

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Skies becoming mostly cloudy late. High 37, low 27. Page A2

ANOTHER ANGLE

Lanting brings principal's perspective to City Council. Page B1



STRETCHING LEGS & LIVES

Check up on the progress of four Magic Valley folks trying to get more active. Page C1



NFC SHOWDOWN

Seants beat the N.Y. Giants on Sunday in a battle of division leaders. Page D1

CHRISTMAS CONTROVERSY?

The push to save religion in Christmas isn't as dire as Fallwell says, today's guest editorial says. Page A8

COMING UP



Their own history

Volunteers share history with artifacts. Tuesday in The Times-News

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WEIGHING IN THE BALANCE



Anna McKinley, 12, jumps rope Tuesday in the city park across from St. Edwards Catholic Church during noon recess as other students look on.

Private school teachers reflect on finances, happiness

By Joshua Palmer Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Can you buy employee satisfaction? The class action lawsuit filed by the Twin Falls Education Association (TFEA) alleges that the district has failed to pay salaries according to teacher contracts, but many teachers say it's not as much about the money as it is about respect from the school district.

Many teachers feel the Twin Falls School Board and its superintendent, Wiley Dobbs, are not addressing teacher concerns, nor are they paying teachers based on their advancement. In contrast to Twin Falls public schools, private schools pay teachers less but enjoy a lower turnover rate.

"Across the board our pay scale is 83 percent of what the Twin Falls School District pays," said Luke Schroeder, principal at St. Edwards Catholic School. "And we still have teaching staff that works here an average of seven years."

Lutheran Immanuel also pays less, but has lower turnover than Twin Falls and other Magic Valley school districts.

"We have had the same staff for the entire three years that I have been here," said Cindy Fulcher, director of Lutheran Immanuel. "As far as I know we only have turnover when people move or retire."

But the Twin Falls School District has almost a 10 percent turnover rate —

not including new hires for positions that have been created. Although it's lower than the state average of 15 percent, it still raises the question of whether it's the money that really matters to many teachers.

In a guest editorial letter to the Times-News, Phil Authr wrote that the TFEA is targeting the wrong issues.

"Why do hundreds of private school teachers in Twin Falls readily accept 70 to 80 percent of public school wages?" Authr wrote. "Simple, better working conditions."

But others, such as Diann Geigen, who responded to Authr's letter, wrote that many teachers in private schools are not as qualified as those in public schools.

"I'm one of the teachers you talk about here as state certified educators," wrote Geigen. "Some of the dedicated teachers who fill those positions are, but it is not always a requirement at private institutions."

Shannon Page, coordinator of accreditation for the Idaho Department of Education, said state accredited private schools are required to follow the same requirements as public schools.

"One thing you have to remember is, there are not a separate set of standards," Page said. "If a private school chooses to be (state) accredited, then they must follow the same standards as public schools."

When asked why similarly qualified teachers at private schools would work

for lower pay, Fulcher said, "I believe the main reason is the ability to work in a Christian atmosphere."

When asked the same question, teachers at St. Edwards agreed that the school's foundation on religious values is a key reason why they were willing to work for less.

Denise Hart, who taught at Harrison Elementary in the Twin Falls School District before teaching at St. Edwards, said, "I don't teach any differently than I did at Harrison, but I think it is the parental support that makes it so much better."

Because private schools are not obligated to enroll students, they also have the authority to place additional requirements on students and parents — a luxury not available to public schools.

And private schools are not required to bargain with teacher unions — such as the TFEA. Although state-accredited schools must have a board that oversees operations, they are not required to negotiate teacher contracts with unions — which is a requirement of public schools by Idaho state law.

"I will be honest, I'm not a big fan of unions," Schroeder said. "It's not that I think we are better, but we don't have unions because the teachers all have a stake in what's going on. That is one of the difficulties in the Twin Falls district: there is a perception among teachers that Wiley Dobbs is pigeonholing money, but he's not. There just isn't any money."

Trial will resume after 5-week recess

Sunni Arabs arrested in alleged plot to kill Saddam investigator

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The courtroom will be the same but uncertainty surrounds nearly everything else as the trial of Saddam Hussein resumes Monday after a five-week recess.

Will the court grant a defense request for a three-month postponement to shield their identities? Will Saddam's foreign lawyers, including former U.S. Attorney General Ramsey Clark, be allowed to attend the trial?

Even the precise time for convening the session was kept secret — for fear of attacks by supporters and opponents of the ousted ruler.

Tight security surrounded the entire proceedings, which are restarting in the same specially built courtroom in the heavily guarded Green Zone where the first session was held Oct. 18.

Underscoring the need for such measures, police announced Sunday that they had arrested eight Sunni Arabs for allegedly plotting to kill the court official who prepared the indictment charging Saddam and seven co-defendants with crimes against humanity.

The eight alleged plotters were apprehended Saturday in the northern city of Kirkuk, police Col. Anwar Qadir said. He said they were carrying written instructions from a former top Saddam deputy, Izzat Ibrahim al-Douri, ordering them to kill investigating judge Raed Juh, who submitted the charges to the trial court in July.

Al-Douri is the highest ranking member of the Saddam regime still at large and is believed to be the symbolic leader of Saddam loyalists fighting U.S. forces and Iraq's new government.

"As an Iraqi citizen and a judge, I am vulnerable to assassinations attempts," Juh told The Associated Press. "If I thought about this danger, then I would not be able to perform my job. I will practice my profession in a way that serves my country and satisfies my conscience."

Saddam and seven co-defendants are charged in the killing of more than 140 Shiite Muslims after an assassination attempt against the former president in the Shiite town of Duji al in 1982. Convictions could bring a sentence of death by hanging.

Insecurity from the predominantly Sunni insurgency has complicated efforts to put Saddam on trial and forced draconian measures. For example, names of four of the five trial judges have been kept secret and some of the 35 witnesses may testify behind curtains to protect them from reprisal.

Defense lawyers had threatened to boycott the proceedings after two of their colleagues were slain in two attacks following the opening session Oct. 19. However, lawyer Khamees al-Ubaidi told the AP on Sunday that the defense team would attend after an agreement with U.S. and Iraqi authorities on improving security for them.

On the eve of the hearing, Clark and former Qatari Justice Minister Najib al-Nuemi flew to the capital from Amman, Jordan, to lend weight to the defense team. Both have been advising Saddam's lawyers and support their call to have the trial moved out of Iraq because of the violence.

However, neither Clark nor al-Nuemi has been officially recognized by the court as legal counsel. U.S. and Iraqi officials said Saddam's chief lawyer, Khalil al-Dulaimi, did not officially request permission for any foreign attorneys to attend the trial.

Please see TRIAL, Page A2

Despite ban, farmers continue to use pesticide

The Associated Press

WATSONVILLE, Calif. — Shoppers rifle through store shelves brimming with succulent tomatoes and plump strawberries, hoping to enjoy one last round of fresh fruit before the Western growing season ends. There is no hint of a dark side to the blaze of red.

Strawberries are a painful subject for Guillermo Ruiz. The farm worker believes his headaches, confusion and vision trouble stem from a decade working in the fields with methyl bromide, a pesticide that poisons the berries with stunning efficiency.

Cheri Alderman, a

teacher whose classroom borders a farm, fears her students could inhale a dangerous whiff of the fumigant as it drifts from the adjacent strawberry field. "A little drizzle of poison is still poison," she says.

The concerns stretch globally. Other nations watch as the United States keeps permitting wide use of methyl bromide for tomatoes, strawberries, peppers, Christmas trees and other crops, even though the U.S. signed an international treaty banning all but the most critical uses by 2005.

The chemical depletes the earth's protective ozone layer and can harm

Please see BAN, Page A2



Vanessa Bogenhoim, an organic strawberry farmer in Watsonville, Calif., checks her crop of strawberries in this August 2005 file photo. She farms 65 acres without chemical pesticides.

Not your parents' phys ed — schools promote fitness for life

By Karen Matthews Associated Press writer

NORTHPOK, N.Y. — In a mirror-lined dance studio, teenagers sashay through a number from the musical "Hairspray."

Next door in the weight room, teacher Shawn Schroeder demonstrates proper form on the leg press. At Northport High School on Long Island, physical education also includes yoga, step aerobics and fitness walking, as well as team sports like volleyball and basketball.

There are archery targets, soccer fields and a rock-climb-

ing wall where students inscribe their names to show how high they get.

For anyone who grew up when PE meant being picked last for softball, it's a dizzying array of choices.

"What we try and do is give them a real broad offering so that they can choose things they want to do," said Robert Christenson, the director of physical education. He said the current curriculum has been developed over the last five years.

While the offerings at Northport, where the median household income is \$86,456, may exceed those at many public

high schools, the school's representative of a national physical education trend that promotes fitness and downplays competitive sports that leave the uncoordinated feeling left out.

"There's been a major trend by school districts to improve their fitness centers," said Tom Calone, director of physical education for the suburban Bedford Central School District north of New York City. "It's really not 'roll out the old ball,' as it was."

George Graham, a professor of kinesiology at Penn State University and past president of the National Association for Sport and Physical Education,

said there has been a revolution in the way physical education is taught in America.

"Historically, there were two emphases — competitive team sports and physical fitness testing," he said. "The emphasis today is more on helping youngsters develop the confidence that leads to competence and enjoyment of a lifetime of physical activity."

"We have schools teaching yoga, rock-climbing, martial arts, fly-fishing," Graham said. "If a kid is in a program that hasn't changed from when the parents were in school, it's just not OK."

The changes are occurring

amid growing concern that sedentary lifestyles are fueling an epidemic of childhood obesity, with experts estimating that 30 percent of American schoolchildren are overweight or obese.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only about 6 percent to 8 percent of schools provide the kind of physical education classes that advocate recreation.

In Florida, high school students need only one year of PE to graduate, said Jane Ginsberg, who heads the Division of Life Skills and Activities Projects for Miami-Dade

Please see PE, Page A2



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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Clouds will be thickening throughout the day. Highs will be in the mid to upper 30s.
 Tonight: Cloudy skies with snow showers likely. Lows in the mid to upper 20s.
 Tomorrow: Snow showers continuing under mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid to upper 30s.

BOISE FORECAST

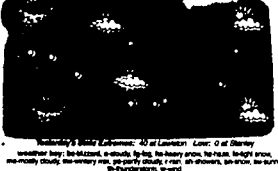
Today: Increasing cloudiness. Highs in the mid 30s.
 Tonight: Mostly cloudy with snow showers. Lows in the low 20s.
 Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Rain may mix with snow at times. Highs in the mid to upper 30s.

IDAHO FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
 A series of weather disturbances will bring cloudy skies and scattered snow showers to the area for the next several days. Periods of light and snow showers will be likely through the week.

BOISE
 Today will be increasing and showers will be heavy in late afternoon. The week will continue to see active weather with cloudy skies and occasional rain and snow showers almost daily.

NORTHERN AND CENTRAL
 The northern and central mountain areas will continue to see active weather. Snow showers will be likely tonight through Wednesday morning.



Weather Watch
 The Idaho Code, Title 15, Chapter 15, Section 15-101, states that any person who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this chapter shall be fined not more than \$500 or imprisoned not more than 60 days, or both.

TWIN FALLS, FIVE DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Skies becoming mostly cloudy late	Snow showers moving in	Snow showers likely	Partly cloudy, showers possible	Snow with rain at times	Mostly cloudy with occasional showers
High 37	Low 27	38/28	37/25	37/21	39/28

ALL METEOROLOGICAL FORECASTS

Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset
Intensity: Low 21	Month to Date: 0.77"	Yearly Minimum: 47%	Yearly: 30.18"	Sunrise: 7:48 AM
Record High: 81 in 1964	Year to Date: 1.28"	Today's Maximum: 52%	Yearly: 30.18"	Sunset: 5:00 PM

Moon Phases and Moonset

Day	Phase	Time
Nov 28	New Moon	11:58 AM
Nov 29	Waxing Crescent	12:58 PM
Nov 30	First Quarter	1:58 PM
Dec 1	Waxing Gibbous	2:58 PM
Dec 2	Full Moon	3:58 PM

NATURAL FORECAST					WOOD FORECAST				
City	HI	LO	W	W	City	HI	LO	W	W
Boise	37	27	38	28	Boise	37	27	38	28
Idaho Falls	35	25	36	26	Idaho Falls	35	25	36	26
Shoshone	33	23	34	24	Shoshone	33	23	34	24



IDAHO FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow
City	HI	LO	HI	LO
Boise	37	27	38	28
Idaho Falls	35	25	36	26
Shoshone	33	23	34	24

IDAHO FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Today	Tomorrow
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Idaho Falls	35	25	36	26
Shoshone	33	23	34	24

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Van accident kills two

PHOENIX (AP) — A van carrying a magazine sales crew on a trip to the Grand Canyon overturned on a busy interstate north of Phoenix Sunday, killing two people and critically injuring five others, authorities said. Police identified the driver as a 20-year-old man from Iowa and said the others in the van ranged in age from 18 to 20. The crash backed up traffic on Interstate 17 in both directions as rescue crews brought in a helicopter and ambulances to help the victims. The driver and all eight passengers were thrown from the van when the driver overcorrected and the van rolled three times, ending up in the median, Arizona Department of Public Safety spokesman Frank Valenzuela said. The driver, identified as John Michael Wilds, 20, of Kiron, Iowa, was in critical condition at a Phoenix-area hospital Sunday night, Valenzuela said. The passengers were from several states and were members of a sales crew for the magazine, sales firm, Alliances Services Co., the Department of Public Safety said. The van had Illinois license plates.



Mike Regan, 17, holds a bow during an archery class Tuesday at Northport High School, in N.Y.

PE

Continued from A1
 Community public schools. But more Miami-Dade students are choosing to take physical education classes. There is a district-wide program providing elliptical trainers and heart-rate monitors and adding classes like kayaking and snorkeling, Greenberg said. "By offering these more innovative lifetime activities we're getting them back," she said. "On the average the kids that are overweight are losing 8 to 10 pounds a semester. At Northport High, the gleaming weight machines and well-maintained tennis courts rival an expensive health club. There is a state-of-the-art 'adventure' area where students can perform team wall-climbing exercises or reach for a trapeze from the top of an 18-foot pole. Fourteen-year-old Stephen Jackson said he enjoys team sports like flag football and ultimate Frisbee but was looking forward to the weightlifting unit, because "you're just competing against yourself." As remarkable as the up-to-date equipment, the school district's mission statement is striking, too: "Classes are undertaken in an active, caring, supportive and nonthreatening atmosphere in which every student is challenged to grow... Every student, regardless of ability or ability level, is provided with a learning environment that is modified, when necessary, to allow for maximum participation." At the recent dance class, led by future dance teacher Kaylie Howard, pupils were at all ability levels and one was in special education. "There's no reason to feel bad," said Michael Carabina, 16. "Maybe it's just Ms. Howard. If you've tried music personally, We're all doing our best and we're happy with it."

Ban

Continued from A1
 the human neurological system, an increasing concern as people settle further into what was once just farm country. Methyl bromide's survival demonstrates the difficulty of banning a powerful pesticide that helps deliver what both farmers and consumers want: abundant, pest-free and affordable produce.

The Bush administration, at the urging of agriculture and manufacturing interests, is making plans to ensure that methyl bromide remains available at least through 2008 by seeking and winning treaty exemptions. Also, the administration will not commit to an end date. The administration's "fervent desire and goal" is to end methyl bromide's use, said Claudia McMurray, deputy assistant secretary for pesticide. The amount of the fumigant that the administration requested under treaty exemptions for the next two years is lower than in 2005. Gov. course says for instance, was an exemption this year but not next.

"I can't say to you that each year the numbers (of pounds used) will automatically go down," she said. The reason is that farmers who each year grow Florida tomatoes, California strawberries, Georgia peppers and North Carolina Christmas trees worth billions of dollars are struggling to find a suitable replacement. Alternative organic techniques used by every alternative chemical are not as effective, growers say. "We're not totally clueless. We've seen this train coming. We've tried every alternative and put every engine on the track, but none of them run," said Reggie Brown, manager of the Florida Tomato Commission. Odorous and colorless, methyl bromide is a gas that usually is injected by tractor into soil before planting, then covered with plastic sheeting to slow its release into the air. It wipes out plant parasites, disease and weeds. It results in a

spectacular yield, reduced weeding costs and a longer growing season. Workers who inhale enough of the chemical can suffer convulsions, coma and neuro-muscular and cognitive problems. In rare cases, they can die. Less is known about the long-term effects of low levels of contact, said Dr. Robert Harrison, an occupational and environmental health physician at the University of California, San Francisco. The U.S. signed the Montreal Protocol, committing to phase out methyl bromide by 2005 as part of the effort to protect the earth's ozone layer. A provision allows for exemptions to prevent "market disruption." The U.S. has used it to persuade treaty signers to allow U.S. farmers to continue using the chemical. That exemption process leaves the U.S. 37 percent shy of the phaseout required by 2005, with at least 10,450 tons of methyl bromide exempted this year. While that compares with about 28,000 tons used in 1991, this year's total is higher than it was two years ago.

U.S. officials are heading to a Montreal Protocol meeting in Senegal on Dec. 7 to begin negotiations on exemptions for 2007 and are preparing requests for 2008. "That's not what the treaty envisioned," said David Doniger, senior scientist with the Natural Resources Defense Council. In 1990, he worked on the protocol as head of ozone programs for the Environmental Protection Agency. "Nobody expected you would use exemptions to delay the final step of the phaseout or even go backward," Doniger said. With methyl bromide probably sticking around for several years, the EPA is re-examining its health and safety standards. California, which grows more than 85 percent of the nation's strawberries, has other methyl bromide-dependent crops, launched regulations last year to improve its strictest-in-the-

Trial

Continued from A1
 of Saddam and his rival. Many of the Sunni Arab insurgent groups include Saddam loyalists, including members of the Baath party and veterans of both Saddam's personal militia and the Republican Guard. The ousted leader, meanwhile, is vilified by Iraq's Shiite Muslim majority and its Kurdish community, which were oppressed during his rule. On Saturday, hundreds of supporters of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr rallied in Baghdad to demand Saddam's execution. Separately, the leader of the biggest Shiite party, Abul-Azz al-Hakim, accused the court of "weakness" for not having sentenced Saddam to death already. He also complained that media attention over allegations of torture by the Shiite-led security services had belittled Saddam's alleged crimes. "The court will need all of its strength to resist the pressure," said Miranda Sison of the International Center for Transitional Justice, an observer at the trial. In an interview with a German magazine, chief judge Rizaq Mohammed Amin said he pondered moving the trial to Kurdish-controlled northern Iraq because of poor security in Baghdad. Iraqi law provides legal steps for moving the court elsewhere in the country. However, Amin, a Kurd, said he decided the capital was secure enough for regular and fair proceedings, even if "they are admittedly difficult."

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NO IMPROVEMENT?

Ex-prime minister: Abuses as bad as they were under Saddam's regime

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's former interim prime minister complained Sunday that human rights abuses by some in the new government are as bad now as they were under Saddam Hussein.

Ayad Allawi, a secular Shiite Muslim, told the London newspaper *The Observer* that fellow Shites are responsible for death squads and secret torture centers and said brutality by elements of Iraqi security forces rivals that of Saddam's secret police.

"People are remembering the days of Saddam. These were the precise reasons that we fought Saddam and now we are seeing the same thing," the newspaper quoted Allawi as saying.

In Canada, meanwhile, a Parliament official said four aid workers, including two Canadians, had been kidnapped in Iraq but refused to name the group or say where they were seized. Britain's Foreign Office identified one of the four as Norman Kember, a Briton, but Elizabeth Colton, a U.S. Embassy spokeswoman, said the United States was investigating whether an American also was among the missing.

International organizations fled Iraq last year following a wave of kidnappings and beatings of foreign and Iraqi hostages. Many of them were carried out by al-Qaida in Iraq, led by the Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi.

The U.S. military reported that a Marine assigned to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing was killed Saturday when his vehicle struck a roadside bomb near Camp Taqadum, 45 miles west of Baghdad. At least 2,106 U.S. military personnel have died since Iraq war started in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Allawi's allegation of widespread human rights abuses was carried out by al-Qaida in Iraq, said the U.S. military. It said, "It is an appropriate comparison."



