-mail aloud.

Opera with Voice lets you control the browser by talking to it and generates speech from text in Web pages, the company said in its Opera 8.0 beta version. Voice capability is available only in English and on Windows 2000 or XP operating systems.

Jon S. von Tetzchner, chief executive of the Norwegian technology company, said the browser was preparing "for a future of Web sites offering interactive, voice-enabled shopping and booking systems."

You can browse Web pages using as many as 50 commands such as "Opera next link," "Open back" and "Opera speak." Selecting text and saying "Read" will cause the browser to speak the text, according to Opera.

With a few attempts at pronunciation, using the PC's microphone, Opera will learn

Computers in brief

the user's cadence.


Only a few features in the release include an updated RSS reader, as well as options to fit Web pages to the browser's window or paper size for printing.

Opera's current browser version is 7.54. "We were preparing for 7.6, but as work progressed and we kept adding improvements and functionality, it became very evident that we now have a browser that is so powerful, secure and easy to use that it exceeds the next logical version number and warrants a major release," von Tetzchner said.

Opera Software is making the browser available for free from its Web site. Visit Opera.com: <http://www.opera.com>.

Developers of another Web browser, Mozilla Foundation, are putting together a product that could compete against Outlook, the e-mail and organizational software by Microsoft.

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Firefox emerges as threat to Microsoft in browser battle for the Internet

Knight Ridder News Service

SAN JOSE, Calif. — By day, Alexander Vincent is a mild-mannered secretary for a Vallejo, Calif., real estate broker. By night, he's an online crusader protecting users of a new Internet browser from glitches and security bugs. If he were a superhero, you might call him Mozilla Man.

In fact, Vincent is part of a worldwide army of Mozilla men and women who believe in freedom, progress and the inalienable right to an open-source browser.

Their weapon of faith is Firefox, a free browser created by the nonprofit Mozilla Foundation as an alternative to Microsoft's ubiquitous Internet Explorer. Officially released in November, Firefox is converting a growing number of Internet users — and nibbling away at Microsoft's dominance.

Vincent is one of roughly 2,000 volunteer evangelists who see their mission as freeing millions of computer users from the tyranny of Internet Explorer. Mountain View, Calif.-based Mozilla — with a paid staff of 12 software developers — depends on volunteers like Vincent to help write code, fix software bugs and market the browser.


"A lot of people out there are not aware of what is possible on the Internet," said Vincent. "Firefox is waking up a lot of people."

Firefox missionaries promise an Internet experience that's faster, more secure and free from pop-up ads. And that's just the beginning of their Utopian vision. To hear many of the faithful talk, their ministry stops nothing short of changing the lives of Internet users.


"You hear a lot of tales about people leaving happy bad online experiences. Life can be better," said Mitchell Baker, Mozilla's president. "Our end goal is to have real choice and innovation on the Web."

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EDITORIAL

Call for spending cuts is better late than never

If you think your New Year's resolution is a big whopper, consider the purge going on in the federal government.

Once the inauguration is behind him, President Bush must find ways to pare down spending within the \$2.5 trillion 2006 federal budget that will be released in February.

News reports say the White House is in for a trim in federal agencies to expect lean budgets with freezes and some cuts in domestic spending.

Our response, and that of millions of other Americans will be, what took him so long?

For a president that was elected in 2000 with a distaste for big government, Bush has done very little to stop writing checks that Uncle Sam can't cash.

Last year the federal budget deficit hit \$413 billion, which is a record in dollar amount for budget deficits. The freeze in domestic spending would exclude Social Security and mandatory payments on the actual federal debt.

For those who may not understand how the U.S. pays its debts, part of the answer lies overseas where foreign investors buy Treasury bonds.

Defenders of deficits point to the fact that \$ 413 billion shortfall is only 3.6 percent of American gross domestic product, a percentage much smaller than deficits of the

1980s. But the current deficit is causing havoc on the U.S. dollar, which remains low against other foreign currencies.

Robert Samuelson recently noted the risks of a declining dollar could enable a recession on a national and global scale.

With so many factors at play, Bush will have no option but to cut away at many social programs and national projects. As for Idaho, which has delegates on both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees, wearing our selves off pork should become the norm, not the exception.

Ultimately, however, Bush and the federal government will see that domestic spending pales in comparison to the costs of fighting two wars against terrorism.

Most Americans would heartily agree that these wars must be won. But passing the debts onto our children and grandchildren is reckless. We now represent the Americans to pass tax cuts while waging combat operations.

Don't let us. Tax cuts are healthy way to put money back in American taxpayer pockets.

Bush's search for less spending in the domestic realm is a good start. The question is, however, will it be enough?

Powell keeps his bridges intact

To hear him tell it, Colin Powell is leaving the Bush administration with few regrets.

CARL LEUBSDORF

As for the belief he opposed war with Iraq, there was "never any disagreement" with the decision to take military action, especially because President Bush took his advice to first pursue a diplomatic course by going to the United Nations.

And the first term of the second President Bush is ending with vastly improved relations with such countries as Russia, China, India and Pakistan.

Indeed, Powell's message was almost totally positive as he reprised his tenure as the nation's 65th secretary of state at a lunch with several dozen Washington bureau chiefs and columnists.

A Bush loyalist to the core, he resisted several invitations to the press to express his views about the president who decided, after winning re-election, that he no longer required the services of the man who had bolstered his foreign policy credibility in his first campaign.

Powell repeatedly soft-pedaled the notion that Bush's aggressive policies had caused strains with many countries including longtime U.S. allies, noting among other things that:

• After a tense start, "we have the best relationship with China that we've had in the last 30 years."



He sees "the same thing with Russia," despite considerable "churning" and some disagreements with President Vladimir Putin.

• "We have, perhaps, the best relationship with India that we've had in many decades and the same thing with Pakistan." He had repeated praise for Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf's cooperation in the war on terror.

• U.S. leadership often deflected as unilateral has, in fact, mobilized a multilateral international effort to confront the nuclear proliferation threat from North Korea and Iran.

• "Seemingly forgotten were such personally damaging instances as the time early in the administration when Bush abruptly reversed Powell's day-old position toward

North Korea. Or the widespread belief that the administration took advantage of his reputation for integrity and moderation to make him the front-man decision to reverse the policy of the first Bush administration and try to exist with Saddam Hussein.

The only time Powell seemed awkward was in defending his February 2003 U.N. appearance. He flatly rejected a questioner's suggestion he made statements that turned out to be either "exaggerations or outright falsehoods."

His testimony reflected "the best information that the intelligence community had assembled," he said. "I didn't write it at night... It was neither exaggerated nor false."

But he conceded he was disappointed that parts "turned out to be wrong" — there was a failure to find stockpiled weapons of mass destruction evidence; mobile labs were used for biological weapons.

At one point, a reporter noted Powell's comments about prior presidents for whom he worked and asked his view of Bush. "I only describe them after I've left," he replied. But he went on to say that Bush "is a leader in the truest sense of the word" and, in particular, noted his "toughness."

In a day, now his card can't wait to tell their versions of inside events, regardless of whether it embarrasses their former bosses, he showed refreshing restraint.

Historians can hope Powell will ease that reluctance. He writes a second volume of memoirs. After all, in his 1995 autobiography, he pointedly disputed recollections of former Vice President Dan Quayle. And he said that, while President Ronald Reagan was a visionary, "the president's passive management style placed a great burden on us."

But it's clear we shouldn't expect that sort of candor soon.
 Carl P. Leubsdorf is Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning 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.

LETTER

P.O. box prejudice could chase away customers

My letter refers to a previous letter by Fred Mayer concerning post office box prejudice.

I agree that somehow, something needs to be done about this. A mailing address is a mailing address; it is as simple as that.

I've had two problems since I've had a post office box. First, the phone company talked me into trying its wireless service. After the information was taken and everything was set up, they asked for my mailing address so they could send the new phone. When I said I had a P.O. box, they said sorry. United Parcel Service doesn't deliver there. I was told I'd have to stay home from work to wait for the delivery or I'd have to go to the UPS office to pick up my pack-

age (which I did).

Just last month, I realized my vehicle registration renewal was overdue. Turns out they'd mailed it to my street address. Since the post office only knows me by a P.O. box, it was returned to the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Also, a friend registered a car he'd bought but we weren't to take forever to get the title. Same problem: the DMV mailed it to the street address.

Since I don't get a lot of deliveries, it doesn't affect me too much. But I feel for the people who have to deal with this all the time. In states like Idaho, there are dozens of towns who deliver to P.O. boxes only if businesses can't change their policies to include us. I guess they don't really want our business.
 SHERRI WALLACE
 Kimberly

Energy Department comes bearing questionable gifts

The Department of Energy brought Idaho a radioactive Christmas present to share the warmth of the season. While we are distracted with the holidays, one could hardly recognize the sizzling sounding "space battery" plans as a plutonium production refinery.

The DOE had chosen Oak Ridge, Tenn., for the project, but admits in the small print that "after 9/11" security threats made them choose to cluster their terrorist target in Idaho.

It's not that Idaho has better security, we just have less important people in the eyes of some people in power.

Department spokesman Tim Brinker claimed the new plutonium production facility would have "zero emissions." That is lie I haven't heard since I began investigating the Energy Dept. in 1988, but here we go again. I asked for proof of Frazier's claim, but none has come. So I researched the Los Alamos DOE facility where this space plutonium-238 work was done before.

The government reports say that plutonium showed up in the autopsy exams for local citizens, above background levels. As the DOE says, "Oops." God did not intend for your body to be burdened by plutonium, but the DOE likes to play God, and it says plutonium is your lungs, brain and nearly every organ in your body is of no consequence, so enjoy the boost to the economy.

After the long lecture and

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters

with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 586, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

slide show of pictures from space, the department was forced to admit that "space exploration was not the reason for the plutonium facility." Hmm, that's what its presentation and one-sided "news" reports announcing the facility were about. The department refused to say what the real mission is, but the slide show sure was pretty!

As we have seen with the atomic fallout aimed at Idaho, it is hard to get the government to pay a puny \$50,000 for the life-sparing cancers they have already caused. Our delegation recently voted, again, to fund "fast tracking" preparation of the Nevada Test Site for more atomic testing to be aimed at Idaho. Merry Christmas!

Democracy only works when regular people pay attention and demand their "representatives" actually represent their families and not their nuclear business buddies.

You can check the plutonium autopsy data (Page 3) at http://www.ustar.wsu.edu/pu/blications/NHRTREVE03.pdf. You can check the Los Alamos citizen plutonium autopsy statements (Page 1) at http://www.nuclearactive.org/docs/RTXKecSumm.pdf.

New year will be better if you make your politicians work

Letters

expandable airport with a better track record during inclement weather, a boon to that airport and to Twin Falls in general, consistent and safe service to the valley, and general public transport between Twin Falls and the valley for persons who commute or make frequent trips.

The technology is not new and a route across the almost open land between the valley and the Twin Falls airport makes the development reasonably simple.

A train terminal would use considerably less land area than an airport and can be placed at the Friedman site or at a point north such as near Ohio Gulch. It would be much quieter.

My general design concept calls for an elevated track that is generally 10 to 20 feet above ground on concrete pedestals placed 30 to 100 feet apart. This design allows wildlife and livestock to coexist safely and all other hazards to be kept off the track.

A right of way of only 10 to 20 feet width is required. The train can be expanded from an initial capacity of 50 persons per two cars by adding cars. A trip can be completed in about 25 minutes. Return trips can be repeated in 90-minute intervals.

I realize that this kind of idea is hard to accept in the car-driven American society. Think outside the box! A unique travel experience into a unique location can be an attraction.
 PETER CATCHPOLE
 Hillyer
 (Editor's note: Peter Catchpole is a civil engineer with POWER engineers in Hillyer.)

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



George Bush



George Bush



By Bruce Tinsley



MORNING BREAK

Sometimes modesty must take back seat

DEAR ABBY: In reply to the letter from "Offended in the South," regarding hospital gowns, I understand a person's need for modesty. However, I am a health-care worker, and I see the other side of the picture. As a paramedic, we are constantly disrobing patients (including cutting clothing off) to gain access to areas that need examination and treatment. Hospital gowns give us access to IV lines, EKG monitoring, and defibrillation and other medical equipment.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I am always conscious of my patients' need for privacy and re-cover them after I have examined them. Hospitals do provide robes for patients that will cover their backsides. I encourage all hospital patients to request a robe besides the hospital gown they receive upon admission.

— KHRYSTEN, PORTLAND, ORE.
DEAR KHRYSTEN: I'm sure many readers will be interested to know that such garments are available upon request. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Some years back, I was in a hospital that offered a unique hospital gown. It was extremely large and had three sleeves. The patient put the left sleeve over the left arm, the right sleeve over the right arm, and then the gown was passed around the back and the third sleeve placed over the left arm again. I remember my entire body was covered and I was very comfortable. I wish I could recall the name of that hospital.

— H.E. IN FLORIDA
DEAR H.E.: It's nice to know that such a garment exists, but how practical can it be for examinations or other emergency procedures?

DEAR ABBY: Five years ago, I had the same complaint as "Offended." I am 6 feet tall and weigh 225 pounds. For years I complained to the doctors about the fact that the gowns were so short. Finally, I went to the fabric store and bought two yards of fabric and a pattern for

a wrap-around sundress. The total cost was \$3.95. I made it long — about a inches below my knee — and carried it with me in a tote bag.

— MARCE IN HOUSTON
DEAR MARCE: That's a practical solution for a person who's handy with a needle — the sewing kind; that is.

DEAR ABBY: Here's what I did the last time I went for my annual checkup. I took along a clean cotton housecoat (duster) and, instead of waiting around in the chilly exam room in a mini-paper outfit, I was warm and cozy in my own garment. My doctor thought it was a great idea.

— COZY IN SCOTTSDALE
DEAR COZY: I think it's a great idea, too.

DEAR ABBY: This may come as a shock, but patients in the hospital are there because they are SICK. Doctors, nurses and other medical staff need access to their sick bodies. Sometimes quick access can make the difference between life and death. So, while the patient's dignity is a priority for health-care professionals, of even greater importance is the patient's life or limb.

I am a nurse on a medical-surgical floor at our local hospital. We are careful to

offer patients two gowns — one over the front, and the other reversed as a robe over the back. If they are bed-bound, we have no shortage of blankets to protect their modesty.

Being Southern myself — like "Offended," the author of that letter — I know how we love to blow things out of proportion. — Frankly, "Offended" has done just that with this gown thing. My advice to her: Build a bridge, sweetie, and get over it!

— RN IN TYLERTOWN, MISS.

DEAR RN: Not so fast. While I agree in principle with what you're saying, our population is becoming increasingly diverse, and it is important that the medical community adopt culturally appropriate methods to accommodate those whose cultures are averse to "the wide-open spaces."

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Wrapping paper leads police to suspects

COLUMBUS, Miss. (AP) — It wasn't tough for police to thwart two would-be Grinches — they just followed the telltale trail of wrapping paper.

Two unidentified boys, ages 14 and 12, were charged with burglary after they were accused of stealing Christmas presents from a family home, police said.

Authorities say Stanley Adams discovered someone

had broken into his Columbus home late Friday. Two juveniles who lived nearby were suspected.

Police followed a trail of paper, ribbons and gift tags that led them to one of the boys' houses. One boy told authorities that he stole the presents. The gifts — which included an E-Z Bake oven, a set of Legos and a Pac-Man video game — were returned.

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Does the hospital meet the highest national standards for Bariatric Centers of Excellence, including performing at least 125 cases per year, so my insurance company is more likely to approve my surgery?	☆ Yes	_____
Is the hospital specially outfitted with equipment to safely and comfortably care for larger patients like me, including specialty furniture, wheelchairs, operating tables, beds, and walkers?	☆ Yes	_____
Will I receive comprehensive teaching, encouragement, and support groups, both before and after my surgery, at no additional cost?	☆ Yes	_____
Does the hospital offer, in-house, all-the-back-up specialty services a bariatric surgical patient might need, including:		
● An intensive care unit with full-time intensivists and critical care staff?	☆ Yes	_____
● Pulmonologists?	☆ Yes	_____
● Cardiologists?	☆ Yes	_____
● Interventional radiologists?	☆ Yes	_____
In addition to a Board-certified surgeon, will my care be guided by an interdisciplinary bariatrics team that includes:		
● Registered, licensed dietitians?	☆ Yes	_____
● Degreed exercise physiologists?	☆ Yes	_____
● Licensed psychologists?	☆ Yes	_____
● Registered nurses and others specifically trained in bariatrics?	☆ Yes	_____
Does the hospital offer easy-to-understand package pricing, and will they help me with the insurance verification and qualification process?	☆ Yes	_____

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What's in your future?
See the horoscope on page A-6

Russia, China plan military maneuvers

MOSCOW (AP) — Russia and China will hold unprecedented joint military maneuvers on Chinese territory next year involving both nations' air forces and navies, Russia's defense minister said on Monday.

Sergei Ivanov, speaking at a Cabinet session chaired by President Vladimir Putin, said that the exercise would involve submarines and possibly strate-

gic bombers, the Interfax and IAR-Tass news agencies reported.

"For the first time in history, we have agreed to hold quite a large military exercise together with China on Chinese territory in the second half of the year," Ivanov said, according to IAR-Tass.

"The Russian side will not bring big numbers of service-

men, but mostly state-of-the-art weapons — navy, air, long-range aviation, submarines to practice interaction with China in different forms of military maneuvers," he reported to Putin.

Putin then asked whether Russian strategic bombers would take part in the exercise. "It's not excluded," Ivanov answered.

After decades of bitter rivalry, Moscow and Beijing have developed what they describe as a strategic partnership in the years since the Soviet collapse. China has become the No. 1 customer for Russia's struggling defense industry, purchasing billions of dollars worth of fighters, missiles, submarines and destroyers.

Officials with Russia's state

arms-trading company, Rosoboronexport, said last week that China is expected to sign new contracts for the purchase of Russia's most advanced fighter jets.

Both nations have frequently spoken about their adherence to a "multi-polar world," a term that refers to their opposition to a perceived U.S. domination in global affairs.

