

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy with areas of fog.
Page A2

FESTIVE FASHION

Image: A lot of people are sporting fuzzy green cardigans, snowman sweatshirts and interesting hats. Find out why.
Page C1

SUMMIT OF LIFE

Image: Magic Valley: For David Haraldson, promoting the morals and lifestyle of a mountain man was important.
Page B1



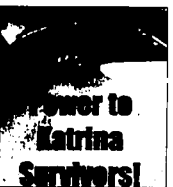
RODEO FINALS

A good last ride: Kimberly's Cody Demers makes his mark in round 10 of the National Finals Rodeo.
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ROCK ON?

School Days: Students got involved in teacher negotiations.
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KATRINA DEATH

Counting: Official toll doesn't include all of hurricane's victims.
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OPINION

Bidding wars: Idaho's new road construction plan is bogged down with flawed bidding, today's guest editorial says.
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COMING UP

New school

Twin Falls district unveils plans for second high school.

Tuesday in The Times-News

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LIFE FROM DEATH



Karen Skeen poses with pictures her husband, Mike Skeen, Friday evening at her home in Twin Falls. Mike Skeen died in late 2001 at the age of 50. He had a brain aneurysm while at work as a truck driver. Skeen says it is both wonderful and surprising to know that her husband's organs have helped at least 50 people.

Organ, tissue donors give hope to others

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When Mike Skeen headed to work that September morning four years ago, little did he know it would be his last.

The 50-year-old truck driver was headed up to Montana, but started to feel wozzy just past Massacre Rocks near American Falls. He managed to pull the 18-wheeler over and radio for help. Other drivers came to his aid. He even talked to his wife, Karen, on his cell phone.

A few hours later, he was lying in a hospital bed in Pocatello, brain dead after suffering a massive brain aneurysm.

Mike Skeen died, but parts of him live on in more than 50 other people — people who might have also died had he

not been an organ donor. His heart still beats inside a 67-year-old Las Vegas man and his liver helped save the life of a 50-year-old Salt Lake City resident.

His left kidney went to a 45-year-old Pennsylvania man and his right kidney to a 50-year-old Washington man.

The large veins in his legs now help carry blood to someone's heart and improve a diabetic's circulation.

Thanks to his skin, a burn victim won't have to go through the rest of his life scarred.

His bones and other tissues ungrated, and possibly saved, the lives of many others.

"That is just amazing," said his widow, Karen Skeen. "When many people think of organ donation, they think of

Please see DONORS, Page A2

Myths dispelled

Funeral: Organ and tissue donation will not affect ability to have an open casket funeral.
Age: Organs can be recovered from donors well into their 70s.
Donor bus: Having it checked on your driver's license will not dissuade efforts to save your life.
Organ recovery only: takes place after all life-saving efforts have been exhausted and death is declared.
Faith: Most major religions approve of donation and consider it a gift or act of charity.
Fame: Fame or fortune cannot give you an organ first. Patients are matched to organs based on blood type and/or tissue type, medical urgency, time on the waiting list and geographical location.
Source: www.organdonor.gov

Report: Sept. 11 billions eaten by waste, lax rules

By Russ Buettner, Heidi Evans, Robert Smarty, Brian Ketas, Greg B. Smith and Richard T. Plonciard
New York Daily News

NEW YORK — The Sept. 11 tragedy brought out the best in most of us — the countless acts of heroism, the passionate outpouring of volunteerism and the unprecedented generosity of a grieving nation.

It turns out that the huge and sudden influx of billions of dollars in federal disaster recovery aid also brought out the worst in others.

To be sure, the financial assistance given to New York City after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks delivered tremendous benefit to countless citizens and businesses, small and large. But a four-month New York

Daily News investigation of the \$21.4 billion disaster recovery package reveals that major elements of the aid process were procedurally flawed — from the determination of how much money was supposedly needed, to how it was distributed, to how it was actually spent and ultimately, to how little oversight there was over the spending. In effect, no one was watching.

As a result, Sept. 11 recovery aid was used to finance a plethora of projects that taxpayers elsewhere could be forgiven for characterizing as old-fashioned pork-barrel spending.

• Hundreds of millions of dollars were spent on projects that seemingly had nothing to do with Sept. 11 and lower Manhattan.

Please see SEPT. 11, Page A2

Does your lawn bolster or nix global warming?

Scientists studying suburbia's impact on the ecosystem

By Glendora Chui
Knight Ridder News Service

SAN JOSE, Calif. — Suburbia may be familiar turf, but it's one of the last frontiers for scientists trying to understand how ecosystems work and how people change the natural world.

From the woody suburban enclaves of Vermont to sprawling Chico, Livermore and Gilroy, researchers are starting to probe the role of lawns in global warming, how garden fertilizers and pesticides affect wildlife and how storm water running from roofs, roads and driveways undermines the health of streams.

"The suburban landscape is large, and it's growing," said Jennifer Jenkins of the University of Vermont, one of the scientists who reported her findings last week at a meeting of the American Geophysical Union in San Francisco. "There's this enormous land surface that's falling through the cracks."

Jenkins is involved in a study of 40 suburban yards near Baltimore. Researchers will clip bits of lawn by hand, weigh the clippings, measure the grass stubble and thatch and even rake up leaves for analysis.

The goal is to see how much carbon dioxide the lawns absorb and give off, and whether

“ We're trying to think about ways to use ecological engineering ... to solve the problem at its source.”

— Breck Bowden, researcher

they're contributing to global warming or slowing it down. Others are trying to figure out how to design suburban neighborhoods that do less damage to their surroundings.

"We're trying to think about ways to use ecological engineering, green engineering approaches, to solve the problem at its source," said Breck Bowden, also of the University of Vermont.

From a scientific standpoint, it's hard to even define what suburbia is. It slowly grades from sprawling tract housing on the fringes of cities to homes on half-acre lots in the "exurbs" or "suburbs" — scattered homes on mostly rural land.

Ecologists have cut their teeth on studies of forests and bogs, deserts and tundra and rain forest, but only recently did they turn to suburbia. Maybe

Please see SUBURBIA, Page A2

Even Saddam can vote in Iraqi election

By Bassem Mouré
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — One poster proclaims "Yes to national resistance, no to terrorism." Another promises "oil is your property. We will return it to you."

In a country where security concerns preclude campaign rallies and pressing the flesh, Iraqi politicians have turned to street posters and media ads to put forward their message.

This week, it all comes down to the voters. Starting today, hospital patients, soldiers and police will cast their ballots, along with prisoners who haven't been convicted yet. Even jailed former leader Saddam Hussein has the right to vote.

On Tuesday, the estimated 1.5 million Iraqis living abroad can

About the election

Starting today, hospital patients, soldiers and police will cast their ballots, along with prisoners who haven't been convicted yet. They're choosing a constitutional parliament.

cast their ballots over two days in election centers in 15 countries, including the United States. The rest of the nation votes Thursday.

Iraq's government announced it will close its borders, extend the nighttime curfew and restrict domestic travel starting Tuesday to prevent insurgents from disrupting the vote.

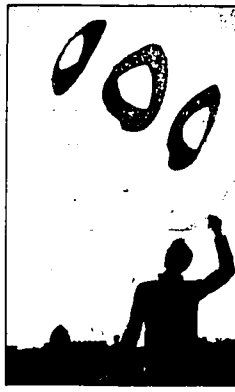
"We are very prepared for the elections, and we are highly determined," Interior Minister Bayan Jabr said. "We hope that

everyone participates and that it will be a safe day...We are at a historic juncture."

Voters will be choosing their first fully constitutional parliament since the 2003 collapse of Saddam's regime. The 275-member assembly, which will serve for four years, will then choose a new government that U.S. officials hope can win the confidence of the disaffected Sunni Arab minority — the foundation of the insurgency.

Although most of the 15 million eligible voters will cast ballots Thursday, soldiers, police, hospital patients and prisoners not yet convicted of crimes can vote today starting at 9 a.m.

Officials said Saddam — who is jailed and facing trial for the deaths of more than 140 Shiites in 1982 — has the right to vote but it was not known whether he would.



An Iraqi man flies an election campaign balloon with the numbers 555 (written in Arabic) representing the United Iraqi Alliance in Baghdad, Iraq, on Sunday. Iraqis this week will choose their first fully constitutional parliament since the 2003 collapse of Saddam Hussein's regime.



TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Abundant clouds and areas of fog. Highs, lower 30s. Tonight: More clouds than flurries. Lows, upper teens to near 20. Tomorrow: Scattered clouds. Highs near 30.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

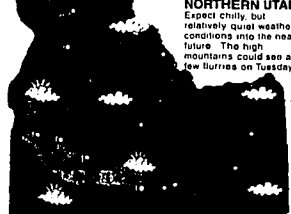
Today: Plenty of clouds, with some areas of fog. Highs, 20s. Tonight: Slight chance for a few flurries, otherwise mostly cloudy. Lows, teens. Tomorrow: A chilly, partly cloudy day. Highs, lower 20s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS. The High Country may pick up a light rousing of snow or perhaps a few inches of snow overnight and into Tuesday morning as a front moves through.

BOISE We will see more clouds than anything today, although we cannot rule out a flurries of snow overnight. It will be quite chilly and mostly cloudy through the middle of the week.

NORTHERN UTAH Generally, the weather is relatively quiet weather conditions into the near future. The high mountains could see a few flurries on Tuesday.



Yesterday's State Express: 35 in Lowell. Low: 6 at Starbuck. Weather: 35 in Lowell. Snow cover: 10 in Starbuck. Snow cover: 10 in Starbuck. Snow cover: 10 in Starbuck.

meineke car care center. 169 Addison Avenue West. 735-8296. Open Mon - Fri 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Sat 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Forecast table for Twin Falls with columns for Today, Tonight, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges.

ALMA HACIENDA • TWIN FALLS

Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, and Barometric Pressure data for Alma Hacienda and Twin Falls.

Moon Phases and Moonrise and Moonset times for Alma Hacienda and Twin Falls.

Regional Forecast table for various Idaho cities including Boise, Burley, and Pocatello.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National Forecast table for major US cities including Denver, Dallas, Houston, and New York.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian Forecast table for major Canadian cities including Toronto, Montreal, and Vancouver.

Yesterday's Weather

Table showing yesterday's weather for various Idaho cities including Boise, Burley, and Pocatello.

U.V. INDEX

U.V. Index table showing low, moderate, and high index levels for different locations.

Sunrise and Sunset

Sunrise and Sunset times for various Idaho cities.

WORLD FORECAST

World Forecast table for major international cities including London, Paris, Tokyo, and Sydney.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



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Donors

Continued from A1. hearts and kidneys and livers. But there's so much more.

"We're doing more lungs and small bowels," said Bert Dietze, a public relations specialist for Intermountain Donor Services, a federally designated, nonprofit organ and tissue procurement organization that services southeastern Idaho, Utah and western Wyoming.

Small bowels often go to very young children born without a full digestive tract, Dietze said. Bones can help trauma and cancer patients avoid amputation and be used to reconstruct hip and knee joints. Bones also can be turned into a bone paste which is used in both reconstructive surgery and dental applications.

"It can be used instead of screws — sort of like bone nails," Dietze said. Fascia — the tissue that covers the muscles — taken from the thigh area can be used to make new tendons and ligaments and it's most recently been used for bladder suspension.

Arctic Potential organ can get the blood pumping again and help their recipients avoid having to take anticoagulants the rest of their lives. Bone and tissue donations can also be used to correct curvature of the spine and to treat patients suffering from congenital defects and arthritis. Corneas from the eyes can help a blind person see again.

Time is crucial

Organs — hearts, lungs, livers, kidneys, pancreas and small bowels — are hard to come by. That's because they must come from people who are being kept alive on a ventilator, but who have been declared brain dead after suffering a brain injury, such as an aneurysm, stroke or head trauma. Potential organ donors must have total and irreversible loss of brain function and have been declared dead by a physician, according to Intermountain Donor Services.

Federal and state laws mandate that all hospitals that receive Medicare funding report patient deaths to their local organ procurement organizations, and that hospitals make sure families of potential donors are informed of their option to donate organs or tissues. If all systems are go, the organ donation process is set in motion. The hospital then calls its designated organ procurement organization.

Information Line

735-3350. Lottery and Weather information. Information is just a phone call away! Includes icons for Lottery Information (Press 2) and Weather Information (Press 3).

About donation

How to: People who would like to be organ and tissue donors should check the "yes" box on their driver's license. You can also join the Idaho Donor Registry at www.wyidonor.org or by calling 1-866-937-4324. The Idaho Donor Registry works a living will. Your family will be notified that you gave consent to donation after death.

Donor types: There are two types of donors — heart beating and non-heart beating. Hearts, lungs, livers, kidneys, pancreas and small bowels must come from heart beating donors — people who have been declared brain dead.

One and the same can come from non-heart beating donors. Tissues include heart valves, skin, ligaments, tendons, major blood vessels, fascia (muscle covering), and eyes for their corneas and white tissue.

Bone and tissue donations can be used to salvage limbs following tumor surgery, reconstruct hip and knee joints, correct spinal deformities, correct cleft lip and cleft palate, correct congenital defects, blindness, visual impairment, trauma, burns, dental defects, and cancer and vascular and heart disease.

motion. The hospital then calls its designated organ procurement organization.

"We bring the people together who are going to make it happen," Dietze said. The organ procurement organization goes through the donor lists and matches the organs to waiting recipients based on blood type, blood vessel type, height and weight, medical urgency, time on the waiting list and geographic location. Calls are placed to transplant centers and surgical teams are coordinated.

The recipient could be on the other side of the country or in the very next operating room. Where a donor recipient lives can make a difference because of the simple law of supply and demand. For instance, the University of Utah Health Sciences Center at LDS Hospital and Primary Children's Hospital, all

located in Salt Lake City, all do liver transplants, but there isn't a great demand for livers in their service area.

"We're covering more lives than we keep in our service area," Dietze said. "Someone in Twin Falls is able to get a liver transplant in half the time than anywhere else in the nation."

The donor must remain on the ventilator until organ recovery begins. Once procured, organ preservation times vary. Hearts can only be preserved for four to six hours, while kidneys can be preserved up to 36 hours. Though bones and tissues, including skin, heart and tendons must be procured within 12 to 24 hours after cardiac death, they can be preserved up to five years.

Corneas from the eyes, which can restore sight in people who have gone blind due to injury or disease, can be stored for other tissues. They must be procured within six hours and can only be preserved for about 10 days, said Jay Lugo, executive director of the Idaho Lions Eye Bank in Boise. But many Lions Club members, those corneas get to the people who need them.

After the eyes have been removed from the hospital or funeral home, they're put on ice and Lions Club members courier them to the Idaho Lions Eye Bank in Boise. Once there, the corneas are removed and stored.

Physicians with patients who need corneal transplants call the Idaho Lions Eye Bank and put their patients' names on the waiting list. When it comes to corneas, it's first-come, first-served.

"When we get corneas, we go to the top of the list, call the doctor and give him the perimeters of the cornea and he'll decide if it would work for his patient," Lugo said.

Lions Club members courier the corneas to their final destinations. "It's kind of a Pony Express system," Lugo said.

For instance, if the recipient is in Idaho Falls, Lions Club members in Boise, Mountain Home, Twin Falls and Pocatello will help courier it to its final destination.

Though the Idaho Lions Eye Bank tries to meet Idahoans' needs first, corneas have also been procured on ice and down to other parts of the country.

"Last year, our eye bank provided 250 corneas throughout the world," Lugo said. Organ and tissue donation is a gift that keeps on giving. A married couple wrote to Karen Skeen a couple of years ago to thank her for the heart the husband had been given.

"They said they were just really happy they'd received the heart and that he had a chance to make the most of his life," Karen said.

Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at smiller@magicalvalley.com.

Sept. 11

Continued from A1. • Programs were plagued with so many loopholes that millions more ended up being given to recipients who did not fit the full intent of the particular program.

• Still more millions went to help projects already in the works before Sept. 11 or on the drawing board with no prior funding source.

• Huge contracts were given to companies and organizations linked to the very officials tasked with deciding how to spend the money — creating, at a minimum, the potential for multiple conflicts of interest.

• Substantial sums were given to companies to stay in low Manhattan when they thought they had no intention of leaving.

• In many cases, original eligibility rules were expanded, and deadlines extended, so that virtually no one was ineligible. Vast numbers of applications were filed during the final weeks of sign-up periods.

• Rules for some aid programs were so loose and broadly drawn that otherwise honest people grabbed their little piece of the Sept. 11 money pot — like the thousands of New Yorkers who took advantage of FEMA by obtaining free air conditioners, air purifiers, air filters and/or high-efficiency vacuum cleaners.

• The gold rush also attracted businesses and organizations that followed all the rules for obtaining relief but did not necessarily need free money to survive.

• Finally, The Daily News found that program after program was designed, then redesigned, with a singular goal: spend every dime.