A woman shouts as she holds the pictures of her sons and a poster reading: 'Where are my sons?', during a protest in front of Iraq's Human Rights Ministry on Sunday in Baghdad. According to demonstrators, the people shown in the pictures were arrested by the Interior Ministry special forces.

His remarks appeared aimed at winning favor among the Sunni Arab minority as well as secular Shites ahead of the Dec. 15 parliamentary elections. Allawi is running on a secular ticket that includes several prominent Sunnis.

During his tenure as prime minister, Allawi lost the support of many Shites because he sought former members of Saddam's Sunni-dominated regime back into the security services to bolster the fight against insurgents.

There was no comment from Shiite politicians on Allawi's interview. However, the leader of Iraq's biggest Shiite party said allegations of torture, were distortions and might be designed to draw attention away from the Saddam's trial, which resumes Monday after a five-week break.

"At the time of the Saddam trial, the issue of the torture in Iraq detention centers is being exaggerated," said Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, head of the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution in Iraq. "When it comes to the crimes committed by Saddam for decades in which millions of Iraqis were affected, there is complete silence."

The remarks were broadcast Sunday by the party's television station.

In an interview published Sunday by *The Washington Post*, al-Hakim also complained the U.S. government is trying

to force Iraq's hands in fighting the insurgency and said one of the country's biggest problems "is the mistaken or wrong policies practiced by the Americans."

On Sunday, Iraqi police announced the arrest of eight Sunni Arabs charged with plotting to kill the investigating judge who prepared the indictment that led to Saddam's trial. Col. Anwar Qadir said the men were caught Saturday in the northern city of Kirkuk carrying written instructions from a former top Saddam deputy ordering them to kill judge Raed Juh.

Military operations by Interior Ministry commandos against insurgents have led to widespread claims of abuse from the Sunni community which forms the backbone of the insurgency, Sunni politicians say. The ministry rounds up hundreds of innocent civilians to search for a handful of rebels.

Interior Minister Bayan Jabr said Iraqi authorities had postponed a major military operation against insurgents until after next month's elections following a request from the head of the Arab League.

Jabr did not elaborate, but the league has been seeking to reduce tensions between Iraq's Shites and Sunnis and recently sponsored a conference in Cairo, Egypt, attended by representatives of the country's major factions.

Before dawn Sunday, about 350 Iraqi soldiers in 50 vehicles carried out an operation in a Sunni Arab area south of Baquba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad. A similar operation two weeks ago brought strong protests from Sunni leaders.

Iraqi army Maj. Karim Al-Zihayri said 15 people were arrested on suspicion of planting roadside bombs, attacking checkpoints, kidnapping and stealing.

U.S. and Iraqi officials have warned of an increase in insurgent attacks ahead of the elections, in which voters will choose the first fully constitutional parliament since Saddam's regime was ousted in April 2003.

American authorities hope for a big Sunni Arab turnout, which could produce a government that would win the trust of the Sunnis and lure them away from the insurgency.

President Jalal Talabani said Sunday that some insurgent groups had contacted his office about his call for talks, although he refused to identify them.

"We are receiving calls from groups who claim to be from the resistance and they are expressing their support for meeting with the government," Talabani told reporters. "We want to convince every sincere Iraqi who is carrying arms to come and participate in the political process."

Two die in bus crash

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — A Greyhound bus ran off a freeway, overturned and slid at least 100 yards on its side before hitting a tree Sunday, killing a pregnant woman and a man who were aboard, authorities said.

Authorities said driver fatigue may have contributed to the crash.

The previous night, the driver had traveled from Fresno to Los Angeles, then left Los Angeles shortly after 3 a.m. Sunday.

He had been on the road for about four hours when the bus overturned.

Dozens of passengers among the 44 people aboard the San Francisco-bound bus were hurt, at least seven of them with major injuries.

Four survivors were trapped in the wreckage and had to be rescued with hydraulic equipment, while some of the most seriously injured were airlifted to hospitals, authorities said.

Faro Jahanji, 50, of San Francisco, and Martha Contreras, a 23-year-old Santa Maria resident who was seven months pregnant, were killed, said Lt. Dan Minor of the California Highway Patrol.

Seven other people suffered major injuries, four had moderate injuries, four had minor injuries and 31 had minor injuries after the bus went down an embankment along Highway 101 in Santa Maria shortly after 7 a.m., said Santa Barbara County Fire Capt. Keith Cullom.

Minor said a preliminary investigation gave no indication of mechanical problems, and the bus driver didn't appear to have been impaired by alcohol or drugs.

Both men had reason to believe that driver fatigue may have been a significant factor, Minor said.

The bus drifted off the freeway about three miles from its intended off-ramp and came to rest on its right side a few feet down an embankment after striking a eucalyptus tree.

Both northbound lanes of Highway 101, one of the state's major corridors, were shut down after the accident and remained closed mid-afternoon as the California Highway Patrol investigated.

The closure caused a backup that stretched for two miles of traffic.

Three buses were split off Santa Maria to pick up passengers able to continue the trip, said Kim Plasket, a spokeswoman for the Dallas-based bus line.

Broken gondola at Alberta resort leaves 65 stranded

LAKE LOUISE, Alberta (AP) — A ski gondola at a Canadian resort malfunctioned Sunday, trapping about 65 people on board as darkness fell.

One of the safety switches on the Grizzly Express gondola tripped late Sunday afternoon, leaving the skiers stranded above the resort, said operations manager Rick Werner.

Werner compared the malfunction to a flat tire and said officials were attempting to fix it.

There was no immediate word on injuries.

Eight teams of ski patrolers were working to evacuate the trapped passengers, which included children.

Vehicle accident injures two congressmen in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A military vehicle carrying three congressmen overturned on Sunday in the Baghdad suburb, injuring two of them, the U.S. Embassy said Sunday.

Rep. Tim Murphy, R-Pa., was airlifted to a military hospital in Germany for an MRI on his neck and leg, said Rep. J. D. Mo., who was sent to a Baghdad hospital for evaluation, said Rep. Jim Marshall, D-Ga., who was also in the vehicle but was not hurt when it overturned Sunday.

"I was supposed to come to the hospital to talk to the wounded. I didn't think I'd be among them," Murphy told Pittsburgh's KDKA-TV by phone from Germany. He said he expected to be home Monday.

Skelton's spokeswoman Lara Battles said she believed Skelton was doing well but declined to comment further.

The politicians were riding in a convoy that was driving in the middle of the road, a common practice used by the military in Iraq to deter oncoming motorists.

Shortly after dark, an oncoming tanker truck refused to yield, the embassy said.

"Then all of a sudden, brakes got slammed on. Then we hit something and go off the side of the road and up over," Marshall told *The Macon (Ga.)*

Telegraph by phone from Baghdad.

Marshall said that as the vehicle toppled over, he heard onto Skelton, who has limited use of his arms due to childhood polio. The embassy said the driver's quick reaction "probably averted disaster."

The delegation had traveled to Afghanistan for Thanksgiving with the troops and then on to Baghdad to meet with troops there.

Shoppers crowd stores but spend only modestly

NEW YORK (AP) — The 2005 holiday shopping season got off to only a modest start as consumers responded initially to aggressive discounting and the sale of the Baghdad suburb, injuring two of them, the U.S. Embassy said Sunday.

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Blizzards, accidents slow travel after Thanksgiving

DENVER (AP) — The trip home after Thanksgiving was slow going for many travelers Sunday as blizzard conditions wreaked havoc from Colorado to the Midwest.

In California, a Greyhound bus headed from Los Angeles to San Francisco overturned, killing two people, injuring dozens and backing up traffic on California's Highway 101 near Santa Maria for most of the morning.

Authorities suspect driver fatigue contributed to crash — the bus had departed shortly after 3 a.m. and the driver had been on the road the night before.

The major airports reported few delays outside the central part of the country, where a storm system brought blowing snow and thunderstorms.

Rain delayed flights out of Chicago's O'Hare International Airport to an hour and a half Sunday morning, but improved to about 30 minute delays by afternoon, Chicago Department of Aviation spokeswoman Wendy Abrams said. Some

210,000 passengers were expected to pass through its concourses Sunday.

The biggest trouble spot for travelers stretched from Colorado through Kansas, Nebraska and the Dakotas where blizzard conditions and freezing rain sent cars spinning off roads and forced a shutdown of several highways, including a large stretch of east-bound Interstate 70, the major east-west corridor, from Denver to the Kansas line.

Freezing rain turned roads to ice rinks for miles around Fargo, N.D.

"It is bumper to bumper," North Dakota Transportation Department district supervisor Bruce Nord said. "There's slush on the road. It's just unbelievable, the traffic. When one goes in the ditch, it takes three or four people along."

In Colorado, Denver International Airport appeared to have missed the worst of the storm, but the east strong winds were creating without conditions.

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SCHOOL NEWS

Drug trends on campus

National statistics reflect T.F. student concerns

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In a forum with *The Times-News* last month, student leaders at Twin Falls High School expressed concern about drug use among the high school's students, and some claimed that drug use is becoming more prevalent.

A new national report reflected those concerns. It found drug use unchanged overall, but that drugs are more available to female and Hispanic students than others.

There is limited information regarding drug and alcohol use among the local community's students. In addition, Twin Falls teachers and administrators said they do not see the drug and alcohol use as any more of a problem than it is throughout other districts in Idaho.

The State Board of Education doesn't report on drug and alcohol use on school campuses. It

is also difficult for law enforcement agencies to compile and release information because most offenders are minors, and it's difficult to determine if incidents involving drugs or drinking being or ended on school property.

The most authoritative findings on drug and alcohol activity in schools seem to have been recently released by the National Center for Education Statistics and the Bureau of Justice Statistics. Both agencies — under the direction of the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice — created an annual report on school crime and safety.

The national report findings: While drug use among students in grades 9 to 12 is unchanged, there is a frightening statistic showing an increase in the availability of drugs to female students on school campuses. However, there was a decline in the number of male students

More information

"In 2003, 29 percent of students in grades 9-12 reported that drugs were made available to them on school property."
"Hispanic students were more likely than Asian, Black, and White students to report that drugs were made available to them."

Source: Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2005.

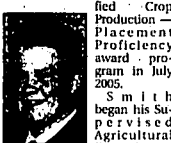
To view an online version of the report, visit:
<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/data/ipedsreports/2005/>

who reported being offered drugs on a school campus.

From 2001 to 2003, reports of male students being offered drugs on campus declined 2 percent, but offers to female students increased by 3 percent.

The study did not distinguish between

Burley FFA members named national finalists
BURLLEY — Chad Smith of the Burley Future Farmers of America Chapter was named a national finalist in the Diversified Crop Production — Placement Proficiency award program in July 2005.



Chad Smith

Smith began his Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) working at Double C Farms, growing potatoes, alfalfa, barley and wheat. Smith is a graduate of Burley High School and plans to attend Utah State University to study agri-science and agrigusiness. He is the son of Dave and Jean Smith.

Ryan Keith Tokuchi Hondo, also of the Burley FFA Chapter, was named a national finalist in the Vegetable Production — Entrepreneurship/Placement Proficiency award program in July 2005.

For his Supervised Agricultural Experience, he helped raise sugar beets, wheat, beans and potatoes, and was also involved in securing contracts, purchasing and marketing the crops. Hondo is a senior at Burley High School and plans to pursue a degree in agrigusiness. He is the son of Gaylen and Carolyn Hondo.

Their advisers are Lex Godfrey and Sam Candie.

Association releases

drama tourney schedule

TWIN FALLS — The 2005 State Drama Tournament will be held Friday and Saturday at Twin Falls High School, 1615 Filer Ave. E.

Students can be dropped off behind the school in the faculty parking lot for immediate access to the cafeteria where all students will gather. Twin Falls students will be available to assist drivers and schools. Props will be unloaded into the cafeteria. All design entries will be directed to the Honor Auditorium from that point.

On Friday, parking is limited before school dismissal at 3. After unloading, students and props, busses should park in the faculty parking lot. Once Twin Falls students leave school, busses can park in the student parking lot if they prefer.

Food will be available immediately outside the cafeteria for purchase by students on Friday (dinner and snacks) and Saturday (breakfast, lunch and afternoon snacks).

Hagerman Elementary auctions gift baskets

HAGERMAN — Hagerman Elementary School is putting together theme gift baskets for an end-of-the-year party for all elementary students.

Gift baskets will be displayed in the multipurpose room at the school, 324 Second Ave. N., and at the all-school Christmas concert on Dec. 14. Winners will be able to pick them up on Dec. 15 at the school.

Themes include Christmas, kitchen, Dutch oven, coffee lover's, sportsman's and more.

For more information, call the school at 837-7777.

Wendell educator

receives national award

WENDELL — Rob Sauer, principal of Wendell Elementary School, received the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award.

On Oct. 25, Idaho School Superintendent Marilyn Howard presented Sauer with the award, which comes with \$25,000.

The purpose of the award is to celebrate and reward outstanding educators for their achievements in education, according to the Wendell School District.

Sauer will participate in a special conference in Washington, D.C. in May.

SCHOOL NEWS

Murtaugh schools will hold conferences

MURTAUGH — Murtaugh High and Middle schools are holding parent/teacher conferences from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday at 500 Boyd W.

For more information, call 432-5451.

School welcomes public to Christmas celebration

JEROME — Canyonside Christian School, 60 E. 100 S. is having a "Christmas at Canyonside" celebration, featuring a silent Christmas tree auction, wreath, centerpiece and baked goods sale.

Chili and cinnamon rolls will be sold at the event.

For more information, call 324-3444.

Prospective BSU students invited to program

RUPERT — Students in the Magic Valley who are considering applying to Boise State University for the fall 2006 semester are

invited to a free informational program to "Preview the New U. at Boise State."

The program will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at the Old Minidoka Drug Store as part of Boise State Day in Rupert.

The program is designed to help students and parents through the college admission process and will include an introductory welcome from Boise State President Bob Kustra.

A variety of representatives from Boise State offices will be on hand to provide information for students and their parents on admissions, scholarships and financial aid, orientation and academic advising and campus housing.

Representatives will be able to answer questions in both English and Spanish.

The deadline to apply for scholarships at Boise State is Feb. 15, 2006.

For more information on Boise State or the preview program, call Boise State's New Student Information Center at 1-800-824-7017, ext. 4, or e-mail bstinfo@boisestate.edu.

Pin your lips on the donkey



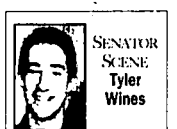
Senior class vice president Elisha Scheer kisses a donkey after she collected the most money in a fundraiser for food for the needy.

Students collect money to help others

Gooding High School senior class vice president Elisha Scheer was the highest money winner and the lucky person to kiss a donkey as part of a fundraiser for the needy during the holidays.

A member of each class, along with some staff members, was selected to participate in the fundraiser, jars with each person's name were in the school office, where students and community residents could drop in their change.

Scheer found herself in last place the day before, but the coins flooded in the Wednesday morning before the competition was over. Her overall total outnumbered runner-up Josh LaCoux by 1,500 points (\$150).



SENATOR SCENE
Tyler Wines

As the winner was announced, Scheer was astonished and had no idea that her jar had been stuffed full just a few hours prior. Other people in the running were Principal Yakovac, Mrs. Lastman, Tyler Wines and Megan Pierson.

However, there was not the only person pucker-up on Wednesday. Last-place finisher, Time Wines, had the privilege of kissing a bass

fish for her efforts of raising the least amount of money. The fundraiser was considered a success.

The student council sends thanks for all the generous donations going towards turkeys.

Many students find themselves very busy this time of year. Diana is rehearsing his version of "Laming of the Shire." Student Council members are in the progress of planning Christmas activities that will be taking place during Christmas week.

School will be dismissed Dec. 23 for Christmas break.

Tyler Wines is the Gooding High School student body secretary.

CITIZENS OF THE WEEK



Citizens of the Week at Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert for the week of Oct. 29 were, from left: Jessica Cantu, Ivy Gibbons, Joel Garza and Julian Diaz; center: Melissa Ruiz, Isela Juarez, Dominik McGuire and Austin Carrillo; back: Brylie Mendoza, Pattijant Guzman, Eduardo Magana, Jesse Williams and Alex Olmos.



Citizens of the Week at Big Valley Elementary School in Rupert were, from left, front: Mariela Polanco, Kenya Aguilar and Tameeka Shockey; second row: Skyler Merrill; third row: Lorena Vasquez, Yadir Estrada, Neke Bathke, Austin Olmsted, Baltazar Alvarez and Tim Cook; fourth row: Deil Ruiz, Cody Vogt, Kayla Stanevics, Falcia Martindale, Tanner Gregory and Josh Taiton.

Cassia School District gives awards to employees to recognize their service

BURLEY — Cassia School District's 14th annual Back-to-District Assembly for all employees included the distribution of special awards.

Honored for 10 years of continuous service were Cheryl Murphy, teacher; Kathleen Morgan, teacher; Kimbrih Ballance, teacher; Alyssa Alves, teacher; Steve Copmann, Burley Junior High School principal; David Cole, media specialist; Lisa Cole, speech pathologist; Robyn Fehlman, teacher; Diann Larsen, teacher assistant; Candace Schreck, Arnold Hirsch, bus driver; Rita Moses, teacher assistant; Cheryl Kayle, teacher; Senaida Garcia, teacher assistant; Terri Harris, teacher; Janarae Christensen, chorus director; Kathy Bennett, teacher; Marsha Meisner, teacher; Karen Kayle, bus driver; Jennifer Whitaker, secretary; Pat Asher, custodian; Charlene Bartomeo, cook; Mary Benefield, teacher assistant; Terri

Knoopp, cook; Marilyn Lightfoot, cook; Randy Okelberry, custodian; Lou Larkin, bus driver; Pamela Whitte, cook; Kimberly Johnson, teacher. They received canvas satchels imprinted with the district logo.

Receiving 20-year Service Awards were Tim Campbell, teacher; Kayelle Bywater, teacher; Sharon Veneman, bus driver; George Jensen, teacher; Kim Hurst, custodian; David Badger, media specialist; Kathy Eklund, payroll clerk; Susan Lloyd, teacher; Cindy Jones, teacher; Dorothy Whitehead; Jan Hartwell, teacher; Barbara Puthoff, teacher; Becky Gunn, High School principal; and Dorothy Whitehead, teacher. They had their choice of engraved clocks or digital watches. Lapel pins with a diamond in the center of the district logo

were given to the 25-year honorees: Steve Floyd, band instructor; Lawson Boyd, teacher assistant; Jan Hamby, White Pine head custodian; Holly Mai, Early Childhood Progressions instructor; Ann Martin, media specialist and teacher; Cynthia Nelson, teacher assistant; and Daniel McKarty, Special Services service coordinator and Ruth Ann Freeman, teacher assistant.

Honored for 30 years of service were Annie Chambers, counselor; Joyce Merrill, teacher and Jolene Teeter, a bus driver; and Sherry Sellers, cook. They received engraved watches.

Honored for 35 years of continuous service was Earl Craythorn, a physical education teacher, who received a silver tray.

The awards portion of the program was arranged by Helen Gochmour, Kathy Payton and Kathy Eklund from the central office.

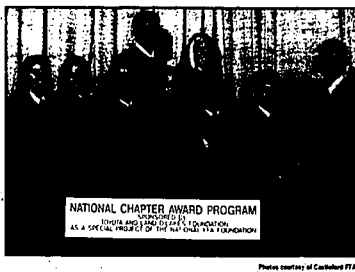
THE GIFT OF LEARNING



Kiwanis of Twin Falls club president Revis Turner presents *The Times-News* in Education coordinator, Tiffany Hartgen, with a check for \$500 on behalf of the club. The donation will provide newspapers for students.



Lauren Kline was one of the 49 state winners participating in the National FFA Extremopreneur Public Speaking Career Development Event. She is pictured with FFA adviser Roger Wells, left, and a representative of the American Farm Bureau Federation, which sponsored the event.