Auld Lang Syne and a Giant Bottle of Pop

New Year's Day is all about the junk food (probably because no one can stand the thought of cooking another big, elaborate meal after Thanksgiving and Christmas). So to help you make the most of this empty calorie holiday, Swensen's is offering unbeatable bargains on your favorite snacks—along with even more amazing prices on giant 3 liter bottles of Shasta soda to wash it all down with. So stock up and prepare to munch, nibble, guzzle, and burp your way to a Very Happy New Year.

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SPINACH 3 BUNCHES / \$1 LB.	LEMONS 5/\$1	LIMES 8/\$1

BONELESS BARON OF BEEF ROAST LB. \$2 29	BONELESS NEW YORK BEEF STEAK LB. \$4 89	BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER STEAK LB. \$2 39
BEEF CUBE STEAK LB. \$3 49	BEEF PETITE SIRLOIN STEAK LB. \$3 29	EXTRA LEAN PORK COUNTRY STYLE SPARERIBS LB. \$1 99
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IMPERIAL MARGARINE 1 LB. CUBES 2/\$1	WESTERN FAMILY CHEESE ASSORTED 2 LB. BRICK \$4 99

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Rescuers pull three from canyon

TWIN FALLS — A high-tech treasure hunt turned into a search and rescue operation Monday evening as crews worked to pull three from the Snake River Canyon near Twin Falls.

Details leading up to the rescue were still sketchy, said Nancy Howell, spokeswoman for the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office. However, rescue workers believe the three Twin Falls teenagers were stranded in the canyon while geocaching — using global positioning devices to participate in an adventure game of sorts.

At press time, none of the three geocachers appeared to have sustained serious injuries. One young man had been sent to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, a second awaited transport, and the third was still being tended to by rescue workers in the canyon. Numerous local agencies had been called to the scene.

Search for missing airman ends with body

MOUNTAIN HOME — Mountain Home Air Force Base search crews located the body of an airman last week after the 19-year-old disappeared on Dec. 19, according to a statement released Monday by Elmore County Sheriff's Office.

On Dec. 21, a missing person report on Thomas A. Brannan, an airman with the Air Force base, was filed with the Mountain Home Police Department. The Elmore County Sheriff's Office and members of Brannan's squadron were contacted.

Search party members from the Air Force found Brannan in a field near the Caribou Apartments in Mountain Home a few hours after the search began, a Sheriff's office spokeswoman said.

Investigators from various jurisdictions concluded that Brannan attended a bachelor party in the apartment complex on the evening of Dec. 19. An autopsy revealed Brannan died of hypothermia and as a result of being intoxicated. Brannan's blood alcohol content was measured at .14.

The report has been forwarded to the Elmore County Prosecutor for review.

T.F. planners will look at hospital request

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to hold hearings today for three special-use permits, including one for an in-home daycare at 1740 Sunflower Lane, one for a 4,000-square-foot storage building at 406 Pole Line Road and a permit for Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and Twin Falls County to operate an ambulance service at 285 Martens Court.

But members will not be reviewing a request from engineer Gerald Martens of TENSOCO to develop a low-income housing project at the corner of Flier Avenue West and Wetmore.

The Planning and Zoning Commission had voted unanimously not to recommend the proposal to the City Council in October. But due to a clerical error, city planning and zoning administrator LaMar Orion said Martens would have to go back through the planning-and-zoning hearing process before he proceeded on to City Council. Instead he chose to withdraw the proposal entirely on Monday, Orion said.

Virginia Farmer, a vocal opponent of the development who lives in the neighborhood where Martens proposed to put the project, said, "This means we've won."

The commission will meet at 7 p.m. in the new City Council chambers at 305 Third Ave. E.

— compiled from staff reports

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	'03 season peak**
Selmon	73%	27%
Big Wood	77%	28%
Little Wood	73%	27%
Big Lost	76%	27%
Little Lost	76%	29%
Henne Fork/Teton	77%	29%
Upper Snake Basin	71%	27%
Oakley	101%	35%
Salmon Falls	90%	33%

As of Dec. 27

*A comparison of local snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average.

**An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in late March.

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

And then the lawsuits piled up

For one wolf expert, handling litigation has become lifestyle

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

HELENA, Mont. — For the last 10 years, people curious, upset or clated about wolves in the Rocky Mountains have turned to one man: Ed Bangs.

"I feel like if you throw a nickel in my mouth, I'll give you the wolf spiel," Bangs said.

More on wolves

- Outfitter wants wolves out of Idaho ... Page A1
- Wolf enthusiasts track packs Page A1
- Wolves affect other wildlife Page A4

Bangs left a dream position in Alaska for Montana and his claim to fame as the wolf recovery leader for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The position took him out of the field and put him into an office.

"Now, I'm just an administrator/bureaucrat," Bangs said. "If you look at the wolf guys, we're a bunch of bitter, old men."

"The process of wolf recovery didn't simply begin a decade ago when wolves were reintroduced to central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park. In-



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

The reintroduction of gray wolves into central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park a decade ago inspired a deluge of lawsuits. Recovery and management of the species continues to fuel litigation today.

stead, a number of years, studies and lawsuits led up to that one momentous day in January 1995 when wolves bounded back into the Rocky Mountain West.

"When it started out, it was just a tiny program, run out of the back of a pickup truck," Bangs said.

But wolves have garnered

big-time attention — not all positive. Instead, much of that attention has come in the form of lawsuits. The amount of money, resources and time invested in lawsuits have led many to speculate that litigation has done nothing but prolong the inevitable — residents learning to live with wolves and states, learning to

manage the species.

Today, the Fish and Wildlife Service is now involved in at least five active lawsuits.

"Everyone just blasts with both barrels," Bangs said. "They're just hoping that one sticks."

In the autumn of 1994, the Fish and Wildlife Service published its final rule in the Federal

Register declaring wolves an experimental population in Idaho, Wyoming and southern Montana.

The lawsuits began to pile up. Wolf opponents, such as the American Farm Bureau, sued to stop reintroduction. The organization objected to introducing a "nonnative" species in Idaho.

Please see LAWSUITS, Page B3

Researchers ponder the positives of wolf recovery

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

YELLOWSTONE — If you're hoping to catch a glimpse of a wild wolf in the lower 48 states, grab your camera and head to the Lamar Valley in Yellowstone National Park, says one federal official.

"It's the best place in the world to see wolves," said Ed Bangs, wolf recovery leader for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

People from all over the world call Bangs asking him for wolf-spotting tips. The answer is always the same — go to Lamar Valley.

"It's incredible," he said. "In the years since wolf reintroduction, the visibility of wolves in that location pleasantly surprised Bangs. While the public often hears stories of the economic losses livestock producers have faced due to wolf recovery, the benefits of reintroduction are harder to

quantify, Bangs said.

In 1994, the Fish and Wildlife Service published its study assessing the effects of wolf recovery in Yellowstone National Park and central Idaho. The assessment included possible economic benefits to those communities. The federal agency predicted both Yellowstone and central Idaho could see an increase of \$23 million in visitor expenditures

Please see RECOVERY, Page B3

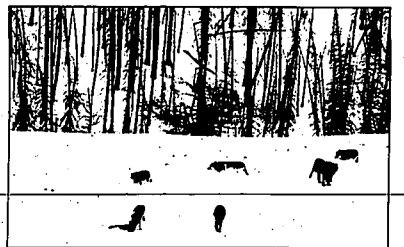


Photo courtesy of the National Park System

Wolves in Yellowstone National Park may be changing the face of the park's ecosystem. A recent report suggests wolves affect the behavior of other wildlife, thus allowing vegetation to flourish in places elk no longer roam.

Fire doesn't snuff out Christmas for Oakley family

Area residents donate clothes, other necessities

By Renee Wells
South Idaho Press

OAKLEY — When fire destroyed much of a multi-family Oakley home, area residents chipped in to see that the family still had a Merry Christmas.

Luz, Ceja and Nancy Torres were watching television

around 10:30 p.m. Thursday when Nancy's three children when they smelled smoke. Upon investigation, they found smoke coming out from around the chimney of their wood-burning stove.

"They got everyone out of the house and called for help, said Oakley Fire Chief Hario Clark. By the time firefighters arrived, the southwest portion of the roof was fully engulfed in flames.

Oakley fire officials fought the fire with the help of the Burley Fire Department.

"Burley sent us a fire truck

and a tanker, which was so very appreciated," Clark said.

"We ran out of water in our tanker just as theirs arrived," he said. "We were able to attack the fire on all four sides with their help and they used foam, which greatly increased our firefighting ability."

Clark said the older home had been remodeled. When they pulled the roof down, part of one wall collapsed.

"When the home was remodeled, they put a second roof over the old/sloping roof," Clark said. "The fire got between the two layers and just

moved along the roof. That's where most of the damage occurred."

It took most of the night to quell the fire, Clark said. Crews returned to the firehouse by 5:30 a.m. Friday.

Clark said the west side of the home was destroyed, but crews were able to save much of the east side.

"We were able to get one family's belongings from the home," Clark said. "But the house is old and it may be hard to try to restore it."

Damages are estimated at about \$50,000 and the resi-

dents have insurance on the home.

By Christmas morning, the residents had all the clothing and belongings they needed, Clark said. The Red Cross responded as well as members of a local church.

The families are staying with relatives living nearby until they can find a suitable home.

A benefit account has been set up in the name of Nancy Torres at D.L. Evans Bank. Donations can be made to help the women find a new home and funds can be deposited at any D.L. Evans Branch.

NICE DAY FOR A RIDE



Steve Wirsching of Twin Falls cycles along Golf Course Road near Jerome while on a 35-mile ride Monday afternoon. Mostly cloudy conditions are forecast for today in the Magic Valley with a high in the low 40s.

Congressman, professor blast Patriot Act in article

The Associated Press

BOISE — Conservative U.S. Rep. Butch Otter, R-Idaho, and a progressive University of Idaho law professor have co-written an article critical of the Patriot Act that's been accepted for publication in a prestigious law journal.

Professor Elizabeth Brundt is a longtime American Civil Liberties Union activist who served on the ACLU's national board for a decade.

She and Otter may disagree on other points, but they're on the same side when it comes to the libertarian ideal of keeping government out of people's business and private lives.

"I don't think there are a lot of other Republican politicians



Rep. Butch Otter

who would have been willing to write an article with someone from the ACLU. I was honored to be asked to participate, as it was an opportunity to show that even in a highly charged political arena, ideas can transcend politics."

Otter, who is strongly considering running for the governor's office in 2006, has been an outspoken critic of parts of the USA Patriot Act, which expanded law enforcement powers in the

Please see PATRIOT, Page B3

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

OBITUARIES

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

Faith C. Johnson



Faith C. Johnson left her teachers on Earth to spend Christmas in Glory with our Lord and Savior and her love and husband of 56 years, Ivan. She died at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center on Dec. 24, 2004, after suffering a massive heart attack.

Born March 11, 1923, in Norfolk, Va., Faith was the daughter of Harry John and Gladys Dunstan. Mrs. Johnson attended public schools in Norfolk, later graduating in 1941 from Matthews Fontaine Maury High School.

She was employed with Goldcraft Portrait Studio. Faith met the love of her life, then First Lieutenant Ivan C. Johnson. They were married March 11, 1945, in Norfolk, Va. Faith followed Ivan on his various tours of military duty, working mostly in retail sales at department stores until the birth of their daughter, Deborah, in 1950. When Ivan left active duty with the United States Army, the couple returned to Twin Falls in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Faith was employed for a number of years at Van Engeler's Department Store in Twin Falls and also Roper's. In her later years, until retirement, Faith operated a day care out of her home, becoming "Grand-ma Fay Fay" to many Twin

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many nieces and nephews. Faith was preceded in death by her husband, Col. Ivan C. Johnson; a daughter, Georgia Anna; and brothers, Robert (Bobby) Dunstan, Harry Nicholas (Nicky) Dunstan and William A. (Bill) Dunstan all of Norfolk, Va. A celebration of life will be held at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 4, 2005, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, ID 83401, with graveside services to follow at Twin Falls Cemetery.

The family sends their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the Intensive Care Unit Staff at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, to Drs. DiMaggio, Pilch and the staff of Southern Idaho Cardiology for their patience and loving attention shown to both Faith and to Deborah and family for the duration of Faith's care.

Faith is survived by a daughter, Deborah, and Deborah's husband, Dr. Jay A. Hartwell; two granddaughters, Michelle and Melanie Hartwell; a sister, Mrs. Sonia C. Johnson, Norfolk, Va.; a brother, Mr. Jack A. Dunstan, Fredericksburg, Va.; and

through many illnesses; her daughter, Barbara (Richard) Lewis and their 11 children and 22 grandchildren of St. Louis, Mo.; her daughter, Roberta Kay and her children, Tara and Gray Maloney and granddaughter, Skye McGohee of Hailey; her daughter, Kathy Barnes of Boise; her sister, Willoven (Ross) Harris of Long Beach, Calif.; and her brother, Gary (Carlinda) Corbridge of Hagerman.

Because Faith wanted her granddaughters to "reach for the stars", memorials may be made on her behalf to the Centennial Observatory, c/o Hertzler Center for the Arts and Sciences, College of Southern Idaho, P.O. Box 1238, Twin Falls, Idaho, or to the Twin Falls Animal Shelter, c/o Mrs. Deborah Blackwood, P.O. Box 1163, Twin Falls, ID 83401.

Louise Alzina Barnes



Louise Alzina Barnes, age 91, died on Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, at Blaine Manor in Hailey with her family by her side.

She was born Oct. 8, 1913, in Pocatello, Idaho, the child of Charles William Carter and Beatrice Maryann Edgley. Louise was an Idaho native and a 50-year resident of the Wood River Valley. She married Robert Jasper Barnes and they moved to Ketchum in 1961. They lived in the valley until they moved to Hagerman in 1994. Louise worked at the Wooden Spur Restaurant, she helped with the operation of Wagon Days and she was seen behind the counter of Ketchum Drugs and Decost's.

She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Eastern Star, and was active in the Relief Society.

Louise was very talented playing the piano and singing. She led singing at the Long Beach First Ward in the 1940s and 1950s and also sang for many weddings. Services include her loving husband of 63 years, Bob, who diligently cared for her

area. She was a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Eastern Star, and was active in the Relief Society.

Louise was very talented playing the piano and singing. She led singing at the Long Beach First Ward in the 1940s and 1950s and also sang for many weddings.

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. and was raised in Eden, Idaho, by her mother, Gertrude and father, Thomas G. Davis. She attended Eden Schools. She married Robert Grant Oct. 16, 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 (Kathie) Grant of Ketchum, Idaho, Alvin (Loretta) Grant of Jerome, Idaho, Jack (Charlotte) Grant of Sugarland, Texas; 13 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents and by her husband, Robert, in 1997.

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

Gladys Laferl Moffett Johnson

Latter-day Saints and had served in various capacities. She enjoyed gardening and spent many hours doing family history.

She especially loved spending time with her family. Survivors include four daughters, Carol (John) Boyd of Eagle Mountain, Utah, Louise (Peter) Melnie of Moorpark, Calif., Sharon (Jimmie) Hiest of Provo, Utah, and Kathryn (John) Schorze; two sons, Lynn Johnson of Eagle Mountain, Utah, Steven (Francine) of Tremonton, Utah, Ronald (Betty) Johnson of Concord, Calif., and Gabe (Mitzi) Johnson of Winslow, Ariz.; a sister, Betty Lue Bowen of Meridian; 60 grandchildren; many

great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, George on Aug. 29, 2001; a brother, Sylvester Alvin Moffett; and three children, Marshall, Elaine and Arthur.

A funeral will be held at noon Wednesday, Dec. 29, 2004, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints Springdale 1st & 2nd Ward Chapel, 200 S. 475 E. of Burley, with Bishop David Priest officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday at the Payne Mortuary, 22 W. Main St. in Burley at the church from 11 to 11:45 a.m. prior to the funeral on Wednesday.

OBITUARY

Evaline L. Haiman



Evaline L. Haiman, 99, of Twin Falls, passed away Saturday, Dec. 25, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Evaline was born March 28, 1905, in Fairfield, Neb., the daughter of Joseph and Lavine Hahn. She graduated from high school in Fairfield, Neb., in 1924. It was shortly after graduation that she moved to Idaho. She retired from the Twin Falls Memorial Hospital now Magic Valley Regional Medical Center as a dietary cook. Evaline was a private person but was not afraid to speak her mind when she needed to. She enjoyed sewing and going to Jackpot to play the nickel slots.

She was preceded in death by her parents, three husbands and one sister.

A graveside service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 30,

at Sunset Memorial Park with Pastor Jerry Steele officiating. Arrangements and services are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."

Snowmobile technology may help reduce Asian pollution

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — Winners of a competition to develop cleaner burning snowmobiles are taking their technology to developing countries to help reduce pollution from motorized bicycles.

"Two-stroke engines are used throughout the Third World because they are resilient and inexpensive power sources, but they also expel a significant amount of oil and oil."

"There are over 50 million of these vehicles," said Brian Wilson, professor of mechanical engineering at Colorado State University and a leader of the project to retrofit the engines. "The impact on air quality and human health is stunning."

According to World Bank estimates, one conventional tricycle emits as much pollution as 50 automobiles, and particulate emissions cause 2,000 premature deaths annually in four major Philippine cities.

Many Asians wear masks or breathe through rags because of severe air pollution.

Taxi drivers are most seriously affected. A World Bank study found that drivers in Bangladesh were too sick to work seven days each month.

Wilson, students and colleagues founded EnviroFit International with the mission of offering the technology to the developing world.

His CSU team won the emissions event in the 2002 Clean Snowmobile Challenge held in Jackson Hole.

"The competition was organized when the National Park Service began mulling a ban on snowmobiles in national parks because of the machines' noise and air pollution. The contest had since moved to Houghton, Mich."

"The popularity of snowmobiling is increasing in Idaho, particularly in winter recreation spots near Yellowstone National Park in eastern Idaho, and around Ponderosa State Park near McCall in eastern Idaho."

"According to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation the number of registered snowmobiles statewide has increased 13 percent since 2000."

DEATH NOTICES

Richard Lee Halman

JEROME — Richard Lee Halman, 76, a resident of Gooding, Dec. 25, 2004, at his home.

Arrangements will be made by Farnsworth Mortuary and Crematory, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome.

died Saturday, Dec. 25, 2004, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

A funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 30, 2004, at Demaray's Wendell Chapel with the Rev. Michael Holman officiating. Burial will follow at the Wendell Cemetery.

