

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/100th year, No. 338

Sunday, December 4, 2005

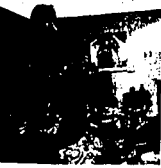
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\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy skies. High 31, low 19. Page A2



SOMETHING STINKS

When is it worth battling the mess in kids' rooms? Page E1

METH MESS

School bus drivers get full time for driving under the influence. Page B6

BIG WINNER

Pakistani man who won lottery is helping to rebuild his hometown. Page A15

PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Brody Miller is the 2005 Times-News Football Player of the Year. Page C1

UNDERGROUND ECONOMY

They are not supposed to be here. But they are. Almost everywhere — perhaps 20 million strong.

Illegal immigrants harvest our groceries, build our houses, make our beds and do our dishes.

They are spreading beyond traditional immigrant states like California and Texas, moving wherever there is growth, affordable housing and family networks.

They are increasingly found in states like Idaho, Utah, Washington, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Georgia and the Dakotas.

They form an underground economy that, by one estimate, produces \$970 billion in goods and service, or nearly 9 percent of the overall U.S. economy.

For an examination of this phenomenon see today's Money section on page D1.

The shadow of Alejandro Garcia with a pick is seen as he works in Las Vegas on Nov. 16, 2005.



HOME FOR GOOD



Sonya Nowland and her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Kent Nowland, wrap gifts at their home in Twin Falls Saturday. Nowland recently returned from Kirkuk, Iraq after serving a tour of duty with the 2-116th Brigade Combat Team.

Nowland family closes last chapter of deployment

By Sandy Miller Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Believe it or not, there are more than 300 people in the Magic Valley actually looking forward to strapping up the Christmas lights this year.

Sgt. 1st Class Kent Nowland is one of those people. He and the other soldiers of the 2-116th Brigade Combat Team spent last Christmas in Iraq. That they are home for good makes this Christmas even more joyful.

"Even the kids think it's a dream right now," Kent said last week in the comfort of his living room, now decorated in the reds, greens, golds and silvers of Christmas.

In fact, Kent is so happy to be home that he even went shopping with his wife, Sonya, on Black Friday.

Perhaps he figured having spent the last year or so in a war zone prepared him for the Christmas shopping crowds the day after Thanksgiving. Any way you look at it, there's a lot more laughter around the Nowland place these days now that the family's self-admitted czar of sarcasm is home.

He said goodbye to them inside an airline hangar one early summer morning 16 months ago. His youngest, Dusty, then 9, sat on his lap, clutching a teddy bear. And then he was gone.

There has been a couple of quick trips home since he was deployed, but they always ended with more goodbyes.

Not this time. When he flew into Boise's Gowen Field last month, he looked out his window to see his

family standing on the flight line.

"It seemed like we talked forever," he said last week. "It was great. You can't put it into words the relief you have that you're done."

He offered to hop the bus home to Twin Falls, but Sonya would have none of it. She, Dusty, now almost 11, 13-year-old Drew and 14-year-old Eric needed to be on that flight line.

"You'd be taking away the moment of closure for the family," Sonya said. "It's about us knowing it's over, that they're finally home."

They weren't the only ones happy to see Kent home again. When Toby the basset hound saw Kent walk in the front door, "he barked until he was hoarse," Kent said.

Please see HOME, Page A2

Al-Qaida leader dies in Pakistan

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — One of al-Qaida's top five leaders, said to be responsible for planning overseas strikes, was killed by Pakistani security forces in a rocket attack near the Afghan border with U.S. help, American and Pakistani officials said Saturday.

He was a key associate of al-Qaida No. 2 Ayman al-Zawahiri, who died Thursday in an explosion in the North Waziristan tribal area, and his remains were identified in SOURCE ESM.

Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said Saturday. Two U.S. counterterrorism officials, who spoke only on condition of anonymity because of the information's sensitivity, confirmed Rabia's death but would not elaborate on the circumstances.

The officials said Rabia was believed to be an Egyptian and head of al-Qaida's foreign operations, possibly as senior as the No. 3 official in the terrorist group. That would put him in a tier just below Osama bin Laden and al-Zawahiri.

"He was al-Qaida's No. 5 and one of what we know," Ahmed told the Associated Press.

Rabia filed the vacuum created this year by the capture of the previous operations chief, Abu Faraj al-Libi, the two U.S. officials said.

As head of operations, Rabia would have been responsible for training, recruiting, networking and, most importantly, planning international terrorist activities outside the Afghan-Pakistan region.

One of the officials said Rabia also may have been involved in operations inside the region. He had a wide array of jihadist contacts, the other official said, and was believed to be trying to reinvigorate al-Qaida's terrorist operations.

The circumstances of Rabia's death were still not clear.



COLORIFIC

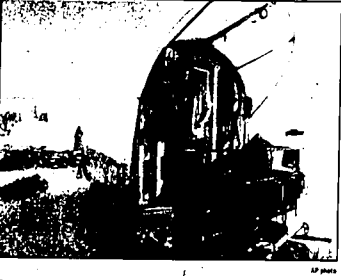
Scientists seek to mimic the vivid coloration of butterfly wings.

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Despite snow and ice, couple finds covered wagon a cozy home



Teresa Dakatab stands on the covered wagon she and her husband, Ron, are using to travel the country. The Dakatabs are stopped west of Mallette, S.D., until the weather improves from the snow storm that hit the area earlier in the week. They travel with two wagons and five horses.

The Associated Press

MELLETTE, S. D. — Living in a covered wagon during and after a grim ice storm might not seem like a comfortable alternative to a modern home.

But when the power fails for days on end, a wagon with a wood stove might be the cozier place.

"Actually, we're sitting better than most people," said Teresa Dakatab, 46, as she washed dishes Thursday morning inside the snug, warm wagon she and her husband, Ron, have called home since 2002. She was referring to the many farms around her still without electricity because of the ice and snow storm that howled through on Sunday and Monday.

"We knew the storm was coming, so we settled in before it hit," Teresa said. Their wagon was parked along state Highway

"We are learning how to love others, and to forgive others."

20, about a mile west of Mellette. They had been rambling down U.S. Highway 201, en route from Arco, Idaho, to Plankinton, near Mitchell, to spend some time with friends.

The Dakatabs plan to continue their plodding whenever they feel travel by horse and wagon is safe on the shoulders of U.S. 201. That could be a few days, or even longer, Teresa said. They hope to spend Christmas in Plankinton and the rest of winter in Kansas before heading back to Idaho in the spring.

Ron is originally from Gettysburg, Teresa grew up in St. Anthony.

They travel with two wagons and five horses. The second wagon carries mainly hay and grain for the horses — and a generator. The Dakatabs use the generator year-round, so it's no big deal when the power fails.

The wagon that their home was originally a sheepherder's camping wagon previously owned by a Hutterite colony near Helena, Mont. The Dakatabs bought it for \$600. Some of the wood had to be replaced, Teresa said, and the covering is not the original canvas. It's a rubberized tarp made of the same material that covers the Astrodome, she said.

Please see WAGON, Page A2

7 days, 7 reasons to read

Staying upright
Seniors learn to avoid falling.
Monday

Wall of honor
High school honors soldiers who graduated.
Too much of a good thing?
The rewards — and risks — of collecting.
Wednesday

Patron of Mexico
Celebrations for Guadalupe.
Thursday

Winter Sports special
Cross-country skiing, Snowmobiling, Snowshoeing.
Friday

Faith and the holidays
Is it harder for the faithful to stay the course during the Yule season?
Leaving the farm
Follow a family through the change.
Saturday

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Increasing clouds late in the day. Highs in the low 30s. Tonight: A low light snow showers possible overnight. Lows in the upper teens. Tomorrow: Cloudy to mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy skies with breezy conditions. Highs in the upper 20s to near 30. Tonight: A low light snow showers possible overnight. Lows in the upper teens. Tomorrow: Variably cloudy skies. Highs in the low 30s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS.

An unstable snow level pattern will continue to bring intermittent snow showers to the region through at least the middle of the week. Skies will remain cloudy to mostly cloudy with cold temperatures.

NORTHERN UTAH

The area will continue to experience cold temperatures as well as occasional snow showers if enough ambient weather through mid-week.



REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists various Idaho cities and their weather forecasts.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists various national cities and their weather forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Tuesday. Lists various international cities and their weather forecasts.

JOIN TODAY!

Advertiser information for The Times-News, including contact details for various departments.

Governor releases records to 'set the record straight' on Katrina

On Aug. 29, the day Katrina made landfall. But despite assurances from the Federal Emergency Management Agency that 500 buses were "standing by," Blanco's aides were compelled to take action when the FEMA buses failed to materialize, documents show.



Kent Nowland helps wrap Christmas gifts at his home in Twin Falls on Saturday. Nowland returned home from Iraq just before Thanksgiving.

Wagon

The wheels are rubber, too. Original wheel axles with iron bands around the edge are illegal in some states, Teresa said.

The first 30 days of this lifestyle were the worst, Teresa said. "We were always in each other's face."

ton friends informed of their whereabouts, and they forward their bills to her.

Home

With three kids and a full-time job as the family assistance coordinator at the local armory, Sonya's days and nights were full. Her alarm clock went off at 5 a.m. She woke the kids at 6. She dropped them off at school at 8:15 then put in a full day at the office.

Sonya said it was more like 7. "I'd could do was tell him 'welcome home,'" she said. "A lot of things changed while Kent was gone, including Eric's voice. Eric also is sporting new braces and both he and Drew are now taller than their mom."

CORRECTION

The photo and outline with the people named is reprinted today in the YourBusiness page in the Money section, (Page D-3).

The Times-News NEW Information Line

Advertisement for The Times-News Information Line, featuring phone number 735-3350 and details about lottery and weather information.

Advertisement for Idaho Lottery, showing ticket numbers and prize amounts.

As for the happily married couple, they settled right in to their life together. "The only adjustment is that he's brought home all this stuff," Sonya said.

NATION

Alito's opponents say credibility gap widens due to inconsistencies

WASHINGTON (AP) — Challenging his candor and by implication his character, Samuel Alito's critics are seizing on a handful of inconsistencies and omissions in the record to raise doubts about the judge's fitness for the Supreme Court.



Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Sen. Arlen Specter, R-Pa., right, greets Supreme Court nominee Judge Samuel Alito prior to their meeting on Capitol Hill on Friday in Washington.

By themselves, the issues seem minor:

- shifting explanations for Alito's participation in a 2002 case involving the mutual fund company Vanguard. Alito had pledged in 1990 to Congress that he would step aside.
- a statement that Alito did not recall his membership in a controversial conservative Princeton alumni group until recently seeing a document.
- a 1985 Reagan administration legal brief seeking the reversal of a landmark abortion rights case. The material was not sent to the Senate along with other records.

Critics of the federal appeals court judge say they detect a pattern.

"A credibility gap is emerging, with each new piece of information released on Judge Alito's record," said Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is to begin confirmation hearings on Jan. 9.

"He bears an especially heavy burden at the hearings in January to explain the growing number of discrepancies between his current statements and his past actions," said Kennedy, D-Mass.

Ralph Neas, president of People for the American Way, said that as more documents about Alito's record become public, "a disturbing lack of credibility has begun to emerge across a range of key issues."

A White House spokesman, Steve Schmidt, said critics are "trying to smear a good man." Schmidt said their claims were a "recognition by the Democratic groups that there is disagreement from which to mount a rational opposition to the Alito nomination."

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales told reporters on Friday that a lot of information was requested and "there may be some times when people forget."

He added, "When reminded, the key is coming forward with the information."

The fate of Alito's nomination to replace retiring Justice Sandra Day O'Connor probably will be determined by his writings and formal rulings on abortion as well as the other opinions issued during 15 years on the appeals court.

Alito's supporters say that barring an unexpected turn at confirmation hearings, he will be confirmed for the high court. Ironically, Alito's critics find no fault with the legal opinion in the Vanguard case, and even his six-figure investment in the firm's mutual funds has seemed a secondary concern at times.

Not so a commitment to the Judiciary Committee during his appeals court confirmation in 1990. Alito pledged then to disqualify himself from cases involving Vanguard and three other entities.

Yet Alito was on a three-judge panel that ruled unanimously in 2002 in favor of Vanguard on a case involving the account of a deceased investor. Subsequently, the investor's widow sought a new review and Alito's disqualification, citing his substantial investments.

Alito wrote the chief judge of the 3rd Circuit that he did not believe he was required to disqualify himself, although, he said he was voluntarily stepping aside. The letter did not mention the pledge he had made to the Senate, and it is not clear whether Shantae Maharaj, the woman who sought to disqualify him, knew about it.

Initially, Alito and Bush administration officials said his initial participation was the result of a computer error that had failed to flag the case.

Then, responding to a letter last month from the Judiciary Committee chairman, GOP Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, Alito wrote that his pledge to the committee covered his "initial service" as a judge. As time passed, he said, he realized it had been "unduly restrictive."

But a questionnaire Alito returned to the committee last week shows that as late as 2005, he removed himself from a case involving Vanguard because it was on a "standing recusal list."

The dispute surrounding an alumni organization is less complex.

In 1986, as part of an application for a new job in the Reagan Administration, Alito stressed his conservative credentials. Among them, he cited his membership in the "Concerned Alumni of Princeton University," a conservative alumni group.

The group once said school officials had lowered standards to accept female and minority applicants.

In completing the committee's questionnaire, Alito stepped carefully around the issue. "A document I recently reviewed reflects that I was a member of the group in the 1980s," he wrote.

"Apart from that document, I have no recollection of being a member of attending meetings or otherwise participating in the activities of the group."

People for the American Way announced on Nov. 18 it was seeking records at the Library of Congress that might "shed more light on the activities and ideology of the group."

The questionnaire also requested that Alito provide legal briefs and a detailed summary of his work on Supreme Court cases. He responded with voluminous material dating from his tenure in the Reagan Administration.

Shoplifter leaves a trail of meat behind him

MARION, Ind. (AP) — Forget about bread crumbs, police say a shoplifter in Indiana left a trail of meat behind him.

Johnny McCray had grabbed 19 packages of meat, some weighing more than a pound, from Lance's New Market in

Marion, police said.

An officer tried to stop McCray in his car with the steaks and roasts, but police said he took off, chucking the meat out the window as he went.

Shortly thereafter, he abandoned the car near an

apartment complex and was captured after he ran away.

Police spent about 90 minutes Wednesday retrieving the stolen meat from the streets of the city about halfway between Indianapolis and Fort Wayne.

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NATION/WORLD

Attacks kill 19 Iraqi soldiers

BAGHDAD (AP) — Insurgents launched a coordinated ambush against Iraqi soldiers northeast of Baghdad on Saturday, detonating a roadside bomb and then firing on the patrol, killing 19 and wounding two, officials said.

The attack took place near Adhaim, about 60 miles from Baghdad, Iraqi officials said. It came two days after a roadside bomb killed 10 U.S. Marines and wounded 11 others on a foot patrol near Fallujah in the deadliest attack against American forces in four months.

Elsewhere, a U.S. base at Mosul's airport came under mortar or rocket fire Saturday, wounding two American soldiers, the U.S. military said. Several detonations shook the installation — Forward Operating Base Courage — at about 6:50 a.m. the command said.

In Berlin, the German government said it was making intense efforts to secure the release of an aid worker and her driver kidnapped in Iraq on Nov. 25. In a video made public Tuesday, kidnapers threatened to kill Susanne Oshoff, 43, unless Germany stops dealing with the Iraqi government.

Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier told reporters that "regrettably, we have not succeeded in the first week in establishing indirect or direct contact with the kidnapers."

Chancellor Angela Merkel has said Germany is not to be "blackmailed" in the case. Germany ardently opposed the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and refused to send troops there. However, it has been training Iraqi soldiers and police outside the country.

The Al-Jazeera network broadcast a videotape and statement Friday in which the kidnapers of four Christian peace activists threatened to kill the hostages — two Canadians, an American and a Briton — unless all prisoners in U.S. and Iraqi detention centers were freed by Dec. 1.

Foreign Office Minister Douglas Alexander, interviewed by the British Broadcasting Corp., condemned the release of the latest hostage video.

"We are concerned about the welfare of the hostages and we deplore the release of these videos, not least because of the great distress to the family of British hostage Mr. (Norman) Kemner and the other families involved, but our policy on this is well-established," he said.

A leading member of the British anti-war movement, Anas Altirkai, arrived Saturday in Iraq to try to win the release of the hostages.

The Christian activists — Kemner, 74 of London; Tom Fox, 54, of Clear Brook, Va.; James Lopez, 41, of Toronto; and Harmeet Singh Sodhan, 32, of Canada — had been repeatedly warned by Iraqi and Western security officials that

they were taking a grave risk by moving about Baghdad without bodyguards.

The activists were members of the Chicago-based Christian Peacemaker Teams. On Saturday, the group appealed to kidnapers to release their hostages.

"I would appeal to them and say that you are mistaken about who these four men are," group member Peggy Gish told The Associated Press in the Jordanian capital, Amman.

"They are really working for peace and justice. They are helping you and other Iraqi people." The ambush against the U.S. Marines from Regimental Combat Team 8 occurred Thursday outside Fallujah, the former insurgent bastion overrun by U.S. forces in November 2004. All those who died were from 1st Marine Division, based at Twentynine Palms, Calif., the Defense Department said.



An Iraqi soldier, left, asks a wounded colleague to write his home telephone number down on a piece of paper, so that he can inform the man's family, after they were injured in a roadside bomb Saturday near Adhaim, Iraq.

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Democrats lack unified position on war in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi says it's time for the U.S. to try to start coming home from Iraq. Her top lieutenant, Rep. Steny Hoyer, says a precipitous pullout could be disastrous.

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid calls on President Bush to develop a timetable for the phased withdrawal of troops. Some of his Democratic colleagues, including Sen. John Kerry, craft their own plans for the military's eventual return.

The position Democrats seem to share is that Bush's current strategy is flawed.

Otherwise, they have widely disparate views about how — and when — to get out of Iraq, raising the question of whether the lack of a unified message could hinder Democratic efforts to turn Bush's woes and mounting public frustration about the war into liabilities for GOP candidates during congressional elections next fall.

"There simply is no party position on Iraq ... It's every man and woman for themselves," said Lewis Baker, a political analyst at Rutgers University in New Jersey who closely monitors Congress.



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WORLD

In Sunni Arab city, leader's assassination leads to flood of tips

SAMARRIA, Iraq (AP) — After keeping their distance for months, Iraqis in this Sunni Arab city suddenly began cooperating with U.S. troops, leading them to insurgents and hidden weapons caches. The reason: anger over the assassination by insurgents of a local tribal chief.

"That's when they decided to make a stand," said Capt. Ryan Wylie of Lincoln, Neb., commander of Bravo Company, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armored Regiment. "They definitely had an idea of the terrorists and where they hang out."

U.S. commanders cite other reasons for a lull in violence in this city 60 miles north of Baghdad. They include cessation of an 11-mile berm around the city to block gun runners and a greater reliance by the military on covert monitoring positions.

But almost everyone agrees that the biggest reason for the reduction in violence here was the public backlash against the insurgents after the Oct. 11 assassination of Sheik Hikmat Murtaz al-Bazi, chief of one of the area's seven tribes.

"The reason for the killing remains unclear. Some say he was targeted for working with U.S. forces. Others believe he was killed because of a contract dispute over a U.S.-funded project. Most agree that the sheik's American connection cost him his life."

"They killed him to send a message that you can't be working with coalition forces," said Lt. Col. Mark Wald, commander of the 3rd Battalion. "I think they were trying to rein him back in."

Tribalism is deeply rooted in Iraqi society and adds a dimension to the insurgency that outsiders find difficult to understand. Some tribes support the insurgency, while others back the government. In many cases, tribes are divided in their loyalties.

Before al-Bazi's death, U.S. forces in Samarra had struggled to cope with the insurgent

threat in this city of 200,000, many of whom strongly opposed the Shiite-led government in Baghdad.

Last year, al-Qaida in Iraq, led by Jordanian terrorist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, openly operated in Samarra, and the group's black flags fluttered from rooftops until U.S. forces regained control.

U.S. soldiers heard some Samarra residents speak openly of the right of "legitimate resistance" to the American presence.

Others admitted they could not cooperate with the Americans for fear of insurgent reprisals.

Those fears vanished when one of their own leaders was slain. All of a sudden, Iraqis began coming forward with information about insurgent hideouts and weapons caches.


The flood of intelligence was welcomed. Attacks against U.S. forces tapered off after al-Bazi's death, dropping to one or two a day — compared with seven a day in January. The decline prompted a U.S. decision to remove about two-thirds of the American soldiers inside the city and replace them with Iraqi paramilitary commandos.

"It really speaks to the potential this city has when tribesmen get fed up and take action against terrorists," said Lt. Nathan Adams of Savannah, Ga. "It's as simple as one tribe having something happen to them and motivating them to take action."

In western Anbar province, also dominated by Sunni Arabs, the Marine command reported tribal fighting last summer between those who supported dealings with the U.S. military and those opposed.

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Today's Entertainment Schedule

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12:00 P.M. Rosa Payne	3:00 P.M. Heavenbound Bluegrass Band
12:30 P.M. Jennifer Tanner	3:30 P.M. Heavenbound Bluegrass Band
1:00 P.M. Debbie Angi & Marta Voice Trio	4:00 P.M. Allison and Amy Higley
2:00 P.M. Job's Daughters Bethel #56	4:30 P.M. Middle East Dancers of Magic Valley

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NATIONS

Rice to go on offense over secret prisons

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice will go on the offensive this week to rebut European concerns over reports of a secret CIA prison system in Eastern Europe, making the case during a five-day trip to Europe that intelligence cooperation between the United States and Europe is essential to prevent future attacks, U.S. officials said.

After weeks of being pummeled in the European media over reports about clandestine transfer and secret detention centers, administration officials have concluded that they need to put European governments on notice that they should back off and begin to emphasize the benefits of intelligence cooperation to their citizens.

Administration officials have been careful to neither confirm nor deny the existence of the prison system, first disclosed by The Washington Post on Nov. 2, and Rice has no plans to acknowledge it. The Post report spurred a series of probes across Europe, and administration officials are bracing for Rice to be hit with a barrage of questions as she tours Europe.

The Post reported that the CIA has been hiding and interrogating some of its most important al Qaeda captives at a Soviet-era compound in Eastern Europe as part of a covert prison system that at times has included sites in eight countries, including Thailand, Afghanistan and democracies in Eastern Europe. The Post did not identify the Eastern European countries at the request of senior U.S. officials, who said the disclosure could disrupt counterterrorism in those nations and elsewhere and make them targets of retaliation.

The European Union last week formally asked Rice for "clarification" on media reports suggesting "violations of international law" in order to "alleviate parliamentary and public concerns." Rice's response, being drafted by a team of administration officials, will form the core of the administration's defense. It probably will be released Monday when Rice departs for Europe, officials said.

But administration officials publicly hinted at their emergency strategy, which a rogue network of officials have privately discussed in recent days. "The key point will be 'We're all in this together and you need to look at yourselves as much as us,'" one official said, speaking on condition of anonymity because Rice's response has not been completed. "People in glass houses shouldn't throw stones."

Officials said Rice's tone will not be accusatory. Instead, she will emphasize that European governments do not have intelligence links with a rogue nation — but instead, the United States — and that such cooperation is necessary in the common fight against terrorism.

Spokesman Sean McCormack, answering reporters' questions on Wednesday, suggested this line of defense when he asserted "it is the responsibility also of governments to explain as clearly as possible to their publics and publics around the world what it is that they are doing in fighting the war on terrorism."

McCormack added that citizens would not want "their government to do something that would undermine that government's ability to fight and win the war on terrorism." Administration officials previously have said the United States has abided by U.S. laws and complied with international obligations. The problem for the administration has been that many European officials have suggested the secret prisons violated European laws — and intelligence officials agree with that, saying that is one reason the operations have been kept secret.

Tribal lobbyist helped draft senator's letters

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Sen. Tom Harkin drafted letters to the Bush administration on behalf of an Iowa tribe, he had no shortage of ideas for wording. A tribal lobbyist who denoted to the Democrat's campaign suggested language for him to use.

Harkin wrote at least three letters in 2003 pressing the government to release federal money to help the Sac & Fox tribe in his state cope with the temporary closing of its casino

due to a tribal dispute, according to Interior Department documents obtained by The Associated Press and records provided by Harkin's office.

In doing so, Harkin accepted input from Sac & Fox lobbyist Michael D. Smith, a member of Jack Abramoff's tribal lobbying team at the Greenberg Traurig law firm. Smith met with the senator and also offered suggestions for the letters, Harkin spokeswoman Allison Dobson said.

"Absolutely, he did contribute to those letters," Dobson said, adding that she wasn't sure what Smith's suggestions were. Harkin also met with lobbyists on the other side of the dispute, she said.

Harkin is among dozens of members of Congress who wrote letters that benefited tribal clients of Abramoff's lobbying team while collecting political contributions from Abramoff, his clients or his lobbying associates.

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NATION

STILL RESILIENT

Marine deaths in Iraq don't sway resolute N.C. military town

JACKSONVILLE, N.C. (AP) — The grim news that a roadside bomb killed 10 Marines in Iraq arrived at Camp Lejeune just days after President Bush outlined his strategy for victory, a speech delivered in the face of increasing calls to bring the troops home.

But even after learning about Thursday's ambush — the deadliest against American troops in four months — this city's embrace of its Marines, their base and their job remains resolute.

"Even when people differ in opinions, you're still respectful to the Marine mission," said Pat McLane, a retired master gunnery sergeant from Jacksonville whose Army officer son was expected to begin his first deployment in Iraq on Saturday. "We're still going to take care of our Marines."

The 10 Marines assigned to the Lejeune-based 2nd Marine Division were on foot patrol outside Fallujah, a former insurgent stronghold, when a bomb fashioned from four large artillery shells exploded.

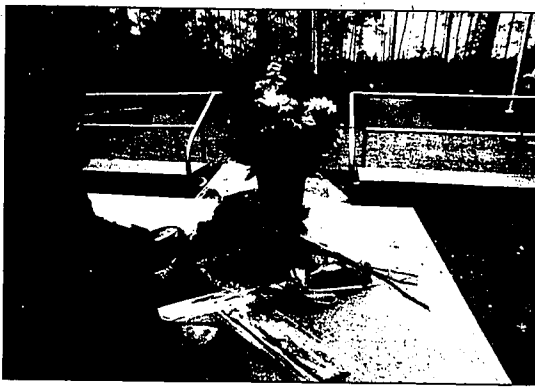
They attached to the unit once in Iraq; all those who died — with hometowns stretching from Tomah, Wis. to Surprise, Ariz. — were from 1st Marine Division, based at Twentynine Palms, Calif.

"The loss of any Marine life is always tragic... it makes for a loss that's somber," said Lt. Christy Kercheval, a spokeswoman for the Twentynine Palms base. "But at the same time, just as the president said in his recent speech, the best way to honor the loss is to carry out the mission that they defended."

That the 10 Marines never spent time at Camp Lejeune, a sprawling base of 25,000 service members and the Corps' largest on the Atlantic coast, didn't matter in Jacksonville, they were Marines.

"We are one community and one family here," said Heidi Finchum, 65, who has lived in and around Jacksonville for more than 40 years.

It's a place familiar with news of military deaths. On March 23, 2003, during the earliest days of the ground war, nine Marines from Camp Lejeune



Gib Lepper, from Millersville, Md., makes a photo at the Beirut memorial near Camp Lejeune in Jacksonville, N.C. Saturday. Lepper's son Patrick is a Marine based at Camp Lejeune. Ten Marines died Dec. 1 from an improvised explosive device while conducting combat operations against enemy forces in Fallujah, Iraq.

une died during an ambush as their company crossed a bridge at Nasiriyah.

And most of the 241 Marines and sailors who died in the Oct. 22, 1983, barracks attacks in Beirut were based at Lejeune and the adjoining Marine Corps Air Station New River.

Bush came to Camp Lejeune within two weeks of the Nasiriyah attacks, cheered on by 20,000 Marines, their families and locals.

When Bush spoke Friday from the White House Rose Garden about the economy, he didn't mention the Marines' deaths, though White House press secretary Scott McClellan said the president had been briefed twice about the incident.

Typically, Bush does not comment on specific losses in Iraq, but support for the president and his Iraq policy remains high.

"We all have our opinions, but the best capacity of a Marine is a mission accomplished," said Sgt. Paul Mancuso, 22, who returned two weeks ago from nine months in Iraq as a combat videographer.

A tattoo artist drew the outline of a knife with "USMC" inside on his left forearm Friday night.

The feelings in Jacksonville stand in contrast to those of some families who lost loved ones when 14 Ohio-based Marine reservists died in August, killed in a roadside explosion similar to the one that took the lives of the 10 Marines on Thursday.

Paul Schroeder and Rosemary Palmer founded a group called Families of the Fallen for Change. The group wants a bipartisan plan that includes benchmarks to draw down troops in Iraq as soon as is reasonably possible.

"We do not believe that if you speak against the war, you are not supporting the troops," Schroeder said. "You can support troops and yet speak against the policies that put them in that predicament."

Other relatives of the slain Ohio-based Marines have continued to speak in favor of the war. And in Jacksonville, where bi-night barber shops and tat-

to parlors interspersed with faded yellow ribbons tied around trees line the main drag leading to Lejeune, loud dissent is a rarity. No one wants to suggest any lack of appreciation for Lejeune and its Marines.

"It's a shame that we lost 10 people, but these people all volunteered to serve our country," said Bryce Emerson, a member of a local Veterans of Foreign Wars post in Jacksonville. "We should give them all the support that we can by ensuring that since they paid the ultimate price, we should never dishonor them by saying 'Oh my God' and running home."

That's not to say the deaths — more than 2,800 America troops have died fighting the war — don't give pause.

"It has an overall effect on the troops' morale," said Marine Pfc. Josh Coughlin, 19, of Albany, N.Y., who may deploy to Iraq in February. "While I'm confident in our leader, it reinforces the fact that there needs to be some kind of reform on how we're handling the situation."

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Government postpones food aid for N. Korea

YILAN, China (AP) — The United States has cut off buying 250,000 tons of food aid promised to North Korea this month, insisting on assurances the aid will be delivered by the World Food Program so it will not be diverted to the military or ruling party.

North Korea has told the U.N. agency to shut down its feeding program by the end of this year and switch to economic development assistance instead of humanitarian aid. The North says it can feed its people with its improved harvests and aid from neighboring China and South Korea.

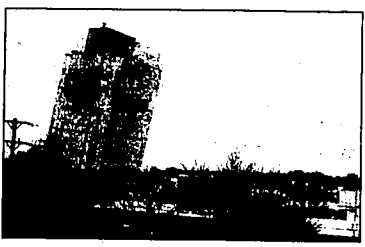
Washington, one of the North's biggest food donors, believes the impoverished nation still needs food aid. The U.S. State Department said in a written statement. But the department wants to ensure the donations are distributed by WFP.

"We have not procured the 250,000 tons originally scheduled to have been shipped later this month due to uncertainties about whether the World Food Program emergency feeding operation to which it was to be delivered would still be in place to receive it and monitor its distribution," said the State Department statement, dated Thursday.

Demolition blast fails to topple feed mill, tallest South Dakota building

SIoux FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Thousands of spectators gathered Saturday to watch the demolition of the city's tallest building — but the Zip Feed Mill tower was stronger than it looked. The 202-foot-tall concrete structure crumpled slightly, leaned a little — and stopped.

The abandoned feed mill elevator in downtown Sioux Falls paled in comparison to structures as tall as Chicago's 1,450-foot Sears Tower or even North Dakota's 242-foot state Capitol in Bismarck, but it was widely considered the tallest building in South Dakota.



A series of blasts starts the fall of the Zip Feeds Mill tower Saturday in Sioux Falls, S.D. The 202-foot building was supposed to be brought down, but it dropped only slightly, leaned a little and stopped, much to the disappointment of many spectators.

That was enough to draw people outside, with temperatures in the teens, to watch the demolition.

Crews had drilled holes into the tower's supporting columns and stuffed them with explosives, intending to drop the tower into a heap of rubble.

However, the tower collapsed into the structure's basement and got wedged, said Eric Schuler, project manager for the Henry Carlson Co., a general contractor. The structure was stable and crews planned to return on Monday to knock it down with a crane, Schuler told KELO-TV.

"It's not an exact science," said Schuler. "We'll get it down safely."

The site's co-owners, Raven Industries Inc. and Howatt-McDowell Insurance Inc., had

turned the event into a fundraiser for the Dakota chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society and sold \$1 raffle tickets for the chance to trigger the blast. A loan officer won the drawing and passed the honor onto Job Huisman, a 30-year-old finance officer for the nearby town of Garretson who suffers from MS. The tower was opened in 1956, one of the most modern feed elevators of its time, but ceased operations in 2000. It sits on a bare lot in an industrial section just east of downtown along the Big Sioux River in this city of 134,000.

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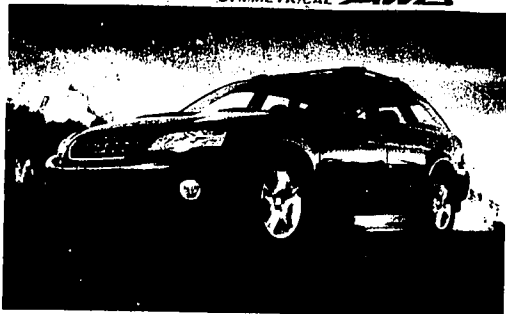


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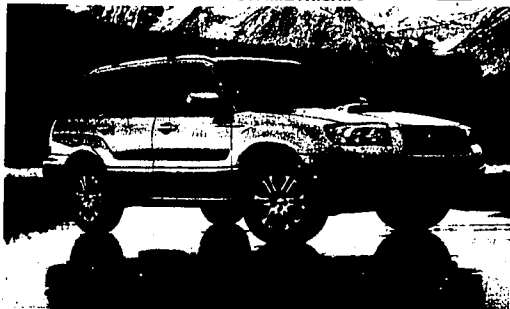
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EDITORIAL

Justices agree dairy met local public interest rules

The Idaho Supreme Court's traveling road show earned anything but a "thumbs up" from a couple of disaffected spectators.

In the dairy water rights transfer case involving K&W Dairy of Jerome and two local activists, Bill Chisholm and Lee Halper, the court ruled unanimously in favor of the dairy and its owner Adrian Boer.

Boer was able to expand his dairy to a 6,600 cow operation after lengthy litigation. The case was heard in Twin Falls last month as part of the court's annual tour around the state.

As for Chisholm, however, the show was a farce. The longtime activist now says he's unwilling to file the filing and copying fees required by the court. He's even ready to sit in a jail cell to prove his point.

"Give me justice or give me jail," wrote Chisholm in a response to the court. A nice line, but not a good strategy. More on that in a minute.

As for the case itself, the court weaved through legalities involving evidence, but eventually settled on a key point: Dairy odor can be part of local public interest, but not the determining factor.

Idaho law defined local public interest as "the affairs of the people in an area directly affected by the proposed use." Then three years ago, Idaho's legislature changed local public interest doctrine so it would be strictly applied to water, and less on odor. The new statute required that only those with economic standing and who lived within a one-mile radius could protest under water transfers.

By taking this action to the highest levels of Idaho's courts, Chisholm, Halper, and other environmental groups forced Boer to propose a cleaner and smaller expansion.

But if their goal is to make dairy expansions limited by odor concerns, changes need to come in legislative circles — not in the courts.

in local public interest.

"Halper equates one narrow issue — the odor and its related negative effects — as the local public interest," wrote Justice Roger Burdick (emphasis his). "This is too narrow a definition; the local public interest has many elements and the determination of which local public interests are impacted and balancing those impacts is left to the sound discretion of IDWR."

Our view: Idaho's Supreme Court crafted a balanced definition of local public interest for water transfers.

What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Chisholm and Halper both say that argument ignores the cumulative effect of dairy odor in the Jerome County area. They also dispute how Boer revised his dairy management plan for this specific transfer while still in the middle of court proceedings.

But it seems inconsistent for them to argue the latter technically when Boer's management plan reduced animal numbers in his proposal. Also, a flush of IDWR requirements, Boer changed from a flush system to a scrape system to reduce dairy odors. It's likely that the courts could view those actions as a reduced impact on the so-called cumulative effect.

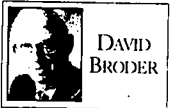
The court said the old standard of local public interest should be read broadly so as to secure the greatest possible benefit. But it unanimously — and wisely — agreed it wasn't going to legislate from the bench and rule how broadly that odor should apply.

As for Chisholm's refusal to pay, it's not a sound course. Chisholm has been a vital player in forcing judges to clean up their act. He would be wiser to pay the fees and keep fighting his battles outside of jail.

By taking this action to the highest levels of Idaho's courts, Chisholm, Halper, and other environmental groups forced Boer to propose a cleaner and smaller expansion.

But if their goal is to make dairy expansions limited by odor concerns, changes need to come in legislative circles — not in the courts.

When Lindsey Graham and John Sununu joined the ranks of Republican senators, the last thing the White House expected was that they would start challenging administration policies on national security. Graham, 50, came to the Senate in 2002 after a career as an Air Force officer, a prosecutor and eight years in the House, where his most notable service was on the team pressing impeachment charges against Bill Clinton.



DAVID BRODER

Sununu, who is 41, also won his first term in 2002, after six years in the House. An engineer by training, he learned politics from his father and namesake, who served as governor of New Hampshire and later as chief of staff to the first President Bush.

Both of them had previous early streaks of independence. Graham led an abortive conservative rebellion against House Speaker Newt Gingrich and supported John McCain over George Bush in the 2000 South Carolina primary.

Sununu challenged and defeated incumbent Republican Sen. Bob Smith in a hard-fought primary before beating Democratic Gov. Jeanne Shaheen in the general election. Graham and Sununu have been supportive of most Bush policies, but their current objections illustrate the way in which some of the president's anti-terrorism methods have caused grave concerns among libertarian conservatives.

Sununu has taken the lead in a group of senators pressing for changes in the Patriot Act, the legislation expanding FBI powers that the administration rushed through Congress after 9/11 attacks. Many of the changes they wanted were made in the Senate bill, but administration objections have stymied their acceptance in a



CAREFUL — THEY'RE AT THEIR MOST DANGEROUS WHEN THEY'RE CORNERED!

House-Senate conference. Sununu and the others, who range from senators as conservative as Larry Craig of Idaho to those as liberal as Russ Feingold of Wisconsin and Dick Durbin of Illinois, have threatened a filibuster to force further negotiations.

The issues are specific and significant: a requirement that the government convince a judge that a search of records has a direct connection, not just vague "relevance," to a suspected terrorist; a right of judicial appeal to challenge gag orders on such searches; a requirement that targets of "sneak-and-peek" searches be notified within seven days of their occurrence; and a four-year "sunset" clause for these special powers.

Sununu and his allies have been discussing these points with the Justice Department and the White House for two years. What is frustrating, he told me in an interview, "is that they will not debate these specific changes; they respond only with sweeping generalizations that we need to reauthorize the Patriot Act. That's not good enough." For Graham, the issue is the

treatment of detainees in Guantánamo and other (still secret) overseas facilities. Like 89 other senators, he supported McCain's legislation barring the use of torture or the extreme measures publicized at Abu Ghraib.

When Vice President Cheney lobbied the House to kill the McCain restriction, Graham jumped in to offer additional leverage to the administration's efforts. He first framed an amendment — welcomed by the White House — to bar Guantánamo-held enemy combatants from taking their cases to U.S. courts, then enlisted liberal Democratic Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan and conservative Republican Sen. Jon Kyl of Arizona in a bipartisan resolution to provide additional judicial review of at least 10 years.

The resulting compromise gained 84 votes and Graham told me sends a strong message to the House that both the McCain language and this compromise must be included in the final legislation — the White House notwithstanding.

In talking with both senators, what came through most clear-

ly was their sense that Congress as an institution must assert itself and take responsibility for setting policy on these national security issues.

For too long, they both said, it has been too easy to say — or imply — that it's the president's job alone to decide how to protect the nation's safety and vital interests. That complacent attitude may have been tolerable during the late fall after the end of the Cold War, but it cannot be accepted during a time of war and continuing terrorist threats.

Last month, the Senate asserted itself by passing a meaningful, bipartisan declaration that 2006 must be a "year of transition" in which Iraqis take over major responsibility for the security and stability of their own country.

That younger senators such as Graham and Sununu are organizing bipartisanship on such high-stakes national security issues as the Patriot Act and treatment of detainees is good news for the country. It is time for a similar effort in the House.

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

Idaho will begin crafting mercury rules

Some confusion appears to have arisen over the provisions and status of a proposed federal rule to regulate mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. To clarify:

On March 15, 2005, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency proposed a federal rule to regulate mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants. It was projected that the rule would reduce mercury emissions from regulated facilities from 48 to 31 tons per year nationwide by 2010.

Part of the proposed rule establishes a mercury cap and trade program. Cap and trade is a market-based tool for controlling large amounts of emissions from a group of sources. It would establish a nationwide cap on mercury emissions and assign each state an annual mercury allocation (measured in tons). Based on the state's allocation, coal-fired power plants would be required to develop a strategy to meet the state's mercury allocation. Under cap and trade, this strategy could include (1) installation of pollution control technologies, (2) implementation of efficiency measures



READER COMMENT Toni Hardesty

and/or (3) sale or purchase of mercury credits from other coal-fired power plants in states that are also participating in the cap and trade program.

After federal rules are proposed, it is up to the states to adopt and implement them. Thus, the proposed mercury rule, states were given the option of adopting the federal rule, including the cap and trade program, or creating some other regulatory method to meet their assigned mercury emissions budgets.

Originally, Idaho proposed to incorporate the federal rule into the state's air pollution control rules. State action on the federal rule was halted, however, after the EPA announced on Oct. 21 that it was reconsidering parts of the proposed rule. It was determined that it would be premature for

Idaho to act when the proposed rule could be substantially changed.

The EPA is accepting public comments on the proposed parts of the rule through Dec. 19, 2005. Submit comments to the EPA via:

- Email: a-and-r-doe@epa.gov
- Fax: (202) 566-1741
- Mail: Air and Radiation Docket and Information Center, EPA, Mailcode 6102L, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20460

After considering public comment, the EPA will publish a revised rule that will again be submitted to the states for adoption and implementation. When it happens, Idaho will follow these steps to assure that citizens have ample opportunity for input:

- The Department of Environmental Quality will enter into a public regulated rulemaking to develop a proposed rule to address mercury emissions in Idaho. Negotiated rulemaking is a process in which interested parties and the agency meet, discuss and seek a consensus on the content of the rule. It begins with publication of a

notice in the Idaho Administrative Bulletin.

After the negotiated rulemaking process is completed, the DEQ will open the negotiated proposed rule to public comment for at least 30 days. A news release announcing the public comment period and soliciting public comments on the proposed rule will be issued and posted to the DEQ's Web site.

After considering public comment on the negotiated proposed rule, the DEQ will submit a proposed rule to the Board of Environmental Quality for consideration. The board reviews all rules proposed by the DEQ and will meet publicly to accept testimony on the proposed rule.

If approved by the board, the proposed rule will go to the Idaho Legislature for final review and adoption.

We do not know at this time what the EPA's revised proposed federal rule will look like. When we do, we will begin the state rulemaking process outlined above.

Toni Hardesty is the director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

The Times-News

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LETTERS

Son barred from obtaining new glasses

My son and I went into a Burley retail eye center to get a duplicate pair of his eye glasses to replace a lost pair. We were told by the head honcho that his prescription was over a year old. The honcho said it was a state law that after one year, my son would have to have another eye exam and then pay for a new frame and lenses. This would not do for \$300 plus. Instead of \$50 for a replacement frame and lenses. How does one go about this when one has no job nor any way to get that much money? His glasses were just fine before the mishap. So please tell me where I can find a state law that prevents him from getting copies of his former glasses now. KEN WILLIAMS Heyburn

Other regions should fear Sempra emissions

Regarding the Sempra coal-fired plant. Were I a resident of the upper Snake River valley living anywhere between Pocatello and Ashton near Salmon or in the Yellowstone Park area, I would be extremely concerned about the amount of harmful residue to be distributed by the 600- to 650-foot high smoke stack it is planning. With the prevailing winds from southwest to northeast, people living in these areas may be even more at risk than those of us living south and near the plant. Idaho just doesn't need this problem. We have enough of our own. JOHN R. BONNETT Twin Falls

Slowly, America is losing morals, values

In the United States today, all it takes is an opinion and a couple thousand dollars to change the rules. We are losing the morals, values and ideas this country was built upon. History we are allowing to slowly be stripped from us. Here are a few — first, let's take God out of schools, Christ out of Christmas, and try to take the word "god" off of the currency. Take away the parents and school's rights to discipline. Keep cutting funding for education. Don't teach Intelligent Design, and while we are at it, drop algebra, geometry, calculus, trigonometry and only teach basic math.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our attention by e-mail to: toni@deq.idaho.gov; mailed to: PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to: letters@magvalley.com.

Offering several options may confuse a child's education and they may actually learn something we don't want them to know. Obviously, we must replace U.S. History with Middle Eastern history since our history is no longer relevant. It is necessary for our future generations to understand what they

LETTER

are up against. Allow children to carry weapons to school; someone needs to discipline the bullies. Just think of all the tax funds we would save not having to pay all those teachers who teach needless classes. Next, eliminate all the illegal farm workers who work low-paying jobs that no one wants, pay their own rent and buy their cars with cash. This would free up some housing for more government-subsidized aliens from Europe and the Middle East who can get free medical care, food and new vehicles at our expense. This "holiday" season, I would like my taxes raised so I can buy one of those cars for them. I really feel extra generous this "holiday." Next, let's paint the White House blue. Personally, all

these years we've heard "The White House," wouldn't it be more interesting and certainly more beautiful if it were "The Blue House"? In fact, the flag needs an update too — maybe hot pink, neon green and black. Those colors would definitely make for more attractive fourth of July decorations.

We should consider changing Thanksgiving to "Turkey Day." I'm not really sure any more what it was that we were supposed to be thankful for, but from what I hear, as long as you have a turkey, you'll be all right. So while we ate at it, let's make the turkey our national bird! Anyone else got any ideas? Oh, Merry Holidays everyone! MICHELLE CHAVEZ Wendell

OPINION

Southern wall will protect both sides

President Bush is determined to stay the course in Iraq, but he is willing to manage our U.S. border security. Sometimes flexibility is both rewarded and required.



JAMES P. PINKERTON

land security became an obvious matter of life and death. Washington was little interested in safeguarding the frontier against unknown intruders.

It was left to activist groups, including the Minutemen in Arizona, to call attention to everyday acts of trespassing and property damage along the U.S.-Mexican border, as well as to the larger threat to American identity.

Eventually, Republicans in Congress, and Bush himself, have gotten the message, sort of. Earlier this week, the president was talking about a wall — not physical, part "virtual" — across the southern border.

But Bush still clings to a "guest worker" provision, which puts a huge hole in that new wall. Why? Perhaps "W" is trying to court Hispanic voters, perhaps he is appealing to business, perhaps he is simply stubborn.

The political current is run-

ning against him. On Tuesday, reacting to Bush's proposal, Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., the political spearhead of the grass-roots rebellion against open borders, likened the White House plan to "putting lipstick on a pig." Bush's proposal would be "admissable," a human spigot, Tancredo snapped.

Twisting the rhetorical knife, Tancredo accused his fellow Republican of being "Clintonesque" on immigration — that being the ultimate insult in the GOP lexicon.

Here's a prediction: Tancredo will win. A wall will get built with more of Bush's holes. It will be part physical barrier, part electronic surveillance, part get-serious law enforcement. And it will work, because while walls might not be politically correct, they are effective. Walls keep people and property secure, they keep nations secure.