Members of the Castleford FFA Chapter who attended the 78th National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., were Brandon Marks, Sam Gunn, Angie Gonterman, Lauren Kline, Carl Kennison, Jessica Hill, Anna Lopez and Calvin Kennison with FFA adviser Roger Wells. Not pictured is Mellissa McCoy.



Dietrich School principal Charlie Fenelon and Mayor Jeannette Knowles perform the ribbon cutting for the new school.

Castleford FFA earns national honors

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Members of the Castleford FFA Chapter attended the recent 78th National FFA Convention in Louisville, Ky., where they were recognized as one of the Star chapters in the National FFA Chapter Award Program.

The award program is a special project of the National FFA Foundation and one of many ways members are encouraged to make a real difference in the lives of students, as well as in

their communities, said chapter reporter, Jessica Bobang.

The program recognizes FFA chapters for conducting a wide variety of activities that focus on student, chapter and community development. Members are encouraged to develop a detailed Program of Activities, which provide citizenship, personal and leadership development opportunities to students by giving them a chance to work with communi-

ty leaders, school organizations and other groups.

Members Carl Kennison and Jessica Hill also received their American Degrees while attending the convention.

Lauren Kline was one of the 49 state winners participating in the National FFA Extremopreneur Public Speaking Career Development Event. The competition was held during the convention and is designed to recognize outstanding FFA

members for their ability to prepare and present a factual speech on a specific agricultural issue. Members select one topic from a choice of categories, prepare a four-to-six-minute speech in 30 minutes and respond to five minutes of questioning.

The event is one of 23 different national events that use the fun of competition to connect classroom learning and careers, according to the organization.

Falling behind

Across Indian country, students' English skills trail peers

FORT HALL (AP) — One of Michele Hernandez's earliest memories from 1960s southern Idaho is calling across the playground to a kindergarten classmate.

Suddenly a teacher pulled her inside the schoolhouse by the arm and washed her mouth out with soap.

"The punishment wasn't for profanity."

It was for speaking Shoshone, her grandmother's language.

"I was living in two worlds," said Hernandez, now a tutor at IT Stoddard Elementary in Blackfoot. "You always had to keep a look out for the other side, depending on who was looking."

Her job today: She helps teach English to American Indian youngsters classified by Idaho as "Limited English Proficient," or LEP.

While students are no longer punished for speaking their native tongues, English in Indian Country remains sensitive, because Native American students continue to trail white peers in language skills, records from several states show.

Under the No Child Left Behind Act, many schools with large Indian populations could eventually be forced to take radical steps to help the achievers, but it doesn't narrow, including transporting students to higher-performing schools or painful re-organizations.

It certainly has directed attention to the problem, which has existed for a long, long time," said Jon Reyhner, a professor at Northern Arizona University and an Indian literacy expert. "Indian kids come in to school behind, in terms of vocabulary."

According to a 2005 Mississippi State University report, rural American In-



Michele Hernandez, left, a tutor at IT Stoddard Elementary School in Blackfoot, takes a moment out of her lunch duties to assist Austin Tracy, 11, with his homework. Hernandez helps teach English to American Indian youngsters classified by Idaho as 'Limited English Proficient,' or LEP.

dian and Alaska Native children were the least likely of major ethnic sub-groups in rural America to be proficient at letter recognition upon kindergarten entry.

State education records from Idaho, Montana and nearby North Dakota show Native American children trail virtually every other category of students in meeting No Child Left Behind targets.

Children raised in Indian country may also learn a different dialect of English, one that includes native words. Chris Loether, an anthropology professor at Idaho State University in Pocatello, said many Fort Hall-area residents speak what they call "bed English."

"They've got this dialect, which to them is an identity

marker," Loether said. "And it gets stronger as they get older."

There were 592 Indian children in Idaho's \$8 million LEP program last year. Public schools in Indian communities, including Fort Hall Elementary and IT Stoddard, are already facing No Child Left Behind sanctions, according to Idaho Department of Education records.

Deep poverty is a major reason that Indian children struggle with their English skills, experts say.

At Fort Hall, for instance, reservation unemployment is at 37 percent — more than seven times the state average. Montana reservation unemployment averages as much as 70 percent, according to state officials.

"You look at what's available in the home: computers, reading materials, storybooks," said Harold Ott, superintendent of the Lapwai School District, located near the Nez Perce Indian Reservation in north-central Idaho. "For families in poverty, there are fewer of those kinds of opportunities available."

In Fort Hall, Michele Hernandez knows the consequences if such a system is missing. Today, she cannot speak Shoshone, the language she was once punished for using on the playground.

"Growing up in the 1960s, everybody was supposed to be transformed into being white," Hernandez said. "We had to everything they did, and our language was not the thing that was supposed to be spoken in the school."

improving the quality of children's diets. Kids offered a myriad of light and tasty foods may find it more difficult to make less nutritious choices, which still exist.

What does this mean for our kids? Students exposed to a variety of healthful foods develop better eating habits at a young age. As many of us know from experience, food habits are not easy to change. Maybe if we help our kids learn to eat well from the beginning, we can stop this spiral of poor food choices that lead to long-term health problems. Somehow, I don't think they'll miss that lump of spaghetti.

School lunch has evolved, shows 'sophistication'

Knight Rider News Service

Kari Leach is a dietetic intern completing a project within California's Carmel Unified School District. This is her report on the changing face of school lunches:

When I picture school lunch in my mind, I see portioned plastic trays on a long serving line, being scooped with spaghetti that tended to stay in a big round solid lump. Needless to say, this noontime meal was never a very appealing option to me. More often than not, I took a packed lunch from home because soggy Tater-Tots and a heap of macaroni and cheese didn't compare to the fresh turkey sandwich and carrot sticks my mom put together.

Through my experience as a dietetic intern, however, I have

found school lunches have taken a turn for the better. They have become more "sophisticated," thanks in part to some new laws passed by the government. Some of this transformation I have seen firsthand — macaroni and cheese replaced by fresh salads, sandwiches and veggie burgers.

Why the big change? Obesity is a growing (forgive the pun) crisis in this country, especially in our children. And school lunch programs are now targeted as a place to help change our children's eating habits. Public schools in California, for example, can now only serve items that are less than 35 percent of calories from fat and less than 35 percent sugar by weight. Salad bars, soup, turkey burgers and even tabouleh are showing up on menus. Sodas are vanishing from campuses

and being replaced by water, sports drinks and 100 percent juice.

Remember when school lunch was one choice and one choice only? Schools now offer a variety of foods, especially in secondary grades. The menu for just one day at a school I recently visited included shaker salads, yogurt parfaits, grilled teriyaki burgers and even sushi!

These types of foods pack a powerful nutritional punch and are considered quite in vogue in today's younger crowd. I graduated from high school a mere five years ago, and let me tell you, I would have eaten school lunch every day if I had such options.

Not only is this far more healthful, schools hope it will improve participation in school lunch programs and encourage even more progress toward im-

proving the quality of children's diets. Kids offered a myriad of light and tasty foods may find it more difficult to make less nutritious choices, which still exist.

What does this mean for our kids? Students exposed to a variety of healthful foods develop better eating habits at a young age. As many of us know from experience, food habits are not easy to change. Maybe if we help our kids learn to eat well from the beginning, we can stop this spiral of poor food choices that lead to long-term health problems. Somehow, I don't think they'll miss that lump of spaghetti.

Barbara Quinn is a registered dietitian at the Community Hospital of the Montney Peninsula. Direct questions to her or Kari Leach at bquinn@chomp.org.

Officials cut ribbon on Dietrich school

DIETRICH — After months of anticipation, hard work, sweat and tears, the new Dietrich School is now finished and occupied, reported school representatives.

It began as the dream of a joint school patron/administration/board committee, then moving into the hours of donated labor from area residents and school staff, to the days of students and staff pitching in to

move classrooms and supplies to their new home, school representatives reported. Then, the long task culminated at the ribbon cutting ceremony on Nov. 4.

Dietrich School principal Charlie Fenelon thanked the 70-plus community members who attended the ceremony and Dietrich Mayor Jeannette Knowles performed the ribbon cutting for the new school.

TFHS drama students place in regional festival

Everyone is back from the Thanksgiving weekend full of turkey and ready to start up on more school work.


The month of December brings a lot of fundraisers and food drives, but we are ready to do them on.

Congratulations to the drama department, which took second place overall at the recent District IV Regional Drama Festival. Eighteen students advanced and will compete at the State Drama Competition to be held at Twin Falls High School on Friday and Saturday.

Kudos to Jesse Mahler and Hannah Spafford, first place in scene design; Jennifer Lewis and Matt Hanchey, first in ensemble humorous; and Alicia Duran's first in solo monologue. Students also placed in categories such as ensemble serious, original serious, costume design, makeup and solo audition.

All-State Honor Band has been selected. Representing Twin Falls High School 2006 Idaho All-State Honor Band are Carter Savoy, percussion; Elizabeth Ha, flute; Andrea Tomlinson, clarinet; and Christopher Wray, clarinet.

Coming this week: The Ski and Snowboard Club is putting



**BRUN
BUZZ
Deldre
Edmunds**

on a movie night at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Iloper Auditorium. Check out the new Warren Miller movie, "Impact," for a \$3 donation and pick up raffle tickets for \$1.

Student council will host a black tie event Dec. 16. Tickets are \$40 per couple, which includes dinner and a night of dancing. Tickets can be bought from any student council member. More information will be available shortly.

Also, watch for several performances around the community by the Chamber Singers, directed by Joe Casperson, throughout the month, including their performance at the Christmas Concert and the "Messiah" with Mage Valley Choral.

Happy holidays, everyone!

Deldre Edmunds is the Twin Falls High School junior class vice-president.

Trends

Continued from A4

between the types of drugs offered to students on campuses.

During the *Times-News* forum, some Twin Falls High School student leaders said they have suggested students experimenting with more serious drugs — such as cocaine and methamphetamine.

Ken Johnson, a special education instructor at the Snake River Detention Center for youthful offenders, said he is seeing more students being detained because of meth-related incidents.

In general, most everything is because of meth," Johnson said. "It's really bad stuff that ruins these kids' lives and breaks families apart."

Sean Retmier, one of the student leaders at Twin Falls High School, said he noticed that many students think drugs and drinking are part of "high school experimentation." For sophomores, it's like you're going into high school so you have to try it for the experience," Retmier said during the forum. "It seems like it's putting

pressure on you to go out and try these things."

Another area of concern in the national report was the population of Hispanic students who were offered drugs in 2003. According to the report, "Hispanic students were more likely than Asian, Black, and White students to report that drugs were made available to them."

According to a Youth Risk Behavior Survey, which was included in the national report, 37 percent of Hispanic students said that drugs were available to them, compared to 23 percent of Asians and 28 percent of whites.

Although the local student leaders said they felt drug use appeared to be more prominent among younger high school students, the national study found that it was just the opposite. According to the national report, 26 percent of seniors reported using marijuana during the previous 30 days, while 22 percent of sophomores reported using it within the last 30 days.

We want your school news

Please send your news and photos to:

<p>Community Editor Pat Marzanti The Times-News P.O. Box 560 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303 1330999, Ext. 288 Deadline: Thursday noon</p>	<p>Your Mail-Contact contact: Pat Marzanti The Times-News 230 E. Main Box 560, Twin Falls, ID 83318 677-4042, Ext. 600</p>
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Fax: 677-4543 or 734-5538 Email: patm@magvalley.com

COMICS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



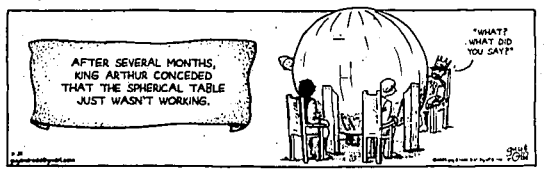
Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Doonesbury

By Gary Trudeau



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Trzise



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Laird

By Greg Evans



Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



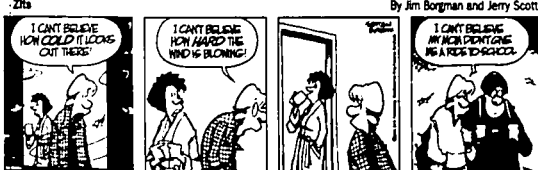
Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zhs

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Non Sequatur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Things will work out, Taurus

IF NOV. 28 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: A recent stroke of luck, or stroke of genius, may set your life spinning in a new and improved direction. The goose that laid the golden egg may turn up in your back yard in late January when the granting of favors and good luck is likely in February. Circumstances might create a series of minor emergencies that interrupt your routine. Children or friends may do the unexpected, so remain fluid about entertainment plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Strike a pose. Creating circumstances may bring a change of outlook in career or home. If you stick to your guns and refuse to jump to conclusions, things will work out to your advantage.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): A few cannons might be loose. Others are prone to acting inde-

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

pendently and may upset an applicant or two. Hold off on crucial decisions or signing contracts if you attempt to put plans into motion under these exciting stars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Let sleeping dogs lie. Surprises or temporary agitations can cause tensions with others. Disruptions may plague new endeavors if you attempt to put plans into motion under these exciting stars.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Sweeping changes may take center stage. People may do and say things without asking your advice or giving notice of their intentions. Cultivate a sense of humor to adapt to shifting conditions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Free" is also a four-letter word. Appreciate small acts of independence by others and consider them a healthy sign.

Don't get your feathers in a huff if someone prefers to go it alone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Some things aren't etched in stone. Keep an observant eye on alterations outside your control that you may turn to your advantage in the future. Hold off on new business starts or contracts.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A change of opinions might start you in a quandary. Defer major undertakings until small temporary disruptions settle down. You may get your fair share of publicity today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Revolutionary reversals of opinion could cause you a moment's concern. Hold off on new starts until a temporary state of flux subsides. Affectionate ties might founder early today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Good judgment may be sacrificed to expediency. Try not to start anything of importance. Don't make a major move simply for the sake of breaking up the monotony or for excitement.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Earn someone's high opinion. Flying your "frank lug" might not go over well with the guys in charge. It isn't necessary to be different to stand out in a crowd or to receive recognition.

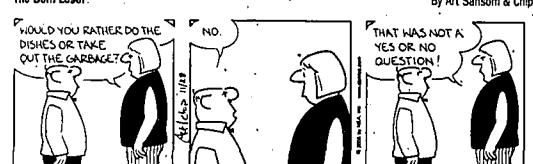
Beetle Bailey



Blonde



The Born Loser



Garfield



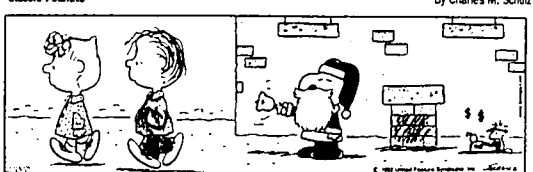
Hagar the Horrible



Hi and Lois



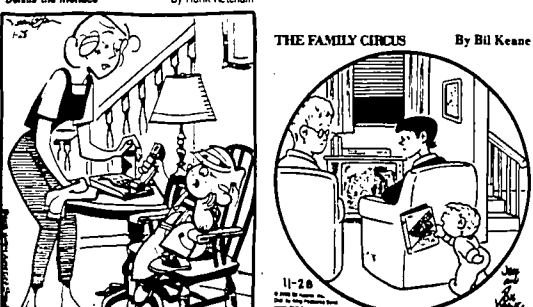
Classic Peanuts



The Wizard of Id



Dennis the Menace



Holiday gift suggestions emphasize the practical

DEAR READERS: The bells are ringing and the air is brisk with winter chill. If you haven't already started, it's time to compile those Christmas lists once again. Every year readers ask me to suggest thoughtful gifts for seniors — especially those living on fixed incomes.

First, a gentle warning: Do not send cologne, aftershave or scented bath powder, unless you're sure it's welcome. Scents are highly personal; not every perfume works on every person.

Never give a pet to anyone unless you have made absolutely certain the person wants one and can properly care for it.

Unless you're sure they imbibe, refrain from giving alcoholic beverages to people. Also, while candy, nuts and holiday confections make beautiful gifts for those who are eating calories, they show compassion for those who must, and lead them not into temptation.

Many folks on fixed incomes would welcome a gift basket of goodies. Include small cans of tuna, chicken or stew; assorted flavored instant coffee and herbal teas; soup mixes, crack-corn, dried fruit and hot breakfast cereal. Or fill their freezer with frozen homemade meals that can be microwaved in minutes.

Gift certificates are a godsend. Give gift certificates for groceries, haircuts, manicures, massages, dry cleaning, restaurant meals, video rentals and department stores. Tickets make great gifts — to movies, concerts, the opera, a play (could be at a local community theater) and sporting events.

Homemade coupons for "Honey-dos" (Honey, do this — and Honey, do that) make thoughtful presents. Create some that are redeemable for chores such as window washing, painting, gardening, washing, waxing and car detailing; replacing light bulbs; cleaning ceiling fans, changing air-conditioning filters; moving heavy furniture for spring and fall cleaning, and transportation for shopping or doctor's visits, etc.

Because not all seniors drive, bus passes and coupons for senior transportation or taxis can come in handy.

Prepayment of utilities for a month or two can be sent directly to the utility company. Then inform the recipients they'll have "extra" money to spend as they wish. We all know



DEAR
ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

Gifts are notoriously expensive. A gift certificate to the neighborhood pharmacy would be greatly appreciated.

For pet owners, remember their furry, four-legged family member with a treat — a can of dog cat food or a rawhide chew stick or catnip toy. (They'll lap it up!)

A subscription to a magazine or newspaper you know the person will enjoy is a gift that comes in giving. Large-print calendars with family birthdays, anniversaries, etc., marked and personalized with family photographs are welcome, as are large-print address books with information transferred from the recipient's records.

Give a small radio or remote-controlled television, if finances permit. A cordless phone or answering machine makes for practical gifts as well. Other suggestions: a cuddly robe, slippers or socks with non-skid soles, sweatpants and sweatshirts, and stationery (be sure to include felt-tipped pens and lots of stamps).

And remember, the holidays can be a depressing time for people who are alone. If someone you know could use an outing, give that person the most meaningful gift of all — an invitation to have a meal with you and your family. The greatest gift you can give is a gift of yourself.

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Currently, 50,000 centenarians live in the U.S.

There are 50,000 centenarians currently living in the United States. If trends continue, there will be 800,000 people 100 years or older by the year 2050.

This day in history: On Nov. 28, 1895, 80 drivers competed for a 20-mile rally from Chicago to Waukegan, Ill. Unfortunately it was snowing, so only six cars started and two finished. Winner James Duryea finished in 2 1/2 hours, averaging a breathtaking speed of 7.5 mph.

Ever hear of the Ford Nucleon? That is a ruff, ramsauce, rator, ruff, ramsauce, rator. That's a ruff, ramsauce, rator, ruff, ramsauce, rator. And that's a ruff, ramsauce, rator, ruff, ramsauce, rator. And that's a ruff, ramsauce, rator, ruff, ramsauce, rator. And that's a ruff, ramsauce, rator, ruff, ramsauce, rator.

Robert Todd Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's son, was lauded by presidential assassinations. Not only was he present when his father died, but he was also standing nearby when James Garfield was assassinated at a train station in 1881 and when



RANXO
KINXOF
ENGINEX
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

A "reducer" is someone who steals clothes, alters them and then resells them.

You're probably waiting for a roundup of the autumn holidays. Well, the figures are in: The United States candy industry made \$3.9 billion pounds of candy corn this year, and the meat industry killed 256 million turkeys.

Robert Todd Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's son, was lauded by presidential assassinations. Not only was he present when his father died, but he was also standing nearby when James Garfield was assassinated at a train station in 1881 and when

William McKinley was shot at the Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, N.Y., in 1901.

In ancient Rome, beauticians used a tonic made of boiled snake oil to cure baldness. When that didn't work, they simply painted curls directly onto the head.

Everyone knows the chorus to "Take Me Out to the Ball Game," but nearly nobody remembers the young baseball fan featured in the verses. Katie Casey was her name.

Norwegians are proud of Johan Vaaler as the inventor of the paperclip in 1901, so we have it on our list. However, two years earlier, an English inventor named William Middlebrook had already patented a machine that makes the wire paperclips we use today.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmings@mingo-barrett.com.