Erma Faye Jones

GOODING — Erma Faye Jones, 76, a resident of Gooding, died on Monday, Dec. 27, 2004, at the Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center in Gooding.

Arrangements will be made by Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

An obituary will appear in a later edition.

Vivian Irene Maltz

WENDELL — Vivian Irene Maltz, 83, a resident of Wendell,

Ronald Lewis Kemper

POITTAGUE, Mich. — Ronald Lewis Kemper, 65, of Portage, Mich., and formerly of Twin Falls, Idaho, died Thursday, Dec. 23, 2004, following a short illness at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo, Mich.

An obituary will appear in a later edition. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Olive A. Messenger of Jerome

funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln, Jerome. Visitation one hour before the service.

Nolan Victor, service at 12:30 p.m.

Tuesday at the 5th Ward LDS Chapel, 421 Maurice St. N., Twin Falls. Viewing from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at the chapel (White Mortuary).

Marie Jane Conrad of Murtough

funeral at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday at Twin Falls First Church of the Nazarene, 1231 Washington St. N. (White Mortuary).

Duane Edward Hanson of Twin Falls

funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at Park's Funeral Home.

Jullieanna Kudrna of Hollister

funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Wendell Cemetery.

Tracy Corwin, memorial service at 11 a.m.

Tuesday in the Chapel at Twin Falls Reformed Church (White Mortuary).

Ciera Michelle Livia, funeral at 11 a.m.

Tuesday at St. Nicholas Middle School (Demaray's Wendell Chapel).

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. Tuesday at White Mortuary. Memorials contributions are suggested to Valley Presbyterian Church in Hazelton or the Silver & Gold Senior Citizens Center in Eden.

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U.S. saw waves from quake

HONOLULU (AP) - The earthquake-driven tidal waves that devastated coastlines from Asia to Africa registered in the Pacific Ocean as far away as the United States and the coast of South America, experts said Monday.

The magnitude 9.0 earthquake that struck near Indonesia generated tsunamis that killed more than 22,000 in 10 countries as it spread west and north across the Bay of Bengal and the Indian Ocean.

But the energy generated by the deep ocean waves also traveled to the Pacific, said Stuart Weinstein, a geophysicist with the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center on Oahu.

"We recorded tsunami waves along the coast of South America, on the coast of American Samoa, in Fiji, even Mexico,

and the west coast of the United States," Weinstein said.

"It's been a multi-ocean tsunami," he added. "It's probably the first multi-ocean tsunami since Krakatoa."

The eruption of the volcano on the island of Krakatau on Aug. 27, 1883, generated a massive wave that swept over the shores of nearby Java and Sumatra, killing 36,000 people.

Other experts said this week's tidal waves were similar to those that struck the West Coast centuries ago. On Jan. 26, 1700, an earthquake of approximately magnitude 9.0 buckled the ocean floor from Vancouver Island to Northern California, setting off a tsunami that swamped the coast and washed away houses in Japan.

The tsunami warning center issued a tsunami warning bulletin over the weekend and tried to warn the countries in the path of the tidal waves, but lacked the right contact numbers. There is no tsunami warning center for the Indian Ocean.

"They were not plugged into this international effort to monitor tsunamis," Arun Swamy, a fellow at the East-West Center who specializes in South Asian politics, told the Honolulu Star-Bulletin. "There was certainly a lot of time. It would have been easy to evacuate people. But no one knew... to prepare for it."

The Pacific has an underwater tsunami-detection system of six buoys nestled strategically on the ocean floor at depths of up to 18,000 feet. Three of the devices are off the Aleutian Islands in Alaska, one is off

Vanuatu, British Columbia, one is off Oregon and one is between Hawaii and Chile.

"The gauges on the ocean bottom are linked to buoys on the sea surface, which transmit data to a satellite," said Gerard Fryer, a University of Hawaii geophysicist who is also the director of the Hawaii Department of Civil Defense.

Two of the three sensors off the Aleutians are currently not working because the surface buoys, which are battered by the rough winter seas, need to be replaced, he said.

"When they work, they're wonderful, they're very very sensitive," Fryer said.

A seventh sensor is being planned for somewhere on the Hawaiian Islands, but the location hasn't been chosen yet, he said.

Boise teens show support for Guard

BOISE (AP) - Boise High School's Ashley Priddy didn't made up her mind about whether the United States should be fighting in Iraq, but she didn't tell her to blame it on the soldiers.

"My political views are so far off the 17-year-old said, "I don't think that matters at all. No matter how you view the war, you have to support the people who are over there fighting for us."

To show that support, Priddy organized art students at several Boise schools to make Christmas cards to send to Idaho National Guard soldiers who recently went to Iraq. The troops got the more than 300 cards delivered while they were training in Louisiana before departing for the Middle East.

"What she did was a wonderful thing," said Lt. Col. Tim Mansell, spokesman for the 116th Brigade Combat Team.

Mansell delivered the cards to Louisiana, and the unit took them along to Iraq. "They're voices from home, and I know our folks really appreciate that," Burt organized the card-making as a community service project for her National Honor Society group at Boise High.

She asked art teachers at Boise's Timberline High School and East Les Bois Junior High to have students contribute what they could. She knew a lot of local people had been showing support for Guard soldiers, but there was not a specific way for young people to voice their feelings.

"I just thought it would be re-

ally neat if the Idahoans in Iraq could see how much the young folks appreciate them," Burt said. And she gave credit to kids who contributed.

"I'm just organizing it," she said. "They wrote the cards."

Some messages were heart-felt. "I'm proud of you," one expressed my gratitude toward your courage," wrote a Borah student. "You leave your jobs, your homes and your families to fight for my freedom. I completely support and honor your selflessness, and thank you from the bottom of my heart."

Others were, well, written by teenagers, like this one from a Timberline student: "Keep rocking the Middle East. Merry Christmas."

Burt's project caught on with other art teachers in the Boise School District, said Cathy Mansell, the districts art consultant.

There is talk of repeating it at Valentines Day, Easter and other holidays. "It's caught on pretty dang good," Mansell said. "Just about every kid knows someone who's connected (to a soldier)."

But the teachers will have to coordinate with Guard officials because the Department of Defense discourages unsolicited mail mailings to troops. Mansell said.

Burt's project worked well because Mansell was able to hand-deliver it on a trip to Louisiana, but he won't be going to Iraq any time soon. He will encourage troops and messages to the troops through the Web site www.america.supportsoy.com.

ROAD CLOSED!



Carlos Leon of Cotati, Calif., climbs on top of his stalled pickup truck during a downpour in Rohnert Park, Calif., Monday. So many people ignored the road closure signs that Rohnert Park police threatened to cite anyone attempting to cross the flooded area.

Utah residents fight to use eagle feathers

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - A battle is brewing over the rights of whites who practice American Indian religion to use federally restricted eagle feathers in ceremonies.

Two federal statutes—the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act—limit the right to have the feathers to members of federally recognized tribes. The feathers are powerful objects in the culture's ceremonies, and tribal members must earn the right to handle them.

Many non-tribe members, backed up by the federal government, say feathers and other eagle parts should be reserved for American Indians as a way of preserving the culture.

"Some of them may marry into Native American tribes or have a fascination or even a sincere interest to be more knowledgeable, but they shouldn't be able to legally possess the feathers," said Nino Reyes, a Ute and Pueblo who lives in Salt Lake City.

But two non-Indian Utah residents, Raymond Hardman and

Samuel Ray Wilgus Jr., claim they have a religious right to use the feathers in their ceremonial activities.

The federal laws make an exception for enrolled tribal members who practice an American Indian religion, allowing such members to get a permit to possess eagle feathers and parts. The items are either passed down from tribal elders or obtained from the National Eagle Repository, operated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Wilgus, who says he is an adopted member of the Paiute Indian Peak Band, was convicted of possessing 141 eagle feathers without a permit in 1998. Feathers given to Hardman as a gift by a Hopi leader in Arizona were seized in 1996, and he was also found guilty of violating federal law.

Both appealed and the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver eventually sent their cases back to Utah to determine whether the restrictions violated the Religious Freedom Restoration Act, which holds that religious practices must be

accommodated unless a compelling governmental interest can be demonstrated.

Decisions in the cases are pending.

"I don't think government should be in the business of telling who can or cannot worship in a particular religion," said Cindy Barton-Coombs, Hardman's lawyer.

Indians fear an already long wait for feathers could get longer if non-Indians are allowed to use them. Applicants routinely wait three to four years for a whole eagle, including beaks and talons.

Lacey Harris, a Northern Ute medicine person and mental health therapist in Weber County, compared non-Indians wanting to possess indigenous sacred objects with an outsider trying to don its sacred robes.

"There would be a huge outcry if we did that," Harris said. "Yet with Anglo people, they want to practice our rituals with us. How have they earned the rights to these things? Where does that show respect for our traditions, our rights?"

LDS president stresses family on news channel

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Mormon church President Gordon B. Hinckley stressed the importance of traditional family in a national TV appearance yesterday on CNN's "Larry King Live."

In his fourth appearance on the show, the 84-year-old Hinckley described family as the basis for all Mormon theology.

Hinckley, who almost always avoids interviews with local reporters, appeared playful with King, who is Jewish but married a Mormon.

The interview bounced among topics such as the war in Iraq to Gov.-elect Jon Huntsman, who Hinckley said will be "a good governor."

The interview also touched on homosexuality, politics and the church's relationship to blacks.

Hinckley said the church has compassion for gays, because Mormons faithful are pro-family, not anti-gay.

"We know they have a problem and we want to help them solve it," Hinckley said.

About President Bush, Hinckley said, "I like a president who prays."

"I vote for a man, not a party," Hinckley said, adding that he has voted on both sides of the political aisle.

King asked Hinckley, "who leads a church that did not allow blacks to hold the priesthood until 1978 - if there will ever be a black prophet?"

"There could be," Hinckley responded after reminding that he dedicated earlier, this year, one of the faith's temples in Ghana and expects to dedicate another one in Nigeria next year.

At the end of the exchange, King told his audience that Hinckley had given him a genealogy of King's family, including immigration papers for his parents, maps of their ancestral towns, copies of newspaper clippings about his father's funeral and many details the talk show host had never known.

Oil contamination closes Alaska fisheries

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) - State regulators have halted all commercial fishing in the Bering Sea near the wreckage of a grounded freighter where fuel oil has contaminated the water.

The Division of Commercial Fisheries order affects the Makushin River and Skun Bay Tanner crab fishery, which had been scheduled to open to fishermen Jan. 15. Also closed will be Pacific cod and rockfish and silver salmon for another groundfish that would have opened Saturday.

The closed state waters stretch from Spray Cape to Cape Kozlovka along the western side of Unalaska Island, about 800 miles southwest of Anchorage.

In between the two capes lies the wreckage of the 738-foot Sealand Ayu, which has been leaking oil and diesel since it wrecked there Dec. 8. An estimated 424,000 gallons of intermediate fuel oil and 18,000 gallons of diesel were on board; more than 210,000 gallons is presumed lost.

Dennis Lloyd, regional supervisor for the Division of Commercial Fisheries, said 10 of 21 test crab traps retrieved on Monday had some sign of oil contamination.

Lloyd said he did not know how long the fisheries' season would be delayed, or if they would be closed for the entire season.

The Tanner crab fishery, with a harvest cap of about 171,000 pounds this season, was scheduled to last until March.

"The fishing area has been closed until further notice," Lloyd said. "Although it's possible to close it quickly, we're not sure it is very likely."

Lloyd said the state has a zero-tolerance policy that requires fisheries to be closed where there is a threat of contamination.

"We're likely to affect 20-30 vessels that fish the area, according to Tenny Mitchell, executive director of the Bering Sea Fishermen's Association.

Mitchell declined to estimate the economic impact on shutting down the fisheries, although he said the eastern Bering Sea is one of the world's most productive habitats for fish and shellfish.

"I'm sure the Department of Fish and Game is acting on the best science and intelligence and made that decision for the protection of the resource," he said.

Patriot

Continued from B1

wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

As one of the few Republicans to oppose the GOP administration on the issue, the Notre Dame Journal of Law, Ethics and Public Policy approached Otter to write an article on his concerns for its upcoming February issue. Otter then asked Brandt to write it with him.

The two had met at a September 2003 panel discussion on the Patriot Act at the law school. Otter's press secretary, Mark Warbis, said, "That's what led to this invitation."

Otter is a student of American political and constitutional history, Warbis said, but, "he's not a lawyer. He felt that he wanted

someone who he trusted to work with him on the subtleties of the law involved so he asked professor Brandt."

Otter selected the topic: Delayed-notification searches, or "sneak and peek" searches authorized under the Patriot Act.

In the article, the two compare the governmental privilege to a pre-Revolutionary tactic used by British authorities. The law American colonists called "writs of assistance." Those writs created general, universal, perpetual and transferable search warrants allowing authorities to search American colonists' homes and properties to enforce smuggling laws.

The article suggests that the

Patriot Act's sneak-and-peek searches have similar problems.

"The point that the congressman wanted to make is that it's a dangerous abridgment of our freedoms," Warbis said. "The writs of assistance in some ways were one of those aggravations that led to the revolution."

As a matter of policy, Brandt said, "these are the kinds of searches that we think the colonists and the founders would have found to be offensive - entering one's home secretly without notice, not announcing, not leaving any evidence that you were there."

The article the two wrote is titled "Preserving the Foundations of Liberty."

Recovery

Continued from B1

annually because of wolf recovery.

David Duffield, an economics professor at the University of Montana, analyzed social and economic impacts of wolf recovery in Yellowstone in 1992. His research projected a regional impact of \$43 million a year. Duffield is expected to release another report in the near future comparing his initial estimates with the actual benefits.

Bangs noted an unexpected impact of wolves that wolf advocates tout as beneficial to the environment.

"They do it differently when wolves are around," Bangs said. "It's not that the elk popula-

tion has suffered due to wolves in Yellowstone, he said. It's the way elk now behave with wolves around. Elk no longer linger in open areas.

The change in elk behavior allowed willow trees and aspens to spring up in places elk typically grazed when wolves were not present. Oregon State University forest resources professors William J. Ripple and Robert L. Beschta published a study in October verifying Bangs' statements.

"When you remove the wolves, the elk are able to browse unimpeded wherever they want, as long as they want," Beschta said.

However, the reintroduction of wolves changed the de-

meanor of elk and other wildlife. These changes over the course of time alter the ecosystem. Wolf advocates argue that bringing wolves back to places the animal historically roamed restores balance to the environment.

"This large-scale extirpation that happened in the United States may have far-reaching consequences," Ripple said. "We're just at the very infancy of understanding the importance of these apex predators, sitting at the top of the food chain affecting entire ecosystems."

The Associated Press and Defenders of Wildlife contributed to this article.

Lawsuits

Continued from B1

Additionally, the group asserted that wolves already existed in Idaho, so reintroduction wasn't necessary. At the same time, the Sierra Club sued to get more protection for wolves.

"The litigation on the reintroduction went on for five years," Bangs said.

In 2002, when the Fish and Wildlife Service downlisted gray wolves from endangered to threatened, the agency was slapped with another round of litigation.

Defenders of Wildlife launched one of the lawsuits.

Suzanne Stone, Defenders spokeswoman, said that the Fish and Wildlife Service wants count the wolf population in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming toward population levels in the rest of the West.

"There's not a viable population in any of these other states," Stone said.

Because wolves historically inhabited other portions of the West, the Fish and Wildlife Service needs to consider population levels in those states separately and manage accordingly, she said.

The latest bout of litigation

surfaced after the Fish and Wildlife Service rejected Wyoming's management plan. The state of Wyoming sued in order to see information that the federal agency calls classified. Interest groups as well as Clark County, Wyo., have followed with additional suits. Litigation over Wyoming's plan will likely stretch out over the next three to five years unless the lawsuits are dropped, Bangs said.

This status quo will remain in effect until that litigation is complete," he said.

Despite the fact that much of his time gets sucked into legal

documents and litigation rather than helping wolves and the people who are affected by the creatures, Bangs remains upbeat about the process.

"Nobody is above the law," he said. "There are consequences, but wait until you're on the short end of the stick."

"Wolves are so symbolic to people," Bangs continued. "Every wolf thing gets litigated. And that's not a bad thing."

Times-News reporter Michelle Dunlop can be reached at 735-3237 or by e-mail at mdunlop@mgvalley.com.

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LEMONY SNICKET'S P S N O V
 PG-13
 Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

SHARK TALE P S N O V
 PG-13
 Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

COMICS

Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



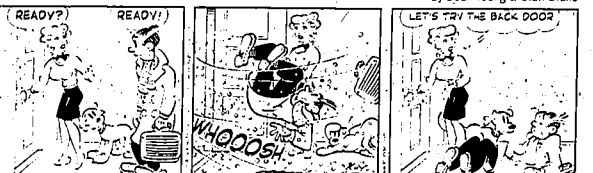
Dilbert

By Scott Adams



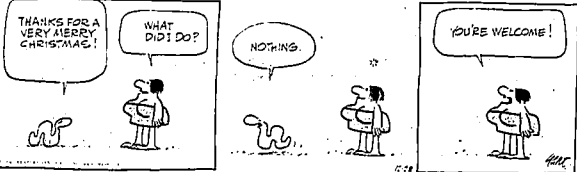
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



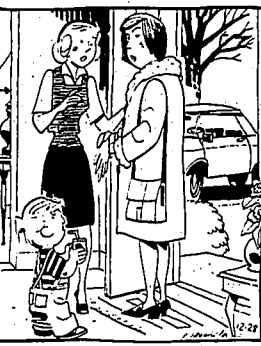
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



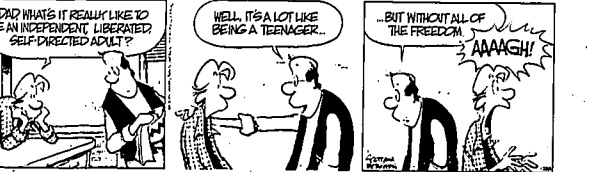
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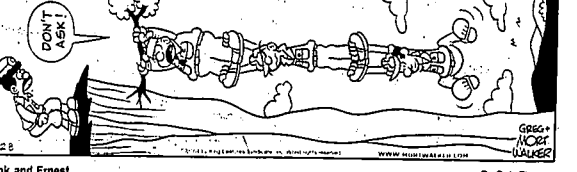
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



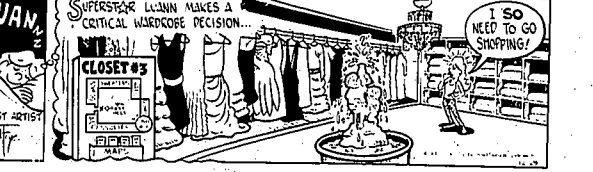
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Luann

By Greg Evans



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



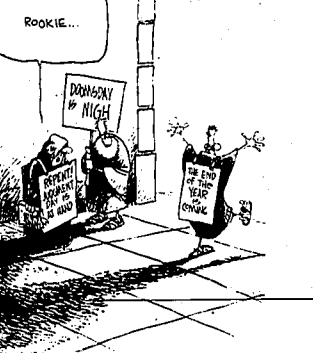
Strange Brew

By John Deering



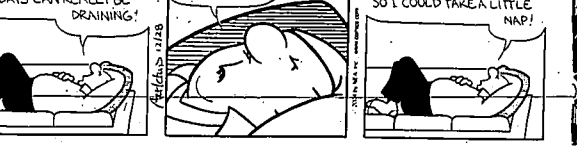
Non Sequitur

By Wiley



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Bowl season picks up.