For example, in August 2002, the Empire State Development Corp. revised the formula for its Business Recovery Grant program to make the maximum awards available to more companies. Based on the old rules and the spending rate at that point, the recovery grant program never would have spent its full allotment.

Because the amount of money was established before the scope of the need was determined, Congress had to guess how best to distribute the funds among federal agencies. Technically, virtually all of the money has been allocated, but significant amounts have yet to be spent. New York Gov. George Pataki wants to use \$2 billion worth of unused, expired federal money to help pay for a rail link connecting Kennedy Airport to lower Manhattan.

Another chunk of leftover cash, \$125 million in unused workers' compensation funding, has been a lightning rod for a New York vs. Red States battle. Republicans had wanted to renege on the funds while the New York legislature has argued that the money is desperately needed to fund medical services for the legions of workers who are disabled with chronic illnesses they say were caused by workers at Ground Zero. A tentative deal has been struck to restore the funds.

Although some police, fire and security projects in the city were paid out of the \$2.1 billion, the federal Sept. 11 disaster recovery aid did not include New York's share of anti-terrorism legislation that paid for multibillion-dollar improvements in our nation's security.

The federal recovery aid also does not include the \$7 billion paid out by the Victim Compensation Fund.

Suburbia

Continued from A1. that's because people dominated the landscape, so competing said, and maybe changing leek-ins said, and they're just less exotic places to work. But the burbs have a big impact. For instance, all the car-burned-in trees in Maryland, only about two-thirds is in forests, the rest is in trees planted in yards and median strips, Jenkins found in an earlier study. That impact is bound to grow. Suburbs are among the fastest-growing land covers in the United States and in the world, said Daniel Bain of the U.S. Geological Survey in Menlo Park, Calif.

CORRECTION

On Sunday, Linda Baird, human relations director for the Twin Falls School District, told the Times-News that total grant funds for Open Court Reading coaches are \$420,037, and the total district cost is \$124,943. Both are calculations over a three-year period, and do not include employee taxes, retirement contributions, and benefits. Incorrect figures were published in Sunday's edition. The Times-News regrets the errors.

Table with columns: School, 2003-2004 Grant District, 2004-2005 Grant District, 2005-2006 Grant District, Total Grant, Total Dist. Includes rows for Hessel, Erickson, Morrill, and other schools.

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Uncounted deaths

Katrina tally doesn't include all victims

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — Singer Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown was 41 and already seriously ill when he flew the area ahead of Hurricane Katrina, and associates think the stress of evacuating and the heartbreak of losing his home hastened his death.

Still, the master of blues, country, jazz and Cajun music isn't part of Katrina's official death toll of 1,323 people in Louisiana, Mississippi, Florida, Alabama and Georgia.

Neither is 13-month-old Destiny McNeese, who rolled onto her stomach and suffocated on an air mattress after her family fled from Kentwood to Kentucky.

Nor is a 56-year-old New Orleans woman who had a stroke two days after she was rescued from the infamous storm refugee shelter in the Superdome in Texas.

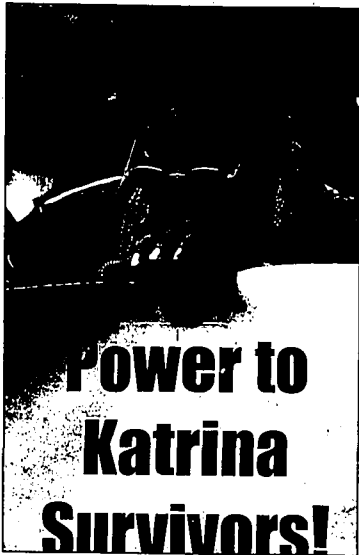
Even as the official toll continues to rise, many bodies are found in one-floored homes, the real total may never be known.

The victims are scattered far and wide, and the connections of their deaths to the storm are not necessarily obvious.

States also have different definitions for storm-related deaths. For example, Louisiana counts evacuee deaths from heart attacks as strokes before Oct. 1 as storm deaths, but Georgia does not.

Of the 19 evacuees who died in Georgia before Oct. 1, one was shot and the others had serious medical problems when they arrived, said Tod Rose of the Georgia Department of Human Resources. He could not reveal causes of deaths, but by that state's standard, none was a victim of Katrina.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals is getting copies of evacuees' death cer-



Mary Ihsaan holds a sign in front of New Orleans City Hall on Saturday, during a hurricane survivors march.

tificates from other states and reviewing them to see which deaths likely were caused or hastened by the Aug. 29 storm.

Deputy Coroner Jesse Pautley of the Jefferson County Coroner's Office in Louisville, Ky.,

where her mother, the mother's boyfriend and four other members of his family were staying. She was left alone and the mattress was so soft she couldn't raise her face after she turned over. No charges were filed, Pautley said.

The storm didn't kill Destiny directly, but, if she hadn't been an evacuee she would have been safe in her crib at home instead of on that air mattress.

"Gatemouth" Brown had been fighting lung cancer for a year before his death Sept. 10 in Orange, Texas. He also had emphysema and heart problems.

He died shortly after his release from a hospital following an emergency procedure to clear a blockage near his heart. Brown's agent Lance Cowan said, but Cowan is sure that Brown's death was hastened by the storm.

"He lost everything except his Firebird guitar and a fiddle," Cowan said. "His home there in Slidell [is] full of memorabilia he'd collected from more than 50 years of being a musician."

Clarise M. Horn, 56, died of a stroke in Fort Worth, Texas, where she was taken after five days in the Superdome, said daughter Joycelyn M. Brumfield. After Horn had a stroke six months ago, her daughter said, her doctors said another stroke would kill her.

"During the storm in the Superdome, she was already fragile," Brumfield said. "No medicine, dehydration—it was just awful."

Brumfield said her arm was wrenched from her mother's while buses were loaded at the Superdome. She and other family members wound up on a bus to Kansas City; her mother went to Texas. A day or two later, she learned her mother was dead.

know of only one related death: Destiny's, on Sept. 13.

The toddler had been tightly wrapped in a blanket and propped, sitting up, against a pillow on a half-inflated air mattress in the apartment

But there also is the challenge of accurately predicting how the economy will fare months from now, on employment, production and inflation. That is what Fed policymakers must do when they make interest-rate decisions.

Economic barometers recently have shown positive signs:

- the economy grew at an energetic 4.3 percent in the third quarter, from July through September, despite the ill effects from the Gulf Coast hurricanes.
- growth is expected to be solid in the current October-December period.
- employment rebounded in November after a two-month lull, with payrolls expanding by 215,000.

Feds expected to boost rates again this week

WASHINGTON (AP) — Expect higher interest rates from the Federal Reserve in the months ahead. It's more of a question of whether policy makers will extend their 18-month credit-tightening campaign beyond Alan Greenspan's tenure.

The central bank gradually has increased rates for 18 months to control inflation. At Tuesday's meeting, the Fed is expected to add one-quarter of a percentage point to an important short-term interest rate, known as the federal funds rate.

That would mark the 13th such increase since June 2004 and would put the rate at 4.25 percent, the highest in more than four years.

Economists are divided about what will happen after

that, saying the Fed could:

- boost rates by one-quarter of a percentage point at its next meeting, on Jan. 31, and then stop.
- vote for an increase in both January and at the following meeting, on March 28, and then move to the sidelines.
- commit to the campaign until the funds rate, the interest banks charge each other on overnight loans, reaches 5 percent.
- There is short-term certainty and medium-term mystery for the Fed," said Carl Lannenberg, chief economist at LeSalle Bank, who is in the 5 percent camp.

The Fed has nudged up the funds rate in an effort to keep the economy on an even keel and inflation in check. Changes to this rate influence a range of

interest rates for consumers and businesses.

If the Fed acts as expected on Tuesday, the prime lending rate — for certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans — would increase to 7.25 percent, the highest in more than four years.

The January meeting will be Greenspan's last. Ben Bernanke, the White House's chief economist's President Bush's choice to succeed Greenspan.

Bernanke is expected to take over Feb. 1, after Senate confirmation, and preside over his first meeting as Fed chief in March.

The changing of the economy is found at the Fed raises some uncertainties in terms of economists' outlook for interest rates.

Paramount Pictures agrees to buy DreamWorks SKG

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Paramount Pictures said Sunday it had agreed to buy independent film studio DreamWorks SKG Inc. in a deal worth \$1.6 billion in cash and debt.

The deal strengthens Paramount's live action film business and gives the unit of Viacom Inc. access to DreamWorks' library of 59 films, including Oscar-winners "American Beauty" and "Gladiator."

It also marks the end of an 11-year dream for Hollywood mogul Jeffrey Katzenberg, Jeffrey Katzenberg and David Geffen, who had ambitious goals for DreamWorks that included television, music, films and the internet.

Brad Grey, Paramount's chairman and CEO, said in a statement that enhancing Paramount's pipeline of pictures is the strategic objective in restoring Paramount's stature as a leader in filmed entertainment.

The announcement did not break down the amounts of cash and debt involved in the deal.

The agreement does not include DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc., the most profitable part of the company. The animated unit went public last year, but Paramount does gain the right to distribute the studio's lucrative animated films, including the "Shrek" franchise.

Paramount also said it was in advanced negotiations with a third party to sell DreamWorks' film library but would retain the right to distribute the titles.

Upon completion of the deal, expected to close early next year, Paramount would have a long-term agreement with Spielberg as a producer and director, and Geffen, who will become chairman of DreamWorks.

Spielberg and Geffen will be responsible for producing four

to six live action films a year.

Paramount said it will also make an exclusive seven-year distribution deal with DreamWorks Animation and will have the rights to produce television shows using DreamWorks Animation characters.

The agreement caps months of talks involving the acquisition of DreamWorks.

NBC Universal was interested last summer, but those exclusive talks ended in September after the two sides could not agree on a price or resolve creative issues surrounding Spielberg.

NBC Universal re-entered the bidding in October.

Paramount was initially interested in bidding but could not get permission from its parent, Viacom, which was in the process of splitting into two publicly traded companies.

The studio jumped back into talks unexpectedly this week after Viacom's board approved a bid. Viacom agreed to an offer only if it could split the risk with outside investors.

DreamWorks was created in 1984. It had grand ambitions to become a major player in films, music, animation, television and the Internet.

DreamWorks was forced to scale back its ventures over the years. It abandoned plans to build a high-tech studio lot in Los Angeles in 1999, sold DreamWorks Records to Universal Music Group in 2004 and has curtailed its TV production. Its Internet site, Pop.com, also folded.

The Times-News:
Your guide to life in Magic Valley
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New Jersey bear hunt comes to a close; more than 100 protest

VERNON, N.J. (AP) — About 200 hunters were killed in New Jersey's six-day hunt aimed at thinning out the burgeoning population, which ended with more than 100 protesters waiting for hunters to engage from the woods with their rifles.

The hunt ended shortly after dusk Saturday with fewer bears killed than the 328 bagged in 2003, according to preliminary figures.

Black bears, once near extinction in the state, are now a common sight, menacing peo-

ple scampering through yards and rummaging in trash.

"I believe we'll now see a reduction in nuisance complaints, a reduction in serious complaints and that we'll get more information about these bears because of this," said Martin McHugh, director of the state's Division of Fish and Wildlife.

He would not say whether he capped another hunt next year, but noted the state's black bear management plan recommends hunts in 2006 or 2007.

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SCHOOL DAYS

Community Editor: Pat Marrantonio - 735-3288

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Monday, December 12, 2005

The Times-News

INVOLVEMENT

Teacher contract talks generally stay out of classrooms

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Teacher contract negotiations came to sudden halt last week when 57 percent of voting members within the teachers' union approved the contract.

The bargaining process lasted more than six months, and evolved into a bitter debate over working relationships between school district administrators and teachers. But what happened within the schools during the lengthy bargaining process is a whole other story.

On a rainy Wednesday morning outside Sawtooth Elementary School, about 20 teachers gathered for a "walk-in" — a weekly event where teachers would walk into the schools together to show their solidarity for the union bargaining team. Steve Hoy, chairman of the Twin Falls Education Association (TFEA), which represented the teachers in their fight for a contract with higher salaries and benefits, said they staged the "walk-in" because it was a way for them to demonstrate without disturbing students' education.

"We keep the issue out of the classrooms, and we don't talk about it with the students," Hoy said.

Visiting elementary schools during the lengthy bargaining process was like entering the calm in the "eye of the storm." Almost everyone in the school buildings was involved in the tumultuous discussions, but other than orange ribbons that some teachers wore on their lapels, the political turmoil was left outside the school doors.

Teachers who posted comments on Magic Valley Education — The Times-News Web log — did say there was a division among the ranks, as some teachers supported a quick contract ratification and others opposed it. But the comments usually ended with reminders to keep the bargaining process out of the classrooms.

When the TFEA filed a class action lawsuit against the district, students started to become more involved. Outside the Twin Falls County Courthouse on Oct. 18, when the teachers' union filed the suit — teachers gathered with a few parents and their children to show their support for the union's legal action. While younger children seemed to see it as nothing more than running errands with their par-

ents, it was clear that some older students were very aware of the controversy. Until the lawsuit, most of the children who attended the TFEA gatherings were there simply to be with parents, or as one teacher said because she could not afford baby-sitting.

Signs of student involvement appeared at Twin Falls High School when students began wearing the orange ribbons.

However, in a classroom discussion with Twin Falls High School student leaders in October, they said increasing graduation requirements, drugs and alcohol and rising gas prices were the most important issues to them. And they said this while their teacher sat behind them — wearing an orange ribbon.

Ben Allen, Twin Falls High School principal, said that teachers were very "professional" during the bargaining process because they kept the political discussions out of the classroom.

But media coverage of the bargaining process, displays of TFEA support and discussions at home did put the issue in front of most high school students.

Just before the bargaining process came to an end, the Twin Falls High School pride rock was painted orange with words of support for teachers.

"It was the first time I've seen something like this," Allen said.



The often painted 'spirit rock' outside of Twin Falls High School was used to comment on the teacher negotiations.

Stuart drama students present Greek plays

TWIN FALLS — Robert Stuart Junior High School drama Department will be performing an abridged version of the Greek plays, "Antigone" and "Prometheus Bound" at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the cafeteria.

Admission is \$1 per person. For more information, call Maggi Forner at the school.

"Prometheus Bound" is the story of the Greek god, Prometheus, and how he is punished by Zeus for stealing fire to manna. The play stars ninth-grader, Ryan Jones.

"Antigone" is the story of a girl who defies the king's orders not to bury her brother who the king has declared a traitor. She is punished for her crime, and the king also pays for his stubbornness. It stars ninth-grader, Kim Dolcheck.

Buhl Christmas Card art on display

BUHL — Builders Club of Buhl Middle School sponsored a Christmas Card contest and the top 10 out of 75 entries will be on display from Dec. 15 to Jan. 28 at the Buhl High Street Center, 200 N. Eighth.

Three of the cards were copied and distributed to all Buhl middle school students. They were also colored and delivered to the senior citizen center and the Snake River Rehabilitation Center.

Minico High School band performs concert

RUPERT — The Minico High School Band holiday concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Minico High School auditorium, 300 W. Highway 24.

The concert will feature the Minico High School Concert Band and Jazz Band playing a wide range of holiday music.

Burley FCLA sells tickets for quilt

BURLEY — The Burley High School Family, Career and Community Leaders of America is selling tickets for a red, white and blue quilt.

The proceeds will fund hurricane victims. Tickets are 50 cents each, three for \$1 and are available in front of the library Thursdays or Fridays during lunch.

Scholarship application deadline approaches

RUPERT — Minidoka Memorial Hospital Volunteer Scholarship applications are due Thursday.

Forms may be picked up at the information desk at the hospital lobby. All applications must be completed and returned by the above date. Four \$500 scholarships will be awarded this year.

Kimberly High School will hold concert

KIMBERLY — Kimberly High School is holding a band/choir concert at 7 p.m. today in the commons area, 141 Center St.

Agape School performs Christmas program

TWIN FALLS — The Agape School Christmas program will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the school, 181 Morrison St.

Children will present a Christmas program free to the public.

For more information, call Julie May at 734-3693.

Gooding schools host music events

GOODING — The Gooding Elementary School holiday concert will be held at 7 p.m. today at the middle school gym, 1045 Seventh Ave.

The middle school concert is scheduled at 7 p.m. Thursday at the middle school gym. It will include sixth-grade band, choir and concert band.

Gooding High School music students will perform a holiday concert at 7 p.m. Dec. 19 at the high school gym.

1050 Seventh Ave. W. Performances will include the concert band, varsity choir, Madrigals and jazz band.

The third annual cinnamon roll music fundraiser is also under way. High school music students will sell tickets for \$8 for 12 rolls.

For more information, call the high school at 934-4831.

Burley High School sells roll dough

BURLEY — Burley High School is selling frozen roll dough for \$2 a dozen in time for the holidays.