Harry's 'Goblet' gobbles \$54.9M to lead Thanksgiving weekend box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A boy wizard and a country-music legend outclassed a flurry of box-office newcomers over Thanksgiving.

"Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" took in \$54.9 million over the three-day weekend to remain the top movie, while the Johnny Cash film biography "Walk the Line" stayed in second place with \$19.7 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

For the whole five-day Thanksgiving period, "Goblet of Fire" grossed \$81.3 million to lift its 10-day total to \$201.1 million, while "Walk the Line" took in \$27.6 million, raising its 10-day total to \$54.4 million.

The two films paced Hollywood to a healthy holiday weekend. It estimates how when final numbers are released Monday, it would be the second-highest gross ever for the five-day Thanksgiving period at \$218.3 million, beating last year's haul by 3 percent but finishing behind 2000's record \$232.1 million.

That was a boost for the slumping movie business, which has had attendance running 8 percent behind last years.

"You've got to look at 'Harry Potter' as being the savior of the box office right now," said Paul Derynstein, a president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations. "Who would have thought in a year we were having this down box office that would have the second-biggest Thanksgiving ever?"

Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo's family flick "Yours, Mine & Ours" overcame bad reviews to lead the new movies.

finishing third with \$17.5 million.

The movie's five-day total since opening Wednesday was \$24.5 million.

The animated tale "Chicken Little" held up strongly at No. 4 with \$12.4 million, lifting its four-week total to \$118.2 million.

"Rent," featuring Taye Diggs and Rosario Dawson in an adaptation of the Broadway musical sensation, debuted in fifth with a three-day total of \$10.7 million and \$18.1 million since opening Wednesday.

Premiering at No. 6 was Ryan Reynolds' romantic comedy "Just Friends" with \$9.3 million from Friday to Sunday and \$13.6 million since Wednesday.

R&B singer Usher's first starring role with the mob romance "In the Mix" opened at No. 9 with \$4.5 million for the weekend and \$6.2 million since Wednesday.

John Cusack and Billy Bob Thornton's crime caper "The Ice Harvest" debuted at No. 10 with \$3.7 million Friday to Sunday and \$5.1 million since Wednesday.

Top 10 movies

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures will be released Monday.

- 1. "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire," \$54.9 million.
- 2. "Walk the Line," \$19.7 million.
- 3. "Yours, Mine & Ours," \$17.5 million.
- 4. "Chicken Little," \$11.8 million.
- 5. "Rent," \$10.7 million.
- 6. "Just Friends," \$9.3 million.
- 7. "Prize & Prejudice," \$7 million.
- 8. "DeLille," \$4.7 million.
- 9. "The Mix," \$4.5 million.
- 10. "The Ice Harvest," \$3.7 million.

franchise to carry that tag, after PG ratings for the first three — might hurt the film by scaring off younger fans.

"We've learned the audience has grown older with the movies, so the PG-13 rating just played into the core of the audience," said Dan Pellman, head of distribution for Warner Bros., which releases the "Harry Potter" films.

Warner Bros. also had terrific results for its limited-release debut of "Syriana," whose energetic cast includes George Clooney and Matt Damon in a thriller centered on the oil industry.

The film took in a whopping \$372,147 in five theaters over the weekend and \$553,372 since Wednesday. "Syriana" goes into nationwide release Dec. 3.

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OTHER VIEWS

Give Falwell some coal for a Christmas crusade

The Lewiston Morning Tribune

And suddenly there was with the gift a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 'Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace, good will among men.'

— Luke 2:13-14

If you disagree with us, of course, you can forget all that peace and goodwill blather. We'll sue you butt. That's the yuletide message from the pulpit of the Rev. Jerry Falwell. He plans to honor the spirit of Christmas by suing anyone who dares celebrate the season without Jesus.

Their view: This guest editorial from the Lewiston Morning Tribune says Christmas defenders need not fret about losing religion. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Target stores this weekend. They claim Target executives banned the use of "Merry Christmas" in their stores. Store executives just scratch their heads. "I don't know where they're coming from," Target spokeswoman Carolyn Brooks replied. "We have no such policy on Christmas. You can see it in our stores." Fundamentalist Christians love to feel persecuted. Even as Christmas as the overwhelming majority of Western civilization joins in celebrating the birth of Christ they still feel picked on just because there isn't a nativity scene on every street corner.

Few people outside their paranoid imaginations are trying to take Christ out of Christmas. A group of fundamentalist Christians protested outside the New York office of the American Civil Liberties Union Dec. 8, 2004. They planned to sing Christmas carols in defiance of the ACLU and other perceived enemies. They arrived to find ACLU staffers waiting outside with cookies, coffee and soda. ACLU staffers joined in singing the carols. Now that reflects the Christmas spirit a lot more than separating your fellow human beings into friends and foes. Someone is twisting the true meaning of Christmas. And it's not secularists and civil libertarians.

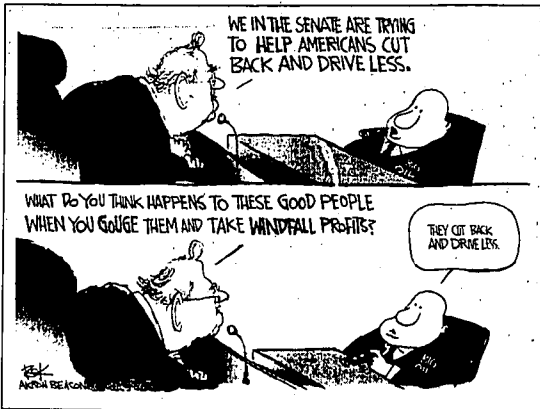
Who says gas should be cheap?

I don't mind all the whining about gas prices. That's what you're supposed to do at the end of an empire. These lions aren't crunching Christian bones loudly enough? "This city is full of fat Spartans!" My Escalade costs too much to drive to go hiking.

JOEL STEIN

The Senate, in a pathetic attempt to get attention, recently spent hours grilling oil executives about why their companies' profits are so high and what they were going to do with the money. I think the lawmakers were hoping for "Free Gas for Senators Day."

Gas, like everything else, has its price set by supply and demand. No company charges what it thinks is fair. They charge as much as they can get away with that the way the market works. The reason gas costs so much right now — and frankly, it's substantially less than it was a month ago — is that there isn't how much you can pump out of existing wells every day, and emerging economies such as China's are guzzling the stuff, thus increasing demand.



performance they give up driving altogether. (It really should be presidential.)

Prices fluctuate. That's the deal with this capitalist thing. When gas was selling at \$1 a gallon in the summer of 1999, we didn't demand that the Senate investigate why prices were so low. We were too busy running through gasoline-spraying sprinklers and drinking gasoline wine in a gasoline inn.

Today's gas prices are startlingly high because unlike fuel prices, which are hidden on those tiny misplaced stickers on supermarket shelves, gas stations are the only places we see people stupid enough to build the largest price tags in the world. It's a little disturbing that gas prices are so volatile. It's not like every time you go to the market, the price of juubes

jumps up or down 50 percent. But that probably explains why there aren't billion-dollar conglomerates that drill for juubes. Though, to be honest, I think that would be a wonderful world.

I don't pretend to understand why some things are cheap and others are expensive. DVD players should cost more. House paint should cost less. Salt has been trading at record lows for the last 600 years.

I know the high cost of energy takes an unfair toll on the poor because it's a much bigger percentage of their income. Those people are always getting it worse. They get credit account charges, easy-credit rip-offs, hangin' in a chow line. OK, most of what I know about poor people comes from watching "Good Times."

But the government should be helping them more directly with aid programs and public transportation. It's not going to help to slap the oil industry with some special end-of-the-year tax, as some propose. Or begging the oil companies to donate to poor people's heating bills, as Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley did. Helping people in need is the government's job, not something we should rely on business for.

And those taxes and handouts would result, of course, in higher gas prices to make up for the loss, because Saudi Arabia isn't going to lower prices to ExxonMobil just for Grassley, is it? I bought a car in January after not owning one for 11 years in Manhattan. So I'm as freaked out as everyone else as to how much I'm spending. But the truth is, in a capitalist system, you don't have a right to affordable energy any more than you have a right to affordable Rolex.

Plus, I'm feeling sweet, vengeful for all the mockery I got for buying a Mini Cooper.

Joel Stein is a regular contributor to the Los Angeles Times op-ed page.

The Times-News

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hunt, Chris Steinhack, Steve Crump, Eleanor Berkland, Ramona Jones and David Cooper.

LETTERS

Idaho loses visitors if coal plant comes

Our family enjoys vacationing in the Magic Valley area because of its unique landscape and proximity to beautiful mountains and lakes. Wouldn't it be better for the residents of Magic Valley to focus on bringing in tourists revenue rather than bringing in a coal-fired power plant which will keep tourists away? GRETCHEN WORTHINGTON Honolulu, Hawaii

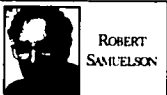
Make sure local crafters make their wares

I enjoyed shopping at the Harvest Time Festival at the College of Southern Idaho. What wonderful local crafters! But I could hardly find anything there seemed to be lots of booths with nothing whatsoever handmade or handcrafted. My friend counted approximately 17. I was pretty surprised; according to what I understood to be criteria for entry, approximately 80 percent of items of every booth had to be handcrafted. Though I support and applaud this fundraising and leading experience of CSI's marketing club, I feel the sales competition between talented artisans and crafters and obvious non-home-made and hometransited items was not right.

several booths and some were absolutely obviously commercially made. Close inspection and warm-hearted discussions with the artisans can clearly help to distinguish the difference. Gourds made into ornaments, turkeys, plaques, bows and custom jewelry are made by a numerous talented artists. A booth with "bear" t-shirts, Christmas-themed cutouts painted in full color, a five-piece 6-foot ladder with Santa ar'ches for outside holiday decoration — absolutely outstanding items I asked about how these items were made, and they are handcrafted and painted in Gooding. I love checking out the bird houses, crocheted towels, dollies and angel ornaments from the Angel Lady of Wendell. That's the always warm and inviting and absolutely reasonably priced, as she says, "I just like to share and I have made so many friends who loyally come back from year to year..." So many talented family booths filled with treasures too varied — numerous to describe but just as precious as can be to view and appreciate! Don't underestimate the buying public they come to the show expecting to buy from talented, local artisans and crafters, so this is no place to promote and sell anything else! I am hoping the Delta Epsilon Chi marketing club of CSI will take notice for next year and enforce the rules for all vendors — 80 percent homemade. A "big spender" fan of the JUDY WEAVER Wendell

GOP needs a reversal on drug plan

Good policy can make for good politics, and bad policy can make for bad politics. Republicans may be about to discover this truth with their Medicare drug benefit, passed by Congress in 2003 and scheduled to take effect in January. As policy, the drug benefit is a nation's major problem (paying baby boomers' retirement costs) while addressing a nonexistent "crisis" (allegedly oppressive drug costs for retirees). Its purpose was mostly political: to bribe the elderly to vote — or, else, to vote for Republicans in 2004. Now it may backfire on Republicans. Sometimes it's hard to give away money without making people angry. They figure you should give them money, or they dislike your terms. Here, Republicans created grief for themselves. They rejected a simple add-on of drug coverage to Medicare. Instead, they preferred a "market-based" system that has private insurance companies offer plans that are, in turn, subsidized by Medicare. Congress set a minimum benefit (including a \$250 deductible and 25 percent premiums on coverage up to \$2,500) and invited insurers to provide that plan or something "actuarially equivalent." The result: many plans — and much confusion.



ROBERT SAMUELSON

Republicans deserve the backlash, because their political move was so blatantly poll-driven. President Bush embraced congressional demands for a big drug benefit from, among other, House Speaker Dennis Hastert. The speaker was pushing for a program that wouldn't just apply to poorer seniors (Bush's original plan), says John Fechny, Hastert's former press secretary. "Medicare has always applied to all seniors. That's the political reality. They are the people who vote." To be fair, Democrats groveled with equal abandon; their drug plans were generally costlier. Whether the Republicans' bribe strategy succeeds is unclear. Among voters 65 and over, Bush beat Kerry in 2004 by 52 percent to 47 percent, a five-percentage-point gain over 2000 but close to his overall victory margin (51 percent to 48 percent). In the House, the Republican majority increased slightly. But the drug plan's features confirm its political nature. First, Republicans declined to pay for it: most costs (literally trillions of dollars) must be covered by borrowing or future tax increases. Second, there's the "doughnut hole" — the standard benefit provides coverage up to \$2,250 of drug costs and then no coverage for the next \$2,850. Of course, this makes no sense as health or social policy. The purpose was political: to provide benefits for lots of people while limiting total costs.

Justification for a broad drug benefit was always flimsy. When Congress passed it, about three-quarters of Medicare recipients already had drug coverage; the poorest had it through Medicaid; many retirees had it from their former employers; some had it through Medicare managed-care or private insurance policies they purchased. For Medicare recipients, all out-of-pocket costs — including drug costs — have remained remarkably stable. In 2001, they averaged 9.9 percent of income; the comparable figures for 1977, 1987 and 1996 are 8.1, 8.1 and 8.1 percent. In 2002, 55 percent of Medicare recipients had out-of-pocket costs of less than \$1,000; another 28 percent were under \$2,499. Drug costs are oppressive mainly for a small minority of uninsured poorer recipients with large bills. Mark McClellan, the doctor and economist who runs Medicare, thinks that understanding of the drug benefit will increase and that perhaps 30 million of Medicare's 43 million recipients will gladly sign up. Perhaps. But it may be that the program's complexities in coverage and enrollment, including many who have suggested repealing the benefit, that would be good policy, because it would cut major spending and allow drug coverage to be included in a wider Medicare overhaul that focuses on the neediest and curbs costs. With hindsight, Republicans may finally realize that it also would have been good politics.

Robert Samuelson is a columnist for Newsweek.

LETTER

Tax cuts, Medicare plan are government mishaps

In the Money section of The Times-News on Saturday, Nov. 19, "Senate will continue expiring tax cuts" states that the president has a veto threat on the \$60 billion bill. It would also include hefty tax increases for the oil companies. I guess they feel that the oil companies have lost out as off when they garnered up to 89 percent

profits this past year. Also, many Republicans want to act to keep 15 percent tax rate on capital gains and dividends." And in my opinion, the Medicare people literally turned over the prescription Plan D to

privatization. Can anybody figure it out? The plan may cost more than the prescription. Government gobbledegook gone awfully. PAUL WILLIAMS Jerome

LETTERS

Iraq pullout will fuel terrorist actions on U.S.

You asked if your readers agreed with the New York Daily News guest editorial (Other Views, Nov. 21) and my answer is a resounding yes. I hate to say this, but it sounds as though Sens. Kerry and Kennedy have been bending Rep. Murtha's ear, or it may be that he is coming up for reelection.

What the people who are calling for our troops to be pulled out of Iraq don't seem to understand is that bringing these troops home does not end the war. It emboldens al-Qaida. The war did not begin when we invaded Iraq. It is a holy war declared by Islamic radicals more than 20 years ago when they took and held our embassy hostage in Iran. Their "holy war" is not just against America. Witness attacks in Spain, England and Indonesia. Their war is against all non-believing "infidels," and it doesn't matter who else they kill along the way.

The first bombing of the World Trade Center didn't seem to get people's attention. It took a second one to wake us up; unfortunately, the memory of that event already seems to be fading. Pulling our troops out of Iraq will do nothing but encourage Islamic radicals to pursue their war more vigorously against American interests worldwide and in America itself as our pacifists and liberals again lull the

American people into complacency.

Just because we quit doesn't mean that the war is over!
BILL STRANGE
Jerome

Kimberly can see more progress from council

I appreciate the citizens of Kimberly for electing me to the position of City Council on Nov. 8. Mr. David Overacre made a gracious phone call to me the morning after the election. Mr. Overacre stated, "Change is good."

I hope that I can help our citizens to become more interested in the city of Kimberly. I have a great deal to get up to speed on, but I will work hard and faithfully for the citizens of our great town.

To council person Lee McKinlay, I am certain that you will miss Mr. Overacre, and I will work very hard to fill his shoes.

With all my years in business, I have found out that everyone can be replaced and the program will continue on. There may be a few objects that get in the way, but with the solid help of everyone working and pulling together, we will have a favorable outcome for each and every one.

WARREN W. WADE
Kimberly
Many scientific 'proofs' of evolution don't stand up
I appreciate the opportunity

to contribute to the continuing dialogue regarding what should or should not be included in science classes. There is a considerable gulf between (A) experimentally measurable and repeatable (valid) phenomena (laws and theories) and (B) speculative, inferential but invalidated philosophies.

The problem lies within the attitudes and biases of some science educators who either cannot or will not separate categories A and B from each other. If a science class deals with Category A as in chemistry, physics, engineering and other physical sciences or in structural and physiological bases of biology, then it is legitimately a "science" class. If, instead, a class deals with the origins of life, the universe, the earth, etc., then to be intellectually honest, the class must be identified as a class in speculative scientific philosophy and must admit to teaching a belief system.

No one would argue against "microevolution," that is, the minute variations occurring within certain plant and animal families and genera for many of these variations may be duplicated and therefore validated. But the dogma of evolution is based upon "macroevolution," the viewpoint that present life forms are the results of millions of years of simpler to more complex forms is not valid, even though its "disciples" in the halls of academia proclaim that it is.

Many supposed "proofs" of evolution, whether they be "punctuated equilibrium," "vestigial organs," "primate soup to you" or the "fossil record" have been discredited. I have read only one college-level textbook in recent years which admitted that these are concepts that are "believed to

be so" and this was not in a creationist book.

The major point is that if a "science class" is going to include the area of origins, then to be intellectually honest and fair, it should certainly include the "intelligent design" viewpoint.

My anatomy and physiology

students over the years at the College of Southern Idaho certainly had no problems with my including "design" in my classes, for they had, within the lab work and observations, the highest example of "intelligent design" — the human body.
DON PUDER
Twin Falls



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Financial Lesson of the Week

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Each Monday, Learn about the Basics of Finance

How Will Oil Prices Affect Your Investment Plans?

Even before Hurricane Katrina caused its almost incomprehensible damage to the Gulf Coast, most of us shuddered when we had to fill our cars' gas tanks. With prices at \$3 a gallon in some parts of the country, and crude oil hitting \$70 per barrel, we were already in uncharted territory. Then, Katrina temporarily knocked out about 12 percent of U.S. refining capacity, along with a significant part of the Gulf's natural gas and oil production. So, as a driver, you probably shouldn't expect too much relief at the pump any time soon. But how about as an investor? Do you need to adjust your investment strategy in response to high oil prices?

It's a difficult question. If oil prices and energy costs continue to remain high, it's probably not good news for some areas of the financial markets. Although businesses are looking for ways to offset higher energy costs, they will eventually be forced to pass on these expenses to consumers or accept lower profit margins — and either development could hurt stock prices.

On the other hand, some stocks or industries may actually benefit from high oil prices. You might hear that now is a good time to invest in energy companies. And it may be true that, in the coming months, some of these stocks will do well. But you need to be cautious about basing any investment decisions on short-term trends.

So, what can you do to avoid being buffeted by forces and events that you can't control? Consider these suggestions:

- **Diversify** - The more diversified you are, the less susceptible your portfolio will be to rising oil prices, higher interest rates, political turmoil or other factors. Spread your dollars among high-quality stocks, investment-grade bonds, Treasury bills and other securities.
- **Know your risk tolerance** - If your investments are keeping you up at night, then you are taking on too much risk. On the other hand, if "ultra-conservative" vehicles, such as certificates of deposit, dominate your holdings, you may be limiting your needed growth potential. You may want to work with an investment professional to create a diversified portfolio that accurately reflects both your risk tolerance and your long-term goals.
- **Look at the "fundamentals"** - You'll find it much easier to avoid being influenced by short-term events if you become familiar with the fundamentals of an investment. For example, if you're considering a stock, you can take into account how it might be affected by rising energy prices, but don't stop there. Is it a stable company? Does it seem to be priced fairly? Do its products or services have good long-term potential? Does it have a solid management team? And, perhaps most importantly, does it meet your specific investment needs? By digging deep into your reasons for investing in any security, you'll position yourself to make smart decisions.