SPORTS

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

The Times-News

Tuesday, December 28, 2004

Section C

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

Man, that's sweet. I like to eat after, I urke sometimes, so I might be cooking my own food in the hotel room.

— Virginia Tech defensive lineman Darryl Tapp, commenting on a mini-barbecue grill that is among the gifts that Sugar Bowl officials are giving to participating players.

TRIVIA

QUESTION: Why should the city of Nyan, Russia, ring a bell with sports fans?
...answer below

IN BRIEF

CSI offers hoops camp Dec 29-30

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team will host the Junior Eagles Basketball Camp on Wednesday, Dec. 29 and Thursday, Dec. 30 at CSI Gymnasium. The clinics will run from 9 a.m. to 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 Priest at (208) 732-6196 or Christi Ure at (208) 732-6486.

T.F. Parks and Rec has open gym schedule

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation and the Twin Falls School District will have a holiday open gym at Robert Stuart Junior High School. The gym will be open from 6-9 p.m. today through Thursday, Dec. 30, and again on Monday, Jan. 3, from 6-9 p.m. Call (208) 736-2265 for more information.

Jerome Rec District schedules open gym

JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District will have an open gym for basketball today through Thursday, Dec. 30. Call (208) 324-3389 for more information.

Bruin camp will take place in January

TWIN FALLS — Registration is currently being held for the Bruin Basketball Tilt Drubblers Camp. The boys and girls Grades K-3 camp will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15 and Saturday, Jan. 22 from 10 to 12 p.m., and on Monday, Jan. 24 from 6-7 p.m., at Baun Gymnasium. The K-3 campers will perform at halftime of the final Bruin girls game on Thursday, Jan. 27. The boys and girls grades 4-6 camp will be held on Saturday, Jan. 15 and Saturday, Jan. 22 from 10 to 12 p.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 camps is \$25. There is a 200-campsite limit for each session. All Tilt Drubblers will receive a camp T-shirt and a custom Bruin basketball. Camp forms have been distributed to local elementary schools, or may be picked up at Donnelly Sports or the Twin Falls High School office. For more information, contact Matt Hart at (208) 737-5208, Ext. 3050.

TRIVIA ANSWER:

It's the birthplace of "the Siberian Stren," otherwise known as 17-year-old Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova.

FREE-WHEELIN'

Armstrong wins another AP athlete of year award

By Jim Vertuno
Associated Press writer

AUSTIN, Texas — Even by his lofty standards, Lance Armstrong's return to the mountaintop in 2004 was pretty special. The question now facing Armstrong and his legion of fans is whether he'll return to challenge the Pyrenees and the French Alps again in 2005. Already recognized as one of the truly inspiring athletes of his generation, Armstrong took his cycling legacy a step further when he won a record-breaking sixth consecutive Tour de France in July. And for his accomplishment, he was honored Monday as The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year for the third straight year. Armstrong joined Michael Jordan (1991-93) as the only athletes selected by sports writers and broadcasters three straight times since the honor was first awarded in 1931. "For me it's a special year," Armstrong said. "It's always nice to win the Tour, but this year was special simply because I broke the record and made history."



Six-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong, of Austin, Texas, crosses the finish line to win the 17th stage of the Tour de France cycling race between Bourd-0lsans and Le Grand Bornand, French Alps, on July 22. Armstrong was honored Monday with another AP Male Athlete of the Year award.

Armstrong received 51 first-place votes and 312 total points. Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning was second with 17 first-place votes and 156 points. The voting reflected Armstrong's return to dominating form in an event where he separated himself so far from the pack there was little question of the outcome. In 2003, Armstrong struggled to win his fifth Tour de France, capturing cycling's premier event and one of the world's most grueling sporting events by a mere 61 seconds. It was also the year he got divorced because he acknowledged that he struggled to balance the pressures of his personal and professional lives. Yet the 33-year-old Texan stormed back in 2004 with arguably his best U.S. Postal Service team and his best individual performance on the bike. He won five individual stages and a sixth with a team time trial in France. "I certainly feel like I recovered my true strengths. I haven't felt as in control of a tour as this year," Armstrong said. While other top riders and rivals such as Tyler Hamilton and Jan Ullrich withered during the punishing race, Armstrong powered on. Germany's Andreas Kloden, the Tour runner-up, got a close up view of the American's strength in one of the hardest Alpine stages when Armstrong sailed past him to win a spring finish in the last few meters. "No gifts this year," Armstrong said after the stage. But as dominant as Armstrong was, he was not the only standout. Please see ARMSTRONG, Page C2

MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Dominance

Highlighted: Won a record-breaking sixth consecutive Tour de France. Joined Michael Jordan (1991-93) as the only athletes selected by sports writers and broadcasters three straight times since the honor was first awarded in 1931.

Recognized as one of the truly inspiring athletes of his generation, Lance Armstrong was named The Associated Press Male Athlete of the Year for the third straight year.

Top vote-getters
(First place votes in parentheses)

PLAYER	PTS
Lance Armstrong (51)	312
Peyton Manning (17)	156
Michael Phelps (11)	124
Curt Schilling (17)	122
Vijay Singh (8)	90

Fresno State upsets No. 18 Virginia

Bulldogs bounce back from 14-point deficit

By Tim Korte
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Paul Pinegar shrugged off midseason criticism and kept throwing for touchdowns. Pinegar had five TD passes, including the game-winning 25-yarder, to Stephen Spach in overtime, as Fresno State beat No. 18 Virginia 37-34 in the MPC Computers Bowl on Monday. "Winning feels great, especially against a Virginia team that has a great defense," Pinegar said. He was fabulous, completing 23 of 36 passes for 235 yards



Virginia cornerback Marcus Hamilton leaves the field as Fresno State celebrates its win Monday at the MPC Bowl in Boise.

without an interception, helping the Bulldogs (9-3) erase a 21-7 second-quarter deficit and notch another win against a big-name team. Fresno State, the third-place team in the Western Athletic

Conference, added the Cavaliers (8-4) of the Atlantic Coast Conference to a list of victims that has included Colorado, Oregon State, Wisconsin, Washington and Kansas State in recent years.

"We've got a lot of great teams in the WAC. Boise State, Hawaii, UTEP," Pinegar said. "We showed that we definitely can compete with some of the best

Initial report blames lung ailment

The Associated Press
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — NFL great Reggie White may have died because of a respiratory disease combined with other health problems, a preliminary autopsy report said Monday. White most likely had a condition that affected the amount of air he lungs could hold, resulting in "fatal cardiac arrhythmia," said Dr. Mike Sullivan, the medical examiner for Mecklenburg County and a forensic pathologist. The report is being reviewed by Sullivan's office also said sleep apnea may have been a factor. The report is a preliminary one; determining a final cause of death could take up to three months, Sullivan's office said.

White died Sunday at Presbyterian Hospital in Huntersville after being taken there from his home in nearby Cornelius. His wife, Sara, called 911. White had the disease, known as sarcoidosis, for several years, family spokesman Keith Johnson said Sunday. He described it as a respiratory ailment that affected his sleep. On its Web site, the American Lung Association describes sarcoidosis as a disease characterized by the presence of small areas of in-

flamed cells that can attack any organ of the body but is most frequently found in the lungs. The cause of the disease, which is most common among blacks and white northern Europeans, is not known. Sleep apnea causes people to stop breathing repeatedly — in some cases, hundreds of times — during their sleep. A two-time NFL Defensive Player of the Year and ordained minister who was known as the "Minister of Defense," White played 15 seasons with Philadelphia, Green Bay and Carolina. He retired after the 2000 season as the NFL's career sacks leader with 198. The mark has since been passed by Bruce Smith.

UConn falls from Top 10

By Chuck Schoffner
Associated Press writer
Connecticut's long run is over. The dominant program in women's basketball over the last decade no longer is a Top 10 team. On a day that New Mexico joined the AP poll for the first time, Connecticut dropped to 11th after splitting two road games, ending a run of 199 straight appearances in the Top 10. The last time the Huskies were ranked this low was the week of Jan. 25, 1994. They moved to ninth the following week and had been in the Top 10 in every poll since — until Monday. UConn won five national championships along the way, including the last three. Connecticut (5-2), which had

been eighth, lost at Arizona State 61-50 last week, then beat Colorado State 63-44 two days later. Not since the 1992-93 season had the Huskies lost twice in the first six games. During its long stint in the Top 10, Connecticut spent 94 weeks at No. 1 and rarely was out of the top four. It has been as big a struggle as anytime I've been at Connecticut," coach Geno Auriemma said last week. Although ranked teams were involved in just 19 games last week, that was enough to produce some significant changes in the poll. LSU remained unblemished at No. 1 — in its ranking by a margin — while Florida State replaced Stanford at No. 2 and Baylor moved up to third, its highest ranking ever.

SPORTS

Late run lifts Sonics over Jazz

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Darius Lewis scored 22 points, Ray Allen added 19 and the Seattle SuperSonics ended an eight-game losing streak at Utah with a 98-88 victory over the Jazz on Monday night.

Clinging to a 73-72 lead going into the fourth period, the Sonics went on a 14-5 run — capped by a back-to-back 3-pointers by Lewis and Vladimir Radmanovic.

While the Sonics scored with long-range shots, the Jazz forced up shots to beat the clock or gave the ball away. The Jazz had a season-high 25 turnovers which Seattle turned into 23 points. The Sonics went 13-of-14 from the line in the fourth quarter to clinch the win. Matt Harpring scored 22 points and Raja Bell and Carlos Boozer had 16 points each for the Jazz.

Heat 116, Hawks 102
MIAMI — Shaquille O'Neal scored 31 points wearing protective padding over sore ribs, and Dwyane Wade added 27 as Miami set a franchise record



Utah Jazz forward Carlos Boozer, right, knocks the ball loose from Seattle SuperSonics forward Reggie Evans on Monday.

with its 12th straight victory. O'Neal wore a sleeveless T-shirt and padding underneath his jersey. The Heat did not immediately disclose the extent of the injury or when it occurred. Antoine Walker, Tony Delk and Brendan Rashnik had 16 points apiece for Atlanta, which lost for the sixth time in seven games.

Pistons 100, Nets 90, OT
AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — A

leg injury and an overtime loss to the Detroit Pistons routed Vince Carter's debut for New Jersey.

Carter, traded from Toronto to the Nets on Dec. 17, hadn't played since straining an Achilles' tendon on Dec. 8. He scored 12 points, but limped off the court with 2:13 left in overtime with what appeared to be an injury to his left hamstring.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton had a season-best 35 points and Richard Jefferson scored 27 for the Nets.

Knicks 119, Magic 111

ORLANDO, Fla. — Stephen Marbury scored 34 points in New York's best offensive performance of the season.

Kurt Thomas, Allan Houston and Jerome Williams added 15 apiece points for the Knicks, who set season highs in points and assists (29) and tied their season high for field goals made with 46.

Steve Francis scored 25 points and Curtino Mobley added 24 for Orlando.

Pacers 100, Hornets 82
INDIANAPOLIS — Reggie

Miller scored 24 points and Jerome O'Neal added 16 to go with 11 rebounds for Indiana.

O'Neal was 7-for-15 in his second game after missing 15 for his role in a brawl with Detroit fans on Nov. 19.

Lee Nulden had a season-high 28 points for New Orleans.

Wizards 106, Bobcats 87

WASHINGTON — Larry Hughes had 20 points and Gilbert Arenas 17 to lead the Wizards, who bounced back from tying a season low for points in a 109-74 loss at Minnesota on Sunday. Eswara Okoro had 18 points and 11 rebounds for Charlotte, extending his streak of consecutive double-doubles to 16.

Grizzlies 96, Clippers 76

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Pau Gasol had 18 of his 24 points in the first half, and the Grizzlies rolled over slumping Los Angeles.

Bonzi Wells added 18 points for Memphis, which snapped a two-game losing streak. Corey Maggiete scored 14 points for the Clippers, losers for the seventh time in eight games.

LETTER

Coach is more interested in building character

To Eric Larsen:

Thank you so much for the wonderful article in yesterday's paper (Dec. 19) about Coach Dibestani.

Three of my grandsons have wrestled for the Bruins: Spencer and Eric with the coach before Mr. Dibestani. Eric was privileged to have Coach Dibestani his senior year, and Eli has been with the amazing man for the past two years.

With all the negative reports of steroid and drug use among so many of the professional athletes, how refreshing it is to read about a coach who is more interested in the building of character for his young men than in the more popular cry of "win, win, win!"

Thank you again for taking the time to write of a special role model in the sports arena that Coach Dibestani is and to write about a sport that isn't the most popular.
NANCY J. LATHAM
Twin Falls

UConn routs Toledo in Motor City Bowl

By Donna Tommelero
Associated Press writer

DETROIT — Connecticut can play football, too.
UConn cruised to a 39-10 win over Toledo Monday in the Motor City Bowl in the Huskies' first bowl appearance since becoming a full Division I-A team three years ago.

The Huskies (8-4) dominated in every phase of the game. Bowl MVP Dan Orlovsky threw for 239 yards and two touchdowns and Matt Nuzie kicked a career-best four field goals.

The UConn defense held the Rockets (9-4) to just 78 yards on the ground. Toledo quarterback Bruce Gradkowski, who broke his throwing hand in the Mid-American Conference championship on Dec. 2, struggled in the first half. He scored the Rockets only TD on a one-yard run. Backup quarterback Marques Council played the second half, throwing for 160 yards with two interceptions.

The Huskies' special teams, led by Nuzie, also shone in their bowl debut. Larry Taylor ran back a 68-yard punt for a score in the first quarter, his first of the year.

The Huskies got their biggest lift with the return of defensive end Tyler King. The 6-foot-5 senior made his first start since breaking his leg on Sept. 30 in a 1998.

Fresno

Continued from C1

teams in the nation."
His five touchdown passes were a record for the game, formerly known as the Humanitarian Bowl.
Virginia got the first possession of overtime, taking a 34-31 lead on a 26-yard field goal by Connor Hughes.

It didn't take Pingar long to end it, though. He froze the defense with a play-action call and zipped a pass inside the 5 to Spach, who fought off a pair of would-be tacklers and dropped into the end zone.
"We ought to be able to cover a post pass when we know it's a post pass situation," Virginia coach Al Groh said.

The Bulldogs stormed off the sideline in celebration while the Cavaliers were left dazed.
"Whenever you catch the ball in that situation, you're just looking for the end zone," Spach said. "You just keep on run-

ning. I knew I was really close."
Virginia had things in hand after Wali Lundu forced his big blockers and rumbled across the blue turf at Boise State's home field on a 20-yard TD run that put the Cavaliers up 31-24 with 6:20 remaining.
But Pingar wasn't finished. He started on the 17, turned to the ground game and working the clock to give Fresno State a chance to tie.
Wendell Mathis ran 22 yards to Virginia's 25 and Bryson Sunlin reached the 15 on a 6-yard burst. On third-and-6 at the 10, Pingar threaded a 7-yard pass into double coverage to tight end Duncan Reid, then spiked the ball to stop the clock at 28 seconds.

That put the ball at the 3, but, soon the Bulldogs faced fourth-and-goal. Pingar rolled right and connected with Jaron Fairman for a TD with 11 seconds to go.

RAM TOUGH



St. Louis' Steven Jackson beats the Philadelphia defense as he scores a touchdown in the first half Monday in St. Louis. The Rams defeated the Eagles, 20-7.

Irish secondary expects test against Beavers

By Bob Baum
Associated Press writer

PHOENIX — The only other time Notre Dame faced Oregon State — just down the road at the 2001 Fiesta Bowl — the Beavers clobbered the Irish 41-9.

Unless the Irish can patch up a leaky secondary that allowed 739 yards passing to finish the regular season against Pittsburgh and Southern California, the same fate could await them against the Beavers in the Insight Bowl on Tuesday night.

"I know one thing, it's going to be a long football game," interim coach Kent Buer said. "I think they're going to put the ball up 60 times. If you watched us play pass defense the last two games, I would, too."

Both teams enter the game 6-

5. Notre Dame players considered turning down the invitation to the Insight after coach Tyrone Willingham was fired. But they seem glad they decided to go.
"In all honesty, I think we've had some of the best practices we've had in a long time," said Buer. Notre Dame's defensive coordinator who could join Willingham at Washington when the season ends. "I'm not sure why, other than maybe it's an outlet from everything else that's happened in their lives the last month."

Buer said there is no chance he will stay at Notre Dame with new coach Charlie Weis, who will finish the season as New England Patriots offensive coordinator before coming to South Bend.

A handful of current Notre Dame players were around for the pasting the Irish took at the Fiesta Bowl five years ago.

Only one of them, linebacker

Insight Bowl

Oregon State vs. Notre Dame, ESPN, 7:45 p.m.

Mike Goolsby, played in the game.

"I just remember seeing the looks on the guys' faces. It's one of those things that kind of burned in your memory," Goolsby said. "You never want to go back to that place. It's something you don't forget about."