To order, call the kitchen by Friday at 678-6606.

Shoshone Spanish Club hosts taco dinner

SHOSHONE — The Shoshone High School Spanish Club is hosting a taco dinner from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the cafeteria, 61 E. Highway 24.

Tickets can be purchased from Spanish Club members or at the door. The cost is \$4 per person or \$15 per family.

Following is the Shoshone versus Dietrich girls basketball game.

For more information, call the school at 886-2381.

Shoshone art classes sell art calendars

SHOSHONE — Shoshone High School art classes are offering a calendar featuring art work from 2004-2005 classes.

The cost is \$8 and proceeds benefit the art department and Business Professionals of America.

Calendars are available at the high school office or from art students and BPA members.

For more information, call the school at 886-2381.

Richfield FFA Chapter freshmen earn honors

RICHFIELD — The Richfield School Future Farmers of America freshmen members won first place in the district FFA Greenhand event held in November.

Danielle Schmidt earned eighth high individual and Lea Piper, Brody Norman and Chelsea Jones tied for second high individual placing. In crew speaking, Danielle received second place honors.

Richfield School holds Christmas program

RICHFIELD — Richfield School is holding a Christmas program 7 p.m. Thursday at the gymnasium, 555 N. Tiger Drive.

Each elementary class is selecting an activity.

The Parent Teacher Organization is also in need of helpers to stuff grocery bags to hand out after the program when Santa Claus makes his annual visit. Help is needed at 6:15 p.m. Thursday at the school cafeteria.

For more information, call 487-2790.

Shoshone Education Association sells rolls

SHOSHONE — The Shoshone Education Association is having its third annual cinnamon roll fundraiser.

The cost is \$5 for six or \$10 for 12. Orders may be picked up between noon and 1 p.m. Dec. 17 at the cafeteria, 61 E. Highway 24. Proceeds go to scholarships for seniors pursuing the education field.

To order, call Norma Flores at 886-2742, ext. 343.

Shoshone Elementary presents concert

SHOSHONE — Shoshone Elementary School will perform a Christmas concert at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the gymnasium, 61 E. Highway 24.

For more information, call 886-7643.

Hagerman School performs concert

HAGERMAN — Hagerman School is holding an all-school Christmas concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the high school gym, 150 W. Lake.

For more information, call 837-4572.

Kimberly students mix it up to break down walls

KIMBERLY — Students at Kimberly Middle School took the challenge to mix it up so they could break down barriers between them.

Mix It Up at Lunch Day encourages people to cross lines and meet new people. Nationally, about 5 million students in 13,000 schools participated in the fourth annual event, according to the Kimberly Middle School. A national survey found that 70-percent of students named the cafeteria as the school setting where social boundaries are most clearly drawn. And, the event encourages students to challenge the cliques and groups that create social divisions in their schools.

The Student Leadership Team said they believed the students at Kimberly Middle School could take this challenge, school representatives reported.

As the cafeteria began to fill with students the day of the event, Student Team Leaders directed students to tables which matched with the candy bars handed out as they left the serving area.

"I was surprised at the number of kids who participated," said Kolby Hardy, Student Leadership Team member.



Clint Lawson was the winner of a dinner during the Kimberly Middle School Mix It Up event.

Photo courtesy of Kimberly Middle School

More than two thirds of the students took part. There were interactive activity sheets on the tables to help start conversations. Another Student Leadership Team member, MacKenzie Johnson noticed how students laughed and talked with the help of the conversation starters.

Students were encouraged to fill out the

sheets because on their way out of the cafeteria, they exchanged the conversation starter sheet for a ticket in the drawing for a \$20 gift certificate at Johnny Carino's. Clint Lawson won the drawing.

For more information regarding the National Mix It Up Lunch Day event, visit www.tolerance.org.

Burley school, public build caring community

BURLEY — Burley High School hosted its second annual Community Block Party with more than 1,400 people in attendance.

Fresh hot dogs, chips and pop were served, and spectators were treated to entertainment, including Brian Tibbets from the group, COLORS, the Hispanic dancers from the LOOK organization; and the Burley High School jazz band.

The purpose of the event was to help build a "community of caring" by establishing a relationship between Burley High School and the community, school representatives said. This event was held in conjunction with the Charac-

ter Education initiative at the school.

School clubs and community organizations were encouraged to participate by setting up a booth that would help fund their group. This year, the Red Cross, Burley Centennial store, Burley Public Library were represented.

Burley High School staff and students also select a community person who models the particular trait of the month. Mike Hansen was selected for exhibiting school pride. Hansen is a longtime resident of Burley and a great fan of Burley High School sports, the school says.

Businesses and organizations that contribute to the event include John's Market, Dairy Queen, Pepsy, Frito Lay, Taco Bandito, Idaho Milk Association, McCain's Foods and Burger King and the Burley High School enterprising class. Booster Club, soccer, tennis, and boys basketball.



Burley High School recognizes students for their character throughout the week. Teachers can nominate students, and students can nominate teachers for 'Caught Ya Havin' Character' cards. These cards are displayed and each week, a card is drawn to see who will sit on the 'Character Couch' at the home football games. Students who received this honor include McKenzi Baker, Jessica Brice, Mickel Baker, Candice Dalton, Kody Stuart, Clara Page, Thomas Whipple and Braden Lake.



Mike Hansen

MVHS bids farewell to grads

Magie Valley High School finished block four on Friday with students and staff using the weekend to prepare for the start of block five on Monday.

The end of block five coincides with the end of the semester at other Twin Falls secondary schools, and many of our students will make a transition at this time to Twin Falls High School.



MVHS MOMENTS Jennifer Miller

Melanie Hutchinson's history class decorated the walls this past week with creations illustrating the rights guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Students also presented their Decade Projects earlier in the week, featuring food, fact, trivia, and some-

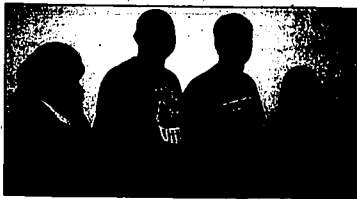


PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER MILLER

Magie Valley High School bid farewell to block four graduates on Friday. Sonia Cebranos, Aaron Rodriguez, Casey Matlock and Parisa Seddigh received their diplomas and gave words of encouragement to the younger students.

times, clothing from their assigned 10-year period. Students this week are Jessica Beilke for the top grade in sophomore English B, Joshua Kreps and Joshua Kimbrough for academic improvement, and Kevin Adams and Cory Bryan for student leadership. Kevin, assisted by Cory, has

been organizing student interest and involvement in activities that lent support to teachers during the recent contract negotiations.

Jennifer Miller is the English and speech teacher at Magie Valley High School in Twin Falls.

ECONOMIC SUMMIT WINNERS



The Economic Summit held at the College of Southern Idaho allows students to assume the roles of diplomats and ambassadors of countries they represent. Then, they negotiate and trade with other countries for goods and services. Murtaugh High School's 'Guatemala' team, seniors Fernando Martinez, Chase Hussaker, Druce Tolman, Derek Prano and Kristen Egbert, took first. Murtaugh's 'Egypt' team took fourth, with seniors Gerry Dillman, Brandon Olliverson, Krystale Cariera and Eli Anderson, and its Australia team took sixth, with seniors Chandra Damlin, Tanya Randolph, Jorge Leon and Dyan Stallings.

PHOTO COURTESY OF JENNIFER SCHWEDD

Aca Deca team prepares for competition

The Jerome High School Aca Deca team is ready to spend its weekends competing in 10 academic areas.

In last week's invitational, it took first place in the super quiz portion. The following students brought home gold medals: Patrick Lough, Jacob Climbler, Travyn Mapes, Julia Reynolds, Jeremy Grant, Ashley Grant and David Sedano.

One of the most successful programs at JHS is the Positive Youth Development Class. Students are selected through an application process that focuses on achievement, leadership and bilingual ability.

Through the program, students work with pre-school age children from Head Start whose families have limited English. The students prepare the preschoolers for success in kindergarten by tutoring them



TIGER PRINTS Patti O'Dell

Congratulations to these outstanding leaders.

Catherine Hendrickson is heading to Boise to work as a page for the 2005-2006 legislative session. She will perform a variety of duties and gain hands-on experience to learn about government. Catherine maintains a 3.8 GPA while maintaining a busy schedule, including competing on the advanced speech team and working through her third year in the Information Technology Academy.

Catch some Christmas spirit at the band concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the auditorium. Correction: The meeting for parents regarding the Idaho Standard Achievement Test will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the cafeteria.

Patti O'Dell is principal of Jerome High School.



Economic Summit Second place winners were from Twin Falls High School representing Iceland, from left, Olin Gardner, DeCente Haggan, Lisa Harris, Alex Martens and Lindsey Vanleueven. The teacher is James Alcaro. Teams representing 37 countries from Murtaugh, Twin Falls, Buhl and Carey High schools competed.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CSI



Third-place winners were Carey High School representing Germany, from left, Brenna Silva, Megan Stanford, Amy Olsen, Lacy Peterson and Amanda Hill. The teacher is Lane Kirkland.

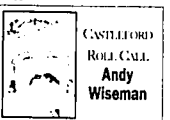
PHOTO COURTESY OF CSI

Students start up band, head to FFA tests

Chris Hill, Idaho Power Community Education representative, will present lectures to elementary students on Wednesday on a variety of topics, including safety, conservation and the generation of electricity.

Our fourth-grade students began their basketball season by providing half-time entertainment at the high school ball game. The fourth-grade girls will play today, and the fourth-grade boys play Friday. Carolyn Kohntopp also says the junior high pep band is ready to perform and will begin Friday.

FFA adviser Roger Webb announces that he has several teams traveling Wednesday to the College of Southern Idaho to compete in the district FFA



CASTLEFORD ROLL CALL Andy Wiseman

foods and crops contests at 3:30 p.m.

Kris Klime, cheer/dance adviser, would like to let parents know that the high school cheer/dance team will conduct a Little Cheer Camp from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday. The cost is \$20 and includes a T-shirt and an opportunity to perform at two high school games.

Our three-week grade reports will be provided to all second-

ary students today. We remind parents who have access to the Internet that they can be provided a password so they can check their child's information at any time.

Our last day before Christmas vacation will be Dec. 20, and it will be a full day of school. However, at 7 p.m. Dec. 19, the FFA will sponsor a Christmas party at the AG/Science and Technology facility.

The school board will meet at 7 p.m. Dec. 20.

I wish all our students and parents Merry Christmas, and best wishes as we enter a New Year.

Andy Wiseman is Castleford School principal.

GHS takes part in community drives

Congratulations to December's students of the month, Michael Arkoosh and Lara Nelson.

Students' votes were based on generosity and unity. Congratulations also to freshman English teacher Mrs. Sackman for being nominated as Staff of the Month.

Future Farmers of America has the honor of being December's Club of the Month for all its hard work and dedication this fall.

Gooding High School is participating in multiple drives this month. Each class will hold one to help the community, such as drives to collect money for turkeys, canned food, coats and toys. If you have any items you wish to donate, please drop them off the high school.



SENIOR SCENE Tyler Wines

Many clubs are hard at work this winter. The Art Club has been making medallions displaying the spirit of Gooding High School. The medallions can be seen in the library. A silent auction is being held for a fundraiser for the club. You can drop by and place a bid.

The cheerleaders are holding their annual Winter Ball Dec. 17. The Reading Club members visited a nursing home and

brought 50 homemade holiday tree decorations for residents. The Drama Club is busy rehearsing its version of "The Taming of the Shrew." Drama members are asking the community for help with their costumes. If you have any old western clothing that you do not need and would be willing to donate in order to make costumes, the drama students would appreciate it very much.

The students and staff of Gooding High realize that the school has been asking a lot from the community, and thank the town of Gooding for its constant support and generosity year in and year out.

Tyler Wines is Gooding High School student body secretary.

Christmas events keep TFHS buzzing

Twin Falls High School is putting on its first "Christmas Lights Up the Park" on Friday.

It is a black tie event for the adults in our community and will be held in Twin Falls City Park. We would love to see you all there for a night of fun and dancing with a jazz band. Tickets are \$30 for a couple or \$20 for a single and are available from any student council member. The proceeds will go to the senior class graduation fund.

The next evening, the student council will put on the student "Winter Ball at Twin Falls City Park. The theme is "Christmas in Hollywood."

Many clubs and organizations have been busy during this Christmas season. All the choirs have been preparing for their concert, which will be held at 7:30 p.m. in the Roper Auditorium. Come and hear Women's Chorus, Concert Choir and Chamber Singers perform their Christmas numbers, directed by Joe Casperson.



BRUIN BUZZ Deldre Edmunds

with your high school students to help them get even more food than last year.

Also, the student council will start collecting for "Change for Change" this week. Students can bring their change to help their school win the grand prize. All the money received will help buy Christmas items for needy families in the community. Donations are greatly appreciated, also.

Get out there and help our community. Happy Holidays!

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

Hispanos Unidos, assisted La Posada Ministry, is preparing Christmas baskets for the community. Some of their tasks include sorting food, wrapping gifts and preparing toys.

The Family, Career and Community Leaders of America chapter is starting its Christmas campaign to help needy families. They are collecting items you wish to donate to help them get even more food than last year.

Get out there and help our community. Happy Holidays!

Filer High School honors football athletes

The Filer High School football banquet was held on Nov. 30, where awards and letters were given to outstanding and dedicated athletes.

Some of the trophies presented included: Jared Denton as Player of the Year, Josh Benedictus and Travis Wiersma as Offensive Players of the Year, and Casey Dabney was Defensive Player of the Year.

The play, "Romeo and Winifred," was presented by the drama club last month. It was a comedic spin-off of Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet." In the lead roles were Nathan Fechner and Danika Weddle. A teacher at Filer High School took her two daughters to see the play. His reaction: "Everyone enjoyed it. The kids did a great job." Congratulations to teacher Ed Richards.



WILDCAT WORD Allison Ko

He was chosen by the student council to be a GRANIS (Governor's Industry Award for Notable Teaching in Science) Award nominee. He was selected because he is a teacher who integrates real-life applications of science and technology in the classroom.

Get ready for Christmas music at a concert on Dec. 19. The jazz band will play "Up on the Housetop," while the Madrigal choir will sing a rendition of "We Three Kings." There will also be performances by the band and choir, including "Christmas Concerto" and "Will We Know Him?"

Allison Ko is Filer High School student body president.

Gooding Middle School lists honor students

GOODING — Gooding Middle School has released its first quarter honor roll students:

- Sixth grade**
 4.0 grade point average
 Anthony Archaos, Jacobyn Bellamy, Savannah Bennett, Margaret Bess, Isaac Flick, Kaitlyn Jay, Alexandria Kuntz, Jeremiah Lee, Drew Nelson, Jennifer Perry, Taylor Rees and Crystal Thatcher.
- 3.5 and up**
 Allie Amoresine, Ben Bekton, Hannah Brown, Anjali Demaree, Veronica Messers, Ethan Salski, William Sunkara, Tiffany Zarba, Andrea Mattner, Laraine Thomas, Makahia Kuhn, Alicia Williams, Colene Naza, Kaitlyn Nelson, Ian Hildebrand, Kaitlyn Beckler, Marissa Carver, Lindy Kuzmarov, Jacob Becker, Amir Hays, Brittain Kinsinger, Brandon Henders, Joseph Lopez, Marissa Martinez, Brittany Perry and Ben Sims.
- 3.0 and up**
 Crystal Cardenas, Deater Leader, Michael

- Ninth grade**
 Barbara, Andrea Orth, Megan Stockham, Roberto Zamora, Carmen Aguirre, Megan Hurd, Jeshadiah Roman and Matthew Welsh.
- Seventh grade**
 4.0
 Joaquin Brown, Allison Hara, Jonathan Jensen and Andy Simon.
- 3.5 and up**
 Michael Anderson, Victoria Salas, Audrey Wourn, Angela Olik, Jacob Archaos, Trevor Stevens, Cady Valganzon and Rosa Waldman.
- 3.0 and up**
 Chad Kokey, Susan Kockalski, Jessica Barnrose, Amy Harkin, Kathleen Gocher, Jaci DeWey, Staci Laugel, Joshua Hobbey, Krista Wirth, Britanna Piper, Leah Anderson, Colton Breda, Melissa Diehl, Colton Bergeson, Adriana Garcia, Destiny Jackson, Keeley Pickens, Amber Putman, Garin Robinson, Jason Host, Jake Davis, LaPrasa House, Rachel Giese, Adlene Greeney, Austin Jones and Hannah Madson.