Focus on the future
Today, high energy prices, and their possible impact on the economy and the financial markets, are making big news. Next year - who knows? The fact is that there will always be "reasons" to shake up your investment strategies. But the smartest investors are the ones who find the course that's right for them - and stick with it.

Questions:
1. True or False - You should worry about the things you can control.
2. True or False - You should base investment decisions on short-term trends.



Newspaper in Education

WORLD

Chechens vote for new parliament

Chicago Tribune

MOSCOW — The Russian republic of Chechnya elected a new parliament Sunday, a vote viewed by the Kremlin as a political milestone for the country. Human-rights activists as illegitimate in the midst of a guerrilla war and reports of police abductions and torture of civilians.

The election of the North Caucasus republic's 61-seat assembly marks the final step in the Kremlin's plan to bring peace to Chechnya, where separatist fighters have been battling Moscow for the province's independence since 1994.

That plan eschewed negotiations with separatist rebels and instead called for a three-tiered political process aimed at giving the mountain province a degree of autonomy from Moscow. The plan included the

establishment of a new constitution — approved by voters in 2003 — and the election of a president last year, followed by a national vote to create a parliament.

Human-rights groups that have been monitoring Moscow's handling of the Chechen conflict for years argue that the province's persistent climate of fear casts doubt on any attempt to hold elections in Chechnya.

The Muslim republic's second war has raged on unabated since 1999, killing an estimated 100,000 people. Pro-Moscow Chechen militias continue to kidnap and torture civilians, usually young male Chechens. The Moscow-based human-rights group Memorial says 235 kidnappings of Chechens were recorded this year — 13 of them were killed and 122 others remain missing. The rest were released.

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Quake in Iran flattens villages, kills 10 people

TEHRAN, Iran — An earthquake with a magnitude of at least 5.9 shook a sparsely populated area of southern Iran on Sunday, flattening seven villages, killing 10 people and injuring 70, officials and state-run television said. The tremor was felt as far away as Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

Heidar Akhavan, the governor of Qeshm, was quoted by state television as saying rescue teams were deployed to the affected area, and people in the wrecked villages moved quickly to safety.

Another provincial official, Ghassen Karimi, told The Associated Press that high casualties were not expected because the area was not heavily developed.

Tehran's seismologic center said the quake was of magnitude 5.3, but the U.S. Geological Survey in Golden, Colo., said it had a magnitude of 6.1. A magnitude-6.0 quake can cause severe damage.

World In brief

China restores running water after toxic spill

HARBIN, China — Running water returned to this northeast city of 3 million people Sunday, ending a five-day shutdown blamed on a chemical spill that embarrassed the government and highlighted China's mounting environmental problems.

However, officials warned that what was coming out the tap in frigid Harbin still was too dirty to drink.

Water service started returning to this provincial capital shortly before 6 p.m. after the government said toxins spewed into the Songhua river by a chemical plant explosion had returned to safe levels. Residents said service did not resume in some areas for several more hours.

"When that running water came back on, it was a completely wonderful feeling. It's been four days since I had a shower," said grinning taxi driver Cao Siqu.

Local television showed the governor of Heilongjiang province, where Harbin is located, drinking a glass drawn from the tap in a Harbin family's home after service resumed.

Polis show a tight race for Honduran president

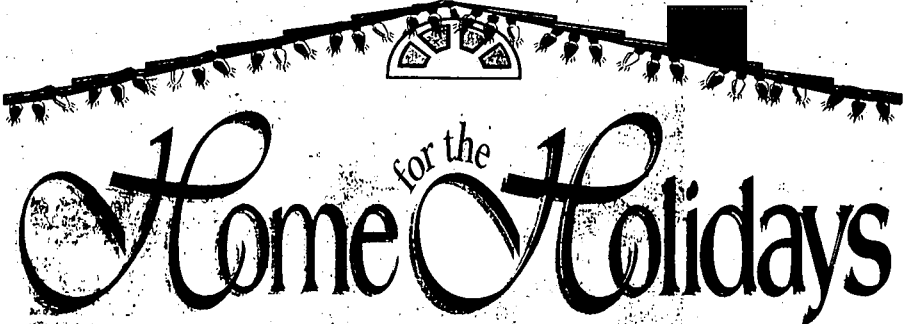
TEGUCIGALPA, Honduras — Honduran voters choosing a president Sunday were split between a left-leaning conservative who promises to wipe out violent crime with the death penalty and a rival who vows to eliminate widespread corruption.

Polls showed a tight race between Alfredo Lora, leader of the governing National Party and the Liberal Party candidate Manuel Zelaya.

Supporters of each candidate honked horns as they drove to the polls in the capital, Tegucigalpa, their cars sporting either blue-and-white flags for the National Party or red-and-white banners for the Liberal Party.

The country's nearly 4 million voters also were electing a vice president, 128 congressional representatives, 298 mayors and 2,000 city councilors. Sunday's vote is the seventh in the Central American nation of 7 million since 1981, when it abandoned more than two decades of military rule.

— compiled from wire reports



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AROUND THE VALLEY

T.F. City Council meeting canceled

TWIN FALLS — City Council will not talk about crowns tonight.
Nor will it discuss temple spires, coal-fired power plants or Blue Lakes Boulevard.
In fact, it won't be talking about much of anything.
According to a written statement from City Hall: "The Monday, Nov. 28, 2005, City Council meeting has been canceled."

Idaho Humanities Council awards grants

BOISE — The Idaho Humanities Council awarded \$55,076 in grants to organizations and individuals at its recent board meeting in Boise. The grant awards include support for ten public humanities projects, four research fellowships and three teacher incentive grants.
Among the awardees are the following from the Magic Valley area:

• The Burley Centennial Committee received a mini/major grant of \$1,990 to finish work on an oral history project as part of Burley's centennial. Oral histories compiled by the students will be reviewed, edited, transcribed and added to a book collection of "100 Stories" from people who have lived in the area for more than 30 years and who are at least 75 years old. The publication will be distributed and a panel discussion about the stories and their collection will be held for the public. Project director is Linda Petersen.

• Theene Dyer of Wood River High School in Halley was awarded a \$676 Teacher Incentive Grant to purchase classroom sets of books and a film for a Native American literature unit for her advanced literature students.

• Dyer attended IHC's Native American literature teacher institute in 2005, receiving incentive instruction in the teaching of Native American literature, so applied for IHC support to provide the curriculum materials for her students.

• She will purchase sets of "Fools Crow" by James Welch and "The Lone Ranger and Tonto Fistfight in Heaven" by Sherman Alexie, as well as a copy of the film "Smoke Signals," based on the book.

The next deadline for Idaho Humanities Council grant proposals is Jan. 15, 2006, but prospective applicants should contact IHC staff to discuss project ideas before writing grants.

Applicants are encouraged to submit a rough draft of their proposals for staff critique about a month before deadline.

New grant guidelines and application forms are available by calling (888) 345-5346 or visiting www.idahohumanities.org.

Open house will honor veterans Tuesday

TWIN FALLS — An open house to honor veterans will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Idaho Commerce & Labor office, 771 N. College Road.
Services to be provided during the A Veteran Day include: assistance, job search information, labor market information, veteran benefits, education, training and starting a business.
Refreshments will be provided.

Snowpack levels

Table with 3 columns: Watershed, % of Avg., % below normal. Rows include Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Hervey Fork/Troun, Upper Snake Basin, Outlook, Salmon Falls.

*As of Nov. 27, 2005
*A comparison with the 1971-2000 long-term average.

From a different angle



Jessa Johnson, a BMX rider from Utah riding for Stunt Team.com, jumps over Greg Lanting, principal of Filer Middle School and newly elected City Council member, at a school assembly earlier this month.

Lanting brings principal's perspective to City Council

By Terry Smith
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Councilman-elect Greg Lanting will bring a school principal's perspective to City Council when he takes the oath of office in January.
"He won't be sending anyone to detention, but will serve as one of seven judges as the council considers petitions, argues issues and makes decisions.

Lanting is familiar with that role as principal of Filer Middle School, a job he's held for 14 years.
"As a principal, you're often a judge — you listen to kids or parents and all sides, and try to figure out what to do," Lanting said. "I think City Council can be the same way. Sometimes you act as a jury to consider how to decide on issues."

Lanting, along with Don Hall and incumbent Lance Glow, was elected Nov. 8 to City Council.

He's doing his homework in preparation for the assignment. He attends most council meetings and is going through an extensive orientation pro-

gram to learn about the various city departments.
"Though long active in civic affairs — he is a city planning and zoning commissioner — Lanting's real passion is as an educator, something he's been for 30 years — and all of them with the Filer School District.
"I came out of college and my first job was at Filer High School," Lanting said. Two years later, he transferred to the middle school, where he taught for 14 years before being appointed principal.

He has taught government, history and geography and coached track, football, girls' basketball, girls' volleyball and golf.
"I haven't done any coaching since I became principal," said Lanting, although he still volunteers with the high school golf team.
Lanting said he misses both teaching and coaching because of the close relationship that can develop with students and athletes.
"As principal, you don't get as much of that. That's the reason I do the volunteer golf — I'm a pretty avid golfer myself," he said.
"Anybody that's been in education knows you don't do it for the money. You do it for the kids."

— Greg Lanting

Anybody that's been in education knows you don't do it for the money. You do it for the kids.

Skilled lapidary brought smiles to many

By Jami Whitard
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Alan Schwendiman was a hard-working family man who found beauty in many things, even rocks.

A long-time postal worker in Rupert, Schwendiman sincerely cared about customers and later became a skilled lapidary (precious stone expert). He died Nov. 18.

Born in the small town of Newdale, he attended Sugar-Salem High School and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. Where he was stationed in the Atlantic Pacific area and served on a floating dry dock, a structure that can be submerged under a marine vessel and raised to lift it out of the water.

He married Betsy Steinman on Oct. 18, 1947, and they had seven children.

Swendiman worked in farming in Ashton and later moved his family to Rupert where they homesteaded.

In 1964, Schwendiman began working at the Rupert post office where his exceptional customer serv-

ice was appreciated for many years.

"He was very pleasant and polite to work with," said Nina Stephenson, a former co-worker. "The customers really enjoyed being around him. He always had little jokes and stuff to tell them."

She also described him as a happy-go-lucky guy who knew many of the customers by name.

"He loved it. It just fit his personality," she said.

Outside of work, outdoor sports of camping and boating with his family were among his favorite activities.

"He liked hunting and fishing, too, and collecting rocks, things like that," said his wife, Betsy.

He was a self-taught lapidary who read about the craft and often showed a Boy Scout troop many of his pieces and explained how to clean them.

He worked on the craft for about 30 years and found rocks all over — even as far as Utah.

"He liked to polish them and see what they looked like underneath," his wife

Betsy said. "He liked to gather them more than work on them."

He took some lessons in silversmithing and made bolo ties, rings and necklaces; many pieces were made using his lapidary skills.

His beautiful creations were shared with family and friends and a few were sold.

The rocks also decorated his home.

"We've got them in the house, around the house, all over," said Betsy, with a chuckle.

His skill at turning rocks into jewelry will be remembered by many, but it's for his pleasant nature and happy personality that his memory will be treasured.

"He always had a smile," Stephenson said. "And never a bad word to say about anybody or anything."

To suggest a recently deceased person for the Life Remembered column, contact Times-News writer Jami Whitard at 735-3278, or write to her at justiced@magicvalley.com

aLife remembered logo

Alan Schwendiman
Born: Nov. 15, 1926.
Died: Nov. 18, 2005.
Survivors: Wife, Betsy of Rupert; children, David (Marsha) Schwendiman of Burley, Gaylene (James) Hodson of Orem, Utah, Chris (Winston) Schwendiman of Round Rock, Texas, Kevin Schwendiman of Pocatello, Wayne (Debra) Schwendiman of Burley and Blaine Schwendiman of Boise; a daughter-in-law, Sheila (Max) Coy of Oregon; brothers, Terry (Veva) Schwendiman of Bountiful, Utah; sisters, Dorothy (Marion) Klinger of Rancho Cordova, Calif., and Janice McEwe of St. Anthony, 26 Grandchildren, and 15 great-grandchildren. His son Dale preceded him in death.



Sun Valley opens Warm Springs for free skier parking

City negotiates for 120 parking spaces at base of Baldy.

By Susan Bailey
For The Times-News

KETCHUM — More spaces for free skier parking could mean more action at the base of Warm Springs, and that's what the city wanted.
Ketchum City Council Member Terry Tracy said he negotiated last week for 120 spaces in the Sun Valley Company parking lot at the base of Bald Mountain as free parking for Warm Springs skiers.

The remaining 100 parking spaces in the Greyhawk lot will be sold for the duration of ski season, as usual with Sun Valley. Ketchum has become concerned with loss of business at Warm Springs since the River Run side of Bald Mountain has more parking for skiers. Tracy said he negotiated with Sun Valley Company General Manager Wally Huffman will bring more bus service to Warm Springs in the winter and open the lot for the first time during the summer.

Tracy said Sun Valley will open the chairlifts to the top of the mountain during weekends this summer. In the past, only the River Run chairlifts have transported summer visitors.
In addition, free jazz concerts in the style of the Elkhorn resort jazz on the Green will take place this summer.

"I want to publicly thank Wally," Tracy said.

Tracy announced the activities at Warm Springs during the recent City Council meeting at City Hall.

Company donates two portable restrooms

By Susan Bailey
For The Times-News

KETCHUM — The jokes about "turning to go" can stop after Thanksgiving.

After losing its public restrooms in the Sun Valley-Ketchum Chamber and Builders Center on Main Street to new construction of a Wells Fargo Bank on the former city location, the SVKCVB has complained repeatedly to the city.

At last, a solution has appeared in the form of a generous offer by Sun Valley Company General Manager Wally Huffman.

Huffman said two portable wooden trailers used at Sun Valley Village as men's and women's restrooms during the Sun Valley Summer Symphony season were available at no cost until summer. The trailers have a sitting area, rows of sinks and toilets and a heat source.

Debra Burns, founder of the Ketchum Restrooms Association, said the restrooms on wheels would be decorated by the retailers if the city would agree to reimburse for use on the city lot behind Mountain West Bank on East Avenue and Fourth Street.

"We'll do the decorating if you bring us the honey wagons," Burns said.

At a recent Ketchum City Council meeting, the Council agreed to install the portable wooden restrooms, but not until after the busy Thanksgiving Day weekend passes.

Water and sewer connections for the new public bathrooms run underneath East Avenue, making digging into the street necessary. City Council Member Bald Gourlay suggested waiting to drill into the pavement until the end of Thanksgiving weekend. The restrooms are set to the holiday and the opening of Bald Mountain Ski Area.

City Administrator Ron LeBlanc said installation of the restrooms on wheels will begin today.

Susan Bailey writes for the Wood River Journal in Halley.

Carey council discusses fate of senior center

The Wood River Journal

CAREY — When Carey City Council members met recently with local citizens, the future of the Carey Senior Center was the hot topic.

The Blaine County Senior Center-based in Halley and under Executive Director Brenda Shappee, who refused to comment on the meeting or the upgrades, did approach the City Council about improving the City Hall facility.

Currently, seniors meet on two Thursdays each month to dine and meet with their contemporaries. The group participates in

other activities in the center as well as health workshops, exercise classes and more.

But the facility is not fully equipped to have a dinner completely catered in the building. Currently meals are prepared in Halley and then driven to the Carey Senior Center.

But now the Blaine County Senior Center and local members have approached the City Council about upgrading the building so as to be able to prepare meals in the building.

The Senior Center made a request to acquire some funding from the Carey city budget. This was met with apprehension

from Mayor Rick Baird, who said the city didn't have the funds to provide upgrades.

"We have always planned on renovating the garage part of the building and upgrading the kitchen from that," said Baird.

But this takes money. And money for such things is scarce, though other sources of funding are being explored.

There are some federal and state grants that we are looking into for the changes to the facility," stressed Baird. "There has already been a donation of \$1,500 to go toward the purchase of a professional grade dishwasher. This is one of the

ways we are going to be able to afford the upgrades. We are going to be looking at grants as well as hoping for donations of money and time."

Baird said that the city has asked Building Inspector Joe Dabworth to investigate the cost of doing the remodeling with volunteer labor and donations.

There has also been a few quiet rallies and other money-raising actions in the past years. Members of the center hope to help out as much as they can.

And the center along with the city is hopeful that the outcome of this situation will be positive and well worth the wait.

NATION

Some New Orleans college students don't want to return

By Justin Pope
Associated Press writer

Stephanie Swisher is settling in nicely as a freshman at the University of Virginia, enjoying the campus, Naval ROTC, club volleyball and football Saturdays.

Things are going so well, in fact, that she would rather not return to Tulane University in New Orleans — the school she had expected to attend until Hurricane Katrina struck.

"The argument that everyone's giving me is that I'm a freshman so I've never known Tulane, I need to give it a chance," she said. "My argument is, why should I have to?"

But Swisher probably will have to give Tulane a chance. Despite her wishes — and a 600-signature petition she helped organize — Virginia is sticking by the conditions under which visiting students admitted after the hurricane: they must return to where their school re-opens. And Tulane is scheduled to reopen Jan. 17.

After Katrina, colleges around the country took an estimated 18,000 displaced New Orleans students. Now, the New Orleans schools desperately need those students to return next semester and pay tuition.

Exactly how many will return won't be known until January. Tulane says 80 percent of its students already re-registered. Loyola University, which received little damage, just started registration and can only say more than half for now.

The situation will likely be more dire at schools like Xavier and Dillard, which are poorer and suffered more storm damage.

Some students simply want to stay where they are, particularly freshmen who never got attached to their original schools.

Student councils at Virginia, Harvard and the University of California, Berkeley, have passed resolutions calling on their schools to be more flexible in letting New Orleans students at least apply to transfer.

Officially, those and other colleges are saying no, wary of breaking their promises to incoming students or, in some cases, of letting students use the situation to "trade up" to a more prestigious school.

Of course, students won't truly be forced to return; host colleges can simply refuse to let them transfer there next semester.

But there's nothing to prevent students from withdrawing from their New Orleans schools and trying to transfer next fall like anyone else.

So the question becomes, if students are determined to transfer, why force them to return to New Orleans at all?

Survey: Bush would be easy to beat at poker

The Washington Post

Is President Bush an easy mark? It seems many poker players would gladly welcome him to join a game at their table.

BetCRIS.com, an online sports wagering firm, has received 14,000 answers to its decidedly unscientific survey asking visitors to its poker Web site to answer the question, "Which world leader would you play poker against?" Bush was first, the choice of 27 percent of those voting. Bush supporters may note that this is another case of the president being misanderestimated.

In a news release, Mickey Richardson, chief executive of BetCRIS.com, speculated, "My guess is people want to play against Bush because he looks like someone that's easy to bluff."

For his part, Richardson said he'd be afraid to play against Cuban dictator Fidel Castro, who was running second. "If he catches you putting a move on him, you're done."

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Feds work to fight inflation but at a cost

WASHINGTON (AP) — While Alan Greenspan has won praise for his successful 18-year battle to keep inflation under control, he's the first to say he's had a lot of help. Among those most responsible are tens of millions of workers in China, India and Eastern Europe.

Adding all those workers to the global economy has made the Federal Reserve's inflation-fighting job easier by increasing competition. That has helped hold down labor costs — the biggest single expense for employers — and, as a result, prices.

It has come at a cost: Many of the jobs being done overseas used to be in America.

Last week, General Motors Corp. announced plans to cut more than a quarter of its North American manufacturing jobs — 30,000 in all — and close 12 facilities by 2008. Those cuts will be added to the more than 3 million manufacturing jobs — one in six — that have been lost since mid-2002.

"U.S. manufacturing jobs have withered over the past five years and many of those jobs are never coming back," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com, a private consulting firm.

For those U.S. workers who still have jobs, the pressure on their wages has intensified as companies use the threat of moving more production overseas — where labor is far cheaper — as a way to extract concessions from their U.S. workers.