Of course, walls work both ways, protecting folks on both sides. The United States spent much of the last century crossing the border at will, as it actively interfered in Mexican politics. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson sent troops to occupy parts of Mexico, as part

of his larger goal of bringing democracy to the world. Amid other invasions, too, of Haiti, Nicaragua and Panama, the 28th president declared, "I am going to teach the South American republics to elect good men." What Uncle Sam got instead was a lesson in backslash across the region. Mexico, for example, nationalized American oil assets in 1938.

Today, America has abandoned its dreams of remaking Latin America by force. The forthcoming wall symbolizes our new realization that Mexicans should keep to their side, and we to ours. The border barrier is coming just in the nick of time: In recent years, Mexican politicians have openly proclaimed their goal of "reuniting" their country, through immigration, with the southern United States.

The larger point is that no nation can survive if its identity is indistinct. No politician, not even the famously proud and stouthearted George W. Bush, can survive if he gets crossover with nationalistic and patriotic common sense.

James Pinkerton is a Newsday columnist.

LETTERS

Liberal morality may be a form of insanity

Several thoughtful people have said that liberalism is a disease. They may be correct. It seems to have spread from our elite universities and has infested every segment of society. Insanity, while not being a medical definition, is the inability to think rationally. Let's look at the liberal definition of morality.

You have to believe that those who don't or won't work have a right to be cared for by those who do. You have to believe that equal opportunity is not enough, that equal outcomes are required. (Except for rich liberals who snash their hands in trusts so they do not have to share.) You have to believe that the individual was created to serve the state, not the state to serve the individual. You have to believe that businesses create jobs, but governments create prosperity. You have to believe that the only reason socialism has not worked is because the right people have not been in charge.

You must believe that gender roles are artificial but homosexuality is natural. You have to believe that a school system that cannot teach our children to read is charged to teach our children all about sex. You have to believe that self-esteem is more important than actually working to earn it. You have to believe that standardized tests are racist but racial quotas and set-asides are not. You have to believe that homosexual parades, with all their depravity, should be protected, but money scenes at Christmas should be illegal. You have to believe that the rights of a vocal minority are more important than the rights of the majority when it comes to the Pledge of Allegiance or saluting the flag.

You must believe it is acceptable to kill unborn babies, but not to put depraved murderers to death. You have to believe that the AIDS virus is spread by a lack of federal funding, that global temperatures do not go in cycles but are caused by SUVs. You must believe that citizens in the hands of American attorneys are more dangerous than our nuclear weapons technology in the hands of the Chinese communists.

If there are good people among the Democrats who do not believe in these ideas, they may be in the wrong party. These extremists lead your parade.

Liberal morality is not rational, therefore, it could well be a form of insanity. MAX COVINGTON, Burley

Smoke detectors help resident feel secure

To the people of Burley: The firemen put smoke alarms in my house. At the time, I was really appreciative for the free offer. But every time anyone fry-cooked, the alarm would go off or the stove or oven would set off the fire alarm. However, it caught me



how to cook and get rid of odors by lighting candles or a lamp. So I quit frying eggs, meat or anything pertaining to smoke. A good way to live a much healthier living.

At 8:30 a.m. Nov. 3, my smoke alarm went off. The house was filled with smoke. A person sleeping in the back room had a small heater without permission by the fact. It took 7 1/2 minutes and the fire was out. I called 911; they called the fire department. The party was still asleep in the bed at the time. His arm and leg was burned and the bed and bedding were destroyed. The floor to this room is cement, but the rugs were burned. The bed next to the outside wall, if not caught in time, could have possibly burned most of the city block as I live at the first of the block.

It made me think how well organized our small town is. 7 1/2 minutes after calling 911, they called the fire department; the fire was out. It really makes one very thankful for the smoke alarms put in elderly peoples' homes and a police department to get action that quick.

Everyone should have a smoke alarm. I don't think I could really feel safe without one now. Especially when one

can't see or hear too well when older or disabled. I personally appreciate the fire department for putting this in my home. I'll never be without smoke alarm again if I can help it.

One never knows if they become a victim without one. They say where there is smoke, there is fire. Most everyone knows 911. The police departments, no everyone knows who to call. I'm sure very thankful for living in a town where I can get quick help when needed.

PS. It pays to have a good insurance in case of damage. I have one of the best. RUBY AYLETT, Burley

It's time to unite against high gas prices

This letter stems from Charles Krauthammer's opinion in the Nov. 13 edition.

As a consumer myself, I can't say that I'm paying \$3 a gallon for gasoline for any reason. With the huge profits the oil industry are reaping, along with the multimillion-dollar annual salaries the chief executive officers are hauling in, I say we should not be paying even as much as \$1 per gallon or at least no more than \$1 a gallon anyway.

First of all, there was no oil

shortage in the early '70s. That was proven three decades ago. Greed alone was the reason for the \$1 per gallon back then. There are far more tapped oil wells in America than you can shake a stick at. One thing is positive and that is we have an overabundance of the black gold, enough so that we don't need oil from the Middle East, and it is for sure we didn't need it bad enough to start a war for.

Mr. Krauthammer also mentions supply and demand as another reason for higher gas prices. Supply and demand is nothing more again than plain greed.

Greedy is the reason behind the higher cost of everything we purchase. Everything has gone up except most of our wages — that is, unless you are a politician.

I do, however, agree with Mr. Krauthammer that we the people sat on our hands for far too long and did nothing to stop big business from taking control of our government. Bush and Cheney are living proof of that. How sad it is to realize that our so-called political leaders are nothing more than puppets to powerful industries of America, including the ones that have moved their headquarters outside our U.S. borders — but that's another story.

We were united when we sat and did nothing, so shouldn't we unite again by standing up and telling our government we have had enough?

We can do that by not driving our beloved automobiles for use one day, taking that one day off really cuts into the 'ol' budget, if there is even a budget to cut.

We have all sacrificed much at the hands of our government, but I ask that you please make one more for the well-being of us all. Nothing moves for one day. Mr. Krauthammer, sir, would you do the honors in picking that day? GARY "BLUE" BECKER, Glens Ferry

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Chemist eludes terrorist hunters

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP) — He's a mystery in a red beard, with a strange odors and a degree in chemical engineering. In the hands of this alleged al-Qaida operative, it's a specialty that summons visions of poison gas and mass terror.

Al-Qaida is obsessed to do the spectacular, notes U.S. counterterrorism analyst Donald Van Duyn, and elusive Egyptian chemist Midhat Mursi was said to be exploring such possibilities when last seen breathing up deadly compounds and gassing dogs in Afghanistan.



Mursi

Afghanistan, where Egyptian militants joined the war against Soviet occupation.

In 1998, Zawahri's group, Islamic Jihad, merged with bin Laden's al-Qaida, bringing what Iashwan says were at least 100 experienced Egyptian militants into al-Qaida ranks. But the director of the Islamic Observation Center questions whether Mursi was among

them.

Yasser al-Sirri says the Egyptian chemist did "consult" with bin-Laden's group, but "my information is that he is not a member of al-Qaida."

After the U.S. invasion in 2001, computer files uncovered by reporters in Afghanistan showed that by 1989 the man referred to as Abu Khubab, armed with a "startup" budget of \$2,000 to \$4,000, was working to develop chemical and biological weapons in Afghanistan.

His most notorious work was recorded on videotape, eventually obtained by CNN in 2002, showing dogs being killed in gas experiments. Intelligence sources said a voice heard on the tape was Mursi's, the cable network said.

Bush to Congress: Embrace immigration plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush is stepping up pressure on Congress to embrace his plan for a guest worker plan for foreigners while talking tough about illegal immigration and secure U.S. borders.



Bush

"Those who enter the country illegally break the law," he said Saturday in his radio address. "In communities near our border, illegal immigration strains the resources of schools, hospitals and law enforcement. And it involves smugglers and gangs that bring crime to our neighborhoods, faced with this serious challenge our govern-

ment's responsibility is clear. We're going to protect our borders."

This week, the president made appearances in Arizona and Texas that focused on border security and immigration, two items he says will top his legislative agenda next year.

His goal is to reach more for-

eggiers crossing the border while increasing the number of temporary work visas for those who will take jobs that Americans are unwilling to fill. He is trying to appease social conservatives who take a hard line against illegal immigrants and business leaders who want to lure foreign laborers.

The U.S. reward poster says the alleged bomber, also known as Abu Khabab, literally "Father of the Trotting Horse," may be in Pakistan. But "we don't think there's really a good fix on where he is," Van Duyn said in a Washington interview.

"Nobody knows," said Mohamed Salah, a Cairo expert on Islamic extremists. "He could be in any country, under another ID. Or he could be on the Afghan-Pakistani border with Zawahri."

Unlike fellow Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahri, Osama bin Laden's deputy, Mursi is largely unknown. "There are a lot of names that don't represent anything for us," said Diaa Rashwan, who follows Islamic militancy for Cairo's Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies.

A son of Alexandria's al-Asfara, a noisy seaside district of rutted streets and crowded housing, Mursi, 52, graduated from Alexandria University in 1975, says the Islamist researchers of London's Islamic Observation Center. It was a period when Muslim militancy flared in this Mediterranean city, as zealots burned liquor stores and other "non-Islamic" targets.

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Thousands of birds die of flu in Ukraine

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukraine recorded its first bird flu outbreak on Saturday, prompting the president to declare a state of emergency in four Crimean villages where more than 1,600 chickens and geese have died of the disease.

Dead birds found dead over the past two months in the Black Sea peninsula tested positive for the H5N1 subtype, officials said. Bird flu had already been detected in neighboring Romania nearly two months ago, and Ukrainian officials scrambled to reassure this nation of 47 million that they were well-prepared.

Ukrainians, meanwhile, began speculating whether to stop buying poultry; the only meat many in this nation can afford.

"I don't see any reason for panic, the situation is under control," Agriculture Minister Oleksandr Baranovsky told reporters in Kiev after announcing a two-mile quarantine around the four villages.

Samples were sent to laboratories in Italy and Britain for further tests to determine whether the disease could be the deadly H5N1 strain, which is being monitored for fear it could mutate into a form that is easily transferable among humans. The results are expected by Thursday, Baranovsky said.

Worldwide attention is focused on the H5N1 strain, which has devastated poultry stocks in Asia and killed at least 69 people in the area since 2003.

Domestic fowl began dying in Ukraine's Crimean region on Oct. 18, but the deaths increased significantly last month, rising to 1,621. Positive test results for the H5N1 strain came back Saturday.

He attributed the bird flu to contact between migratory birds and domestic fowl at the Crimean's Lake Savash. The peninsula had been seen as an area of concern for authorities because it is a landing spot for many migratory birds.

Under the state-of-emergency ordered by President Yanukovich, anyone who will be allowed to enter or leave the quarantine, and experts will visit every home to inform residents to count flocks. Officials also prohibited all sales of domestic fowl and poultry products in the Crimea.

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Scientists trying to mimic butterfly crystals

By Dennis O'Brien
The Baltimore Sun

Just where does a butterfly get its vivid coloring?

From microscopic crystals that capture light in its wings and reflect it back, a process that scientists are trying to understand and mimic.

The push to learn how those crystals work is more than mere curiosity. The knowledge could produce brighter, man-made shades of everything from paints to cosmetics, researchers say.

Scientists know that crystals on the wings of some butterflies produce what's known as constructive interference — where waves of light combine to selectively produce a color. The color is determined by the tiny "nanostructures" that make up the crystals, some of which are only a few billionths of a meter across.

"What we're looking at is the presence of nanostructures that control — and the key word is control — the way specific colors are reflected," said Peter Vukusic, a physicist at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore and lead author of a study on butterfly-wing coloration published in the Nov. 18 issue of Science.

Vukusic has been studying light-producing, or photonic, crystals in butterflies since the late 1990s, and his work has attracted the attention of L'Oréal, the Paris-based cosmetics company that now employs him as a consultant.

The company had been working on ways to replicate the butterfly's use of light in its products when Vukusic began publishing his work a few years ago. L'Oréal plans to launch its new line of lipsticks, eye shadow and nail varnish — using colors created by photonic crystals of silica and mica — sometime in the next few years.

"We were looking for new



Scientists are pushing to learn how crystals that capture light in butterflies' wings and reflect it back.

color effects, and structural color was obviously a huge field of interest. The depth, the intensity and the brightness of those colors obtained without pigment is surprising," said Patricia Pineau, a spokeswoman for L'Oréal's research division.

Scientists say photonic crystals are one source of color in butterflies. The other source involves the same system that works for the rest of us: pigments produced by biological chemicals that absorb light in specific wavelengths and reflect other wavelengths. Such pigments produce much of the world's natural color, from a cardinal's red coat to the stripes on a zebra. Melanin, for instance, is a natural pigment that helps determine the color of our skin.

But the startling blue, green and yellow tints of a butterfly's wing come from photonic crystals that reflect light at different angles and depths and produce color the way that an oil-covered

puddle creates rainbows on its surface.

Butterflies aren't the only creatures that work this way. Vukusic and his colleagues have also studied beetles, birds, fish and moths that use photonic crystals of various shapes and sizes to control light and produce the colors they need to attract mates and hide from predators.

Researchers still aren't sure why some animals have developed photonic crystals, while most are content to make colors with pigment.

But they do know that many animals with photonic crystals use them to produce vivid blues and blue-greens, which are hard to produce in nature with chemical pigmentation. So it could be that animals developed photonic crystals because they needed to stand out in a crowd — to spot each other.

Vukusic began researching butterfly wings in the late 1990s, after he was struck by the colors

of a Morpho butterfly in the office of his former Exeter professor, Roy Sambles.

"I asked how it worked, and why it was colored so brightly, and all these questions popped into my head. He said, 'Why don't you go for it, apply for a grant and research it,'" Vukusic recalled.

For Sambles, the fascination with photonic crystals began when he read a scientific paper about how some moths produce gold spots on their wings. "It was just childish curiosity really," he said.

They say they have no particular formula for selecting the butterflies they study. "We just sort of look around in the cupboards of museums and say, 'This looks interesting,'" Sambles said.

In his findings this month, Vukusic also found that the *Priniceps ninetus* species has a sophisticated optical system of photonic crystals and reflectors strikingly similar to the crystals and distributed Bragg reflectors that are now commonly found in the designs of high-efficiency light-emitting diodes (LED) developed by MIT engineers in 1996.

The findings stirred engineers who have worked with the LED technology, which involves the manipulation of electrons to produce light and is now used in high-end televisions and computer screens.

"I wasn't aware this was out there before, but I wish I had been," said Alexei Ershank, who was part of the team at MIT that developed high-efficiency LEDs. "We could have looked at this to give us a few ideas, or at least save us some time."

But the butterflies — along with a number of other insects — have been using photonic crystals to produce colors for 300 million years.

"You could say that nature's way ahead of us," Vukusic said.

Grandma swipes baby Jesus

EUREKA SPRINGS, Ark. (AP) — A 70-year-old grandmother was caught stealing the baby Jesus from the city's nativity scene, police said. A carriage driver, tipped off police, who quickly caught up with her van when she foisted the statue. Virginia Volers was ticketed for misdemeanor theft, which carries a maximum penalty of a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. "It was a lark. It wasn't any serious stealing," Volers said. "My

granddaughter commented that no one had taken the baby Jesus this year and said, 'Grandma!'

Usually, the baby Jesus is returned by the thief. Volers said her Saturday caper was the first time she'd taken anything from the nativity.

"I didn't know we had a tattle-tale downtown," said Volers, a Sunday school teacher. She said she told her pastor what happened.

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Acquitted hip hop producer promises to be good

NEW YORK (AP) — A hip hop music producer who cultivated a gangster image by taking the last name "Gotti" finally has something in common with the late Italian Don: an acquittal.

A federal jury in Brooklyn found Irving "Irv Gotti" Lorenzo and his brother Christopher not guilty Friday of laundering piles of drug money for a notorious crack kingpin.

Jurors also acquitted the Lorenzen's record company, until recently known as Murder Inc., at a trial that was followed closely by some of the music industry's big stars.

Supporters in the gallery erupted in cheers after the acquittals were announced. Amid the jubilation, a small group of jurors asked that the Lorenzen

and their mother be taken into an antechamber with them so they could congratulate them in private.

Irving Lorenzen's two lawyers then carried him out of the courthouse as he shouted: "We did it! We did it!"

Minutes later, he threw his arms around juror Gloria Menzies, who called the brothers "my boys," and invited Irving to attend church. "They had nothing to pin on these two guys," Menzies said. "It was so weak."

Beaming, Lorenzo accepted her invitation and said the trial had brought him closer to God. He also promised that his legal troubles were behind him for good. "I'm never going to get into any other trouble, no jaywalking, nothing," he said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Sean Haran said he would respect the jury's verdict.

The Lorenzen brothers had faced up to 20 years in prison if convicted. They were accused of agreeing to launder money

for Kenneth "Supreme" McGriff, a man a prosecutor called "one of the biggest, baddest, most dangerous drug lords in New York City."

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Infant heart rebuilt

Doctor: Boy's walnut-sized heart amazing

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Sometime in the first seven weeks in the womb, Zachary Davis's heart got the wrong instructions.

The intricate folding, splitting and sprouting that produces the heart's four chambers and a tree of major blood vessels did not follow the normal genetic plan. The heart he was born with Oct. 20 was not the engineering marvel that can take people through nine decades.

Still, Zachary's heart was a marvel in its own right. It shared many features of known congenital malformations, but it also had something not previously recorded in the annals of medicine. His coronary arteries, which normally deliver oxygen and nutrients directly to the heart muscle, were instead supplied by a bizarre circuit routed through his brain.

"It usually takes a lot for us to say, 'That's amazing,'" Richard A. Jonas, a heart surgeon at Children's National Medical Center, said. "We see a lot of unusual things. But this was out there."

This exotic misassembly was good enough to get the baby through gestation. It would not be good enough to get him through life. A week after Zachary was born, Jonas took his heart apart, added missing pieces and reconstructed it to something close to its original specifications. It took about four hours and included a 25-minute period when the infant was packed in ice, with no blood circulating.

Zachary will need at least two more operations on his heart as he gets bigger. But doctors expect him to have a normal life.

"There are only a handful of people in the world who can take a problem like this, think it through, do a complete repair, and have the child turn out so well," Mary Donofrio, Children's director of fetal cardiology, said of Jonas. "He actually did three operations, and (Zachary) had no leftover heart defects."

Jonas, 54, a native of Australia, went to Children's last year after 20 years in Boston, where he was a professor at the Harvard Medical School. He is an advocate of "early primary repair" — fixing heart malformations right after birth in a single operation. The team being assembled around him is turning Washington into a referral center for ultra-complicated pediatric heart surgery. Recently, he operated on an infant flown in from Abu Dhabi.

Early primary repair is difficult, even during How Zachary would tolerate a one-stop solution to his many heart defects, including the unique one, was hard to predict.

"What did I anticipate? I was sort of hard to have an anticipation," the surgeon said.

Jessica Davis is a 17-year-old high school senior from La Follette, Tenn., a town of 8,000 on the Kentucky border. Zachary is



MOHAR HUBBARD/CHARTER, The Washington Post

Zachary Davis, born Oct. 20 with serious heart defects, is kissed by his mother Jessica, 17, as he drifts off to sleep. After surgery by Richard Jonas, of Children's National Medical Center in Washington, Zachary will need two more operations as he grows; but he is expected to live a normal life.

her first child. The baby's father at this point is not in the picture, she says.

She left school in April, when she began studying for her General Educational Development certificate at home. She hopes to return after Christmas and graduate with her class. She would like to be a cosmetologist.

A fetal ultrasound detected an abnormal heart and circulatory system. She was on bed rest for the last two months of the pregnancy.

Zachary was born nearly at term on Oct. 20 at a hospital in Knoxville. He was apparently healthy and weighed 8 pounds, 1 ounce. But the heart defect made his condition unstable, and he was immediately taken to the intensive care unit. Jessica did not hold him until he was more than two weeks old.

One of Mary Donofrio's former cardiologists called her from a hospital at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and said they had a baby whose problems were too complicated for doctors there to handle.

What Donofrio found in tests after the infant arrived in Washington by air ambulance at two days old was a configuration he had never seen. And he just published a single-author text on the repair of heart defects — a book with 300 drawings of anomalies and how to correct them — so he was pretty sure he

knew what had been reported by other surgeons.

He checked the electronic database again. He was right: the defect was unique.

Some of the surgery Jonas would do to fix Zachary's heart could be performed while the baby was on a heart-lung machine that pumps and oxygenates blood. But not the most important tasks.

During those tasks, he needed to be in "circulatory arrest." So, they cooled him in ice to below 60 degrees Fahrenheit, in "deep hypothermia," slowing metabolism and reducing the body's demand for oxygen.

A newborn's heart is about the size of a large walnut. The operation is done with the surgeon wearing jeweler's magnifiers attached to glasses. How long a baby can be kept safely in circulatory arrest varies, but it is generally not more than 45 minutes. Each minute beyond a time limit the surgeon cannot pinpoint less brain damage, a lifetime of unhappiness and death.

The surgery, as complicated as it was, took less than 45 minutes and Zachary ended up with a normal appearing four-chambered heart in which the blood flows in the right direction.

"I was absolutely thrilled to see that the child did exceedingly well," Jonas said.

Pitt to adopt Jolie's children

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Brad Pitt is seeking to become the adoptive father of Angelina Jolie's children, the actor's publicist announced Friday.

A legal petition seeking to change the names of the children to Zahara Jolie-Pitt and Maddox Jolie-Pitt was filed Friday in Los Angeles, publicist Cindy Giuganti said in a statement to The Associated Press.

"We are confirming that Brad Pitt is in the process of becoming the adoptive father of both children," it said. "No further comment is being made."

Humors of an off-screen relationship between the stars of "Mr. & Mrs. Smith" have been circulating for a year. Pitt accompanied Jolie to Ethiopia in July to pick up Zahara, now about 10 months old.

He and actress Jennifer Aniston announced their separation in January, and Aniston filed for divorce in March, citing irreconcilable differences. It became final in October.



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WORLD

Future in doubt

Russia's native people worry about livelihood after Chinese spill

SIKACHI-ALYAN, Russia (AP) — Yevgenia Osadchaya is beside herself with worry, wondering how her family will survive when the toxic slick flowing from China pollutes the Amur River that provides the livelihood for her family and her native Nanan people.

"Not eat fish for a whole year!" cried the 47-year-old, legally blind with cataracts. "How will our nation, the Nanan, live? We'll all die."

The native peoples of Russia's Far East, many of whom rely on the Amur for their food and income, are among those most endangered by the imminent arrival of 100 tons of benzene released into a tributary upriver after a deadly Chinese chemical plant explosion Nov. 13.

The spill prompted Chinese authorities to shut down the water supply for Harbin, a Northeast city of 3.6 million people, for five days. A second city — Jiamusi, which has about 500,000 people — also shut down a water plant on the Songhua River, forcing contamination, officials said Sunday.

Russian authorities expect the slick to cross the border Dec. 10 or 11, and three days later reach the regional capital Khabarovsk. Restrictions on eating Amur fish could last a year or even several, as toxins linger in the winter ice and fishbed experts say.

"The native people 'live from fish. But trading in fish will likely be banned," said Natalya Zaminina, spokeswoman for the Khabarovsk regional government.

She said authorities would strive to inform the villagers that eating the affected fish is even worse than drinking the water.

Nearly 11,000 Nanan people live in the Khabarovsk region, comprising the largest native group here, according to the 2002 Russian census. Other minorities include the Evenki with 4,500 people, Ulechi at 2,700 and Nivkhi at 2,500.

Many of the Nanan, who resemble their Chinese neighbors, are Tishermen whose eastern Siberian ancestors once made clothes from seal fish skins and who still make shoes from fish. Samples of their art are shown at the village museum in Sikachi-Alyan, some 37 miles downriver from Khabarovsk.

A traditional robe on display features a series of concentric diamond designs in red, a color



Yevgenia Osadchaya, one of the native Nanan people, sits in her kitchen in the village of Sikachi-Alyan, Russia, on Saturday. The native peoples of Russia's Far East, reliant on the Amur River for their livelihood, are among the most endangered by the imminent arrival of a toxic slick released by an industrial accident in China.



Native Nanan people carry water from a well in the village of Sikachi-Alyan, Russia, on Saturday.

representing the dragon — called "mudun" in their language — which Nanan believe is the spirit of water.

Svetlana Ominka, a history teacher who runs the village's one-room museum, noted the importance that fish plays in traditional Nanan dishes, even sometimes consumed raw.

"Now there won't be fish — no boiled, fried and definitely, not raw," she said.

Nina Druzhinina, head of the village administration, said residents already have been warned not to drink Amur water or eat fish. The spill is just the latest example of civilization impinging on traditional customs here, she said.

"It's hard to have a traditional life when you have legislation," she said, naming restrictions such as fishing and hunting quotas.

Rice, Japanese counterpart agree on U.N. reform

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Aso and U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice agreed Friday that Japan and the United States should cooperate to realize reform of the United Nations.

Japan will pay 19.468 percent of the U.N. budget (for 2004 through 2006). The rate is higher than the combined rate that Britain, China, France and Russia — four of the five U.N. Security Council permanent members — pay. Aso told Rice during their talks, at the U.S. State Department.

"The Japanese public is increasingly believes it (Japan's financial contribution to the United Nations) isn't fair, and that sentiment has to be considered," Aso said, seeking U.S. support for reducing Japan's contribution to the world body.

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Communist Cuba's military marks 49 years

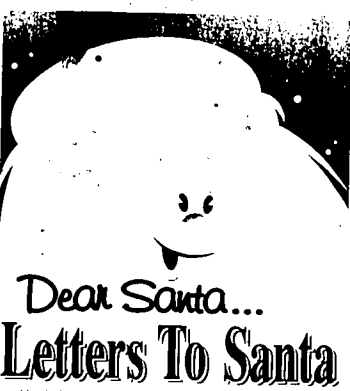
HAVANA (AP) — Communist Cuba's military marked 49 years Friday, celebrating military successes during the Cold War before assuming a newer mission to bolster the island's post-Soviet economy.

President Fidel Castro joined veterans of the Cuban Revolution and wars in Africa at an evening ceremony that also marked the 30th anniversary of Cuba's military mission in Angola.

The 73-year-old Castro said the men and women who fought battles and provided medical and other assistance in African countries through the 1970s and 1980s wrote "a glorious page in history" that should be copied by future generations of Cubans.

The Revolutionary Armed Forces, which replaced the military that existed before the Cuban Revolution, traces its roots to Dec. 2, 1956, when 82 rebels landed on the island on a yacht, the Granma, that sailed from Mexico.

Castro and his brother Raúl, now the country's defense minister, were among less than two dozen rebels who survived to reach the mountains, where they launched a guerrilla war against then-President Fulgencio Batista.



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WORLD

Lotto winner rebuilding his hometown

Los Angeles Times

BATAGRAM, Pakistan — Hasan Khan angrily walks the rubble-strewn streets of his hometown where buildings tumbled like children's play blocks during the recent magnitude 7.6 temblor that killed 87,000 people.

Where was the heavy equipment that was so desperately needed to help free those who were trapped beneath the debris, Khan wants to know.

"We heard children crying to be saved from the rubble, but we couldn't get to them," he says. "We used horses and mules against tons of broken concrete because there was not one bulldozer in our entire region. Why is this? Where does the money go?"

The 47-year-old Khan aims to find out. And more than anyone else in this tiny Himalayan town, he has the means to do so.

Khan's is an unlikely international tale of abject poverty turned to fantastic riches. Leaving Batagram for the U.S. penniless in 1977, he returned two decades later as one of the wealthiest men in Pakistan.

For years, the slightly built Khan, who worked as a cabbie in Washington, D.C., had regularly played the lottery.

He sometimes slept in his cab, but Khan never gave up hope. He kept a fortune cookie prediction that read, "Among winners, you are the chosen one." He played numbers that came to him in a dream: 2, 4, 6, 17, 25 and 31.

Then the incredible happened. In November 2001, the immigrant won a \$55.2 million jackpot. He opted for a lump-sum prize payout and posed for photos with an oversized check for \$32,499,939.24.

Soon after, Khan cashed in the American dream for Pakistani rupees, returning to a region where the average salary is \$500 a year.

The former hard-working cabbie transformed himself into a high-energy public figure who is now promising to rebuild his hometown, where 4,500 people died in the Oct. 8 earthquake. He has already spent hundreds of thousands of dollars of his own money to get the job done.

Just days before the earthquake, Khan was elected district nazim, or mayor, of Batagram. After the quake hit, he helped pull survivors from the rubble, and paid to get the most seriously injured to regional hospitals. He told phone friends he would pay them later for dispensing all the medicine on their shelves. The bill came to 10 million rupees, almost \$200,000.

Khan has bankrolled a program to supply roofing materials to rebuild shattered dwellings. He bought 150 tents, some of which occupy land just outside his mansion with breathtaking views of snow-capped peaks.

Most important, Khan has emerged as a colorful and outspoken critic of local government corruption.

In recent days, the blue-eyed nazim — who refers to himself simply as Khan — has dismissed the town's police chief and fired another official.

Khan promises to continue the housecleaning. "We have a calamity and people are lazy, unable to move," he says. "So I started firing people."

Relief workers are impressed. "He's a take-charge person," says Azizuddin Ahmad, who works with a Malaysian aid group. One of Khan's targets is the Pakistani army. "The army is worthless," he says into his cell phone, pacing the living room of his 20,000-square-foot mansion. An American friend since 1984, he keeps a similarly sized house outside Washington as well as a smaller home in Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, where his second wife and two younger children live.

In rapid-fire sentences spoken in his native Urdu but laced with English expletives, Khan directs a personal staff of six that includes two bodyguards. He collects no public salary and is chauffeured about his domain in his new Toyota 4x4.

Wearing the traditional loose-fitting Pakistani tunic and pants, he recalled a shalwar kameez. Khan barks at his staff to serve coffee. "Where's the Starbucks?" he says as the men jump. "Doesn't anyone know how to use this coffee machine?"

His home is filled with mementos of his time abroad — American-made clothes, vitamins, a box of Kellogg's Corn Flakes, even an FBI jacket, which he calls his favorite piece of clothing.

"I miss the United States," he says. "But for some godly reason



Hasan Khan surveys the devastated town of Batagram, Pakistan. The cabdriver-turned-mega-millionaire was elected mayor a few days before the Oct. 8 quake.



I came back here to deal with a lot of stupidity and corruption. ... What we need is some of that good old Bill Clinton know-how. Remember that?"

Khan arrived in the U.S. at 19. He earned a political science degree at Northern Illinois University, where he met his first wife. They had one child, but the marriage didn't last: "She was a good Christian and I was a bad Muslim."

After his divorce, Khan moved to Washington, where he began driving a cab. "It's the worst job in the world. But I told myself I'd go on until I had a heart attack and then people would know what Khan went through."

He often returned to Pakistan for months at a time. On one trip, Khan remarried and later fathered two more children, who remained in Batagram. But the cabdriver, hungry to make his mark, always returned to Washington.

In 1995, his son from the first marriage told Khan he was applying to Georgetown University.

Now was a cabbie going to come up with that kind of cash for one child, then for two more? Several years later, Khan won the lottery.

Returning to Batagram, Khan noticed how the poor were denied equal education and job opportunities by provincial officials who favored their friends. Two weeks before the October election for district nazim, Khan entered the race. Like a plan-talking Pakistani boss,

Perot, he campaigned with his own money, promising to build a modern Batagram with street lighting, parks and more schools. He defeated an incumbent whose family had been involved in local politics for 45 years, yet who Khan contends was not getting the job done.

"A lot of politicians in this country are happy to just have a flag on their car. I'm not one of them. Voters gave me a sacred trust. If a single penny of their public money was wasted, I'm responsible," he says.

The earthquake put that new public trust to the test.

"That day I saw some bodies piled on the ground, people cry-

ing out and dying," he says. He found one small boy hooked up to an IV machine. A doctor had chalked an X on the youth's bare chest to designate that he was not expected to live unless he was taken to a hospital two hours away.

Khan grabbed a woman with a car. He took out his wallet. "Take this boy, please. I'll pay you," he told her. The woman agreed. But the lottery winner turned public servant learned that money cannot buy everything. The boy died minutes later.

"I can see that boy now," an emotional Khan says. "His face is something I will never forget."

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WORLD

Architect's fall has Japan questioning buildings' safety

By Bruce Wallace
Los Angeles Times

TOKYO — Until the scandal broke, Hidetsugu Aneha was just an anonymous architect, running a small Tokyo-area company that carried out the mundane but crucial calculations on how much reinforced steel should be used to keep buildings from collapsing in an earthquake.

Now he is Japan's most notorious cheat.

Claiming he was under pressure from condominium and hotel builders looking to cut costs, Aneha has admitted to fiddling with safety figures on at least 21 buildings, prescribing steel bars that were too thin and too few in number to absorb the shock of a major quake. If a big tremor shook those buildings, he confessed last month to the Japanese media, a mob that stalked out his office demanding an explanation, "there is a possibility they could fall down."

"Pillars might bend or crash," he said. "I think they might be human damage."

The aftershocks to that confession have rumbled across Japan. At least seven hotels have closed. Angry condominium owners have filed their homes, demanding their money back, and construction has paused on other Aneha-related projects. Of the first 14 affected buildings, seven were examined by engineers. All but one were ordered demolished.

And investigators who went looking for signs of trouble in the rest of the 206 condominiums, apartment blocks and hotels that Aneha had a hand in designing across Japan have so far found he fudged the numbers on at least 43 of them.

The full extent of the danger may be even graver. Aneha's fall has exposed the clubby ties in Japan between architects, developers and those paid to inspect their work, raising the possibility that some construction companies have sought falsified data to flout the country's strict earthquake protection code.

Suspicious only deepened last weekend when police said they had found the body of Nobuhide Morita, an architect whose company used Aneha's calculations to build condominiums, was discovered at the base of a cliff, an apparent suicide.

The unsettling question now is whether Aneha was a negligent architect who got caught cutting corners or merely the tip of a much deeper problem of a construction industry that systematically cheats on safety. The government announced Wednesday it would conduct strength tests on every condominium complex in the country. It was Aneha's initial public apology in mid-November that raised the alarm. His expression of remorse was widely seen as perfunctory rather than heartfelt, suggesting the architect believed he was being singled out for blame over something that was conventional behavior in the business.

"It's not entirely my fault," he told reporters. "I didn't feel I was doing anything wrong and I was too busy to sense any feeling like that."

More ominously, Aneha said others should bear the financial burden of compensating homeowners and hotel owners whose buildings may have to be torn down or reinforced. "I am not the only one responsible," he said.

Last week, Aneha told a closed-door hearing of government officials that three construction companies had ordered him to reduce the amount of reinforced steel in his designs or they would take their business elsewhere. The head of one of those companies later admitted to lawmakers that he asked Aneha to reduce the number of reinforcement bars, but said he only "meant within the boundary of the law." Aneha's cooked figures were only uncovered after eHome Inc., a private inspection company that was paid to check his work, conducted an internal audit of its approvals. The review showed that the company had repeatedly approved Aneha designs that were based on forged or flawed numbers.

"The concept of inspection in Japan is rather unclear," said Toshiro Oookoshi, president of the Japan Construction Consultants Association, who says it is customary for inspectors to merely give the architect's submission a cursory glance. "Nobody ever thought engineers would fake the figures, so inspectors just approve the documents if they look OK."

Executives at eHome deny they knew at the time that the data was false. But the ease with which numbers from Aneha and

other inspection companies were certified has raised eyebrows. Since the inspection process was deregulated six years ago, private companies have taken over about half of all inspections, with local governments still handling the rest. But architects are allowed to choose which company will certify their plans, and critics contend that developers frequently direct work to the most accommodating inspectors.

The Japanese have traditionally been comforted by official assurances that their buildings are designed to withstand violent tremors. The country's already strict requirements were tightened even further after some buildings believed to be safe collapsed during the 1995 Kobe earthquake that killed about 6,400 people.

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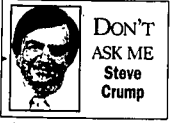
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The Times-News
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Winter is snow time for slackers

I drove around Twin Falls on Thursday, the day of the big snowstorm, to check out how all you fair-weather snow-slackers were doing. Not to put too fine a point on it, but you were pathetic. I haven't seen such a display of half-hearted manual labor since I moved irrigation pipes for 20 cents apiece when I was 14.



DON'T ASK ME Steve Crump

I know. I know. It only snows a few inches a year here in Rockchuck Acres, and March in Hagerman is often milder than March in Phoenix.

But damnit, you have a snow shovel in your garage for a reason, and you're expected — once or twice a decade at least — to look like you know how to use it.

Unlike your broom or your leaf-blower, your snow shovel is not an implement of the arms and shoulders. It requires you to bend over a little and use your back and your legs.

In short, it takes actual work. On Thursday, I saw very few of you actually working. You were pushing the shovel over the top of the snow, leaving most of it intact and then leaning on your shovel handle and talking to the neighbor, who was doing exactly the same thing.

In places where winter can actually kill you — Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, for example — you could get arrested for shoveling snow like that.

In the Midwest, snow-shoveling is considered a civic duty — and a moral imperative. Doesn't matter if it snows a quarter of an inch or three feet; you're outside at 9:30 a.m. sharp, working up a sweat.

And you're not shoveling powdered-sugar snow like we have around here, either. Midwestern snow has actual moisture in it; it's heavy.

There are two ironclad laws of Midwest snow-shoveling. 1. You shovel your sidewalk — and your driveway — before you leave the house in the morning. Neglecting to do so is considered a social transgression equal to failing to put the toilet seat down.

2. You never, ever wait until it stops snowing to shovel your sidewalk. That's just an excuse, and I don't care if you have to shovel the walk again later in the day. Besides, it never stops snowing in the Midwest.

Now I can see you clutched your chest. Fred Sanford-like, I hear you proclaiming, "Elizabeth, I'm coming to be with you if I have to shovel another sidewalk!" Hard cheese.

It's not the shoveling that will kill you in the long run; you've eaten for breakfast the past 39 years.

Now get out there and get to work, and if you have to go, have the good grace to go with a clean driveway.

Of course, there is a class of people even more despicable than you sleepwalking snow-powers, it's the snow-blower crowd.

Please. If God hadn't intended you to suffer when you're clearing snow, you'd have been born in Fort Lauderdale.

Stop shoveling. It's hauling sacks of cement in a wheelbarrow, is supposed to be a crucible — a test of whether you have the gumption.

Please see CRUMP, Page B7

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of avg.	% of season
Salmon	123%	27%
Big Wood	137%	26%
Little Wood	126%	26%
Big Lost	127%	27%
Little Lost	103%	25%
Henrys Fork/Teton	119%	27%
Upper Snake Basin	115%	27%
Oakley	126%	26%
Salmon Falls	126%	25%

As of Dec. 3

Man pleads guilty in stabbing case

By Kathleen L. Turner
For The Times-News

HAILEY — Cesar Rojas-Briceno, 21, pled guilty recently to two counts of aggravated battery in Judge Robert Elgee's Fifth District courtroom.

Rojas-Briceno said he was guilty of stabbing his estranged wife, Sherry Livia, and her boyfriend, Nestor Quinones, on the night of Sept. 18, 2005, at Livia's apartment.

Rojas-Briceno had called from his home in Jerome and arranged to come and visit Livia in Hailey that evening. When Rojas-Briceno arrived Quinones was at the apartment. The two men began fighting and Rojas-Briceno went to the kitchen where he found the knife with which he inflicted an

eight-inch wound in Quinones' Rojas-Briceno then stabbed Livia three or four times. Judge Robert Elgee questioned Rojas-Briceno's understanding of the charges and the explanations of the charges maximums, which would be 15 years each for the battery charges and an additional 15 years for enhancement for a possible total of 45 years. Fines of up to \$50,000 could also be im-

posed. Rojas-Briceno indicated he understood the charges and sentence possibilities and maintained his plea of guilty. Elgee scheduled sentencing for Jan. 27 at 9 a.m.

Kathleen L. Turner is a writer for The Wood River Journal in Hailey. She can be reached at 738-3444.

Train hits truck; fuel spilled

The Times-News

BUHL — A 19-year-old Tiller man learned the hard way that trucks and trains don't mix — especially when they meet at railroad crossings.

Peter Drag, 57, was injured, but the Freightliner truck he was driving received a couple thousand dollars in damage when it was struck by an Eastern Oregon Railroad locomotive Friday evening on Clear Lakes Road.

"The train hit the truck, but the truck was at fault," Idaho State Trooper Troopmaster David Cortez told The Times-News on Saturday.

Cortez said the Freightliner's fiberglass cab received "moderate" damage and a ruptured fuel tank spilled 10-15 gallons of diesel.

He said the train was moving at 3-5 mph when it struck the truck on the passenger side.

Although the road had some ice on it, Drag was cited for failure to yield, Cortez said.

Residents find new school a bad neighbor

By Kathleen L. Turner
For The Times-News

HAILEY — Hailey City Council recently heard complaints regarding the Blaine County School District's and Kreuzbeck Constructors' broken promises, neglected duties and just down right disregard for Woodside residents impacted by the construction of the new Woodside Elementary School.

Councilwoman Carol Brown said she had talked with one of the neighbors, Harold Webb, who was so fed up with the process, made by the School District and Kreuzbeck that being fulfilled he could not attend another meeting to again voice that disappointment and anger.

Brown relayed her findings on a recent site visit with Council President Rick Davis and found many reasons to express frustration with how the promised communication had evaporated.

Brown said huge piles of dirt were piled up right behind neighbors' homes with debris and open fireplaces, much different than the process promised by a representative hired by the school board to guide the process through approval.

In addition, the school district agreed in response to several complaints about construction traffic and noise to communicate a schedule of visits to residents. The letter has failed to follow through.

Blaine County Superintendent Dr. Jim Lewis personally stood up at the last meeting attended by angry neighbors in September and promised the timeline among other apologetic actions but failed to follow through with a response.

Engineer Tom Hellen said the school district also promised four hours with the school district's landscape architect to iron out details that have failed to take place.

Mary Susan McBrant expressed extreme frustration with the situation.

"At the minimum they have not been a good neighbor. At the maximum they need council recommendations," McBrant said, adding that she could not allow the project to proceed under conditions that degrade the neighbors' property.

City Attorney Ned Williamson expressed disappointment that a representative of the school district was not present, even though they had been made aware of the meeting. Williamson suggested requiring a bond for the project to continue. McBrant agreed that was a good idea.

Kathleen L. Turner writes for The Wood River Journal in Hailey. She can be reached at 738-3444.

Sparkling memories

Memory Trees benefit Boys and Girls Club

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — On crisp, clear southern Idaho winter nights the stars above shine ever more brightly on those below. But during Saturday night's Memory Tree dedication ceremony, it was 500 sparkling ornaments and white glistering lights that lit the faces and hearts of those in attendance.

Ornament Pick-up

Those who purchase an ornament can pick them up Jan. 4-18 at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth Ave., Buhl. For more information call 543-4333.

Snow swirled around and across the bundled-up crowd at the special dedication, which took place at Main Street and Broadway Avenue in the West End Senior Center parking lot in Buhl. It was, it seemed, the perfect night for a special time.

The Memory Tree dedication event shined a tree adorned with ornaments (sold for \$5 each) painted with the names of veterans, grandparents, friends and — believe it or not — even pets. The fundraiser, sponsored by Farmer Funeral Chapel, will help the Boys and Girls Club of Buhl.

Rev. Marilyn Butler, advisory board president for the Boys and Girls Club of Buhl, welcomed the crowd. She said those who bought ornaments in remembrance of loved ones past is a great idea. "It says that loved ones live forever in our hearts and minds."

Farmer Funeral Chapel's Bob Linderman said, "For our first year go at this we are pleased. We sold more ornaments than expected." In fact, over \$2,300 was earned for the club and is expected to be used to implement projects for community youth through the club, which meets after school at Popplewell Elementary.

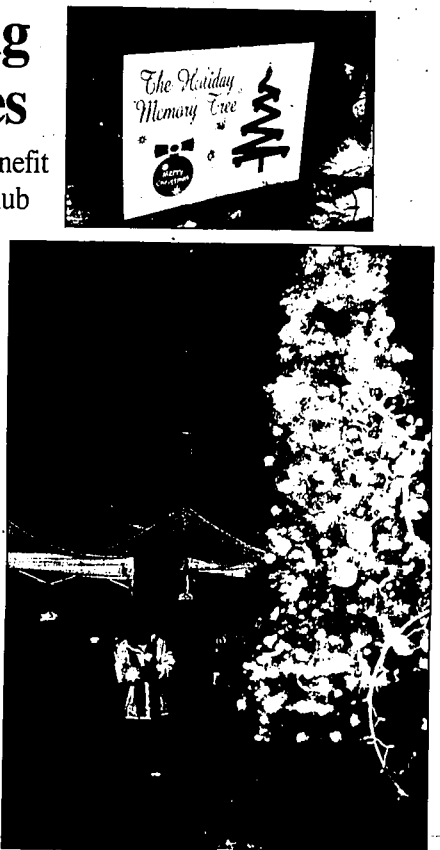
Florence Pierce, who organized the event and also sits on the club's advisory board, explained that the funds could also be used to start a new club program next semester, as well as provide for an upcoming Teen Night function.

Pierce noted that it couldn't have been such a success without some hard work and support.

"We couldn't have done it without those who painted the ornaments," Pierce said. "And they're beautiful."

Next year the chapel and club would like to see the dedication ceremony coincide with Buhl's Night Light parade, which is planned for Dec. 10.

"There has so much community involvement," Linderman said. "We are hoping to see this grow bigger each year



Top, a sign welcomes residents to the First Annual Memory Tree dedication held Saturday night in downtown Buhl. Above, participants gather at the Memory Tree dedication on Main Street Saturday in downtown Buhl. The event raised money for the local Boys and Girls Club by selling 55 special dedication ornaments.

and is something people look forward to going to and participate in."

Some wanted to celebrate special relationships, such as the ornaments purchased by Terry and Kathleen Kramer.

Terry Kramer bought four ornaments, but the one he is most proud of is the one bearing the name of his new grandson, Jace Kramer.

"We also bought one for his parents, Andrew and Jessie Kramer, and for us — the proud grandparents," Terry said. Longtime Buhl resident Debbie Klug

was there to see the dedication. Her mother, Jackie Beem, had purchased an ornament bearing the name of her grandfather, Glenn Richmond. "It's a wonderful way to kick-off the holiday season," Klug said. "And a great way to remember those special people in our lives."

The trees will remain lit every night during December.

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair_206@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

SAME LANDSCAPE, DIFFERENT COUNTRY

Mongolian parks manager learns conservation in Idaho

By Tim Woodward
The Idaho Statesman

SILVER CREEK — Gogor Gansukh has taken hundreds of pictures of Idaho, but worries that no one in his native Mongolia will believe it.

"When I show them the pictures I took in Idaho, they'll say I never left Mongolia," he said.

Boise's foothills blew him away. He said they looked just like Mongolia's.

Idaho as part of a Nature Conservancy exchange program. His 10-day visit amounted to a crash course in conservation methods used here in the hope that they can benefit his country. Idaho and Colorado were chosen as the program's pilot states because their prairies, high deserts and mountains are similar to Mongolia's.

"I want to learn about your ranching system, conservation and management of reserved areas," he said. "I want to learn everything even the style of living."

He got a taste of that recently at Picabo's Silver Creek Store, where chili verde burritos were on the menu and Ernest Hemingway dominated the conversation. Photos of Hemingway, who spent time in the world-renowned trout stream, are prominently displayed there. Gansukh had visited the late author's Ketchum home earlier in the week.