- Eighth grade**
 4.0
 Amanda Benita, Joshua Rubbers, Derek Gerhart, Samantha Gonzalez, Jessica Hernandez and Isabel Wolfe.
- 3.5 and up**
 Austin Bantersches, Caitlin Pickens, David VanKleeck, Timothy Arkoosh, Danielle Ely, Kyle Larson, Devon McCook, Joshua Abbott, Kyle Bennett, Damon Hansen, Kimberly Noffs, Kaseyanna Pullan, Stephanie Stockham, Tildy Wagner, Brianna Wirth, Kayla Redinger, Shaelee Stevens, Marissa Bentley, Allison Byler, Drew Jackson, Benny Alaman, Krista Sims, A Breck Stewart and Shalee Swinley.
- 3.0 and up**
 Arnie Coyne, Alexis Gault, Zachary Davis, Matthew Thacker, Brianne Qualls, Megan Valdez, Tiffany Bushong, Amber Turner, Justin Dallas, Alberto Enriquez, Nicholas Legarria, Ann Marlowe, Patrick Shipps, Alana Gonzalez, Ana Lara, Raymond Iba and Tyler Robinson.

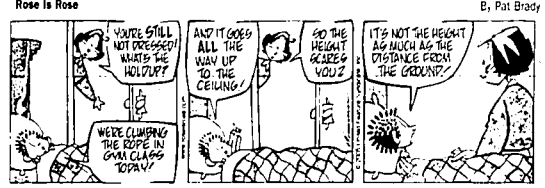
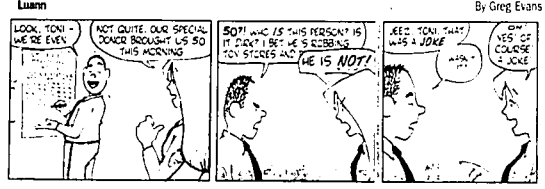
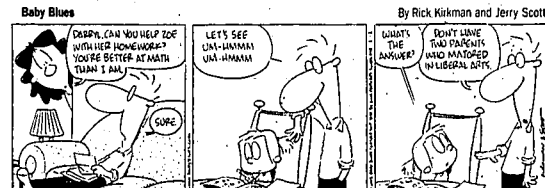
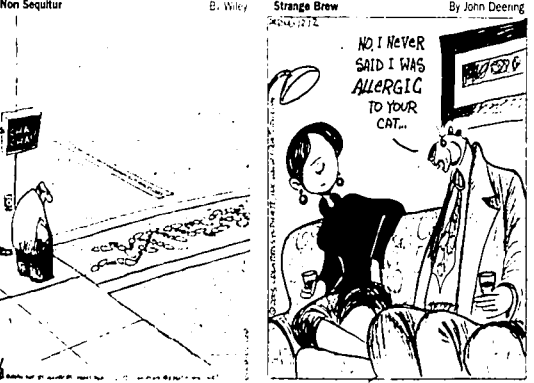
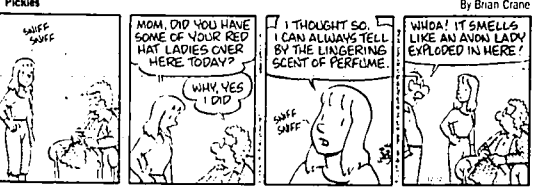
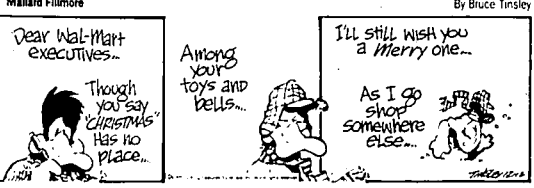
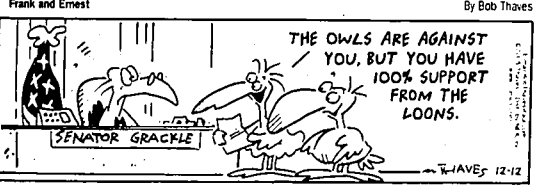
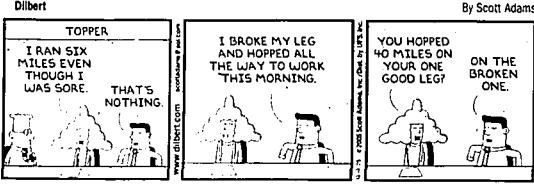
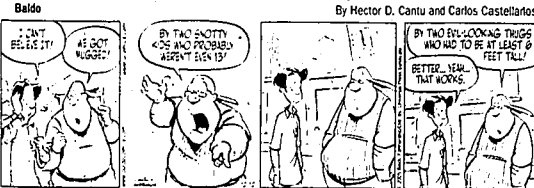
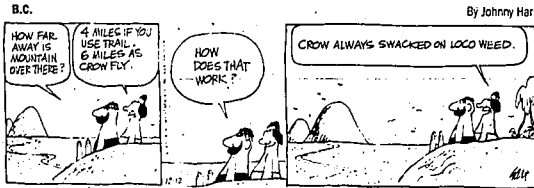
HONORING VETERANS



Angie Fillmore and the students from Bickel Elementary School in Twin Falls celebrate Veterans Day at Twin Falls City Park.

PHOTO COURTESY OF BICKEL

COMICS



Leo: Network, make the rounds

IF DEC. 12 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY, peace and tranquility are yours in the year to come. Because life is predictable, you can take care of routine health checkups and begin a routine that includes exercise and a more stable lifestyle. In the last half of September it will be necessary to be organized as extra responsibilities may make demands of your time. Plans can be set in motion, and special opportunities may appear in late July, early August and mid-September. Be sure to make hay while the sun shines and take advantage of the multitude of gifts that are bestowed upon you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Holiday entertainments can put extra delights in your life. A cheery disposition makes everything you touch flow harmoniously. People will be more cooperative and helpful than usual.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't be a daydreamer. A glamorous business deal that tantalizes you in the middle of the day may be but a mirage. Holiday cheer will be bubbling in the background to warm up relationships.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Facts and figures might make your day. Find a few extra pen-

or leaders in the community can turn into besom buddies under these pleasant stars.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Brief misunderstandings will be quickly forgotten as a festive atmosphere begins to show up. Share your creative ideas or attend holiday events and bond with new acquaintances.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your best friends might be right there in your own home. Don't forget to mail cards and send out invitations for holiday gatherings. Pleasing family should be foremost on your list.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Casual contacts could contain the potential for concrete companionship. Strike up a conversation and find a similar soul who might hang out and become a permanent fixture.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Like a good neighbor, you'll be there. Friends can count on you and may call on you to help out with little details. Make sure to make your Christmas wish list as Santa may be watching.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Holiday battles and bustle may be just the thing to recharge your batteries. Secret disappointments shouldn't spoil the day. Make a new friend or help out with a children's holiday event.

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

ies in the cookie jar for a special treat. Because the general mood is upbeat, it will be easy to find a congenial shopping partner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): When people are in a good mood, they are more likely to get along well. This is a good day to attend holiday social events. A little romantic glow is likely to shine in the late evening.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Network and make the rounds. Friendships are highlighted and heightened by a holiday spirit. New contacts could turn into lifelong buddies and your love life can take a turn for the better.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Get caught up in the holiday spirit. Think about ways to decorate your home or surroundings. Set business objectives and enlist the support of the local movers and shakers.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Get out in the public eye with a friend and make some handy business contacts. Co-workers

COMICS

Beetle Bailey By **Mort Walker**

WHAT IS TAKING HIM SO LONG?
CREAK!
GREG: NOT HIS GUY
12-12

I DIDN'T WANT ANYONE TO GET HURT
CAUTION FALLING GARGLE

Blondie By **Dean Young & Stan Drake**

COCA-COLA HAS BEEN HERE FOR 50 YEARS LAST WEEK!
OH GEE, BOSS, I'M SORRY!
HAVE YOU CALLED TO REPORT IT MISSING?
NOT YET SO FAR THE THEE'S BEEN SPENDING A LOT LESS THAN COCA EVER DO

The Born Loser By **Art Sansom & Chip**

WHY ARE THE FOODS I LIKE BEST, LIKE STEAK AND EGGS AND CHEESE SAID TO BE UNHEALTHY?
FIFTY YEARS AGO, MY FOLKS ATE LOTS OF THOSE THINGS AND IT DIDN'T HURT THEM!
THAT'S BECAUSE THAT WAS BEFORE THEY INVENTED CHOLESTEROL!

Garfield By **Jim Davis**

HEW EVERBODY...
IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON!
HAVE YOU HUGGED YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE TODAY?
WORRIED ON THE WEST COAST

Hagar the Horrible By **Chris Browne**

WHEN VISITING A FOREIGN COUNTRY, A VIKING'S MOTTO IS:
NEITHER A BORROWER NOR A LENDER BE
WHAT SHOULD WE BE?
A TAKER

Hi and Lois By **Chance Browne**

REMEMBER WHEN WE ONLY HAD THREE NETWORKS AND TWO LOCAL STATIONS?
THINGS CHANGE, THINGS STAY THE SAME!
THERE'S STILL NOTHING ON.

Classic Peanuts By **Charles M. Schulz**

THIS IS MY REPORT ON HOW THE FLORIBS INVESTED IN GEORGE WASHINGTON
THEY DIDN'T?
BOY THAT KIND OF SHOOT-A-BIG HOLE IN THIS REPORT, DOESN'T IT?
I MEAN LIKE WDW, I LIKE WEIRD; I MEAN LIKE WHERE DO WE GO FORTHHERE?
MAMA?
WHERE WE GO FORTHHERE IS BACK TO MY DESK

The Wizard of Id By **Brant Parker and Johnny Hart**

HOW DID THE KING DO?
HE BROKE THE COURSE RECORD
WOW
SIX HOURS AND FORTY-FIVE MINUTES

Dennis the Menace By **Hank Ketcham**

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By **Bill Keane**

12-12

"GEE, MR. WILSON...HOW COME THERE'S MORE HAIR ON YOUR CHEST THAN ON YOUR HEAD?"

"Couldn't I have it in a goblet?"

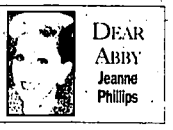
Mom wishes son's birth father would get re-lost

DEAR ABBY: Until now, I had a perfect life with a wonderful husband and a great 10-year-old son.

My husband of 10 years, "Keith," has raised my son, "Mike," and loves him as his own. Mike grew up knowing that Keith was not his birth father, but has always treated him as if he were. My ex-husband remarried and now has three daughters. I never hid this from my son, but now, my ex-husband's daughters have "found" Mike on the Internet. They have been talking for a couple of weeks now, and Mike actually talked to his birth father on a couple of occasions.

Mike now treats Keith very badly, and Keith doesn't know why. I know about the conversations with his "sisters," but I did not know about the conversations with his father. Why would a man who abandoned me and his infant son 16 years ago all of a sudden want to come into his life now and disrupt our lives? We have a great family, and I get very uncomfortable when Mike slips in things that happened 16 or 17 years ago, because I heard it from his father. Also, I do not like his father taking to him one-on-one without me. What can I do?

DEAR WORRIED: I can think of one reason why the man who abandoned you and your baby boy is now disrupting your life.



The answer is, he "only" had three girls and would now like to have a son. After all, all the work of raising this young man has been done.

Your son may be 16, but he is still a minor. I recommend you discuss this entire matter with an attorney who can tell you what your rights are as your son's custodial parent. (I am assuming you never received child support for the boy. If your ex wants "it" now, perhaps he should share some of the financial responsibility that Keith has shouldered for so many years.)

And while you're at it, I urge you to consider family counseling for you, your husband and your son. I don't know what your ex may have been telling the young man, but I guarantee it'll be better if it's put on the table by you, with a trained therapist who can help you to iron out the "variables" before they become permanent press. Please don't put it off.

DEAR ABBY: Every year at Christmas, my four longtime girlfriends and I promise not to buy each other expensive gifts.

We all have large families, so it is a cost-saving measure. I have never, invariably at least one of us ends up ignoring the rule and buys lavish gifts anyway! The small gift-givers end up feeling embarrassed, and the expensive gift-givers end up feeling guilty for violating our pledge.

Please help us stop this self-defeating cycle.

—"B" IN UNIONVILLE, IND.

DEAR "B": I have a suggestion: Make a pot this year that you only "gift" will be in the form of letters to each other, describing a special memory of your friendship. I embellish the letters with all the traits your friends have that you admire. I promise you, the recipients will treasure it. If anyone breaks the pact, the others should not feel guilty for having kept the promise and given a gift of "self."

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 13-year-old boy with a problem. My mother won't stop saying my underwear is "too big" for me. I promise you, she only uses my new underwear. I constantly ask her to stop, but she won't. What should I do?

—ANGRY IN HARTFORD, CONN.

DEAR ANGRY: If you are old enough to have things of your own, your mother should stop by using your underwear without your permission. The next time it happens, try this: Say you'd like to borrow some of hers.

U.S. Army imported camels

In the 1850s, the U.S. Army imported camels to test out in the Arizona desert. However, once the Civil War began, the Camel Corps was abandoned and the animals released into the desert. Hunters reported seeing feral camels around Yuma as late as the 1950s.

This day in history: On Dec. 11, 1859, Schenck and priest, Father Edward Hanagan, founded Boys Town for wayward boys. In 1979, it opened its doors to wayward girls, too.

Allergies swallow small proteins that stay in your stomachs and aid digestion.

The stiff blue cloth that tailor Levi Strauss imported for making pants during California's Gold Rush came in packages labeled "Serge de Nime." Americans didn't realize that "de Nime" merely identified the French city of origin, and started calling the cloth "denim."



Author Washington Irving didn't just write about Rip Van Winkle, Ichabod Crane and Christopher Columbus; he was also a hardware salesman, a lawyer and an American diplomat to England and Spain.

You know Harvey, the 6-foot 1-inch rabbit of page and serene? In the first draft of Mary Chase's novel, he was Hans, and she was a 4-foot tall canary.

Snakes are related to lizards and used to have legs but lost them over time as their slithering became more energy efficient than crawling. Some more prim-

ate snakes like the python and boa constrictor still have remnants of their legs called "spurs."

Leoric has been shown to raise blood pressure.

Among birds, the turkey buzzard is the longest living with a lifespan of about 110 years. Swans can live to 102 years, and parrots to about 80.

Do you know how you can compare the rising of your unemployment — 44 percent of the workforce does the same.

Which beats its wings faster — the honey bee or the bumblebee? Experts have always believed that the smaller the bug, the faster the wings, but high-speed photography proves that they're wrong. In both cases, the honey bee beats the fruit fly 2:1 to 20:1.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmatters@timesnews.com

ABC: No 'stale news' for West Coast

NEW YORK (AP) — In an age when stories spread instantly, ABC News executive Jon Banner says the idea of airing a daily newscast on the West Coast that is three hours old "is kind of an insult."

So when ABC announced last week that Elizabeth Vargas and Bob Woodruff were the new anchors of "World News Tonight," the network also said they'd work later hours than predecessor Peter Jennings. They will also anchor two separate live newscasts each night for viewers outside the eastern time zones.

The two live later broadcasts began Jan. 5.

Time and experience will tell whether the innovation is groundbreaking or a gimmick. But one western journalist already said she's excited by the message it sends.

"We wanted something like this for quite some time, just to make sure the network's approach is not as New York or D.C. centered as it has been in the past," said Stacy Owen, news director at the ABC affiliate KCTV in Sacramento, Calif.

"World News Tonight" is broadcast live at 6:30 p.m. in virtually all Eastern cities (Atlanta is an exception), and at 5:30 p.m. in most Central time zone markets.

Since that's the middle of the afternoon out West, ABC stations there air a tape of the national news as much as three hours later. All three network evening newscasts update their broadcasts for the West Coast if stories change.

"There was a reasonably high standard of when you would update," ABC News President David Westin said. "We would frequently update our stories, but not nearly as often as we would like."

The new editions will be made at 8:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. ET. Vargas and Woodruff will often repeat what they did earlier, but will have the opportunity



to add details to a still-unfolding story, such as when U.S. marshals shot an airplane passenger last week in Miami. Sometimes stories of greater interest out West — brush fires in California, for instance — could substitute for stories that aired in the rest of the country, Westin said.

Besides fresher news, ABC hopes there's a psychic advantage of knowing somebody is speaking to you live, taking your schedule into account. Don't expect ABC stations out West to be shy about pointing this out to viewers in advertisements.

"It's something we should have done a long time ago," Banner, executive producer of "World News Tonight," said. "When I think about what we're doing, it surprises me that it took so long."

Broadcasters out West said occasionally "World News Tonight" would report something when viewers of local news would already be aware that the story had changed.

When a JetBlue aircraft with engine landing gear attempted a dangerous landing in Los Angeles in September — an event that TV turned into high drama — Seattle's KOMO preemptively broadcast "World News Tonight" to follow it with local anchors. The assumption was that the national newscast, which KOMO airs at 7 p.m. local time, would not cover it, said Dick Wastnisk, the station's general manager.

That actually wasn't the case, Banner said. But the message was clear: "World News Tonight" will air at the 8:30 level of the news, but on tape a half hour after it is transmitted. Eventually, the station may consider moving "World News Tonight" in its schedule to show it live. Wastnisk said. He will promote the fresher newscast.