This phenomenon has hit manufacturing the hardest. But service workers are starting to be hurt as well. The ability to transmit digitally massive amounts of information to far-away places has led companies to send overseas jobs in such high-tech areas as architecture, computer software, medical services and engineering.

"It is one thing to celebrate keeping inflation in check. It is another thing to celebrate that living standards are stagnant or falling for most American workers," said Thea Lee, policy director for the AFL-CIO.

All the goods flowing into the U.S. from overseas have produced a record trade deficit that must be financed by borrowing from abroad.

In 1987, the year Greenspan took over as Fed chairman, the U.S. had a deficit in its current account, the broadest measure of trade, of \$160.7 billion. Last year, that deficit set a record of \$668.1 billion and is projected to go even higher this year.

Like most economists, Greenspan is an ardent supporter of free trade and has said the current account deficit should improve gradually without destabilizing the U.S. economy.

Other economists worry that foreigners suddenly might decide to stop holding so many U.S. investments, driving down the dollar's value against other currencies, as well as U.S. stock and bond prices.

Greenspan also has a benign view about how the U.S. can deal with workers who have lost jobs and/or seen their wages depressed because of foreign competition. He thinks the country can solve this problem by doing a better job of educating workers so they have the skills they need for the high-tech jobs of the future, rather than the low-skill jobs that increasingly are moving to other countries.

That solution, Greenspan believes, will help combat the growing wage inequality in the U.S. This trend has seen incomes for high-income Americans rise sharply while the wages of low-income workers have been stagnant.

According to figures from the Census Bureau, the top 20 percent of U.S. households earned 50.1 percent of all income last year while the bottom 20 percent received just 3.4 percent of total income.

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Yes! Even small, frequent movements like finger-tapping, knee-bouncing or foot-bobbing show up as James Levine and his team of Mayo Clinic scientists measure how many calories you burn as you move about naturally and spontaneously.



The NEAT experience

"The energy expenditure associated with all the activities we undertake as vibrant, independent beings," Levine explains, is the focus of the work which they call NEAT, for nonexercise activity thermogenesis.

You notice there is no mention of any formal exercise program? You see, Levine, the poster boy for NEAT, hates the gym. "I walk in and immediately walk out," he admits. Instead, the endocrinologist has ditched his desk at the office and replaced it with a computer over a treadmill. He ambulates about 7 miles per hour during his work day. He is trim and fit-looking without any diet restrictions.

It's not the exercise but other movement — standing, slow walking, eating and, yes, fidgeting — that keeps some people lean. The researchers even measured the energy burned during gum chewing: 11 calories per hour if you chew six pieces at a time.

The researchers tracked the NEAT expenditure of naturally obese people who agreed to wear that weird underwear for 10 days. All were self-proclaimed "couch potatoes."

They found that the bigger potatoes sat, on average, about 2 1/2 hours longer per day than the smaller potatoes who appeared more restless in their movement patterns. That means that the obese group burned about 350 fewer calories a day, which translates into 33 pounds a year.

The fidget factor

Levine's team then overfed the lean study participants for two months by adding an extra 1,000 calories to their daily diets. Those who generated the greatest NEAT effort gained the least amount of weight. "Fidgeting could be why some people don't gain weight, even when they overeat," says Levine. "They waste away the excess energy."

Standing takes more energy than sitting, and strolling along at just one mile an hour burns twice the calories as sitting.

Cultivate a NEAT-friendly schedule

If you are a confirmed "couch potato" who shuns conscious exercise, remember to add a couple of six-letter F words into your fitness vocabulary:

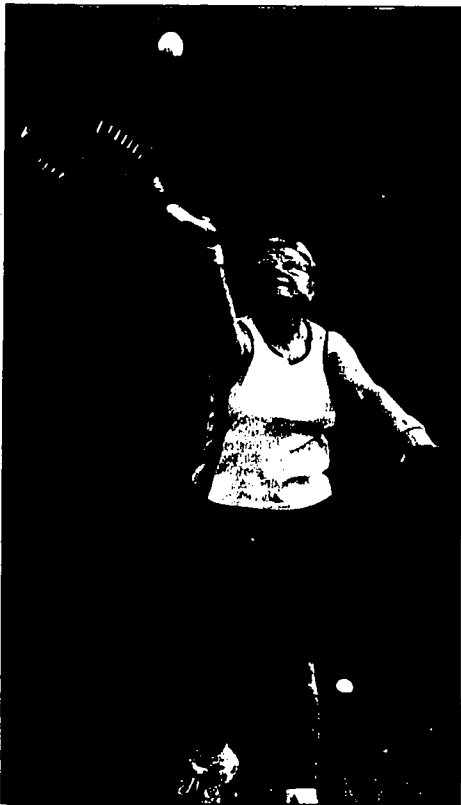
1. Forget about going on one more diet. Did you ever notice in bookstores that you find the diet books right between humor and fiction? "People have a hard time sticking to exercise programs and diets," Levine proclaims. "The very number of diet books and weight-loss plans is proof that none of them work. If one worked, we'd all be following it."

2. Fidget without compulsion or, at least, bump up spontaneous physical activity. Take a 10-minute stroll several times a day. Pace while you talk on the phone. Slide your back up and down a wall as you do a supported mini-squat. Do heel raises when standing in line. Brush your teeth as you stand on one foot. Dance while you wait for the pasta water to boil. In short, sit still less.

Small lifestyle changes can make a big impact on creeping weight gain over the holidays. And you don't have to wear that racy underwear to notice the benefits.

Jan Mitteldecker is a health educator and coordinator of the award-winning Over 60 and Getting Fit Program at the College of Southern Idaho.

STRETCHING LEGS



Donna Stalley plays tennis at the YMCA as part of her regular exercise routine. Along with tennis she rides her exercise bike and runs on a treadmill.

EPISODE II: M.V. residents encounter hurdles

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A few weeks make all the difference when it comes to fitness programs. In that time, an injury can set you back, motivation can take a blow. But if everything comes together, exercising for just a few weeks can yield impressive results.

Just ask Jan Salisbury, who began working out in the gym about eight weeks ago. Since she started, she's lost weight, improved her endurance and burned off some of the stress that comes with being a single parent.

Salisbury is one of four Magic Valley exercisers *The Times-News* began following last month. In the first installment of this story, we told you that Salisbury started her program to ward off family health problems. Donna Stalley wanted to gain muscle mass, and Ed and Diana Wright walked to age gracefully.

Since then, our exercisers have hit some hurdles. Salisbury found it increasingly hard to stay motivated. The Wrights struggled with injuries, and Stalley — well, Stalley had to scrap her program and improvise.

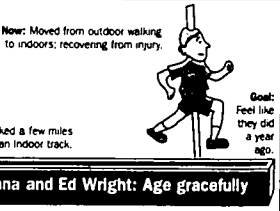
Look for the final episode in this series in January. But first, let's check in with our fitness fanatics.

Times-News features writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@lee.net.

STRETCHING LIVES



Diana and Ed Wright walk indoors now that the weather has turned cold. They have been walking steadily for almost a year.



Now: Moved from outdoor walking to indoors; recovering from injury.

Goal: Feel like they did a year ago.

Diana and Ed Wright: Age gracefully

ED & DIANAWRIGHT

Nothing derails an exercise program quicker than an injury.

Unfortunately for Ed Wright, it's a lesson he learned the hard way.

Last month, he noticed that his walking shoes were wearing a little thin. But he kept them anyway — and paid for it. He developed a sore foot, and it knocked him out of his

walking program for two weeks. But injury sidelined his wife and walking partner, Diana, as well. Her motivation wore thin almost as fast as Ed's shoes.

But the Wrights, both in their 60s, are back on track. They're treading around the upper level at the College of Southern

See page WRITERS, Page C3

DONNASTALLEY

Donna Stalley is a busy woman.

In fact, she's so busy she had to scrap her exercise program before it even got started.

"I just work real long hours," she said.

Her original plan was to begin a weight training program.

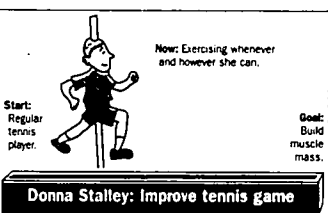
She wanted to build muscle mass to improve her tennis game.

But when she couldn't find time to devote to weight-room workouts, the 60-year-old got creative.

When she's relaxing in the hot tub, she does leg kicks to build muscle.

And she's made a habit of parking the car farther away when she goes shopping or to work. Stalley also rides a

DONNASTALLEY



Now: Exercising whenever and however she can.

Start: Regular tennis player.

Goal: Build muscle mass.

Donna Stalley: Improve tennis game

home stationary bike every other day.

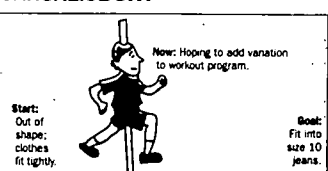
And, of course, she's still playing tennis at the Twin Falls YMCA.

The older I get, the harder it is to get started," Stalley, 60, said a month ago. She wasn't

kidding. But something is better than nothing, she said. Still, Stalley has plans for a more structured fitness regimen.

"I'm saving money for a lap pool," she said. "And I'm about halfway there."

JANSALISBURY



Now: Hoping to add variation to workout program.

Start: Out of shape; clothes fit tightly.

Goal: Fit into size 10 jeans.

Jan Salisbury: Dodge family health problems

ways to work the same muscle groups.

Mike Allis, fitness coordinator at the Twin Falls YMCA, said that's a good thing.

"The body gets used to being exercised the same way over and over, usually after about six weeks."

But it's Salisbury's mind — not body — that's getting used to her workouts.

"I'm just getting a little bored," she said.

Nevertheless, she's sticking with her program.

"Maybe, if I'm lucky, I'll fit into those jeans by summer."

IMAGE



An urban denim jacket (\$79) and button-down shirt (\$69), from Club Monaco.

Jacket weather? Try not to stress; denim is your friend

By Janelle Erlichman Diamond
The Washington Post

Put denim jackets and men together and you don't usually hear the phrase "looks so manly." But we love the '60s as much as anybody, and a man in a denim jacket presses all sorts of nice, John Casca-y buttons. "I firmly believe in the denim jacket," says Simon Doonan, creative director of Barney's New York and a so-fie for Western wear. But, he warns, it has to be worn in a very specific way. Doonan sports his with a shirt, tie and dressy pants — channeling Johnny Cash and Porter Wagoner. "I look like... Patsy Cline's manager," he jokes.

Many denim jackets have gone the way of Goodwill. Mostly because "jeans are so totally ubiquitous," says Doonan. "It's an integral part of a young man's wardrobe. No one wants to look like they're wearing a denim suit." It's a little too "CHIPS on their day off." For those who are a little denim-jacket gun-shy, the velvet blazer can be an appropriate substitute — worn with tees or button-down shirts, over jeans or pants. A little less country, a little more London cool. But don't be scared. The denim jacket can be your friend. Says Doonan, "It's a great middle-class jacket."

Dropping out of Heavy U: 'Freshman 15' isn't a myth

By Brian Alexander
The Seattle Times

SEATTLE — Throughout his high school years, Christina Olson never really worried about her weight.

She ate and exercised when she wanted and didn't put on extra pounds. So she didn't think anything would change when she moved to Virginia to attend college.

But after her first semester, she came home to discover her old clothes didn't fit as well. "Blame it on 'Freshman 15,'" that notorious bit of college lore that says freshmen will gain 15 pounds in their first year away from home.

Though it's not hard fact, a few studies join nutritionists and college fitness experts in saying that, on average, students actually do gain weight in their first year away. It's an average of 5 1/2 pounds before winter break, according to a 2003 study by Cornell University in New York.

The reason? It's the many parts of a lifestyle change, said Judy Simon, a clinical dietitian at the University of Washington Medical Center Roosevelt clinic. It's staying up late, snacking while studying, drinking beer and having irregular meals, not to mention a lack of physical-education classes and after-school sports, among other things, she said.

College students don't give enough thought to nutrition or their weight when they're ordering that pizza at midnight, she said. Nor do they think about the calories in beer when they go to a party.

They wouldn't drink six regular beers, but they're drinking six regular beers," said Simon.

Weight gain for students who graduate from high school but don't go to college differs, said David Levitsky, a professor of nutrition and psychology at Cornell University. Those who don't go to college don't gain weight.

One of the key reasons for

Avoid the 'Freshman 15'

- **"Phantom" calories:** Don't skip meals, especially breakfast. Eating a slice of last night's leftover pizza is better than not fueling your body for the day. The idea is to take in calories before you need them, not afterward, when your body is drained.
- **Try walking:** Walk to school if you live off campus. If you live on campus, make time for hiking, mountain biking or the gym — most schools have good exercise facilities.
- **Find alternatives to unhealthy food:** Get pizza with less cheese and more vegetables. Order a nonfat latte. Ask for less rice with that teriyaki meal and more salad.
- **Drink less alcohol, more water:** A 12-ounce beer has about as many calories as a 12-ounce soft drink. Carry a water bottle — it's trendy, and being hydrated is part of being healthy.
- **Don't go hungry:** If you eat small, regular portions, you shouldn't be hungry. Keep a healthy snack nearby.
- **Review late-night meals:** Studying late can mean your body will need an extra meal — calories you probably won't burn off unless you eat extra exercise the next day.

Source: Judy Simon, clinical dietitian at the University of Washington Medical Center Roosevelt clinic, and David Levitsky, a professor of nutrition and psychology at Cornell University.

freshman weight gain is emotional eating, Simon said.

When students get stressed, break up with a boyfriend or girlfriend or have a big test coming up, they often chow down on comfort food: cookies, chips, ice cream and anything else that can be found at the convenience store down the street, she said.

Life Line offers stroke risk screenings

Life Line Screening will offer ultrasound tests to help people identify their stroke, vascular diseases or osteoporosis. The screenings will be held this week at three locations with appointments beginning at:

- 11 a.m. today at Church of the Nazarene, 301 Main St., Flr.
- 9 a.m. Tuesday at Calvary Assembly of God, 110 Fruitland Ave., Buhl.
- 9 a.m. Wednesday at Magic Valley Manor Assisted Living, 210 N. Idaho St., Wendell.

The screenings scan for potential health problems related to blocked arteries, which can lead to a stroke; aortic aneurysms, which can lead to a ruptured aorta; and hardening of the arteries in the legs, which is a predictor of heart disease. Also, a bone density screening to assess the risk of osteoporosis will be offered for men and women.

Cost is \$109 for a complete vascular screening package, including the stroke/carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm and ankle brachial index screenings, and \$129 for a complete vascular screening plus the osteoporosis screening. Pre-registration is required. To schedule an appointment, call 1-877-237-1336.

'Baby and Me'
St. Benedict's Family Medical Center offers "Baby and Me" classes from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays at the Health Education Center, 115 Fifth Ave. W., Jerome. This week's topic will be "Looking Good."

The session is for parents of children from infancy through toddler years. The class is free. For information, call 324-7262.

Parkinson's exercise
Magic Valley Regional Medical Center is offering an exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease from 11 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension, 371

To do for you

Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls.
The program places emphasis on increasing flexibility, strength, balance and coordination; improving communication by developing vocal strength and clarity of speech; helping individuals meet daily challenges; and improving symptoms of tremors, rigidity, poor balance and reduced range of motion. Tammy Dimond, certified occupational therapy assistant, will instruct.

Organizers encourage spouses and caregivers of those with Parkinson's disease to attend. The class is free. To register, call 737-2126.

Big Kids class

Big Kids Klub will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday in the Sage Room at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls. The class is designed to help prepare siblings for a new baby. Cost is \$7.50 per family with one child or \$10 per family with two or more children. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

Caregiver support

The Caregiving Support Group will meet from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Dec. 5 at the Office on Aging Annex building, 938 Washington St. N., Twin Falls. Participants will share ideas on getting through the holidays. Sherry Cann is the facilitator. The support group is for those who care for sick, disabled or elderly family members or friends. For information, call the Office on Aging at 736-2122 or (800) 574-8656.

Gastric bypass support

A Gastric Bypass Support Group is starting in Magic Valley. The first meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 in the conference room at Mindoka Memorial Hospital, 1224 Eighth St., Rupert.

The support group is for anyone who has had gastric bypass surgery or for those who are considering the surgery or gathering information about it. For information, call group facilitator Cindy Croft at 431-6043.

About childbirth
Prepared childbirth classes will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesdays, this week through Dec. 28, in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls. The class will include classroom instruction on wellness of the mother, labor and delivery process with relaxation and breathing techniques, care of the postpartum mother and care of the newborn including breast feeding and bottle feeding; and a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center. Cost is \$50. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148 or go online at www.mvrmc.org.

Back School, a course on preventing and treating back injuries, will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Rehabilitation Services, 560 Shoup Ave. W., Twin Falls.

The class will include information on basic spine anatomy, common injuries and diseases that lead to back pain, along with instructions in posture and body mechanics to protect the spine and prevent injury. The class is offered on-site at local businesses, if desired. Cost is \$25. To register, call Magic Valley Regional's Physical Therapy Department at 737-2126.

Learn CPR

A Heartsaver cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 4 to 8 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Sage Room at Magic

Valley Regional Medical Center's Education Center, 588 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls.

The class is offered under the guidelines of the American Heart Association and includes emergency procedures for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, chest compression and choking for adults and infants.

The program includes classroom instruction and hands-on practice. Cost is \$25. Pre-registration is required; call 732-2907.

Refresher course

A childbirth refresher course will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 7 in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls. The class is for those who have previously taken childbirth classes. Childbirth preparation and procedures will be reviewed, along with a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center. Cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

CPFR for babies

An infant safety and cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 8 in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls. The program is offered as part of the prepared childbirth course.

Organizers encourage new parents and grandparents to attend the class to learn about infant CPFR, choking, child safety and prevention of injury. The class is free. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

To do for you is a calendar listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Image section. Mail notices to: The Times-News, PO Box 418, Twin Falls, ID 83403, or deliver to our office at 132 Fairfield St. W.

CSI nursing adviser will answer questions on Dec. 5

The Times-News
BURLEY — A College of Southern Idaho nursing department adviser is scheduled to be available for current and prospective nursing students from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Dec. 5 at the CSI Mini-Cassia Center. The center is at 1600 Parke Ave. in Burley. No appointments are necessary to meet with Dr. Pam Holloway. More information about her visit is available by calling 678-1400.

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Not necessarily. Neither a will nor a trust will override the beneficiary designations of an IRA, insurance policy, annuity, or employee benefit plan. Beneficiary provisions control the disposition of the underlying asset.

Caution: Many people hold stocks and bonds in a brokerage account under a joint tenancy arrangement with a spouse or child. Many times little thought has been given to whether this asset titling coordinates with their will or trust.

Recommendation: review all beneficiary clauses periodically. Also, check to see how title is held in real estate, brokerage accounts, insurance policies, annuities, and bank accounts.

Be sure that the type of asset titling and the text of beneficiary clauses coordinate with your will or trust, and result in your property being distributed as you desire.

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A SECOND LOOK

Science revisits benefits of estrogen therapy

By Shari Roan
Los Angeles Times

Richard White told in his laboratory at the Medical College of Georgia for eight years trying to understand how estrogen helped prevent heart attacks and stroke. His studies looked promising: estrogen seemed to prime the female cardiovascular system to prevent clotting and relax blood vessels.

So when the massive Women's Health Initiative results were released three years ago — finding that estrogen therapy in older postmenopausal women seemed to cause more heart attacks and strokes — White was dumbfounded.

It just didn't make any sense, says the pharmacologist. "But you can't doubt it: the information was right there. So we started to try to figure out why this same hormone could produce two different effects."

He went back to the drawing board, and so have a lot of other researchers.

A growing number of doctors are trying to reconcile the Women's Health Initiative's negative findings with other research suggesting estrogen therapy can't be that bad.

These doctors say hormone replacement therapy may still be a valuable option for some younger women. They also say the recommendations emerging from the Women's Health Initiative — that hormone therapy should only be used in a low dose for the shortest time possible by women who need it the most — may be needlessly restrictive.