"Hemingway is very popular in Mongolia," he said. "I am a lucky Mongolian. I got to go in his house and see his bed and take lots of pictures."

One of the faces in the Hemingway photos is that of local rancher Bud Purdy. Hemingway and Purdy, 86, were hunting buddies. He and Gansukh sat on the deck at the ranch Purdy's family has owned for more than a century, with Silver Creek and rolling by the back yard and talked livestock, irrigation, recreation and land management.

"Recreation wouldn't be a problem if people would stay on the roads," Purdy said. "We have that problem in Mongolia," Gansukh said. "Nobody takes care of land better than the people who own it."

In Mongolia, there is no private property. Generations of nomadic herders had no need for it, and during the 20th century it was outlawed under communism.

"I could see some lights going on when Bud was talking about people being better managers and stewards of property they own," said Irish Klair, the Nature Conservancy's Silver Creek-Big Wood River watershed manager.

Gansukh shared later that that may be part of what his herders need, to have some bits of land change ownership.

The Nature Conservancy adds that privatization can work both ways. Some owners may be good stewards; others could compromise Mongolia's grasslands ecosystems. Ownership also has a different meaning in Mongolia, where herders or their communities would have a bond for the project to continue. McBrant agreed that was a good idea.

Kathleen L. Turner writes for The Wood River Journal in Hailey. She can be reached at 738-3444.

*A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with a 30-year average. The percentage of being compared to the 30-year average.

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

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Alta C. Gannon



BUIH — Alta Curtis Gannon, 86, passed away peacefully on Dec. 1, 2005, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Alta was born on Dec. 7, 1918, in Oakley, Idaho. Her parents were Vernora Clark Curtis. She started school in Oakley, transferred to Burley and eventually to Buhl, where she graduated from high school in 1936. During high school, she participated in numerous school activities including drama and playing the piano for the school choir. Following high school, Alta attended Utah State University. During her sophomore year, she was tapped as a member of the Sigma Kappa Sorority. Due to hard times brought on by the Depression, she had to drop out of college and returned to work for her father at the Caltex in the Chevrolet Automobile Dealership. On Nov. 16, 1940, Alta married Wendell Gannon at Fort Lewis, Wash., where Wendell was serving on active duty with the U.S. Army. When Wendell shipped out to the Pacific Theater, Alta returned to Buhl and took a job as clerk for the Buhl Draft Board. She followed Wendell and Alta resided in Buhl until 1950, when Wendell

returned to active duty with the Army. During the Army days, the Gannon family lived in several locations including tours of duty in Germany and France. Upon Wendell's retirement in 1952, they returned to Buhl. During the 1970s and '80s, Alta worked for the law firm of Hephworth, Nungesser and Felton. Alta thoroughly enjoyed her retirement years as a member of the Clear Lake Ladies Golf Association and the Buhl Chamber of Commerce. When golf was no longer an option due to health reasons, Alta retired to the club house, playing bridge every Thursday. She was preceded in death by



her parents, Ken and Venora; and her husband, Wendell. Surviving family members include her son, Tom (Jeanne); grandsons, Curtis (Inney) and Patrick; her sister, Delva Eastman; and several nieces and nephews. Her funeral will be celebrated on the 67th birthday at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005, at the Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 N. Ninth Ave., Buhl. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, at Farmer Funeral Chapel. In lieu of flowers, her family suggests donations be made to the Buhl Quick Response Unit, Buhl Boys and Girls Club or your favorite charity.

Helen L. Allen



TWIN FALLS — Helen L. Allen, 86, of Twin Falls, died Dec. 2, 2005, at Bridgeview Estates. Helen was born Oct. 19, 1919, in Twin Falls to Frank and Marie Slack. She graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1937. On July 3, 1938, Helen married Charles E. Allen in Twin Falls. They resided in California, returning to Twin Falls in 1941 to assume responsibilities in the family business, Sterling Jewelry Music Co. Helen was the mother of Helen's life, second only to her family and friends. She started studying piano at the age of 5 and by the age of 14, began playing in the church. Thus began a career of playing for church for 60 years, retiring from the First Presbyterian Church in 1993, where she had served as its organist for 40 continuous years. Though Depression years kept Helen from college, she nevertheless sought every opportunity to study music. She studied with Griffith Bratt of Boise, as well as Alexander Schirner of Salt Lake. Helen performed and accompanied community musicians from Magic Valley Chorale and Symphony to countless weddings and funerals. A charter member of the Twin Falls Music Club, she served as its first president. She was a member of the American Guild of Organists. As well, she taught both piano and organ to students of all ages. Many of her former students credit her techniques for providing them with a sound foundation to further

their own talents. Helen was also a member of the First Presbyterian Church and as well as a member and past president of Chapter A-1193. Family was the most important part of Helen's life. Even with her failing health, nothing quite lit up her face like a visit from her daughters, grandchildren or great-grandchildren. She took great pride in the fact that her great-grandchildren now practice their piano lessons on her beautiful baby grand piano. A perfectionist in all she did with a keen eye for decorating and fashion, Helen was an excellent homemaker, cook and gardener. She loved to knit, read and play bridge and golf with friends. Helen is survived by her daughter, Sonia (Robert) Alexander, a daughter-in-law, Barbara (Richard) Allen, a sister, Marjorie (Lyle), of Twin Falls; seven grand children and 12

great-grandchildren: Mark (Larissa) Alexander and children, Ashley, Ethan and Kealey Alexander, all of Twin Falls; Lisa (Dane) Myers and children, Alex, Annie, and John; Mitchell (Janette) Alexander and sons, Patrick and Joseph; and grandson, Joseph Allen, all of Boise; Matthew (Chlor) Allen and sons, Alden and Boone Richard of Seattle, Wash.; Amanda (Don) Moore and son, Calvin of Birmingham, Ala.; Marc (Chris) Doyle and son, Carson of San Jose, Calif. In addition to her parents, Helen was preceded in death by her husband, Charles in 1998; and brothers-in-law, Kenneth Pez and Howard Allen in the spring of 2005.

A memorial service to celebrate Helen's life will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, 2005, at the First Presbyterian Church with the Rev. Al Fry officiating. Services are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park" at 1300 N. Jerome. The family suggests memorials to First Presbyterian Church Music Program, Twin Falls Music Club Scholarship Fund, CSI Foundation or to a charity of donor's choice. Memorials may be left with the attendants at the service or sent to White Mortuary, P.O. Box 945, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0945. The family would like to extend special gratitude to the staff of Bridgeview Estates and Care Center for their patience and care of Helen during the past three years.

Helena DeBoer Barlow



LAYTON, Utah — Helena DeBoer Barlow, 84, passed away peacefully from this life on Dec. 3, 2005. Surrounded by her loving family, she overcame her struggle with Alzheimer's disease that took away her ability to communicate and live life in her normal friendly way. Helen — as all knew her — was born on Sept. 19, 1921, in Ogden, Utah, the fourth child to Irm DeBoer and Hilgonda Meinders. She spent her growing up years in Ogden, graduating from Ogden High School and Weber State College. After graduation, she was employed at Securix's, where she met her eternal sweetheart, Helen married Joseph Wintie Barlow on May 26, 1943, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. They enjoyed 62 years of marriage and welcomed a family of seven children. They raised their children on a farm in Jerome, Idaho, before moving back to Utah 20 years ago. Helen's children are Carol Schlund (Jim) of Jerome, Idaho, Brent J. Barlow (Janet) of Golden, Colo., Jean Chappick (Tom) of Pocatello, Idaho, Kenneth D. Green (Marylene) of Mountain Green, Utah, Conny Barlow (Larry) of Layton, Utah, and Jeffrey D. Barlow of Clearfield, Utah. Helen was a faithful member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, where she willingly served as a visiting teacher for 60-plus years, and where she helped many people

enjoy and learn the power and beauty of music. She served as Primary chorister for 25 years, as well as chorister for the ward choir, stake choir, Singing Mother's Choir, and ward music chairman. Music was always a big part of her life. She also served as a temple worker with her husband in the Ogden Temple for 10 years. Helen was known for her beautiful pieces of handwork she created and her willingness to share them. Her home has and has been the place for many a wintered traveler, she always wanted to share. She was a very good friend to all and never knew a stranger — always the first to welcome a visitor. Her home was the place for a lot of gathering with plenty of food for all. She spent her summers candid everything her husband would grow and taught her chil-

dren the value of hard work. Many of you will remember Helen as the friendly secretary at Farmer's Insurance, Jerome County Treasurer's Office and Cashier in Jerome, Idaho. Helen is survived by her husband, Joseph; six children and their spouses; 23 grandchildren; 35 great-grandchildren; brothers, Arvid (Jenny) and Robert DeBoer; sister, Jennie Leininger; sisters-in-law, Marge DeBoer and Clara Barlow; and brother-in-law, Frank Elvason. She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Hank, Herman and Richard DeBoer; brother-in-law, Bob Leininger; and sisters-in-law, LaVern, Flora and Carol DeBoer. Her husband and family would like to thank the nurses and staff at Rocky Mountain Care Facility and Hospice for the wonderful care she was given at the end of life. Everyone knew her there as that sweet lady who was always so grateful for the help. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, 2005, at the Clearfield 22nd Ward Chapel, 151 N. 1000 W. in Clearfield, with Bishop Danny McElroy officiating. Friends may visit from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at the Lindquist's Layton Mortuary, 1867 N. Fairfield Road, Layton, Utah, or one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at Clearfield City Cemetery. E-mail condolences to the family at lin@lindquistmortuary.com.



Larry Joe Lamb

JEROME — Larry Joe Lamb, 62, left this world Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2005, for a better place. Our dad, brother, grandpa and friend will be deeply missed. We love you and will cherish our memories forever. He is survived by his three sons, Mark, Curt and John Lamb; two brothers, Randy (Debbie) Lamb and Greg (Susan) Lamb; one sister, Linda Salk and eight grandchildren, Trevor, Anthony, Bradley, Chavael, Zoey, Braxton, Cameron and Dominique. Larry was preceded in death by his mother, Louise Bruckner father, Archie Lamb; stepfather, George Bruckner; and one son, Les Lamb, Dec. 3, 2005, at the Jerome Cemetery with the Rev. Luann Lockwood officiating. No viewing is planned. A graveside service will be conducted at noon Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2005, at the Jerome Cemetery with the Rev. Luann Lockwood officiating. No viewing is planned.

DEATH NOTICES

Harold A. Miles Jr.

JEROME — Harold A. Miles Jr., 75, of Jerome, died Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2005, in Jerome. Arrangements will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome.

Elizabeth 'Beth' Hardy

TWIN FALLS — Elizabeth "Beth" Hardy, 54, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 2, 2005, at her home. Arrangements will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Carl W. Baer

KEETCHICUM — Carl W. Baer, 92, of Keetchicum, died Saturday, Dec. 3, 2005, at Shoshone Rehabilitation and Living Center. Arrangements will be announced by Demary Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

Thank You

for all the cards, food, calls, friendship and memorial donations. Your support means more than words can say.

The family of Marie Rebecca McGuire

Coeur d'Alene School District ratifies a new teachers' contract

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — The Coeur d'Alene School District has ratified a new contract for the region's teachers. The contract, approved by the Coeur d'Alene Education Association, provides a 3.25 increase to teachers' base salary, raising starting pay to \$25,224 a year. "It's a relief to get this done," said Steve Briggs, the district's chief financial officer. "The biggest issue was salary. Teachers initially asked for a 4 percent raise, and the district initially offered 2 percent. Negotiations were held for several months, with a mediator brought in to help both sides reach an agreement."

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The family of...

Shirley "Shi" Murrell

wishes to thank the Magic Valley for their overwhelming expressions of caring support both before and after his passing. There is no way to name everyone individually, but special thanks to First Choice Hospice, Dr. Ken Harris — especially Evelyn Hitch, his nurse — Pastor David Callen, the Magic Valley Evangelical Free Church, Farnsworth Mortuary, our neighbors and friends. The Magic Valley is a wonderful community.

COME ONE, COME ALL

Mike and Catherine Parke
and the staff of
Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home
respectfully request your presence at the

Eighth Annual
Lighting of the Memorial Christmas Tree
Saturday, December 10, 2005
7:00 P.M.
Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home
2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, ID
(208) 735-0011

Our **arr** offers — free of charge — the presentation of the "Angel of Christmas" Tree ornaments and a special speaker, **John** in the evening. We hope you will join us and know that you are welcome whether we have served your family in the past. Come and share this Christmas Season with our family. People who truly care about you.

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You are cordially invited
to attend a special tribute
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2nd Annual
Christmas Memorial Service
sponsored by
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Sunday, December 11 • 6:00 pm
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Refreshments will be provided.
Pastor Dale Metzger will officiate.
Special music by Heather Platt

To our Friends, Customers, and Concerned,

As I take time to reflect over the past two months, it is overwhelming how so many of you have shown your love and concern for Alicia and myself.

From the Sheriff to my Doctors, Friends, Church, Family, Cousins, Pops, Cakes, Magic Valley Wedding, Mountain Church, and many, many more who have helped and shared words of encouragement, God is so good! For all those who have sent money to Alicia it is beyond my belief how you have blessed her. As she grows, I will share with her how many have shown their love and concern for her future.

For our customers your understanding and patience has been more than we could ask, you have shown compassion for us. And to my family and friends who have helped and kept helping, there's nothing more I could ask for.

Words cannot convey or describe how grateful we are to each and everyone of you, for how you have shared your love with us. You all have been a wonderful part of us. May the Lord bless you for your thoughtfulness and generosity. This Christmas as you celebrate the birth of the Savior, our prayer is that you embrace Christ as your Lord and Savior.

In Christ,
Debra and Alicia Easterday and Family

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

Leslie S. Abbott

TWIN FALLS — Leslie S. Abbott, loving husband, father, brother and friend, passed away Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2005, at St. Luke's Hospital in Boise, Idaho, surrounded by loved ones. Les was born on Sept. 12, 1953, in Jerome, Idaho, to Charles Sanford and Barbara Lucille Abbott. He was raised in Custer County and graduated from Challis High School in 1973. On April 7, 1975, Les was wed to Fayone Sanderson in Ruth, Nev. On Feb. 29, 1976, Les and Fayone became the proud parents of a son, Charles Sanford Abbott, born in Salmon, Idaho. Their daughter, Daynett

Mary Abbott, was born on May 5, 1979, in Twin Falls, Idaho. Les and his family have resided in Twin Falls since 1977. In that time, Les worked at Circle C for 28 years and was their safety director since 1983. This devoted man touched the lives of everyone that he met. He was an EMT, a reserve police officer for Jerome County Sheriff's Department, Filer Police Department and Camas County Police Department; and a volunteer for the Kimberly Quiet Response Unit. In his lifetime, Leslie Abbott served his country, his state and his community. Les was preceded in death by

his mother and father. He is survived by his wife, Fayone; son, Chuck; and daughter, Daynett, all residing in Twin Falls, Idaho. Also mourning his loss are his three sisters, Sandra Kaye Griggs of Challis, Idaho, Doris Gail Lombardi of Lewiston, Idaho, and Kathryn Susan Kopp of Middleton, Idaho. Les lived a good life and was loved by many. A service will be held at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home & Crematory. Family and friends are also welcome to attend the viewing from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the funeral home.



Jesse J. Naranjo

TWIN FALLS — Jesse J. Naranjo, 33-year-old Twin Falls resident, died Tuesday, Nov. 29, 2005, at the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. He was born March 2, 1972, in Butte, the son of Eugenio and Bertha Lopez Naranjo. He grew up and attended schools in Rupert, graduating from Minico High School. He enjoyed all sports, but especially loved baseball. He married Christina Arredondo and was later divorced. He married Cherie Bywater and was later divorced. Jesse enjoyed listening to music

and he loved his kids very much. Survivors include his parents, Eugenio and Bertha Naranjo of Heyburn; six children: Stephanie and Armando Malik, both of Rupert, Tynell, Monic, Mariah and T.J., all of Paulk; four brothers, Geno Naranjo, Sammy Naranjo, and Lionel Naranjo, all of Heyburn, and Gerry Naranjo of Boise; a sister, Yvonne Naranjo of Salt Lake City, Utah; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his grandparents and an aunt. A vigil service will be held at 7

p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, 2005, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, 1601 Oakley Ave. in Burley. Funeral Mass will be celebrated at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 5, 2005, at the Little Flower Catholic Church, 1601 Oakley Ave. in Burley, with Father Juan Garacia as celebrant. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley. Friends may call from 6 p.m. until the time of the vigil on Sunday at the church. Friends may also call one hour prior to Mass on Monday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary in Burley.



Jess J. 'Shorty' Belasquez

WENDELL — Jess J. 'Shorty' Belasquez passed away Dec. 1, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center of a brief illness. Shorty was born to Juan and Bernice Belasquez in Burley, Idaho, on April 23, 1920. Shorty married Annie Velasquez on June 8, 1940. Shorty joined the C.C. Camps at the age of 16. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was in Italy and Austria. Even before he entered the service, he and his brother Chris, and a few of their friends formed a band. Shorty played the guitar. Chris played the guitar and fiddle, and their

friends joined in and made up the rest of the band. They played in bars and grange halls over the Magic and Wood River Valleys. After returning from war, he farmed in Shoshone. Shorty then moved to Jerome and then Wendell and farmed for various farmers in the area. Shorty also worked for the city of Wendell in the water department. He would irrigate for the people who were not able to do it themselves. Shorty was a very giving man. He grew a number of gardens around Wendell and gave the produce to people who needed it. Shorty also loved to make toys

for children. He made hand-made wooden toys out of empty spools of thread and sent them to children's hospitals across the United States. He always carried a top in his pocket in case he ran into a child. The city of Wendell even gave Shorty his very own day for the many things that he did for the people there. Shorty was also known as the "Banana Man" to the residents of the Magic Valley. Every Sunday for years he would buy bananas for everyone and deliver them himself so that everyone got at least one visitor a week. Shorty had six children, Tonia

Belasquez, Gilbert and Diana Belasquez, Delores and Andy Nutsch, Jessie and Cecil Torres, Sally and Randy Slater, and Anita and Steve Woodbridge. He also had 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren with one more on the way. He was preceded in death by his wife, parents and three brothers. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 6, 2005, at Denary Funeral Chapel in Wendell. Interment will be at the Wendell Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Gooding or Wendell Senior Citizen Centers and may be left at the chapel.

SERVICES

Joseph T. (Joe) Malina, memorial service at 4 p.m. today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls. Friends may call from 1:30 p.m. until time of the service at the funeral home.

Joe Thomas Wadsworth of Burley, funeral at 1 p.m. Monday at Payne Memorial Chapel, 221 W. Main St., Burley. Friends may call from 3 to 5 p.m. today and from noon to 12:45 p.m. Monday at Payne Mortuary.

Jerry V. Wilson of Dudley, N.C., formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 5 p.m. Monday at the Tynndall Funeral Chapel, 1005 N. Church St., Mount Olive, N.C.

Anna Marie Hess Martin of Logan, Utah, and formerly of Filer, funeral at noon Tuesday at Foothill 1st Ward Chapel, 1500 N. 1500 E., Logan. Viewing from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Monday at St. Vincent Funeral Home, 162 E. 400 N., Logan, and from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the church.

Raymond A. Hahn of Buhl, memorial service at 4 p.m. Tuesday at the Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Committee narrows search for university president

POCATELLO (AP) — Idaho State University's presidential search committee has narrowed the field of applicants from 90 to 10. State Board of Education member Karen McGee, the committee chairwoman, said confidential interviews will start next week. The committee is searching for someone to replace former Idaho State University President Richard Bowen, who retired in October. Board member Blake Hall said the committee is looking for someone with experience, leadership ability and a "qualitative awareness." "What we heard, loud and clear," said McGee, "was that a president must be someone who could connect with the community, and with people at ISU." The names of finalists will not be released until the top few are asked to visit the campus.

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Happy 60th Wedding Anniversary Bob and Rose Marie McCoy!

Robert (Bob) and Rose Marie McCoy of Twin Falls will be honored at an open house for their 60th wedding anniversary, and Rose Marie's 80th birthday. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, December 17, at the Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center, 510 Shoshone Street West, hosted by Steve and Jo Mc Coy. Robert W. McCoy and Rose Marie Wilson were married December 16, 1945 in Twin Falls after Bob completed three years in the Marine Corps. They have lived most of their lives in and around Twin Falls. They have been mostly farm oriented, and continues for 18 years, and have built their new homes in Twin Falls. Bob also worked for Valley Electric Oil Company and Gem State Oil company and retired from Amalgamated Sugar Company. They have three children: Steve (Jo) McCoy, Boise, Linda (Dora) Hampton, Twin Falls, Randy (Rene) McCoy, Birch Bay, Washington. The couple has 4 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren. Cards and memories welcome. No gifts, please.

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MAGIC VALLEY

SCHOOL LUNCHES

AGAPE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE CENTER

Milk or juice served daily
 Monday: Chicken sandwich
 Tuesday: Hamburger
 Wednesday: Pizza
 Thursday: Italian burrito
 Friday: Pig on a blanket

BUHL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu
 Milk served daily. Choice of fruit or juice every day.
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Strawberry pancakes
 Wednesday: Hot sauce and gravy
 Thursday: Breakfast pizza
 Friday: Doughnuts
 Lunch Menu
 Salad bar and milk served every day
 Monday: Taco burger
 Tuesday: Hot fish sandwich
 Wednesday: Chicken nuggets
 Thursday: Spaghetti
 Friday: Hot treasures

BUHL MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL

Monday: Muffins
 Tuesday: French toast
 Wednesday: Hot sauce and gravy
 Thursday: Breakfast burrito
 Friday: Breakfast pizza
 Lunch Menu
 Salad bar and milk served every day
 Monday: Chicken sandwich
 Tuesday: Hot fish sandwich
 Wednesday: Spaghetti
 Friday: Pepperoni pizza

BURLEY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast Menu
 Milk served daily. A variety of fruits and vegetables are served with the meal. Burgley High School offers a hamburger bar, salad bar or a main dish each day. Breakfast served starting at 7:30 a.m.
 Monday: Breakfast pastry
 Tuesday: Muffins
 Wednesday: Strawberry eggs
 Thursday: Doughnuts
 Friday: Cereal
 Lunch Menu
 Salad bar and milk served every day
 Monday: Pig on a blanket
 Tuesday: Ham and cheese or turkey and cheese
 Wednesday: Chili and beef stew
 Thursday: Hamburger, cheeseburger or burrito
 Friday: Chicken sandwich or spicy chicken sandwich

CASTLEFORD SCHOOL

Breakfast menu
 Milk and juice served daily
 Monday: Doughnuts
 Tuesday: Waffles
 Wednesday:innamon rolls
 Thursday: Hot sauce
 Friday: Breakfast in muffin
 Lunch Menu
 Salad bar and milk served daily
 Monday: Burritos
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
 Wednesday: Hot fish burgers
 Thursday: Chicken pizza
 Friday: Potato soup

FLAJO SCHOOL

Monday: Italian dinners
 Tuesday: Hot chili breast
 Wednesday: Lasas
 Thursday: Fish-a-cue
 Friday: Soup and sandwich

HANSEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Breakfast Menu
 Milk served daily
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Hot sauce and gravy
 Wednesday: Fruit sticks

Thursday: Scrambled eggs
 Friday: Cereal
 Lunch Menu
 Milk served daily
 Monday: Chicken burgers
 Tuesday: Nachos
 Wednesday: Sub sandwich
 Thursday: Hot turkey sandwich
 Friday: Hamburger stragout

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Choice of milk every day
 Monday: Chicken nuggets
 Tuesday: Beef and cheese chalupa
 Wednesday: Italian sub sandwich
 Thursday: Chicken pizza
 Friday: Chicken strips

KIMBERLY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Milk served daily
 Monday: French bread pizza
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
 Wednesday: Nachos
 Thursday: Italian subs
 Friday: Chili

KIMBERLY HIGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily
 Monday: French bread pizza
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
 Wednesday: Nachos
 Thursday: Italian subs
 Friday: Chili

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Monday: Soup
 Tuesday: Butter beef sandwiches
 Wednesday: Spaghetti
 Thursday: Spaghetti
 Friday: Pizza

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily
 Monday: French bread pizza
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets
 Wednesday: Hamburger release
 Thursday: Chicken nuggets
 Friday: Breakfast turkey sandwich
 Lunch Menu
 Monday: French bread pizza
 Tuesday: Spaghetti
 Wednesday: Hot turkey soup
 Thursday: Chicken fried steak
 Friday: Cinnamon

MINIDOKA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Choice of milk served daily
 Monday: Muffin or graham crackers and yogurt
 Tuesday: Logan and trail mix
 Wednesday: Walkie sticks
 Thursday: Foamer taco
 Friday: Cereal or cheese toast
 Lunch menu
 Monday: French bread pizza
 Tuesday: Spaghetti
 Wednesday: Hot turkey soup
 Thursday: Chicken fried steak
 Friday: Cinnamon

MINIDOKA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Breakfast menu
 Monday: Muffins and trail mix
 Tuesday: Hot sauce and gravy or graham crackers and yogurt
 Wednesday: Thruons and yogurt or cereal and trail mix
 Thursday: Walkie sticks or cheese toast
 Friday: Breakfast burrito or yogurt and trail mix
 Lunch menu
 Monday: Cinnamon
 Tuesday: French bread pizza
 Wednesday: Cinnamon
 Thursday: Hot chili breast or taco salad
 Friday: Turkey gravy with whipped potatoes

MURTAUGH SCHOOL

Milk served daily
 Lunch Menu
 French breakfast served daily. Fruit and salad bar served daily at lunch.
 Monday: Chicken noodle soup
 Tuesday: Hot fish sandwich
 Wednesday: Chicken pizza

ROBERT STUART AND O'LEARY JUNIOR HIGH

Breakfast menu
 Milk served daily
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Waffles
 Wednesday: Cereal
 Thursday: Hot turkey croissant
 Friday: Pizza

ST. EDWARDS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Corn dogs
 Monday: Spaghetti
 Tuesday: Waffles
 Thursday: Macaroni and cheese
 Friday: Chicken party sandwich

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY

Milk served daily
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Waffles
 Wednesday: Cereal
 Thursday: Hot turkey croissant
 Friday: Pizza

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast is served daily
 Lunch: The high school has a choice of main fare, hamburger bar, and salad bar each day. Bar on Wednesdays and potatoes bar on Fridays. Main menu items varies every day.
 Monday: Beef and cheese burrito
 Tuesday: Italian chicken sandwich
 Wednesday: Hamburger or cheeseburger
 Thursday: Chicken fried steak
 Friday: Pizza

VALLEY SCHOOLS

Breakfast is served daily
 Monday: Cinnamon bun
 Tuesday: Hot turkey croissant
 Wednesday: Chicken chunks
 Thursday: Spaghetti
 Friday: Chili

BLISS SCHOOL

Milk served daily
 Monday: Sweet and sour chicken
 Tuesday: Ham and cheese potatoes
 Wednesday: Hot turkey soup
 Thursday: Chicken nuggets
 Friday: Lasas

CASSIA SCHOOLS

Milk served daily. A variety of fruits and vegetables are served with the meal.
 Breakfast menu
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Breakfast on a stick
 Wednesday: Cereal bar
 Thursday: Scrambled eggs
 Friday: Cereal
 Lunch menu
 Monday: Corn dogs
 Tuesday: Chicken nuggets

DIETRICH SCHOOLS

Salad bar, fruit and milk served daily
 Monday: Chicken nuggets
 Tuesday: Italian subs
 Wednesday: Shrimp joes
 Thursday: Hamburger stragout
 Friday: Nachos

GLENN'S FERRY

Monday: Mini corn dogs
 Tuesday: Chicken burger
 Wednesday: Chili
 Thursday: Italian chicken
 Friday: Italian

GOODING SCHOOLS

Choice of milk served daily. The lunch choice is for junior high and high school students only.
 Monday: Lasas
 Tuesday: Pizza
 Wednesday: Macaroni and cheese
 Thursday: Chicken nuggets
 Friday: Chili

HAGERMAN SCHOOLS

Choice of milk offered daily
 Breakfast menu
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: French toast
 Wednesday: Cereal
 Thursday: Hot sauce and gravy
 Friday: Cereal
 Lunch menu
 Monday: Pepperoni pizza
 Tuesday: Submarine sandwich
 Wednesday: Chicken fajitas
 Thursday: Slippy joes
 Friday: Hot dogs

IDAHO SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND THE BLIND

Milk served daily
 Breakfast menu
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Hot sauce and gravy or jelly
 Wednesday: Breakfast muffin

Thursday: English muffin
 Friday: Cinnamon rice
 Lunch menu
 Salad bar and choice of milk served daily
 Monday: Turkey bagels
 Tuesday: Italian spaghetti
 Wednesday: Chili
 Thursday: Beef and cheese wrap
 Friday: Hamburgers

JEROME SCHOOLS

Milk served daily
 Monday: Tater steaks
 Tuesday: Tossed cheese sandwich
 Wednesday: Oven fried chicken
 Thursday: Chicken and bacon roll-up
 Friday: Hamburgers

RICHFIELD SCHOOLS

Breakfast
 Milk and juice served daily
 Monday: Cereal
 Tuesday: Pancakes
 Wednesday: Macaroni and cheese
 Thursday: French toast
 Friday: Cereal
 Lunch
 Monday: Hot dogs
 Tuesday: Soft shell tacos
 Wednesday: Chicken nuggets
 Thursday: Pizza
 Friday: Hamburgers

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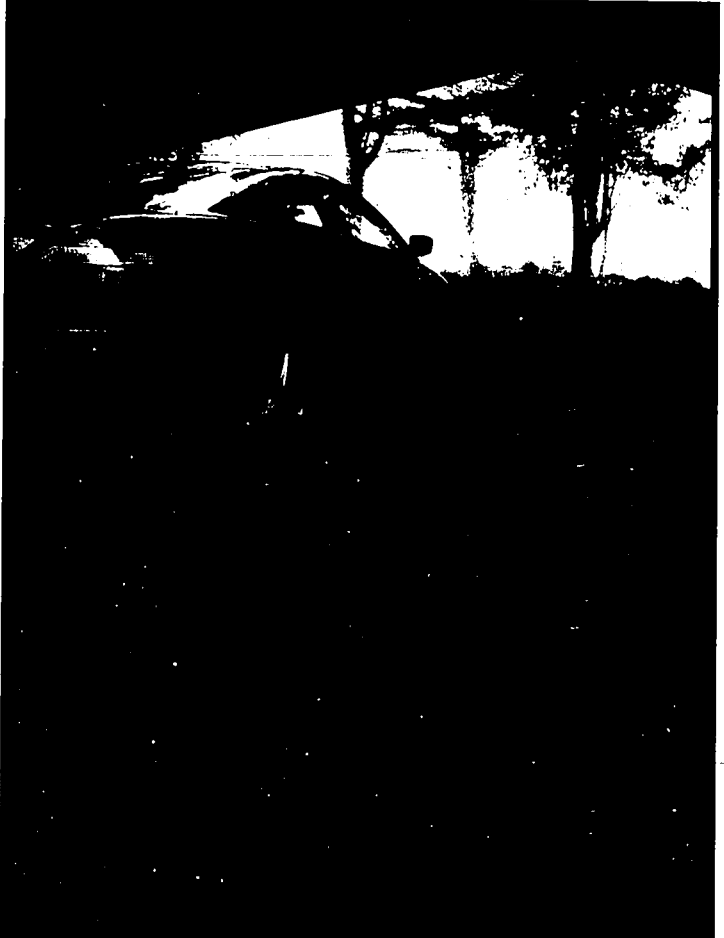
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US Auction has been commissioned by the Minidoka County Commissioners to auction property located in Minidoka County. This great commercial property is located 1-84 Hwy 27, Minidoka County, Idaho, northwest corner off Exit 208 Interchange. It consists of 52.2 total acres with a 27 acre fishing pond, 5.8 acres dedicated as wet land and 22.4 acres as dry land. Highway 27 runs along the east side of the property. This is a major road with a high traffic count. This commercial property has passed all of the Environmental Phase I testing and would make a fine location for a truck stop, hotel or restaurant. This property is located in an excellent area with lack climbing, biking, water and snow skiing within 30 minutes or less driving time.

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MAGIC VALLEY

JEROME COUNTY COURTS

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

Misdemeanor arraignments

Shela Sue Carlson, 41; petit theft; failed to appear; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Joshua N. Heron, 24; driving without privileges; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Anthony Michael Humbach Jr., 62; driving under the influence; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.



Court records

Francisco Javier Lopez-Martinez, 18; driving under the influence; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Angel A. Madrid, 27; battery; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Steven Augusto Buias, 18; reckless driving; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Juvenile misdemeanor arraignments

Miguel A. Zamudio, 16; driving without privileges; pretrial conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Stephan Kyle Bates, 23; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$150 fine, \$81.50 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, six months unsupervised probation; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Irey D. Nages, 18; driving under the influence; \$750 fine, \$550 suspended, \$67.50 court costs, \$50 public defender fee, one year supervised probation, 180 days in jail, 178 suspended, credit for one day served, one day eligible for work program; 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

\$72.50 court costs, six months unsupervised probation; failure to provide proof of insurance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Richard Michael Buckingham, 32; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$300 fine, \$200 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, \$75 public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation; 30 days in jail, 88 suspended, two days eligible for work program; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Shea C. Elkins, 29; driving without privileges; \$300 fine, \$300 suspended, \$75 public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation; 30 days in jail, 52 suspended, credit for 30 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to provide proof of insurance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Magana, 20; driving without privileges; \$300 fine, \$300 suspended; one year unsupervised probation; 30 days in jail, 67 suspended, credit for 23 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Douglas Eugene Norgard, 44; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$300 fine, \$300 suspended, \$72.50 court costs; one year unsupervised probation; 90 days in jail, 88 suspended, two days eligible for work program; improper left turn; \$20 fine, \$14.50 court costs; failure to provide proof of insurance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Mattias Kent Perkins, 19; reckless driving; amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$400 fine, \$200 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, \$75 public defender fee, one year unsupervised probation, 30 days in jail, 30 suspended; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Scott Patrick Scherer, 30; trespass; \$200 fine, \$110 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$15 probation fee, \$75 public defender fee; one year unsupervised probation, 30 days in jail, 30 suspended; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Mitchell James Thacker, 34; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$68.50 fine, \$72.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Juvenile misdemeanor sentencing

Arturo Godoy, 15; driving without privileges; \$500 fine, \$350 suspended, \$67.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee, \$75 public defender fee; one year unsupervised probation, 180 days in jail, 177 suspended, credit for three days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to provide proof of insurance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Juan Delacruz-Vaca-Loyola, 25; assault - domestic violence; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Tyler D. McNeil, 22; battery - domestic violence; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Abelardo Fernandez-Montelongo, 22; failure to purchase/invalid driver's

license; driving under the influence; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.
Lana P. Spurgeon, 46; petit theft; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Felony arraignments

Christopher Lee Dana, 22; possession of a controlled substance; pretrial conference Feb. 8; District Judge John K. Butler.
Robert Devonny Stephenson, 45; possession, delivery, manufacture by an inmate of a controlled substance/weapon; 180 days in jail; sentencing Dec. 15; District Judge John K. Butler.

Felony sentencing

Jason Jacob Innes-Galley, 22; unlawful possession of a firearm by a convicted felon; \$97.50 court costs, \$250 public defender fee; five years supervised probation; five years determinate penitentiary time (dismissed), 365 days in jail, credit for 90 days served; unlawful entry; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge John K. Butler.
Irene Ruben Lopez-Magana, 20; driving without privileges; \$300 fine, \$300 suspended; one year unsupervised probation; 30 days in jail, 67 suspended, credit for 23 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Thomas H. Borresen.

Civil

Magic Valley Collections and Recovery vs. Richard Loward and Lori Howard; Seeking \$1,612.91, plus interest; \$227 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.
Magic Valley Collections and Recovery vs. Joao Paulo Belen and Memory Belen; Seeking \$2,139.42, plus interest; \$711 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.

Magic Valley Collections and Recovery vs. Brent Eldridge and Karen C. Eldridge; Seeking \$5,667.29, plus interest; \$1,889 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for accounts assigned to the plaintiff for collection.
Higley Enterprises vs. Jennifer Whitehead; Plaintiff alleges that defendant is in default of the terms of a lease-rental agreement.
Denver Fine vs. Calvin H. McDaniel; Plaintiff alleges that defendant is in default of the terms of a lease-rental agreement.

Child support cases

State of Idaho Health and Welfare

vs. Michael Gregory Crumrine and Amber Marie Crumrine; Seeking of Mr. Crumrine; \$476 monthly support for Char Robert Crumrine, plus 61 percent of child's medical expenses; attorney fees.
State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Jesus Blancera Flores and Rosario Milian Cardenal; Seeking of Mr. Flores; \$134 monthly support for Cristian Flores, plus 46 percent of child's medical expenses; attorney fees.

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Joseph Taylor and Leah Michelle Atchell; Seeking of Mr. Taylor; \$155 monthly support for Jordyn Marie Korte, plus 50 percent of child's medical expenses; attorney fees.

Divorces

Heather M. Blankenship vs. Raymond Blankenship
Bertha B. Gonzalez vs. Elpidio Castillo Gonzalez
LeAnn O'Leena Lamb vs. Curtis Wade Lamb

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IDAHO/WEST

School bus driver gets jail for meth

CALDWELL (AP) — A former school bus driver has been ordered to spend a year in jail for taking students on an erratic ride while under the influence of methamphetamine.

Third District Judge J. Michael Kerrick sentenced Theresa Mahurin to seven years in prison, saying she would be eligible for parole after 3.5 years — then suspended that sentence in lieu of a year in jail, the Idaho Press-Tribune reported.

Mahurin, 34, pleaded guilty to felony drug possession and driving under the influence earlier this year. In exchange for the plea, Canyon County prosecutors dismissed 23 misdemeanor counts of injury to a child — one for each student on the bus. She acknowledged her wrongdoing, saying she should have called in sick to work after using methamphetamine the night before.

The incident happened Feb.

7 after several students used their cell phones to report that Mahurin was driving erratically, swerving, nearly hitting a fence and once stopping in the middle of the road for no apparent reason.

The Brown Bus Company removed Mahurin from the vehicle and fired her after she refused to take a drug test. Police found a bag containing methamphetamine in her possession when they stopped her

a short time later.

Though Mahurin admitted she had used the illicit drug for several years, she had no prior criminal record, and that influenced her sentence, Kerrick said.

"If we can solve the drug issue with Theresa Mahurin, there is no problem," defense attorney Chad Gulstrom said.

Still, the judge said, rehabilitation should come after her punishment is completed.

Mineral tax gives Wyoming a \$1.8 billion budget surplus

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — While tax revenues are above projections in many states, Wyoming is in a class by itself: It expects a surplus next year of \$1.8 billion — or the equivalent of about \$3,600 for each of its half-million citizens.

"When I speak, people ask who's in the worst shape, and I say Michigan. Great Lakes states are still in bad shape as a result of the auto sector being in bad shape," said Scott Pattison, executive director of the National Association of State Budget Officers in Washington, D.C. "And when people ask for the other extreme, I say Wyoming."

The state is doing so well that state officials are quarreling over how much cash to squirrel away.

The projected surplus is made possible by soaring oil and gas revenues. Wyoming is a major energy producer, and it taxes energy resources drawn from the state.

The state is doing so well, in fact, that state officials are quarreling over how much cash to squirrel away.

When Gov. Dave Freudenthal released a budget proposal Thursday that would slash \$1.2 billion in savings over the next two years, some Republican legislators criticized him for not saving enough.

Freudenthal, a Democrat in a state where registered Democrats are outnumbered by the GOP nearly three to one, says his savings proposal is adequate. He says the state is on track to meet its goal of having \$4 billion tucked away by the year 2010.

Pattison, meanwhile, cautions that there's agreement among budget officers that, "when you're doing well, you shouldn't assume that it will go on forever."

"When your revenue is above average, however you want to define that, it's probably best to avoid projects that all our ongoing programs," Pattison said. "California is a good example of that. They did very well in the 1990s. In the high-tech boom they put a lot of that in ongoing programs, and the revenue didn't continue."

Freudenthal says he's aware of the pitfalls. He says Wyoming's financial position offers the state opportunities, but imposes responsibilities as well.


"I think we have to be realistic about this, may or may not go on forever, which is why there's such an emphasis in here on one-time expenditures, and trying to keep that recurring expenditure number down," he said.

Freudenthal also said the effects of the state's energy boom require some significant state spending to keep pace. His budget would spend \$100 million to help pay for social services, roads and other infrastructure needs in the counties hardest hit by energy development.

And, because even consumers in energy-rich states feel the pinch of high energy prices, he's asking for nearly \$20 million to help low-income families pay their gas bills.

Freudenthal's budget also calls for significant one-time funding for major programs: more than \$500 million for school construction projects, more than \$400 million in budget allocations and transfers from other accounts to fully fund a new college scholarship program, and more than \$100 million for highway improvements.

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GOODING COUNTY COURTS

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

Misdemeanor arraignments

Adam M. Berry: possession of a controlled substance; present conference Dec. 5; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Frank Torres: disturbing the peace; sentencing Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Kurtis James Borda: disturbing the peace; sentencing Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Ryan Eugene Cunningham: disturbing the peace; status hearing Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Joshua J. Pope: disturbing the peace; sentencing or obstructing officers; present conference Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Dawn Marie Logginson: battery; present conference Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Francisco Valencia: domestic alcohol; present conference Dec. 12; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Rebecca Michelle McNeese: driving without proper license; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$600 fine, 30-day court costs, 180-day suspension; dismissed by prosecutor.

Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson:
Jeffrey John Critch: driving without proper license; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 175 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Donal E. Foster: failure to stop damage, leaving the scene of an accident; amended to failure to notify upon striking fixtures on the highway; \$500 fine, \$400 suspended, \$72.50 court costs; one year supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 90 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.



Hubert Ingo Casper: driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 175 suspended, credit for two days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Todd George Larson: forgery; amended to perjury; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; 18 months supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 350 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
John Frederick Ralaker: malicious injury to property; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$72.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; 18 months supervised probation; 90 days in jail, 350 suspended; credit for seven days served.

Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson:
Scott Earl Ewing: driving without proper license; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 175 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Rafael Garcia: driving without proper license; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$600 fine, \$300 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 15 suspended; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Catalina Gutierrez: possession of a controlled substance; amended to use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; \$72.50 court costs, 31 days in jail, credit for 31 days served; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Jose Rosales-Castaneda: driving under the influence; excessive amended to driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 151 suspended, credit for 24 days served; 180-day driver's license suspension; open container; dismissed by prosecutor; driving a vehicle without the owner's consent; 90 days in jail, 61 suspended, credit for 23 days served; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Raymond J. Owensley: driving without proper license; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$87.50 court costs, \$35 probation fee; one year supervised probation; 180 days in jail, 175 suspended, credit for one day served; 180-day driver's license suspension; failure to provide proof of

insurance; \$75 fine, \$32.50 court costs, failure to appear for a misdemeanor citation; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Felony dismissals

Larry Tabela: possession of a forged check; dismissed by prosecutor, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
William Terry Hedgecock: possession of a forged check; dismissed by prosecutor, Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.
Geoffrey Stanton Stevens: possession of a controlled substance; possession of a controlled substance (misdemeanor); use or possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Civil

Alternatives for Life vs. Levi and Checco Meyer: Seeking \$7,703.70, plus interest, \$3,000 attorney fees. Plaintiff alleges that defendant owes for services performed by plaintiff.

Child support cases

State of Idaho Health and Welfare vs. Carlos A. Gonzalez and Bertha Gonzalez: Seeking Mr. Gonzalez, \$175 monthly support for Martinez Gonzalez, Blanca Estela Gonzalez, Veronica Gonzalez, Crystal H. Gonzalez, Carlos Gonzalez Jr., and Fabian Gonzalez, plus 20 percent of children's medical expenses, attorney fees.

Divorces

Justin David Hulme vs. Holly Anna Hulme

Mongolia

Continued from B1
 stake in the land and its management rather than our "right country."
 "Other things Gansukh is learning from observing it: aho life are more basic. In Mongolia, herdsmen live in shelters made of wool and wool. Regarding the type of horse- or tractor-drawn sheep wagon he saw on the Camas Prairie would give them greater mobility."
 One of the biggest differences between Idaho and Mongolia: Mongolia has 33 million head of livestock and no fences.

"I'm interested in the way you build fences, roads, bridges and dams here," he said. "We have no fences."
 Mongolia, which lies between China and Russia, is more than six times as big as Idaho and even more sparsely populated. Idaho, according to the Nature Conservancy, is an ideal place for Gansukh to study conservation methods in his ranches and range lands since many of the same issues Mongolia's grasslands do, including overgrazing.

"People kill five, 10 or more animals," Gansukh said. "Our managers catch them and give them fines, but they're rich people and the fines mean nothing to them. The fines should be bigger."

"As in Idaho, rural people are struggling to maintain traditional identities and lifestyles."
 "Life is changing because of growth and globalization. We are losing our traditions and customs."
 Gansukh has met with

Crump

Continued from B1
 tion to endure pain for the mundane in the greater pursuit of self-respect. Your great grandfather did it, stumbling along behind an ox, trying to plow up 40 acres of Idaho lava rock. Your grandmother did it when she had triplets in the morning and changed out the fuel pump in the Packard in the afternoon. Shoot, your mother did it when she plucked her own eyebrows. But you, who have never picked up anything heavier than a restaurant check, are a

antyalist of the first order — and you've got the snow-covered sidewalks to prove it.
 Fair warning: That you live in ruin. Neglect your snow-shoveling and you'll soon find yourself wearing sweatpants to church and eating peanut butter out of the jar with a knife because all the spoons are dirty.
 In short, you'll turn into me. Keep up the good work.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com

conservationists and scientists during his Idaho visit. He's visited the Boise Front, the Snake River Conservation Area and two ranches. His days have been filled with tours, meetings, appointments. One of the quietest moments of his trip, he said, was during a canoe trip on spring-fed Silver Creek, home of one of the densest trout populations in the U.S.
 "Look, look," he said as fish

virtually exploded from a shallow riffle in the canyon's path.
 Then he began to sing. Mongolians have scores of traditional folks songs about their country's natural wonders. This one was about the Buynt River near Gansukh's home. He happily translated its lyrics, which told of a stream sparkling with silver lights in its clear, gullup-filled waters.
 Except for the glacier, it could have been about Silver Creek.

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IDAHO

Neglected UI Spanish-American War statue restored

MOSCOW (AP)—For years, a lone, brown statue nestled among bushes at the University of Idaho served as little more than a target for vandals and recreationists playing flying disc golf.

But now the 105-year-old statue of a Spanish-American War soldier has been restored by artists at the northern Idaho school.

"It is not just a monument at UI," said David Glese, an art professor who restored the statue with his assistant, Noah Kroese. "It has a tremendous amount of historical importance to the state."

In fact, Glese said, the statue — installed near the UI Administration Building in 1900 — was a memorial to students who died during the Spanish-American War. One soldier, Ole G. Hugberg, was killed Nov. 29, 1898, and Paul Draper died June 28, 1900, after surviving the Battle of San Juan Hill in Cuba.

"Whether you believe in war or not, this is a memorial to people who died," Glese told the Moscow-Pullman Daily News. "I'm not somebody who lives in the past, but if we tear down everything that represents anything in our past that's a pretty soulless environment."