That victory was a breakthrough for a down-trodden Oregon State program that set an NCAA record with 28 consecutive losing seasons from 1971 to 1998.

"I think it's one of the great stories in college football in the last 10 years," Beavers coach Mike Riley said.

This Oregon State team is not the powerhouse of four years ago. But the Beavers regrouped from a 1-4 start to win five of their last six behind record-breaking quarterback Derek Anderson, who will play his final collegiate game.

Anderson, who stands 6-foot-4, averaged just under 80 yards per game passing this season.

The only quarterback to lead the Beavers to three consecutive bowl games, he has broken virtually every school passing record and his 10,891 career yards rank behind only Carson Palmer and Steve Stensstrom in Pac-10 history.

Riley insists the Beavers will try to run the ball, but if Notre Dame's strong rushing defense shuts them down, they will simply do what they do best.

"We're not going to beat our heads against the wall," Riley said.

Armstrong

Continued from C1

strong wins in France, he has yet to commit to going for a seventh title next year. He promises to race again in the Tour de France before he retires, but won't say if it will be next year or 2006.

Armstrong says he's ready to pursue other challenges in racing.

Life has dedicated, most of his cycling life to the Tour, leaving little room for such classic races as the Spanish Vuelta, the Paris-Roubaix or Fiesche Vallone, which he won in 1996 shortly before being diagnosed with testicular cancer.

But he also knows that it's the Tour de France his American fans want to see him win.

"I could win the Tour of Flanders and I wouldn't win AP Athlete of the Year," he said.

Armstrong had a big year off the bike as well. His personal life spilled over onto the celebrity pages — when his relationship

with rocker Sheryl Crow turned them into a star couple.

And his Lance Armstrong Foundation, which is dedicated to cancer survivorship programs, got a monumental boost with the popularity of its promotional "Livestrong" yellow wristbands.

Boosted by his most recent Tour victory, the foundation sold nearly 30 million of the wristbands this year, spanning a fashion trend that even made its mark on national politics. Democratic nominee John Kerry sported one on the campaign trail, and President George W. Bush has one, too.

"I plan on wearing mine for a long, long time," Armstrong said, noting that he will always think of himself as a cancer survivor.

"We never set out to create a fashion statement, we simply set out to make a statement and symbol for cancer survivors."

NFL

Continued from C1

over as the Miami Dolphins head coach. Once a playoff contender, they're becoming a joke, and they can't buy their way back to the top the way they once did.

The LSU coach fancies himself a turnaround expert. He did it at Michigan State before going to LSU, and he thinks he can do it in Miami. At 4-11, the Dolphins are having their worst season since the 1960s and their first with a losing record since 1988.

keeping an eye on the genius of Belichick, for whom he served as assistant when they revitalized the Cleveland Browns in 1991-1994.

Chances are he will be, if for no other reason than the fact that the system will work in his favor. The salary cap ensures that the mighty shall fall and the meek shall inherit the playoff berths.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at swilstein@ap.org.

Get into the outdoors
Every Thursday in the Outdoors section, The Times-News guides Magic Valley residents to recreational opportunities.

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SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Burley Bobcats fall in Salt Lake City, 82-63

SALT LAKE CITY — The Burley Bobcats boys' basketball team fell to Jordan High School (Utah) 82-63 Monday night at the Delta Center in Salt Lake City. The loss dropped Burley to 3-4 in the season. No further information was available at press time. The Bobcats will host Century on Jan. 5.

Moses Alou finalizes deal with Giants

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Giants finalized a two-year contract with outfielder Moses Alou on Monday that reunites him with his father, manager Felipe Alou. The deal is worth about \$13.25 million and includes a player option for the 2006 season. An agreement was reached last week, but was pending until Alou passed a physical.

Reds sign Eric Milton to three-year deal

CINCINNATI — Free agent Eric Milton and Cincinnati Reds agreed on Monday that the Reds kept re-signing their pitching staff. Milton, 29, led Philadelphia in wins, starts and strikeouts last season, going 14-6 with a 4.75 ERA in 34 starts. He struck out 171.

Yankees, Red Sox, Angels will pay luxury tax

NEW YORK — The Boston Red Sox and Anaheim Angels must pay baseball's luxury tax along with the New York Yankees according to new figures compiled by the commissioner's office.

Latest AP men's poll keeps Illinois at Illinois

NEW YORK — Illinois and Kansas were 1-2 in The Associated Press' college basketball poll for a fourth straight week. Monday's AP poll ranked the rankings were the same for the third consecutive week.

Vikings bring back Tice to coach in 2005

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — Mike Tice will coach the Minnesota Vikings again in 2005. The team picked up Tice's \$11 million option to coach next season, despite a second straight late-season fade by the club.

Achilles tendon injury puts Easley on sidelines

SALT LAKE CITY — The Utah Jazz placed guard Howard Easley on the injured list with left Achilles tendinitis and activated guard Keith McLeod Monday. McLeod began the season as Utah's point guard and helped the team to a 6-1 start. He rarely played after guards Carlos Arroyo and Raul Lopez returned from injuries and was placed on the injured list Dec. 6 with a strained groin.

Horns, Rockets agree to three-player trade

NEW ORLEANS — The New Orleans Hornets, off to a 2-2 start, traded shooting guard David Wesley to the Houston Rockets for Jim Jackson and Bastian Nachbar on Monday.

Transactions

BASKETBALL CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with Toronto Raptors for G. J. Jackson. CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with San Francisco Giants for Raul Lopez. CHICAGO CUBS — Agreed to terms with Los Angeles Angels for Raul Lopez.

SCORES AND STATS

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Basketball

• Tulsa at Oklahoma, ESPN2, 7 p.m.
• Gonzaga at Oklahoma St., ESPN2, 7 p.m.
• 76ers at SuperSonics, NBA TV, 8 p.m.

Football

• Independence Bowl, Miami (Ohio) vs. Iowa St., ESPN, 4:30 p.m.
• Insign Bowl, Notre Dame vs. Oregon St., ESPN, 7:45 p.m.

Area ski report

Report Area — Sun 11:00p lead 2015: 49 base 52 of 24 trail, 1 of 76k, 100k open. Weekday: Main 10:45p, Weekend: 10:45p.
Forecast — Now 4:56h, 12h: 29 p.p.
4:30p. Weekend: Sat/Sun 9:30a-4:30p.

College Basketball Scores

SEATTLE'S IN JAZZ... 3 Point Goals—New Jersey 5/15, Game 3/6...
SEATTLE'S IN JAZZ... 3 Point Goals—New Jersey 5/15, Game 3/6...

College Basketball Schedule

AT THE TIME... 3:30p.
AT THE TIME... 3:30p.

Sunday's Late NBA Boxes

GOLDEN STATE... 21.00... 21.00...
GOLDEN STATE... 21.00... 21.00...

NBA Games

NEW ORLEANS 81... 81... 81...
NEW ORLEANS 81... 81... 81...

College Football Polls

AP Top 25... 1. Ohio State... 1. Ohio State...
AP Top 25... 1. Ohio State... 1. Ohio State...

USA Today/ESPN Top 25

AP Top 25... 1. Ohio State... 1. Ohio State...
AP Top 25... 1. Ohio State... 1. Ohio State...

Harrah's Odds

INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec
INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec

Sunday's Late NFL Boxes

INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec
INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec

Transactions

INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec
INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec

College Football

INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec
INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec

Transactions

INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec
INDIAN FOOTBALL... 28 Dec

Transactions

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Transactions

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BUSINESS HOURS

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

IN THE DISTRICT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO AND IN FOR THE

COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS Case No. CV-04-8011 NOTICE OF HEARING In Re: RICARDO

REYES THOMPSON d.o.b. Nov. 22, 1988 A Petition by Ricardo Reyes Thompson, born on November 22, 1988 in Las Vegas, Nevada now residing at 221 Jefferson, Twin Falls, proposing a change in name to Leon Ricardo Thompson has been filed in the above entitled court, the reason for this change in name being I never liked the first name of Ricardo. The petitioner's father's name is Ricardo.

be filed with the office no later than January 5, 2005. Salomon River Canal Company, Ltd. Mike Courmay, President

FOUND Siamese cat, declawed, friendly, house broke, gorgeous! Needs home ASAP! Call 208-318-1022. LOST 3 year old male Schnauzer wearing blue P-lettered sweater and jingle collar. Near Twin Falls. Call 208-338-3456.

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you would want. These can be picked up at The Times-News Classified Dept.

EMPLOYMENT ADVERTISING The Casper Star-Tribune is seeking applicants for a Creative Services Manager position in our advertising department. The successful candidate will be responsible for developing and managing the advertising graphic design team, and will report to the Advertising Director. Candidates should possess experience with Quark and PhotoShop software. Microsoft Office experience is preferred as well. If you are a motivated designer, or a proven manager, or a creative eye, please apply by January 10, 2005.

ASKING QUESTIONS Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. ABSOLUTELY NO SALES!!! Strictly research, \$7.00 to \$9.00 per hour. Casual work environment. Flexible evening, day, and weekend hours. 15-30 hours per week. Great part time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more information Call 208-738-2853 *****

CORRESPONDENTS The Times-News is looking for freelance correspondence to cover news throughout Magic Valley. Previous writing experience is a plus, but it's not a prerequisite. What counts is that you're a news savvy person who reads the newspaper and keeps current on the issues.

ORDINANCE NO. 175 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TWIN FALLS COUNTY CODE TITLE 5 CHAPTER 6 SECTION 8; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR AT LARGE, RABIES SUSPECT OR NUISANCE DOGS; AND PROVIDING FOR PENALTY FOR VICIOUS DOG. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TWIN FALLS COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF TWIN FALLS COUNTY, IDAHO, THAT THE FOLLOWING AMENDMENT TO TWIN FALLS COUNTY CODE TITLE 5 CHAPTER 6 SECTION 8 BE ADDED:

PUBLIC NOTICE Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As a self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

Place your ad Online... Now you can Log on to www.magicvalley.com and place your classified line ad. Click on the Classified section.

107 PREGNANCY ALTERNATIVES PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER FREE TESTS. Always Confidential. 734-7472

BANKING Exciting opportunity with growing community bank. Magic Valley Bank, Gooding 30 hrs/week with benefits. Great position for detail-oriented person who enjoys working with the public and handling money. Previous teller experience preferred. Mail/fax resume or request application. Magic Valley Bank, 748 Main St. Gooding, ID 83330. Email hr@pandhandlebank.com. Fax 208-534-5588.

Anyone for The Magic Valley? We're especially eager to find writers in Glenns Ferry, Gooding, Shoshone, Hollister, Murlough, and Twin Falls. Please send resumes to: Tracy Fagan, Interim City Editor, The Times-News, P.O. Box 546, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0546. t88tr@magicvalley.com

B. Penalties: 1) Any person violating any of the AT LARGE (5-6-4 A), RABIES SUSPECT (5-6-4 B) or NUISANCE DOG (5-6-4 C), provisions of this Chapter for which an at-large fine has not been designated, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or by imprisonment not exceeding more than 60 days, or both, and upon a second or subsequent violation of this provision, shall be fined not exceeding three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or by imprisonment not exceeding more than thirty (30) days, or both, and upon conviction thereof, the court may, in the interest of public safety, order the owner to have the vicious dog destroyed, and may direct the appropriate authorities to destroy the dog.

IMPORTANT Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News, P.O. Box 348, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0348. email legalad@magicvalley.com Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 733-3324.

106 SPECIAL NOTICES ALL CORPORATIONS AND UNIONS 208-733-8300 & 721-0555. All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standards of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any ad. Receipt of copy via remote entry (fax, e-mail, etc.) does not constitute final acceptance by this newspaper. The advertiser will not be responsible for the truthful content of their advertiser message.

108 PROFESSIONAL BANKRUPTCY Competitive rates on Chapter 7 bankruptcies. Jeff Stoker at 208-734-8452. BANKRUPTCY Inexpensive. Williams Law, 738-0689. BANKRUPTCY Affordable payment plan. Accidents, divorce & criminal matters. Brad Rice at 208-734-3367.

CONSTRUCTION Openings for Pivot repairman, welders, shop personnel and general construction workers. Year round employment, medical insurance, 401K, cafeteria and paid vacation possible. Must be able to work overtime and weekends. Wage DOE. \$500 hire bonus possible when 90 day trial period is completed. Send resume to P.O. Box 14, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE The Times-News has a Full-Time opening for a Circulation Customer Service Representative. This position must be able to handle multiple responsibilities, ideal candidate should possess an excellent phone presence, strong customer service skills, strong computer aptitude, and the ability to work well with others. Sales experience and being a self-starter is a plus. Schedule is Wednesday-Friday, 7:00-5:00 Saturday & Sunday morning. All interested individuals should fill out an application at The Times-News Attn: Jenn Bustick P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303. *\$2 DRUG FREE WORKPLACE*

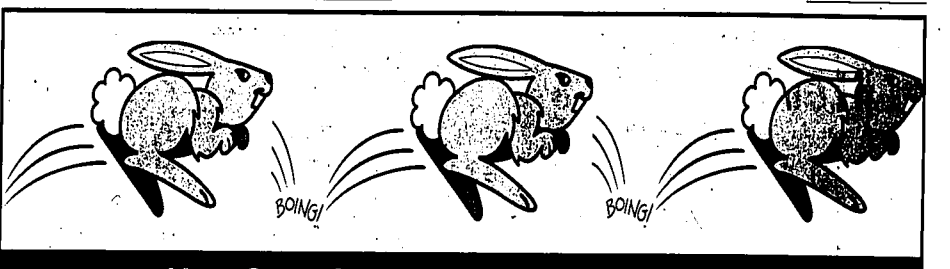
NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE T.S. No. ID-753321-C Loan No. 0548795905 A.P.N. RPT0481000640 Notice is hereby given that Fidelity National Title Insurance Company the appointed Successor Trustee, will on 2/22/2005 at 10:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow, 311 Second Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property and personal property, to wit: the highest bidder, in Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows: Lot 64 of Buena Vista Addition according to the Official Plat thereof, filed in Book 2 of Plats of Page 23, Official Records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of Mortgage Electronic Registration System, Inc. The above Grantors are named to comply with section 45-1506(4)(A), Idaho Code. No representation is made by the Trustee as to whether or not the property is subject to any other lien or presently responsible for this obligation. The Default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under Deed of Trust and Note dated 8/5/2003. The monthly installments for the principal, interest and impounds (if applicable) of \$384.26, due per month from 5/1/2004 through 2/2/2005, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance owing as of this date on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$46,195.93, plus accruing interest at the rate of 5.2500% per annum from 4/1/2004. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges, and interest payable to the lender. Assumptions: trustee's fees, attorney's fees, and any amounts advanced to protect the security associated with this foreclosure. The Trustee's sole duty is to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy the obligation. Dated: October 08, 2004 Fidelity National Title Insurance Company, by: Executive Trustee Services, Inc. Trustee Sale Officer c/o Executive Trustee Services, Inc. 15455 San Fernando Mission Blvd., #208, Mission Viejo, CA 92691. Phone: (818) 837-2000. Sale Line: (818) 361-8998 ASAP#13983

NOTICE Annual Stockholders Meeting Salomon River Canal Company, Ltd. NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Meeting of the Stockholders of the Salomon River Canal Company, Ltd. will be held at the Hollister Elementary School, Hollister, Idaho, on Monday, the 10th day of January, 2005 at one o'clock p.m. for the purpose of selecting live directors and transacting such other business as may be necessary. All proxies must be filed with the Secretary of the Company at least 48 hours prior to the meeting. If you've got this special pot, advance to find them in the classifieds. They'll be home soon. 733-0931

109 CHILD CARE SERVICES LITTLE TIGERS CHILD CARE Located between Twin Falls and Filor. Call 208-316-2260.

113 CHILD CARE SERVICES Ryan Moffat-Advertising Director Casper Star-Tribune 170 Star Lane Casper WY 82604.

110 LOST AND FOUND FOUND pillow off Sparks Street. Call to identify 208-732-5460. FOUND SKIN-TZU female, in Glenns Ferry, call to identify 208-734-7787.



Hop On a Super Deal in the Classifieds.

The bargains just seem to multiply within the Classified pages. In the Classifieds, you can track down deals on everything from real estate to roofing services. It's easy to place an ad or find the items you want and it's used by hundreds of area shoppers every day. Go with your instincts and use the Classifieds today.

The Times-News Classifieds

132 Fairfield Street West. Twin Falls 733-0931 230 East Main Burley 677-4042 www.magicvalley.com

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

CAREGIVER
Local non-profit organization has full and part-time caregiver positions available. Successful candidate must be a compassionate and caring individual with a valid drivers license and clean record. No experience required. Call 208-733-9277 for more information.

CONSTRUCTION
Framers needed. Call 308-6107 or 308-6105.

DENTAL
Dental Hygienist needed 3 1/2 days a week, possible full-time later. Salary DOE. Call for appointment 208-736-3907.

DENTAL Hygienist - in Halley. Experience with non-surgical P.O. treatment. Position available Wednesday and AM on Thursday. Call 208-730-3890.

DRIVER D&D Transportation Services
OTR available for CDL A drivers. Excellent pay package. Earn up to \$2/mile depending on experience. Come by 1735 S. Main St., Coalinga, ID. or call 934-4451 ext. 440.

DRIVER
Giltner Milk Transportation
OTR - Flat Rate of 35¢ per mile. Full-time. Class A CDL required. vans & trailers. Family insurance and 401k. Call 324-0515 between 9-3 p.m. weekdays.

DRIVERS
Local delivery drivers needed. Class A CDL required, farm/dairy experience required. Start \$1 hourly. Apply in person at 1998 Frontage Road North, Wendell, Idaho. No phone calls please.

DRIVERS
We have the miles if you have the motivation. Vans, Trailers, 48 States. Walking floors 20 states. Health insurance, vacation pay & safety bonus are available. -Slop, Team, Relief.- Call 734-9082 between 8am-5pm.

DRIVERS
Truck drivers needed for the Twin Falls area, pulling doubles. Clean driving record. Local and long haul also needed. Circle A Construction 208-731-1045

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
The Casper Star-Tribune is seeking a talented and energetic Graphic Designer to join its advertising department. The Graphic Designer will work within a collaborative sales team environment to create and produce designs for print and online advertisements and other various projects.