"We used to think hormone replacement therapy should be taken by everyone," says Dr. Hugh S. Taylor, an associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Yale University School of Medicine. "Now the pendulum has swung too far the other way."

The Women's Health Initiative was a randomized, controlled trial of 161,000 women designed in part to assess the effect of hormones on health. Before the study, doctors believed that estrogen protected women from bone fractures,



Los Angeles Times photo

Ultrasound can assess signs of heart disease. Current studies are looking at the cardiac benefits of estrogen.

heart attacks, stroke and dementia, improved skin tone and soothed the sometimes harsh symptoms of menopause.

The results, however, showed that study participants taking hormones had a slightly higher risk of heart attack and stroke as well as breast cancer. Hormone therapy did not appear to stave off dementia or even affect a woman's quality of life, such as improving sleep or sexual satisfaction.

But a growing number of doctors now say the study provides an incomplete picture because the average age of the participants was 63. If hormones are taken around the time of menopause — age 51 on average — they might protect women from heart attacks,

stroke, an enlarged heart condition called cardiac hypertrophy and possibly even dementia, these experts say.

Two new studies have been launched to address that hypothesis.

"The WHI showed that if women have heart disease, by all means don't give them estrogen. It will make things worse," says Dr. S. Mitchell Harman, director of the Kronos Longevity Research Institute in Phoenix. "But we still don't know if estrogen is protective of a younger population group."

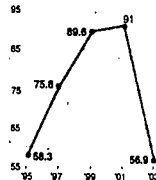
Recent laboratory research bolsters evidence that estrogen acts differently depending on a woman's age.

White, of the Medical College of Georgia, has demonstrated

Out of favor

Prescriptions for hormone replacement therapy plummeted after a 2002 study showed they don't benefit older postmenopausal women.

U.S. prescriptions for hormone therapy dispensed annually (in millions)



Source: Journal of the American Medical Association; National Prescription Audit Plus, IMS Health

Los Angeles Times

that as women age, estrogen can go from making nitric oxide, which protects the heart, to making a substance called superoxide, which damages tissues.

Those findings, published recently in the American Journal of Physiology, suggest hormone therapy could be tweaked so that estrogen continues to help produce the beneficial nitric oxide.

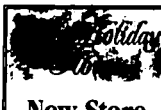
If the studies show estrogen does appear to benefit younger menopausal women, more questions will follow, such as how long a woman should take hormones to protect herself.

Ongoing research on estrogen is important not just for possible prevention of heart disease, which is the leading cause of death in women, but because women and their doctors have been frustrated by the lack of alternatives to treat menopausal symptoms, says Taylor, who is an investigator in the one of the new studies, called Kronos Early Estrogen Prevention Study, or KEEPS.

"There is nothing else that comes anywhere close to estrogen for treating hot flashes," he says. "We trivialize these quality-of-life issues."

The Times-News:

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Tackling a weighty subject

Los Angeles Times

Scientists have yet to definitively weigh in on this diet-related question: Does regularly stepping on the scales help a dieter lose weight?

Sure it does, say many weight loss experts. Weighing yourself is a clear way to monitor progress or catch (and nip in the bud) a slow, steady uptick in lardage.

Not so fast, say others. The glacially slow nature of weight loss, plus those spiky daily fluctuations in body weight, might actually make dieters more apt to throw in the towel.

Here are some tips from various specialists about the best way to weigh yourself if you choose to.

• To minimize variation, always weigh at the same time of day, such as in the morning just after using the bathroom.

• If you are weighing your-

self daily, understand that your weight will vary day to day. It's the trend that's important.

You may find it useful to make a graph of your weight.

• Put the scales on a flat, uncarpeted surface so the readings don't wobble.

• Use a scale that is consistent, giving the same weight when you step on it, then off it, then back on it again.

That's more important than the type of scale you buy. Use the same pair of scales each time.

Don't get fixated on the scales. Monitor your body change in other ways, such as the fit of your clothes, a tape measure or how you physically feel.

To the best of your ability, try to gauge how the weighing makes you feel, and if it is reinforcing — or undermining — your efforts.

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INGROWN TOENAILS

Question: My son keeps getting painful ingrown toenails. They even drain and bleed sometimes. We've tried everything. What can we do?

Answer: Ingrown toenails result when the nail presses into the surrounding skin. If the nail punctures the skin, bacteria can invade and cause an infection. They can be caused by improper trimming, injuries, fungal infections or pressure from shoes.

But permanent treatment is available.
Contact your foot specialist if you have additional questions or need help

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The Times-News
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Wrights

Continued from C1

Idaho gym on cold days and hooling it outdoors near the canyon rim on warm days.

Ed is thankful for a quick recovery.

"I was not sleeping as well when I wasn't walking," he said. The two-week break bothered Diana, too, who tried her best to walk a few days a week even though her husband couldn't join her.

"If I went a couple days and didn't do it, I'd feel a little suffer than normal."

Having seen the effects, the Wrights aren't planning on any more breaks — or injuries. Ed has a new pair of black walking shoes. And to make up for lost exercise, they're walking a little faster, a bit longer, when they're indoors.

"You have to walk faster inside because it's not as difficult as outside," Ed said. There's no incline indoors, nor a breeze to walk against.

"We've been working back up

(to our old pace)," Ed said as he and Diana made their way around the upper level at the gym last week. Twelve and a half laps make a mile, he said. They walk at least that much — sometimes more — every time in the gym.

If they can escape further injury, the Wrights plan to be back outside as soon as winter is over. They prefer their outdoor walks, where they bump into friends along the canyon trail. "And the scenery is a lot nicer," Ed said.

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MAGIC VALLEY

TWIN FALLS CITY COURTS

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

Driving under the influence sentences

Lesl Matthew Shertler, 22, 302 Washington St. N., Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; follow recommendations of alcohol evaluation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Malcolm Lee Flynn, 35, 832 Westwind, Twin Falls; one count driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for two days served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; follow recommendations of alcohol evaluation; attend court alcohol school; one count possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

\$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 45 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not consume any alcoholic beverages; one count failure to purchase driver's license and one count open container; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Misdemeanor sentences

Scott Howard Holmes, 37, 336 Eden St. N., Twin Falls; violation of no contact order; pleaded guilty; \$72.50 costs; \$500 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with balance suspended; 24 months probation; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Fred Gene Crist, 25, 760 E. 2700 S., Hagerman; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 24 months probation; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Maziar Sobhi, 19, P.O. Box 5921, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for one day served; one day sheriff's work detail in lieu of jail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Magistrate Judge Roger Harris. Katrina Louise Smith, 26, 423 Fourth Ave. W., No. 4, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; amended to driving without privileges, second offense; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$87.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 160 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 365 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Randy Allen Miller, 34, 178 E. Ave. B, Wendell; one count driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$400 fine with \$300 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for time served; 12 months probation; one count failure to provide proof of insurance; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine; 12 months probation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Larry Kalup Howard, 16, 1319 1/2 St. N., Bully; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$26.25 costs; \$100 public defender fee; 30 days in jail with 28 suspended; two days sheriff's work detail in lieu of jail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

St. Twin Falls; violation of no contact order; amended to trespass; pleaded guilty; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$63.50 costs; 10 days in jail with seven suspended; credit for three days served; 12 months probation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Gregory Edward Hays, 40, 2581 Caroused Circle, Twin Falls; petit theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; \$200 fine with \$300 suspended; \$63.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 10 suspended; credit for time served; 24 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or be where they are present; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Moses J. Jimenez, 15, 693 Jackson St., Twin Falls; one count disorderly conduct; amended to disturbing the peace; pleaded guilty; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; 12 months probation; shall not consume any alcoholic beverages; one count providing false information to an officer; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

180 days in jail with 80 suspended; credit for 100 days served; 12 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Lorena Mary Darrell, 51, 717 Broadway N., Bully; petit theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; withheld judgment; \$300 fine with \$300 suspended; \$72.50 costs; waived; 30 days in jail with 30 suspended; 24 months probation; \$35 per month probation fee; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Lorena Mary Darrell, 51, 717 Broadway N., Bully; petit theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; withheld judgment; \$300 fine with \$300 suspended; \$72.50 costs; waived; 30 days in jail with 30 suspended; 24 months probation; consecutive with other case; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

\$87.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; \$85 days in jail with 36 suspended; credit for one day served; 24 months probation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Gantsoo Davasuren, 21, 1322 Washington St. N., No. 48, Twin Falls; failure to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; amended to failure to notify upon sinking an unattended vehicle; pleaded guilty; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$63.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; five days in jail with five suspended; 12 months probation; Magistrate Judge Roger Harris.

Ricardo R. Perez, 22, 326 Harrison, Twin Falls; petit theft; pleaded guilty; five days in jail; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.



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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING THE COMPLETE LEGAL DESCRIPTION, THE APPLICATION, AND OTHER DOCUMENTS ARE ON FILE WITH THE OFFICE OF THE PLANNING AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. NO. 05-12322 Doc ID #00040173482005N The Grds. 5610471 Parcel No. RPT14701000050A...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE RPT NO 05-12322 Doc ID #00040173482005N The Grds. 5610471 Parcel No. RPT14701000050A...

STAND OUT from the crowd! You'll find it in the Classifieds 733-0931 ext. 2 or 800-658-3883 132 Fairfield Street W • Twin Falls, ID

Legal
PUBLICATION NOTICE
Actions planned for your government are contained in public notices...

LEGAL NOTICE
The December 2005 Annual General Membership Meeting and the Board of Directors Meeting...

101
FOUND 21 chocolate Lab male (11/17 female, east of Wendon 535-2100)

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS
Have you forgotten to pickup your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to lose...

200 Employment
DRIVERS Taylor Trucking Inc.
GENERAL General Construction

LEGAL ADVERTISING
Please address all legal advertising to:
LEGAL ADVERTISING
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83403-0548

PUBLISH: November 25, 28 and 29, 2005
IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH - 10th JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS

102
FOUND 21 chocolate Lab male (11/17 female, east of Wendon 535-2100)

200 Professional Services
Therapeutic Touch Massage Therapy
\$45/hour, \$65/1.5 hrs.
Call 208-733-8827

200 Employment
CONSTRUCTION
FRAMERS WANTED
Call 212-5572

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. F-4182-ID-IDL, Loan No.: 050032363
On 2/27/05 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow, 1411 Falls Avenue East, Suite 1315, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH - 10th JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV 05-4303
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (IC: 15-3-801)

103
FOUND puppy, corner of Hwy 200 & Buchanan, 10 weeks old, brown with black spots...

200 Entertainment Services
SANTA FORT
HIRE
Available Days:
Call 208-733-1658

200 Employment
FINANCIAL
Financial Analyst
Entry level
Mentoring position
Waddell & Reed
208-736-6553

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. F-4182-ID-IDL, Loan No.: 050032363
On 2/27/05 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow, 1411 Falls Avenue East, Suite 1315, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH - 10th JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV 05-4303
NOTICE TO CREDITORS (IC: 15-3-801)

104
FOUND puppy, corner of Hwy 200 & Buchanan, 10 weeks old, brown with black spots...

200 Employment
All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to refuse or to properly classify any ad...

200 Employment
GENERAL
SOS Staffing in now hiring temporary Material Handler positions
Call Bobbe or Tara at 733-9277

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Loan No: 1002472460 T.S. No.: 05-3278-ID-0N
3/20/06 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time) in the lobby of First American Title 250 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83301...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
Loan No: 1002472460 T.S. No.: 05-3278-ID-0N
3/20/06 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time) in the lobby of First American Title 250 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83301...

105
ALCOHOLICS
MONTAGNA
208-733-8565
208-721-0055

200 Employment
All advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to refuse or to properly classify any ad...

200 Employment
STAR WEST
Experienced Satellite installers
Regional satellite installation company with 10 years of experience...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. 05-1869-DC ID # 00020293882005N
Under No. 2002-010883
T2861000060A The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. 05-1869-DC ID # 00020293882005N
Under No. 2002-010883
T2861000060A The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder...

106
Pregnancy Alternatives
PREGNANCY CRISIS
Free Tests Always Confidential. 734-7472

200 Employment
TOP GUN
TRUCK DRIVING ACADEMY
Class A/CDL Training

200 Employment
The Wood River Journal
Seeking an assertive and dynamic Sales Representative for an expanding week-end newspaper based in Hailey, Idaho...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. F-40781-ID-IDL, Loan No.: 30782523
On 3/20/06 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow, 1411 Falls Avenue East, Suite 1315, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
T.S. No. F-40781-ID-IDL, Loan No.: 30782523
On 3/20/06 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow, 1411 Falls Avenue East, Suite 1315, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301...

107
Professional Services
BANKRUPTCY
Inexpensive
Williams Law
Office Space

200 Employment
CLASSIFIED PRIVATE PARTY ADS
Requires pre-payment of advertising fee...

200 Employment
The Wood River Journal
DELIVERY
The Wood River Journal is looking for a responsible Newspaper Carrier...

PUBLISH: November 14, 21, 28 and 2005

PUBLISH: November 28, December 5, 12 and 19, 2005

PUBLISH: November 28, December 5, 12 and 19, 2005

PUBLISH: November 28, December 5, 12 and 19, 2005

PUBLISH: November 28, December 5, 12 and 19, 2005

Underwater hockey?

NFL D2
Scores and stats D3
NHL, NBA D4

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

The Times-News

Monday, November 28, 2005

Section D

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“As long as we're talking refunds, there have been Sundays in Detroit where double your money back wouldn't have been worth it.”

— Detroit Free Press columnist Mitch Albom before Detroit lost to the Falcons, 27-7, Thursday

TRIVIA

QUESTION: What former heavyweight NFL player said this? "Even when I was little, I was big."

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High School Girls Basketball
Camas County at Murtaugh, 7:30 p.m.
Palmrock at Glenns Ferry, 7:30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

CSI booster luncheon is today

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho booster luncheon will be held Monday at noon in Taylor Building Room 277. Golden Eagles coaches and athletes will be in attendance to give updates on their respective programs. Anyone interested is invited to pick up lunch from the cafeteria.

CSI title match broadcast is tonight

TWIN FALLS — The NJCAA Division 1 volleyball championship match between the College of Southern Idaho and Miami-Dade CC will be broadcast at 8 p.m. MST on CSTV.

T.F Soccer Club invites new players

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Rapids soccer club is looking for boys and girls ages 8-10 to compete in a competitive spring soccer program. For more information contact Patty Rietveld at 734-7637 or coach Sasha Pavlovic at 733-9411.

Adult hoops league rosters are due soon

TWIN FALLS — Rosters for the men's and women's basketball league teams are due to the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Dept. office by 5 p.m. Friday, Dec. 2. The fee is \$600 for 13 games in the men's division and \$487.50 for 10 games in the women's division. A double elimination tournament is eliminated. Season play begins the week of January 2. Please call the T.F. Parks and Recreation Office at 736-2265 for a packet or more information.

Michael Irvin arrested for drug paraphernalia

PLANO, Texas — Former Dallas Cowboys receiver Michael Irvin was charged with misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia after police searched his vehicle during a traffic stop, Plano police said Sunday.

Irvin, an ESPN analyst and semifinalist for the Pro Football Hall of Fame, was arrested on an outstanding warrant for speeding in Irving after being pulled over Friday afternoon for speeding in Plano.

Irvin paid a fine on the speeding ticket and posted bond on the drug paraphernalia possession charge. He was released about an hour after he was pulled over.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

William "The Refrigerator" Perry.

Seahawks triumph



Seattle's Andre Dyson (21) celebrates a missed field goal attempt by New York kicker Jay Feely, right, at the end of regulation Sunday. Holder Jeff Feagles reacts at left.

Seattle wins battle of NFC division leaders over Giants in OT

The Associated Press
SEATTLE — The Seattle Seahawks survived a huge NFC challenge Sunday — barely. Giants kicker Jay Feely missed three field goals, including two in overtime, and Seattle's Josh Brown hit a 36-yarder as the NFC West-leading Seahawks ousted New York 24-21.

Feely fouled on the final play of regulation from 40 yards, then couldn't hit from 54 and 45 yards in the extra session. Seattle used a 38-yard pass from Matt Hasselbeck to D.J. Hackett to get close for Brown.

Shaun Alexander rushed 31 times for 110 yards, 84 after halftime, and former Giant Joe Jurevicius had eight receptions for 137 yards and two touch-

downs — all before the frantic, seasaw finish.

"That was something, wasn't it?" Seattle coach Mike Holmgren said, sighing.

Immediately after the game, Feely stood up before his teammates and said, "I'm sorry I let you down."

"People are going to say it's a team game," Feely said. "But the fact of the matter is, you have to come through when you have one opportunity — much less two good opportunities."

Added New York coach Tom Coughlin: "It's just an empty feeling when you lose like that."

The Giants, led by quarterback Eli Manning's career day, bitterly fell to 7-4 instead of being 8-3 for the first time since

their 2000 Super Bowl season. Instead, they are tied with Dallas for first place in the NFC East and host the Cowboys next Sunday.

With its seventh straight win, Seattle is one more victory or a St. Louis loss away from clinching its second consecutive NFC West title. The Seahawks are 9-2 for the first time since 1984, when they went 12-4. That was also the year of their last playoff win.

They have only one game remaining against a team with a winning record, Dec. 24 against Peyton Manning's undefeated Indianapolis Colts.

Peyton's younger brother Drew, beyond his 24 years and toward franchise-quarterback

status — though ultimately in defeat. The younger Manning established career highs of 29 completions and 53 attempts. He had 344 yards passing — eight behind his career-high set Sept. 25 against San Diego — with two touchdowns.

The second was to Amani Toomer and was followed by a 2-point conversion to Jeremy Shockey with 1:59 left to tie it at 21.

Shockey caught 10 passes for 127 yards and a touchdown.

Feely could have avoided overtime had he not hooked his 40-yard try just outside the left upright to end regulation.

Then he left a 54-yard attempt short with 10:43 to go in overtime, and was short and wide left from 45 yards less than five minutes later.

Flame for Winter Games lit in Olympia

The Associated Press
ANCIENT OLYMPIA, Greece — The curse of the Winter Olympics struck again, with heavy clouds over the birthplace of the ancient games frustrating efforts Sunday to light the flame for Turin using the sun's rays.

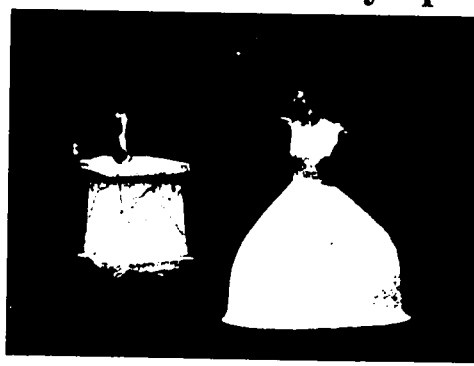
Bad weather also disrupted the ceremony for the Sydney 2000 Summer Games, as well as the past two Winter Olympics — in Salt Lake City in 2002 and Nagano in 1998.

Officials had to make do with a backup flame lit during Saturday's rehearsal of the 2,600-year-old Temple of Hera in this lush, riverside sanctuary in the western Peloponnese. Greek soap opera actress Theodore Starkou, in the white gown and sandals of an ancient high priestess, lit the backup flame by using a concave mirror to focus the sun's heat on a silver torch — after praying to the ancient sun god, Apollo.

In a Cypress tree-ringed clearing where is the heart of modern Olympics founder Baron Pierre de Coubertin is buried, Starkou handed the flame Sunday to the first in a chain of more than 10,500 torchbearers.

The 8,300-mile relay through Greece and Italy — with forays into France, Austria, Switzerland and Slovenia — ends at the Turin Olympic Stadium for the Feb. 10 opening ceremony.

"We are confident ... the Torino 2006 torch will be remembered as one of the most fascinating ever organized," said Turin organizing chief Valentino Castellani. "We have combined our efforts to realize high-standard Games ... which will reflect the warmth of the Italian people."



A priestess dances next to the Olympic flame Sunday during a lighting ceremony for the 2006 Winter Games in the Pierre de Coubertin Grove in Ancient Olympia, Greece.