OTHER VIEWS

Bidding controversy casts shadow on Idaho road plan

The Post Register (Idaho Falls)

A half-century ago, Idahoans deliberately put some daylight between their politicians and their highway money.

This year, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne persuaded lawmakers to eliminate some of that distance. Now politics has more sway over the business of building roads

and the headaches are beginning to pile up.

The governor plans to bond against 30 years of federal highway funds to speed up needed transportation construction

such as an improved north-south highway during the next decade.

The finances were sound enough. Spending the money now would save on inflation and enable the state to address 258 miles of highway improvements.

With reservations, lawmakers approved Kempthorne's \$1.6 billion bond.

Here's what's new: Politicians decide what gets on the to-do list — and when the work gets done.

While the elected politicians are selecting the projects, the gubernatorial appointees on the Idaho Transportation Board are hiring the contractors.

Earlier this year, a team of Transportation Department staffers and professionals set the ground rules for who would manage the massive project.

Two teams competed for the project management contract — Parsons Brinckerhoff of New York and HDR Engineering of Omaha vs. Boise-based Washington Group International (formerly Morrison Knudsen) and CH2M Hill of Denver.

The advisory panel looked at qualifications and experience. Parsons Brinckerhoff, for example, had worked on similar highway bonding projects in South Carolina and Louisiana.

Panel members voted 9-0 to have the Parsons Brinckerhoff team do the Idaho work.

Then something strange occurred. The Transportation Board stepped in and handed the contract to Washington Group on a 4-1 vote. Board member Bruce Sweeney of Lewiston voted no. (Board member John X. Combo of Idaho Falls did not attend the Oct. 27 meeting.) Transportation Board members argued that Washington Group had lobbied lawmakers to pass Kempthorne's highway bonding project earlier this year, and that the Idaho company pays local and state taxes, employs Idahoans and has experience working on Idaho projects. All things being equal, that might make a difference.

But the advisory committee's lopsided vote suggests this wasn't a close call.

By injecting itself into this decision, the Transportation Board invited federal scrutiny. The Federal Highway Administration has asked ITD Director Dave Ekem to hold off awarding the contract.

Meanwhile, Parsons Brinckerhoff has filed a lawsuit contending the Transportation Board's decision was politically motivated.

It's hardly a comfortable precedent. Having the Transportation Board pick a project contractor based on its political preferences is like the Fish and Game Commission dictating who gets a poaching ticket and who doesn't.

Where does this end? Could power brokers in the Legislature start trading highway projects around the state?

Will some regions enjoy favoritism because their lawmaker holds a leadership slot — or a key committee chairmanship?

Will it lead to bribes and kickbacks?

Maybe it's a long way from today's clumsy cronyism to waste and fraud. But this contract was the first of Kempthorne's highway bonding program decisions out of the gate — and it's been bungled.

It makes you wonder if Kempthorne's highway program itself was a mistake.

Their view: This guest editorial from the Post Register of Idaho Falls says Idaho's new road construction plan could be sunk by bidding flaws.

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

Dean digs Democrats a hole

To paraphrase Mark Twain: Suppose you're an imbecile. Now suppose you're Howard Dean. Oops, I repeat myself.

Dean, the Democratic Party boogymon, has said anything he has, has outdone himself with his newest foray into fantasy. As usual, his idea is wrapped in false packaging and sealed with silly innuendo. Here are a few of the whoppers he recently let loose on San Antonio, Texas, radio station WOAI:

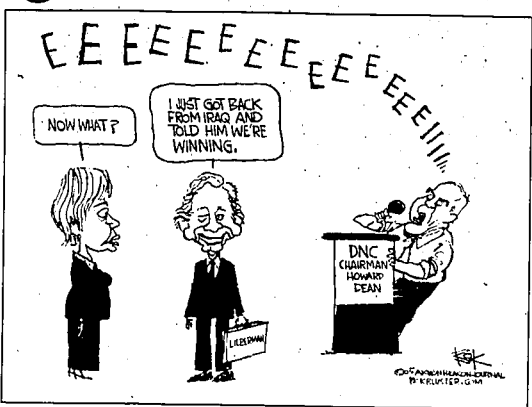
MICHAEL GOODWIN

The idea that we're going to win the war in Iraq is an idea which is just plain wrong. This is the same situation we had in Vietnam. Everybody then kept saying, 'Just another year, just stay the course, we'll have a victory.' Well, we didn't have a victory, and this policy cost the lives of an additional 25,000 troops because we were too stubborn to recognize what was happening.

What we see today is very much like what was going on in Watergate. It turns out there is a lot of good evidence that President Bush did not tell the truth when he was asking Congress for the power to go to war.

Vietnam, Watergate. The kitchen sink. His M.O. is apparently to think of the worst things you can say — then say them, facts be damned. But as rancid as his false links to the past are, Dean's plan for the future is downright dangerous.

"I think we need a strategic



redeployment over a period of two years. Dean said: 'Bring the 80,000 National Guard and reserve troops home immediately. ... We ought to have a redeployment to Afghanistan of 20,000 troops. We don't have enough troops to do the job there and it's a place where we are welcome.

And we need a force in the Middle East, not in Iraq but in a friendly neighboring country to fight (terrorist leader) Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, who came to Iraq after this invasion.'

Thank God Howard Dean is not president. Virtually every idea in that paragraph is either false or nuts. But this is the gist of the wackadoo wing's big lies — that terrorism is a direct out-

growth of the Iraq invasion and that Iraq was a workers' paradise before we showed up in our jackboots. Fact: Terrorists attacked Americans repeatedly before the war. As for the present conditions in Iraq, Dean & Co. should try their rosy vision on the survivors of Saddam Hussein's torture chambers. Raising their lives to testify against him.

The only risk Dean is taking is that he'll lead the Democratic Party over the cliff. That is what will happen if the rank and file rallies round his idea.

Dean mistakes the understandable public discontent about Iraq as a license to spin fiction and promote retreat. In the process, many Americans will remember why they

haven't trusted Democrats on security issues for two generations. To wit, Dems are seen as the party of butter only and as soft on defense. And so while Sen. Hillary Clinton and John Kerry try to distinguish themselves from Bush without actually calling for withdrawal, Dean's rant stamps them as members of the party of retreat.

One more thing: He says his cut-and-run plan is a "strategic redeployment," not a withdrawal.

And he has the nerve to call Bush a liar.

Michael Goodwin is a columnist for the New York Daily News. His e-mail is MGoodwin@edil.nydailynews.com.

Coal technology needs balanced ideas

The debate regarding the Sempra coal-fired power generation plant is interesting. Those who oppose the project speak of the potential dangers associated with the construction of the plant, citing instances where poorly designed plants have damaged the community and the environment. Sempra emphasizes the benefits to the community and promises to use the best available technology to protect the environment. Both sides seem sincere, so who do we believe?

As a valley native, I am inclined to err on the side of caution and oppose the plant. But there are other issues that, as an engineer who has worked in the energy industry for many years, I believe need to be considered.

First, I believe it is imperative that we reduce our dependence on natural gas. Over the last five years, this country has added almost 200,000 megawatts of electrical genera-

tion using natural gas, causing natural gas prices to rise dramatically in that time. These price increases are having a devastating impact on home-heating costs, making it impossible for some to heat their homes. We must quell the spiraling demand for natural gas, which means we must utilize some other energy source for the generation of our electricity.

So the question becomes, what other energy source should we use? I believe we are faced with some hard choices. Providing incentives for conservation and the development of environmentally friendly sources of energy such as wind and anaerobic digesters must

be part of the answer. But the solution must also include the wise use of more conventional fuel sources such as coal.

Although I want to dismiss the idea of a coal plant in the Magic Valley as acceptable, we owe it to our future to seriously consider the acceptability of the proposed plant. Those who emphasize the dangers of a new first plant should have their concerns properly addressed. But once a response is received from Sempra, it should be given honest consideration as to its true impact upon our community and environment. Once completed, we can make a reasoned decision as to whether to allow it into our community.

Such an approach does not provide the ideological purity of a "just say no" approach. Further, it demands an unwavering focus on all aspects of the plant to determine if its design is acceptable. Finally, and perhaps most troubling, it places tremendous responsibility on our regulatory agencies, for regardless of design, it is what gets built and regulated, that will determine if the plant is an asset or detriment to our community.

I have discussed these concerns with several individuals who are active in opposing the plant. They acknowledge that coal is just a component of our expansion of electrical generation for the nation. They then contend that, even so, there are reasons such a plant should not be built here. They may be right, but such a decision should be based on a consideration of the facts.

If we do that, we will have fulfilled our responsibility to protect our community without unreasonable restriction of our nation's energy future.

Scott McClure of Jerome is a mechanical engineer for McClure Engineering in Twin Falls. He was a write-in Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate in the 2004 general election.

READER COMMENT
Scott McClure

Letters

supply lines across the West from "supplier states," like Idaho, to important consumers in California and Phoenix. I found the government and energy companies new plans Web site at <http://corridors.enr.com/ind> ex.cfm. I was really surprised to see that the official hearing for Idaho was already held in Boise on Nov. 1. I bet they got no complaints, since nobody knew about the secret hearing. It is illegal to not inform the public, but silently sneaking all this mess into Idaho is part of what our politicians do for their donations.

This is all part of the new energy bill that energy company donors wrote and our Republican delegation enthusiastically voted for. Why was no word of this whispered in Idaho? Why should Idaho take the burden of burning coal and nuclear fuel for heating Hollywood hot tubs? The mercury and radiation ends up in your children, the power ends up out of state. Who do your congressmen and senators represent?

Time for a year-end summary of where we stand on a few issues. On the plutonium-238 production invasion, our nuclear state oversight team still refuses to mention the earthquake control bolts that

were too short and fell to the ground. A visit to its Web site reads like an advertisement for a luxury vacation, full of fun nuclear activities for the whole family. The state refuses to post the nuclear accident and incident reports, preferring a "faith-based" approach to safety oversight.

Our politicians are also patronizing the Idaho salesmen and their business backers, unless we're the people fight back. Please call your representatives to let free them "No Coal for Christmas." If they won't fight for Idaho families, let's look for some real representatives who will.

DR. PETER RICKARDS
Twin Falls

The Times-News

Brad Hurd ... Publisher
Chris Steinback ... Editor
The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinback, Steve Crump, Cleoora Burkart, Ramona Jones and David Cooper.

Getting in touch

Want to make your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how:

Sen. Mike Crapo

In Twin Falls, call or write: Heauser Tel. regional director 202 Falls Ave., Suite 2 Twin Falls, ID 83301 734-2515; Fax 733-0414
In Washington: 239 Dir. Sen. Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6142
e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

Sen. Larry Craig

In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Mathews, regional director 560 Fall Ave., Suite A Twin Falls, ID 83301

734-6780, Fax 734-3905

In Washington: 520 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2752
e-mail: http://craig.senate.gov/email

Rep. Mike Simpson

In Twin Falls, call or write: Charlie Barnes, agriculture field director 1201 Falls Ave., e, suite 25 Twin Falls, ID 83301 734-7219; Fax 734-7244
In Washington: 1339 Longworth Building Washington, D.C. 20515 Phone: (202) 225-5531 Fax: (202) 225-8216
Access Simpson's e-mail through his Webpage: <http://www.house.gov/simpson>

Sempra will mean death for Idaho's clean views

Blue Sky Idaho, born in the vast mountains of the West, was killed by a vote for Sempra to bring in its power plant. Toxic waste dumpsters and mercury by the pound vendors, they took the life of Idaho and silenced it with big money and officials who can be bought.

Blue Sky Idaho was in her prime when she was cut down. Folks will talk for years about her visits and clear views that will no longer be seen. Of course, most folks will not be looking up because they will be burying those who have died from the toxins coming from the stacks of the coal-burning plant.

Services will be held at the Snake River Aquifer with Sempra donating 150 pounds of mercury to be placed in the aquifer.

It was her last wish that Sempra not be allowed to build here, but her pleas went unheard. She will be missed.

MICHAEL CLAIR
Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Michael Clair's letter was originally sent to The Times-News as an obituary notice.)

Politically correct stores gain fire of shopper

Enough is enough already. Thanks for the opinion of the Borens and Shawn Wood. I won't shop at any business who no longer says Merry Christmas.

I am tired of the "few" who dictate to me their ideas and ways. I no longer shop at Target or any of these stores, but it makes me feel better. And who knows, I could save lots of money if these stores continue to be so politically correct.

Merry Christmas to all — even the unbelievers.
BARBARA STRATTON
Gooding

New energy bill pushes power plants to Idaho

Why is Idaho getting so many coal-fired plants, and at least one new nuclear power plant?

I was surprised to read in an Arizona newspaper that the federal government was conducting an official study to build electric power transmis-

OPINION

LETTERS

Twin Falls jealous over Sempra location

Watching our Twin Falls friends complain about the proposed generating plant is quite amusing. Were Sempra to site its plant on the south rim or Blue Lakes Boulevard, these same "worthies" would be shouting it as the greatest thing to hit the valley since sunshine.

Meanwhile, the rest of us complain about coal dust, by ash, mercury and lead only knows what else. The fact remains, however, that thanks to the modern industrial dairy, we currently live in a valley pushing headlong into Superfund status.

Whatever the coal plant pours into the mix probably won't do a lot more damage, and I understand it intends on employing a few American citizens.

MIKE THOMAS Jerome

Torture is something to be feared

A recent headline read "Most Americans are OK with torture." If this were true, it would be both frightening and sad. The article, though, stated that 62 percent believe torture is justified "never" or "rarely" or that they are "not sure." That's hardly "most Americans" feeling "OK" about it.

Torture is a tool of terror. If we Americans torture, we and our leaders become terrorists

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters

with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

thereby. And the tool is not effective. The U.S. Army Field Manual 34-52, not written by softies, says: "Therefore, the use of force is a poor technique, as it yields unreliable results, may damage subsequent collection efforts, and can induce the source to say whatever he thinks the interrogator wants to hear."

We can't hope to promote freedom, democracy and justice in the world if we commit terrible acts ourselves.

I don't believe that most of us Americans, in our hearts, condone torture.

MICHAEL SCHWAGER Twin Falls

Chisholm, Halper are worthy watchdogs

Cheers to Bill Chisholm and Lee Halper for trying to help all of us. We, the people, should stand up and thank them!

We know the dairy association owns the country, and we finally give up and suffer. Bill and Lee know the big factory dairies are injurious to our health, and they care about our

children. Obviously, the owners of the big factory dairy south of town who is going to enlarge doesn't care about our children. We know money doesn't make you happy, but what else do you have?

Not the goodwill of their neighbors! Merry Christmas MERLE STODDARD Twin Falls

It's not just students we can't leave behind

"No Child Left Behind." That sounds good. How about if every time we hear it, we add, "and No Teacher Left Behind!"

No teacher should be paid a wage that qualifies their children for free or reduced lunches.

JUDY STUDEBAKER Twin Falls

GOT CASH

AAA Quick Cash 732-5626

Hot credit checks - Fast service

Financial Lesson of the Week

Brought to You by

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Look for Dividend-paying Stocks

If you found a stock that had risen in value every year for 25 straight years, you'd probably think you had a great investment prospect. Unfortunately, you'd have a tough time locating that stock. On the other hand, with just a little research, you can find many stocks that have increased their dividends for 25 or more consecutive years - and dividends can be quite valuable to you.

You can now find dividend-paying stocks in a wide variety of industries, including financial services, food producers, consumer products, pharmaceuticals, technology, publishing and others. In short, you can help diversify your portfolio by investing in dividend-paying stocks - and many of them offer growth potential, too.

(Keep in mind, though, that stocks are not fixed-income vehicles, and they may not always pay out dividends, no matter how good their track record has been.)

More income...or more shares? At some point in your life, perhaps when you are retired, you may need to use your dividend checks to help boost your cash flow. But when you are still working, you might find it to your advantage to reinvest the dividends back into the stocks you own. And since most stocks will offer automatic dividend reinvestment plans, you don't have to do a thing to boost your ownership stake.

Stocks...or bonds? Up until a few years ago, dividends were taxed at your personal income tax rate. But the tax laws have changed. Now, you'll pay a maximum of 15 percent on dividends.

Clearly, this new rate will affect your decision-making on how to receive investment income. Dividends may now be more attractive, from a tax standpoint, than bonds and certificates of deposit, both of which pay interest that is taxed at your current income tax rate, which could be as high as 35 percent. But you'll need to balance this tax advantage with the greater investment risk carried by stocks. Any investment-grade bond will likely offer you greater protection of principal than even the most stable of stocks. On the other hand, fixed-income investments expose you to purchasing power risk if their return does not keep up with inflation.

Ultimately, there's no easy answer to the question of how you should structure your portfolio to receive investment income. You're probably better off by diversifying your holdings to include both dividend-paying stocks and bonds, along with growth stocks, government securities and other types of investments.