The statue is one of the state's oldest pieces of public art, Glese said. Before the restoration, it was missing its hat, hands and a rifle. Much of the damage was caused by flying disc players, he said, who aimed at the statue as

one of a series of targets for the game. The game causes more damage than most students realize, he said. One day, Glese was standing near the sculpture when students approached and asked him to step aside so they could throw at their target. "I screamed at them in not too nice of words," he said. "This is a memorial to students who died. Throwing Frisbees at it is not the most-appropriate thing to do."

Census quick fact on major employers

Eleven metro areas have more than 100 businesses with 1,000 or more employees. New York (325) and Chicago (251) lead the nation, according to annual U.S. Census Metropolitan Business Patterns data for 2002. Rounding out the top five are Boston (212), Los Angeles (209), and Philadelphia (143).

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SPORTSQUOTE

If the Colts feel like they need to lose, (this) week would be a good game for them.

— Jeff Fisher, Tennessee Titans coach, with the idea that a loss can take the pressure off the 11-0 Colts. They play today at 11 a.m.

TRIVIA QUESTION:

On Nov. 16, Pittsburgh Penguins rookie phenom Sidney Crosby became the youngest player in NHL history to score an overtime goal. He was 18 years and 101 days old. Who was the previous youngest player?

IN BRIEF T.F. Rec continues hoops registration

TWIN FALLS — Registration is still being accepted for the boy's basketball program for players in grades 3-7. The season begins Jan. 24 and runs through Feb. 25. Teams will be divided by school and grade.

Sutton passes Driesell on wins list

STILWATER, Okla. — Eddie Sutton passed Larry Driesell for fifth place on the all-time coaching wins list with Oklahoma State's 64-54 win over SMU on Saturday night.

CSI offers winter baseball camp

TWIN FALLS — The College Of Southern Idaho is holding its 23rd annual Southern Idaho Baseball Camp, Dec. 27-29.

KYA hoop signups are next Saturday

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Youth Association will hold signups for boys basketball grades 3-6 from 9-11 a.m. Dec. 10 in the L.A. Thomas gymnasium in Kimberly. For more information, call Jamie at 423-6173, evenings.

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Steve Yzerman of the Detroit Red Wings was 18 years and 170 days when he scored an overtime goal in 1983.

2005 TIMES-NEWS AREA FOOTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR



Twin Falls running back Brody Miller poses in Old Towne Twin Falls recently.

The irreplaceable BRODY MILLER

TWIN FALLS — If you drive down U.S. 30 near Hallam, Pennsylvania, to the side of the road you'll see the world's largest shoe. It measures 40-foot long and 20-foot tall.

Wednesday afternoon in Old Towne Twin Falls, Brody Miller looked down, tucked a worn football under his arm, and found difficulty putting his senior football season into words.

Wednesday afternoon in Old Towne Twin Falls, Brody Miller looked down, tucked a worn football under his arm, and found difficulty putting his senior football season into words.

"We came out strong," he said. "We won four in a row and then I think our game against Idaho Falls. I think we had kind of a big head, kind of like 'We're going to be state champions again. After we lost that game, we played a good team after that and I think we just lost confidence in ourselves and it started going down hill from there."

coming from the one Bruin player who should feel most at liberty to speak in the first person singular. Because, all along, Brody Miller was a team player.

"Everybody equates Twin Falls High School football over the past couple years with Brody," said Berryhill. "It's taken it in stride. He's always done what we asked him to do. His attitude's been really good in terms of he doesn't think he's a superstar. He works as hard as the next guy and that's pretty commendable."

Without the championship team surrounding him in '05, Please see BRODY, Page C2

2005 Times-News All-Area Football team

OFFENSE: Brody Miller, Twin Falls RB, Player of the Year; Dane Broachend, Minico, QB; Dale Sayles, Minico, FB; Bryce Harfo, Minico, WR; Danny Hill, Castleford, WR; Brian Heenech, Twin Falls, TE; Luke Harmon, Carey, OL; Steven Boden, Raft River, OL; Steven Toone, Gooding, OL; Casey Lane, Wood River, OL. DEFENSE: Nate Robertson, Twin Falls, DL; Mike Serron, Twin Falls, DL; Eric Aguilar, Buhl, DL; Marcus Schaal, Twin Falls, LB; Kurtis Bessire, Minico, LB; Wes Cooper, Minico, LB; Matt Myers, Wendell, LB; Mich Bourner, Buhl, DL; Coody Darrington, Glenns Ferry, DB; Spencer Stokes, Delta, DB; Paden Baker, Raft River, DB. COACH: Stacy Wilson, OHS.

Story by Nathaniel Garbrandt

Photo by Ashley Smith

CSI 79, SNOW COLLEGE 64 CSI women plow Snow

By Eric Larsen Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Blowouts don't always help a team. College of Southern Idaho women's basketball coach Randy Rogers knows that for a fact.

After Thursday's drubbing of Colorado Northwestern Community College, his Eagles opened Saturday night's home game against the Snow College Badgers with uncharacteristic nervousness.

Still, the Eagles moved to 9-2 and 1-0 in Scenic West Athletic Conference play, winning 79-64 thanks to improved second-half play.

"I don't think we were as intense as we needed to be tonight," Rogers said. "We probably played as hard as we did against Colorado, but things came easier (Thursday)."

The Eagles opened up a 35-31 halftime lead with a 15-3 run to begin the second half.

Freshman post Ashley Thompson shook off her early-season shooting woes to connect on her seventh point of the night to put the Eagles up 46-34 before Maria Moore came up with a steal and transition layup to cap the rally.

After being held scoreless before the half, Golden Eagles sophomore Jalena Williams pumped in 12 points to go with seven rebounds and four steals.

Despite a decided size disadvantage, the Eagles out-rebounded the Badgers 52-50, edging Snow 23-25 on the offensive boards.

"We're going to play against bigger teams all year," Williams said. "But we can't play scared because we're little. We have to play bigger."

CSI 68, SNOW 51 Golden Eagles batter Badgers

By Eric Larsen Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Supposedly, a great team will always beat a group of great individual players. Not if that group of talented individuals plays great team ball.

The College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team put together 40 minutes of inspired team ball to down visiting Scenic West Athletic Conference foe Snow College, 68-51 Saturday night at the CSI Gymnasium.

Though no CSI player scored more than 14 points or grabbed more than seven rebounds, the 12 Golden Eagles players that took the floor played their best team game, especially on the defensive end.

"These were two big games for us as we still need to find ourselves as a team," CSI head coach Bart Peery said of the Eagles' week. "I was glad to see us respond and beat two good teams."

Though the Badgers dictated the pace with a patient offensive attack and showed the CSI offense with a three-quarter court trap, the Eagles stuck to their defensive assignments and held a normally solid perimeter shooting team to 2-of-10 shooting from beyond the three-point line.

"When you go against a team that runs a lot of offensive sets, you have to watch how much you put in your guys' heads," Peery said. "Because heavy heads make slow feet."

After trailing early, the Eagles went on a 21-6 run to end the first half. They continued it through halftime, as point guard Darrell Jenkins' three-pointer from Jermaine Clarkin capped off a 34-10 rally.

Much to the CSI fans' delight, a Keyes Play, Please see SNOW, Page C2



Freshman post Ashley Thompson goes up for a shot Saturday night in CSI's game against the Snow College Badgers. Thompson finished with 22 points and six rebounds.

Disaster often strikes without warning

ORLANDO, Fla. — He afraid, Indianapolis Colts, be every afraid. Why? Because it appears you have nothing to fear Sunday when you play the tattered Tennessee Titans at home. You're undefeated and they are 3-6. And you've just been in their place, 31-10, back when your offense was not the juggernaut it is now.



PRO PICKS Jerry Greene

Who knows when disaster is going to strike? You think the folks on the Titanic were there because they wanted to go skinny-dipping? And don't forget that Gustav was the most favorite at Little Bighorn.

So just when we're all talking about "if Tony Dungy should rest his players, blah, blah, blah," disaster has got to be hitting us up for a fall. Doesn't it?

Find out below: • LAST WEEK: No disaster here. A mighty 14-2 straight up (118-56 for season, a 57.6 percent) and a solid 10-5-1 against the spread (106-155 for season, above .500), so it's all good.

• Buffalo (4-7) at Miami (4-7) — Fish favored by 4. Bills QB J.P. Losman has a 1-6 personal record and had his career-high mark of 197 yards passing — and the delightful 1-0 start he clinched being the starter for the rest of the year, 1-3-the-lic. But don't go nuts, Fish fans. Beating the Bills does not make you a playoff contender, so don't get it.

• Tampa Bay (7-4) at Baton Rouge Saints (3-8) — Buca favored by 3.5. He continues, Buca fans, you. Buca plays Saints twice in next five weeks, and losing to Saints could keep Buca out of playoffs. If it happens, Buca should walk their own plank. Buca is 10-0.

• Jacksonville (8-3) at Cleveland (4-7) — Jags favored by 3. The Jags now are playing without QB Byron Leftwich. But Browns are missing something more important according to WH Antonio Bryant. "I didn't feel like I was into any kind of groove." Ain't it the truth, Tony? Man, if I'm not into my groove, it's just not happening. You know what I'm saying? Groovy Jags be 10.

• Atlanta (7-4) at Carolina (8-3) — Panthers favored by 3. This one is big, really big. And Panthers Coach John Fox is worrying about recent 1-4 misses by John Kasay. Says Fox: "We have to get that cleaned up." Simple — shoot. If just one team would shoot one of these kickers, you'd be amazed at how accurate the rest would be. In a Why-Didn't-I-Foxy-Shoot-I-Hit? Special, you'll find out.

• Cincinnati (6-3) at Pittsburgh (7-4) — Steelers favored by 3.5. Another really big game. Oh, that's it. That's all the wisdom I've got to offer — it's a really big game. Come on, why should I do all the heavy lifting? Because I've got no idea. Steelers by just 1.

• Green Bay (7-4) at East Rutherford Giants (7-4) — Giants favored by 3. Another really hot, forget 10. Giants by 7.

• Green Bay (2-9) at Chicago Bears (8-3) — Bears favored by 7. Remember when Tom Brady was putting the Cheeseheads together? Somebody asked him what he thought of the team now. "This is the big leagues. It's not all that easy, folks. I'll be. Oh, OK. Apparently Bears, a little better. Da Bears by 9."

• Houston (1-10) at Baltimore (9-3) — Ravens favored by 8. Will this game actually be on TV, someone? When they were with Texans owner Bob McNair? Bob? "I'm not going to drive off any cliffs. There are plenty around here anyway. I know because I've been looking." You got to like a man who can laugh at himself and his team. Quote the Ravens, win by 4.

• Minnesota (6-5) at Detroit (4-7) — Vikings favored by 3.3. This game involves a team in total disarray that's a national

Please see PICKS, Page C5

SPORTS

Raptors on a roll



EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Chris Bosh scored a season-high 29 points and Morris Peterson added 24 to lead the Toronto Raptors to their third win of the season and second road victory in two nights, 95-82 over New Jersey on Saturday.

Playing without second-leading scorer Mike James, sidelined because of lower back soreness, Toronto improved to 3-15 and shed the dubious distinction of having the NBAs' worst record, Atlanta, which lost to the Raptors on Friday night, is 2-13.

Jason Kidd led the Nets (7-9) with 17 points, and Vince Carter and Richard Jefferson had 15 apiece. Carter left the game midway through the third quarter after injuring his ankle, but returned later in the period and finished the game.

Milwaukee led Houston with 29 points. Memphis was 15-43 from its free-throw line in its fifth straight victory.

Chicago's Latif Streit followed a season-high 28-point effort Friday night against Boston by scoring 18 points. Michael Sweetney added 15 points and eight rebounds.

Idaho men garner first win of season

MOSCOW (AP) — Senior guard Tammes Sheppard had 14 points to lead a well-balanced Idaho scoring attack, and the Vandals picked up their first victory of the season, defeating Southern Utah 75-60 in a non-conference game Saturday.

Idaho (1-1), which averaged last season's 82.53 loss at Southern Utah, also received 13 points from junior forward Brent Ledbetter, 12 from freshman forward David Dufresne and nine from junior guard Kemi Watson.

Southern Utah (1-0) was led by senior guard Band Jones and senior post Luther Okoye, who finished with 14 and 13 points, respectively.

Kozlov's ninth opened the game with a fly spin, but Idaho matched the Thunder-

Devils' Kozlov KO's Wild in shootout

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Viktor Kozlov tied the game late in the third period and scored the only goal in the shootout to lead New Jersey over Minnesota, 3-2.

Martin Brodeur stopped Matt White, Brian Bostwick and Marian Gaborik in the shootout, and finished with 27 saves in regulation and overtime.

Kozlov scored with 3:23 remaining in regulation to tie the game at 2-all. Jay Byrnes also scored for the Devils.

Capitals 5, Rangers 1

WASHINGTON — "Rookie Alexander Ovechkin had a goal



Kortie Raptors' Chris Bosh (4) shoots over New Jersey Net's Nenad Krstic, of Serbia-Montenegro, during the fourth quarter Saturday night, in East Rutherford.

Mavericks 97, Hornets 88

DALLAS — Dirk Nowitzki scored 16 of his 30 points in the fourth quarter, and the Mavericks beat the Hornets for the 15th straight time.

Nowitzki was 10-of-17 from the floor after going 4-for-35 in Dallas' previous two games.

Chris Paul had 25 points and Speedy Claxton had 21 for the Hornets, who last beat the Mavericks on Nov. 17, 1999, when the franchise was in Charlotte.

Spurs 100, 76ers 91

SAN ANTONIO — Tony Parker

Bucks 104, Magic 84

MILWAUKEE — Michael Redd scored 30 points and Dan Gadzuric added a season-high 16 for the Bucks.

James Nelson led Orlando, playing without Steve Francis (bruised chest) for the second straight game, with 20 points.

Challs 40, Mackay 37

CAREY — Challs notched a come-from-behind win over Mackay during the Carey Holiday Tournament's championship game, outscoring the Miners, 19-9 in the fourth quarter to take a 40-37 victory.

Camas County 41, Lighthouse Christian 36

FAIRFIELD — Camas County pulled away for a 41-36 non-conference win over Lighthouse Christian Saturday behind 19 points from Beth McClum and 11 from Stacy Roberts.

Richfield 45, Butte County 31

RICHFIELD — Richfield turned up the defensive pressure in the third quarter to pull away for a 45-31 nonconference win over Butte County Saturday night.

Shoshone 45, Hagerman 30

HAGERMAN — The Indians tripled the score in the first half on their way to a 45-30 non-conference win over Hagerman Saturday, 45-30.

Panthers 4, Blackhawks 3, OT

SUNSHINE, Fla. — Olli Jokinen scored a power-play goal at 3:57 of overtime to lift Florida over Chicago.

Wood River girls garner first win

HAILLEY — Kristen Miniard led Wood River to its first win of the season, 35-29, over rivrless Buhl on Saturday night.

Miniard collapsed on Wood River post Laura Morgenstaler in a zone defense before Miniard started to find her range in the second half. She finished with 16 points.

That was coach by "said Wagnines coach Brent Carnedd. "Finally Kristen came out in the second half and hit a couple big ones to stretch them out."

Carey 64, Hansen 18

CAREY — The Carey Panthers got a basketball team finished its annual holiday tournament with a convincing 64-18 win over the visiting Hansen Huskies Saturday night in Carey.

The Panthers held Hansen to only two first-half points, and senior using Lacey Peterson scored a game-high 19 to lead the charge. Breanna Silva while Charlene Freshman led Hansen with seven points.

The Panthers are back in action Tuesday on the road in Shoshone.

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Local sports

Boys basketball

HAZELTON — Junior guard Justin Rogers scored eight of Gooding's 12 points at the free throw line in the final 1:30 to defeat Valley 61-49 Saturday.

Gooding 61, Valley 49

Gooding led at the half 30-26. In the fourth quarter, Valley pulled to within two points of the Senators. Valley fouled Rogers and he converted his free throws being the game for the Senators.

Rogers ended the game with a game-high 21 points for Gooding (1-0) followed by juniors Tyler Wines and Tyler Bragg with 10.

Gooding 61, Valley 49

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Kimberly 58, Wendell 54

WENDELL — Junior guard Mitch Dame scored 32 points including four 3-pointers as Kimberly defeated the host Troyden 58-54 Saturday in a non-conference game.

"It was a close, well played game," said Wendell coach Allen Keiser. "We built a lead going into the fourth quarter and Kimberly tied the game and built up a lead. Dame had a great game."

Kimberly 58, Wendell 54

Kimberly outscored Wendell 22-12 in the final quarter. Dame went to the free throw line 19 times and converted 14.

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Bliss 58, Rockland 54

BLISS — Bliss improved to 2-1 behind 20 points and eight rebounds from junior Eli Gough in a 58-54 win over Rockland Saturday in the consolation game of the Bliss Holiday boys basketball tournament.

Jackson Burk added 13 points and seven rebounds while Joey Vandervyst added eight points. Bliss next hosts the Liberty Charter School of Nampa on Tuesday and Northside Conference for Camas County on Thursday.

Bliss 58, Rockland 54

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American Falls 59, Declo 41

DECLO — The American Falls Beavers rolled to a 59-41 win over the Declo Hornets at Declo. High School Saturday. The Beavers finished the game 7-for-15 from behind the 3-point arc, while connecting on 24 of 49 shots from the floor.

"You shoot close to 50 percent and you're going to win in high school," said Declo boys basketball coach Dennis Smyer. "The Hornets shot themselves in the foot with 19 turnovers. The Beavers took advantage in the middle two periods by outscoring the Hornets 39-18."

American Falls' Robert Crumpton and Tyler Driscoll combined to score 29 points. The pair also accounted for six of the Beavers' seven 3-pointers.

Declo 41, American Falls 59

Crumpton and Driscoll went well together," Smyer said. "And took us out of the game." Scott Briggs and Spencer Smoker each scored 12 points to lead Declo.

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Eagles

Continued from C1. per in the run was sophomore post Alray Milson.

Canadiens 3, Kings 2

MONTREAL — Pierre Dagenais scored twice and Jan Bjugas got a short-handed goal early in the third, helping Montreal snap a season-high, four-game losing streak.

Sharks 5, Maple Leafs 4

TORONTO — Joe Thornton had two assists for the second straight night with his new team, helping San Jose rally to a 5-4 win over the Sharks, who ended a 10-

Flames 3, Penguins 2

PITTSBURGH — Daymond Langkow scored twice in less than two minutes early in the third period and Calgary helped by a goal that may not have gone into the net — won in Pittsburgh for the first time in nearly 16 years.

Panthers 4, Blackhawks 3, OT

SUNSHINE, Fla. — Olli Jokinen scored a power-play goal at 3:57 of overtime to lift Florida over Chicago.

Snow

Continued from C1. with nine points and six boards before fouling out.

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BASKETBALL

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

Women, Duke at Texas, FSU, 11:30 a.m.
Women, Texas Tech at Penn St., ESPN2, 1 p.m.
Women, Tennessee at Stanford, FSU, 1:30 p.m.
Virginia at Georgia Tech, ESPN, 3:30 p.m.
Virginia Tech at Duke, FSU, 6 p.m.

PGA Tour Qualifying Tournament, fifth round, TGC, 11:30 a.m.
Father/Son Challenge, final round, NBC, 1 p.m.

FRCA, National Finals, third round, ESPN2, 7 p.m.

Mans at Colts, CBS, 11 a.m.
Cowboys at Giants, Fox, 11 a.m.

Women's NCAA DI championship game, ESPN2, 11 a.m.

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Area ski report

Idaho - Set 3.6 ft. new peak...
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Burley boosters meet Monday

BURLEY — The Burley Boosters Club will meet 7:15 p.m. Monday, Dec. 5 in room 100 of the Burley High School. All parents of junior and senior high school students are invited to attend. For more information, call 678-9743.

Scott and Clark join co-leader Cabrera

SUN CITY, South Africa — Tim Clark shot a 67 and Adam Scott had a 68 under windy conditions Saturday to join co-leader Angel Cabrera after the third round of the Nedbank Challenge.

Clark had the lowest round of the day at 5-under for a 209 total. Cabrera, who entered the round with a two-stroke lead after firing a course-record 64 on Friday, shot a 74.

Defending champion Retief Goosen (71) and American Jim Furyk (72) were one stroke behind the leaders.

Belfast bids farewell to George Best

BELFAST, Northern Ireland — His casket draped in a Northern Ireland soccer flag, George Best received a farewell Saturday from more than 100,000 fans lining the streets in his country's biggest display of public mourning.

The 50-year-old former star for Manchester United, who died Nov. 25 after decades of alcohol abuse, was given a state-style funeral inside St. Martin's Cathedral.

Mourners, many too young to have seen Best in his 1960s heyday, lined the 3-mile route in his family home in Protestant east Belfast. They applauded and tossed bouquets and soccer scarves into the path of the hearse, which bore floral wreaths reading "Legend," "George" and "Dad."

Best was to be buried at Rosehill Cemetery on the Belfast outskirts alongside his mother. Ann, who died last year, was cut short by alcoholism.

Croatia wins doubles to take 2-1 lead

BRAISLOWA, Slovakia — If his younger teammates can deliver, Goran Ivanisevic will lift the Davis Cup trophy Sunday at Lake Umbagog in Croatia for the first time.

Ivan Ljubicic and Mario Anic beat Slovakia's Dominik Hrbaty and Michal Mermel 7-6 (5), 6-3 Saturday, giving Croatia a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five series between two first-time finalists.

Croatia needs to win one of Sunday's tennis singles. Ivan Ljubicic and Anic play Karol Kurera — to clinch the title.

Kildow edges Swiss skier for downhill win

LAKE LOUISE, Alberta — Lindsey Kildow of the United States edged Switzerland's Bernhard Pfister by three hundredths of a second Saturday for her second World Cup downhill victory.

Kildow triumphed on the same Lake Louise hill where she won her first World Cup race a year ago.

Fighting swirling winds and chilly air, Kildow won in 1 minute, 49.54 seconds. Berthod was second in 1:49.54. Michaela Dorfmeister of Austria, Berlin's first downhill, was third Saturday in 1:49.63.

Kildow finished fifth in Friday's race. Her victory at Lake Louise a year ago was the start of a breakout season, when she finished among the top three seven times.

Miller picks up first win of season

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. — At his daring best, Bode Miller is back in the win column. Miller's downhill, which followed a 4-7-5 finish last year, started Saturday in 1:39.63.

Kildow finished fifth in Friday's race. Her victory at Lake Louise a year ago was the start of a breakout season, when she finished among the top three seven times.

Miller picked up his first win of the season Saturday, finishing in 1:39.63. He was followed by Zach Flannelly of Utah, who finished in 1:40.55, and Wesley Silcox of Payson, Utah, at 1:41.55.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Middlekauff Has Been Chosen To Showcase The New...

GT40



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Transactions

BASEBALL - PHOENIX: The Arizona Diamondbacks traded...
HOCKEY - PHOENIX: The Arizona Coyotes traded...
BASEBALL - PHOENIX: The Arizona Diamondbacks traded...
HOCKEY - PHOENIX: The Arizona Coyotes traded...



Texas quarterback Vince Young (10) fights off Colorado cornerback Lorenzo Sims (22) as he runs for a first down in the first quarter of the Big 12 Championship game in Houston, Saturday.

No. 2 Texas humiliates Colorado, 70-3

HOUSTON (AP) — Led by four touchdowns from Vince Young, Texas embarrassed Colorado, a predictable result that gave them a spot in the BCS title game, Jan. 4 in Pasadena.

With the game well in hand, some Horns fans clutched burnt orange canteens, sniffing yellow roses in the stands.

The Yellow Rose of Texas — certainly it will be popular symbol in the Lone Star State over the next few weeks. The Longhorns (12-0) are going for their first undisputed national title since 1969, when Darrell Royal worked the sidelines.

Saturday's win, which was the eighth largest margin of victory in the program's 113-year history, gave Texas its first Big 12 title since 1996 and the first title of any kind for H-town, the veteran coach who built a reputation for his ability to recruit the best, but never take them to the ultimate destination.

The Seminoles may be silenced those groans — starting with Reid's return, which sparked a 24-point third quarter that broke a 3-3 tie.

Of course, they might have returned in the fourth quarter as the Seminoles conservatively worked the clock while Virginia Tech made a comeback.

Vick led the Hokies (10-2) to consecutive touchdowns in the fourth quarter — a 29-yard pass to Josh Morgan and then a 4-yard run — to end the lead to 27-15. He capped a 93-yard drive with a 1-yard TD run with 1:45 left that made it 27-22.

But that was it. The Hokies, once failed to recover the onside kick. The Seminoles ran out the clock from there — and celebrated another ACC title.

New Virginia Tech will either return to Jacksonville and Louisville in the Gator Bowl or play in the Peach Bowl.

Jan. 2 Sugar Bowl.

Normally, that would mean a trip to New Orleans, but this isn't a normal year. The Sugar Bowl has shifted to the Georgia Dome, forced out of the Big Easy by the damage caused by Hurricane Katrina.

The Bulldogs were in Atlanta the previous week for a 14-7 victory over rival Georgia Tech. They were even more dominant at the Georgia Dome, defeating an LSU team that came into the day clinging to the faint hope of playing for the national championship.

ACC Championship

Florida State, 27
No. 5 Virginia Tech 22

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — The Florida State Seminoles are conference champions again.

Reid returned a punt 83 yards for a touchdown, the defense continually harassed Mack Vick and Florida State upset No. 5 Virginia Tech 27-22 Saturday night in the inaugural Atlantic Coast Conference title game.

Conference USA Championship

Tulsa 44, UCF 27

ORLANDO, Fla. — Tarrion Adams had three touchdowns, two of them rushing, and Tulsa's defense kept UCF out in the second half as the Golden Hurricane claimed their first league title in 20 years.

The win sends Tulsa (8-4) to the Liberty Bowl against Fresno State, UCF (6-4) which lost for the second time in 10 games and had a major turnaround season under coach George O'Leary. It is expected to play in the Hawaii Bowl on Dec. 24.

Tulsa's Garrett Mills had eight catches for 152 yards — giving him 1,183 for the year, a new NCAA record for most receiving yards to light ever in a season. Brigham Young's Chris Smith had 1,156 in 1990.

No. 12 West Virginia 28, South Florida 13

TAMPA, Fla. — Pat White ran for 177 yards and two touchdowns Saturday night, leading West Virginia to its final run-up for a Bowl Championship Series appearance.

Nine days after running for 230 yards against Pittsburgh in the Big East, White set a career record for a quarterback. White was just as impressive in helping the conference champions finish unbeaten in league play for the first time since 1992.

The redshirt freshman scored on second-half runs of 65 and 76 yards and finished with his fourth game with at least 100 yards rushing. He also completed 5 of 10 passes for 89 yards and a touchdown as the Mountaineers amassed 394 yards of total offense — 305 of that on the ground.

SEC Championship

No. 13 LSU 34
No. 3 LSU 14

ATLANTA — DJ. Shockley threw two touchdowns passes to Sean Bailey, Bryan McClendon set up another score with a blocked punt and Georgia won its second SEC championship in four years.

Cherred on at the supposedly neutral site by a crowd dressed heavily in red and black — not surprising, considering the Georgia game is only about 75 miles east of Atlanta — the Bulldogs (10-2) earned the SEC's automatic berth in the

SEC Championship

No. 13 LSU 34
No. 3 LSU 14

Centennial game and after that he was kind of gumpy, but he played on it," said Berryhill. And you know, he had to play all day. He didn't have the luxury of taking a couple games off. He knew we needed him, and he played. So he played with nicks and bruises, which all good players have to do, and he did a good job with that.

With his high school career now completed, Miller looks forward to track, taking the off season to rest his body and explore his college football options, which are unclear.

It requires quite a list of accomplishments and accolades to enjoy such options, but for Miller it was more about the experience, which, in the end came down to people.

"Just playing football here," he said, "there are a lot of people I knew that would come and watch. College ball, if I guess they'll watch on TV, or they'll come to my games, but the people that would come watch, they'd come up afterwards and say, 'Good game.'"

Navy runs past Army

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Tired of hearing the gap with its biggest rival had closed, Navy made a statement.

Adam Ballard and 192 of the Midshipmen's 490 yards rushing, leading Navy to a 42-23 victory over Army in the 106th meeting between the service academies.

Quarterback Lamar Owens added 99 yards rushing and three TDs. Ballard scored twice and Reggie Campbell had a 54-yard TD run for bowl-bound Navy (7-4).

"The Midshipmen have won four straight and six of the last seven games against Army, but we're meeting to prove that we're on a different level," Owens said.

"That's a team that was calling us out, saying they were better than us whatever reason. We're pleased to be there for two weeks. To come out and play the way we did was phenomenal."

Zac Dahman tossed three TD passes and had 255 yards passing for Army (4-7), which had a four-game winning streak snapped.

"It just comes down to execution. We didn't play that well or to the best of our ability," Dahman said.

Navy outscored Army 134-31 in the previous three meetings, winning each one by 28 points or more. But the much-improved black Knights came out

strong, and led 10-7 midway through the second quarter.

The Midshipmen responded with TD runs of 28 and 1 yards by Owens to take a 21-10 lead at halftime. Ballard's 67-yard scamper made it 42-17 just nine seconds into the fourth quarter.

Navy captured the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy outright for the third straight year, a first in school history.

The coveted trophy, awarded annually to the winner of the football competition between the three major service academies, was on the line for both teams for the first time in nine years.

"Everybody was saying they had caught us and we weren't that good," Navy coach Paul Johnson said. "70 of the adage that you have to slow me."

No. 1 USC makes a statement in win

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Run, Reggie, run — all the way to the Rose Bowl.

A step away from playing for a third straight national title, Reggie Bush and No. 1 Southern California stomped into the championship game by overpowering their cross-town rivals Saturday.

Bush ran for 260 yards and two touchdowns in a 66-19 victory over No. 11 UCLA, the 34th consecutive win for the top-ranked Trojans and 166th straight against a ranked opponent.

Now only Texas stands between USC (12-0, 8-0 Pac-10) and a perfectly historic season.

Just about the time the unbeaten and second-ranked Longhorns were wrapping up a 70-7 victory over Colorado in the Big 12 title game, USC sent them to the Rose Bowl. USC was starting its own victory march to Pasadena.



Southern California's Reggie Bush, left, rushes past UCLA defender Rodney Van for a 13-yard touchdown during the first half at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, Saturday.

Leinart started the game off with a long pass to Bush, who finished off the regular season, it certainly seems like it's his turn hold the hardware.

On the second play from scrimmage, Bush zipped off tackle for 28 yards. USC ended up driving 70 yards on 16 plays without completing a pass.

UCLA (9-2, 6-2) held the Trojans to a 35-yard field goal by Mario Danolo. It was a small victory and one of the few UCLA would be able to chalk up in its seventh straight loss to USC.

Leinart started the game off with a 59-yard pass to Bush, who finished off the regular season, it certainly seems like it's his turn hold the hardware.

USC was backed up with a third-and-10 at its own 3 at the start of the second quarter, when Bush found a huge lane off the left end and streaked down the sideline for 65 yards.

That led to a 19-yard touchdown run by Bush's running mate, Le'Dell White, which made it 17-0. White finished with 154 yards rushing on 14 carries as USC went over 300 yards rushing for the fifth time this season.

There was the bulky thunder to Bush's lightning, scored three touchdowns to break Charles White's school record with 54 for his career.

Three-time defending champion Carroll advances to NAIA title game

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Tyler Emmert passed for 368 yards and five touchdowns and ran for another score Saturday to lead three-time defending champion Carroll College to a 42-10 victory over Sioux Falls in the semifinals of the NAIA playoffs.

Burley's led Thomas left the game in the first quarter after injuring a knee. He finished with two carries for four yards. He may be available to play by Dec. 17 in the title game against second-ranked St. Francis of Indiana.

Carroll beat St. Francis 17-15 in last year's title game on a field goal with 10 seconds remaining.

The Saints (13-0) led 41-0 at halftime after scoring three touchdowns in the final 4:24 of the second quarter.

Emmert had touchdown passes of 29 and 37 yards to Tyler Emmert, who has 282 yards passing compared to 189 for St. Francis. But St. Francis had a stronger running game. The Cougars netted 325 yards rushing, compared to 85 for Morrisde.

Division I-AA
Northern Iowa 24, New Hampshire 21

DUHAM, N.H. — Brian Winger's 23-yard field goal early in the fourth quarter gave Northern Iowa a 24-21 victory over top-ranked New Hampshire in a Division I-AA quarter game Saturday.

The Panthers (10-3) play Texas State, 14-7 winners over Cal Poly, in next week's semifinals.

Winger, who kicked a game-winning field goal with 51 seconds left last week against Eastern Washington, hit 22-22 yarder with 11:50 remaining. The kick was set up by a 21-yard pass from Eric Sanders to Justin Surrency.

New Hampshire (11-2) led behind 21-0 after 23 minutes, but pulled even at the end of the third quarter as Ricky Santos threw a touchdown pass of 29, 8 and 20 to David Ball.

Division II
NW Missouri St. 25, North Alabama 24

FLORENCE, Ala. — Josh Lamberson threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Raphael Robinson with 23 seconds left to lift Northwest Missouri State to a 25-24 victory over North Alabama Saturday in the semifinals of the NCAA Division II playoffs.

Northwest Missouri State (11-3) advanced to the title game next Saturday against Grand Valley State, 55-30 winners over East Stroudsburg, in Florence.

Brody

Continued from C1

especially the offensive line, the numbers don't tell the story. Miller finished the Spartans 1,074 yards rushing, averaging 5.6 yards per attempt, and carried for 14 touchdowns, while not getting up a single fumble. He also averaged 26.6 yards per kick return for a pair of touchdowns, including a 98-yard scamper against Merridian.

"These numbers tend to be sure, but they don't reflect the fact that Miller was actually better this season."

"I think the thing about Brody this year, he really matured as a back," said Miller's Spartan coach, head coach Tim Ferrigot. "He had better vision on the field, he could see that cutback lane, which made him even more explosive."

It was for Miller as well the key attribute not listed on the stat sheet, "picking out the right hole to go through, you've got to know, just reading blocks," he said.

Perrigot experienced the unenviable view of Miller from the

other side of the field, watching him rack up three TDs in a Sept. 23 game and four in the '04 opener.

"He's a great back, but what makes him even more dangerous is his speed," Perrigot said. "That's something that makes it difficult for our defense to defend. The fact that he can go 60 yards on a broken play really can cause your defensive coordinator some headaches."

"I sprained it and I came out and I sprained it again," said Miller. "I don't think it really was a factor."

Injured or not, the weight on his shoulders never shifted. Miller taped it up and went out and played.

"Yeah, he got it banged up in

the Centennial game and after that he was kind of gumpy, but he played on it," said Berryhill. And you know, he had to play all day. He didn't have the luxury of taking a couple games off. He knew we needed him, and he played. So he played with nicks and bruises, which all good players have to do, and he did a good job with that.

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St. Francis, Ind. 42, Morningside 14

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — Adam Denning ran for 83 yards and three touchdowns and St. Francis, Ind. routed previously unbeaten Morningside.

St. Francis (13-0) led for most of the game, scoring four touchdowns before Morningside's Ben Childress scored on a 1-yard run in the fourth quarter.

Appalachian State 38, Southern Illinois 24

BOONE, N.C. — Richie Williams threw three touchdowns passes and ran for a fourth score, leading Appalachian State over Southern Illinois.

Williams ran for a 1-yard touchdown with 5:13 remaining in the first quarter to give the Mountaineers (10-3) a 10-0 lead. A 41-yard pass to Kevin Richardson with 11:50 to go in the second quarter made it 17-0.

Appalachian State will play Furman, 24-20 winners over Richmond, in the semifinals next week.

Wis.-Whitewater 44, Linfield (Ore.) 41

MEMPHIS, Ore. — Justin Beaver's 1-yard touchdown run with 42 seconds left gave Wisconsin-Whitewater a 44-41 victory over defending champion Linfield in a Division III quarterfinal game Saturday, snapping the Wildcats' 23-game winning streak.

Beaver, the leading rusher in D-III, had 34 carries for 197 yards and three touchdowns for Wisconsin-Whitewater (13-0), which advances to play Wesley, 46-7 winners over Bridgewater, Va., in the semifinals.

Brett Elliott threw for a school-record 528 yards and five touchdowns for Linfield (10-3).



MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

Seattle 9-2
1st place, NFC West
at Philadelphia 5-6
3rd place (tie), NFC East

(NFL rank)	OFFENSE	DEFENSE
RUSH	PASS	TOTAL
SEA 156.5 (3)	229.5 (11)	386.1 (1)
PHI 85.1 (28)	265.5 (3)	350.6 (9)

ABC, 7 P.M. MST
SOURCE: National Football League

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Standings as of November 28

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Joe Paisley 88-43 | Rob Green Team 81-50 |
| John Derr 87-44 | Rick Johnson 80-51 |
| Jerry Fowler 84-47 | Frank Eckrote 61-28 |

Check out past predictions at www.mtwvalley.com/misc/sportsick

First-year Seattle LBs hit the wall

KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP) — Mike Holmgren pulled aside Seattle Seahawks rookie linebackers Lofa Tatupu and Leroy Hill and gave them the benefit of his 14 years as an NFL head coach.

His message was simple: He realizes that the 20-game season — 16 regular-season games and four exhibitions — is so different from the college season that rookies really do tire down the stretch.

"I think it's the real thing," Holmgren said.

No matter, though, because Tatupu and Hill will be in the starting lineup when the NFC West-leading Seahawks play at Philadelphia on Monday night. "It is a long season," Tatupu said Thursday. "You've just got to keep pushing."

Hill agreed: "This is just sort of like the meat of the NFL season. It's the important part, it's December. You've just got to push through it."

Holmgren is concerned about Seattle's defense. This week after it gave up 430 yards in a 24-21 overtime win over the Giants last Sunday at Qwest Field. It was a game in which Holmgren considered his team lucky because Giants kicker Jay Feely missed three critical field-goal attempts.

And Holmgren specifically talked to Tatupu and Hill because Seattle's linebackers have played so well in the team's highly successful season. Tatupu, a second-round draft pick from the University of Washington, has started all 11 games at middle linebacker and leads the team in tackles with 61, of them solo. He has 30 sacks and one interception and has been mentioned as a candidate for NFL Defensive Player of the Year.

Hill, a third-round selection from Clemson, hasn't started in four games ago, primarily filling in for the injured Jamie Sharper. "I think their bodies are used

to a certain schedule," Holmgren said. "It's longer and we're hitting the big ones now, coming down the stretch and their college season is over for the most part. We've got to get this thing done, regardless of how tired you are."

The 5-foot-11, 226-pound Tatupu, son of former NFL running back Mosef Tatupu, was drafted by the Seahawks with the 15th overall pick after helping USC win two national championships. He's turned out to be the leader and catalyst of a defense that has helped the Seahawks post a 9-2 record and win seven games in a row.

Tatupu doesn't want to let his fine season tarnish by a poor finish. He's zeroed in on a possible trip to the franchise's first Super Bowl.

"I'm sure I've surprised a lot of people, but I've set a high short of the goals I've set for myself," he said.

"I'm trying to pick up my production," he added Thursday. "I had a lot of interceptions in college. I'm just trying to get better acclimated to these routes and just make plays."

In Hill's senior season at Clemson, the team got off to a 1-1 start and finished 6-5, ending with a 29-7 victory over South Carolina that ended in a brawl, costing Clemson a chance to go to a bowl game.

So this season has been special for Hill. "Everything looks pretty good," he said. "Hopefully we can keep this rolling. We've got a good team. We've got a chance to go a long ways."

Seattle's six-year veteran linebacker Isiah Kuyensvenski, who made it into the NFL out of Harvard, offered Tatupu and Hill a piece of advice about the so-called NFL rookie wall.

"It is a long season," he said. "There's no doubt about it. But I just love what I'm doing and I know I'm lucky to be doing this."



JOE PAISLEY
SPORTS EDITOR

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- Green Bay at Chicago
- Houston at Baltimore
- Jacksonville at Cleveland
- Minnesota at Detroit

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 - Tennessee at Tennessee
 - at San Francisco
 - at St. Louis
 - at Kansas City
 - at New England
 - Oakland at San Diego
 - at Philadelphia



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SWENSEN'S MARKETS
JERRY FOWLER

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 - at Kansas City
 - at New England
 - Oakland at San Diego
 - at Philadelphia

Picks

Continued from C1
joke and fired its coach — and it's not the Vikings. And our Quote of the Week comes from former starting Lions QB Jay Harrington: "I don't think we've played worse and worse. We've played consistently poorly all year long." Right on, Joey. Return Vikings by 8, over always lousy Lions.

• Tennessee (3-8) at Indianapolis (11-0) — Colts favored by 16. OK, here it is. And I'm not the only one who thinks the Colts could lose. Listen to their coach, Tony Dungy: "We can't have all the penalties and the dumb plays." See? It could happen. But do I have the guts to predict 17 Colts by just 12 because I'm chicken.

• Arizona (3-8) at San Francisco (2-9) — Cards favored by 3. Here's what Cards WR Antwan Boldin thought after last week's loss: "Honestly, I watched film today and a lot of the stuff is pathetic." Oh, wait, he's not talking about the team. He's talking about the refs. Good career move. Antwan. In a Zebra-Stamped Upset Special, 49ers by 3.

• Washington (5-6) at St. Louis (5-8) — Washington favored by 7. This is a public alert. Be on the lookout for a plump, gray-haired man who claims to be the coach of the St. Louis Rams. The Rams disavow all knowledge of this man and consider his play-calling extremely dangerous. If sighted on the sidelines, please notify Rams security at once. Meanwhile, Washington by 11.

• Denver (9-2) at Kansas City (7-4) — Broncos favored by 1. Broncos QB Jake Plummer had a pass intercepted last week after playing more than eight games without a pick. Said Coach Mike Shanahan: "I was going to bench him, but he said he would never throw another interception again." Wow. Tight ship. Broncos by 10.

• East Rutherford Jets (2-9) at New England (6-5) — Patriots favored by 10. Our Honest To A Fault Award goes to Jets C Peete Kendall after ESPN had to show his club playing the Saints last Sunday night: "ESPN couldn't wait for that flex scheduling to get here." You got that right, Peete. Patriots by 12.

• Oakland (4-7) at San Diego (7-4) on Sunday night — Chargers favored by 11. Let's listen to Chargers LB Steve Foley, who missed three games with an abdominal strain before returning to action last week: "I kind of felt like a newborn coming out of the womb and seeing this big bright light." Uh, Steve, it's really just a game. Newborn Chargers by 13.

• Seattle (9-2) at Philadelphia (5-6) on Monday night — Seahawks by 4. And here's Eagles Coach Andy Reid's report of QB Donovan McNabb's surgery: "His groin muscle was torn on the right side and then they also relieved the one on the left. They sewed up the two spots in the abdominal area..." Enough, Andy! You too much information. As for the game, Seattle/Seahawks by 7.

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



Former Detroit Lions coach Steve Mariucci looks from the sidelines during a game at Ford Field in Detroit, Aug. 29.

Mariucci is the first of many to fall

Steve Mariucci is gone. A half-dozen or more NFL coaches will follow as soon as their seasons end.

The law of averages makes that almost inevitable. That's because there were only three new coaches this season, fewest since 1988, when there were two. The average number of changes per year since the NFL-AFL merger in 1970 is 5.9, so nine would have to go just to get to that average in the 2004 and 2005 seasons.

That probably won't happen, but it's possible because coaches are the first to go in all sports, even when the blame lies with higher-ups. Mariucci, for example, most responsible for the Lions' 15-28 record during his tenure? Or is it the Ford field that owns the Lions? Or team president Matt Millen, under whom the Lions are 20-55?

The biggest percentage change was in 1971, when 11 of the 26 teams then in the league had new coaches. There also were 11 in 1997, when the league had 30 teams.

In fact, the only safe place for an NFL coach seems to be Pittsburgh, which has had just two since 1969, when Chuck Noll was hired. He retired after the 1991 season. Bill Cowher was hired and survived 7-9 and 6-10 seasons in 1999 and 1999 and a 6-10 year again in 2003.

So patience can work. That's one reason Tennessee's Jeff Fisher, who got his job 10 games into the 1994 season when the Titans were the Houston Oilers, seems safe despite a 3-8 record. General manager Floyd Reese and owner Bud Adams know their team is losing, but there are just too many veterans for salary cap reasons.

They also remember Fisher helped build the Titans into a Super Bowl team (1999) and kept them in contention for the next four years. And if Fisher gets on the market, he will be snapped up immediately by someone — maybe even Minors.

Here's a rundown:

GONE (besides Mariucci)

• **Dom Capers, Houston.** At 1-10, he's the obvious fall guy, even though the front office blames him for the team's 1-10 record. Capers is being let go to make room for a building program coach away. "I put the blinders on and try to do everything that I can that's going to be successful in the past," Capers says. "If I get caught up in all that, it isn't going to help us, and so I don't."

• **Mike Sherman, Green Bay.** He was stripped of personnel duties after last season and he's 2-9. Brett Favre has said he's considering retirement if Sherman goes. Now he's hinted he'd like to see Sherman go, but the Packers' QB coach when Favre arrived in 1992.

PROBABLY GONE

• **Brian Billick, Baltimore.** He's been five years since his Super Bowl win, and the Ravens are regressing. Everyone is betting Billick is underperforming and Kyle Boller is a bust. Green Bay, Detroit or Minnesota might be interested in Billick, who also can get a team that has a better chance of moving forward. "I can't say if I get caught up in all that, it isn't going to help us, and so I don't."

• **Mike Turner, Oakland.** Al Davis tends to bring in general managers who are better as coordinators. Then he gets impatient when they don't win. There are more coaches here than Turner — such as no one — between Davis and the coach.

• **Mike Martz, St. Louis.** He's on medical leave and is suggesting he may want to come back. It's hard to see that as long as Jay Zygmont is the team's director of football operations. Like



Turner, Martz might be best as a coordinator, which is what he was when the Rams won a Super Bowl with his offense.

ON THE BUBBLE

• **Mike Tice, Minnesota.** He was gone until the Vikings won four straight and might be kept if he makes the playoffs. But remember that Zigi Wilf, the new owner, has promised to fix the team's long-term problem and Tice is part of that. He presumably had nothing to do with the Vikings on the Lake Minnetonka boat ride. But he was fined \$100,000 by the NFL for scalping Super Bowl tickets.

MAYBE

• **Dick Vermeil, Kansas City.** His choice. He's 69 and has talked about retiring. Best guess is that he'd do it after a successful season, which means the playoffs.

• **Joe Gibbs, Washington.** Another possible retirement. Edwards haven't gone anywhere near as well as expected during his second tenure (he's 11-16). He says he'll stick it out, but it's hard to win when Dan "The Fan" Snyder lets go of the likes of Champ Bailey, Antonio Pierce and Fred Smoot.

• **Herman Edwards, New York Jets.** He can stay if he is wanted, but there are persistent rumors that he could go to the Chiefs if Vermeil leaves. He began his post-playing career there, and is close to team president Carl Peterson. When Edwards was asked about the Chiefs, he doesn't completely deny it.

• **Jim Haslett, New Orleans.** Probably gets another year because he's had so much to do with the Baltimore offense in his time in turmoil. But he needs a good 2006; the only consistent among the Saints during his tenure is inconsistency.

SUCCESSORS

The first name on everyone's list is Charlie Weis. His 10-year extension with Notre Dame notwithstanding. Unless it's Pete Carroll, who was 34-33 in suits with the Jets and Patriots. If Gibbs leaves, Snyder would jump all over either and get turned down.

Weis' name even comes up as Tom Coughlin's eventual successor with the Bengals, even though Coughlin is very secure. Still, teamed with New England personnel guru Scott Politi, Jersey guy Weis might be attracted to the Bengals. Snyder would jump all over either and get turned down.