DRIVERS
Owner/Operators lease your truck on our plan and pull our trailer. Earn 80% of gross revenue created by the truck. Our owner/operators average \$1.10 per mile for all miles ran Class A CDL, tanker endorsement, 2 years OTR exp. required Food Grade products. Call for details 1-800-967-2911 Mon-Fri 8M to 5pm MDT

If you're looking for a getaway the classifieds can help you find that special place. 733-0931

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
The person we are seeking will possess a high degree of creative ability and the technological skills required to work in an electronic design environment. Good organizational and communication skills, as well as accuracy and attention to detail are important requirements. The right candidate will also display a positive attitude toward excellent customer service. Must be proficient in the use of Quark, PhotoShop & Illustrator, and have one or two years related experience &/or training.

Please submit a cover letter, your resume and portfolio of work samples by January 10, 2005 to:

Human Resources-GD
Casper Star-Tribune
P.O. Box 80
Casper WY 82602
hr@caspertribune.net

TRAVELERS TRAVEL SYSTEMS
Drive for the Travelers Team Drivers positions available. Nampa, Nysa, Twin Falls & Pocatello Locations.
• Home Daily
• Top of the line equipment
• Benefits Package Available
• Holiday pay
Visit our On-Site Manager or Call Today Toll Free 1-888-253-5480 Fax 734-8153

TRAVELERS TRAVEL SYSTEMS
Drive for the Travelers Team Drivers positions available. Nampa, Nysa, Twin Falls & Pocatello Locations.
• Home Daily
• Top of the line equipment
• Benefits Package Available
• Holiday pay
Visit our On-Site Manager or Call Today Toll Free 1-888-253-5480 Fax 734-8153

TRUCK DRIVING ACADEMY
Put your Tax Return to Good Use This Year!
Start Your New High Paying Career in The Trucking Industry! Call Now 735-6656 So Habla Espanol 420-7307*

CASSIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
A Service of Intermountain Health Corp.
Nurse Assistant (CNA) Homecare
Registered Nurse Experienced in Homecare
Respiratory Therapist
Speech/Language Pathologist

HIC has been named the best health care system in America in a new study of 568 Integrated Health Systems. We've earned that honor three years in a row and four times in the past five years. But clearly the most important reason for HIC's success is our people. We have dedicated, skilled team members who embrace our mission of excellence and compassion, and that's the real foundation of everything we achieve.

Along with our job opportunities we offer you beautiful surroundings with a competitive salary and excellent benefits. Cassia Regional Medical Center's acute care facility provides opportunities to care for patients ranging from neonatal to geriatric. Apply online at www.hic.com or contact our Human Resources department at 208-677-6420 for more information.

Join our team to experience quality patient care in a variety of settings!
1501 Island Ave. Burley, ID 83818
www.casiahospital.com

Sunrise EXPRESS Twin Falls, ID
1-800-635-0825
COMPANY DRIVERS
Owner/Operators
Deluxe Late Model Equipment
Weekly Settlements
Holiday & Vacation Pay
Health Insurance - 401K

Now Is The Time To Check Out A Career With Sunrise Express!

DRIVERS
Truck drivers needed for the Twin Falls area, pulling doubles. Clean driving record. Local and long haul also needed. Circle A Construction 208-731-1045

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
The person we are seeking will possess a high degree of creative ability and the technological skills required to work in an electronic design environment. Good organizational and communication skills, as well as accuracy and attention to detail are important requirements. The right candidate will also display a positive attitude toward excellent customer service. Must be proficient in the use of Quark, PhotoShop & Illustrator, and have one or two years related experience &/or training.

Please submit a cover letter, your resume and portfolio of work samples by January 10, 2005 to:

Human Resources-GD
Casper Star-Tribune
P.O. Box 80
Casper WY 82602
hr@caspertribune.net

NEW! 2004 Volkswagen Touareg
Year-End Clearance!

\$5 in stock

Starting at \$34,988

Options:
• 12 Way Power Seat
• Wood Trim
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• 6-Speed Automatic

Drivers wanted.

1534 S. Blue Lakes • Twin Falls 735-3900
www.copaulos.com
Hours: M-F 8-7, Sat 8:30-6

Plus tax, license & doc fee of \$199. An expires 12/31/04

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The Biggest Toyotathon Event is Finally Here
NATIONWIDE YEAR-END EVENT

TOYOTA
#1 Passenger Car Brand in America

NEW 2005 CAMRY LE
\$18,980
1000 CASH BACK - 1.9% FIN. 2.8% APR, 3.9% APR

NEW 2005 HIGHLANDER AWD
\$26,980
1000 CASH BACK - 3.9% FIN. 4.9% APR

NEW 2005 ARUNNER
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1000 CASH BACK - 3.9% FIN. 4.9% APR

NEW 2005 TUNDRA ACCESS CAB 4X4
\$28,880
1000 CASH BACK - 1.9% FIN. 2.8% APR

NEW 2005 COROLLA CE
\$228 MONTH*

CHECK OUT OUR SELECTION OF USED - ALL PRICED TO SELL!

1991 BUICK REGAL LTD 4DR • 3.8 V6 • PWR EQUIP \$2,880	1998 FORD TAURUS SE 3.0L V6 • PWR WINDOWS • KEYLESS ENTRY \$4,880	1996 FORD WINDSTAR GL VAN 7 PASSENGER • REAR AIR • 84K MILES • NEW HIC! \$5,880	2000 DODGE STRATUS SE 4DR AUTO • 4 CYLINDER • PWR WINDOWS \$6,880	1997 CHEVY BLAZER LSI 4WD • A REAL HIC ONE! \$6,880	1997 TOYOTA CAMRY LE AUTO • AIR • PWR WINDOWS • CD • ABS \$6,980	1999 FORD TAURUS SE 24 VALVE V6 • 100K MILES \$6,980
2001 OLDS ALERO 4DR AUTO • AIR • ALLOYS • PWR WINDOWS • 4 CYLINDER • CRUISE \$7,980	1999 TOYOTA CAMRY LE AUTO • PWR WINDOWS, LOCKS & HORN • CRUISE • AIR CONDITIONING \$7,980	1994 CHEVY SUBURBAN 4X4 LS 5.7L V8 • ALLOYS • CD • SHARP! \$7,980	2000 TOYOTA COROLLA CE AUTO • AIR • CRUISE • PWR WINDOWS \$8,880	1996 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE LTD • LEATHER • THIS IS A HIC ONE! \$8,880	1991 TOYOTA LAND CRUISER SURFOOD • 8 PASSENGER • ALLTY WHEELS \$8,980	1998 DODGE DURANGO SE (LOADED) 3RD SEAT • SHARP! \$9,480
1996 GMC 1500 XCAV 4X4 SLE • SHELL • 5.3 VORTEC • ALLOYS \$9,880	2002 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE 4DR • 4 CYLINDER • AUTO • PWR WINDOWS \$9,980	1996 GMC SUBURBAN 2500 4X4 SLE • 7.4 VORTEC • (LOADED) \$10,880	2001 PONTIAC MONTANA VAN 2.4 V6 • ABS • CD • KEYLESS ENTRY • REAR AIR \$12,880	2001 OLDSMOBILE ALURONA FWD • TRACTION CONTROL • LEATHER • V-8 \$12,980	2000 TOYOTA SIERRA VAN KEYLESS ENTRY • CD • ALLOYS \$13,980	2000 HONDA V6 ACCORD EX MODEL WITH SUNROOF AND LEATHER! \$14,980
2004 TOYOTA COROLLA LE AUTO • CD • KEYLESS ENTRY • PWR WINDOWS • CRUISE \$14,980	2002 VOLKSWAGEN BUO TDI TURBO DIESEL • 33K MILES • 4TRAP! \$15,780	2002 TOYOTA RAV4 FWD • AUTO • PWR WINDOWS • CD • 24K MILES! \$15,880	2003 TOYOTA CAMRY LE PWR SEAT • KEYLESS ENTRY • CD \$15,980	2002 FORD RANGER SCAB 4X4 XLT • AUTO • ONLY 5,000 MILES! \$15,980	2002 VOLVO S40 4DR TURBO SUNROOF • LEATHER • BEAUTIFUL! \$15,980	2004 SCION XB 710 CHOOSE FROM - YOUR CHOICE! \$16,980
2002 JEP GRAND CHEROKEE LARGO • 40 CYLINDER • PWR SEATS \$16,980	2003 MAZDA MIATA CONVERTIBLE SILVER METALLIC • 10K MILES • LOOKS NEW! \$16,980	2004 TOYOTA CAMRY LE'S CHOOSE FROM 51 • YOUR CHOICE! \$17,780	2002 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER 4X4 LS • CD • ALLOYS • CLEAN! \$17,980	2002 FORD F-150 S-CAB 4X4 XLT • 5.4 V8 • BENCH SEAT • 30K MILES! \$19,980	2001 TOYOTA 4RUNNER SR5 SUNROOF • CD • ALLOYS • VERY HIC! \$21,980	2002 GMC SIERRA XCAV 4X4 STEERING • SLE • SEARS DRIVE! \$22,480
2002 TOYOTA TUNDRA XCAV 4X4 OFF ROAD PKG • 27K MILES • 100K WARRANTY! \$23,380	2003 CHEVY SILVERADO LS 4X4 AUTO • 5.3 V8 • KEYLESS ENTRY • SHARP! \$22,980	2000 LEXUS RX300 AWD LEATHER • SUNROOF • HAS IT ALL! \$23,980	2004 TOYOTA SIERRA VAN NEW BODY STYLE • 100K MILE WARRANTY \$24,980	2004 HONDA PILOT 4X4 3RD SEAT • 12K MILES • ALLOYS • CD \$26,980	2002 FORD F-150 CREW CAB 4X4 SUPERDUTY • PWR STROKE DIESEL • 6.5SPD • LOADED! \$30,980	2001 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER SHARP TOYOTA! ULTIMATE SPORT UTILITY! \$34,980

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"Real discounts from real prices."
"58 years of treating you, the customer, right."
236 SHOSHONE STREET WEST • TWIN FALLS • 733-2891 • 1-800-621-5247 • WWW.WILLSTOYOTA.COM

EMPLOYMENT

DRIVERS
Glitter Trucking.
 Local milk haul
 401K, medical
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 Call 324-3515.

EXCAVATOR
 Operator must have 5
 years experience
 Great benefits, some
 travel. Send resume
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FORKIFT
 (2-3) Full-time forklift
 driver positions
 available in Jerome.
 Applicant must have
 at least 1 year forklift
 exp. Be able to stack 5
 high, reliable and
 professional. Resume
 required. Wage DOE
 Call 208-733-9277

GENERAL
 Positions will be
 available in January
 for Various Shifts:
 Production
 Manufacturing
 Construction
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General Laborers
 Apply in person at:
 SOS Staffing Services
 560 Blue Lakes N.

MAINTENANCE
 Full-time position for
 Twin Falls firm. Paint
 and wiring and
 electrical experience.
 Salary DOE. Send
 Resumes to PO Box
 8990 at Times News,
 P.O. Box 548, Twin
 Falls, ID 83303.

MANAGER
 Plant manager
 5 yrs AG products
 production experience
 required.

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 111 Filer Ave. 733-7300
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Has immediate
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 (15-30 hrs/week)
 Day Shift (7-3 M-F)
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 If you are interested
 in the following:
 O Ad-Bk Work
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 Sales Calls Only
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 O Competitive Wages
 O Incentives
 O Walking Distance
 from CSI Campus.
 O Starting Time to
 Consider with
 Flexible Hours
 O Schedules
 O Scholarships

Looking for English/
 Spanish speaking
 applicants. For each
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 survey we offer
 \$1.00 on top of
 regular pay.
 Please pick up an
 application at
**Discovery
 Research Group**
 762 Falls Ave.
 (The Turf Plaza)
 Or call (208)733-6601
 En Español

**Tenemos aberturas
 inmediatas para
 trabajo temporal (15-
 30 horas a la semana)**
 Turno de dia
 (7-3 Lun. - Vier.)
 Turno de noche.
 Si estas interesado en
 lo siguiente
 O En un ambiente
 tranquilo
 O Absolutamente no
 llamados de vender.
 solamente investigacion
 de mercado
 O Salario competitivo
 O Incentivos
 O De distancia a la
 Universidad de CSI
 O Horario flexible
 que coincide con
 horario escolar
 O Becas disponible
 Por favor de recoger
 una aplicacion en
**Discovery
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 762 Falls Ave.
 (The Turf Plaza)
 Or call (208)733-6601

MECHANIC
 Full-time experienced
 diesel mechanic
 position for local trucking
 company. Please call
 Chris at 324-7600.

MECHANIC
 Local farm needs
 experienced truck
 mechanic. Salary
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MECHANIC
 Mobile mechanic need-
 ed. Truck provided.
 Call 208-731-3365

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 Experienced qualified
 person to work with
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 individuals. 4 year
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 Full-time position pre-
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 ment and bulk tank
 for milking. Bring in cows
 for milking or help oth-
 er workers bring in
 cows if needed or
 requested. Clean the
 milking parlor holding
 area and bulk tank
 room. Maintain treat-
 ment records and
 identify treated cows
 with an appropriate
 marker. Clip udders,
 perform other proce-
 dures that promote
 accuracy in milking
 and animal well-being
 care of springers and
 cows at all stages.
 Maintenance of free stalls.
 Notify manager of pos-
 sible diseases or prob-
 lems in milking cows.
 Three months experi-
 ence required.
 Submit resume to:
 3576 South 1500 E.
 Wendell ID 83355.

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 Keep your civilian
 job, and stay a
 full-time student,
 and be a part-time
 soldier in the
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 Earn extra money
 *Stay in your
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 Serve your country
 Call today if you are
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 part-time while
 attending high
 school, college
 or pursuing a
 civilian career.
 Call CSO, Leases
 (208)736-3954 or
 1-800-GO-GUARD

**NEWSPAPER
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 Would you like to earn
 extra cash delivering
 The Times-News,
 and be committed to
 7 days a week?
 The Times-News is
 currently looking for
 dependable, motivated
 people in the area to
 deliver routes as
 independent
 Contractors
 on an as-needed basis.
 Call today for more
 information about this
 opportunity. 733-3022.

PRESS TRAINEE
 The Times-News is
 looking for a trainee
 to work part-time in
 the pressroom. This
 person will learn the
 set up and functions
 of our Urbanite
 press to include the
 making of plates,
 setting ink, and
 running rolls.

Mechanical experience
 9 plus. Must be able
 to lift 85 lbs. Hours
 are primarily 6 p.m.
 to 2 a.m., including
 weekends.

Send resume and
 references to:
 The Times-News,
 Attn: Mary Kargon,
 P.O. Box 548,
 Twin Falls, ID 83303.
 Email:
 mary.kargon@tee.net

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 Drug-free Workplace

SALES
 Advertising
 Representative
 Position Open Ag
 Weekly Farm Times
 has an immediate
 opening for an
 sales representative.
 The ideal candidate
 will have sales &
 management experi-
 ence and an agri-
 cultural background.
 Candidates with
 college degree in
 business, a great
 business or adver-
 tising will be prefer-
 red. If you would like
 to work for the
 Intermountain West's
 largest agricultural
 newspaper, send
 your resume to:
Ag Weekly
 Attn: Janet Goffin
 PO Box 548
 Twin Falls, ID,
 83303-0548
 janet.goffin@tee.net

Bubbling with Bargains!

Classified Line Ads
4 LINES TO DAYS \$14

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)
 \$2 each additional line. Private Party only. Merchandise in person only.

The Times-News Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 677-4042

ROB GREEN **GMC**

Count Down Spectacular

2004s Must Go!

FOUR DAYS ONLY!

2004 GMC1500 4X4
 Sk#G5037-1

SAVE \$8,000

Rob's Price
\$25,433

2004 GMCEVOY XUV
 Sk#G4174

4X4 • SAVE \$9,000
 MSRP \$34,775

Rob's Price
\$25,774

2004 GMCYUKON 4X4
 Sk#G4047

SAVE \$9,577
 MSRP \$43,540

Rob's Price
\$33,963

1997 CHEVY CAVALIER

WAS \$5,995
 Sk#4U157-2

Rob's Price
\$3,988

2003 DODGE NEON

WAS \$13,995
 Sk#4U243-0

Rob's Price
\$9,588

2002 HONDA ACCORD

WAS \$21,995
 Sk#G4059-1

Rob's Price
\$17,988

2003 CHEVROLET BLAZER

WAS \$22,995
 Sk#4U015-0

Rob's Price
\$18,888

2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER

WAS \$26,995
 Sk#4U058-0

Rob's Price
\$23,688

2003 DODGE DURANGO

WAS \$28,995
 Sk#4U017-0

Rob's Price
\$24,888

2003 CHEVY SURBURBAN

WAS \$36,995
 Sk#4U037-0

Rob's Price
\$31,988

1997 CHEVROLET 1500 4X4

WAS \$14,995
 Sk#4U300-1

Rob's Price
\$11,988

2004 CHEVROLET 1500 4X4

WAS \$27,995
 Sk#4U238-0

Rob's Price
\$23,188

2003 DODGE RAM 1500 4X4

WAS \$27,995
 Sk#4U272-0

Rob's Price
\$23,788

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 OTR experience

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SELL IT! BUY IT!

MEDICAL
Psychiatric Services is looking for the following position:
• Psycho Social Rehab
Must have 1 year experience and BS degree in related field. The above position offers flexible schedules and a competitive wage. Please contact Julie Moss-Thurs at 732-0995 EEOC

MEDICAL
RN for outpatient dialysis facility in Burley, Full-time, 10 hour shifts, every other Saturday no Sundays. Excellent benefits. Boise, 208-367-2160

See Classifieds business and Service Directory to assist you in your home repairs. 733-0931.

MISCELLANEOUS
Homemakers needed in Jerome, Wendell & Gooding. Position requires mature reliable individuals to work with elderly performing housekeeping duties. Contact Task Unlimited 733-0497. EOE.

Hire those part-time summer workers with an ad in Classifieds. 733-0931

OFFICE
Office manager ag. related industry. Bilingual necessary, must have accounting and bookkeeping experience. Quickbooks, rolls, necessary, salary DOE. Call 280-2943 or 208-653-2337.