Keep watching the news The 15 percent rate on dividends is scheduled to expire on Dec. 31, 2008; after that, dividends will again be taxed at your personal tax rate, unless Congress acts to make the 15 percent rate permanent. So, stay informed on what's happening in Washington - it could have a significant impact on your investment plans.

Questions:

- 1. True or False - While you are working, you should not reinvest dividends.
2. True or False - Dividends are now more attractive from a tax standpoint.



Newspaper in Education

Thank-you to these Edward Jones Representatives for Supporting Education.

Grid of photos and names of Edward Jones representatives: Dawn Walby, Ken Wood, Michelle Seidel, Rob Merrill, William Stevens, Jon Mueller, Steve Harrison, Deborah W. Holland, Bruce Barker, and Tim A. East.

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WORLD

Quake survivors burn books

Tomes from ruined library help keep Pakistanis warm

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan — When night fell after the Oct. 8 quake, many survivors burned broken furniture to stay warm. Some, however, stormed the shattered state-run Khurshid National Library, pulling out books and newspapers to make bonfires.

An estimated 10,000 books went up in smoke that night. Three days later, half the library's books — including Qurans — had been burned into ashes when the army stepped in and stopped it.

Mohammed Hanif, a clerk at the library for 14 years, "did not believe it when his brother came rushing to Hanif's home and told him what was happening at the library."

"But when I rushed there I saw several people taking books to a nearby park where they were staying with their families after their homes were destroyed," Hanif said. The books are like my children. I wept when they were thrown into the fire.

"I tried to stop them, but they started beating me."

After the army halted the looting, Hanif came back and retrieved what was intact, salvaging copies of an American encyclopedia, a Quran, books of novels and nonfiction works.

The 25,000 books that survived are in two garages that Hanif guards. They will be sent to a library in Mirpur, another city in the Pakistani part of Kashmir.

The Muzaffarabad library is rebuilt over the next two years.



A Kashmiri man chops firewood as his wife cooks in a refugee camp in Darul Dugatta, Pakistan, Sunday. The October 8 earthquake killed more than 87,000 people, destroyed the homes of 3.5 million others, and left 4.5 million dependent on food aid.

building a nuclear power plant — a move designed to ease American suspicions that Tehran is using its nuclear program as a cover to build atomic weapons.

The offer, which did not seem likely to win acceptance in Washington, was issued as Israel said it had not ruled out a military strike against Iranian nuclear facilities.

"America can take part in international bidding for the construction of Iran's nuclear power plant if it observes the basic standards and quality," Foreign Ministry spokesman Hamid Reza Asefi said in a news conference.

Asefi was apparently talking about a 360-megawatt light water nuclear power plant that the head of the country's atomic organization said "Saturday would be built in southwestern Iran."

Iran also wants to produce 2,000 megawatts of electricity by building nuclear power plants with foreign help in southern Iran.

In Washington, neither the State Department nor the White House issued any comment on the proposal.

Death toll in Nigerian plane crash rises to 107

PORT HARCOURT, Nigeria — Four people died after being pulled from the wreckage of a Nigerian jetliner that crashed while landing in a storm, state television said Sunday, raising the number killed to 107, most of them schoolchildren coming home for Christmas.

The victims included an American aid worker.

Airport officials directed frantic family members to morgues in its southern oil center as a Roman Catholic cleric in Abuja said 71 schoolchildren from that city's Jesuit school died in Saturday's crash of the Sosoliso Airlines DC-9.

At one overwhelmed hospital, bodies were piled together because of a lack of room.

Rescue workers pulled seven survivors from the burning aircraft, but state television reported that four later died. The plane's twisted, charred wreckage lay in two parts as investigators poked through the pieces.

President Olusegun Obasanjo canceled a visit to Portugal and said he would meet with the country's airline operators to discuss "much-needed reforms in Nigeria's aviation industry," press

what influenced his decision.

"The Likud party ... is growing away from me and, to my sorrow, is moving in the direction of what we call the right-wing extremists of the political map," Mofaz said. "When it became clear that the Likud movement was becoming an extremist party, I decided that this was not my way."

Sharon told aides Sunday that Mofaz called him a day earlier to tell him he intended to leave Likud.

"I suggested he join the Kadima movement and continue serving as defense minister in the next government. He answered affirmatively, and I'm glad," a meeting participant quoted Sharon as saying.

Sharon formed the Kadima Party last month after concluding that the so-called Likud "rebels" who tried to torpedo his Gaza withdrawal plan would work to block any future peace moves with the Palestinians.

OPEC's president says no need to change output

KUWAIT CITY — OPEC's president, backed by oil heavyweight Saudi Arabia, said Sunday there was no need for the powerful group to change output at least for the first quarter of 2006.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries is burning some 30 million barrels a day of crude, a third of the world's need. Most of the organization's 11 countries are producing to capacity to meet strong demand from the United States, China and India, among others.

Speaking on the eve of Monday's meeting on production and pricing, Sheikh Ahmed Fahd Al Ahmed Al Sabah, OPEC's president and Kuwait's oil minister, said his call for maintaining the present output likely would be supported.

— compiled from wire reports

Physician leads in Chile presidential election

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — A Socialist physician once imprisoned by Chile's former military dictatorship held a commanding lead in the country's presidential election on Sunday, but fell short of the majority needed to avoid a runoff with a right-wing rival.

Michelle Bachelet had 46 percent of the vote, election officials said after counting 96 percent of the ballots. Her closest rival, Sebastian Pinera, trailed with 25 percent of the vote, according to returns.

If she wins in the runoff against Pinera on Jan. 15, Bachelet would be Chile's first female leader and Latin America's fourth, representing the popular center-left coalition in power since 1990. President Ricardo Lagos, who is constitutionally limited to one term, enjoys a more than 70 percent approval rating, and few Chileans seem in the mood for radical change.

Bachelet invited her supporters "to work so that in January we can win."

"Our results could have been better today, but perhaps our message did not get through to voters," she said. "But that's a good reason for us to work harder. We are going to win in second round."

WELCH MUSIC
Announces The Opening of
Play-Time Studio
Piano Classes Starting in January

Classes will be taught by Jessi Coletti, who earned her piano degree from BYU-Idaho. She has 8 years teaching experience.

- Beginner to Intermediate Classes
- Special Adult Beginners Class

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Around Here It's Always Play Time!

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Explosions rock fuel depot near London

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, England — Explosions ripped through a major fuel depot north of London on Sunday, injuring dozens of people, blowing down nearby homes and sending fireballs and massive clouds of black smoke into the sky.

Police said the blasts appeared to be accidental, though they occurred just four days after an al-Qaida videotape appeared on the Internet calling for attacks on facilities carrying oil "slovers" from Muslims in the Middle East.

The powerful explosions, felt throughout a large swath of southeast England, also rattled nerves in a country still jittery after July's terrorist attack on London's subway and bus system killed 52 people and four suicide bombers.

Residents said shock waves destroyed indoor light bulbs and cracked walls and ceilings.

Most of the 43 people injured were treated at nearby hospitals and released after suffering cuts and bruises from shattering windows in Hertfordshire county, about 25 miles north of London. But at least two men were hospitalized, including a plant worker in serious condition, said Howard Borkett-Jones, medical director of the two local hospitals.

Noxious fumes from the fire, which left some people coughing, also affected the large number of police who sealed off the area.

Iran offers U.S. a share in nuclear power plants

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran opened the door Sunday for U.S. help in

Who?

Find out who's performing. Every Thursday in

WIT

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10 Days of Christmas MATTRESS SALE!

Spring Air Mattresses AS LOW AS \$79.95 (Unibed, Twin Size) (Each Piece)

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Safe Harbor meeting today

TWIN FALLS — The Safe Harbor Board meeting will be held at 8 p.m. today at the First Christian Church on Sixth and Sherman streets.

Energy discussion will be held in Buhl

BUHL — The Idaho Energy Education Project will host a discussion about energy Wednesday in Buhl.

On Wednesday, the Idaho Energy Education Project will show the peak oil film "The End of Suburbia" followed by a general discussion of energy related issues.

The program will include a chili and cornbread supper. If you plan to attend, it would be helpful for planning purposes to RSVP with Bill Chisholm at 543-4418.

Opposition to coal plant meets in Jerome

JEROME — Citizens Protecting Resources, CPR, is a grassroots organization of citizens concerned with Sempra's proposed coal-fired power plant. CPR will be meeting at El Sombbrero, 143 W. Main St. in Jerome, at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Man's body found in South Hills

TWIN FALLS — According to the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department, an unidentified male victim of hypothermia after his vehicle became stuck in the South Hills.

Fundraising event has been canceled

TWIN FALLS — A dance and karaoke event to benefit the Jerome Food Bank has been canceled. The event was originally scheduled for Dec. 15 at the Montana Steak House in Twin Falls.

Snowpack levels

Table with 2 columns: Watershed, % of Avg. 1 season pack. Rows include Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Hells Fork/Teton, Upper Snake Basin, Oakley, Salmon Falls.

"A comparison of basin snowpack on this day, with a 30-year average. An index of how much snowpack the Basin has received compared to the average."

Hospital workers learn Spanish

Employees take part in language lessons

The Associated Press BOISE — For the past few months, employees at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center have been getting to work a bit early to take part in free Spanish lessons.

The hospital is offering the classes as a way to deal with Idaho's growing Hispanic population. "Nowadays, to be bilingual is getting to be necessary," dietician Kets Hilvers told The Idaho Statesman.

The Hispanic population in Idaho has more than doubled in the past 15 years, growing to more than 121,000 people in 2004. Other non-English speaking populations have also increased in number. Since 1996, the local Bosnian population has grown from 2,000 to about 4,000.

Hospital officials have noticed Idaho's increasing diversity. Federal law requires hospitals to be prepared to treat any patient, regardless of the language they speak.

When Isabella Burnham started at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center 10 years ago, she was able to provide translation services for the entire hospital.

"Now, we have 100 interpreters. It's not just me," said Burnham, now the manager of language services at St. Luke's. Juan Chavarria, language coordinator for Nampa's Mercy Medical Center, said the hospital has treated at least 70 Spanish speakers, requiring translators in the last month alone.

Data from the 2000 Census shows that nearly 1 percent of Idaho's population does not speak English at all and nearly 4 well. Language skills can be especially critical in a hospital setting, where patients may need to make decisions about complicated health procedures.

"The role of the interpreter ... is an essential part of the group of people who are working there at any medical facility," said Lynn Foreman, a professional health care interpreter. "I think it is a very important person in the medical team."

Officials at Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center say the employees are learning more than just language — they're learning cultural norms and how to best respect their patients.

"What we encourage them to do is to at least be able to greet your patient and have a low-level conversation," said Tony Fisk, manager of hospital services at Saint A/S. "We don't want people to bite off more than they can chew. We still want to utilize a qualified interpreter."

Other hospitals are also offering the classes. Health care workers at the West Valley Medical Center in Caldwell, St. Luke's and other centers in the region have also been taking Spanish classes through Boise State University. And the West Valley Medical Center will hold cultural sensitivity course for most of its employees next year, Chief Operating Officer Deanna Martin said.

There's also help available for patients who speak languages less common to Idaho. Many hospitals use a service called the Language Line, a company that provides access to interpreters of more than 150 languages.

Haralson donned the Santa suit while working as an electrician for Barton's Club 93 and decided to share it with local people.

Come October, he would stop trimming his beard and in November would plan which houses to visit. He'd make a list with the children's names, spray his red beard white and make his rounds.

Haralson, right, and son Zachary show life of the mountaineer to Olympic visitors during the 2002 Winter Games.

Santa suit while working as an electrician for Barton's Club 93 and decided to share it with local people.

Come October, he would stop trimming his beard and in November would plan which houses to visit. He'd make a list with the children's names, spray his red beard white and make his rounds.

Haralson set up his teepee and shared stories with students from Robert Stuart Junior High and patients at Camp Rainbow Gold. One of the boys at the camp even made Haralson a beaded necklace. It was something he treasured the rest of his life and always kept in his truck.

During the holidays, when not in his mountaineering gear, he became Santa. Haralson donned the

"The beads" intrigued him," Hunsaker said. "I think that one of the reasons he liked it (the mountain man experience) so much, that everything intrigues us in a different way."

Hunsaker, particularly loved sharing and hearing stories around campfires, and if he didn't know about something, he'd learn so he could tell others.

Richard remembers his dad often singing a song with the lyrics "Oh, the bear went over the mountain, the bear went over the mountain, to see what he could see."

"All of his stories had something to learn from or there was a teaching behind

"There were only three rules: Put the dog away, don't lock the front door and have a camera ready."

— Lorraine Haralson, wife

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Experts working to complete water picture

Experts working to complete water picture

By Kathleen L. Turner For The Times-News

HAILEY — A truniverte of expertise in Drs. Lee Brown, Bruce Linn and Wendy Pabich have been working to coordinate past, present and future efforts of scientists as they work with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientists to reveal an accurate picture of Blaine County's water quality and quantity.

On Wednesday, at 10 a.m. in the Blaine County Courthouse, the USGS will present findings to date from previous studies and talk about what needs to be added to complete the assessment of the County's water supply.

Start-up funding for Phase I, the portion of the study to date, has been a cooperative effort of the Blaine County Commissioners, the Blaine County Soil & Water Conservation District and the USGS. This phase included formulating a work plan that will outline tasks, needing completion to form a comprehensive database that will be used in planning for Blaine County's future.

In this meeting the USGS will prioritize needs, outline the steps to take care of those needs, assign costs to the priorities, and review broad strategies to make use of the information. Agencies across the board as well as ranchers, farmers, and sportsmen will all benefit from knowing the results of the total water picture. Public officials, developers and citizens will gain an understanding of the quality and quantity of the supply of this most vital of Blaine County's resources.

Kathleen L. Turner writes for The Wood River Journal in Thuley. She can be reached at 766-3444.

Citizens for Smart Growth gives awards

Citizens for Smart Growth gives awards

By Susan Bailey For The Times-News

KEETCHUM — Thirty people braved the snowstorm recently to gather in Keetchum's cozy Heritage and Ski Museum for Smart Growth awards.

Sally Donart, editor for the weekly newspaper Keetchum Timesman in 1972-1974 and founder of the Wood River Roundtable, this afternoon group from the same area, received the first award. Called the Roundtable Award for the early advocacy group headed by the late Jim Donart and Keetchum architect Dick Meyer, the award last year went to Meyer and Mary Jane Ganger.

In many ways, the Wood River Roundtable was the precursor of Smart Growth," said Christopher Simms, executive director for Citizens for Smart Growth. "People have been wrestling with these issues a long time."

Donart, a visitor to Sun Valley in 1949 who moved to the area in 1972, said the pressures of growth started the year she moved and are unlikely to stop.

"We should be asking developers, How do you enhance the Valley?" Donart said.

Donart also said her tactic involves a method whereby residents "point to the evil" while being respectful on a personal level.

"No one wants to sit on the side of an evil," Donart said.

Smart Growth gave a second award known as the Keystone Award, to Clear Creek LLC, developers of Quail Creek, south of St. Luke's Wood Valley Medical Center and alongside the Meadows mobile home park.

Recently approved as the first project in Blaine County's newly created Community Housing Overlay District, Quail Creek includes 29 new affordable housing units out of its 126 residences. Most were designed as compact, single-family

Shopper passes counterfeit bills in Magic Valley

Shopper passes counterfeit bills in Magic Valley

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Law enforcement authorities are investigating reports of at least two incidents of counterfeit bills being passed in the area, including one incident at a local bank and one at a business in the Magic Valley Mall.

The Twin Falls Police Department is also investigating counterfeit bills being passed in the Treasure Valley area.

Law enforcement authorities offer these tips to help avoid counterfeit schemes:

• Become more familiar with U.S. currency.

• Look for differences in currency and pay attention to the quality of the paper.

• Counterfeit money usually has lifeless and flat art; look at the details.

• Pay attention to the quality of the sawtooth points; counterfeiters usually lack the detail quality of genuine bills.

• The fine lines in the border of a genuine bill are clear and unbroken.

• Serial numbers in genuine bills are distinct and evenly spaced and the color is even.

• Fibers in genuine currency are embedded throughout, unlike counterfeit bills.

Anyone with information about counterfeit currency is encouraged to call the Twin Falls Police Department at 735-4352.

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Red Owl To David Haralson, life was an adventure

By Jami Whitte Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — David Haralson would have been as comfortable in the 1800s as he was in the 20th century. Nonetheless, he brought the Old West to life to anyone who took an interest.

Red Owl, as he was known to his mountain man friends, died Nov. 30, 2005.

He believed in the morals of the mountain man, what they stood for and the integrity," said his son Richard.

Trying to bring to life imagery of a mountain man was important to Haralson who often strayed on leather boots and Old West attire. Richard said his dad was especially good at re-enacting — leading the cowboy and mulekicker while running from an Indian or after wild game.