Mariucci could land in Green Bay, and Martz and Billick might get other jobs. Even though the Baltimore offense stinks, Wilf, a lifelong Giants fan, is said to be interested in Jim Fassel, their former coach, who is now the Ravens' offensive coordinator.

For coordinators, Ron Rivera, defense, Bears; Brad Childress, offense, Eagles; Tim Lewis, defense, Giants; Gregg Williams, defense, Redskins; Luke Kuebel, coordinator, San Francisco, defense, Cowboys; Donnie Henderson, jets defense (down from hot).

Williams was 17-31 as coach in Buffalo, but might get another job (see Belichick). Billy Gibbs re-retires. Lewis was one of the minority candidates who turned down Miller's request to return when the Lions hired Mariucci. He also played for Green Bay.

It's been 30 years since a Bengals-Steelers game meant this much

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Here's how excited the Cincinnati Bengals are about Sunday's 01-so-pivotal AFC North game in Pittsburgh: even the motor-mouthed Chad Johnson is twirling a Terrible Towel.

"I love Pittsburgh," said Johnson, who leads all AFC receivers in catches and, it would seem, excessive self-promotion. "I've always had a Terrible Towel. I've always been a fan of the Steelers."

Johnson's comments were in jest, of course, although he has been flaunting a yellow Terrible Towel in the Bengals' locker room. But his enthusiasm for playing in the biggest Bengals-Steelers game in December in 30 years is obvious.

And for good reason — usually, by now, the Steelers are mapping their plans for the playoffs and the Bengals are mapping their route home after another failed season. This season is different, and it's evident in the standings.

Instead of being chased, the Steelers (7-4) — division winners in 2001, 2002 and 2004 — are chasing the Bengals (6-3), who are one victory from their first winning season since 1990. That's 14 seasons of futility, one of the longest such streaks in modern NFL history.

Since the All-American conference merged into the NFL in 1950, only the Saints (20 seasons) and the Buccaneers (11 seasons) have surpassed or matched the Bengals' run of matches. Now, that seemingly endless streak could be near its end, and what better way to do it than against the opponent that beats them like no other?

If the Bengals win, the division race could be effectively over, with Cincinnati owning a two-game lead with four games to play. If not, should the Steelers beat the Bengals for the 10th time in 12 games, the Steel-



Pittsburgh Steelers head coach Bill Cowher, left, talks with Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chad Johnson after they defeated the Bengals, 27-13, Oct. 23, in Cincinnati.

ers would regain a tie for the lead and, by virtue of beating the Bengals twice this season, would own the tiebreaker. That is the Bengals' most formidable obstacle in their biggest game since the days of Sam Wyche and Icey Woods — Pittsburgh's long-standing ability to dominate them, and the Steelers' confidence that they can do it again.

Ben Roethlisberger, who missed four games with knee injuries, has a painful right thumb, and left tackle Marvel Smith (ankle) won't play. That means rookie Trent Galloway will make his only full second career start as Roethlisberger's blind side protector.

A year ago, the Steelers were 4-0 and the Bengals were 2-2 in December. However, there has been no comparable Bengals-Steelers game of such importance in December since 1975, when the Steelers effectively clinched the AFC Central by beating the Bengals 35-14 on Dec. 13 in Pittsburgh.

Johnson calmly guides Vikings to success

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. (AP) — Brad Johnson acknowledged this week he's been taking a beating — from his two sons, at home playing in the snow.

Since their dad took over as Minnesota's quarterback in 2004, the NFL don't seem to care anything on little Max and Jake. "I feel great right now," said the 37-year-old Johnson, who is 3-0 for the Vikings since replacing the injured Daunte Culpepper as the starter. "My arms are fresh. Legs are fresh. I get into work early every day and watch my film so I am alert and ready to go."

Culpepper has been picked for three Pro Bowls and was coming off a stellar season in which he set multiple league and franchise passing records, but he had 12 interceptions against six touchdowns and lost three fumbles in six-plus games — until tearing three ligaments in his right knee in a lopsided loss at Carolina on Oct. 30.

In came Johnson, who re-

turned to his original team as a free agent this spring. Less mobile than Culpepper and not as skilled at throwing deep, Johnson has made a career out of taking care of the ball and finding a way to move it — even if his performances aren't always pretty.

In fairness to Culpepper, who is currently expected to return sometime during training camp next summer, Minnesota's offense has not been that much more productive since his injury. A big reason why the Vikings are scoring more points is that their defense consistently forced turnovers and made it much easier for their colleagues to get in the end zone.

But the one thing that Johnson has done is avoid costly mistakes, throwing only two interceptions in 140 attempts and losing two fumbles. He has also helped the Vikings get in position for winning field goals by leading drives in the closing seconds against the Giants and Packers last month.

"He's patient, and he has the veteran swagger," receiver Kellen Robinson said. "When you get in there in a game with a guy that don't get rattled, man, I'd take him every time."

The offensive line, which has constantly shuffled because of injuries, inexperience and ineffectiveness, is still far from a strength of this team. Minnesota is next-to-last in the league with 47 sacks allowed, but the pass protection has been better since Culpepper — who had been constantly battered before the injury — got hurt and Johnson stepped in.

"I feel like I have been pretty clean in the pocket," he said. Part of that is a renewed commitment by the coaches to call more play-action passes. Coach Mike Tice doesn't like the West Coast scheme that so many teams use, predicated largely on short throws. He would prefer to punt short yardage by running the ball, setting up that play-action game.

After trading prolific receiver Randy Moss in March, losing

Culpepper and still being relatively unsettled at several positions, the Vikings are still a developing offense. But Johnson says he is a perfect fit in this simplified, more conservative approach.

"It's working, why change it?" Robinson said. "I feel like we're still trying to find our identity, but at the same time whatever wins the game, man, that's what you should be doing."

The ball-control offense, turnover-causing defense and difference-making special teams is certainly a sturdy formula for success beyond the regular season. That's how Johnson, in fact, earned his Super Bowl ring — with the Buccaneers in 2002-03. But the Vikings (6-5) have a lot of work to do to make the playoffs.

"It has happened with a lot of teams in the past," Johnson said. "I think there is too much season left to look down the road too far. We have five games left, and every game gets bigger ... with us winning."

Kansas City dominant at home in December

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — It seems to happen every year. Frost forms on the windows, Christmas decorations are hauled down out of the attic, and the Kansas City Chiefs become virtually unquarrelable at home.

To be sure, the Chiefs enjoy an advantage in noisy and perpetually sold-out Arrowhead Stadium at any time of year, come rain or come shine, in sifting heat or benumbing cold. But they're almost unbeatable in December.

Since 1995, the Chiefs are 18-1 at-home in the year's final month. They're currently on a 16-0 December home streak, an especially comforting stat with Denver coming to town for a key showdown in the AFC playoff picture.

A 4:15 p.m. EST kickoff against the Broncos on Sunday will mark the beginning of a make-or-break five-game stretch for Kansas City against



Broncos at Chiefs
TV: CBS, 2 p.m.

five winning teams. Three are at home against AFC opponents they're fighting for a postseason berth.

But why the Chiefs become so all-powerful at home when Santa Claus starts showing up in the malls is a mystery even to them.

The Broncos (9-2) are coming off an overtime victory at another tough place to win. Beating Dallas on Thanksgiving Day allowed them to maintain their two-game lead over San Diego and Kansas City (7-4) in the AFC West.

returned to practice at midweek and hoped to be ready for the Chiefs.

But Kansas City in December has been especially inhospitable over the years to the Broncos: between Dec. 1 and Dec. 3, they've lost 1-14 in the Chiefs' home stadium.

"Obviously, the crowd plays a part in it," said Denver quarterback Jake Plummer. "They're here to cheer us up, but I'm sure their home record is a lot better win-wise. We know it's a challenge."

Their hopes of catching up with interim Indianapolis Colts head coach Ed McCaffrey throughout the AFC playoffs are fading. But with Plummer enjoying his greatest season, the Broncos have reeled off four wins in a row and bring the conference's second-best record into town.

After throwing 20 interceptions a year ago, Plummer has thrown only four in his first 11

games, hitting for 2,236 yards and 14 touchdowns on a 61.5 completion percentage.

The Broncos seized a 17-0 first-quarter lead on Sept. 26 in Denver and cruised to a 30-10 victory over the Chiefs in their first meeting this year.

But Kansas City's different team now. In September, it didn't have cornerback Eric Warefield and offensive lineman John Weland, who were suspended. And Denver's left tackle Willie Roaf was out with a hamstring injury.

But Weland and Warefield both are back. Plus, a defense portrayed by a host of newcomers, including Idaho State's Jared Allen, seems to be coming into form.

It will be up to Roaf to keep pass-throwing specialist Trevor Pryce out of quarterback Trent Green's face, and to help blast open holes — for one of the league's hottest running backs, Larry Johnson.

"How can an American education become more relevant?"
"We could start using the daily newspaper in our public schools."
— Walter Cronkite

Brazil is the favorite

LONDON (AP) — From Argentina to Angola, England to Ecuador, the 32 contenders for the World Cup title all dream of forming the game's biggest prize.

Realistically, it looks like a one-horse race.

As the coaches descend on Leipzig, Germany, the

World Cup 2006 wondering who they'll get in Friday's draw, they have one other major concern: How do you stop Brazil?

The United States is back for the fifth time in a row and hopes to improve on its quarterfinal finish in 2002. Argentina, Italy, France and host Germany are among the leading candidates to reach the final, and English believe they have their best chance to win the title 39 years ago.

But they all have an eye on the defending champions, who are widely expected to bring the strongest Brazilian national team ever to the 2006 World Cup. Carlos Alberto Parreira's team is a favorite to win a sixth title no matter who it draws in its group.

Despite having five of the best attackers in the world at his disposal — Real Madrid's Ronaldo and Robinho, Barcelona's Ronaldinho, AC Milan's Kaka and Inter Milan's Adriano — Parreira refuses to field all of them at the same time. He figures that will weaken the team's defense.

"It's not get carried away," Parreira said as Brazil looks to win the title for the third time in four World Cups — it lost in the 1998 final to France. "We're not trying to reinvent the wheel. A football team has to have balance."

Two days before the 32 teams will be turned into eight groups of four, FIFA and the championship committee will decide how to seed them. In the past, seeding has been based on previous results in international competitions, but there could be changes this time to reflect the growth of the game in Africa, Asia and the United States.

If CONCACAF team has the possibility of being seeded team at the 2006 FIFA World Cup final draw, the United States has done what is necessary in the region to deserve it.

US Soccer coach Bruce Arena says Brazil and Germany are the only teams definitely seeded so far and know they wouldn't face each other until the final on July 9.

Six more nations will complete the top seeds, and teams such as Argentina, England, Italy, the Netherlands and France are to be among them — so they can meet until the knockout stage.

Like Brazil, Argentina has strength and depth and has its best chance since last winning the crown in 1986 when Diego



Brazil's Robinho dribbles the ball during a World Cup qualifying match against Chile at the Mano Garricho stadium in Brasilia, Brazil, Sept. 4.

Mardona was at his peak. Ian Roman Riquelme is the team's playmaker behind strikers Carlos Tevez and Hernan Crespo, and the defense is hugely experienced, with some players preparing for their third World Cup.

By contrast, this tournament may come a little too early for Germany. Almsgilde stars Michael Ballack and veteran goalkeeper Oliver Kahn, German coach Jurgen Klinsmann has talented youngsters such as striker Lukas Podolski and midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger. But this will be an inexperienced German squad.

The Italians, who won the last of their three titles in 1982, have the talent to reach the final for the first time since '94. Coach Marcello Lippi's biggest problems are maintaining confidence and making his players work as a team.

With its most talented roster in decades, England hopes to win the title 40 years after its solitary triumph on home turf. Striker Wayne Rooney is the new star, but Swedish coach Sven-Goran Eriksson also has David Beckham, Michael Owen, Steven Gerrard, Frank Lampard and John Terry, all now established among the best players in the game.

With Zinedine Zidane back and Thierry Henry at the top of his career, France has the ability to repeat its 1998 triumph. Spanning zidane, Claude Makelule and Lilian Thuram out of retirement suggests, however, it is struggling to find new talent.

Marcos van Basten, one of the

all-time great strikers and now the Dutch coach, has freshened up a tired Netherlands lineup with newcomers. Manchester United was Nistelrooy, Bayern Munich's Roy Makaay, Barcelona's Mark van Bommel, Chelsea's Arjen Robben and Arsenal's Robin van Persie are a few of the new faces.

Portugal, Sweden, Spain and the Czech Republic will be among Europe's other leading contenders, although the Spaniards and Czechs had to qualify through the playoffs.

With up to 14 European-based stars to add to his Major League Soccer players, U.S. coach Gerardo Martino believes the coach Arena believes lacks the depth to at least match the quarterfinal appearance from three years ago. The Americans' first to eventual runner-up Germany 1-0.

South Korea, one of four Asian qualifiers, will struggle to emulate its 2002 performance when it reached the semifinals at home, and the other 2002 host, Japan, will do well to reach the last 16 again.

Various African teams have excelled in recent World Cups, with Cameroon and Senegal reaching the quarterfinals. Four of the five qualifiers this time — Angola, Ghana, Ivory Coast and Togo — make their debuts.

Australia has made it to the World Cup for the first time since 1974. Although it flopped badly in the Confederations Cup and doesn't have much of a World Cup pedigree, it has several star players from the English Premier League.

All of them are chasing the mighty Brazilians.



National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame executive director Emmett Brown Jr. talks about the controversial world record muskie as he stands in front of a replica of the fish at the museum, Nov. 8, in Hayward, Wis.

Group challenges world record muskie as fraud

By Robert Imrie
Associated Press writer

HAYWARD, Wis. — The legend of fishing great Louis Spray, who in 1949 caught a muskie weighing 125 different fish species, that the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame here honors as the world's largest, is under attack.

A group of fishermen based in Illinois wants Spray's fish added to the list of muskie crimes of the century. The fishermen say the muskie — listed at 69 pounds, 11 ounces — couldn't have weighed that much, and say that Spray, who some call the "Babe Ruth of muskie anglers," perpetrated a fraud of historic proportions.

"We hope that at the end of this process, basically the branding of this sport is going to be untarnished once and for all," said Herb Delaney, a teacher at Oak Park, Ill., and president of the World Record Muskie Alliance.

Spray's muskie — one of a whopping 1,000 records involving 125 different fish species, recognized by the Hall of Fame — is highly coveted in northern Wisconsin, where fishing is as much a part of culture as snow in wintertime. Mounted trophy fish and other wildlife routinely decorate homes, taverns and restaurants.

Delaney acknowledges the area is "probably hazy" to see an attack on Spray's muskie.

"You might even compare it to a story like Paul Bunyan and Babe, the blue ox. It's some where between fact and legend," the English and social studies teacher said.

In a 93-page report submitted to the Hall of Fame board, Delaney's group argues that Spray's muskie is significantly smaller than he claimed. The report makes the case that Spray was an "incredible cheat" who fished out a way during lean economic times to turn the large fish he caught into "cold hard cash."

"It is almost comical to note that Spray even lied in claiming three record muskies on his tombstone," the report says. "At the time of his death, Spray was credited with only two."

Emmett Brown, executive director of the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, said the group's protest of the record will be reviewed in the next few weeks.

"If the facts show indisputably that there was a fraud committed here, we will acknowledge it," he said. "But it has to be proven."

Spray's nephew, Charlie Ross, a 55-year-old muskie fishing guide and convenience store



In a photo provided by the National Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame, Louis Spray holds the controversial world record muskie, Oct. 1949.

owner in Rhineland, said he was befuddled by the attack on his uncle's world record but has had critics before.

"I think a lot of it is just jealousy," Ross said, describing Spray as a fishing fanatic. "Everybody is trying to pick apart all these records that are out there. It is a free country, you can do what you want to do. I guess a fish is a fish, right?"

John Dentoff, a resort owner in Hayward, is a member of the Hall of Fame board that will review the fish protest — and also the author of a book about Spray.

"There always has been a few doubters of his fish and there always will be," Dentoff said. "There is a lot of folks out there who don't believe in the report of muskie fishing. I can guarantee you that."

If Spray's muskie is disqualified as a 67.5-pounder caught in July 1949 by Cal Johnson, a one-time outdoors writer in Minneapolis, would he be the record.

The World Record Muskie Alliance hired a Canadian company to analyze photographs of Spray's muskie — the group of it was destroyed in a fire in 1959. The study, which compared Spray's known height and the fish's reported 6.5-inch length, concluded the fish weighed no more than about 55 pounds, suggesting Spray filled it with something, perhaps ice or sand, before it was weighed.

"This science gets used in courts of law," Delaney said. A replica of Spray's muskie prominently displayed at the

museum in the "Louie and Inez Spray Memorial Hall." The shirt, pants and shoes Spray wore the day he hauled the lumber out of the Chippewa Fluvage fill one display.

Another features a book he wrote about catching big muskies, along with some of his rods and reels. An array of black-and-white pictures of Spray and his fish cover one wall.

The World Record Muskie Alliance, formed two years ago, contends that Spray — who was 84 and forced to use a wheelchair because of arthritis when he committed suicide in Arizona in 1981 — even convinced a taxidermist to make the fish longer to perpetuate the hoax.

Spray's fish was the world record muskie from 1949 to 1957, when a muskie caught by Art Lavonne of New York in the St. Lawrence River got the honor. Spray's fish got the title back in 1993 when an investigation by Dentoff, now president of the Hall of Fame board, proved the size of Lavonne's muskie was exaggerated.

"I have some evidence that showed two different pictures of the fish, one being a 49-pounder and one being a 69-pounder," Brown said. "Through some maneuvers, they were unmistakably the same fish."

Delaney says many muskie fishermen feel the museum is partial to Lavonne records, and that Dentoff failed to give Spray's fish the same scrutiny as others when it regained its standing as the world record.

Dentoff denies that accusation. Before Spray's fish was destroyed in fire, he said, tens of thousands of people saw it.

"This fish was extremely scrutinized and looked at and scouted over by every muskie fisherman who was in awe of it and all that was doubted it," he said.

Brown said there's no question that Spray was a self promoter, a one-time bootlegger, an entrepreneur and a hustler who was trying to scratch out a living during tough times in northern Wisconsin.

"Does that make him a liar, a thief, a cheat, a fraud? I don't think so," Brown said. "It is part of the fabric of what we are in Wisconsin."

Inside the museum, a 1957 picture shows Spray in the front of a bar he owned, offering \$2,500 for any angle-breaking destroyer of the fish. The bar was his record catch. The bar was with me when I caught this fish, so for further information contact him," reads an inscription with the picture.

"Who knows what he meant?" Brown said, laughing. "Isn't kind of deferring all comments to the big guy?"

Lindros wins up back where it all started

ATLANTA (AP) — A couple of hours before the game, clad in T-shirt, shorts and sneakers, Eric Lindros grabs a baseball glove and heads into a chilly, barren hallway beyond Philips Arena for a little catch.

But this is merely a diversion. For as long as Lindros can remember, he wanted to play hockey for one day in the most storied franchise. He wanted to don that fabled blue sweater with Canada's national emblem plastered across the front. He wanted to follow in the skateprints of Frank Mahovlich, Dave Keon and Darryl Sittler.

"His goal was to play for the Toronto Maple Leafs."

Finally, a dozen seasons into a pro career that hasn't quite fulfilled what was expected from "The Next One," after suffering through eight concussions and leaving behind bruised feelings and failed hopes in at least four cities, No. 88 is where he always longed to be.

"It feels good to be back," Lindros said. "It feels good to be in the home dressing room."

One gets the feeling he was merely a visitor during eight seasons in Philadelphia and three more with the New York Rangers, even during his reign as one of the league's top players when he won the Hart Trophy as MVP in 1995, then scored a career-high 115 points for the Flyers the following season.

Lindros was born in London, Ontario, and moved to Toronto when he was 8. These days, he lives about 10 minutes from the Air Canada Centre, home of the Maple Leafs.

"I'm fired up about it," Lin-

dro's said. "I grew up in the Toronto area. I know the history of these guys. It's a big help to have my family close by. It's home."

He keeps coming back to that word. Home. It's like a kid who grows up attending games at Yankee Stadium, spends his entire life yearning to play there and finally fulfills his dream after a journey filled with all sorts of bumps and bruises.

Lindros is off to a good start in reviving his career, scoring 10 goals and adding 10 assists in his first 27 games with a new team that seems so familiar. Eight of those goals came in the third period. He played especially well in the early going when Maple Leafs captain Mats Sundin was injured.

"The Maple Leafs know they're not getting the 20-something Lindros, the 6-foot-4, 240-pound bruiser who could dominate games with both his physical presence and brilliant skills. He was built like a goon but dazzled opponents with the slick handling touch of a Wayne Gretzky or Mario Lemieux."

"He's more mature now. If you will," Toronto coach Pat Quinn said. "Individually, he was quite a good player. When he came up, he put up some big numbers. He had some big linemates as well. That was a good unit (the Flyers) had going together. We haven't found that good meshing yet. We're still working on that."

That's OK. Lindros is used to taking the hard road.

Guided by his father-slash-agent, he began making headlines in age 16 by refusing to report to a junior-league team in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The situation repeated itself in 1991, when Lindros was

taken first overall in the NHL draft but wouldnt play for the Quebec Nordiques, ticking off much of French-speaking Canada and eventually forcing a trade to Philadelphia.

After a year with the Canadian national team and a trip to the Albertville Olympics, Lindros scored 41 goals as a rookie, 44 the next season, then was named MVP in just his third year. His nickname was a direct reference to Gretzky. "The Great One." Lindros' uniform number was sandwiched in between Lemieux's 66 and Gretzky's 99 — an appropriate place, it seemed, for the league's next big thing.

But something happened on the way to the Hall of Fame. Lindros' group was by concussions, never playing more than 73 games with the Flyers.

Lindros appears content with his role. More important, he's managed to stay healthy, though he's not taking chances. He looks around for a piece of wood to tap outside the visiting locker room in Atlanta. Failing that, he settles for a quick tap of the backboard on a center lock wall.

"I'm just taking it day by day," Lindros said. "Obviously, with Mats, we've got a No. 1 guy in the middle. My job is to do the things to support him and whatever else is needed."

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YOUR SCORES AND STATS

MARATHON RUNNERS

BOWLING

Here are the scores reported from the bowling centers for the current week.

MAGIC BOWL - TWIN FALLS

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

COMMERCIAL

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

WAGNER

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

EARLY FRIDAY

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

TRAILHEAD

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

SUNSET BOWL - BURLEIGH

BOYS BOLES
BOYS SERIES: 100 Points 67, 1st Jim Adams 100, 2nd Jim Adams 100, 3rd Jim Adams 100, 4th Jim Adams 100, 5th Jim Adams 100, 6th Jim Adams 100, 7th Jim Adams 100, 8th Jim Adams 100, 9th Jim Adams 100, 10th Jim Adams 100.

SPARE FAN

BOYS BOLES
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Four local runners ran the St. George Marathon in Salt Lake, Utah on Oct. 3. Pictured from left to right are: Scott Brown (time 3:20); Kent Asa (3:43); Gail Richardson (3:28); and Lesley Hollister (3:53).

Local bowlers make nationals

Three Twin Falls winners at the Idaho State Senior Bowling Tournament weighed in their success recently. Shirley Moser, winner of the first-ever women's Super Senior Division, is one of the three bowlers who will travel to the national senior tournament next March in Reno, Nev. Moser says she's still surprised she qualified. "With my bowling I wonder why," she said recently. "I would like to thank all for putting up with my ups and downs. Most of all I want to thank my husband, Con, for talking me into bowling in the tournament and putting up with my comments of I can't do this."



Shirley Moser, winner of the first-ever women's Super Senior Division, is one of the three bowlers who will travel to the national senior tournament next March in Reno, Nev. Moser says she's still surprised she qualified.

Let's Go Bowling! Thelma Tucker. Let's said, "I will try my best - that's all we can do." Corald entered with a 213 average and bowled scores of 257, 166, 226, 211, 232 and 231 for an average of 220 pins, winning the event by 16 pins. Rick Morrow won the D division by only five pins. "I just got lucky. It will be interesting to see how I do at the national tournament," he said. "I am very proud to represent Idaho." Rick entered the tournament with a 194 average and bowled 166, 172, 232, 204, 201 and 205 for an average of 196.6 pins. Thelma writes a column for YourSports. You can contact her at 733-4357 or by e-mail at tuckeremag@netlink.com.

Let us know Send e-mail to jpsley@magicvalley.com. * First and last names. * Home towns for people mentioned. * Date and place of the event. * Scores or places won for the participants. * A name and phone number for more information. * Photographs are encouraged. Please

Need a head start on your holiday shopping? Sign up for EZ Pay and take your choice of \$15 Gift Certificate. Call 733-0931 to start EZ Pay today. The Times-News magicvalley.com



Braceros: Congress eyes guest-worker program.
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MONEY

INSIDE

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Editor: Chris Baldus 735-3259

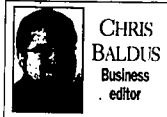
The Times-News

Sunday, December 4, 2005

Section D

Magic Valley business people, let's meet at the diner for coffee

The trick to launching a new column is getting the first few words just right.
The trick to getting just the right words is knowing the tone you want to set.
So, I'll open with this:
"Hello dear."
That's not me, by the way. It's a waitress. A diner waitress to be exact. That's why I like diners.
"What would you like?"
They're comforting, familiar words.



CHRIS BALDUS
Business editor

But it's not a city of 200,000, hospitality-training-on-the-weekend kind of familiarity. It just happens in diners.
Face it, they watch us slurp soup and dribble coffee day in and day out. It's the most natural place in the world for gab about the weather, our kids, the new slay at the end of the block. That's why folks across America are drawn into coffee klatches, where we toss bits and pieces of gab back and forth over donuts and cream.

And that's what this column should be. I'll start.

In a Minnesotaan, you'll be able to tell from the way I "speak" about—as in diners.

I've been a reporter in a small town on Minnesota's prairie called Dassel. You could fit its entire population inside Twin Falls' Bruin Stadium. It's where I learned to drink coffee. Everything in town stopped at 10:35 each morning and people drank coffee. I was afraid not to.

Dassel and its sister city, Cokato, were dry towns, meaning that the villages on the outskirts had municipal liquor stores that kept their taxes down. That's recognizing opportunity.

It gave me great comfort to learn that high-schoolers bowl around here.

It's also where I covered my first tornado touchdown and spent a half hour with two sweet ladies who argued about which lake the turtle that landed in their yard came from.

I've been a managing editor in a town on the outskirts of Minneapolis/St. Paul. It was a river town called Stillwater, where Sam Shepard and Jessica Langford. But we never talked about them. That was the kind of talk we kept outside Stillwater's boundaries. Which means outsiders could talk about the fact that the pair lived in Stillwater, or when we were out of town we could tell people all about how great it is to live next to stars. It was just so easy.

For the past four years, I've been either an editor or reporter in La Crosse, Wis. Another town that has an Oktoberfest, a river and a lot of hills and valleys. Among the last stories I covered there was a bank robbery in a small river town. The old man living across the street from the bank said the bandits "putted" into the hills on a small, beat-up motorcycle. You would have laughed them back to the plains.

I've been here now since Thanksgiving and the post-turkey dash to Fred Meyer. I never understood the importance of socks to people until I met the "Sock Sale" gang. Remember the days the shoppers with walkie talkies, a plan and 18 years of sock rish stories. Who knew a sock special could be so special?

I've talked to one of your bowling icons, Eddie Chappell, and as the son of a bowling league secretary it gave me great comfort to learn that high-schoolers bowl around here.
Well, now that I've introduced myself, it's your turn. Write me, call me, catch me at a diner. Let me know about your new business or if your business moves, expands or something special happens.

This column will be like that diner counter, but I'll leave the "dears," to the professionals.

Times-News Business Editor
Chris Baldus can be reached at 735-3259 or cbaldus@magicvalley.com.

ECONOMY

ILLEGAL WORKERS

The government estimates there are around 8.5 million illegal immigrants in the country, though an expert at Bear Stearns puts the number as high as 20 million, with 12 million to 15 million holding jobs.

WHERE DO THEY LIVE?

Traditionally, the immigrant population was mainly in six destination states — California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois and New Jersey. Recently, they have been following rapid growth and jobs and heading to states that once held no attraction: Tennessee, Mississippi, the Florida panhandle, and Nevada.

WHERE DO THEY WORK?

The service sector employs the most illegal immigrants with 33 percent, followed by the construction industry, production and food processing and farming.

HOW MUCH DO THEY MAKE?

The average family income of illegal immigrants is \$27,400, more than 40 percent below the legal immigrant or native family income of about \$47,700.

WHAT'S BEING DONE ABOUT IT?

In the wake of the 2001 terror attacks, the government focuses on illegal workers at national security sites. Congress is looking at a complete overhaul of the immigration system, with several proposals being considered. The White House is expected to soon propose a guest worker program, but details are unclear.

Sources: Bear Stearns, Brookings Institution, Pew Hispanic Center, government statistics, Associated Press files



Ramiro Alvarado, 44, of Mexico, studies English while waiting for a job at a gas station in Las Vegas on Nov. 8. Illegal immigrants may number as high as 20 million, according to Bear Stearns in New York. They are spreading beyond traditional immigrant states like California and Texas. They are going West and South, where there is tremendous growth, affordable housing and family networks, to states like Utah, Washington, Colorado, Tennessee and Georgia.

Influx of illegal immigrants takes more jobs around U.S.

By Angie Wagner
Associated Press writer

Illegal immigrants form an underground economy that, by one estimate, produces \$970 billion in goods and services, or nearly 9 percent of the overall U.S. economy.

LAS VEGAS — Each morning, Israel Gonzalez rises before dawn and heads to the sidewalk around the city's plant nurseries to wait for a job. There, alongside other men, he watches for pickups that slow down, hoping today he will be chosen for work.
It's a morning ritual played out regularly in cities and towns as day laborers, mostly illegal immigrants, scramble for work in a country that comfortably accepts their work while disavowing their right to be here.
The work is steady, the money is good, and when Gonzalez gets picked up for a job, no one asks for documents or identification.

"The bosses don't care if the papers are real or not," he said, wearing a navy hat with an American flag on it.
Gonzalez, 31, lives with his three brothers in an apartment; none of them is legal. They are among millions of illegal immigrants who work in obscurity in the shadows of the American economy, quietly bringing home wages from people and companies more than willing to hire them.

On paper, many don't exist. Fake Social Security numbers and birth certificates make sure of that. They are nannies, housekeepers, landscapers.

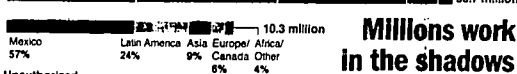
On the Net

http://ice.gov
http://ewc.org
http://uscis.gov
http://www.cis.org
http://pew-hispanic.org

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2004 U.S. Foreign-born population

29% Unauthorized migrants 29% Legal permanent 32% Naturalized citizens 7% Refugee 3% Temporary



Unauthorized migrants as percentage of total workforce

- 7.0 - 10.4
- 5.5 - 6.7
- 4.1 - 4.7
- 1.9 - 3.3
- < 1.5



Millions work in the shadows

Of the 10.3 million unauthorized migrants estimated by the Pew Hispanic Center who live in the United States, 6.8 million of them make up about 4.6 percent of the workforce.

Tough jobs ...

Many industries rely on unauthorized workers.

Unauthorized workers, by industry

Landscaping	26%
Animal slaughter	20%
Cleaning	19%
Laundry	17%
Apparel	16%
Crop production	16%
Pvt. Households	14%
Hospitality	14%
Restaurants	11%
Construction	10%

... for low pay ...

More unauthorized families live at or near poverty levels.

Living in poverty

Total U.S.	12.5%
All immig.	17.2%
Illegal	22.6%

Living at or near poverty

Total U.S.	31.1%
All immig.	43.0%
Illegal	58.7%

... with larger families

Families grow as people stay, but incomes stay low.

Household size

Unauthorized migrants	2.05
Naturalized citizens	2.19

Income per person

Unauthorized migrants	\$12,600
Naturalized citizens	\$11,300

In U.S.:

- Less than 10 years: 2.7%
- More than 10 years: 1.9%

SOURCES: Pew Hispanic Center, Center for Immigration Studies

Hispanic population spreads, grows fast in Idaho

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Three years ago, a tiny financial services office opened in Nampa, Idaho, with just a handful of employees and a focus on Spanish-speaking clientele.

But along with Idaho's Latino population, the business is exploding. El Centro is opening a second office in Caldwell, with plans to expand to Denver and Chicago soon, said manager David Cahoon.

"We're looking at hyper-growth areas. In Denver there's a huge Latino market there, and the same with Chicago," Cahoon said. "In Idaho, the Hispanic population is growing. It's huge, and we don't really have much competition."

Most of the United States' Spanish-speaking immigrants — both legal and illegal — are from Mexico. Statistics from several agencies suggest the number of illegal immigrants in the country is growing, with Bear Stearns in New York estimating between 12 million and 15 million of the nation's



David Cahoon, of the Nampa-based financial services center called El Centro, stands next to the sign in the lobby of his company's headquarters in October. El Centro caters mostly to Hispanic immigrants moving into the state, which is the fastest growing segment of Idaho's population.

jobs are held by illegal immigrants. About 95 percent of Cahoon's clients speak only Spanish, he said, and at least 15 times a week he turns down a

Inside

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hopeful home loan applicant because they lack U.S.-issued identification.
Even as businesses such as Cahoon's work to find ways to earn immigrant dollars, government officials in so-called new destination states are struggling to deal with the illegal immigrant population. Instead of staying in border states, said William Frey, a demographer at the Brookings Institution, new

Please see IDAHO, Page D4

YOUR BUSINESS

CAREER MOVES

Linda Butler

TWIN FALLS — Linda J. Butler is a new independent Consultant Specialist with Jockey Person to Person, Inc. a new party-plan business and wholly owned subsidiary of Jockey International, Inc. Jockey Person to Person offers a line of women's intimate apparel, sleepwear, activewear, men's loungewear and underwear and an apparel collection for infants and toddlers offered exclusively through an in-home party with a comfort specialist.

For more than 129 years, Jockey's mission has been to "bring the human need for comfort" and with Jockey Person to Person, comfort can be shared in a unique in-home shopping experience. For more information about becoming a comfort specialist, visit the Web site at www.jockeypersontoperson.com or call Butler.

Butler can be reached at 736-2425.

Laurel Hatcher

TWIN FALLS — Laurel Hatcher of ReDesign Innovations is now offering inexpensive professional interior redesign services for homeowners in Twin Falls and surrounding areas.

As an interior redesigner, Hatcher works directly with homeowners to enhance both the look and function of interior spaces by reimagining existing furniture, artwork and accessories for maximum appeal and impact. She also works with real estate professionals to stage homes listed for sale, maximizing their appeal to potential buyers.

Hatcher was trained by Interior Redesign Industry Specialist Kristine Moore and Donna Bernhardt. IRIS is the foremost international professional association for interior redesigners.

Hatcher can be reached at 734-8443 or 948-0596.

Jeffrey Rollig

TWIN FALLS — Jeffrey Rollig received the Idaho Award for 2005 Pro Bono Award for the 5th Judicial District.

The annual award is named for the late Denise O'Donnell. Donor of the award is the former international professional association for interior redesigners.

Hatch was asked by the TVIP to represent a woman seeking guardianship of her grandchild. The father's occasional involvement in his son's life created problems because of drug and alcohol abuse. The boy had issues of acting out and defiance that evolved into a series of juvenile proceedings. When he heard of the boy's legal problem, Rollig offered to check on the boy each week, and represent him during the juvenile proceedings.

These contacts provided the youth needed consistency and a source of strength. Rollig became involved in pro bono work and said he would encourage other lawyers to use their knowledge and skill to give others a chance to have a real life. He said it was a very worthwhile cause and very rewarding personally.

Rollig is a member of Rotary and helps with its fundraising activities. He and his wife, Kayhyme, have three adult children and have been a booster family for College of Southern Idaho athletes.

Lana Davis

TWIN FALLS — Lana Davis of Iveson Jewelers completed the Diamond Council of America's Colored Gemstone course and, after passing a comprehensive final, was awarded the professional designation of Colored Gemstone Certified by the Diamond Council of America.

The course was an in-depth study of colored gemstones, their history, gemology and lore. It focused on selling and product knowledge. Davis is an assistant manager at Iveson's Jewelers in the Magic Valley Mall.

MILESTONES

Couple opens new RadioShack in Wendell

WENDELL — A new RadioShack, owned and operated by Anthony and Cristina DeBarotto, opened Oct. 3 at 118 E. Main St. A grand opening will be celebrated Saturday.

RadioShack has a wide selection of wireless, computing and electronic accessories, plugs, cords and cables and features Shooting Star electronics. Services offered include cellular service, home entertainment, car audio, computer repair, banners, graphics design and Dish Network satellite sales, service and installation.

Customers can enter to win a \$250 shopping spree drawing will be held during the grand opening Saturday. Store hours are 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The store can be reached at 736-1776.

Edward Jones tops list of financial-services firms

IRVING, Texas — For the 13th consecutive year, Edward Jones ranked No. 1 in *Investment* magazine's annual survey of the nation's seven largest financial-services firms. The magazine randomly selects brokers nationwide and asks them to rank their firms in

various categories. Jones is famous for its one-person branches in cities and towns across the country," the magazine said in its December 2005 issue. "And, by and large, the reputation to run these offices as they see (fit); they set their own hours and are unencumbered by unattainable sales quotas set by the home office."

Edward Jones investment representatives gave the firm its highest scores in 14 of the 20 categories in which it was rated. Some of those categories include hiring and recruiting practices, ongoing training, client account statements, quality of research and the firm's strategic focus. This year, the firm tied for the No. 1 spot.

"We are pleased and honored by this recognition," said Douglas E. Hill, Edward Jones managing partner. "What makes it especially gratifying to have received this honor for 13 consecutive years is the fact that it is conferred upon us by our own investment representatives, the people who meet face-to-face with clients every day."

Edward Jones is one of the major financial-services firms providing advice to individual investors exclusively and the largest firm in the nation in terms of branch offices, including 10 locations in the Magic Valley area.

The Edward Jones Interactive Web site is www.edward-jones.com.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Target, located at 1611 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls, will join Target stores nationwide in hosting the 32nd annual Holiday Helpers event from 8 to 10 a.m. Tuesday.

Holiday Helpers is a time-honored tradition specifically for Target's senior citizens age 65 and older and guests with disabilities. The event allows these special guests to



enjoy holiday shopping in a relaxed and hassle-free environment.

Every Target store will provide senior citizens (age 65 and older) and special needs guests with personal shopping assistance, free gift wrapping and refreshments.

Holiday Helpers began in 1973 when a Target store in Moline, Ill., hosted such an event for guests with special needs. The idea spread to other Target stores and is now a national event.

National insurance group plans meeting for local members Tuesday

TWIN FALLS — The National Association of Insurance & Finance Advisers — Southern Idaho (formerly Life Underwriters) will meet Tuesday at the Loong Ling Restaurant, 1719 Kimberly Road.

The meeting begins with registration at 11:30 a.m. The program starts at noon and will conclude at 1 p.m. The program, "How Much Do You Really Know About Investing?" will be presented by Nita Barnes Clontz. Clontz will discuss investor knowledge and essential knowledge about basic investing.

The cost is \$10 for nonmembers, which includes a Chinese-Mongolian lunch and one Idaho continuing education credit. Agents and representatives of the industry are invited.

Briefly In Money

want to be more confident about eBay transactions or who want to make a part-time or full-time income from selling online.

"Starting an E-Bay Business" will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Dec. 17 at the CSI Evergreen Building, Trainers Kim Labrun from the Boise ISBDC and Sherry Rust from the Twin Falls ISBDC will provide basics for setting up an E-Bay business or turning a hobby into a steady source of income. Neither registration or E-Bay nor any computer experience is required. The session will be a lecture with question and answer time, not hands-on training.

Cost is \$39 per person. For more information, contact Rust at 732-6455 or snust@csi.edu.

New service club for children plans meeting

TWIN FALLS — A new Mod-

ern Woodmen of America service club is starting in Twin Falls. Crystal Saunders will lead the club, and Terry Downs, a Modern Woodmen representative in Jerome, will sponsor its monthly activities. Children from birth through age 6 are invited. The first activity will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 16 at Saunders' home, 3125 Longbow Drive.

Modern Woodmen Youth Service clubs focus on volunteering, patriotism, education and fun, Downs said. "As a fraternal life insurer, our core values tie to helping children, their families and their communities."

For more information about the club or becoming a member, call Woodmen at (208) 316-2244.

Modern Woodmen of America is a fraternal life insurance organization based in Rock Island, Ill. It offers life insurance, annuity and investment products and fraternal member benefits for families and their communities.

— compiled from staff reports



Discovery Research Group and PhoneBase Research celebrated opening a new facility at 840 Meadows Drive, Suites 1 and 2, with a ribbon cutting by the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce ambassadors. Both companies specialize in data collection and all market research needs. PhoneBase Research is a new member of the chamber. Pictured from left to right are Vaughan Mordcaid, Julie Schrick, Carol Griffiths, Brandt Parker, Kevin Cope, Maurice Bjork and Jay Gordon. Discovery Research Group can be reached at 735-6501 and PhoneBase Research can be reached at 736-2854.

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McDonald's of Twin Falls at 869 Pole Line Road held a ribbon cutting with the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce ambassadors to the newly remodeled store. The project took 10 weeks to complete, resulting in an upscale, contemporary look. Pictured left to right are owners Donna Kyle, Darren Kyle and Bill Kyle.

Companies scramble for a niche as computers and TV merge

By Steven Livingston
The Washington Post

The race is on to merge the two most powerful entertainment boxes in the home.

The marriage of the television and the computer moved a step closer Wednesday when the giant chipmaker Intel Corp. unveiled its vision for using a new technology that blends the two devices. Intel said it is working with more than 40 companies around the world in the movie, music, television, gaming and photo-editing fields to deliver content to computers using the technology called Viv (rhymes with free).

Due out early next year, Viv-equipped computers are designed to control the overall entertainment experience. They turn a television into a computer screen with the capability of performing any computer task, including searching the Internet. Operated by remote control, the system will be able to show a computer screen with the capability of downloading music for later listening. The computer will turn on instantly like a television and will with an add-on feature will record, pause and rewind live

television programs. An entertainment center operated by a Viv platform computer will be able to connect to other devices, such as DVD players and portable media players.

Wednesday's announcement intensifies the competition among cable companies, game makers, computer manufacturers, software firms, retailers, entertainment giants and Internet search engines that are all scrambling to find a way to dominate — or at least carve out a niche in — the digital home-entertainment hub. Companies have hurried to form alliances to strengthen their positions.

"It's an epic-battle," said Ted Schader, consumer-technology analyst at Forrester Research Inc. "There are a lot of companies from a lot of industries who are trying to figure out where the power is and where the choke points are."

Some companies are banking on the set-top box monopolizing the family entertainment hub. The digital-recording company TiVo Inc., recognizing the role of the Internet in the future of television viewing, recently teamed with Yahoo Inc. to allow customers to program their de-

vices through the Yahoo Web site. The deal opens up wider applications for Yahoo, which plans to deliver some content to televisions through TiVo by the end of the year.

Cisco Systems Inc., the huge Internet networking company, recently agreed to buy Scientific Atlanta Inc., a maker of set-up boxes, making a clear play to deliver programming to televisions through the Internet.

Google Inc. also has ambitions to apply its formidable searching capability to the family entertainment center. CBS said recently that it was in talks with Google about video on demand and video searching.

Other companies think the computer will run this show. Since 2002, PCs running Microsoft's Media Center Edition of Windows XP have incorporated TV tuners and TV-recording software, as well as a "10-foot interface" designed to allow users to play music, view photos and watch video from a couch across the room instead of a chair in front of the screen.

Microsoft says it has sold more than 4 million copies of Media Center 4 Edition.

How Can We Help You With Your Financial and Planning Questions?

You have questions, We have answers!

William R. Dexter
Stevens Pierce & Associates
Estate Planning & Elder Care Expert

Joseph Sharv
Waddell & Reed
Financial & Financial Planning

ASK The Expert

- ✓ Log on to www.maglevailley.com
- ✓ Click on Ask the Expert.
- ✓ Submit your question online and a local expert will answer it for you with ease and speed!

maglevailley.com

Questions answered by local experts
Get the information you need NOW!

Bill Thomas
Stevens Pierce & Associates
QuickBooks
Professional

The Bowladrome, 220 Eastland Drive in Twin Falls, has new owners and is a new member of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce. These milestones were celebrated with a ribbon cutting ceremony. Pictured left to right are the new owners, Michele Seckel, Dennis Seckel and Leah Walsh. The Bowladrome can be reached at 733-0369.

Wal-Mart targets customers with celebrity ads

By Abigail Goldman
Los Angeles Times

into urban areas, particularly in California, Chicago and on the East Coast.

"Although Wal-Mart says it intended no offense to residents or employees in either Southern city, Fitzsimmons' comments appear ill timed, given the company's recent public relations push.

The strategy, however, may have worked: Wal-Mart reported

strong sales for November, which included the company's holiday push the day after Thanksgiving, posting a 3.2 percent gain in stores open at least a year, a key measure of retail performance.

To one persistent Wal-Mart critic, the executives' statements spoke to how the company views its 1.3 million U.S. employees.

"Wal-Mart has faux concern for their workers, and now they'll have faux workers in their ads," said Tracy Sell of Wal-Mart Watch, an advocacy group aligned with labor unions.

Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart defended Fitzsimmons' remarks.

"I think he was simply saying styles might vary by region and we need to make sure our mer-

chandise and advertising reflects this," spokeswoman Mona Williams said.

Wal-Mart's current campaign features country singers Brooks and Martina McBride as well as Queen Latifah and the Beyoncé-led R&B-pop trio Destiny's Child. But future ads will again use Wal-Mart spokesmodels and workers, Williams said, in addition to actors and

celebrities.

To the Memphis mayor's office, looking as if you come from the city is a compliment.

"I am very proud of the people of Memphis, how all of us look," said Gale Jones Carson, a spokeswoman for Mayor Willie H. Herenton.

"America is made up of all kinds of people, and we add to that great melting pot."

That's why the company is using Garth Brooks, Beyoncé and other celebrities for the first time in its holiday TV and print advertising, instead of shopkeepers and workers, a top executive said this week at a J.P. Morgan investors conference in New York.

"We've bragged about that in the past, and it was good for a while," said Jay Fitzsimmons, the company's treasurer and sales and president of finance. "But these associates and customers look like they came from Memphis or Birmingham — and they usually did," he said, referring to the biggest cities in the West and the South, deep in the heart of Wal-Mart country. "They didn't resonate with people in the metropolitan areas and the coast."

That's increasingly important territory for Wal-Mart. The operator of more than 3,700 stores nationwide is pegging its expansion to being able to move

Inner cities bleed jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) — Many of America's inner cities continue to hemorrhage jobs despite years of federal programs designed to improve their economies.

Nearly half of the country's 82 largest metropolitan areas lost jobs from 1995 to 2003, according to a new study by the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. By comparison, only one of the surrounding metropolitan areas lost jobs during the same period.

A separate analysis by The Associated Press found that most inner cities targeted by the federal government's primary urban economic programs lost jobs as well.

In fact, the best-performing cities are not part of the federal empowerment zone and renewal community programs, which provide businesses with billions of dollars in tax incentives to expand and hire workers.

"It's sobering," said Michael Porter, a Harvard business professor who did the study for the Initiative for a Competitive Inner City. "It suggests that there are relatively few inner cities that are thriving in the sense of job growth."