PROFESSIONAL
Psycho-social rehab specialists. BA in Social Work. \$18/hour to start. Call 208-878-3350

RESTAURANT
Cocktail waitress & waitress needed. Must be 19 yrs. Bartender needed must be 21 yrs. Apply Mon-Fri between 7-11am at 413 Main St. Gooding, ID. See Torrosa. PT & FT positions avail.

WELDERS
Barclay Mechanical in Paul, ID is hiring experienced: Welders, Pipelayers and Millwrights. Apply in person. 450 W. 100 S. Hwy 25 Paul, ID
All applicants subject to pre-employment drug testing

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 478-757-3000.

218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS

ALTERNATE DELIVERY
The Times-News is looking for individuals interested in delivering sample newspapers or alternative products to households in the Twin Falls and surrounding area. The positions are independent contractor positions and contractors are typically made during the day and require use of your own transportation and are compensated on a per piece basis. If you are interested in these flexible opportunities, please fill out an Independent Contractor Application Form at 132 Fairfield Street West, Twin Falls.

CURRENT WALKING ROUTES AVAILABLE
New Year Special Sign on as a carrier now and receive a higher profit!

TWIN FALLS
RT 713 1100-1600 Juniper 1100-1300 Locust St. North
RT 716 500-800 Rimview 2200-2400 Filer Ave E
RT 729 100-1500 6th Ave. E 100-600 Ash St.
RT 743 100-300 Juniper St. N. 1700-1800 Maplewood Dr.
RT 754 1200-1500 Willmore Ave. 700-900 Walnut St. N.
RT 766 1500-2200 Falls Avenue East 800-900 Chase Dr.
RT 787 1800-2000 Alturas Dr 1500-2000 Hoyburn
RT 794 1300-1800 Targhee Dr.
1000-2000 Lomhi Circle
RT 823 100-500 Harrison St. 100-500 Van Brun St.
RT 841 100-500 Buchanan St.
700-900 Filer Ave
KIMBERLY
RT 854 300-900 Taylor St. W 700-900 Elm St. N
RT 857 200-900 Center St. 200-700 Jefferson St.
If you live near one of these areas & would like to be a carrier. Please contact Amy District Mgr. 208-735-3347
Approximate 4 week earnings based on current customer count.

CURRENT MOTOR ROUTES AVAILABLE
BELLEVUE/HAILEY
Route 100-200 KEO
Both Carrier & Substitutes needed
If you live in those areas and would like to be a carrier. Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348

ROUTES AVAILABLE
The Times-News is currently looking for Independent Route Carriers

GOODING
Route 500 500-800 7th Ave. W. 300-900 Utah Street
Route 501 300-700 Oregon St. 300-500 Illinois St.
Route 503 200-700 Montana St. 200-700 Wyoming St.
Route 504 500-900 8th Ave. E. 500-900 9th Ave. E.
Route 507 100-300 Nebraska St 100-200 Michigan St.

Route 508 100-1200 Montana 700-1200 Main St.
Motor Route 609
JEROME
Route 522 300-800 E. Avenue B 100-800 E. Main St.
Route 537 100-700 E. Avenue H 300-700 E. Avenue F

SHOSHONE
Route 413 200-500 S. Apple 200-500 W. B. St.
Route 416 200-700 W. 7th St. 100-500 N. Apple
SHOSHONE
Motor Route 660
If you live in these areas and are interested in being a newspaper carrier... Please contact Kathy, District Mgr. 735-3348

ROUTES AVAILABLE
NEW YEAR SPECIAL Sign on as a carrier. Now and receive a higher profit!

RT 623 Buhl Motor Route Available in January
TWIN FALLS
RT 803 1100-1300 Valencia 100-300 El Camino Ave
RT 822 Eams 375-580 33 Customers 400-800 2nd Ave E 200-700 4th Ave E.
RT 823 Earns 570-575 32 Customers 100-500 7th Ave E 200-400 8th Ave E
RT 824 Earns 530-555 24 Customers 200-600 5th Ave E 200-300 6th Ave E
RT 832 100-400 Jackson St. RT 842 100-300 10th Ave N. 100-300 Lincoln St.
RT 852 700-900 Meadows Dr. 800-900 Washington St.
RT 853 100-200 Ramsey Dr. 100-200 Davis
RT 859 100-500 Erin Way 730-84 Midway St.
Please contact Amy District Mgr. 208-735-3347
Approximate 4 week earnings based on current customer count.

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FOUR DAYS ONLY!



<p>2005 HYUNDAI TUCSON Stock #H5037</p> <p>MSRP\$21780 Rob's Discount\$4320 Value Owner OR\$1000 Competitive Owner\$500</p> <p>Rob's Price AS LOW AS \$16,440</p>	<p>2005 HYUNDAI ACCENT Stock #H4008</p> <p>MSRP\$13194 Rob's Discount\$1950 Rebate\$1000 Owner Loyalty\$750 Military\$500</p> <p>Rob's Price 2 to CHOOSE \$7,988</p>	<p>2005 HYUNDAI TIBERON GT Stock #H4115</p> <p>MSRP\$23632 Rob's Discount\$4144 Owner Loyalty\$1000 Military\$500</p> <p>Rob's Price BRAND NEW \$15,988</p>
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<p>2003 CHEVY 2500 DURAMAX SLE 4X4 Rob's Price WAS \$36,995 \$32,788 SK#H4H3-0</p>	<p>2001 CHEVY 1500 XCAB 4X4 LS Rob's Price WAS \$24,995 \$19,988 SK#H2H161-0</p>	<p>2003 DODGE RAM 2500 Quad Diesel 4X4 SLT Rob's Price WAS \$36,995 \$29,988 SK#H4H20-0</p>	<p>2003 FORD F-350 XCAB LARIAT 4X4 LWB Rob's Price WAS \$37,995 \$32,988 SK#H2H314-0</p>
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<p>2004 NISSAN PATHFINDER Rob's Price WAS \$35,710 \$26,488 SK#H4H079</p>	<p>2002 ACURA MDX Rob's Price WAS \$34,995 \$30,988 SK#H5024-1</p>	<p>2004 TOYOTA 4 RUNNER Rob's Price WAS \$31,995 \$26,488 SK#H4H1-0</p>	<p>2004 NISSAN XTERRA Rob's Price WAS \$31,500 \$23,988 SK#H4H139</p>
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<p>2001 LEXUS IS 300 Rob's Price WAS \$22,995 \$18,988 SK#H4H152-0</p>	<p>2002 MERCEDES CLK 320 Rob's Price WAS \$39,995 \$34,988 SK#H4H111-1</p>	<p>2005 NISSAN ALTIMA Rob's Price WAS \$23,200 \$17,788 SK#H5046</p>	<p>1997 PT CRUISER TOURING Rob's Price WAS \$18,995 \$14,988 SK#H4H145-0</p>
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218 TIMES NEWS CARRIERS

NEWSPAPER
 Earn extra \$5 in your spare time. If you are a highly motivated self-starter looking to earn some extra money in your spare time, then this could be a great opportunity for you!
 The Times-News is looking for individuals interested in selling newspaper subscriptions as Independent Contractors. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call Jeni at 208-735-3302*

EDUCATION

Classifieds

It pays to read the fine print.
 Call Twin Falls 733-0931 or Burley 677-4042

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
 Selling property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding timeshare and real estate scams, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C., 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-676-7060*
502 HOMES FOR SALE

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY
 All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference limitation or discrimination based on race, color, or religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian; pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination Call HUD Toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-8275.

MESSAGE
 Big profits usually mean big risks. Before you do business with a company check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C., 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-676-7060*

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESSES AVAILABLE
 Cooper Norman Business Brokers & Advisors
 Keys to Success www.cnba.com 208-733-6581*

CONCESSION Business. Turn Key. For information call 208-890-8071.*

LIQUOR LICENSE for sale. Good in City of Burley and North Burley. Best offer. Call 208-436-4365.*

305 CONTRACTS MORTGAGES

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
 CASH for Deeds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation quote. (208)733-3821*

Add to your family today by adopting a dog or cat. Use the classifieds to find that special friend. 735699

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If you'd like to be your own boss and work just a few hours a day - become a *The Times-News* independent contractor. **It's your own business.** You can increase your profits from your own sales effort. All it takes to run your own business is one phone call. *Make that call today!*

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502 HOMES FOR SALE

BUHL small 2 bdrm., 1 bath country setting, city sewer, great starter or rental! 543-9002.

GOODING Would you like to own a beautiful high quality 4,000 sq. ft. home on 6 acres?

HAGERMAN 2 bdrm., 1 bath home on Main St commercial lot. Rent reflects \$95 return after taxes. 837-4042 or 839-6402.

HAGERMAN 2 bdrm., 1 bath cottage, 9 x 150 lot at edge of town. Call 208-876-6092.

HANSEN 3 bedroom, 2 bath, large lot, fenced and newly remodeled. \$68,500.

HOLLISTER INVESTORS! 3 bdrm., 2 bath on over 1 acre, cost of home never was \$35,000.

INVESTMENT REAL ESTATE

3978 N 1500 E. \$54,000, 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath.

452 Clover Ln. \$69,800, 3 bedroom 2 bath, on acreage.

2384 E. 3600 N. \$75,500, 3 bedroom 2 bath on acreage.

2322 E. 3250 N. \$68,500, 3 bedroom 2 bath.

1798 Glendale Ave. Great Location! \$77,925, 3 bedroom 1 bath.

537 9th St. \$49,900, 3 bedroom, 1 bath.

Suzie Richardson Associate Broker Canyonwide Realty

Call 208-420-3765. Suzie@twinnfalls.com

JEROME Country living in town, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on .85 acre, \$89,900

Western RE Group Paul 731-2727.

1208-B South-4 bedroom, 2 bath mature trees, barn, corals w/ 160 acres. Lots of potential! Call 208-886-9645.

THINKING OF BUILDING? Call The Remusson Team at Gem State Realty.

The Remusson Team at Gem State Realty. We are the exclusive representatives of TKO Homes.

Complete home and lot package starting at \$69,900. Call Lynn Remusson, President at The Remusson Team at 737-3900 or cell phone 410-2807.

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Abbreviations can lead to confusion. Make sure readers will understand you properly. Spell it out. Classifieds 735-0251

HOME INSPECTIONS 2000+ since 1993, Bill Baker, 208-326-5115.

TWIN FALLS Country acreage S of TF, 3 bdrm., 2 bath, woodstove, heat pump & AC, new paint, new flooring, beautiful view. Attached 1/2 ac garage on 1.25 acres. Call shop, horse shed, fenced acre. Call twin falls realtors.

TWIN FALLS \$168,500. New construction 4 bedroom home with 3 car garage, 2 AC, new paint with separate shower and soaking tub. Ron Wagner, 839-6402.

HANSEN '83 2 bedroom, 1 bath with Roman tub, his and her sink, open kitchen with breakfast bar. \$12,800. 423-5850.

KETCHUM south, 14'x7' trailer in the meadows. Cheapest home in Wood River. Call 208-720-3175.

TWIN FALLS '72, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, \$4,000 offer! 1260, 426-8516.

TWIN FALLS 1994 Fleetwood Completely REMODELED. All appliances. Already on wheels, ready to MOVE!

119,900 offer. Call 208-734-7383.

512 FARM/RANCHES/DORIES

PAUL N. W. Dairy site for 10,000 plus cows. 1,164 acres, \$875,000. Dairy farm, fully guaranteed. Madden Dry 312-1135.

SMALLER FARMS • 93 ACRES - Nice farm well kept 3 bdrm, 2 bath home, outbuildings, corals, Filer.

40 ACRES - Secluded, commercial fish ponds, big home, great views. Bunzl.

38 ACRES - Land and water shares. 2 mobile homes, Oakley.

25 ACRES - Double 4, 300 head, good water, good improvements. Paul.

ROBERT JONES REALTY 739-0404

208-876-6092.

519 ACREAGE AND LOTS

HEYBURN 2400 sq. ft. 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 9 acres. Call 208-878-9742.

KANSAS 23 irrigated 1/4 at \$1,400 an acre in 3 tracts. Good water. New system. A Good crop business. Fax 805-995-2677 or call 316-241-3333.

HAGERMAN Building lot \$19,500. Call 208-539-7426.

KIMBERLY New subdivision - Stonegate Estates. Large lots, starting at \$35,000 and up. City services, ready to build. For more information contact Mark Jones 208-539-7426.

ROBERT JONES REALTY 739-0404

SHOSHONE North 6.5 acres with Irrigation, pond, \$28,000. Owner will finance with 10% down. Call 731-0103.

516 MOBILE HOMES

BUHL & JEROME newer, manufactured homes for sale with financing for qualified buyers. 2 and 3 bedroom units. Must remain in our parks. Call 208-543-9372.

HANSEN '83 2 bedroom, 1 bath with Roman tub, his and her sink, open kitchen with breakfast bar. \$12,800. 423-5850.

KETCHUM south, 14'x7' trailer in the meadows. Cheapest home in Wood River. Call 208-720-3175.

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TWIN FALLS 1994 Fleetwood Completely REMODELED. All appliances. Already on wheels, ready to MOVE!

119,900 offer. Call 208-734-7383.

512 CEMETERY LOTS

SUNSET MEMORIAL PARK Twin Falls. (2) lots. Asking \$2,500. Current value \$3,850. Call 208-773-2662.

RENTALS

THE TIMES-NEWS Classified Department Classified Service Representatives are available from 8:00am - 5:30 pm Monday - Friday

Call our offices in Twin Falls 733-0931 ext. 2 or Burling 477-4042.

601 FURNISHED HOMES

BUHL Cozy 2 bdrm, gas heat, W/D hookup, no appliances, storage, \$575.

TWIN FALLS Quiet 3 bdrm mobile home, new carpet, appliances, storage, \$550.

VERY NICE neighborhood 3 bdrm, 2 bath, approx. 1500 sq. ft. garage, fireplace, gas heat, fenced yard, S50.

CORNER LOT 2 bdrm, 2 bath, garage, fenced yard. \$550. The Mgmt. 733-0739.

FILER One large bedroom, 2 bath. New carpet, windows and more. Water included, \$475 mo. + dep. 208-734-3805 W. mg.

602 UNFURNISHED HOMES

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, nice fenced back yard. No smoking/pets. \$900 month. 1134 Monica. 324-1116.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, all brick home in Sawtooth Section. District, fireplace, fenced backyard, dbl. car garage. \$925 mo. Avail. Dec. 31st. 208-539-5433.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$500 + \$300 dep. 208-539-5433.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath at 926 North Lincoln. Clean to college. Call 408-1068 or 208-876-6092.

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, wet bar, double garage, fenced yard. \$725 mo. + dep. 208-539-5433.

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom home, 2 1/2 baths, 2154 days of 208-734-6880 after 6:30 pm.

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 WANTED tailgate for '97. Call 1/2 ton. Call 208-420-5061.

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 WANTED TO BUY 1,500 feet of aluminum pipe #1.2 inch, 731-8057 talk to Jose.

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 WANTED TO BUY Squeeze Schute reasonably priced. Call 208-736-2893.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Auction contest looks for entrants

TWIN FALLS - Organizers of a statewide auction contest to be held in Twin Falls next month are looking for a few good auctioneers.

The Idaho Association of Professional Auctioneers will hold its annual contest and convention Jan. 21-23 at the Idaho Auction Barn, 1008 Eldridge Ave., and the Red Lion Hotel Canyon Springs.

The weekend kicks off with an auction contest at 7 p.m. Jan. 21 at Idaho Auction Barn, in which auctioneers from all over the state will compete for prizes and recognition. The event is free and open to the public.

Auctioneers will compete in two divisions: auctioneer of the year and rookie of the year. To enter the main competition, an auctioneer must be at least 18 years old and a resident of Idaho for at least six months, be licensed by the state as an auctioneer and be a member of IAAP. Rookies must meet the same requirements but must not have been licensed by the state for more than two years.

Auctioneers will be judged on sale and efficiency, and on organizer Handy Wells of Post Falls. The entry fee for each division is \$25, and entries must be submitted by Friday.

For information and to register, contact Wells at 639-7474.

Hope rises that stores will meet sales goals

The holiday shopping season ended better than it started and most retailers are on track to meet year-end holiday goals, though many still hope for an extra boost the week after Christmas as consumers cash in gift cards.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc., which got off to a slow start, said Monday that December sales would come at the midpoint of its modest December forecast thanks to brisker-than-expected business the Sunday after Christmas.

J.C. Penney Co. Inc. expects same-store sales, a measurement of sales at stores opened at least a year, to meet single-digit goals for the combined November and December period. Same-store sales are considered the best indicator of a retailer's health.

"I came down to the wire, and last week was particularly strong," said Michael P. Niemeln, chief economist at the International Council of Shopping Centers. "Even if it comes in where we expect, it's still a modest performance. But it is still better than what we had feared two or three weeks ago."

Niemeln said he is now more confident that the International Council of Shopping Centers-UBS sales tally for the combined November and December period will be up anywhere from 2.5 percent to 3 percent.

Stocks slip on Asia earthquake concerns

NEW YORK - Concerns over the economic impact of the Asian earthquake disasters pushed stocks lower Monday, putting Wall Street's recent rally on hold despite decent holiday sales figures and falling oil prices.

Analysts were generally pleased with the outlook in sales: most retailers reported late last week and in post-holiday shopping, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. saw sales rise modestly, while Amazon.com Inc. reported record sales during the holiday season.

Insurers, hotels and travel-related stocks fell as investors reacted to the devastation in Asia, which could be one of the costliest disasters in history, though the economic impact for the United States appeared to be minimal. And with trading volume very light during the holiday week, analysts said there was little to be gleaned from Wall Street's initial reaction.

"Honestly, you've got this news out there, but trading volumes are so light, what with the holidays, you can't really put any meaningful bids and offers on today," said Bill Greenwald, head trader for vFinance Investments. "Low volume means everything's magnified. Next week we'll get a much better idea of where things are going."

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 50.99, or 0.47 percent, to 10,776.13.

VEGAS VOGUE



Saleswoman Cynthia Cristaldi walks through the gown room at the Gianni Versace store at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Dec. 17.

High-end boutiques pop up on Strip

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS - With the doors to The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace were poised to open for the first time in May 1992, some questioned whether a mall of luxury boutiques would succeed on the Las Vegas Strip.