During the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Haralson and longtime friend Glen Hunsaker joined others camped in tepees at the biathlon event. His fluent Dutch, learned from a mission to Holland, enabled Haralson to communicate with people from Germany and Switzerland.

At the event, David showed his authentic bead collection to visitors. Each bead meant something different and had special meaning to Haralson.

Hunsaker even gave him a bead that dated before the time of Christ.

"The beads" intrigued him," Hunsaker said. "I think that one of the reasons he liked it (the mountain man experience) so much, that everything intrigues us in a different way."

Hunsaker, particularly loved sharing and hearing stories around campfires, and if he didn't know about something, he'd learn so he could tell others.

Richard remembers his dad often singing a song with the lyrics "Oh, the bear went over the mountain, the bear went over the mountain, to see what he could see."

"All of his stories had something to learn from or there was a teaching behind



David Haralson, right, and son Zachary show life of the mountaineer to Olympic visitors during the 2002 Winter Games.

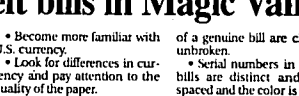
Santa suit while working as an electrician for Barton's Club 93 and decided to share it with local people.

Come October, he would stop trimming his beard and in November would plan which houses to visit. He'd make a list with the children's names, spray his red beard white and make his rounds.

There were only three rules," said his wife, Lorraine. "Put the dog away, don't lock the front door and have a camera ready."

Santa visited the Heritage and Woodstone Retirement

Please see LIFE, Page B3



— Lorraine Haralson, wife

Shopper passes counterfeit bills in Magic Valley

The Times-News
TWIN FALLS — Law enforcement authorities are investigating reports of at least two incidents of counterfeit bills being passed in the area, including one incident at a local bank and one at a business in the Magic Valley Mall.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Police release names of three dead in apparent murder-suicide

PULLMAN, Wash. (AP) — Pullman Police detectives said a preliminary investigation showed the slaying deaths of two men and one woman in a couple was apparently a double murder-suicide.

Martin identified those found dead in the Statesman Condominiums as 'Louis A. Thompson, 27, of Pullman, Wash.; Peter A. Zornes, 25, of Okaloosa, Wash.; and Trevor S. Saunders, 29, of Moscow, Idaho.

They have determined which individual fired the fatal shots, but were awaiting further forensic and autopsy results before releasing more details.

OBITUARIES

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

Dorothy Benton

TWIN FALLS — Dorothy Benton, 90, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 8, 2005, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Dorothy loved music and to sing and dance. She enjoyed crocheting, knitting slippers, baking cookies and taking care of her home. She loved to brag about being queen of Job's Daughters in Los Angeles in the 1940s.

Dale Rendo, William Rendo and Christopher Rendo. She was preceded in death by her parents, first and second husbands, and one brother, Earl Thompson.

Martin Kittridge

TWIN FALLS — On Dec. 9, 2005, Martin Kittridge, beloved father, grandfather, husband, brother and uncle was taken to his angels of our Lord to join his mother, father, family and friends in Heaven following a valiant battle with cancer.



Martin was born in Greeley, Neb., on April 24, 1929. Martin lived most of his adult life in Idaho. Martin was a veteran of the Korean War, where he served in the 14th Infantry Division of the United States Army from October 1950 to August 1952.

and Megan and Jason Kittridge of Boise; his sister, Theresa Homan of San Luis Obispo, Calif.; and his brother, Andrew (Helen) Kittridge of American Falls, Idaho.

SERVICES

Martha A. Waddell of Gooding, funeral at 11 a.m. today at DeMatia Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

Tuesday at the Idaho Falls LDS West Stake Center, 2040 Brentwood Drive; friends may visit with family from 10 a.m. today at Buck-Sillier-Hann Funeral Home, 825 E. 17th St., Idaho Falls, and one hour before the service Tuesday at the church.

Ernest H. Theener of Latah, memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday at Sunset Memorial Park, the Reflections of History Mausoleum; celebration of life and luncheon will follow the service at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seastrom Drive, Twin Falls (White Mortuary).

Gregory L. Maurs, formerly of Twin Falls, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the LDS Chapel/Klein Funeral Home, Klein, Texas.

Christopher Jon Keller of Twin Falls, memorial service at noon Tuesday at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home & Crematorium, 2591 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Alice J. Hernandez of Twin Falls, rosary at 7 p.m. Friday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls; luncheon and funeral at 10 a.m. Saturday at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church in Twin Falls.

Leta Lucille Kindred of Ivan Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Everett Dorsey of Paul, funeral at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Paul United Methodist Church, 127 W. Clark St.; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Paul, and from noon to 12:45 p.m. Wednesday at the church.

John Arthur Shaw of Buhl, memorial service at 11 a.m. Jan. 2, 2006, at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 Ninth Ave. N., Buhl.

Martha B. Sherbourne of Walnut Creek, Calif., and formerly of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 2 p.m. today at Community Presbyterian Church, 222 W. 11th Blvd. Reno, Danville, Calif. Buhl's Walnut Creek Chapel.

DEATH NOTICES

Eldon LaMonte 'Monte' Bailey BURLY — Eldon LaMonte 'Monte' Bailey, a 66-year-old former resident of Burley, died Sunday, Dec. 11, 2005, at Great Plains Regional Medical Center in North Platte, NE. The funeral is pending and will be announced by Hassmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley.

Pearl Davis RICHFIELD — Pearl Davis, 79, a resident of Richfield, died Saturday, Dec. 10, 2005 at her home in Richfield.

Funeral services will be conducted on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Richfield by Bishop Charles T. Burdall will follow at the Richfield Cemetery. Funeral services are under the direction of DeMatia Funeral Service in Shoshone. A complete obituary will appear in a later edition of The Times-News.

Rexburg woman fights to keep home

REXBURG (AP) — A 91-year-old Madison County woman is being asked to leave her home of three decades by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Green and her husband built her home across the street from the Rexburg-Madison County Airport in the 1970s after she gave up the nursing home business. There she raised horses, cows, chickens and other farm animals. She milked goats and sold the milk to young mothers in the area. She raised a sprout farm for several years.

Keiley Real Estate appraised the home at the city's request — for \$181,000. Green claims the property is worth as much as twice that amount.

But the FAA says the home lies within an airport runway protection zone, or RPZ. The zone is designed to protect aircraft both ends of the runway to make sure that trees and buildings don't impede air traffic.

As Rexburg has grown, pressure to give up the land has increased. Twice Green was annexed into the city and de-annexed after putting up a fight. Today her property remains an island of county land surrounded on all sides by the city of Rexburg.

FAA officials were not available for comment. But if an agreement isn't reached, the matter may go to court. But Green is hoping the city agrees to a promise they gave her some time ago.

THIS WEEK AT CSI

Today Fall semester finals week. Registration continues for spring 2006 semester, which begins Jan. 17. CSI Golden Eagles Booster luncheon, noon, Taylor 277.

Wednesday South Central Idaho Regional Tourism Development Association Board of Directors meeting, 9 a.m., Student Union 248. Regional school superintendents meeting, 3 p.m., Taylor 256.

Lakes N. (free and open to the public). "Season of Light," 7 p.m., Faulkner Planetarium. Narcotics/Anonymous weekly meeting, 7 p.m., Desert 113.

Tuesday Twin Falls School District and CSI math and science grant meeting, all day, Taylor 277. Alcohol and traffic safety school, 5 p.m., Shields 105. Northwest Nazarene University MBA informational meeting, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Taylor 276.

Thursday Southern Idaho Economic Development Organization meeting, 10:30 a.m., Taylor 276. St. Luke's Magic Valley Board meeting, noon, Taylor 277. Eagle Hall dorms close for semester break at 6 p.m.

Friday Agri-Service employee party, 6 p.m., Herrett Center, Rick Allen Community Room and Faulkner Planetarium. Brent Valley jazz trio performance, 7 p.m., Lava 228 Bio.

Friday Twin Falls School District and CSI math and science grant meeting, all day, Taylor 277. Alcohol and traffic safety school, 5 p.m., Shields 105. Northwest Nazarene University MBA informational meeting, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Taylor 276.

Saturday Idaho Small Business Development Center, AARP, Internal Revenue Service tax-aid training, 8 a.m., Evergreen C33. Medicaid Prescription open enrollment, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Student Union (free, public session begins at 10 a.m.). United Church of God weekly meeting, 10 a.m., Aspen 145.

Saturday Idaho Small Business Development Center, AARP, Internal Revenue Service tax-aid training, 8 a.m., Evergreen C33. Medicaid Prescription open enrollment, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Student Union (free, public session begins at 10 a.m.). United Church of God weekly meeting, 10 a.m., Aspen 145.

ON THE AGENDA

Today Buhl City Council, 7 p.m., council chambers, 203 Broadway Ave. N. Camas County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 501 Soldier Road, Fairfield. Camas County School Board, 7 p.m., high school, 610 Soldier Road, Fairfield.

Friday Agri-Service employee party, 6 p.m., Herrett Center, Rick Allen Community Room and Faulkner Planetarium. Brent Valley jazz trio performance, 7 p.m., Lava 228 Bio.

Murrough School Board, 7 p.m., high school library, 500 Broadway. Paul City Council, 7:30 p.m., city office, 152 S. 600W. Richfield School Board, 7:30 p.m., high school, 555 N. Tiger Blvd.

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Coeur d'Alene airport sees more private jets

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — icy winter roads and a somewhat remote location hasn't stopped big money from coming to northern Idaho.

The Coeur d'Alene airport saw a dramatic increase in private jet traffic in the past two years, said Gene Soper, a pro-peller plane pilot who has been based at the airport for 18 years.

It's the hot real estate market, Soper told. "Those people aren't coming to town on a Greyhound bus."

On busy summer weekends, portions of the tarmac filled

with private jets. Soper said. Some belong to the new owners of lakefront homes, including the properties at Black Rock, a private golf community south of Coeur d'Alene, where houses start at \$1.5 million.

The Black Rock development company now keeps two private jets based at the airport and is in the process of building a private terminal. Former professional football star John Elway is reportedly a member of the airport's private jet set, visiting the region to golf. John Travolta has been spotted in the tarmac at the controls of his own Gulfstream.

Three new hangars are under construction at the airport, with a dozen more planned.

and doesn't keep detailed statistics on air traffic, Delevan estimates. The facility handles about 140,000 takeoffs and landings a year — up about 15 percent compared to a decade ago. The growth might not seem dramatic, Delevan said, but a large portion of the new planes are private jets.

At least 15 corporate jets are based at the airport. Former professional football star John Elway is reportedly a member of the airport's private jet set, visiting the region to golf. John Travolta has been spotted in the tarmac at the controls of his own Gulfstream.

Three new hangars are under construction at the airport, with a dozen more planned.

TWIN FALLS ARRAIGNMENTS

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

Geneva Ives Juvinan, 45, 47 Jefferson St., Twin Falls, injury to a child, pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Feb. 23, released on own recognizance.

Todd R. Ballard, 41, 381 N. 3400 E., 2105 W. 2nd Street, Twin Falls, pleaded innocent; hired private attorney; pretrial hearing set for Feb. 7, released on own recognizance.

substance; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Dec. 20, \$5,000 bond; driving under the influence, pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Dec. 20, \$5,000 bond.

Theresa Alexander Webb, 35, 178 Alexander St., 2nd Street, pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Feb. 7, released on own recognizance.

Christy Ann Neaderhst, 31, 1122 Washington St. E., 104 Blue Twin Falls, pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Feb. 22, released on own recognizance.

Chasto Ann Neaderhst, 31, 1122 Washington St. E., 104 Blue Twin Falls, pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for Feb. 22, released on own recognizance.

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Life

Continued from B1. Centers and even if he didn't know them, stopped by people's houses to spread holiday cheer.

Scouting was also an important activity in Haralson's life. He enjoyed taking Scout camping and teaching them to make fires and tie knots. His group was called "owl," and regardless of the weather or how many people showed up, Haralson said they were going camping, they went.

"Life was an adventure to him," Lorraine said. "... He continued in as much as he could."

Through Scouting, he developed an interest in rock climbing, and he didn't hesitate to teach anyone else who had

an interest. "I can't tell you how many boys he taught to rock climb," said Lorraine. "They didn't have to be on a team or be a great climber or have all the gear. They could do this one thing by themselves and it made them feel good about it."

Whether it be towing someone, as opposed to the tea, preparing tortillas, sopapilla and stove-top popcorn to give to friends, or telling new spouses of friends from church to shake his hand and act like they knew him, he made sure others knew they were thought of and felt welcome.

Helping others was a lifelong action.

While living in Utah, Haral-

son came into then teenage Hunsaker's life at what he said was a critical time. Haralson taught him to be an electrician and sparked a friendship that has lasted all or basket all day. He describes his friend as someone with class and good character who was a good role model.

"I meet a lot of nice people, but not many like he was like a father to me. Then through the years we became best friends," said Hunsaker, then, with a chuckle, "I guess when I grew up, but David, he was always grown up."

Times-News writer Jani Whited can be reached at 735-3278, or via e-mail to her at jwhited@magvalley.com.

Awards

Continued from B1. dwellings mixed throughout the development and undistinguishable from market-rate units.

Two of the three partners in Clear Creek, Bob Kantor and Ed Lawson, were present on Thursday. George Kirk was not. Kantor was named the primary recipient.

"We've created housing for people of disparate economic means," said Kantor. "The principle of how to condense a community was something of immense importance to us. Residential service providers such as doctors, nurses, teachers, and firefighters, needed to have a place close to their work. They were our targets."

The Keystone Award was given for design and architectural planning. Simms said Smart Growth has not been impressed by most recent developments in the community, but felt Quail Creek met its standards.

Kantor said, "It is not us that we don't deserve this award, it is everyone who supported us, even the neighbors who didn't at first support us and told us to change."

Smart Growth last week also elected new officers for the year, putting Doug Abromiet into the president's seat, Elise Lufkin into the vice-president slot, and Gretchen Wagner secretary. Current treasurer Gerry Morrison agreed to stay on.

"We are talking to developers before they reach Planning and Zoning, and many are making the changes we suggest," said Simms.

Among the changes Smart Growth likes to suggest are bigger common open spaces with living spaces close together.

while other land sits untouched, as opposed to many building lots with bits of land around a structure.

The EPA delineates 10 principles for smart growth, including compact design for neighborhoods connected to bike paths, public transportation and nearby stores and gathering places.

In the Wood River Valley, Smart Growth tries to apply all the principles at once. When a developer applies for a large subdivision or planned unit development, Simms and his associates at Smart Growth, Aaron Dronik, check it out. They talk to the developer

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Police, Secret Service investigate rash of counterfeit bills in Boise area

BOISE — A rash of counterfeit \$100 bills has prompted an investigation by the Boise Police Department and the U.S. Secret Service.

Detectives say a man and woman passed the phony cash at several retail stores in the region during the first week of December.

The woman is described as being in her early 20s, about 5 feet, 4 inches tall with red hair and a medium build, and the man is described as being in his late 20s or early 30s, about 5 feet, 10 inches tall and thin with dark hair. Officials are asking the public with information call the local police department.

Idaho in brief

think about the concept of grace.

"There are very few cultural examples of what grace really means," he said. "The greatest message of Christianity is the message of grace. We receive God's forgiveness without having to earn it."

Last year, a group of Christian churches and Mission Media offered to pay unpaid parking tickets held in the form of Boise City Hall, people gathered outside in the cold an hour before the event started to get help with their parking tickets.

About 5,000 gallons of gas has been set aside for Saturday.

Wood stove likely cause of Burton house fire

BURTON — A wood stove likely caused the fire that destroyed a Burton home late last week, officials said.

No one was injured in the blaze Friday, but the home is probably a total loss, owner Steve Waddell said.

The firefighters advised the Waddell family to stay out of the wreckage, he said.

"We really try to think about the people we're going to be serving," Boerner said. "Giving them a free tank of gas gives them \$20 to \$30 to invest in their children at Christmas time."

Boerner said the event, dubbed "Give a Gift, Parable II," is designed to prompt people to

is estimated at about \$110,000. Waddell said he's not too worried about his family being homeless for the holidays.

The American Red Cross was notified and is expected to help, and friends and neighbors are chipping in. "God will provide," Waddell said.

Voters will decide on moving students

SPIRIT LAKE — Voters will decide whether to move about 100 students from the West Bonner County School District to the Lakeland school district.

If approved, the students will be moved from schools in Priest River to Spirit Lake Elementary and Timberlake junior and senior high schools.

West Bonner County Superintendent Tommy Follhousen said the district opposes the plan because it would mean buses from both districts would be running in the same area. His district would also lose about \$500,000 in student enrollment funds under the plan, as well as property tax and bond-service revenues.

"We not only lose dollars, but also the tax," he said. "We have to think about all students."

Timothy Follhousen, who started the petition to change the district boundaries, said students shouldn't have to ride a bus more than two hours simply to attend high school.