Porter and his team analyzed how many jobs were added or lost in inner cities with more than 50,000 residents. They found that only 10 added jobs at a higher rate than surrounding metropolitan areas. All 40 inner cities that lost jobs did so faster than surrounding areas.

Among the best performing: Jersey City, N.J.; Long Beach, Calif.; Tulsa, Okla.; and Anaheim, Calif. Among the worst: Detroit; Grand Rapids, Mich.; Rochester, N.Y.; and Miami.

Thirty-two of the inner cities studied also had neighborhoods that were designated federal urban empowerment zones or urban renewal communities.

Of those, 12 showed an increase in jobs from 1995 to 2003. Only one, Miami, Ala., added jobs at a higher rate than the surrounding metropolitan area.

"Whatever these programs were, the research and the experience suggests that their impact was marginal at best," said Alan Berube, a fellow at the Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution, a think tank.

Brian Sullivan, a spokesman for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, said many businesses and communities have benefited from the programs. He said HUD is trying to better promote the tax incentives, especially among small-business owners.

"But, Sullivan said, many communities are still trying to remove local barriers to development, such as cumbersome regulations.

"We're not trying to preach to people that you are over-regulating," he said. "But it is true that in some parts of the country the regulatory climate puts out the 'unwelcome mat.'"

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MONEY

Congress eyes guest-worker program

Idaho

By Felicia Fonseca and Sue Major Holmes Associated Press writers

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.— They were called braceros, young men from Mexico who came to the United States for two decades to help this country with the necessary work of its farms and railroads.

The bracero program — conceived by the U.S. government — brought the Mexicans in as temporary workers, mainly in agriculture, to fill a labor shortage created by World War II. The program continued for years afterward, as growers regularly petitioned Congress to extend it.

Now, more than 40 years later, the bracero program is being looked at again. With estimates that as many as 12 million to 15 million illegal immigrants hold jobs in the United States today, Congress is considering a complete overhaul of the immigration system — including the possibility of some form of guest-worker program.

The question of whether a new program can avoid some of the abuse and exploitation that characterized the original.

From 1942 until the program ended in the 1960s, up to 5 million temporary Mexican workers followed the promise of a steady job to the United States. Jorge Bustamante, a United Nations expert on human rights of migrants, said figures show 4,203 workers came the first year, the numbers peaked at 445,197 in 1956.

They were lured by wages far above what Mexicans were earning at home.

"It was very easy because Mexico was suffering rampant poverty and unemployment," Bustamante said.

The bracero program was a full-service operation: Recruiters in Mexico found workers, and brought them to the U.S.-Mexico border. They came by the thousands; many traveled up to 17 hours on buses and trains from Chihuahua, Mexico, to a processing center. From there, they were distributed to labor camps and farms. When the contracts ended, the process was reversed.

Bob Porter worked with the program in the mid-1950s as director of labor for the Dona Ana County Farm Bureau in Las Cruces, an area in southern workers from the El Paso, Texas, area to Las Cruces. There, farmers would apply for the number of workers they needed. On occasion, they'd request laborers by name.

"People could return to farmers but they previously worked for ... but it wasn't widely available," Porter said, "when it was allowed to work really well."

The bracero agreement stipulated that Mexican workers earn the same wages as U.S. farm workers, that they get required free, clean, adequate



This 1950's photo provided by the University of Texas at El Paso shows Braceros leaving Chihuahua City, Mexico, for El Paso, Texas. The bracero program brought the Mexicans in as temporary workers to fill a labor shortage created by World War II.

lodging, and medical and sanitary services identical to those furnished to other agricultural workers.

But as the years went by, the U.S. Labor Department became increasingly concerned about exploitation.

For example, although the agreement promised braceros the prevailing wage, their earnings in California never really caught up, the late Ernesto Galzarra wrote in "The Merchants of Labor, a study of the program there. Braceros in California's Imperial Valley in 1958 often received 70 cents an hour compared to \$1 to \$1.25 an hour for other farm laborers.

University of New Mexico sociology professor Felipe Gonzales said there were other abuses — concerted attempts to subvert their organizations, using the threat of deportation to intimidate, violating labor laws such as an eight-hour work day, or providing inadequate housing and food.

Eventually, more people were showing up at recruitment centers than needed, Gonzales said. Braceros often slept on the street or the floors of recruitment centers for days or months with little or no food waiting to be selected. Some bribed recruiters, paying up to \$500, said Chris Lanza, who worked as a bracero as a young man.

The possibility of a U.S. job led even more people to cross the border illegally in addition, some workers stayed between jobs instead of returning to Mexico to await a new contract. By the early 1950s, the rise in illegal immigration prompted a major increase in the Border Patrol, and indirectly reinforced

Camps were crowded, and braceros could face lousy pay, poor food, long hours without breaks, exposure to hazardous materials and, sometimes, physical abuse.

the clout of growers.

"The growers didn't have to worry about maintaining control over their workers; they had Border Patrol officers," Gonzales said. "If someone could be reported as a slacker, then they could be rounded up and sent back. That was a major intimidation factor."

Despite written contracts, the program had few real protections for workers.

"You had a lot of room for abuse," said Harley Shaiken, a professor at the University of California, Berkeley specializing on labor and the global economy.

Camps were crowded, and braceros could face lousy pay, poor food, long hours without breaks, exposure to hazardous materials, and sometimes physical abuse. But Shaiken said fear of losing their jobs motivated the braceros.

In the other hand, some program requirements were difficult for farmers to meet. For

example, the program required housing to have screened doors, bedding and utensils. But the housing sat vacant much of the year, subject to vandalism.

Despite its problems, Porter feels the program benefited everyone.

"Overall, it was a tremendous help to the farmers," he said. "It was a great program and worked remarkably well."

It also was good for the workers, many of whom were destitute when they arrived, he said. Porter said braceros saved as they could to send to their families and bought goods — everything from tools to sewing machines — to take back.

According to Galzarra's study, in 1946, between 35 percent and 45 percent of wages were sent home, and that percentage rose even higher in later years.

Congress canceled the program in the early 1960s, largely because of abuses. In addition, Gonzales said the Kennedy administration was not as sympathetic to large growers, and the growing farm labor movement was gaining attention.

And farmers and ranchers turned again to Mexicans illegally crossing the border. Carlos Corcia of Clint, Texas, who was in charge of bracero importation near Juarez, Mexico, for three years in the mid-1950s, said any new guest-worker program would have to be more than just agriculture, but restaurants and factory work. Even that would not stop illegal immigration, he said.

"They are risking a little, and that might just benefit a lot," he said.

Continued from D1

Immigrants are heading to the suburbs of Tennessee, Mississippi, Dakotas, Ohio and Pennsylvania.

"Illegal immigrants are not just randomly flowing into places. They're following jobs," said Gordon Hanson, an economics professor at the University of California-San Diego. "Look at where the growth in the illegal immigrant population is strongest: It's in areas with growing populations, where there are more restaurants, grocery stores, construction and retail outlets. And it's in areas where the major U.S. manufacturing and labor force is aging and disappearing."

Such as in North Carolina, where the number of illegal immigrants jumped from 25,000 in 1990 to 206,000 a decade later. Many of those undocumented workers have been drawn to jobs in the textile industry, Frey said.

Mike Hubbard, the vice president of the National Council of Textile Organizations, has seen this industry and his North Carolina city of Gastonia hit hard by the influx of immigrants.

"Companies are trying so very hard to make sure that they fully document the people who come into work, but sometimes you find out the documents are phony," Hubbard said. "There's been a lot of immigrant labor that's taking the textile jobs."

As a child in North Carolina, Hubbard rarely heard Spanish, he said. Now many textile managers are learning the language so they can talk to employees, and businesses are translating their safety materials. North Carolina neighborhoods have changed too, he said.

"Now there's Spanish grocery stands on every corner, and the food's getting a lot better," he said. "So there have been changes. Maybe wages here would have gone up faster without the immigration, but I can't say that for sure."

In Colorado, where Cahoon hopes to open his next office, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement estimates that the number of illegal immigrants has jumped from 31,000 in 1990 to 141,000 in 2000. Elected officials are turning to the federal government for ways to deal with the influx. Linda Eichenbaum Lent, a spokeswoman for Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper, said the issue has become prominent across the state. Because illegal immigrants are generally poorer than the rest of the population, they tend to put a greater strain on indigent health care and other social services, Frey said.

The look with great interest to Washington and proposed legislation on guest worker programs that could underwrite

services that we're already providing," she said. "Our recourses are getting stretched by a number of factors, and immigration is only one."

Undocumented workers have become part of the local economy, she said. "They're helping to generate revenue and paying taxes. Legislation could potentially move this shadow world into part of the system," she said.

Some city governments are moving on their own to bring more Mexican nationals into the mainstream economy. Both Yakima and Seattle, Wash., along with about 300 other cities nationwide, now accept ID cards issued by Mexican consulates as valid identification for obtaining library cards, help from community health centers or other services. The cards are commonly used by illegal immigrants who are not eligible for Social Security cards. About 1.8 million such cards are in use throughout the United States.

In Nampa, businesses like El Centro have considered accepting ID cards for issuing loans. Cahoon said, but are holding off until big lenders make the switch. That's because loans granted to illegal aliens based on alternate forms of identification are not yet salable on the secondary market, he said.

Many of the evolving economic advantages offered by illegal aliens are offset by social costs, said Hanson. Illegal immigrants tend to be poorer than their legal counterparts, and schools don't track students who have larger families, he said. That all puts pressure on indigent health care costs and public schools.

"Public education is far and away the biggest expenditure," Hanson said.

States generally fund schools based on enrollment numbers, but schools don't track students by their citizenship status, said Allison Westfall with the Idaho Department of Education. Still, the number of non-English speaking students is growing. In 1997, the state spent \$1.5 million to help just over 1,000 students learn English, she said, compared to \$4.8 million for nearly 21,000 students in 2005.

But ultimately, Cahoon believes, any negative impacts of immigration — illegal and otherwise — may be countered by the business opportunities immigrants offer.

"Right now, we look at it as we don't really have much competition ... and we're not even tapping into the whole market yet, it's so big," Cahoon said. In the future, there might be some other companies popping up around here. More and more businesses are starting to realize to survive they need to do this."

Immigration reform splits Republicans

By Peter Prengaman Associated Press writer

OXNARD, Calif. — With only 28 of the 70 workers he needs, farm manager Barragan is worried that Deardoff-Jackson farm won't be able to harvest 800 acres of celery before it rots. "A few years ago we could get people consistently," said Barragan, 50, a Mexican native who has overseen Hispanic farm crews in California for 15 years. "Now we might lose some crops because we don't have people."

Several things are changing the market for immigrant labor. Some workers opt for higher paying construction jobs, while both the government and civilian patrol groups such as the Minuteman have redoubled efforts to secure the still-porous south border.

While farmers and allied business groups lobby for a guest worker program to regulate the millions of undocumented Hispanic workers already here, or wanting to come, hard-line restrictionists push for law enforcement solutions to illegal immigration. That dynamic is dividing Republicans in Congress.

The result, immigration policy analysts agree: Don't bet that Congress will pass comprehensive reform proposals, some of which have languished for several years after President Bush's jump-started the issue nearly two years ago.

With national elections in 2006 and a politically weakened president, the odds are that comprehensive guest worker proposals offered next year in the Senate may not amount to much.

"The president's political capital is so low right now. Is he

going to use what little he has left on immigration reform?" asked Jaime Regalado, director of the Pew Research Center's Public Affairs at California State University, Los Angeles. "Maybe, but I don't think so."

Bush renewed his push for a guest worker plan on a post-Thanksgiving trip to Arizona and Texas.

"There's a lot of opinions on this proposal," Bush said, "I understand that. But people in this debate must recognize that we will not be able to effectively enforce our immigration laws until we create a temporary worker program."

Several major reform proposals differ in their details, but one thing all sides agree on is that the current situation urgently needs attention.

Bush's proposal would give undocumented workers three-year work visas that could be extended for another three years, though workers would then have to leave for a year before applying again. Beyond the need to business, it was aimed at wooing Hispanic voters for next year's presidential elections.

Still, many Republicans rejected it as unrealistic and criticized the president for not focusing more on border security.

Bush alienated many conservatives by calling the Arizona-based Minutemen "vigilantes" when they began patrolling the U.S.-Mexico border more than a year ago, said Mark Kriskorian, executive director of the Center for Immigration Study, which favors less immigration and stricter enforcement.

"The chief obstacle to reform

is the president," said Kriskorian. Most of the viable reform proposals are Republican-led.

GOP Sen. John Cornyn of Texas and Jon Kyl of Arizona propose letting immigrant workers enter the country for two years, followed by a one-year break. Workers could repeat that pattern two more times, but then have to return home.

Sens. John McCain, R-Ariz., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., back legislation that would let illegal aliens work in the U.S. for up to six years. After that, they would have to be on track to obtaining legal residency or leave.

Nebraska Republican Sen. Chuck Hagel has proposed giving undocumented workers legal status if they pass criminal background checks, have lived in the U.S. for at least five years, and pay a \$2,000 fine.

But Hagel believes border security must be strengthened before a guest worker program can succeed.

Conservatives take that a step further, saying talk of reform is meaningless until immigration officials are more aggressive.

"Guest worker programs are worthless," said Minutemen President Chris Simcox. "We can't even talk about that until there is real government enforcement on the border."

Immigration officials say they are focused on terrorist threats, that it would be impossible to send home the entire illegal population, estimates suggest there are more than 10 million, in one sweep.

"We understand the public is sometimes frustrated, but like any law enforcement we have

priorities" that also include counterterrorism, said Virginia Klee, a spokeswoman for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

More importantly, the government knows businesses are dependent on foreign labor, said Tamar Jacoby, a senior fellow at the Manhattan Institute who advocates both a guest worker program and resolving the immigration status of illegals currently in the country.

Most Americans are unwilling to do hard labor or farm jobs, she said, while many immigrants do them cheaply.

"Farming, construction, food processing, those businesses can't stay alive without those workers," said Jacoby.

Barragan, the foreman, likes to tell the story of the last non-Hispanic who worked on the farm. It was 16 years ago that a Japanese immigrant came, cut cauliflower for two hours and quit.

"You never see any blacks or whites out here," said Maria Hurtado, 34, a Mexican who sorts tomatoes at the Deardoff-Jackson farm. "We are the ones who do this work."

Meanwhile, Barragan and Thomas Deardoff-Jackson II, president of Deardoff-Jackson Co., are brainstorming ways to get workers for the celery crop. Their present strategy — Spanish-language radio ads and offering to pay more than the standard \$10 to \$12 per hour — used to work, but this season's shortage seems too large for that.

Advertisement for Pulse Research. It features a large graphic of a pulse waveform with a crown on top. Below the graphic, the text reads: '\$1000 CASE!' in large, bold letters. Underneath that, it says 'Just give us your opinion of The Times-News' and provides the website 'www.pulseresearch.com/magicvalley/'.

Farmworker
Francisco Palacios
 cuts celery Nov. 14
 on the Deardorff-
 Jackson Co. farm
 near Fillmore, Calif.
 The farm has 800
 acres of celery ready
 for winter harvest,
 but has only about
 half of the 70 farm
 workers needed to
 work the fields. As
 farmers nationwide
 complain about labor
 shortages, and
 pressure the Bush
 administration for a
 massive guest worker
 program to bring in
 Hispanic workers,
 civilian groups and
 the Border Patrol increase efforts at the
 border to stem what
 they claim is an
 unchecked flow of
 illegal immigrants.



Quotes about the underground economy:

Illegal workers:

"The toleration of illegal immigration undermines all of our labor. It rips at the social fabric. It's a race to the bottom. The one who plays by the rules is penalized. It becomes a system that feeds on itself. It just goes on and on and on."

- Vernon Briggs, a Cornell University labor economist professor

Low wages:

"We're seeing the wage basis in these industries erode simply because there is a glut of low skill labor flooding the low skill market. The business community has become addicted to it. It's a way for them to keep their business costs down."

- John Keeley, Center for Immigration Studies

On day labor sites:

"No one's solving the problem. They're just moving it. Instead of enacting some type of legislation that forces them to become legitimate, they're trying to find a way to corral them and put them in a center. Something just smacks me all wrong about that."

- Wade Bohn, owner of Jay's Market, a gas station near where day laborers loiter in Las Vegas

Illegal

Continued from D1

construction, farm and food service workers. Cash is paid under the table, or fake documents are accepted without question.

Illegal immigrants may number as high as 20 million, and they are gaining a larger share of the job market, according to Bear Stearns in New York.

More and more, they are spreading beyond traditional immigrant states like California and Texas. They are spreading through the West and South, where there is tremendous growth, affordable housing and family networks. They are increasingly found in states like Utah, Washington, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Georgia and the Dakotas. And they're heading to suburbia.

This is America's underground economy, and it generates billions of dollars worth of labor each year. Illegal workers come for the jobs, and always find companies eager to hire them.

Illegal immigration undermines all of our labor," said Vernon Briggs, a Cornell University labor economist professor.

It rips at the social fabric. It's a race to the bottom. The one who plays by the rules is penalized. It becomes a system that feeds on itself. It just goes on and on and on.

For years, the immigrant population mainly stuck to six destination states — California, Texas, New York, Florida, Illinois and New Jersey. But in the past five years, the most rapid growth has taken place in states once of little interest to immigrants — Tennessee, Mississippi, the Dakotas, Ohio and Pennsylvania, said Bill Frey, demographer at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C.

They are following rapid growth, going where the jobs are and where the cost of living is low. Suburbs now attract more new immigrants than cities.

In the West, the immigrant population in the Mountain states is growing faster than the rest of the region. In the South, the interior Southeast has higher immigrant growth than the more glamorous coastal states, Frey said.

The way Bob Justich sees it, America is hooked on cheap, illegal workers. As a senior managing director for Bear Stearns, he has spent the last two years meeting with immigrants, business owners, police and real estate agents to determine the size of the underground economy and its effect on the real economy.

This he knows for sure: There are way more illegal immigrants in the country than the government estimates. The government puts the number at around 8.5 million; Justich says it is more than double that — closer to 20 million, mainly because illegal immigrants don't bother to respond to Census Bureau forms.

"If everybody was deported tomorrow, it would be like emptying the equivalent of New York state," he said. "And this source of labor has become vital to many businesses."

“It's a problem for people who aren't underground. How do they compete? Some businesses suffer. There'd be a void because this is a trend that has been growing over 10 to 15 years and to abruptly disengage this segment of the work force would have an impact.”

— Bob Justich, senior managing director, Bear Stearns

Illegal immigrants hold about 12 million to 15 million jobs in the United States, or about 8 percent, according to Justich. That may seem a small percentage, but the pressure of its presence helps keep wages for unskilled jobs off. And many of the jobs are low end of the books, meaning the government may be foregoing \$3.5 billion a year in income tax collections, he said.

That figure, however, is partially offset by employers withholding taxes for illegal workers who never file returns or seek benefits, said Matt Dingerstein, a Center for Immigration Studies fellow.

An analysis by Barron's estimated the size of the shadow economy at about \$70 billion, or nearly 9 percent of the goods and services produced by the real economy.

The service sector employs the most illegal immigrants with 33 percent, followed by the construction industry, production and food processing and farming, according to the Pew Hispanic Center.

The hotel and restaurant businesses and construction are the big employers. More than 1 of every 4 drywall installers and landscape workers are illegal, the center estimates. About 1 in 5 workers in meat and poultry packing are illegal, as are about 1 in 6 in the leisure and hospitality industry or construction.

Illegal immigrants make far less than the rest of the population. Their average family income of \$27,400 is more than 40 percent below the legal immigrant or native family income of about \$47,700, the Pew Hispanic Center found.

That's because illegal immigrants work cheap and don't complain; those that do complain are easily replaced. They have little bargaining power, and employers take advantage of that.

"We're seeing the wage bases in these industries erode simply because there is a glut of low skill labor flooding the low-skill market," said John Keeley, spokesman for the Center for Immigration Studies. "The business community has become addicted to it. It's a way for them to keep their business costs down."

Enforcement is lax, especially in a post-9/11 world. The government doesn't have the time or resources to devote to rounding up illegal gardeners or

and put them in a center. "Something just smacks me all wrong about that."

In the sidewalks around Jay's Market, contractors and landscaping companies pull up constantly. No one cares that men are taken to jobs sites where they will be paid under the table for a day's work, usually around \$6 an hour. The practice is widely known and largely unchecked.

Gonzalez is thankful for the steady work. He usually gets chosen for a job and sends money home to his wife and 7-year-old son in Mexico. Justich projects illegal immigrants will send \$19 billion to \$29 billion home to Mexico this year.

Gonzalez was deported once, but easily made his way back to booming Las Vegas, where jobs are plentiful.

"Here, you can work year round," he said. "It gets hot, but the climate's a lot like Mexico."

But in the underground economy, there is one to make sure workers like Gonzalez are getting paid and are treated properly. Many workers are willing to take risks to get cash. Sometimes at horrible consequences.

A 2001 Associated Press investigation found that Mexican workers are 80 percent more likely to die on the job than are native-born workers.

He hazards it is not just workplace safety. Upset that he wasn't paid for three weeks, construction worker Les Hernandez shot his way to death in January 2004 in Utah, and is now serving five years to life in prison.

In Denver, a Saudi Arabian man and his wife are facing charges for allegedly keeping an Indonesian woman captive for four years. The woman, an illegal immigrant, said she was paid less than \$2 a day to work as a baby-sitter, cook and maid.

"All of this brings out the worst in society," Briggs said. "It's just like a cancer. It just eats at the social fabric. It brings out all kinds of prejudice. They (illegal immigrants) are willing to take the chance, and as long as they're there, there are people willing to take advantage of them."

Nowhere is that more evident than in communities across the country where thousands of illegal immigrants wait for work on street corners. With the federal government paying little attention, many cities have been forced to create day-labor centers, where job seekers can congregate at a central location without loitering near businesses and bothering citizens.

That has come with its own set of problems. Critics don't believe local governments should use tax dollars to fund centers that cater to illegal immigrants.

In Herndon, Va., six residents, represented by the conservative legal group Judicial Watch, have sued the town over its plans to create a day labor site. And in Farmingville, N.Y., Hispanics have been beaten, harassed and arrested in disputes over day laborers.

"No one's solving the problem," said Wade Bohn, owner of Jay's Market, a gas station near where day laborers loiter in Las Vegas. The county here is considering creating a day labor center.

They're just moving it. Instead of enacting some type of legislation that forces them to become legitimate, they're trying to find a way to corral them

raids of farms and communities, though the government said it wasn't doing any sweeps. Congress is looking at a complex overhaul of the immigration system, with several bills proposed to address immigration reform. One bill would provide temporary legal status for farmworkers who can prove they worked at least 100 days in agriculture since July 2003.

President Bush is considering allowing illegal immigrants who came to the United States before February 2003 to qualify for guest-worker visas. Those who arrived later would be deported.

But a guest worker program, Briggs said, guarantees wages will never go up, and there is no way American citizens can compete with guest workers.

They will take over the jobs. The guest workers are tied to the employer," he said.

Bush last year introduced a plan that would allow undocumented workers to get three-year work visas. They could extend that for another three years, but would then have to return to their home countries for a year to apply for a new work permit, something John Gay, co-chairman of the Essential Worker Immigration Coalition, considers absurd.

"It doesn't really serve a purpose," Gay said. "You can't take 10 million people out of the economy for a year. Why would you want to do that?"

Instead of all the new reform ideas, Briggs and other experts don't understand why the government doesn't just enforce the existing immigration laws.

In the sidewalks of Las Vegas, a red truck pulls up and a swarm of workers surround it, backpacks in tow. But the employer only wants one today.

The rest shuffle back to the corner, knowing there will always be another truck.

They will be back tomorrow, and the day after, fueling their part of the underground economy.

"We all come down here and want to work as an American," said Antonio Perez Vazquez, 26.

Angie Winger is the AP's West-ern regional writer, based in Las Vegas.

All the illegal workers in America picked up and left the country. Tomorrow, business wouldn't come to a halt, but experts believe it would be dramatically affected.

With cheap labor no longer available, prices would rise — for food, child care, household maintenance. Businesses would have to pay workers more, and the demand for workers in some trades would drop. Some smaller providers would be forced to shut down, Justich said.

"It's a problem for people who aren't underground," Justich said. "How do they compete? Some businesses suffer. There'd be a void because this is a trend that has been growing over 10 to 15 years and to abruptly disengage this segment of the work force would have an impact."

This summer, farmers in Michigan and Oregon complained they didn't have enough fruit pickers because of crackdowns on border crossings and

\$1000 CASH!

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MONEY

BUSINESS FILINGS

BOISE — Following is the list of businesses filed during October with the Idaho secretary of state, including both new ones and existing ones that had been filed with counties and had to be refilled with the state.

Businesses are listed by name, agent, address and nature of business.
"itty Bitty's", Carey Marcoulier, P.O. Box 4030, Hailey, ID 83333.
"Jacin's Bakery and Deli, Pandora Lenardi, 240 Locust N., Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail and wholesale trade.
1,000 Springs Tours LLC, Kathleen Mecker, 210 Hagerman Ave. E., Hagerman, ID 83332.

Bowlers Choice of Idaho, Janis Fredericksen, 220 Sycamore St., Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail trade.
Breadline Breads, Amy Oehler, P.O. Box 4142, Ketchum, ID 83340, wholesale trade.
Bullen Motors LLC, Craig R. Bullen, 252 Deere St., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Transportation, Joyce McDade, 1804 S. 2050 E., Gooding, ID 83320, transportation, public utilities and agriculture.
Eagle Finance LLC, Christopher Jones, 761 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Eagle Finance Inc., James D. Jones, 761 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Lewis S. Ketchum, ID 83340.
Jeff's Construction Inc., Jeff Holton, 520 Seventh Ave. W., Jerome, ID 83338.
JLC Marketing LLC, Marlene Harper, 3481 Mountain Ash, Hailey, ID 83333.

1700 S. Gooding, ID 83330, services.
Northwood Light Industrial LLC, James R. Conger, 101 Lewis St., Ketchum, ID 83340.
No Creations, Matt Parler, 450 Stevens, N. 2, Filer, ID 83328, services.
Old Town Motors, Latham Holding Co., P.O. Box R, Twin Falls, ID 83303, retail trade.
On My Rocks LLC, Laura R. Gray, 4347 N. 1200 E., Buhl, ID 83316.

83301, construction.
Schmitt's Sounds, Tom Schmitt, 46 W. 532 S., Burley, ID 83318, services.
Scott's Burnett Trucking, Scott D. Burnett, 396 Bannock, Bliss, ID 83314, transportation and public utilities.
Scotty-L LLC, John K. Cato, 2487 Kimberly Road, Suite H, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Scott's R. W. Co., Joann Jiree Jackson, 1863 Washington Ave., Burley, ID 83318, services.

"A M Construction, Mike Ajeli, 589 Bowdoin Drive, Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Absolute Moulding, Gary's Woodworking Inc., 2414 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Absolute Moulding, Gary's Woodworking Inc., 2414 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Active Body & Soul Inc., Andrew L. McCall, 411 Federation Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
West Inc., Tim R. Primm, 3634 E. 3950 N., Kimberly, ID 83316.

Canine Educational Consultants, Gary J. Degeronimo Sr., 623 Taylor St., Twin Falls, ID 83301, services.
Centennial Truck & Equipment Repair LLC, Lyle Santos, 23 E. 400 N., Rupert, ID 83350.
Cemco Reinforced Technologies, Howard W. Leendertsen, 14 Hangar Road, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Crested Springs Ranch, Franklin W. Osterhoudt, 4565 N. 1100 E., Buhl, ID 83316, agriculture.
Christine's Childcare Services, Christine Willson, 3669 N. 2430 E., Filer, ID 83328, services.

Energy Wise Construction, Bob D. Campbell, 1770 Eldridge Ave., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Ere Scientific LLC, Ted L. Rea, 141 Morrison St., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
ETS Enterprise, Ernest Crawford, 504 Palomino Drive, Filer, ID 83328, services.
Excallor LLC, Construction, Richard Deforest, P.O. Box 5284, Twin Falls, ID 83303, construction.
G. J. Lane LLC, Lawson & Laski PLLC, 675 Sun Valley Road, Suite A, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Getcha Sun West, Barbara Patterson, 605 N. Sixth St., Bellevue, ID 83315, services.

Kenard's LLC, Karen McManus, 412 E. Clark St., Paul, ID 83347.
Kennedy American Mortgage of Sun Valley LLC, Thomas A. Kennedy, 191 Fifth St. W., Ketchum, ID 83340.
Kids Discovery Center LLC, John R. Rahi, 415 N. Lincoln, Suite 5, Jerome, ID 83301.
KMP Planning, K. Michael Pepper, 2530 Canyon Gate, Twin Falls, ID 83301, services.
Kneeland Residential Development LLC, J. D. Sparks, 550 Sparks Creek Blvd. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Levatch LLC, Tim Levitan, 19 Hawthorn Drive, Hailey, ID 83331.

Osborne Investments LLC, Layne Osborne, 986 Justice Grade, Hagerman, ID 83332.
Outabounds Lounge, St. Mary Rd Inc., P.O. Box 1808, Sun Valley, ID 83353, retail trade.
Palmer PCs, Willom Palmer, 540 Van Buren, Kimberly, ID 83341, retail trade.
Palomo PLLC, Robert Korb, 128 Saddle Road, Suite 103, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Peck Realty LLC, Robb K. Peck, 20318 U.S. Highway 93, Carey, ID 83326, real estate.
Peer Review-ASAP, Medical Quality & Peer Review, P.O. Box 5377, Ketchum, ID 83340, services.

Signature Development, Joshua G. Simons, 405 Bradley St., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Smiley's Black Angus, Rhoda Kay Simper, P.O. Box 209, Oakley, ID 83346, agriculture.
Smoke'em E Properties LLC, Andy Berr, 465 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Santac Inc., Sonja K. Parish, 2140 Elizabeth Blvd., No. 3D, Twin Falls, ID 83301, services.
Shock 'N' Awe Styles and Cuts, Shirley Sanchez, 858 Oakley Ave., Burley, ID 83318, services.

Anderson SilverSmith & Engineering, David S. Anderson, 3801 N. 2600 E., Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail trade.
Anderson Roofing & Maintenance, Charles Marovich, 738 Second Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301, construction.
Allison Paige Interior Design LLC, Allison Paige Grogg, 411 Leadville Ave. No. 8, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Allstar Properties, Allstar Properties Services, P.O. Box 953, Hailey, ID 83333.

ETS Enterprise, Ernest Crawford, 504 Palomino Drive, Filer, ID 83328, services.
Excallor LLC, Construction, Richard Deforest, P.O. Box 5284, Twin Falls, ID 83303, construction.
G. J. Lane LLC, Lawson & Laski PLLC, 675 Sun Valley Road, Suite A, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Getcha Sun West, Barbara Patterson, 605 N. Sixth St., Bellevue, ID 83315, services.
Gina's Bistros & Gifts LLC, Regina Christensen, 102 S. Lincoln, Jerome, ID 83338.

Levatch LLC, Tim Levitan, 19 Hawthorn Drive, Hailey, ID 83331.
Lierman Lawn Care Services, Corey Lierman, 536 N. Main St., Kimberly, ID 83341, services.
The Little Red Hen, Jill Nachtigall, 1485 Pole Line Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301, retail trade.
Loomis Construction Co., Michael J. Loomis, 191 Bell Drive, Ketchum, ID 83340, construction.
Lost Peak Enterprises LLC, John B. Leiby, 528 Highland Road, Jerome, ID 83338.
LTD LLC, Robert Kesting, 200 E. River St., Ketchum, ID 83340.

Magic Valley Technical Services, Curtis L. Howell, 27 E. 100 N., Rupert, ID 83350, retail trade and services.
Main Street Mercantile LLC, George R. Kirk, 220 Second Ave. S., No. 201, Ketchum, ID 83340.
Mangus Drywall, Maria G. Mangus, 1800 W. Hailey, Gooding, ID 83330, construction.
Maybelle Hill LLC, Gary Farrington, 350 Gladiale Road, Bellevue, ID 83313.
Meridian House LLC, Jim Carter, 3623 N. 2000 E., Filer, ID 83301, construction.

Osborne Investments LLC, Layne Osborne, 986 Justice Grade, Hagerman, ID 83332.
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Shock 'N' Awe Styles and Cuts, Shirley Sanchez, 858 Oakley Ave., Burley, ID 83318, services.

Artistic Photography Studio, R. H. Kostron, P.O. Box 5805, Twin Falls, ID 83303, services.
Awolac LLC, Mike Ardema, 195 Yamatack Road, Twin Falls, ID 83301.
A-Z RV Products, Frontruner Industries LLC, P.O. Box 1740, Twin Falls, ID 83303, wholesale trade.
Balanced Beach Spa, Jan A. Sand, 496 C Shoup Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301.
Bene LLC, Matthew Cosgriff, 400 First Ave. N., Suite 210, Ketchum, ID 83340.

ETS Enterprise, Ernest Crawford, 504 Palomino Drive, Filer, ID 83328, services.
Excallor LLC, Construction, Richard Deforest, P.O. Box 5284, Twin Falls, ID 83303, construction.
G. J. Lane LLC, Lawson & Laski PLLC, 675 Sun Valley Road, Suite A, Ketchum, ID 83340.
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Dairyman makes milk out of grass

High-quality milk starts with high-quality grass pasture at Wilona Holsteins.
For the last 13 years, Bill Stolitzus and his wife, Donna, have focused on raising a herd of approximately 100 registered Holsteins on one of the grass-based dairies in southern Idaho.
While Stolitzus considers himself a dairy producer first, he was recently named Grassman of the Year by the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts.
"Bill is a concerned dairyman who wants to leave the environment in good condition so everyone can enjoy it," said Rick Rogers, chairman of the Balanced Rock Soil Conservation District, which nominated Wilona Holsteins for the award. "His way of raising cows on grass is helping everyone out, including the cows."



Dairyman Bill Stolitzus was recognized by the Idaho Association of Soil Conservation Districts for his stewardship of a 40-acre rocky parcel between Buhl and Castelford. Wilona Holsteins is one of the few grass-based dairies in southern Idaho.

lergies in people or mice.
But when tests suggested that the protein was subtly different in the gene altered peas than its native bean, the researchers fed the peas to mice and subjected them to various tests. Surprisingly, the engineered food caused allergic reactions on rodents' skin and in the gut — even when the peas were cooked.
Louisiana sugar plant to reopen on Dec. 12
The Domino Sugar Corp. plant in Louisiana — the largest sugar factory in the U.S. — is expected to reopen Dec. 12 after being closed since Aug. 29 due to damage from Hurricane Katrina, a sugar official said.
The addition of sugar from the Domino plant should reduce prices for growers elsewhere, Roney said. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has known for some time the plant was expected to open in December. So it should have accounted for the additional sugar in managing the sugar program, which regulates sales to ensure adequate prices for farmers, instead of using subsidies.
Roney said prices for sugar remain relatively stable, despite the big hit to production from hurricanes Katrina and Rita. In response to the hurricanes, the USDA released 500,000 tons of stored sugar — which it Amalgamated Sugar Co. in Boise sold all its stored sugar — and allowed more foreign imports to ensure an adequate supply.

AG WEEKLY Farmbeat Highlights of This Week's Ag Weekly.
Annual seminars and annual meeting. Registration materials will be available in mid-December. For more information about the conference, contact Walley at (208) 888-0988 in Meridan.
Scientists link allergy to engineered green pea
WASHINGTON — Scientists who created a genetically engineered green pea have bitten off more than they can chew. It seems, by inadvertently creat-

ing a food that tends to trigger allergic reactions. The research should serve as a warning flag for others making bioengineered foods, the scientists report in the Nov. 16 issue of the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry.
Having identified a gene in the common bean plant that helps protect them against beetle damage, Simon Hogan of Auburn University in Auburn, in Cambodia, and colleagues transferred copies of that gene into pea plants that do not normally enjoy those protections.
The gene carries instructions that — and the newly modified pea plants — to make a pest-repelling protein called chitinase-amyase inhibitor-1. Studies had shown that a bean protein does not cause al-

Who? Find out who's performing. Every Thursday in THE TIME-NEWS MAGAZINE's Musical Theater. The Times-News maglive.com

Advertisement for musical theater performances, including 'Who?' and 'Find out who's performing. Every Thursday in THE TIME-NEWS MAGAZINE's Musical Theater.'

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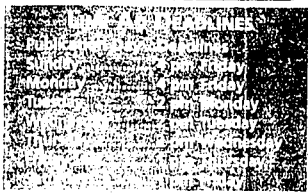
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Legal **Legal**

LEGAL NOTICE
The Mid-Shake Resource Conservation and Development Committee (R/C & D) is seeking proposals from qualified professionals for the purpose of updating 6 county fire plans. County fire plans have been completed for all 6 counties and are required to be amended and updated. We ask that you submit your proposal by December 15, 2005. All proposals will be reviewed. Evaluators of the proposal will make a decision by January 9, 2006. The scope of work will include updating the current county fire plan, 4 to 5 public meetings for each county and writing associated amendments to comply with federal and state guidelines. For any questions, please contact the Mid-Shake Resource Conservation & Development, 1441 Fremore St. Suite A, Twin Falls, ID 83401-3380 or call at 733-5380 ext. 132.
PUBLISHED: December 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 2005

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

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to
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PO Box 548
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83403-0548
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legals@magicvalley.com
Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324

100 Announcements

200 Employment

300 Financial

400 Education

500 Real Estate for Sale

600 Real Estate Rentals

700 Agriculture

800 Merchandise

900 Recreation

1000 Transportation

BUSINESS HOURS

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

101 Lost and Found

101 Alaskan Husky light colored, nice markings, 55 lbs. Last seen on 11/12/05 in Jerome. He needs a home, but we would like to be sure he is OK. Reward Call 208-733-3992

101 Black Lab cross female at Overland & 67th Burley at stop light on 11/26. Wearing black collar and ID, maybe injured. Answer to Tardie. Please call 420-2761 or 208-432-5286.

101 1905 lg. neutered, adult male, black and white markings 208-736-6735

101 dog, white Poodle in Burley medication. Call 208-308-2712

101 Lost and Found

FOUND Lab puppy, 7-8 months old, very friendly. At the County Laundry Lane Shop 3300 E. Kimberly. 423-4401.

FOUND Lab pup, yellow, male, 1 mile north and 1.5 mile west of Jerome. Call 208-308-2520

FOUND Terrier X small size, in the Paul area. Call to identify 208-679-4142

FOUND (1) Golden Retriever, (1) Yorkie on Friday near 3300 East, 3835 N. Generous reward 539-8733

101 Lost and Found

FOUND dog, black Lab, female, in Eden 11/27. Has red collar, very sweet. Call 208-825-5326

101 Lost and Found

ADOPTIONS
1. Lab Spaniel X, female pup
2. Border Collie/Husky X pup
3. Adult Chocolate Lab, female, nice dog
4. Chesa X, female, 6 mo. old pup
5. Border Collie/Retriever X, neutered male
6. Border Collie, neutered
7. good working dog
8. German Shepherd/Ret X, male, 9 mo. old. Big and friendly
9. Small Husky Shepherd X, active, needs work
10. Beautiful Heeler X, tickored merle male
11. Neutered male yellow Lab, nice dog

Do-It-Yourself Ideas
A Crocheter's Guide to Knitting (No AN1307) \$8.95
Also available:
Learn to Knit a Sweater guidebook (No AN1256) \$8.95
Please add \$3.00 s&h

To order, circle items, clip & send w/ check to: U-Bild Features, P.O. Box 2383, Van Nuys, CA 91409. 1-2 weeks for delivery. Or call (800) 82-U-BILD

crochbook.com
Money Back Guarantee

101 Lost and Found

101 Lab, black, large male in Jerome area. Answers to "Lucky". Call 208-324-1107

101 Lost old friend at end of ski season last year. Black North Face women's ski jacket - 13 years old but in good cond. Call 208-724-8343

101 Tabby cat, gray with tan belly and big blue eyes, 1 year old female. Answers to Corky. Lost in Gem State Paper area. Call 208-852-222

101 Wolf, black zip up, very important papers. All credit cards have been canceled, but I need the medical papers. Lost in Twin Falls. 734-7940 mpd.
REWARD!!!
\$1,000 for the return of my ruby ring taken from residence in the Glens Ferry area. Mail responses to: Box 97498, c/o The Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403.

104 Personals

REWARD!!!
\$1,000 for the return of my ruby ring taken from residence in the Glens Ferry area. Mail responses to: Box 97498, c/o The Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403.

SANTA FOR "HIRE"
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107 Pregnancy Alternatives
PREGNANCY CRISIS
Free Tests Always Confidential, 734-7472

108 Professional Services
ATTN: Business Owners! Are you tired of your floors looking like they don't shine? Call us Clean 2AT 20 yrs exp. Lindholm, VCT, stone care. 404-9976 Lisa or Todd

108 Bankruptcy
INDEPENDENT
Williams Law
734-6699
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Massage Therapy
\$45/hour, \$65 1/2 hrs
Call 208-733-8627

111 Entertainment Services
SANTA FOR "HIRE"
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113 Child Care Services
Daycare & Preschool
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200 Employment
ACCOUNTING
Established local accounting firm is looking for a Tax Season Preparer/Accountant. One to five years experience in tax preparation. Flexible hours for either part-time or full-time work. Please send resume to: Box 94947 c/o The Times-News PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83403

200 Employment
ASKING QUESTIONS
Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. Absolutely NO SALES!!! Strictly research, \$7.00 to \$9.00/hour. Casual work environment. Flexible evening, day, and night hrs. 15-30 hours/week. Great part-time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more information Call 208-736-2853

200 Employment
CASHIER/JANITORIAL
Friendly outgoing individuals wanted for a great customer service exp. We are a 24 hour business that requires a flexible schedule. Fast pace, highly motivated, highly preferred. Benefits pkg available. FT/PT positions avail. Apply in person. Flying J Travel Plaza 5350 Hwy. 93 Jerome

200 Employment
Classified Private Party Ads
Requires pre-payment prior to publication. Major credit/credit cards, and cash accepted. Check processing over the phone.
733-0931
The Times-News

200 Employment

D.L. Evans Bank, Idaho's HomeTown Community Bank for over 100 years, is searching for a Part-time Teller and a Part-time Scanner in Burley. The successful candidates will possess excellent verbal and written communications, PC, and customer service skills, as well as the ability to cross-sell bank products. Previous cash handling banking experience preferred. Applications for employment are available at any D.L. Evans Bank locations.

CLERICAL
Full time office assistant, Quickbooks & Excel knowledge, inventory and 10-key operation. Salary DOE. Bonuses Available send resume to Intermountain Beef 1440 E. 150 S. Eden, ID 83325

CONSTRUCTION Experienced Framers and Laborers needed. Up to \$18 per hr. DOE. 209-731-1761

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Wanted for fast paced multi-task environment. Required skills: AR/AP, on occasion may be required to fill propane cylinders. Part-time, 30-hrs a week. Must work Saturdays. Inquire in person at: Suburban Propane 139 Locust St. S. Twin Falls

CDL Training Available!

Meet with Omar Aragon Wednesday, December 7 12pm to 2pm Red Lion Hotel 1057 Blue Lakes Blvd. N Twin Falls

\$8,000 Incentive Bonus Experienced Drivers Only

SWIFT

EOE
www.SwiftTrucking.com
800-800-1100
mf160

Classifieds For all your needs 733-0931 ext. 2

200 Employment

Customer Service
Part-time position through the holidays. Must have strong customer service skills, as well as cash handling and general PC/Windows environment knowledge. Wage \$8.50/hr. DOE. Please fax resume to: 736-7265, Ann. Mista.

DRIVER
FEEL AT HOME
At one of our 37 terminals throughout the country. CDL Training Available! Meet with Omar Aragon Wednesday, December 7 12pm to 2pm Red Lion Hotel 1057 Blue Lakes Blvd. N Twin Falls

\$8,000 Incentive Bonus Experienced Drivers Only

SWIFT
EOE
www.SwiftTrucking.com
800-800-1100
mf160

Classifieds For all your needs 733-0931 ext. 2

Who?

Find out who's performing.

Every Thursday in



The Times-News
magicvalley.com

200 Employment

CONSTRUCTION
Roofing help wanted. Must have own truck. Call 208-465-4472

CUSTOMER SERVICE
Bilingual at most. Have office, phone, and computer skills. Fax resume to 734-2293

DAIRY
Calif Feeder needed. Experience preferred. Call 208-543-2158

200 Employment

DAIRY
Milkier needed in Buhl. Call 208-358-0874

DRIVER
Cattle truck, must be 25 years old with CDL and good driving record. New and late model equipment, insurance available. Call 208-360-9954

DRIVERS

DRIVERS
Full time and relief drivers needed to run 11 western states, Class A CDL, double and tanker endorsement, 2 yrs experience req. 2005 grade products. Great home time. Call 800-967-2911 Mon - Fri 8am to 5pm MDT

DRIVERS
Local & OTR Milk needed. Double, triple & tanker endorsements required. Sign on bonus for experienced milk haulers. Benefits available for full-time drivers. Call Rich Thompson Trucking 23 W. 100 S. Jerome, Idaho. Or call 324-3511

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Top pay in the valley. 2 yrs. minimum experience OTR. 35¢ per mile. Clean MVR. Health insurance, vacation. 208-324-4091

DRIVERS
Looking for drivers to run 4-6 states & some local hauls. Pay-in based on loads and/or miles. Please MVR. Call 208-312-4418 if interested.

DRIVERS

DRIVERS
Looking for part-time work in Twin Falls, with a CDL(w/ passenger endorsement), Day & nights. Come drive bus for Sun Valley Stages. 733-9291 or 800-574-8661

DRIVERS
MORE NOW!
KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION
Call Trina 1-800-701-8589 or 801-580-8817 call 6 months OTR/HAZ Required www.knighttrans.com

200 Employment

Professional Truck Driving School
Oldest & most complete driving school in the valley. Class A-D Licenses 1-800-900-0586

DRIVERS
Run 7 western states, 2 years exp. Preferred. Home once a week. Gary Bickel Trucking Call 208-537-8787

EDUCATION

EDUCATION
Physical Geography part-time instructor position begins January. Requires masters degree. Find complete duties, qualifications, application process, and form on the CSI Web at www.csi.edu/jobs. EEO/AA

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Taylor Trucking Inc. Buhl, Idaho. Full time, local milk haul, tankers. Class A CDL. Call 208-543-8044 Please MVR.

EDUCATION

EDUCATION
Interpreter for the Hearing Impaired. District-wide, \$7,259/yr. \$14.74/hour. Opening date ASAP. Start unit filled. Moscow School Dist. 650 N. Cleveland Moscow, ID 83843-3659 208-892-1126 www.sdsd.k12.id.us. EOE

200 Employment

EDUCATION
The Buhl School District is seeking applicants for Second Grade Teacher to complete the 2005-2006 school year. The incumbent teacher has been granted a leave of absence due to a medical condition. The successful applicant will be expected to begin the new assignment before December 21, 2005. This position is open till filled. For application information and material contact the district office at 843-4636. EOE Drug Free Work place.

200 Employment

ELECTRICAL APPRENTICESHIPS
Ages 17-34, H.S. Diploma required. Openings in all aspects of electrical work. Paid training, good benefits, rapid advancement. Must travel. Call 1-800-914-8536

ENGINEER
Engineering Tech Hiring range: \$2611-3054/mo. Full range: \$2811-3885/mo. DOE & Qualifications. Full benefits. Assist preparing plans a specs, system studies, construction inspection. City of Rexburg, www.rexburg.org or 208-359-3000 ext.10. Closing December 8, 2005. E.E.O.E.