Maureen Crampton, the mall's marketing director, heard the skeptics and remembers waiting, "expectantly," behind closed doors and thinking to herself, "I do hope somebody is on the other side."

Crampton need not have worried. "More than a decade later, The Forum Shops is one of the most successful retail centers in the country, and high-end shopping is one of the lures that has helped transform Las Vegas from a one-stop gambling spot into an on-again destination."

Carmel Prada and Dior are now neighbors along a gilded stretch of the Bellagio hotel-casino. Neiman Marcus, Saks Fifth Avenue and Nordstrom anchor the expensive Fashion Show mall farther down the Strip. And boutiques like Burberry, Mikimoto and Jimmy Choo dot The Venetian landscape inside the Grand Canal Shoppes.

"Shopping has become an incredible part of the allure of Las Vegas," said Itho Halmbar, Las Vegas historian and author.

So much so that shopping tends to be a top draw for the 36 million tourists who visit each year. A survey conducted this summer by MRC Group Research Institute found visitors to Las Vegas shopped (63 percent) only slightly less than they gambled (69 percent).

A visitors' profile estimates tourists spent something on the order of \$2.9 billion shopping last year. "It didn't use to be that way. Gambling defined Las Vegas. But when Atlantic City began competing for gamblers and Indian tribes started building casinos, Las Vegas realized that changes were needed. Casino executives discovered that allowing customers to wander away from the gambling floor might be good for business - as long as they kept spending their money with the hotel property."

Casino hotels became resort destinations, where guests can pumper themselves with a \$155 specialty facial, dine on a \$60 Kobe-beef burger and buy a

\$1,570 Christian Dior handbag without ever going across the street. Cheap buffets and souvenir kitsch are the rarity, not the norm.

"Competition for gaming dollars has done us more good than harm," Gov. Kenny Guinn told the 20th annual Governor's Conference on Tourism earlier this month. "It gave us cause to develop adventure shopping, fine dining and other amenities."

Keith Schwor, director of the Center for Business and Economic Research at University of Nevada, Las Vegas, said attached retail areas make sense. "If you have millions of people visiting, walking by, all you have to do is capture a small percentage of them to be profitable," Schwor said.

A three-story spiral escalator whisks customers high above the Italian marble flooring at The Forum Shops at Caesars Palace, which recently expanded to encompass 685,000 square feet and make room for such luxury staples as Harry Winston, Buccellati and Celine.

The Roman-themed mall is such a financial success that at the end of October, its average

annual sales reached \$1,471 per square foot. That crushes the national average of \$345 per square foot in 2003, according to industry statistics.

Crampton credits the mall's sales to extensive research before the 1992 opening. "Researchers discovered Las Vegas had a strong, affluent local customer base, along with an influx of tourists who were fashion-savvy and willing to spend on luxury brand-name goods," said Crampton.

At the Via Bellagio, which opened in October 1999, an affluent tourist roaming the resort's 50,000-square-foot shopping enclave can select a \$550 silk Hermes scarf before walking a leisurely few steps to buy a purple python Gucci bag for \$2,650.

"It was certainly taking a chance at the time we conceived (of Via Bellagio)," said Frank Visconti, president of MGM Mirage retail, which oversees the center. "It turned out to be a very good business decision. The productivity level has been wonderful."

COURT FILINGS

The Times-News

BOISE - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Rahilla Fedale, also known as Jadhvi E. Hildandhi, 2140 Elizabeth Blvd., No. 303, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-26265.

Tarj Fedale, also known as for T. Fedale, 2140 Elizabeth Blvd., No. 278, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-26246.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

David Allen Gay and Cheryl Ann Gay, 518 Oak N., Kimberly, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26222.

David V. Torres, also known as Divanquel Torres and Rosanna Ann Torres, also known as Rosie Torres, 124 Walnut St., Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26223.

Edward L. Gough and Wanda Carole Gough, 1289 Aztec Drive, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26242.

Claude A. Levesque, doing business as Levesque Painting, 805 Sheenwood Drive, No. 15, Halley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets not indicated, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26264.

Melissa Kaye Patten, 1026 Lantana Ave., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26255.

Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Dennia Berks, 315 Chestnut St. N., Kimberly, individual, business (newspaper delivery), Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 04-26251.

Chapter 13, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Laford Earl Weeks Jr., also known as Earl Weeks, 251 E. Baseline, Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-26225.

Dan W. Emerson, 218 W. Ave. 1, No. 11, Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 1-15 creditors, assets not indicated, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 04-26241.

If returning Christmas gifts, get ready to wait in line

Knight Ridder News Service

Many happy returns

If you have to return a gift, these tips may make your life easier:

- Don't damage, wear or use anything you plan to return.
- Be prepared for long lines.
- Know the retailer's return policy, and be sure to make returns within the allotted time. You can check some return policies online.

Some retailers require photo ID

Knight Ridder News Service

PHILADELPHIA - With the holiday season winding down, a trip to the merchandise return counter is inevitable for many people. Just be sure to bring along your receipt - and, in some cases, a photo ID, too.

- Keep the original packaging and tags attached.
- Keep gift receipts or invoices.
- Check the original shipping invoice for a return label on items bought online or through a catalog. The label will tell you where to go to make the return.
- Read your return receipt for any special offers or discounts.

Some retailers have begun implementing stricter return policies that require photo identification - such as a driver's license - to complete the return, even if the retailer has a receipt and price tags are still on the item.

The reason? Fraud. According to the National Retail Federation, returns of used or stolen merchandise are costing the industry \$1.6 billion annually.

Express, K.B. Toys, Sports Authority and Guess, among others, now require photo IDs for returns. At some retailers, those IDs are scanned, and personal information - including name, address and phone number - is stored in a database.

"They're saying, be careful to document condition and don't be overly aggressive in valuing your vehicle," Massey said. "It's unclear if they flagged deductions for auto donations for approval or not."

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IRS rules will change for donation of cars to charity

NEW YORK - Consumers planning to donate their cars to charity are going to find that after Jan. 1, those contributions might not be so valuable at tax time.

Under current tax law, consumers can donate their used cars - as well as boats and planes - to charitable organizations and, if they itemize, deduct the vehicles' "fair market value."

But many in Congress felt consumers were taking unfair advantage of the law by greatly overstating the value of the vehicles they donated, writing off the highest value listed in a used-car buyers guide for clunkers that barely ran.

In addition, many charities really don't want or need cars, so a system has grown up through which brokers or other middlemen take possession of the donated cars, auction them and give a cut of the proceeds

to the charities - often considerably less than the vehicles brought to auction.

In fact, a study conducted by the Government Accountability Office found that in some cases "charities actually received less than 10 percent of the value claimed on the donor's return" - and actually lost money on some vehicles.

So as part of the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004, Congress slammed the brakes on big deductions.

Starting Jan. 1, if the claimed value of the car exceeds \$500 and it is sold by the charitable

organization, the taxpayer will be limited to deducting the gross proceeds the charity receives from the sale.

Charities will have 30 days from the date of the sale to notify the consumer of the amount.

If the charity actually keeps the vehicle for use in its operations or materially improves the vehicle, the charity must certify this in an acknowledgment to the donor. The donor then may deduct the vehicle's market value.

William E. Massey, a senior tax analyst at RIA, a New York-based provider of tax information for tax professionals, noted that under the current law, a consumer who donates a car with a Kelley Blue Book value of \$1,000 and gets an acknowledgment from the charity can deduct that amount on his or her taxes. Starting next year, that same

car - if donated and auctioned, resulting in just \$300 for the charity's coffers - will result in a \$300 deduction for the consumer.

Diana Aviv, president and chief executive of Independent Sector, a lobby group for foundations and charitable groups based in Washington, D.C., said that only about 3 percent of American charities have vehicle donation programs.

Those that do are deeply concerned about the impact of the new law. Aviv said, "They worry that the way the law is written is a discouragement to people participating in the program."

On the other hand, she said, "other groups were deeply concerned about potential abuse and the black eye that abuse was giving the charitable fundraising sector."

Aviv does not expect Congress to change its mind about

the donated car deduction and, in fact, believes it could go after deductions for other non-cash items, such as used clothing or property.

So should Americans rush to donate their old cars before year's end?

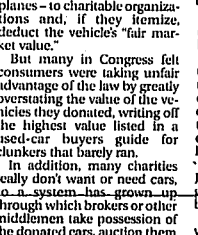
RIA's Massey noted that the IRS is recently looking at a consumer alert outlining the new regulation and detailing how taxpayers should calculate the fair market value of their vehicles - under the old regulation.

"They're saying, be careful to document condition and don't be overly aggressive in valuing your vehicle," Massey said. "It's unclear if they flagged deductions for auto donations for approval or not."

He also pointed out that contributions of property valued at more than \$5,000 require an appraisal before the taxpayer can claim the deduction.

ON THE MONEY

Eileen Alt Powell



CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for contract type (Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, etc.), price, and change. Includes sub-sections for Beans and Grains.

BEANS

Table listing various bean contracts and their prices.

GRAINS

Table listing various grain contracts and their prices.

SOYBEANS

Table listing soybean contracts and their prices.

WHEAT

Table listing wheat contracts and their prices.

CORN

Table listing corn contracts and their prices.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table listing soybean oil contracts and their prices.

SOYBEAN MEAL

Table listing soybean meal contracts and their prices.

WHEAT OATS

Table listing wheat and oat contracts and their prices.

WHEAT BARLEY

Table listing wheat and barley contracts and their prices.

WHEAT RYE

Table listing wheat and rye contracts and their prices.

WHEAT TRITICALE

Table listing wheat and triticale contracts and their prices.

WHEAT SORGHUM

Table listing wheat and sorghum contracts and their prices.

WHEAT MILLS

Table listing wheat mill contracts and their prices.

WHEAT CRACKS

Table listing wheat crack contracts and their prices.

WHEAT FLAKES

Table listing wheat flake contracts and their prices.

WHEAT PASTES

Table listing wheat paste contracts and their prices.

WHEAT STARCHES

Table listing wheat starch contracts and their prices.

MARKETS

Table listing market prices for various commodities like oil, sugar, and metals.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing livestock prices for cattle, hogs, and sheep.

CATTLE

Table listing cattle prices for different grades and weights.

HOGS

Table listing hog prices for different grades.

SHEEP

Table listing sheep prices for different grades.

CHEESE

Table listing various types of cheese prices.

POTATOES

Table listing potato prices for different varieties.

SUGAR

Table listing sugar prices for different grades.

METALS/MONEY

Table listing prices for various metals and money markets.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing major stock indices and their values.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing NASDAQ market indices and their values.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table summarizing market activity for NYSE, NASDAQ, and other exchanges.

NYSE

Table listing NYSE market activity and volume.

NASDAQ

Table listing NASDAQ market activity and volume.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with their prices and changes.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Text explaining how to interpret the market report, including symbols and abbreviations.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing American Stock Exchange market activity.

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FOSSIL FUELS

Table listing fossil fuel prices for oil, gas, and coal.

UNLEADED GASOLINE

Table listing unleaded gasoline prices for different grades.

NATURAL GAS

Table listing natural gas prices for different regions.

COAL

Table listing coal prices for different grades.

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Advertisement text for a financial service, mentioning a call to action and contact information.

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ID

Continued from D4
automatically put into a database.

Retailers say they are collecting the personal information directly from IDs to help stem crime and to prevent price increases due to losses from stolen merchandise.

But some consumer advocates say collecting personal information and storing it in databases infringes on customers' privacy.

Both Givens, director of the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse in San Diego, said she had received complaints from some consumers about the ID requirement.

"They say: 'I've got the receipt. Why can't I make the return? I feel as if I'm being coerced,'" Givens said. "We've also heard from customers that they don't want to hand over a government-issued ID to make a return."

That is why some retailers, including Urban Outfitters and Target, so far have decided against requiring photo IDs. "It feels like it's a serious problem in the future, we'd do it," said John Kyeas, chief financial officer for Philadelphia-based Urban Outfitters Inc.

By collecting IDs, he said, you're painting the entire consumer base. Everyone is guilty until proven innocent. The only way to get out from under this is to make a return without a photo ID, but that's not what we want. The information is stored in a

company database that is used to identify frequent returners. "With frequent-return customers, we ask them if they tried on clothes in the store," said Gayle Cookick, a Charming Shoppes spokeswoman.

As with many retailers, each of the company's stores has the discretion to refuse returns from customers they feel are abusing the system.

Return Exchange, an Irvine, Calif., company that manages information databases for many retailers including Express and K.B. Toys, said in a statement that data collected from the IDs of returners were sent to a secure system, where they were electronically compared with the retailer's return policy.

After that, the Return Exchange system employs "a complex algorithm comparing frequency of returns and dollar amount, among other variables," to determine whether the person is displaying fraudulent or abusive behavior.

Return Exchange, which declined to be interviewed for this article, said about 1 percent of returns are fraudulent — meaning they are returns of stolen or used merchandise that would not qualify for a refund.

The company declined to be interviewed about how it uses the information in its database to flag potential frauds.

Anthony Hebron, a spokesman for Express parent Limited Brands Inc., said scanning data from an ID makes returns faster and safer for customers.

"All it does is speed up the process and make it more secure," he said. "If there are multiple returns at multiple locations, the system says 'denied.'"

If this happens, Express tells the customer to call Return Ex-

change to clear up the problem. "Hebron said Express, which implemented ID scanning last August nationwide, does not use the system to track-wait shoppers buy or to build a telemarketing list."

"The system is not looking at shopping behavior," he said. "It's trying to see if there's something that raises a red flag."

Hebron denied a return today may not prevent a return from going through later. "There is no list," Return Exchange said.

Jordana Beebe, a spokeswoman for the Privacy Rights Clearinghouse, said the rules for these types of returns were too unclear, and that so-called false positives — where a returner has been wrongly identified for fraudulent behavior — had occurred.

"One of the primary concerns is that good, paying customers are not given the rules of the game for how the system works," Beebe said. "If you've crossed this invisible boundary, you may think you cannot make a return at that retailer ever again."

She also said some consumers who have been turned down have gotten around the problem by enlisting family members or friends to make the returns.

"All it really based on is who is making the return," she said. "They're forcing good, paying customers to lie..."

But Richard Hollinger, a professor of criminology at the University of Florida, said he has been studying retail fraud since 1978, and that retailers are abusing consumer rights.

"They are being criminalized for doing what they should be doing," Hollinger said. "In many ways, retailers were helpless to deal with fraud on an ad hoc basis, on a store-by-store basis,

without leveraging technology." He likened the trend of retail databases that target fraud to the federal government's response to the Sept-11 terrorist attacks.

"Just like we all moaned and complained about higher levels of security at airports, people just adjusted to it," Hollinger said.

Study says good managers need to communicate well

The Associated Press

About 40 percent of executives are considered outstanding managers and almost a third deemed subpar because they lack the required skills in the middle there's a wide group — nearly a third of managers — who

could go either way on the spectrum of leadership skill, according to a survey of human resource leaders.

Of those skills, good communication abilities were cited by 47 percent as most valued, followed by a "sense of vision" and honesty.

Advertisement for InterMountain Beef featuring a large image of a cow and text: NOW BUYING High Moisture CORN AT InterMountain BEEF. 1440 East 750 South Eden, Idaho (2 miles W of Eden). 1-800-853-2333 or 208-825-5335. RECEIVING HOURS: 8:30 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M. - Mon.-Sat.

Returns

Continued from D4
depending on whether the goods were purchased in the store or online.

The more stringent guidelines stem from retailers' efforts to thwart fraud. The National Retail Federation estimates return fraud costs retailers \$16 billion a year.

Some retailers are even tracking and denying returns from customers who have made too many.

"I think they're being stricter because retailers are tighter overall," said Dan Sandheim, owner of the Butterfymall.com. "It depends on the merchant. Some are extremely customer-focused, and some are very business focused. The only reason consumers are upset is because they're surprised."

The best consumers can do, he says, is know the policy beforehand, because there are so many restrictions and exceptions to heed.

Best Buy, for instance, has ex-

tended deadlines for the holidays. Items, with the exception of some electronics, purchased as early as Nov. 1 can be returned until Jan. 24. The policy excludes notebook and desktop computers, which must be returned within 14 days of purchase and may be subject to a restocking fee.

Target won't take an in-store return without a receipt but will search its system for one. Target will give a full refund for most items, but not for clothing, toys, electronics, portable DVD players and portable electronics are subject to a 15 percent restocking fee.

And holiday and seasonal items on clearance at the time of the return will be refunded at the clearance price.

Online purchases often bring another set of rules, says Aops Gurion, director of AOL's Shopping and Internet Services. Payment to the fine print, she insists. For example, many

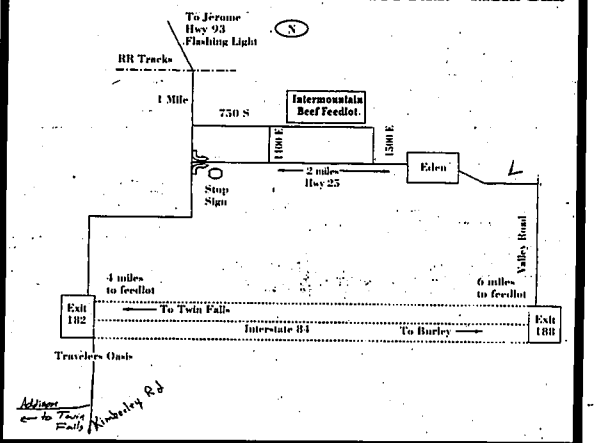
online purchases must be returned via mail and require consumers to give a reason.

"Be careful to not send the credit back to the original purchaser instead of getting yourself credit, which could be embarrassing if you don't want the purchaser to know you're returning it," she says.

Some online retailers may require you to get an authorization number before shipping goods back. No matter what the store's policy, however, consumers reports says denials are common can prevail.

The consumer magazine recommends asking for the manager when denied a refund. Some credit cards will also issue refunds if a store won't return the customer's money within a certain period, usually 90 days.

And, of course, experts say, patience pays. It's essential to chivving many happy returns.



MUTUAL FUNDS

Table listing various mutual funds with columns for Name, Sell, City, and numerical values. The table is organized into several columns and rows, listing fund names like AAAP Invest, AAGF, AAI, etc., and their corresponding values.