The first torchbearer, 19-year-old Greek pole vaulter Costas Filipidis, set off with the flame toward a road still bearing the faded logo of the 2004 Summer Games in Athens. The end of the flame's Greek itinerary will include an event Dec. 6 at the restored ancient marble stadium of Athens

— used as an archery venue at the 2004 Summer Olympics — aimed at boosting the city following for winter sports in this country. Greece then will pass the flame to Italy for a relay involving 10,000 torchbearers, gondolas, a Ferrari sports car and a cavalry regiment.

— used as an archery venue at the 2004 Summer Olympics — aimed at boosting the city following for winter sports in this country. Greece then will pass the flame to Italy for a relay involving 10,000 torchbearers, gondolas, a Ferrari sports car and a cavalry regiment.

St. Louis is singing the blues

The Associated Press
ST. LOUIS — When St. Louis Blues owner Bill Lauric decided to sell the team, he slashed payroll and shipped out star defenseman Chris Pronger rather than signing him to a long-term deal, believing that attractive to potential buyers.

For now, the franchise is suffering mightily for it. The sad-sack Blues have four victories in the first 22 games this season and are worst in the NHL with 11 points. Their run of 25 consecutive playoff appearances, the longest in U.S. professional sports, is seriously threatened only a quarter of the way through the season.

"I think everyone agrees we

should have done far better than this," defenseman Christian Bachmann said. "Everyone feels we're capable, but we've got to find a way to do it."

"We're going through a tough stretch and I hope everyone can step up and get out of this together."

It's a tough stretch that's lasted all season. They've won two straight only once. They've lost a franchise-record seven straight at home, where historically they've dominated with a 217-118 record the previous 10 seasons.

They've suffered through a

downward spike in attendance, with rows and rows empty seats replacing almost nonstop sellouts. The guess-the-crowd feature and make-some-noise meter are both gone, lest they cause embarrassment.

A week ago, there was a glimmer of hope. Players and coaches alike thought the worst was over after light, inspired play sparked a rare victory at Detroit.

"We played the perfect game," Backman said. "We stuck to our game plan and put the puck in the right areas."

In the three games since, they've been outscored 8-0 in the third period.

The latest indignity came Saturday night when the Columbus

Sans skirt, Funk wins Skins Game with \$925K

The Associated Press
LA QUINTA, Calif. — What a Skins Game it was for Fred Funk, who went from wearing a pink skirt on the third hole to walking away with nearly all the money.

"Wow," Funk said in disbelief Sunday on the 18th green, where he'd just won the final \$550,000 and six skins, for a total of \$925,000 and 15 skins in his first try.

Funk had a two-putt birdie on the par-5 18th, then clinched the record-setting victory when Tiger Woods missed an 8-foot birdie putt.

The 49-year-old Funk became the oldest Skins Game

BCS clears up

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — The Bowl Championship Series picture is coming into focus with West Virginia joining Southern California and Penn State as automatic qualifiers and Notre Dame all but reserving a spot for itself.

If all goes according to plan on Saturday, when three more BCS conference titles will be decided, the only mystery remaining is whether Ohio State or Oregon will nab the final at-large bid when the pairings come out the next day.

USC and Texas are playing for the biggest stakes. With one more victory by each, no one will be able to quibble with a Rose Bowl matching the nation's only two unbeaten teams.

USC plays crosstown rival UCLA (9-1) in the Coliseum while Texas gets a much easier draw, facing Colorado (7-4) in the Big 12 championship game. The Trojans will play in the BCS regardless of whether they beat the Bruins, but the Fiesta Bowl isn't exactly what Matt Leinart, Reggie Bush and Co. have in mind.

The first Atlantic Coast Conference championship game goes to Virginia Tech and Florida State in Jacksonville, Fla. It looks like a mismatch. The Seminoles (7-4) come in on a three-game losing streak. Virginia Tech has recovered nicely from its Miami loss. The Hokies (10-1) have won two straight by a combined

Check out #2-17. It's still the AP USA. Today and Harris polls. See page D3. They've got great talent, great coaches and great history and they're going to be backed.

"I'm not for sure about that. They could just be playing with everyone's head."

No bulletin board material there, but let me try to pened in the Hokies for the Orange Bowl.

In the Southeastern Conference, LSU (10-1) faces Georgia (9-2) in Atlanta with the winner likely earning another trip to the Georgia Dome for the Sugar Bowl on Jan. 2.

The Tigers and Penn State (10-1), the Big Ten's BCS rep — an "Oregon Tech to a lesser extent" — still hold out hope that an upset will send them to the Rose Bowl.

But let's assume that doesn't happen, and USC vs. Texas in Pasadena, Calif., finally becomes a reality.

The Tostitos Fiesta Bowl gets the first selection of the eligible teams to replace Big 12 champion Texas.

The chances of the Fiesta taking any team but Notre Dame is about the same as finding a bag of Cheetos on sale in Sun Devil Stadium on Jan. 2.

"It seems Notre Dame gets better every week," Notre Dame tailback Danus Walker said after a 38-31 victory over Stanford. "We've played well enough to get the BCS bid."

Argue about whether the Fighting Irish (9-2) deserve a spot if you want, but the fact that the debate gets so many people so fired up, essentially makes the case for Notre Dame.

Love 'em or hate 'em, everybody watches the Irish.

Please see BCS, Page D4

winner, and took all \$700,000 available on Sunday.

"I'm still shocked that I got asked to be in this thing," said Funk, who was invited to his first Skins Game after winning the Players Championship in March. "I've always watched it on TV and was shocked that I didn't even dream of actually. First of all, I didn't dream that I'd win the Players Championship."

Before the made-for-TV tournament, Woods told Funk he'd never live it down if Annika Sorenstam outdrew him on even one hole. It happened on

Please see FUNK, Page D4



Week 2

Bears make it seven in a row

AFC

East	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
New England	8	1	0	545	43	379	320	330	440	21.0
A.J.C.	7	2	0	384	18	223	420	550	430	21.0
Jets	7	2	0	364	18	217	229	340	300	20.0
Miami	7	2	0	182	10	246	320	050	180	13.0

North	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Charger	6	3	0	727	29	308	420	410	530	30.0
Philadelp	7	2	0	703	22	517	420	450	160	21.0
Cleveland	7	2	0	384	18	244	320	150	340	20.0
Pittsburgh	7	2	0	373	14	228	320	040	340	20.0

South	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
IndyCar	6	3	0	1200	30	480	1200	400	200	40.0
Jacksonv	8	0	0	727	28	177	410	420	820	40.0
Tennessee	3	6	0	273	26	394	340	140	240	12.0
Atlanta	2	10	0	182	10	222	320	040	240	12.0

West	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Denver	8	2	0	418	26	280	300	320	610	30.0
San Diego	7	4	0	408	33	193	340	420	320	21.0
Oakland	4	7	0	364	28	282	240	240	240	12.0

NFC

East	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Dallas	7	4	0	808	34	188	420	220	120	6.0
Carolina	6	3	0	338	20	242	320	140	8.0	
Washington	5	4	0	405	23	224	420	140	440	21.0
Philadelphia	5	4	0	405	22	246	110	300	040	24.0

North	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Detroit	8	0	0	1200	30	480	1200	400	200	40.0
Minnesota	8	0	0	545	43	379	320	330	440	21.0
Green Bay	7	3	0	384	17	250	320	140	240	12.0
Chicago	2	10	0	182	10	222	320	040	240	12.0

South	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Carolina	8	0	0	727	28	182	410	420	820	40.0
Tampa Bay	6	4	0	608	21	389	320	210	310	11.0
Atlanta	7	3	0	408	28	242	320	140	8.0	
New Orleans	3	6	0	273	26	394	340	140	240	12.0

West	W	L	T	PP	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Seattle	8	0	0	818	26	800	800	320	110	8.0
San Francisco	8	0	0	408	28	242	320	140	8.0	
Arizona	5	4	0	405	23	224	420	140	440	21.0
San Francisco 2	8	0	0	182	10	222	320	040	240	12.0

Bears 13, Redskins 10

Chicago 13, Washington 10 (OT)
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Patriots 13, Bills 9

Carolina 13, Denver 9
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Chiefs 26, Patriots 16

Chiefs 26, Patriots 16
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Jaguars 24, Cardinals 14

Jaguars 24, Cardinals 14
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Dolphins 33, Raiders 21

Dolphins 33, Raiders 21
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Tampa Bay 31, Packers 14

Tampa Bay 31, Packers 14
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Redskins 37, Texans 27

Redskins 37, Texans 27
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Redskins 37, Texans 27

Redskins 37, Texans 27
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

Chiefs 26, Patriots 16

Chiefs 26, Patriots 16
 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
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Bengals 23, Ravens 29

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Bengals 23, Ravens 29

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 Tom Brady 27, Matt Ryan 11
 Matt Ryan 27, Tom Brady 11

"Never doubt that a group of thoughtful committed citizens can save the world, indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
 — Margaret Mead

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

- Basketball: Virginia Tech at Ohio St., 8:30p, ESPN
Football: Steelers at Colts, ABC, 7 p.m.
Volleyball: NCAA Division I volleyball championship, CSI vs. Miami Beach CC, CSTV, 8 p.m.

Area SW report

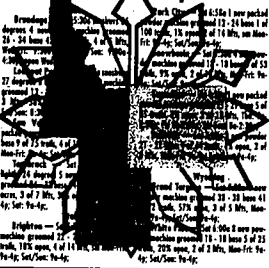


Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists various teams and their records.

BASKETBALL

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists basketball teams and their records.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists Western Conference basketball teams.

NBA NEWS

Text reporting on NBA news, including player movements and team standings.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists football teams and their records.

College Basketball

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists college basketball teams.

NCAA Division III Playoffs

Text reporting on NCAA Division III playoff results and schedules.

AP Top 25

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists AP Top 25 football teams.

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists football teams and their records.

AP Top 25

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AP Top 25

Table with columns for team, W, L, T, P, A, PA. Lists AP Top 25 football teams.

American gymnastics

Text reporting on American gymnastics results, including medalists and scores.

Feagles breaks

Text reporting on Jeff Feagles' NFL record for consecutive games with 735 yards.

FSU is latest fixture

Text reporting on Florida State University's football performance.

No. 12 Michigan State

Text reporting on Michigan State's performance in the Big Ten conference.

Injured Alenby hangs on

Text reporting on the injury status of Australian Olympic athlete Robert Alenby.

Edmonton wins Grey Cup

Text reporting on the Edmonton Eskimos winning the Grey Cup.

Eagles file complaint

Text reporting on the Philadelphia Eagles filing a complaint against the Dallas Cowboys.

Eagles file complaint

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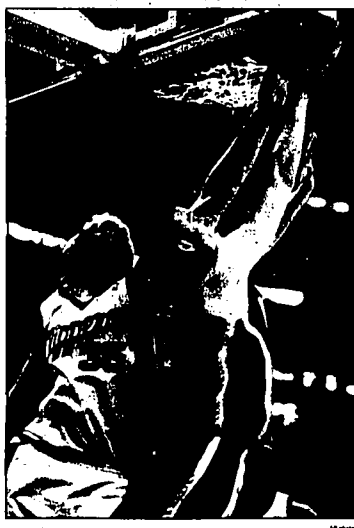
Advertisement for Middlekauff GT40, featuring a large image of the car and promotional text.

SPORTS

Croschere lifts Pacers past Pacific-leading Clippers

LOS ANGELES (AP) — All five Indiana starters played significant roles for coach Rick Carlisle against the Los Angeles Clippers — none bigger than Austin Croschere.

After being held to five points through the first three quarters, Croschere scored 12 in the fourth and grabbed a critical offensive rebound in the final seconds to help the Pacers hold off a late rally by the Clippers for a 97-92 victory on Sunday.



Los Angeles forward Chris Kaman, left, blocks a shot by Indiana's Austin Croschere during the first half Sunday in Los Angeles.

"We couldn't have won this game without the total team effort," teammate Jermaine O'Neal said. "Austin was the catalyst, getting in there and hitting those big 15-foot shots. There were multiple plays he made in the fourth quarter, and that's what makes us a talented team."

Ron Artest scored 22 points and O'Neal added 16 points and 13 rebounds for the Pacers, who handed the Clippers their first home loss in six tries and prevented them from setting a franchise record for the most wins at home from the start of a season. Stephen Jackson scored 15 points on 6-for-15 shooting after going 4-for-15 on Friday's 97-95 loss to Atlanta.

Elton Brand had 22 points and nine rebounds for the Clippers, who have lost consecutive games for the first time this season after a first-best 9-2 start.

"They put up 84 shots to our 70 shots, and you can't win like that," shooting guard Cahirio Mobley said. "They got a little physical with us, and it showed. You're not going to get the looks you might normally get when you're playing Indiana."

Chris Kaman finished with 18 points and 12 rebounds, but the Clippers still managed to squander nine-point leads twice.

"We've got a lot of guys who play to win," Artest said. "We were down, but we didn't give up. We started out slow, but we played hard, took care of the ball and came out ahead."

Artest, who missed Friday's 87-85 loss to Atlanta because of a bruised right wrist he injured on a hard foul by Cleveland's LeBron James on Thursday, shot 8-for-19 from the field. The 28-year-old veteran, who was

named the NBA's defensive player of the year two seasons ago, is averaging 21.2 points. The Clippers went on a 10-2 run capped by Mobley's 11-foot jumper and narrowed the gap to 92-90 with 1:07 to play. But Jamaal Tinsley hit two free throws at the other end, and Croschere grabbed an offensive rebound of Tinsley's missed jumper on the Pacers' next possession. He was fouled and converted both free throws for a 96-92 lead with 4:2 seconds to go.

Blazers 77, Hawks 75

ATLANTA — Darius Miles scored on a bank shot with 1.3 seconds left, giving Portland a 77-75 victory Sunday over Atlanta and ending the Hawks' two-game winning streak.

Woods won the other \$75,000 on the third hole on Saturday. Sorenstam was shut out for the second straight year.

"This course is long for me to start with, and you put some wind and some firm greens. It made it really tough for me to get it close," said Sorenstam, the LPGA star playing in her third straight Skins Game. "It's an honor simply to come here. This is a great experience for me."

Nittany Lions rates with USC's run at a three-peat and Notre Dame's resurgence under Charlie Weiss as the best stories this year in college football.

Penn State hasn't played in the Orange Bowl since 1986 and Joe's crew might be too good for the Miami contingent to pass up.

If not, maybe Ohio State (9-2) is the Orange's pick. The Buckeyes haven't played in an Orange Bowl since 1977, they bring thousands of fans, have a national following that will bring eyes to television sets and, oh by the way, they might just be the third-best team in the country right now.

The Fiesta Bowl has a long and successful relationship with Penn State. The Lions have played in the Tempe game six times and won their last national title there in 1987 against Miami.

Given a chance to match Notre Dame and Penn State, how could Fiesta officials not take it?

But if Penn State is off the board, the decision appears to be Ohio State, which has played in two of the last three Fiesta Bowls or Oregon (10-1). The Ducks' only loss is to USC and their fans happily will make the trip to Arizona. Also, doesn't the BCS kind of owe the Pac-10 one after California got shut out last season?

But what if USC or Texas loses? Well, then things get complicated, and let's just leave it at that.

to move the puck forward and just keep things simple until we get out of it."

A bigger problem is a lack of talent. The Blues stayed out of the bustling free-agent market created by the lockout for the most part, choosing to build around the players they had left along with lower-priced fill-ins after Pronger was traded to the Oilers and future Hall of Famer Al MacInnis was retired.

The payroll is \$31 million, or \$8 million over the salary cap, and already seven players have made their NHL debut. Still, the Blues figured to battle for a playoff spot.

One of the remaining big-money players, forward Keith Tkachuk, played in only

Lightning strikes Penguins

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Fredrik Modin scored two power-play goals and John Grahame stopped 20 shots in the Tampa Bay Lightning's 4-1 victory over the Pittsburgh Penguins on Sunday.

Rob DiMaio and Brad Richards also scored for the defending Stanley Cup champions, who rebounded from Friday's 8-2 loss to New Jersey. The Lightning were 3-for-9 on the power play.

Pittsburgh failed to score on its two power plays. Maxime Talbot netted a short-handed goal with 1:13 left to spoil Grahame's shutout bid.

Penguins captain Mario Lemieux didn't play because of a stomach virus. He had just one assist in the previous three games after sitting out on Nov. 16 at Philadelphia with a similar ailment.

Pittsburgh rookie Sidney Crosby was in the lineup, two days after bruising his left foot. He was struck by a shot during the third period of the Penguins' 6-3 loss Friday night at Florida.

Richards put the Lightning up 1-0 when he redirected Nolan Pratt's shot from the point at 7:55 of the first. He has four goals and 12 points during a 10-game point streak.

Grahame extended his right pad to stop Matt Murray on a short-handed penalty shot with 10:37 left in the first. He improved to 8-1-1 against

Pittsburgh Crosby had two good scoring chances and a hit during the first. He had scores six points in the previous five games.

Sabres 3, Capitals 2

WASHINGTON — Jason Pominville scored his first NHL goal, and Thomas Vanek and Jochen Hecht also scored to help the Buffalo Sabres stretch their unbeaten streak to six games with a 3-2 victory over the Washington Capitals on Sunday.

Vanek scored the go-ahead goal, and Hecht added a short-handed score late in the third period.

Maxim Afinogenov and Derek Roy assisted on the first two scores. Afinogenov made perfect crossing passes on each to help the Sabres improve to 5-0-0 in their last six games.

Washington has lost four straight.

The Capitals' offense struggled throughout the game as Buffalo held a 29-19 edge in shots and repeatedly tested

goalie Olie Kolzig.

Thrashers 5, Hurricanes 2

RALEIGH, N.C. — Ilya Kovalchuk had two goals and two assists, and Marian Hossa scored the go-ahead goal in the third period to lead the Atlanta Thrashers past the Carolina Hurricanes 5-2 on Sunday.

Marc Savard and Jean-Pierre Vigier also had goals for the Thrashers, who have taken both meetings with the Hurricanes in the RBC Center.

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Funk

Continued from D1

the third hole Saturday, and Funk good-naturedly showed a pink skin over his pants and finished the hole.

But Woods might not want to underestimate Funk anymore.

"I started off with some nice birdie, but after that, Funky just took over," Woods said.

Coincidentally, Funk won \$775,000 and 12 skins on two par-5s. The \$925,000 and 15

skins were records for a rookie.

Almost as surprising as Funk winning practically the entire purse was Fred Couples, the King of Skins, getting shut out for the first time in 12 appearances.

"Getting nothing is not the end of the world," said Couples, who still holds the Skins Game career records with \$3,515,000 and 77 skins. "I've gotten my share. So I'm tickled pink just to be here."

BCS

Continued from D1

And it may not sit right to some people that the But East gets an automatic bid to play on college football's biggest stage, but those are the rules — so no sense whining about it.

West Virginia (9-1), which locked up a spot when South Florida lost Saturday, has looked BCS worthy. The Mountaineers get to prove it against the SEC champs in the Sugar Bowl.

That leaves two spots open: Notre Dame's opponent in the Fiesta and Virginia Tech's in the Orange.

Penn State has to get one of those spots and the second large pick gets the other.

The Orange Bowl holds the key. Joe Paterno's revival of the

played in the Tempe game six times and won their last national title there in 1987 against Miami.

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Blues

Continued from D1

erased a 3-2 deficit with a pair of goals that enabled them to leapfrog past the Blues at the bottom of the standings.

If I thought we had such a strong game in Detroit and I thought it was going to be a real building block for us moving forward," coach Mike Kitchen said. "That hasn't happened."

Sporadic execution since the victory at Detroit, and even overconfidence, has been to blame.

"We've won over what made us successful in that game and we do it for two periods the last few games since then and we feel we're a good enough team to get away with that," defenseman

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10:00 AM - 12:00 PM SENIOR CITIZENS/PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED
Friday, Dec. 2 10:00 AM-9:00 PM
Saturday, Dec. 3 10:00 AM-9:00 PM

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