200 Employment

SALES
Make \$500-\$1,000 weekly!
Sales Reps needed for ongoing promotions. Promote your local newspaper in stores, shows special events and door-to-door. The right candidate will have some sales experience and own transportation. Work independently but within a team atmosphere. Travel is not required but encouraged.
Please contact Mark Holloway at 503-679-0248 or 541-383-8254. It may be just what you're looking for?

DELIVERY

The Wood River Journal
The Wood River Journal is looking for a responsible Newspaper Carrier to work as an independent contractor delivering newspapers in Sun Valley each Wednesday morning from 4:30-6:30AM. Candidates must have reliable transportation, valid driver's license, insurance and must be at least 18 years of age. Compensation is \$60/week. Interested candidates please contact Esther at 208-578-1807 (leave message) or Trey at the journal office, 208-769-3444. Also, stop by the WRJ office to fill out an application.

GENERAL
Lang Exploratory Drilling is in search of ambitious people that want a chance to start building a career. We are currently accepting applications for the following positions:
Drillers Assistant: You will learn how to operate a variety of equipment types, while you gain the knowledge and experience needed to advance with our company. You need to be able to lift 100 pounds, be drug free, able to obtain a commercial drivers license and enjoy working outdoors at our drilling locations throughout the western US. Applications can be obtained by calling 775-753-7772.
Lang offers competitive wages and excellent benefits, including medical, dental, vacation, pensions, and 401k EOE.

DRIVERS

Be Assured to Be Home for the Holidays

\$1,000 Sign-On Bonus

RoadWest TRUCKS
GOVERNED AT 70 MPH
Start of the line equipment
TOP THE New Year out right, Make us to \$50,000/year! Starting pay as much as 39¢ per company driver. Run the 11 Western States CDL A 1 year current OTR exp. No HAZMAT +1-800-284-9248+ www.roadwest.com EOE M/F/D/V

DRIVERS

TOP GUN
Class A "CDL" Training
"Your Road to Success Starts Here"
735-6656
Instrucción en español disponible

DRIVERS
Class B Manure Haul. Medical card req. Apply 8am-5pm. Mon-Fri
J & C Custom 1987 Highland Ave Twin Falls Dng Free Work Place

PRODUCTION PACKAGING

The Times-News is accepting applications for 2 full-time positions in our Packaging/Production Dept. Mechanical aptitude is essential. Must be able to lift 50 lbs. Work evenings and graveyard. Year-round work. Competitive pay.

We offer an excellent benefits package, which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401 (k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation.

If interested, please fill out an application at The Times-News 132 Fairfield St. W. Attn: Dan Walock www.daniel.walock@tsn.net
The Times-News is a drug-free workplace.

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DRIVERS

KNIGHT TRANSPORTATION
Do you want to drive a 2006 Peterbilt?
• Predictable Home Time
• Consistent Miles
• Great Equipment
• Stable, Debt Free Career
Call Jeff Or Greg Today 1-800-913-9772 Start Immediately. www.knighttransportation.com Class A CDL/ 6 mos OTR

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Sunrise EXPRESS 1-800-635-0825

COMPANY DRIVERS
Owner/Operators

Design Late Model Equipment
Weekly Settlements
Holiday & Vacation Pay
Health Insurance - 401K

Twin Falls, ID

11:00 A.M. Jill Skreem
12:00 P.M. Rose Payne
12:30 P.M. Jennifer Tanner
1:00 P.M. Debbie Angi & Marla Voice Trio
2:00 P.M. Job's Daughters Bethel #56

Today's Entertainment Schedule

2:30 P.M. Alaina Davis
3:00 P.M. Heavendoun Bluegrass Band
3:30 P.M. Heavendoun Bluegrass Band
4:00 P.M. Allison and Amy Higley
4:30 P.M. Middle East Dancers of Magic Valley

Complimentary coffee by Thomas Cuisine Management

Festival of Trees

"Christmas Around the World"

960 Eastland Drive (former Anderson Lumber building), Twin Falls
Benefiting area Quick Response Units and health programs of MVRMC Foundation.

From our family to yours,
The Times-News
Invites everyone to be our guests on
"Family Day"
Sunday, December 4
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

You will receive FREE admittance (family of 6) with this coupon

Join Us In Supporting MVRMC Foundation!

The Times-News
magicvalley.com

SALES

The Wood River Journal
Seeking an assertive and dynamic Sales Representative for an expanding weekly newspaper based in Halley, Idaho. As-part of Lee Enterprises, we offer competitive wages, benefits & opportunity in this growing, challenging market. To apply, stop by our office at: 507 S. Main St., Halley for an application or email resume to: Trey.Spaulding@Lee.net.

MANAGEMENT

Circulation Customer Service Manager
The Times-News is accepting applications for a full-time Customer Service Manager. This position is responsible for managing the customer service representatives within the circulation department, working with subscribers and carriers, providing excellent customer service and growing home delivery. Individual must have customer service and management experience, and proven decision making and sales experience.
If interested, please fill out an application at The Times-News 132 Fairfield St W Attn: Trisha Mitchell tmitchell@magicvalley.com

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DRIVER
Livestock drivers running out of Southern Idaho. 208-318-2239

ELECTRICIAN
Position available for Journeyman Electricians and Pivot Technician. Salary and benefits DOE. Please call 208-366-2638 days 366-2988 evenings.

COOKING
Cooks & Patisserie
NOW HIRING!!

- Housekeeping
- Keno Runner
- Restaurant Associate
- Manager
- Cooks
- Wander

Call Now To Apply
1-888-762-7111
Or Apply Online
www.jobsonline.com
EOE/DFW/AAE

GENERAL
FOOD PROCESSING
Food processing
Forklift Operators
Warehouse
DAILY WORK
DAILY \$ PAY \$
Apply today
870 Blue Lakes N.
735-5999
Se Habla Espanol
Never a Fool

GENERAL
General Labor
Construction
Housekeepers
Palletizers
CDLI A
Business Mlg.
Forklift
Factory Workers
Personnel Plus
733-7300
111 Fire Ave.
www.personnelplus.com
No Applicant Fee.

GENERAL
Intermountain
Starting currently interviewing to Glanbia Foods in Twin Falls and Gooding for the following positions:
Warehouse
Forklift
Production
Towers
Starting wage is \$10.00 and up.

Please apply in person at Intermountain Staffing
1061 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Suite #200.

BANKING
INNER BANK
Banner Bank is Growing...

We are currently seeking an experienced Commercial Banking Officer with a desire to be part of a dynamic regional bank. The successful candidate will have at least five years experience in the Magic Valley Market and a strong desire to work in a relationship focused environment. If you are looking for a bank that is growing and allows you to make a positive difference along with a competitive benefits package, lets talk. Fax confidential resume to
(609) 524-5980
Mail to P.O. Box 877,
Walla Walla, WA 99362
or email hr@bannerbank.com
EOEM-F-D-V

CLASSIFIEDS
away unwanted items in the Classifieds.

With our extensive, organized listings readers will find your ad really works. Make room for the stuff you really want.

They run and for \$10 Classifieds only and get 3 issues, 18 days for only \$15.00*
*Ad restrictions apply

739-0981 ext. 2
The Times-News Classifieds
182 Bradford St. West • Twin Falls

GENERAL PERSONNEL PLUS
735 Overland Ave.
Concrete esp. call
Pomares Resort
Certified Diesel
mechanic
Gossner/Hiring
(Northwood crew)
Updaters on Day,
Swing and Graveyard
shifts. We are looking for dependable individuals able to lift up to 40 pounds. Must be flexible to work in various locations on various departments. No experience necessary; all training is available. Excellent pay and medical benefits are available. Apply in person at 532 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

GENERAL LABOR
Local company has 15+ openings for general laborers on Day, Swing and Graveyard shifts. We are looking for dependable individuals able to lift up to 40 pounds. Must be flexible to work in various locations on various departments. No experience necessary; all training is available. Excellent pay and medical benefits are available. Apply in person at 532 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER
The Casper Staff-Tribune is seeking a talented, organized individual to work with the sales teams, graphic design teams and press to create special sections, daily advertisements and other projects.

Excellent organizational and communication skills, accuracy and attention to detail are necessary. Must be familiar with Adobe CS2 or QuarkXPress programs and have provided experience or training.

Please submit a cover letter, your resume and portfolio of work samples by December 15, 2005 to: Human Resources Casper Staff-Tribune, Casper WY 82602, EOE.

INSTALLERS
STAR WEST
Experienced Satellite Installers

Regional satellite installation company is expanding and seeking experienced on-road satellite installers in Twin Falls and surrounding areas. Must have own truck and tools. Excellent pay. 401K available. Please email or fax resumes: terry@starwestsatellite.net or (208)481-2108
ttn: Terry
Equal opportunity employer & drug free work environment.

MANAGER
Now hiring for Management positions at both Twin Falls & Jerome locations.

Please submit application either Bookbuster location.

MANAGER
Part-time Leasing Agent/Asst. Manager. Looking for energetic, enthusiastic and hard-working individual to join our team. Some customer service experience required. Send resumes to: 2005 Rivercreek Dr. Twin Falls, ID 83301

MANAGER
Spring Creek Homeowners Association seeking President/General Manager. Detailed information web-site www.springcreek.nv.net

SALES
Affac
Affac, A Fortune 200 Company is opening new offices in all counties of Idaho and hiring new Sales Associates/Account Managers. No previous or account management experience is required, as we provide a thorough training program.

- Cash Bonus & Stock Bonus
- Residual Commissions
- Cash Award

To Learn more about this exciting career opportunity, contact Joe Tyrrell, State Recruiting Coordinator at 208-426-0020

Careers at Glanbia
Glanbia Nutritionals is currently seeking a self-motivated Market Services Manager to act as a liaison between the functions of R&D, Marketing, Production, Supply Chain and QC/QA and a Regional office based in Shanghai. He/she should have the ability to work on their own initiative as a team member in the Twin Falls Office.

The ideal candidate should have:

- Bachelor of Science, preferably in Food Science
- Food Ingredient experience
- Basic commercial knowledge
- Strong communication skills
- Excellent customer service skills

Salary negotiable depending on experience.

Apply Online At:
www.glanbiausa.com

glanbia
means "Pure Food"
AAEEO - Glanbia Foods is a drug free workplace.

MECHANIC
Mechanic wanted full time. Minimum 1 year experience. Supply own tools. Salary \$20,000-\$25,000. Fax resume to: 208-431-1033.

MECHANIC
Wanted full time experienced Machinery mechanic and welder with overall daily knowledge and knowledge of pivots plus. Please call 536-2440 or send resumes to Double V Dairy 1587 E. 3100 S Wendell ID, 83355

MEDICAL
Busy medical office is looking for an intelligent, capable, self-starter who is dependent on patient oriented, can prioritize, organize and complete tasks with pride. Must have excellent phone and communication skills, strong verbal and written skills. Full time Front/Back Office Position. Please resume to: Box 92782 c/o The Times-News Twin Falls, ID 83303

MEDICAL
Full-Time RN
Enjoy flexibility and excitement! Work like Big Momma! Send resume to Box 92781 c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 542 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.

MEDICAL
At SunBridges Care & Rehab for Twin Falls we have expanded our Alzheimer's Care Center and we need more staff to help our residents to be the best of the best in the area positions: RN, LPN, CNA, Cook, Dietary Aid, Housekeeper, Speech Therapist.

We have nursing opportunities for evening and night shifts. For a fun, exciting, adventurous lifestyle, come join our team. We offer competitive wages, benefits packages including tuition reimbursement, EOE/Drug Free Workplace. Take a minute and stop by for a visit and personal tour west, Twin Falls, ID, or call Pat McKay or Jeannette Sparks for more information at 208-734-8645

SunBridges Healthcare
SunBridges "the place to spend the rest of your career."

MECHANIC
Mechanic wanted full time. Minimum 1 year experience. Supply own tools. Salary \$20,000-\$25,000. Fax resume to: 208-431-1033.

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Wanted full time experienced Machinery mechanic and welder with overall daily knowledge and knowledge of pivots plus. Please call 536-2440 or send resumes to Double V Dairy 1587 E. 3100 S Wendell ID, 83355

DRIVERS
Custom form seeking Class A & B drivers. Call 208-866-7192 or 208-732-2571.

MEDICAL
Activity Assistant part time 20 hrs a week. Pick up applications at 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls ID. Contact Patty Huchison.

MEDICAL
HOSPICE - Full-time RN Case Manager. Great Benefits. Come make a difference with the First Choice Team. Contact Darla or Debra 736-9900.

MEDICAL
Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now accepting applications for CNA's to work evenings and weekends. Compensation paid for both shifts. Earn extra \$\$ Please call Mana at 734-4061 for more info. EOE.

MEDICAL
TWIN FALLS Care Center
We are growing looking for RNs & LPNs
CNA's
Full-time
RNA
Part-time
Looking for dependable people with great attitudes. Pick up applications at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr.

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CNA's
Full-time
RNA
Part-time
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Part-time
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We have nursing opportunities for evening and night shifts. For a fun, exciting, adventurous lifestyle, come join our team. We offer competitive wages, benefits packages including tuition reimbursement, EOE/Drug Free Workplace. Take a minute and stop by for a visit and personal tour west, Twin Falls, ID, or call Pat McKay or Jeannette Sparks for more information at 208-734-8645

SunBridges Healthcare
SunBridges "the place to spend the rest of your career."

DRIVERS
Custom form seeking Class A & B drivers. Call 208-866-7192 or 208-732-2571.

MEDICAL
Activity Assistant part time 20 hrs a week. Pick up applications at 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls ID. Contact Patty Huchison.

MEDICAL
HOSPICE - Full-time RN Case Manager. Great Benefits. Come make a difference with the First Choice Team. Contact Darla or Debra 736-9900.

MEDICAL
Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now accepting applications for CNA's to work evenings and weekends. Compensation paid for both shifts. Earn extra \$\$ Please call Mana at 734-4061 for more info. EOE.

MEDICAL
TWIN FALLS Care Center
We are growing looking for RNs & LPNs
CNA's
Full-time
RNA
Part-time
Looking for dependable people with great attitudes. Pick up applications at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr.

MEDICAL
Full-Time RN
Enjoy flexibility and excitement! Work like Big Momma! Send resume to Box 92781 c/o The Times-News P.O. Box 542 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303.

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For a complete listing of open positions, or to complete an application, visit our website

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Also looking for CMA/LPN for offices in Twin Falls at the Physicians Center and in Holey or Wood River Family Medicine.

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PROFESSIONAL

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HR Assistant

Seeking a full-time Assistant to work in the Human Resource Department in our Hayden, Idaho, office. Responsibilities include: organization of documents & files, data entry, correspondence & mailings, answering phones, and other duties as assigned.

This position will support the following functions in HR: Recruiting, Training and New Hire Orientation as well as overall support for the department. This is a challenging, high-energy, position in a fast-paced environment. Requires excellent organizational & communication skills with an ability to interact with all levels, proficiency with MS Word & Excel, attention to detail, a positive upbeat attitude, excellent people skills, prior administrative experience and a High School diploma. Any experience in HR a Learn about POWER Engineers Inc. at www.powereng.com and please apply there by selecting Careers, Employment Listings, Organizational Support (Position #592).

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Medical Staffing Network is hiring in your area
Job Fair Dec 6 & 7
noon-4pm at Twin Falls Job Service

MSN is the leading staffing agency in the Treasure Valley and is now looking to expand into the Magic Valley and surrounding areas. Local contracts are available with more to come! Great pay available with flexibility for some travel. We will find work for you!

- 1 year minimum exp. required
- CPR and valid ID license.
- MSN is a JCAHO certified staffing agency
- RN's up to \$36 hr
- LPN's up to \$23 hr
- CNA's up to \$12 hr
- 100% Daily Pay/Medical/Dental/Life
- 401k/Reterral bonuses

We look forward to seeing you at our job fair!

Call 208-433-8100
Fax 208-433-8101
Email: Boise@MSNHealth.com

MSN Health
www.MSNHealth.com

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We look forward to seeing you at our job fair!

Call 208-433-8100
Fax 208-433-8101
Email: Boise@MSNHealth.com

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CNAS
Days 6-2, Evenings 2-10, Nights 10-6

Relief Housekeeper /Laundry Aide

Must be able to work days, evenings & nights and able to read & understand English

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or call 208-736-3933

Contact Person
Teresa McMahon

Bridgeview

200 Employment

MEDICAL

Immediate opening in Ultrasound, X-ray, Mammography.

Nuclear Medicine PET Technologist

Full benefits package salary \$25-\$35/hr. Please fax resume to 775-785-8731

MEDICAL

Nursing Assistant needed for Curry Retirement Estates. PM & night shift, Shift Differential for nights. 724-0626 for appl.

200 Employment

PROFESSIONAL

Immediate openings available with full service accounting firm. Competitive salary, benefits and incentive bonus. Degree req. CPA preferred. Computer proficiency required. Resume required. Call 733-9277 and ask for Bobbie or Tara.

PROFESSIONAL

LPCC or LMSW, needed to work with children 5-18 years old. Part-time or full-time available. Must be able to pass background check. Pay DOE. Benefits available. Fax resume to 736-0999 or call 736-0995

PROFESSIONAL

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200 Employment

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PROFESSIONAL

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Now Hiring Delivery Drivers. Evenings only - 7 days a week! Apply in person at Jerome & Rupert Pizza Hut

SALES

Are you making less than \$10 an hour, with few, if any benefits? We will train you to work as an Outside Sales Account Executive for 95.7 KEZZ, KOOL, 96.5, 1310 KLIX & 98.3 The Snake. Our company offers you a base salary for a year, plus commission. We also have a great benefits package including health, dental, vision & 401K. You'll need to have good computer skills, be able to communicate with others, a valid driver's license and be insurable at standard rates. Apply in person at 415 Park Ave., Twin Falls, Idaho EOE

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Farmer Insurance is expanding its agency force in the Twin Falls area. Seeking individuals with entrepreneurial spirit to join the team. Farmers Insurance offers exceptional career opportunity that can give financial freedom and independence. We offer extensive training, management support, up to keep your present job while you train. Please fax resume to 733-1803 or Mail 688 - Potline R2 #76 Twin Falls, ID 83301

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SALES

Advertising Account Executive

We seek a motivated self-starter to sell advertising products for Wyoming's number one media, the Casper Star-Tribune. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills and organizational skills and ability to meet deadlines. Must have reliable transportation. Media sales experience and a relevant college degree is preferred but not required. Commission income plus corporate benefits, including medical, dental, vision, 401(k) retirement and employee stock purchase plan. You'll live amid Wyoming's outdoor splendor, about a four-hour drive north of Denver. Reply by December 9, 2005 to Human Resources AR, Casper Star-Tribune, P.O. Box 80 Casper, WY 82602

Learn about our parent company at www.tee.net
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200 Employment

DRIVERS

OTR Drivers Teams & Single, Call 877-846-8089

RESTAURANT

Server apply in person between 2pm-5pm at Golden Corral 1823 Blue Lakes. No Phone Calls Please

SALES

Confined Energy Specialist CENEX - CHS Inc

CENEX, a brand of CHS Inc, has a career opportunity in the Rupert, ID market. The Confined Energy Specialist sales focus is on Cenox Lubricants and Related Fuels to Ag and Commercial businesses. Qualifications include excellent communication and computer skills. We are seeking a very energetic self-motivated person with sales experience. Previous Petroleum or Lube sales experience is helpful. CHS offers a competitive base salary, excellent benefits and company vehicle. To apply send your resume and salary requirements to: CHS Inc, P.O. Box 64089 St. Paul, MN 55164-0889 resumes@chsi.com Equal opportunity employer

200 Employment

MEDICAL

Immediate opening in Ultrasound, X-ray, Mammography.

Nuclear Medicine PET Technologist

Full benefits package salary \$25-\$35/hr. Please fax resume to 775-785-8731

MEDICAL

Nursing Assistant needed for Curry Retirement Estates. PM & night shift, Shift Differential for nights. 724-0626 for appl.

MERCHANDISER

Retail Store Services has an immediate opening for a PT Server. Retail or merchandising exp. Internet access req. Fax resume to 208-478-9722 or email 609@vps999.com

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We offer year
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Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm.

Job Requirements:
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speed 45 wpm.
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Please bring current
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Full-time, year round
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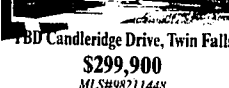
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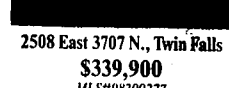
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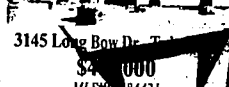
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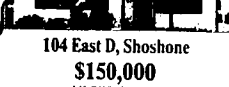
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\$90,000
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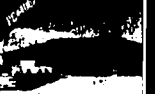
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 SWF, 40, seeks, educated, athletic, intelligent, kind, humorous, amonational-lytically secure gentleman for LTR. Must be communicative, enjoy outdoors, horses, dogs, animals, family life. Kribbery #866711

SEEKING GOOD FRIEND
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HARD TO FIND A GOOD ONE?
 Independent SWF, 28, NS, hard-working, mother of one, NS, fun-loving, likes to dance, ride dirt bikes, try new things. Seeking a real SW/M, 26-34, for dating, maybe more. Greenwood #84845 @ cracker27

CHRISTIAN LADY
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REAL FUN

DWF, 29, NS, new to area, loves road trips, camping, sports activities. Looking to meet a motivated man, 30-45, for friendship, maybe more. Holister #840704 @ dya

BORED IN TWIN FALLS
 SWF, 48, looking for someone who knows how to treat a lady like camping, walking, fishing, gardening, movies, cornucopia, BBQs, hot tubs, country fun. TV, outdoor seeking SW/HM, 37-55 Holister #777956 @ Scorp06Dunny57

INTERESTING & INTERESTED
 SWF, 50, well read, avid gardening, like day hikes, hot springs, picnics, movies, your cooking and conversation. Seeking SM, 47-55, non-smoker. Burley #782256 @ katy543

WAITING 4 THE PERFECT GUY
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A BLAST TO BE AROUND

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DISNEYLAND DAD
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 SWM, 21, 5'11", average build, Sagittarius, NS, seeks WF, 18-50, NS, just a friend. Cury #756920

LET'S HANG OUT
 SWM, 20, looking for SF, 18-24, who enjoys walks, hiking, snowboarding, video games, dancing, eating out, and trying new things! Holister #847637 @ skulls666

MR. WONDERFUL

Easygoing SF, 19, tall, handsome, dark complexioned, enjoys working out, seeking easygoing SF, 18-19, who will treat me right, honest and dignify. Appleton #745020 @ J_town_liger

MAYBE IT'S YOU
 Easygoing, good-hearted, affectionate SM, 29, 5'8", long brown hair, nice smile, 175lbs, likes fitness, camping, fishing, seeking kind, open-minded, loving SF, 20-25, to interests. Burley #767893

LET'S HAVE FUN!
 I love outdoors, love dancing, fishing, golf, bowling, or just a ride in the mountains in the country side. I can be comfortable in my kitchen cooking a gourmet meal. Appleton #785132 @ artfarm58

WORTH A CALL
 SWM, 35, enjoys, easygoing, enjoys country living, looking to meet down-to-earth female who enjoys the outdoors, fishing, hiking, camping, 4-wheeling, to share and explore life with. Gooding #717773

CAN'T WANT 28 WITHOUT U

SWF, 38, very athletic but appreciate quiet times, love kids of all ages, snowmobiling, camping, traveling, heart-to-heart talks. I'm a caregiver to a fault, yet love to be loved. Holister #695351 @ skidooahoyah

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS
 Someone who enjoys the things I enjoy, like country western music, blue jeans, horseshack riding, spending time with kids and grand kids. I'm laid back, out spoken and independent. Holister #802581 @ 730983

NOT THE SAME OLD...

songs and dances. SW/M, 36, father of 5, Scorpio, NS, enjoys dining out, playing drums, bills, family time, Seeking woman, 20-29, NS, for possible LTR. Kimberly #810066

TIRED OF GAMES, ETC?
 SWM, 39, very romantic, like to cuddle and give massages, do not lie, cheat, or play games. I enjoy the outdoors, listening playing music, going out. Seeking SF, 18-45, Holister #864717 @ twinfallsman8301

WORTH A CALL

Health-conscious SM, 40, single, likes music, strong, dirt bikes, family time, horseshack riding, action movies, and drama. Seeking an outgoing, open, commitment-minded female who likes to have a good time. Holister #792121

TRYS ONE
 I love the outdoors, dining and movies. I want a companion for social activities and someone to just do things with. Holister #830358 @ orphanedmtn

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH
 SWM, 28, with various interests. ISO SF, 22-35, to find casual dates, good times and just get to know possible LTR. Appleton #851341

TIME FOR US TO MINGLE
 Athletic SWM, 49, looks 55, 5'11", marriage-minded, NS appreciates nature, dogs, simple pleasures of life, seeks SWF, 30-51, who is athletic, serious, compassionate, fun, and fun. Kibby #858717

HOW ABOUT ME?
 SWM, 62, hard-working, likes the outdoors, horseshack riding, loves snowmobiling, occasional nights out. Seeking happy, sincere lady who loves an attractive woman, 18-29, to have a relationship. Murtaugh #743399

ONE WOMAN MAN

SWM, 58, 5'6", 150lbs, clean-cut, NS, easygoing, hardworking likes movies, dancing, Country music, outdoors, camping. Seeking fun SW/F, 48-58, standard for friendship maybe more. #651957

LOOKING!
 SWM, 53, kind-at-heart, laid-back, enjoys drives in the mountains, thunder storms, fishing, hunting, good, enjoys slow dancing. U Seeking SF, 40-55, NS, to share my interests together. Hooper #840298 @ wilye

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
 SWM, 54, enjoys outdoors, likes bike riding, exercising, doing about anything. Seeking SF, 47-57, to share some activities. Holister #847528 @ onheretwice

BURLEY MAN
 SHM, 21, Leo, NS, loves to fish, camp, and play video games. Seeking an attractive woman, 18-29, to have fun with. Burley #854545

CALIFORNIA TRANSPLANT

SWM, 28, 5'10", 180lbs, in good shape, shaved brown hair, NS, with 2 sons, move buff, in plumbing profession. Seeks WF, 18-35, for LTR. Holister #830358 @ orphanedmtn

WAITING FOR YOU!
 I'm a young athletic male. I would like to watch and play all sports. I would like to meet an older woman that knows what she wants. I'm down-to-earth and outgoing. Holister #830725 @ blu_ball

WANT BLU
 SWM, 49, 5'10", NS, 180lbs, self-employed, easygoing, outdoors type. Seeking active SF, 40-52, Call me we may have something in common. Appleton #532547

TRUE SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN
 SM, 43, likes country music, camping, nature, laughing, joking around, having a good time. I love my son, my country and my life. Seeking SF, 35-35, Holister #778506 @ Draker

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LET'S TALK
 SM, 21, 5'10", 210lbs, outgoing, if works construction likes driving, wall climbing, more ISO active SF, who enjoys the same. Holister #834444

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN
 Easygoing DWM, 60, 5'7", 140lb self-employed, NS, likes camp, fishing, traveling, dining out. Seek active SWF, 40-60, NS, looks up for dating, maybe LTR. Burley #816440

LOOKING 4 MEET NEW PEOPLE
 I'm looking to meet some new friends. Wanting to have fun, going out, doing things together. Any intro contact me. Holister #822495 helix_777

WORTH A CALL
 SWM, 20, outgoing, camp, love bowling, fishing, seeking more. Seeking romantic fun, fun, nervous, loving, beautiful lady to shu talks, quiet walks. Friendship a much more. Cury #804576

WORTH A CALL
 SWM, 29, 5'9", blonde/brn, very cute, attractive, looking for compit ble, easygoing, adventuresome, fun, confident and independent, who love life and knows how to live it to fullest. Gooding #822613

JUST A NICE GUY
 SWM, 25, quiet personality, since likes the outdoors, camping, movies, looking to meet a woman, 1, 30, for friendship and maybe LTR. Burley #814082 @ Look_its_me

WORTH YOUR CALL
 Empowered SM, 39, 5'8", 165lb brown/hazel hair, secure, reliable, like camping, sports, road trips, cudsing, driving, movies, fishing, NASCAR. Seeking outgoing, sports-minded SF, 25-40, who interests. Holister #834722



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My march for a naked penguin

I complain too much. It's even worse if you know me in person...

That's about when the penguins gave me a swift kick in the butt. Now, I know I'm terribly behind the times...



MAMA TALK Suzanne DeSelms

Parental rules of engagement

- 1. Say what your minimum standards are... 2. Set rules for family space... 3. Make your teenager accountable... 4. Don't give in and do it yourself...

"You can spend every day telling your kids to clean their rooms. You just have to decide whether that's really important."

- Dennis Bowyer, father of two teenagers

War of the MESSY ROOM

Is it worth battling teens over their space?

By Steve Crump Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A man with a clean desk at work likes to find the same at home.

"I've always liked to keep things straight, but it's a battle most fighting with my kids' rooms," said Dennis Bowyer...

"That's a surprisingly common conclusion. Some parents make the decision to stop stressing about the condition of their child's room and just close the door..."

"As a parent, it's up to you to decide what's important — and what isn't," said Anita Bartels...

It is, after all, their room, and they can make a case that it's none of Mom's or Dad's business.

"That's a fair argument on the part of a teenager," said Jamie Nekich, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Idaho...

Still, teenagers are not yet free agents, Nekich suggests — they're part of a household.

"How important the condition of a child's room is depends on the values of the family," she said in a telephone interview from her Moscow office...

For younger children, cleaning rooms is part of learning how to be part of a family — and the wider world.

Please see ROOM, Page E5



Photo courtesy of BEALIA THOMPSON and CHRISTIAN DELPER. THE TIMES-NEWS

tight. I made it all the way until the first baby penguin died. Then the tears just exploded. These penguins, you wouldn't even believe what they go through for their children. They live outside in the cold with no shelter...

I walked out of that music feeling just terrible. So what if my back aches? At least I have a bed to eat and a warm house to live in. Sure, my baby is due in winter, but I don't have to worry about the cold claiming him when he's only a few hours old. And labor? That's nothing compared with starving for so long that I lose 50 percent of my body weight just trying to keep the baby warm...

This seems like an optimal time of year to find penguin paraphernalia, but I kept running into the same problem over and over: They don't make realistic penguins. They make them with little hats and scarves riding on sleds. Now see, if the penguins were wearing hats and scarves, it would defeat the whole natural purpose. So, I dragged my husband all over Ivin Falls, searching for some kind of realistic-looking penguin. It seemed hopeless.

At Target, an employee noticed my frustration and offered help. Instead of explaining everything from the beginning, I just told her all the penguins were dressed and asked whether she had any naked ones. She looked at me like I was from Mars and then, to my horror, took out her walking stick and asked every other employee, "Uh... do we have any naked penguins?"

My husband and I were so embarrassed that we just left in a fit of giggles. Pregnancy sure motivates you to do some strange things. I don't even care that much that everyone thought I was crazy. I do feel pretty bad for him, though.

Weeks later, I still don't have any penguin-adorned clothing, but I did find a realistic-looking stuffed penguin in Michigan. I simply cut off his red scarf, and he was ready to go. I hope I am, too.

Times-News copy editor Suzanne DeSelms was very gracious that both her mother and her grandmother came to her baby shower. She can be reached at 735-3232 or sdeselms@timesnews.com. I would love to know where she can find penguins.

Graying set finds inspiration in modern dating trends

The Associated Press

BERLIN, Md. — Forgive Charles Walsh if he's a little slow to join in the rounds of speed dating going on around him. Not only has the 55-year-old divorced father never tried speed dating — he hasn't been out at night except for work events in about a decade.



Don, left, who didn't want to give his last name speaks with a potential date during a round of speed-dating in Berlin, Md., Nov. 16. dating Web site, says registrations among people over 50 have soared 340 percent since 2000. The American Association of Retired Persons now has a dating advice column in its member magazine. On Maryland's Eastern Shore, where the roads are dotted with ads for new retirement com-

munities, the changing senior dating scene is evident. The speed-dating event Walsh attended was put on by Mingling Singles, a group that's tripled its membership since its creation just two months ago. Another group near Ocean City, Beach Singles, has 150 members, all over the age of 45, with a new chapter planned in nearby Salisbury. The Merry Widows and Widowers Social Club also operates in Ocean City. "The squirrels are pouring down here," said Lois West, 71, secretary of Beach Singles. "They move here for the beach, but then they don't know anybody." And they're not interested in old-fashioned socials. "We're much more active. A widow in the olden days would sit inside and wear black. Today she's probably out dancing," West said. The silver-haired singles

scene is likely to keep growing. At the speed-dating event, some attendees said their grown children pushed them to attend. Others said they were sick of hanging around friends who are couples, or were just tired of trying to find love in a bar. "As soon as my 31-year-old daughter heard about it, she was like, 'Oh, Mom, you have to go,'" said JoAnn Collinson, 52, a widow who said she's looking as much for companionship as romance. Rick Hosler, 56, retired to the area after a career as a firefighter but admitted being a little scared to talk to single women. "I would've never thought I'd do this," he said before the lights flickered to signify the speed-dating would begin. "I just thought, it's something different. I'm not a bar-type person. I don't like crowds." Please see DATING, Page E5

FAMILY LIFE

ANNIVERSARIES

THE LINZYS

HEYBURN — Clyde and Mary Lou Linzy of Heyburn will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary Tuesday, Dec. 6, with family.

Clyde Linzy and Mary Lou Hill were married Dec. 6, 1945, in Elko, Nev.

They have lived in Heyburn about 40 years.

They owned and operated the Husky Service Station, which was at 180 N. Overland Ave. in Burley. After selling the business, he became executive director for the Idaho Service Station Association.

They have been active in the Heyburn Lions Club and have enjoyed bowling together for years.



Clyde and Mary Lou Linzy

Their children are Doris (Mike) Bott and Rick (Susan) Linzy, both of Rupert, and Vicki (Bo) Isaak of Burley. They have eight grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

THE FRIESSES

TWIN FALLS — Betty and Robert Fries Sr. of Twin Falls will be honored at an open house for their 60th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 11, at 1259 Twin Villa Loop at Magic Valley Mobile Estates in Twin Falls. No gifts, please.

Robert Fries and Betty Herzog were married Dec. 6, 1945, in Renville, Minn.

They have lived in Twin Falls since 1961.

He worked at D & B Supply as owner/manager until his retirement. She is a homemaker.

They have been active in the St. Edwards parish, Knights of Columbus, Council of Catholic Women and many card clubs.



Robert and Betty Fries

The event is hosted by their children, Candy McElfresh, Maureen (Mae) Crowell and Clark (Connie) Fries, all of Twin Falls; Robert (Colleen) Fries Jr. of Garland, Texas; and Sue Fries of Portland. The couple has 10 grandchildren and one great-grandson.

THE DANCES

WENDELL — Galen and Myrna Dance of Wendell will be honored at an open house for their 50th wedding anniversary. Friends and relatives are invited to attend from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 10, at their residence at 532 S. Milner in Wendell.

No gifts, please; just a written memory.

Galen Dance and Myrna Ellis were married Dec. 9, 1955, in the Idaho Falls Temple.

They have lived in Wendell for the past 35 years, where they were engaged in farming. They are currently in the transportation business.

The event is hosted by their children, Mickie (Katy) Peterson of Shelley, Bart (Cindy) Dance of Hayden, Wye, Billy (Sara) Dance of Weston and Sandi (Terry) Dawson of Wendell. They have 19 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.



Myrna and Galen Dance

THE TURNERS

DECLO — Lovell and Beth Turner of Declo celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary Nov. 14. Lovell Turner and Beth Wood were married Nov. 8, 1940, in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple.

They have lived in Declo since 1947, when they purchased the Drowsed Ranch. The couple worked for 37 years in local schools including Burley Junior High School, where he was principal and she was his secretary for 15 years.

They have five children, Gary (Glenn) Turner, J. Garth Turner (deceased), Dale (Nileen) Turner, Ron (Linda) Turner and Joyce (John) Simpson. They have 18 grandchildren and 24 great-grandchildren.



Beth and Lovell Turner

Twin Falls Senior Center

530 Shoshone St. W.
Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. Cost is \$5 for people under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.
Pool room open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading. Bargain Center open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Menu:
Monday: Chicken nuggets, french fries, carrots, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, Jell-O fruit cream puffs
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff with noodles, winter mix, fruit, fruit cocktail, cake
Thursday: Hot turkey sandwich, potatoes and gravy, peas and green onions, green salad, peach cobbler
Friday: Pork roast, potatoes and gravy, California mix vegetables, applesauce, chocolate cake

Activities:
Today: Dance, 2 to 5 p.m.
Monday: Quilting
Monday Bridge
Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday
Wednesday: Blood pressure
Thursday: Cards
Friday: Cards
Saturday: Cards
Sunday: Cards

West End Senior Citizens Inc.
1010 Main St., Buhl

Menu:
Today: Fried chicken dinner, 1 p.m.
Monday: Soup and sandwich
Tuesday: Macaroni and cheese casserole, salad, vegetables, roll, dessert
Wednesday: Cook's choice
Thursday: Salmon, potato wedges, coleslaw, fresh fruit, cornbread, dessert

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.; \$4 for seniors, \$5 for people under age 60 and \$3 for those age 12 and younger
Monday: Evening cards, 6 to 9 p.m.
Exercise, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Bingo, 7 to 9 p.m.
Board meeting, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Quilting, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Blood pressure check, 11:45 a.m.
Foot clinic

Filer Senior Haven
222 Main St.
Dinners served at noon Tuesdays and Thursdays. Suggested donation: \$3 for seniors. Home-delivered meals available each mealtime.

Menu:
Tuesday: Pork chops, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, steamed cabbage, Waldorf salad, rolls, fruit cobbler
Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, green beans, carrot and raisin salad, french bread, fruit sauce, cookies
Thursday: Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered carrots, celery filled with peanut butter, sliced peaches

Activities:
Monday: Pace class, 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Games, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Cards, 1 p.m.
Face class, 1:30 p.m.
Foot clinic, 2 p.m.
Thursday: Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E.
All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.50.

Menu:
Monday: Chicken nuggets, french fries, carrots, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, peas and carrots, Jell-O fruit cream puffs
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff with noodles, winter mix, fruit, fruit cocktail, cake
Thursday: Hot turkey sandwich, potatoes and gravy, peas and green onions, green salad, peach cobbler
Friday: Pork roast, potatoes and gravy, California mix vegetables, applesauce, chocolate cake

Activities:
Today: Dance, 2 to 5 p.m.
Early bird, 6:45 p.m.
Bingo, 7 p.m.
Snake River audiologists
Wednesday: Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Emergency prep
Thursday: Foot clinic and blood pressure
Friday: Gem State Fiddlers, 11:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Election of board candidates

Ageless Senior Citizens Inc.
310 Main St. N., Kimberly
Milk, coffee, juice and tea served.

Menu:
Monday: Cook's choice
Wednesday: Beef stew, cornbread, salad, apricots, strawberries
Friday: Turkey pot pie, salad, fruit, cake

Activities:
Today: Sunday dinner, noon to 2 p.m.
Pork chops, potatoes and gravy, dressing, vegetables, salad, hot rolls, dessert. Cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for children younger than 12.
Monday: AA meeting, 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Thursday: NA meeting, 7 p.m.
Friday: Exercise, 10:30 a.m.
Bingo, 11:50 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Gooding County Senior Citizens
308 Senior Ave.
All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menu:
Monday: Ham slices, macaroni and cheese, broccoli, carrot salad, bread, cookies
Tuesday: Swiss steak, parsley potatoes, green beans, Jell-O, muffins, plum cobbler
Wednesday: Turkey chicken, rice, stir fry vegetables, cottage cheese and pineapple, bread or muffins, pudding
Thursday: Meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, vegetables, coleslaw, rolls, strawberry shortcake
Friday: Leftovers

Activities:
Today: Jackpot bus
Monday: Pinochle, 12:30 p.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Wild one, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Hand and foot, 6 p.m.
Bridge, 6:30 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilt social, 9 a.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.
TOPS, 7 p.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Leftover smorgasbord, noon

Bridge, 1 p.m.
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.
Bingo, 6 p.m.
Saturday: Van trip to museum and Sticker ranch; lunch in Twin Falls
Dinner, dance with music by Haak

Hagerman Senior Center

140 E. Lake
Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; lunch is served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors; \$4 for other adults; and \$2 for children under 12.

Menu:
Monday: Roast pork, mashed potatoes, vegetables, salad, fruit, rolls, dessert
Wednesday: Baked chicken, rice, vegetables, salad, fruit, bread, birthday cake
Friday: Beef stew, salad, fruit, baking powder biscuits, dessert

Silver and Gold Senior Center
Eden
Suggested donation for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Tuesdays are cookie and bread bake days, and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days.

Menu:
Tuesday: Sloppy joes, tater tots, carrots, coleslaw, fruit, cookies
Thursday: Beef stew, green beans, salad, fruit, biscuits

Activities:
Wednesday: Bake day, bingo, 7 p.m.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7:30 to 11 a.m.

Blaine County Senior Center
721 Third Ave. S., Halley

Menu:
Tuesday: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables with corn, biscuits, orange slices, ice cream sandwiches
Wednesday: Salmon steaks or hamburger steaks, red potatoes, rolls, Italian vegetables, bread pudding with sauce
Friday: Roast beef with gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, hot rolls, Waldorf salad, chocolate cake

Activities:
Monday: Shopping trip, 8:30 a.m.
Tuesday: Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.
Exercise, 1:15 p.m.
Caregivers, 10:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Foot clinic, 10 a.m.
Poetry group, 12:30 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise, 1:30 p.m.
Festival of Trees, 7 p.m.
Friday: Fire department talk and blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.
Dance by Foot Light dancers, 12:30 p.m.

Three Island Senior Center
492 E. Cleveland Ave., Glenns Ferry

Meals served at noon Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; beverages with meals. Bides are available by phoning the center at 366-2051. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors, \$5 for people under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.

Menu:
Monday: Macaroni and cheese with ham, green beans, carrots, pudding, bread
Tuesday: Chicken rice casserole, green beans, corn, roll
Thursday: Meatloaf and mixed vegetables, California mixed vegetables, carrot cake with raisins, bread

Activities:
Monday: Medicare help, 1 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday: Red Cross blood

draw, noon to 6 p.m.
Thursday: Business meeting, 12:30 p.m.
Elections
Friday: TOPS, 9 a.m.
Saturday: Breakfast with Santa

Camas County Senior Center

127 E. Willow, Fairfield
Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on meal days. Cost of the meal is \$3.50; children under 10 pay \$2. The suggested donation for those 60 years and older is \$2.50.

Menu:
Tuesday: Beef stew, salad, fruit, veggies, bread, dessert
Wednesday: Casserole, salad, fruit, vegetables, bread, dessert
Friday: Chicken with gravy, potatoes, fruit, vegetables, salad, bread, dessert

Activities:
Monday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.
Tuesday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.
Low impact exercise class, 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.
Meal meeting, 7 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.
Art class, 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Friday: Exercise class, 7 to 8 a.m.
Low impact exercise class, 10:45 a.m.
Saturday: Fundraising breakfast from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Waffles, fruit toppings, sausage links, fresh fruit, juice, coffee

Minidoka County Senior Citizens Center
702 11th St., Rupert
Meals are served at noon and home delivered upon request. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Menu:
Monday: Chili, cornbread, assorted salads, apple crisp
Tuesday: Grilled tuna salads, macaroni salad, chips, tossed salad, peaches
Wednesday: Chicken, noodles, vegetables, biscuits, pudding
Thursday: Potato bar with trimmings, broccoli, Texas toast, cottage cheese, cookies
Friday: Smorgasbord

Activities:
Monday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.
Wednesday: Exercise, 10 a.m.
Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.
Friday: Bingo, 7 p.m.

Golden Heritage Senior Center
2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu:
Monday: Spanish rice, corn, fruit cup, chocolate pudding
Tuesday: Chicken noodle soup, BLT's, salad, lemon bars
Wednesday: Roast beef, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, pumpkin custard
Thursday: Pork noodles, egg rolls, oriental vegetables, orange Jell-O cookies
Friday: Oven fried chicken, potatoes and gravy, sugar snap peas, roll, Jell-O, cake

Activities:
Monday: Pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Tuesday: All play pool
Woodcarving class, 8:30 a.m.
Wednesday: All play pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Pool
Pinochle, 5 p.m.
Woodcarving, 5 p.m.
Friday: All play pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Buying just the right diamond

By Kathy Van Mulekom
Daily Press

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. — She worries he won't buy one that sparkles enough, that she shows it off to her girlfriends. He's afraid the price for those sparkles will shake him with too much debt.

A diamond may be a girl's best friend — but it causes a lot of anxiety.

"Diamonds are so cloaked in mystery," said diamond artisan Laverne Wolf. "In fact, it should be a fun thing to do."

Wolf has finished some of the world's most important and historical gems. His stones are on display in the Smithsonian Institute. He's best known for helping craft the 116-carat Hope Diamond of Africa, a fancy yellow jewel unearthed in the early 1990s.

Color and clarity are important features to consider when shopping for a diamond, but not at the expense of breaking your budget, he acknowledges.

"There's a preconceived notion that a diamond has to be a certain color and clarity to be beautiful," he said. "Take a look at your budget and get what's reasonable for you. Don't go on your budget and get railroaded. You can get a beautiful diamond for your budget."

The diamond cutter finds many of his jewels in South Africa, which supplies 25 per-

Shopping guide

- Guy's, if you're shopping for a diamond, use these tips:
- Learn the 4 Cs. Cut, color, clarity and carat determine the quality and price of a diamond. A certification also helps.
- Know her style. Take her browsing jewelry shops, noting what catches her eye. Ask her friends, check her jewelry box for what she likes.
- Establish a budget. Know what you want to spend before you shop so you're not caught up in the moment and regret it later.
- Shop around. Avoid buying the first stone you see; shop several reputable stores, making notes as you go.
- Online: Visit Jewelers of America at www.jewelers.org.

cent of the world's diamonds in a safe, licensed and controlled environment, he said.

Most people associate diamonds with the traditional look of engagement rings, but the stones also come in a wide range of colors. Wolf likes the spectrum of hues in diamonds to what you see when you ride down a wooded road, looking at the fall foliage. There are oranges, browns, golds and yellows.

"The richer the color, the way it comes across, the pricier it is," he says.

Coming Monday ...

Staying upright
Learn to avoid falling — Monday in Image.

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Relax about son's liking for toy guns

Questions: A white back, blue boys from next door, ages 6 and 8) began inventing my 5-year-old son to play good guys/bad guys and "war" with them. Initially they were simple with toy guns and lots of "You're dead," and so on. I let the games continue but tried to teach my son appropriate ways to play such as not pointing a toy gun at people who aren't playing the game. The neighbor boys do not have any such rules, and my son thinks this is unfair. He is now asking for a more realistic toy gun, and I'm concerned that he's becoming obsessed with violence and killing. Should I not allow him to play these games, any longer and/or try to discourage his playing with these boys?

Answer: Allow boys to play "army" or "good guys/bad guys" type games. It's not leading to later antisocial, much less homicidal, behavior. I agree that it is rude to point a toy gun at someone who is not playing with you, and I agree that you should enforce this rule even if the other boys' parents do not. As for your son becoming "obs-



PARENTING
John Rosemond

essed," children often tend to become fixated on things they sense make their parents anxious. I suspect that you are becoming a bit obsessed about your son's toy gun "obsession," and that one obsession is now fueling the other. If you can force yourself to adopt a more relaxed, "let boys be boys" attitude toward this gun-play, it will run its course in due time.

Now, should the boys next door become cruel to animals or smaller children or if they still seem obsessed with guns and killing, three years from now, I'd recommend putting some brakes on the relationship, but for the time being I think this is fairly harmless. I hope that when I was 6 or 7, "army" was all I ever played for a time, during which my friends and I "killed"

one another on a daily basis, sometimes more than once a day. I don't recall that I had not stopped performing miracles.

Q: When our son turned 2 my wife and I converted his crib to a toddler bed. Since then, he has refused to stay in his bed, even his room, so we installed a child-proof gate. At bedtime, we go through our usual routine after which I put him in his bed and read to him for a while. When I leave he stands at the gate and cries for a few minutes and then all is quiet. When I check on him later, I always find him asleep curled up in the "big blue chair" that we have rocked him in since birth. I pick him up and him to bed. Why does he prefer to sleep in his chair rather than his bed? Am I doing the right thing putting him in his bed or should I let him stay in the chair to help him figure this out for himself?

A: One of my alter-egos, Herr Doktor Zigmund Freud, has generously offered to answer your question. In his "analysis" says the good doctor, "As poor young boy prefers sleep in

ze blue chair because blue is ze color of zey sky. Ven he curls up in zeh blue chair, he imagines zat he is a birdy. Blynnk away zat he is parents' flynnk toward a state of freedom and perfect bliss. And zat is ze final word of zey subject."

Thank you, Herr Doktor Freud. Now, here's my take, for what it's worth: You're describing what is known as "transitional behavior," or behavior that makes a transition — in this case, from crib to bed — easier for a child to deal with. This too will pass. With the exception of beginning to worry about things that decrease not a second thought, you're doing fine. Keep putting your son in his bed, keep closing the gate, keep walking away from the crib, and keep moving him from the blue chair to his bed after he is asleep.

Take your choice: Ze Doktor or me?

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions may be sent to him at AffirmationParenting@1020 E. 86th St. Suite 208 Indianapolis, IN 46240 or at his Web site, www.rosemond.com.

Planet Mercury is full of mysteries

When astronomers first weighed Mercury by observing its gravitational effects on the orbit of neighboring Venus, they found something strange. Its overall density was higher than that of its surface rock, implying that — like the other rocky planets — it had an iron-riched core. But its density was so high that its core would have to be larger than the Earth's, despite the fact that Mercury was 60 percent smaller.

Hypotheses to explain this mystery fall into one of two camps: Either Mercury formed with an unusually large core and thin crust, or something altered it later on.

In the former category is the suggestion that Mercury formed early on in the solar system's history, when there was still a lot of leftover planetary material around. In this environment, lighter materials (like vaporized rock) would have had a harder time collecting on proto-Mercury than heavy materials (like metals).

If Mercury began as a larger world with a proportional core, the hotter proto-star may have vaporized off most of its outer layers. Or the early sun may have possessed an extremely strong solar wind of high-speed particles, thus "sandblasted" away much of Mercury's rocky mantle.

Or, quite possibly, another planet may have collided with Mercury, stripping off Mercury's outer layers, adding its own core to Mercury's, or both.

A similar event is the leading theory for how Earth got its molten core. The Hot Spot for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.



SKY WATCH
Chris Anderson

Sky calendar through Saturday

- Planets:
 - Mercury: Very low sunrise: 1:00 a.m. before low
 - Janet: SE, low
 - Sat: WSW, high
 - Orion: After our sunset: Venus SW very low. At its brightest for 2005 on Thurs. 6:00
 - Mars: ESE, mid sky
 - Moons: First quarter: 2:36 a.m. Thursday. Close to Venus this evening.

material. Mercury may have simply been too small to keep its lost mantle from drifting away.

If you'd like to see Mercury for yourself, this is a great week to do it. The innermost planet is making its best morning appearance of 2005 this week. Look for a very low in the east-southeast around 7 a.m., less than a half-hand-span at its length to the lower left of much brighter Jupiter.

Next week, December's best meteor shower.

Chris Anderson is the production specialist and observatory manager of the *FaultKnee Observatory of the Hot Spot for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.*

Widow realizes the value of the gift of love

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I were married for 35 wonderful years, and Christmas was our favorite time of year. I sit here this morning, I remember all the time we wasted worrying about getting the "perfect" gift for someone, who in reality the most perfect gift you can give is yourself and your love.

We had seven beautiful kids, 23 beautiful grandchildren and five adorable great-grandchildren. So it took a lot of time to shop for everyone. I realize that the most perfect gift would be to have my darling husband here with me. He passed away Oct. 10, 2003.

I now understand that the perfect gifts were the love and closeness we shared together, and you can't buy that in any department store.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR MISSING HIM: Thank you for the poignant reminder that too often we take for granted those intangibles that are the most precious. You and your darling husband shared a life together filled with an abundance of love. I hope that knowledge will bring you comfort during this time and for the rest of your holiday seasons to come.

Many people in their 20s and 30s wrongly believe their creations are entertaining and interesting. Lawyers are not seeking political action committee, whiners or tattletales. They do not want to find themselves facing a lawsuit or on the pages of a newspaper because a client, patient or parent of a student discovered a comment written by an employee.

The job market is tight, and job seekers must remember their computer skills can neither help them land a position or destroy a job prospect.

CHICAGO EMPLOYER: You have opened up a line of thought I'll bet a lot of job applicants — and future job applicants — have never considered. Googling is a game, isn't it? And it could lead to an applicant's blog. Most bloggers write to be read, and invite people to comment. Thank you for the reminder that those who blog should remember that they are open to public scrutiny, and that if they apply for a job,

everything about them will be considered — including their blog. Prospective employers are certainly within their rights to make decisions based upon what they read.

DEAR ABBY: Last week, my family suffered the loss of my grandfather. He was Catholic, the only Catholic in our immediate family, and his funeral was held in a Catholic church as he wished.

When it came time to receive communion, a family friend encouraged my grandmother and the rest of the non-Catholic family members to receive communion. Should we have received communion out of respect for our grandfather, or was it right to stand by our own beliefs?

So, Abby, please suggest to your readers that when they're agonizing about finding the perfect gift, they should look right, close to home. They may find they already have it.

—MISSING HIM IN OHIO

DEAR ABBY: Please warn your readers that their Web pages and blogs could stand in the way of securing a job just as employers have learned to read e-mail and blogs, they have learned to screen candidates through their sites.

—GRIEVING IN VIRGINIA

DEAR GRIEVING: You showed respect for your grandfather by attending his funeral. Communion is a sacred rite in the Catholic Church. You were correct to refrain from doing so.

Optical illusions containing minoxidil (like Rogaine) are used to safely promote hair growth in humans, but pose serious health risks to cats. This occurs when the product has been applied intentionally to areas of hair loss on the cat or where they were accidentally exposed to the solution via licking their human family members' scalp, accidentally swallowing through the solution if walking.

Since 2001, six cases involving minoxidil exposure were reported by the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center. Of these cases, four of the cats died, while two fully recovered after prompt and aggressive veterinary treatment.

Dr. Sharon Gwaltney-Brant, APCC medical director and veterinary toxicologist says: "Pet owners need to be aware that even minimal amounts of minoxidil can result in serious or even fatal situations."

According to APCC data, clinical signs include lethargy, a severe drop in blood pressure, accumulation of fluid in the lungs and damage to the heart muscle, which can result in death from cardiac failure. "The lethargy and blood pressure drop typically develop within 12 hours," says Gwaltney-Brant, "and the cardiac effects generally occur three to four

'Hair cure of the human' may harm feline friends

Y've probably heard of people using "hair of the dog" in an attempt to fight hangovers. You may know that "hair cure of the human" can actually harm or kill an unsuspecting cat?



THE BOND
Marty Becker

days following exposure if treatment is not sought quickly.

While the potential for clinical problems exists for dogs and other animals, cats may be especially sensitive because they lack a specific enzyme needed to metabolize this drug in their bodies.

APCC experts offer the following tips to avoid accidental poisoning:

- Never apply minoxidil products to your pets.
- Human application of the product should occur in a room that is not accessible to pets, do not let pets lick treated areas.
- Clean up any spills thoroughly and promptly.
- If you suspect that your cat has come into contact with a minoxidil-containing product, or any other potential poison, contact your veterinarian or the APCC's 24-hour emergency hotline at 800-426-4435, or visit their online chat at www.aspcanet.com/apcc.

Write to *former Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker* at Knight_B@idnet.net, *News Service*, 700 12th St. N.E., Ste. 1000, Washington, D.C. 20005.

Treasured plans may face opposition, Aquarius

IF DEC. 4 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: In the year to come you may be forced by circumstances outside your control to break up from those you love. In some way, held you back. Anything worth keeping will not be swept away, but attitudes may alter. Be on the lookout for helpful opportunities or the answers to your prayers in April. Launch new endeavors then and the results will be fruitful. However, in May you may especially hand, and mind the rules in order to keep your head above water. Conditions will shift in August and September when you may be more popular than ever and make new friends and develop new long-term objectives.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take your time. With Mars and Jupiter at odds you shouldn't rush your luck. This is one of those days that brings to mind the admonition about leaping from the frying pan and into

HOROSCOPE

Jeraline Saunders

the side of caution. Taking huge risks may create disputes, so it isn't wise to shoot your cosmic arrows without a fair target in mind. Be calm, cool and collected for the rest of the year.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Avoid discussing hot-potato topics such as politics and religion. An excess of exuberance or those who are overly opinionated can cause friction within the four walls of your home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Open up your mind to new ideas and rub. You may be in the mood for a quiet day spent within familiar surroundings while your favorite companion looks to explore the uncharted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): The seer's ways both work. People who show up with offers and a good idea, but you might not have all the details. Read the fine print and don't allow your self to be pushed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Going all out may put you on the outs with others. With Mars and Jupiter facing one another from opposite sectors of the zodiac it may be time to make a mistake of judgment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Go ahead and spoil yourself. The moon and lovable Venus sweet up for a few hours today in your sign. Because you are anxious to please others, they will end up at your beck and call.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your treasured plans and intentions may run into opposition. Best results are obtained by taking it one thing at a time. Escape midway for a few blissful hours with a loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stay in touch with inner rhythms. Don't jump to conclusions as better days are just around the corner. Lunch hours with friends and enjoy a stable high spot during the daytime hours.

Complex run into everything from how to politely handle the separate bedroom request (could you pass on those candied yams or Brussels sprouts) to take a small serving and give it a try or whether to bring a hostess gift (do).

Treat your family like company, and treat your company like family. Always use "I" language, no matter who invites you somewhere; always look nice and treat people with respect; be very careful when you are and what you say; respect yourself and others, you are a lot easier to be around."

Sometimes, the acting isn't so And, well, it's not too hard to fall in love. I'd like to see what a delight I had to do. They things I'm doing, and I mean being rude. Be comfortable with your surroundings, pick up on social cues, and you'll fit right in."

Good manners go a long way during the holidays

By Kelli L. Gustafson
New York Times News Service

The holidays are wrought with stress. So is meeting for being on your own. Combining the two, and you've got major freak-out potential.

This time of year, worries over family matters are nearly universal. A recent survey of 2,620 surveyed singles planned on celebrating Thanksgiving with their extended family, and 10 percent were thinking about bringing someone home with them, according to i's Just Lunch, a dating service.

And other holidays are approaching quickly.

"There's no better time than the holidays to make that introduction," says Jeff Cohen, author of the *Dating Guide* at About.com. You can't have so many family members together, you don't have to go out of your way to plan a special function."

Whether it's your first meeting or you're practically part of someone's family, there's a fine line between being uncomfortable around others and being too careful.

“If in being so polite, you are insincere, people will notice.”

—Peter Post, author

Complex run into everything from how to politely handle the separate bedroom request (could you pass on those candied yams or Brussels sprouts) to take a small serving and give it a try or whether to bring a hostess gift (do).

Treat your family like company, and treat your company like family. Always use "I" language, no matter who invites you somewhere; always look nice and treat people with respect; be very careful when you are and what you say; respect yourself and others, you are a lot easier to be around."

Sometimes, the acting isn't so And, well, it's not too hard to fall in love. I'd like to see what a delight I had to do. They things I'm doing, and I mean being rude. Be comfortable with your surroundings, pick up on social cues, and you'll fit right in."

necessarily love the meals, but ate them and made sure to thank his parents for the delicious dinner in a hand-written) thank-you note following the visit.

This didn't take a whole lot of effort and, well, it meant a lot to me. Sure, I did it for myself, to make the visit and future visits more tolerable, but I also did it for him. He didn't need to know his "son with the rude girlfriend." I'd check with him before the visit and get a rundown of what the evening or weekend would be like. I'd advanced planning made the family matters nearly natural.

"You need to be as formal or informal as your host. They set the tone for the occasion. If they tell you to take your shoes off and kick back, then go right ahead. If it's more shake hands and polite conversation, then go with that." says the dating and relationship expert with CoffeeTalk.com. "It's best to relax and be yourself right from the get-go with your partner's family. If you're nervous, it can mean being rude. Be comfortable with your surroundings, pick up on social cues, and you'll fit right in."

"Real Estate Corner"
DON'T BUY TOO SMALL
by Laura Fitzgerald
Re/MAX American Dream Realty

Many people "eye-ball" a house for size and floor plan. Later they find there's no place for the piano, or storage is woefully inadequate. Room dimensions can be deceiving, especially if viewed unfinished. Measure, making note of the placement of windows, doors, built-in features and the clear wall space between them.

Take special care to assess your storage needs. It's surprising how much accumulates in a few years. Be realistic and put your findings (old conditions, new needs) in writing. This especially if viewed unfinished. Measure, making note of the placement of windows, doors, built-in features and the clear wall space between them.

An hour or two with pencil and tape-measure can help you avoid living with a big mistake. ☺

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222 Shoshone East, Twin Falls (208) 733-5008
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FAMILY LIFE

Spending Christmas away from home

NEW YORK (AP) — Every year at Christmas, Santa pays a visit to the Harasseeck Inn in Brezport, Maine.

And if his jingling sleigh bells should wake up any of the children staying at the hotel, that's OK. It's a reassurance that Santa hasn't forgotten them, even though they're spending Christmas away from home.

To the grown-ups, inn owner Chip Gray makes a small confession.

"The sleigh bells we shake at about 1 a.m. outside are the same ones we did foolied us with when we were little," he says.

These days, rituals like this are becoming as common at hotels as they once were at home.

"Once upon a time, big family holidays like Christmas and Thanksgiving were stay-at-home traditions," Gray says. "At the time, with the faster pace of today's world, we have seen the trend of families coming here to stay and eat, so the stress of cleaning and polishing and preparing for a huge formal dinner and visit doesn't wear out Mom or Grandma. Now they come and enjoy the holiday as well as the rest of the family."

About one in 20 Americans spends Christmas away from home, according to a Maritz Research Poll that has come up with the same results three years in a row. This year's poll of 2,007 randomly selected adults was conducted by telephone in October, and while 16 percent said they travel over the holidays to get away from relatives, nearly 50 percent said they travel in order to get together with extended family.

Three generations of Karen Parrott's family were among those spending last Christmas at the Billmore Inn in Asheville, N.C., where the staff helped hide presents for the children.

"It was so relaxing, I thought I was in my bathrobe and slippers," recalled Parrott, who lives in Spartanburg, S.C. "There was a first-grader in the group, and it was very real to her, but I also have a 16-year-old who played right along. We all had that childish wonder that morning."

The only stressful part, she recalled, was getting the gifts there in secret. "My sister shipped hers to us, and my husband had them crammed into his car, which we hid until Christmas Eve."

But once they all arrived, "it was quite a treat. Someone else was making up my bed and cooking wonderful meals, and we got to focus on being together."

That's a sentiment Mark Neubert, general manager of Hotel Andulucia, in Santa Barbara, Calif., understands. His guests, by "letting the experts spoil them, forgo the stress of spend-



Mick Allen, back, points out a vintage baby doll to his 3-year-old daughter, Sarah Grace, as her mother Casey, left, and 6-year-old sister Mikayla look on as they tour the children's room at the Billmore House on Nov. 22 in Asheville, N.C. About one in 20 Americans spends Christmas away from home, according to a Maritz Research Poll that has come up with the same results three years in a row.



Rebecca Barkknecht spent last Christmas at the Asilomar with 12 others. They decorated a small tree in a living room reserved for their family, and later roasted marshmallows over a bonfire. "It was a nice, relaxed place to be together," she said.



Miles Wegner, 2, points at the fireplace showing his father, Tom, where he believes Santa Claus will come from as his mother, Kellie, and sister, Ava, 4, look on during a visit to the Inn at Billmore on Nov. 22 at the Billmore Estate in Asheville, N.C.

ing the holiday season — the drama, the extra cooking — with family."

For some families, Christmas away has become as normal as going to Grandma's house. Every other Christmas, for a decade, two dozen members of the Hollabeck clan have gathered at the Asilomar Conference Grounds hotel in Pacific Grove, Calif., coming from as far away as New York and Florida.

"The simplicity of the locale, in a facility without televisions, radios or phones in the rooms, allows for the family to focus on the gathering, and not be dis-

tracted in ways that we face daily the rest of the year," said Stephen Hollabeck. "We can have fun together, v-aking, talking, eating, working on puzzles and playing on the grounds, or at the beach."

For guests at the inn, which is on the grounds of the estate, have exclusive access to the Billmore House on Christmas Eve from 3:30 p.m. on.

"The fireplaces are lit, and we have a candlelight tour of the estate," said Marjorie Snook, David Workman of Winter Haven, Fla., enjoys traveling over Christmas because his son is out of school. "That's our mid-year vacation," he said.

They've spent Christmas at the Billmore, in Alaska and in Utah, but they always exchange gifts with other family members beforehand. Even though they're going away, Workman's wife and son insist on putting up a tree and lights.

"I tried to get out of that last year," Workman said, "and they were going to throw me off the moon."

Gift certificates plunge into personal territory

By Dan Thanh Dang
The Baltimore Sun

As the holiday shopping season and mad scramble to find the perfect present begins, Neil Roman already knows what he is buying for his wife of 15 years: a gift certificate.

Lest you peg his selection as unimaginative, this particular gift certificate is for a \$300 appointment with a cosmetic surgeon to blast away her varicose veins.

How thoughtful! Or, is it thoughtless? With gift cards and certificates booming for all manner of retailers — experts say they top most holiday wish lists — perhaps it was inevitable that they would eventually venture into treacherous territory. These days, you can get gift certificates for such delicate areas of personal development as plastic surgery, marriage counseling and anger management classes.

But etiquette experts and even purveyors of these new better-yourself certificates warn that such gifts could be interpreted by the beneficiary as less giving and more intervention.

"Before you buy, I say use your best judgment. Stop and think first. Could this backfire?"

— Peggy Post, etiquette expert

Personalizing a gift is safe. Post says, but giving a gift that's too personal is not.

Gregory Ferdinand, an Ellicott City, Md., psychiatrist, suggested that surprising someone with such a gift would be ill-advised.

"There is a very fundamental flaw in society in the last 30 to 40 or 50 years, in that people have no boundaries anymore," Ferdinand says. "Good intentions are nice, but not good enough. There must be other thinking involved when giving such a gift. Both parties must have permission and give permission. This is not a good surprise gift."

Such sound advice and quick reflexes could prove useful, especially if you're going to give someone a certificate to Anderson & Anderson, a global anger management training firm in Brentwood, Calif. At \$150 a pop, the certificate gives that special someone in your life an introductory class, workbook and tips for managing that fuse.

In his defense, Roman says his gift of varicose vein surgery is something his wife has always wanted.

"She keeps talking and talking about how much she hates her varicose veins," Roman says.

It concludes that he would not have attempted such a delicate gift as a newwed. Even after 15 years together, Roman spent weeks reading up on various treatments available for varicose veins and discussing the procedure with Matt Leavitt, founder of Advanced Dermatology and Cosmetic Surgery in Florida, who sold him the gift certificate.

"I did a lot of research and decided that 'hey honey, here's a check for 300 bucks. Go at it, baby,' wasn't the way to go," says the 38-year-old Orlando, Fla., advertising salesman. "Instead, I'm going to put the gift certificate and a photo advertisement of someone else's legs in a nice, big box."

It should make a great present for Christmas, Roman says. "But I guess we'll see how well it goes over after she opens it."

and Yahoo! are encouraging matchmakers to rescue their friends and family from the afflictions of singledom, Yahoo! Personal is launching its new gift program next month (\$18.95 per month-long subscription, \$44.95 for three months or a generous \$99.95 per year for those slower at couponing), and eHarmony's has been going strong for more than a year now.

For first, the etiquette expert, these gifts fall into the increasingly intrusive realm, along with everything else that is "TM" and "©" — too much information and over-the-line.

"No one should be surprised that such gifts are given," says Post. "We've gotten so inflated as a society that people don't think twice about asking questions that are too nosy or baring things that are too personal. These gift certificates are an outgrowth of that."

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How to fight the 'energy vampires' in your life

By Patrick S. Pemberton
Knight Ridder News Service

They — look out! That drama queen from accounting just walked in, and she's looking for someone to dump on.

When you're over-amped by someone else's stress, it drains you," said Judith Orloff, a UCLA psychiatrist and author of "Positive Energy: 10 Extraordinary Prescriptions for Transforming Stress, Fear into Vibrance, Strength and Love" (Crown Publishing, \$14).

While the holidays seem to bring out the best in some folks, energy vampires (as Orloff calls them) can suck the life out of an adult any day of the year. An energy vampire can be a friend, relative or spouse whose bad vibes, passive-aggressive tactics, or outright meanness simply wipes you out.

"It's important to develop strategies to deal with them," Orloff says.

"Otherwise, you can be chronically fatigued, depressed or anxious, and your energy levels go way down."

Orloff's warning: avoid or screening calls at a meal or sporting event that gives you a general sense of chaos.

The slob sister
— Always ready to cast herself as a victim, she will complain to you for hours, so that when you're done, she feels renewed.

but you're spent.

Solution: Limit the time you have to listen to her gapes. As she's whining, say "I can listen to your complaints for 10 minutes. When you want to talk solutions, I'm here for you."

The blamer
This guy has a sneaky way of making you feel guilty for not getting things right.

"He'll dole out endless guilt, resort to verbal abuse and levy accusations, leaving no room for discussion."

Solution: Imagine yourself enveloped in a cocoon of white light, then picture the cocoon as a shield forming a fail-safe barrier around you. This is a barrier zone where negative vibes can't dislodge you.

The drama queen
Seemingly energized by chaos, she exaggerates small incidents into off-the-chart dramas.

Solution: Breathe deeply and center yourself. When the queen starts, take a deep breath, continue to concentrate on that breath and tell yourself you know what's coming and that you can handle it.

The constant talker
He doesn't care what you're feeling — or if you have anything to say — he just likes to gab about himself.

Solution: With strangers, feel free to curt, (i.e., on a plane, say, "I don't mean to be rude, but I need to get some rest before we land.") With co-workers, smile and say you have to get back to work. With relatives and friends, be honest and tell them you feel left out of the conversation.

The fixer-upper
A dependent, she makes you her therapist and calls on you to fix her problems.

Solution: Identify the co-dependency issues and distance yourself with compassion. Offer emotional support, but don't spew out solutions. If you're consistent, she won't expect you to fix her problems in the future.

The seemingly nice guy
When you first meet him, he seems nice enough. But there's just bad karma there, and you find yourself inexplicably drained.

Solution: Say you have to go to the bathroom, then walk away.

The so-called friend
Driven by envy or insecurity, she puts you down for seemingly no reason, deflating your energy.

Solution: Break eye contact and visualize yourself power-sucking back every drop of energy she's taken from you. Exhale and envision negative energy as dark gunk leaving your body through your lower spine as you picture fresh air and sunlight coming in. Consider a bath or shower and drink lots of water to reinforce this feeling of cleansing.

Chaotic crowds
It can be an unruly crowd complete with elbowing, smoking strangers or just a big rowdy group at a mall or sporting event that gives you a general sense of chaos.

Solution: Find a quiet seating area out of the stream of people where you can go to take a breath, close your eyes, then

imagine yourself in a tranquil setting.

Unintentional sappers
These vamps may not be regulars (i.e., your husband after a hard day of work), but they can drain with the best of them, particularly during a stressful time.

Solution: Negotiate with family to take mini-breaks after stressful situations. This can be as short as 20 minutes and entail a nap, listening to soft music or something physical, like running.

SINUSITIS or COLDS

Because the symptoms of sinusitis sometimes mimic those of colds, you may not realize you need to see a Sinus Specialist. If you do, that you have sinusitis, review these signs and symptoms. If you suffer from three or more symptoms, Sinus Center-Idaho can help.

SYMPTOM	SINUSITIS	COLD
Facial pressure/pain	Yes	Sometimes
Duration of illness	Over 10-14 days	Under 10 days
Nasal Discharge	Thick, yellow green	Thick, whitish or thin
Fever	Sometimes	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes
Pain in upper teeth	Sometimes	No
Bad Breath	Sometimes	No
Coughing	Sometimes	Yes
Nasal Congestion	Yes	Yes
Sneezing	No	Yes

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Study: Wounds of divorce linger long past childhood

By Patrick Kampert
Chicago Tribune

By the time she was 5, Elizabeth Marquardt was traveling across the country, riding a coach as she moved between her divorced parents. She says her parents split with very little conflict, perhaps owing partly to another kind of distance — geographical — between them.

Now 34, Marquardt seems well-adjusted, dividing time between her job as a resident scholar for a Washington, D.C., think tank and her own family — husband and two kids — in Highland Park, Ill.

But beneath the veneer, Marquardt says she and other young adults who grew up in the divorce explosion of the '70s and '80s are still dealing with wounds that they never really talked about with their parents. It's that family situation that also serves as the backdrop of the recent movie drama "The Squid and the Whale."

Marquardt's own experience, she says, was a catalyst for her research in what she calls "the first national study of children of divorce." She is co-author of a new book, "Between Two Worlds: The Inner Lives of Children of Divorce" (Crown, \$24.95).

The key findings of the study by Marquardt and Glenn are these:

- The grown children of divorce say there is no such thing as a good divorce.
- Children of divorce say they spent a lot of time alone and, as a result, found some emotional distance between themselves and their parents.
- Even in an amicable split, divorce makes children grow up between the two distinct worlds of their parents, who often have different values and priorities.
- Children internalize the conflict between these two worlds. They say they feel they have to grow up trying to please different people around their parents and keep secrets to preserve the peace.

"Too many people have unrealistic ideas about divorce," Marquardt said. "They think if you do it right, it won't be so hard on the kids. And that's where this 'good divorce' idea is so damaging and so seductive, because it basically tells parents a lie."

"Even for those of us who end up quite unquarrelsome," Marquardt said, "divorce shapes the identities of young people for a lifetime in ways that we haven't noticed or haven't talked about before — mainly because of the research that has been done by people who did not see themselves experience divorce as children."

The researchers to whom Marquardt alludes are Judith Wallerstein and E. Mavis Hetherington. Wallerstein's 2000 book, "The Unanticipated Legacy of Divorce" — criticized by some for a small survey sample — said children are "definitely harmed by divorce."

Two years later, Hetherington's book "For Better or For Worse: Divorce Reconsidered," which was based on extensive regional research, said divorce doesn't leave the majority of children with lasting damage.

Though Wallerstein wrote a foreword for "Between Two Worlds," Marquardt hopes her book about divorce's lingering effects can avoid the point-counterpoint saleros of the earlier skirmish.

"For a long time," Marquardt said, "people have been arguing about how many children of divorce end up with serious delinquency or teen pregnancy or depression. What I do in this book is go to a whole new level. And it's told from the perspective of the young adults who are affected by divorce. It's not just 'divorce sucks — divorce is fine — divorce sucks,' that whole endless debate we've been in for 10 or 20 years."

Marquardt agrees that, sometimes, a divorce is necessary, as in cases of domestic violence, drug abuse, alcoholism or infidelity. But two-thirds of marriages that end in divorce are simply low-conflict relationships in which people drift apart.

"Divorce needs to happen sometimes, but it's always a tragedy," she said. "A healthy marriage is an incredible gift to give to your children, and it's possible for almost all of us."

Marquardt's message appears to be resonating with people. National magazines have interviewed her, and she recently answered questions from "today" co-host Matt Lauer.

Marquardt said she hopes adult children of divorce come away from her book realizing, "It's not just me, I'm not alone. She also hopes it will persuade couples who have a case of the blues to try harder to rekindle their relationship.

As he neared 40, he began to disappear

By Gill Rosenblum
MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE

MINNEAPOLIS — If John Senefelder were sitting across a table from an eligible woman, this is what he would tell her: He is not a wealthy man, but he works hard, and honestly, as a U.S. Postal Service truck driver. He doesn't drink or smoke anymore. His '91 Oldsmobile is paid for and he's not ashamed to drive it. He likes to dance but is no good at it. He is divorced, cordially, from ex-wife Kathy, and he's dating fairly to 23-year-old daughter Leona. He has been on his own for about 10 years now and, man, would he love to have someone to share his life with.

The problem is, John Senefelder can't seem to get across a table from any woman. Senefelder has become invisible. Maybe it's his age (he's 57). Or that he's not tall (he's just over 5 feet 8). Maybe it's something else entirely.

Others say that only "bad guys" or "bad boys" get noticed. The law-abiding, average-looking, pot-bellied, gray-haired, might as well be wearing a sign that says "invisible." Senefelder is hardly the Elephant Man. He has all the hair and beautiful hazel eyes. He is trim, with a great smile. Leona is married now and confirms that her dad is a terrific, if not a really good listener. He'll give

you advice if you want it. If your car breaks down, he'd be there in a second to help you out.

Her dad says women have the right to be choosy, to find someone who fits their lifestyle, someone who is compatible and mutually attractive. "But there are a lot of single women and single men out there," Senefelder said, "floating in single boats side by side, afraid to get out."

Brad Krinsky, 41, dated a woman for three years, but they never married. He's tried bars, speed dating, blind dates.

"When I go out, I'm just kind of ignored," he said. He, too, wonders if his height — 5 feet 8 — is a factor. He wonders if he's too nice. "People say I'm cute. I have a full head of hair."

But the closer he gets to 40, the more he started to disappear. He laughs, recalling a moment in a grocery store when a woman literally ran into him with her shopping cart. Talk about invisible. The logistics of being a tight attendant for Northwest Airlines don't help, he acknowledges, since he's frequently away from home on weekends. Still, he keeps trying.

"Lowliness gets to you," Krinsky said. "You know, I should be with somebody. I shouldn't have to be tall and handsome. There's got to be some short women out there." Psychologist Dan Reidenberg isn't surprised by any of this. He hears it all the time.

"Menage just like women do. They feel the same way women do. They just don't talk about it because they're socialized not to," said Reidenberg, chairman of the certified relationships specialists program for the American Psychotherapy Association. "They wonder, 'I'm appealing am I?' I'm balding, gaining weight in places I don't like."

Many men are dealing with the added challenge of impotence, he said. "What woman is

going to want to be with me if I can't make her happy?"

Reidenberg tells men to resist dyeing their hair or considering liposuction. Instead, he tells them to be "real."

"Women want a man who's OK with himself. They want an honest, genuine, caring man. Demj and Ashton, that's a small number of couples," he said. "Most women in their 40s want someone who has lived who understands blended families, who wants to explore other religions, other foods. They want money who can say, 'I've lived enough to be secure enough to try that.'"

Frank Anderson wants very much to believe that. He isn't invisible, exactly. He said. He's just invisible to women with whom he'd like to be romantically linked. "I have a great many marvelous women friends, but I've never been considered romantically by any of them," said Anderson. "Why? That's a question I've been asking myself my whole life."

Anderson grew up on a farm, where he still lives with his mother (more on that in a moment). A player of many wind instruments, he contracts with Schmitt Music to teach music in the schools. He's smart, outgoing and quick to laugh. He lives frugally but loves to treat his family to dinner. And he doesn't raise anyone a dime. He wanders, though, if these qualities might make him seem "too personally conservative."

Recently, he signed up with Great Expectations, dating service. Fortunately, Anderson didn't use the description of himself that he used with a helper: "I'm old, fat and ugly." (Actually, he's 57 and has expanded a bit from his "husky" farm-boy days. But he is certainly not ugly.)

Instead, he waxed poetic, straight from his heart. "I'm the kind of person who someone never got the girl, but am look-

ing forward to rectifying that situation... I'm more intellectual than athletic, more contemplative than gregarious. I love to express my ideas, but I also love to listen to others."

He did get one bite, a woman he met at a book store. He wore a red shirt so she could recognize him. They talked for a long time. He liked her. But she never called him back. "I kind of figure it's over," he said.

And his mother? Yes, lives with her. "but I can guarantee you I'm not a mama's boy. She's a companion."

Anderson says that with great expectations for a while. "One of the reasons I finally, finally, finally condescended to this place is I started thinking that while my life is really complete, maybe there's something missing. Maybe it's the meaning of life."

Reidenberg understands that, too. He's worked with many men who no longer want love, or lust, in the way they once desired it. "A lot of men in their 40s and 40s are burned out on love," Reidenberg said. "They feel defeated in relationships. They want companionship."

For that, he suggests they try a new line when they bump into a woman in the grocery store, or on the street, in a bar or, best, when sitting across a table from her over pie and coffee.

"Tell her, 'I'm someone with a solid base of wisdom, someone who's lived a life.'"

Even a guy who still lives with mother hopes you'll at least give him a try. "I'm looking for a woman to whom people and principles matter, appearances don't," Anderson said. "I crave a close friendship where we could exchange ideas and advice, and confide in each other. If you are fairly content with your life, but would consider it a bit blurrier with me in it, I'll gladly be there."

Dating

Continued from E1

The matchmaking industry is catching on to the dating interests of older adults. Some dating Web sites now have special seniors-only areas. Spark Networks, based in Los Angeles, started SilverSingles.com last year, and the site now has about 600,000 members. Another of its dating sites, PrimeSingles.net, has another 130,000 members.

"They're not a segment we've been marketing to aggressively, but we're still seeing it grow," said company spokeswoman Gail Laguna. "Seniors have started to see that it's more acceptable, more socially acceptable, to try online dating."

Seniors are more comfortable than they used to be with the internet, and they're finding that online dating lets them take their time choosing a possible mate, said Kathleen Bolland, spokeswoman for San Francisco-based Match.com.

"It's not just seeing it grow," said Bolland, "it's the fastest-growing segment," Bolland said. "As we get older, the pool of eligible people who have to choose from gets smaller and smaller, and the bar scene is not attractive."

It's too soon to know whether the speed-dating event resulted in any romances — like many



A group of speed daters chat during a round of questions and answers in Berlin, Ind., on Nov. 16. Older Americans looking for love have taken a cue from young urban singles and are flocking to speed-dating events and online personal sites.

singles groups, the women far outnumbered the men — but based on the din of laughter in the crowd, the singles enjoyed it. Even Charles Walsh eventually sat down and chatted with some ladies.

"I'm just starting again," he says, "I think it's important that a child learns how to manage money." Bartels said. "But using an allowance — or withholding it — has some pitfalls." Nekich doesn't completely agree.

"I think it's important that a child learns how to manage money," Bartels said. "But using an allowance — or withholding it — has some pitfalls." Nekich doesn't completely agree.

Room

Continued from E1

And once the rules are made, parents are within their rights to enforce them, Nekich says. "Sometimes the rules need to be changed."

Bowyer, whose oldest son is now in the Marines and whose youngest son is a senior at Twin Falls High School, says setting mutually agreed boundaries in his case, physical boundaries — is a lot better than squabbling over something parents can't effectively control.

But by way of issuing ultimatums, Saplier counters.

"If, for example, you tell a child that they can either eat their dinner or leave the table, the child has won."

Bartels has mixed feelings about using financial incentives — bribery — to enlist a kid's cooperation.

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child to expect a reward in exchange for desired action. "Better to find a reward that reinforces the child's connection to the family, Saplier says. "If there are 10 different things that affect a child's life negatively, then maybe a messy room isn't such a high priority," she said. "But as a parent, you have a right to be involved."

"Parenting," she said, "is all about picking your battles."

WEDDINGS

ARMSTRONG-CHAPMAN-HARRISON

TWIN FALLS — Keric Armstrong-Chapman and Cameron Harrison were married Nov. 18 in Twin Falls.

The bride is the daughter of Angela Hise and Kelly Armstrong, both of Twin Falls.

The groom is the son of Cindy Johnson of Texas and Cliff Harrison of Twin Falls.

The bride graduated from Twin Falls High School. She is employed at Southern Idaho Cardiology.



Cameron and Keric Harrison. The groom attended Twin Falls High School. He is employed at Plew Construction. The couple resides in Filer.

Weekly deadline

The Times-News welcomes engagement, wedding and anniversary announcements and photos. (That is, anniversaries of 50 years or more.) To submit an announcement, write by the office at 132 Fairfield St. W. in Twin Falls and fill out a form. The announcement also can be sent by e-mail to ramono@mgvalley.com. If e-mailed, the photo needs to be sent in jpeg format as an attachment. The deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Monday. If you miss that deadline, your news might not be published in advance of the event. With questions, call Ramona Jones at 733-3262.

'It's about YOU ... and Your Name

Chances are you know someone named Smith. It's the most popular last name in the country. Here are the top five.

- Smith 1 in 93 families
 - Johnson 1 in 123 families
 - Williams 1 in 143 families
 - Jones 1 in 161 families
 - Brown 1 in 161 families
- To see where your name ranks, go to www.names.com. Type your name in the "What's my name?" box and click on "Submit." You'll see your name's rank in "Name."

Leaving the farm
Follow a Magic Valley family through the sale, the auction, the Mo change.
Next week in Family Life

Bridal Registry
Natalya Crumey & Chris Jackson
January book

RECOLLECTIONS
1211 Main St. Suite 101-102

ACE Bridal Registry
Lindsay Anderson & Brian Gunning
December 10th

Sherrin Ginn & Tyler The Hubbs
December 13th

the perfect gift... and we deliver
2556 Overland, Burley • 478-5534
281 5th St., Rupert • 476-2221

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Tucker Donnelly and Kertini Cox have been helping with the gifts that will be distributed by the East End Providers at Christmas. Hundreds of gifts have been wrapped by church groups and school children, labeled and stacked in various categories.



MARGARET JONES/The Times-News

Charitable group seeks new home

By Margaret Jones
Times-News correspondent

HANSEN — The East End Providers, which gives aid to people in need throughout the year, and especially at Christmas, is now in need — of a new home.

The group has worked rent free out of a building owned by the Kimberly Christian Church for several years. But the church wants to expand its youth program and has asked the group to find other quarters after the Christmas season.

East End Providers organizers are appealing to area residents to help them find new housing. Anyone knowing of, or having a structure with at least 1,000 square feet of

space that can be heated and who would be willing to provide it rent free is asked to call Cecile Griffith at the Kimberly Kut and Kurl at 423-4496. The person providing the space might be able to claim a tax deduction because the East End Providers is a 501(c)3 organization.

Except for the Christmas season, there would be minimal use of the building, organization representatives report. The group operates only from donations and is able to pay for utilities and insurance.

In addition, a quilt hand-crafted by the Hansen Ward Ladies Relief Society of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be raffled Dec. 15. Proceeds from this quilt, another handmade quilt and other

items will go to the East End Providers. Tickets may be purchased at the Hansen Library, Hansen City Hall and the South Hills Saloon for \$1 or for \$5.00.

East End Providers started many years ago when a group of area residents were concerned about a family that had come upon hard times and there would not be much of a Christmas for the little ones in the family. So, they gathered toys and collected donated food from local grocers and ended up giving a Christmas basket to 62 children.

Last Christmas, 224 families and 122 children from the east end of Twin Falls County and Jackpot, Nev., received food and gifts from the East End Providers.

'Christmas Memories' benefits Safe Harbor

TWIN FALLS — Safe Harbor will hold a fundraiser with the theme, "Christmas Memories."

The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the First United Methodist Church, 360 Shoshone St. E.

The cost is \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door.

Hors d'oeuvres will be served in the church library. The banquet will follow at 7:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Memories and This and That groups will perform.

Filer Police Chief Cliff Johnson will offer copies of his book, "Wrong Side of the River," and Lorraine O. Smith will offer copies to military personnel from Sen. Larry Craig and Rep. Mike Crapo will be shared by local representatives. There will also be a musical tribute to those serving.

For more information, call Phyllis Berg at 735-8787.

from all over the world, as well as live musical groups performing works of art, children's activities and live Nativities inside and outside of the building.

Senior citizens can come to the event from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Friday. The event will be open to the public from 5 to 9 p.m. that night and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday.

Anyone wishing to have their Nativity set available for the viewing can bring them to the church between 4 and 8 p.m. Thursday. Strict security will be provided both day and night, organizers say.

Methodist Church youth group holds fundraiser

GOODING — The Gooding United Methodist Church and Desert Hills Nazarene Church Youth Group are holding a spaghetti fundraiser to benefit Katie Boan and breast cancer awareness.

The fundraiser will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Friday at the Gooding United Methodist Church, 805 Main St.

The cost is \$6 for adults, \$4 for children age 12 and younger and \$25 for a family of six.

Dinner includes Italian-style spaghetti, mixed salad, bread, dessert and beverage. Entertainment will be provided.

Ten percent of the proceeds will go to the Gooding County Memorial Hospital Breast Cancer Screening Program. The remainder will go to help cover medical expenses for Boan, who was a teacher at Shoshone Elementary School and diagnosed with breast cancer shortly after retiring.

Tickets can be purchased at the door or from any youth group member. For more information, call Bridget Harard at 934-8074.

Filer man celebrates 90th birthday Saturday

FILER — Roland Ulrich of Filer will celebrate his 90th birthday from 1:30 to 4 p.m. Saturday at the First United Methodist Church, 600 Stevens St.

Ulrich was born Dec. 21, 1915, in Elk Creek, Neb.

He married Jeanette Bos (now deceased) in 1944 and has lived most of his life in the Magic Valley.

He farmed for several years in the Filer area, has been a long-time member of the Lutheran church and served in the U.S. Navy.

He has two daughters, Shirley (Steve) Haumann and Mary (Steve) McNeil, both of Boise; one son, Robert Ulrich (deceased); five grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. His children are housing the event.

Woman celebrates 85th birthday at open house

WENDELL — Ruth Larson will celebrate her 85th birthday with an open house from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday at the Wendell Senior Center, 103 W. Ave. A.

Larson has four sons, seven grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The event will be hosted by her family.

Community blood drive set for this week

TWIN FALLS — An American Red Cross blood drive and bone marrow registry will be held from 1 to 7 p.m. Monday, noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday, and 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday at the 1st Presbyterian Church, 209 Fifth Ave. N.

Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good general health. Donors are required to bring photo identification or their Red Cross blood donor card.

Nativity Celebration is held in Burley

BURLEY — The fifth annual Community Nativity Celebration will be held Friday and Saturday at the Burley West Stake Center of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 2420 Parke Ave.

The event is free and is a viewing of Nativity sets of all kinds

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Tradition hits stage

BURLEY — Tedl Cameron, daughter of Ted J. and Donna Cameron of Rupert, will dance the role of Clara in the Centre Stage Studios annual production of "The Nutcracker."

Since being selected, the 14 year old has been rehearsing in Utah with guest artists, Kristina Thomas as the Sugarplum Fairy and Nathan Cottam as the Cavalier, along with rehearsals with the rest of the cast.

The production will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday and 2 p.m. Dec. 10 at the King Fine Arts Center.

Also appearing will be Marlee Chandler as Fritz, Steve Floyd as Herr Drosselmeyer, Ileen Coats as the Scottish Grandmother, Candace King as Mother Ginger and David and Nicolette Graham

as Clara's parents. Advanced dancers in starring roles include Brianna Hansen and Cara Van Tassel as the Snow Queens and the Dew Drop fairy, Alyssa Bailes and Karyl Wadsworth as Columbine Dolls, Whitney Furniss and Taylee Miller as the Harlequin, Harrison Douglas as the Soldier and Danielle Cummings and Taylee Miller and the Mouse Kings.

General seating is \$10, with senior citizen tickets \$8. Reserved seating is \$12 and \$15 by calling 678-1117. Tickets are also available at Premier Dancewear from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, at the door or from the cast members.

Proceeds go towards new scenery and costumes and scholarships for the arts.



Tedl Cameron will play Clara in an annual production of 'The Nutcracker' ballet.

Photo courtesy of STEVE LACER

STORK REPORT

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Alli Stastny and Ellie Stastny, twin daughters of Nella and M. Shane Stastny of Neta, were born Monday, Nov. 14, 2005.

Madiym Paige Jones, daughter of Savannah Danielle Jackson and Jay Lee Jones of Idaho Falls, was born Monday, Nov. 14, 2005.

Halee Arlene Derrick, daughter of Kar Sue Thomson of Filer, was born Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2005.

Darrian Jacob Duncan, son of Heather Louise Montoya and Jacob Edward Duncan of Twin Falls, was born Monday, Nov. 21, 2005.

Dominic Lopes, son of Ana

Rosa Almanza and Paulo Aguielo Lopes of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005.

Victoria Lynn Kimbrough, daughter of Carrie Ann Geiger and Marvin Dean Kimbrough of Buhl, was born Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005.

Riley Burrell Henderson, son of Heidi Louise and Monte Burrell Henderson of Kimberly, was born Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005.

Nicklaus Michael Hunzeker, son of Carly Jo and Jason Lester Hunzeker of Twin Falls, was born Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005.

Adan Hernandez, son of Maria Guadalupe and Rigoberto Hernandez of Jerome, was born Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2005.

Other

Preston Parke, son of Trevor and Tiffany Parke of Heyburn, was born Thursday, Nov. 10, 2005.

Cassia Regional Medical Center

Dominik Destin Soto, son of Jody Soto of Heyburn, was born Wednesday, Nov. 23, 2005.

Ivan Clus Victoria and Elias

To announce a birth

Send a copy of the birth certificate to:
Jami Whited
The Community Page
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, ID 83303
Or fax to: 734-5538
Deadline: Noon Tuesday for Sunday's paper; and noon Friday for Tuesday's paper.
More information? Call Jami at 735-3278

Eban Victoria, twin sons of Alexis and Moises Victoria of Burley, were born Friday, Nov. 18, 2005.

Students show know-how, advance in soils contest

BURLEY — This spring, five teams of students will participate in an international competition to show their know-how about the land.

The 35th annual Idaho State FFA and 4-11 Land and Soil Evaluation Event was held Oct. 17 and hosted each year by the West Cassia and East Cassia Soil and Water Conservation districts. High school students in FFA and 4-11 programs learned to "evaluate soil" and gain practical knowledge of the soil resource. Organizers say this program teaches them to recognize soil factors and evaluate soil characteristics so they can make wise decisions in managing and using the soil or the land.

Regional Field Days held throughout the state involve

about 450 young people and 50 advisors each year. FFA and 4-11 teams winning at the regional contests advance to the state contest. About 90 young people competed at the state event for the opportunity to advance to the International Land and Soil Evaluation Event held in Oklahoma City, Okla., each year.

This year, 15 FFA teams and two 4-11 teams participated at the state level. Genesee FFA placed first. Kana FFA placed second, Troy FFA third, High FFA, fourth, and Jerome FFA, fifth. Burley FFA placed eighth. The top five teams are eligible to attend the international event.

Other participating teams were Preston, Meba, Emerald, Marsh Valley, Goding, Highland, Murtaugh, Parma and West Jefferson.



Cassia County commissioner Paul Christensen and land owner Kelly Soaric watch the state FFA soils contest in Cassia County.

Photo courtesy of DOMENEC MCHERRA