— compiled from wire reports

Single parents in Nampa can get free gas

NAMPA — Single parents can get free gas next weekend thanks to a coalition of churches and businesses.

Michael Boerner, executive director of Mission Media, said the group will offer \$10,000 in free gas on Saturday at a Jackson's Chevron station in Meridian. The station is on Fairview between Eagle and Locust Grove roads.

"We really try to think about the people we're going to be serving," Boerner said. "Giving them a free tank of gas gives them \$20 to \$30 to invest in their children at Christmas time."

Boerner said the event, dubbed "Give a Gift, Parable II," is designed to prompt people to

University officials still hope to find stolen Book of Mormon copies

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Officials at the University of Utah are still hopeful two stolen copies of the Book of Mormon printed in the 1840s will resurface. But it could take a while. The volumes, worth a combined \$60,000, were taken when a safe was stolen from the University Institute of Religion between Oct. 24 and Nov. 8, an 1840 edition of the Book of Mormon printed in Nauvoo, Ill., and an 1841 edition printed in Liverpool, England, were in the safe when it was taken from an office.

Antiquarian-book sellers have a tight network, so if one of them is contacted about the stolen edition, they could be recovered quickly. But they aren't the only potential buyers.

Books stolen to bolster a private collection are less likely to surface as quickly as items traded for money, experts say. "It runs the gamut," said FBI Special Agent Bryan Stone, a member of the FBI Art Crime Team.

There were no signs of forced entry at the office, and nothing else appeared to have been

touched in the building, including another safe used for day-to-day operations. Police are not sure if the thief even knew what was in the safe when it was stolen.

Both volumes have an "LDS Institute" stamp and were kept in dark reddish-brown protective boxes. The books were in good, but not pristine, condition.

"The biggest issue with us is just the return of the books," Institute director Betsy Greenman said. "We just want to be able to use them as we have."

Utah National Forest supervisor to retire

PROVO, Utah (AP) — Pete Karp, 59, has worked for the federal government for 35 years, working for the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service. His replacement has not been named.

As supervisor at Uinta, Karp presided over rebuilding campgrounds, creating the Diamond

Fork Youth Forest and managing burgeois — all for recreational vehicle recreation. His tenure also included a boom in volunteers, going from about 8,000 when he started to 17,000.

Karp plans to stay in the area and to pursue hobbies that include collecting toy guns, fishing and skiing.

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Susan Bailey is a writer for The Wood River Journal in Hatfield, Idaho. She can be reached at 788-3444.

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MAGIC VALLEY

TWIN FALLS COUNTY COURTS

TWIN FALLS CITY COURTS

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

Driving under the influence sentencing

James S. Garcia, 46, 1506 Main St., Buhl, driving under the influence, pleaded guilty, \$300 fine with \$200 suspended, 30 days in jail with 89 suspended, credit for one day served, driving privileges suspended for 90 days, 24 months probation, \$35 per month probation fee. Shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or be where they are present; attend court alcohol school; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Juvenile arraignments

Rachel Oakes, 12, 210 Eighth Ave., Buhl, two counts burglary; public defender appointed, pretrial hearing Jan. 3; Magistrate Judge John Vain. Jennifer L. Wise, 17, 740 Elm St., N., Kimberly, two counts battery; public defender appointed, pretrial hearing Dec. 16; Magistrate Judge Casey Robinson.

Child support cases

State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services vs. Steven Dean Child, Seeking establishment of paternity, birth certificate changed to reflect defendant as father, \$276 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide for a prior period; \$330 attorney's fees and costs.

Misdemeanor sentencing

Reyes Alan Duran, 25, 557 Second Ave. W., Twin Falls, driving without privileges, pleaded guilty, \$200 fine with \$400 suspended, 30 days in jail with 100 suspended, credit for four days served, driving privileges suspended for 180 days, 12 months probation, \$35 per month probation fee. Shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages; attend court alcohol school; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Misdemeanor dismissals

Michael Jayson Lewis, 31, 704 North Ave. N., Buhl, possession of a controlled substance, dismissed by prosecutor, at the instance of passion; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Felony sentencing

Ann Marie Newhall, 26, 627 Main, Twin Falls, one count fee by attempt to elude a police officer and one count injury to a child, pleaded guilty, five years probation, per count, two and one half years indeterminate, suspended, three years probation, 90 day house arrest, \$97,500 fine, \$200 public defender fee, driving privileges suspended for one year, complete any treatment/counseling ordered by the probation officer; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or be present at any establishment where alcohol is the major source of income; submit to alcohol/drug testing \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; write letter of

apology to police officer; one count child theft; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge John C. Hahnhorst.

Blanca Corona Rodriguez, 25, 4069 N. 900 E., Twin Falls, possession of a controlled substance, pleaded guilty, five years probation, two years determinate, three years indeterminate, judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; District Judge John C. Hahnhorst.

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Michael Jayson Lewis, 31, 704 North Ave. N., Buhl, possession of a controlled substance, dismissed by prosecutor, at the instance of passion; Magistrate Judge Randy J. Stoker.

Felony sentencing

Ann Marie Newhall, 26, 627 Main, Twin Falls, one count fee by attempt to elude a police officer and one count injury to a child, pleaded guilty, five years probation, per count, two and one half years indeterminate, suspended, three years probation, 90 day house arrest, \$97,500 fine, \$200 public defender fee, driving privileges suspended for one year, complete any treatment/counseling ordered by the probation officer; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or be present at any establishment where alcohol is the major source of income; submit to alcohol/drug testing \$40 per month probation fee; 100 hours community service; write letter of

Advertisement for Magic Valley Realtors Online, featuring a 'Sell your treasures in classified advertising' headline and contact information for Debra Nelson and Bonnie Ross.

A handwritten note or advertisement with a circular logo that says 'DON'S Interaktion Paper' and contains a testimonial about the quality of the paper.

Try pomegranates for yuletide pizzazz

"Eat the pomegranate for it purges the system of empy and fatness."
—the prophet Mohammed

Although the pomegranate is one of the oldest cultivated fruits in the world, its antioxidant power gives it new respect as a healthful alternative to red wine and green tea.



ALIVE & WELL
Jan Mitteldeier

Just one glass of pomegranate juice has the same disease-fighting polyphenol content as two glasses of red wine, four glasses of cranberry juice or six cups of green tea. If that's not impressive enough to woo you into the market when the fruit is in prime season, then its rich nutrients like vitamin C or its tantalizing, tart taste.

Affectionately known as the jewel of winter, the pomegranate has a seductive past in folklore and fable. In Greek mythology, Aphrodite, the love goddess, supposedly planted the first pomegranate tree, launching the fruit's reputation as an aphrodisiac. The pomegranate — which means "the apple of many seeds" — appears in the Old Testament under the name of rimon.

Its association with death and rebirth in myth prompted the Christian symbolism attached to the Resurrection. In folk medicine, the pomegranate was used to treat inflammation, sore throats and rheumatism for centuries in the Middle East. Today the fruit — naturally packaged in its brilliant red, leathery skin — is becoming more prominent in our country. Scientists continue to stack up credible tidbits showing that pomegranate juice may prevent fatty deposits from forming on artery walls.

In a study reported in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, researchers noted that bad cholesterol decreased substantially in both mice and men when they drank the juice regularly.

Scientists continue to investigate the fruit's potential role in preventing prostate cancer and dementia in addition to the compelling data attached to reducing the risk of heart disease. The fruit's antioxidants, natural disease-fighting powerhouse, is the catalyst for a wealth of new culinary possibilities.

"Color is everything for determining ripeness," says Jim Simonian, who produces most of the commercial crop under the September-to-December season. He bites into softball-sized pomegranates like they're apples.

"Don't try to eat every seed," Simonian advises. "It can be a tedious process."

When choosing a pomegranate, look for fruit with a shiny, taut and blemish-free skin. The bigger the fruits, the juicier they are. While the fruit is available only seasonally, the juice is available year-round in supermarkets and specialty food stores.

Pomegranate farmers joke that you need to get into a bathtub naked when you eat pomegranates because the fruit is known for its tendency to stain anything it touches. If you want to keep you and your kitchen stain-free, all you need is a bowl of water big enough for you to peel the seeds.

Begin to separate the seeds carefully from the inner white membrane, which tends to be unpleasantly bitter. Sort the seeds under water, drain the seeds in a mesh strainer and refrigerate for use in salads or desserts for up to a week.

If picking the seeds is too tedious for you, try pomegranate molar-scrub syrup with a vibrant flavor, to add to marinades, glazes and dressings when you are looking for a slightly tart, seductive taste like unripe raspberries.

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

Decked out!

For these folks, any occasion is a good one for festive attire

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — If you've recently felt the urge to dig into your closet to find the sparkling snowman sweatshirt you scored during last year's day-after-Christmas sales, you aren't alone.

Plenty of people are sporting fuzzy green cardigans with appliqued gifts in gold trim, and strutting around in Santa Claus hats. Any reason will do for these festive folk to don their Christmas wear: it may be for work, a party or weekend shopping spree. It's December, and that's good enough.

Yes, sometimes these cheerful souls do get made fun of, but that doesn't deter them from taking to the streets in their beloved clothing. They wear it not because it is stylish or comfortable but to warm their hearts and spread the joy of the season.

"I wear it from the day after Thanksgiving on. It is my favorite time of the year, and it feels good to be festive," said Janine Lee of Twin Falls.

Lee wears a red and white reindeer hat as she smoothed her cheerleader vest, decorated with colorful trees and bows of gifts.

Her closet holds an array of tops to wear through the holidays. "So I can mix it up a bit," she said.

Lee and her husband, Brandt, were getting ready to attend a Christmas party. He was dressed for the occasion, as well, completing his look with a Santa-style hat and blinking tie.

"My daughters won't even be seen with him when he is wearing the hat," Janine Lee said. "They think he looks ridiculous."

But Brandt Lee stands up for his attire. "My hat is great. The first year I got it, I wore it every day."

He does, however, admit that sometimes other people snicker too. "Some people do laugh," he said. "But most of the time you just get smiles."

Katie Harmon of Twin Falls likes her Christmas hat (complete with reindeer antlers) as well.

"Sometimes I will dress special to go shopping or at a party with my family."

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Katie Harmon of Twin Falls shops with her Santa-reindeer hat.

Photo by BLAIR KOCH, The Times-News

Harmon said.

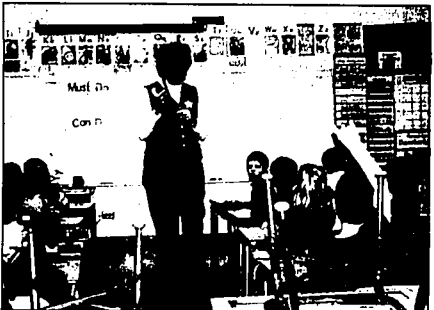
Harmon isn't the only one who makes it a point to have something festive on hand. Fred Meyer store director Sharon Shane said the retailer's decorated Christmas clothing is selling like hot cakes. "It is always a big seller," she said.

Kathleen Kramer, a first-grade teacher at Buhl's Popplewell Elementary School, would wear her Christmas clothes even if she weren't in front of students every day.

"I wear it mainly for the children," Kramer said. "But I like to wear it anyway. Every year I put something on for the day after Thanksgiving. Dressing up is a good way to get in the festive mood."



Janine and Brandt Lee of Jerome sport their Christmas duds.



Dressed to cheer, Kathleen Kramer teaches her first graders at Buhl's Popplewell Elementary School.

For those who want to get in shape this holiday

Fitness-promoting gifts from yoga mats to virtual trainers

By Kristan Gerencer
Market Watch

SAN FRANCISCO — Fitness-oriented gifts can be tricky if you're unsure how they'll be received.

There's a risk of offending the recipients by implying they need to get off the couch and get in shape. But for many active people and others looking to get started, sporty presents will be welcome this holiday season.

As more Americans heed public-health advice to get regular exercise to maintain a healthy weight and boost disease-fighting capacity, those playing Santa on a fitness mission can find a host of affordable products designed to complement or jump-start a workout routine.

Whether it's a gift certificate, an interactive video-game trainer, pedometer, padded bicycle shorts or thermal accessories for winter sports, gifts that make exercise more comfortable can help motivate and keep people on track with their goals, experts say.

Smaller gifts such as yoga mats, exercise videos or DVDs, balance and stability devices and elastic bands will consume neither your budget nor all the space in your house, said Cedric Bryant, chief exercise physiologist for the American Council on Exercise.

"There are a lot of low-cost options that can have a relatively high degree of appeal for folks," he said.

Those mind-body programs have grown significantly over the last five years," he said. "They require minimal equipment: a mat, in some cases, blocks, rubber bands or straps. They're very portable."

Americans spend about \$6 billion on home exercise equipment every year, with more than half of purchases occurring around the holidays, according to the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association, a trade group of 700 companies that make sports equipment.

Many also buy gift certificates so their recipients can attend group exercise classes, get a massage, join a gym or try a few sessions with a personal trainer.

Pedometers and heart-rate monitors, such as those from Polar USA, Reebok and iMxer, are capturing more consumers' imaginations, as the message takes hold that you need to move more and gradually increase the number of steps you may take per day. SGMA spokesman Mike Kay said.

"People are looking to supplement or complement their workout regimen with bells and whistles that will help them chart the progress they're making," he said.

Spazzano agreed. "A pedometer is a great stocking stuffer — even small hand weights people could use at home for strength training."

Shirley Archer, author of "The Walking Deck" and a health educator and fitness specialist for the Stanford Prevention Research Center in Palo Alto, Calif., recommends the Accusplit Eagle, which sells for about \$30, for people

who want a low-tech way to track their steps and distance. Those who want more functionality and don't mind a higher price tag (\$129) may prefer WalkStyle's Dashtrak, she said.

Gift givers can also make strides with presents of new gym shoes or suggested participation in America on the Move, an initiative that promotes adding 2,000 steps and cutting 100 calories a day. It offers free support and tracking, and a starter kit with a quick-start guide and Accusplit pedometer for \$24.95.

Individuals and families can join at no cost. Affiliate Manager Lauren Roth said. "There are all sorts of ways they can see each other's progress when participating as part of a group."

Web site: www.americaonthemove.org.

Those who think fitness gifts are a good idea but are stumped for suggestions may want to consider the following ideas, experts say.

• **Try "exercising."** For around \$35, you can get a personal trainer who makes unlimited house calls. Maya from YourselfFitness is a virtual personal training program for PlayStation2, Xbox or a personal computer that mixes a variety of workouts based on individual characteristics and preferences. With interactive prompts, it assesses a user's abilities and makes adjustments to target areas of weakness, said Phineas Barnes, chief executive of Redesign3d, the developer of YourselfFitness in Portland, Ore. Maya even gives you guilt trips if you miss a scheduled workout. Along the same theme, Sony's new Eye Toy Kinetic, is due out this season, and

unlunger people may enjoy Dance Dance Revolution from Konami.

• **For those looking into home gyms,** experts advise investing only if you know you'll use one. Another prudent step for first-timers is to shop at a second-hand equipment store for discounts on other people's workout commitments-turned-choices hangers.

Treadmills, elliptical machines and stationary bicycles can make watching TV at home anything but sedentary, and they come in various sizes and prices. Despite their bulk and generally higher cost, treadmills and stationary bikes are still the most popular equipment purchases, May said. About 37.5 million Americans used a treadmill last year and 31.1 million used a stationary bike. The treadmills Consumer Reports recommends in its December issue are the \$619.99 and the True 24 IIHC for \$2,300. Landice 17 Series Pro Sports Trainer for \$2,900 and Precor M3.91 for \$3,000 on the higher end.

• **Whether it's specially designed socks or gym shorts,** sporty apparel that keeps the sweat at bay can make for a thoughtful gift. Archer said. "People need to get away from wearing old T-shirts to work out," she said. "There are materials like wicking that are comfortable, breathable and make your exercise experience more pleasant."

• **Finally, a gift of tickets to a sporting event or dance performance:** reminds recipients what the human body can do, potentially motivating aficionados to work on their own physiques and athletic abilities.

IMAGE

Hospital holds childbirth classes

Prepared childbirth classes will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on Thursdays this week through Jan. 10 in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls. The class will include instruction on wellness of the mother, labor and delivery process with relaxation and breathing techniques, care of the postpartum mother and care of the newborn including breast feeding and bottle feeding, and a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center.

Cost is \$50. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148 or go online at www.vamc.org.

'Baby and Me'

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

To do for you

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

Alzheimer's support

Holley Homes will hold an Alzheimer's Support Group meeting at 1 p.m. Wednesday at Philo House, 525 16th Ave. E., Jerome.

The support group is for Jerome County residents who have family members with Alzheimer's.
For information, call Carey Crist at 324-8524.

About C-sections

A Cesarean childbirth class will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus.

660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls.

The class is offered as part of the prepared childbirth course. Topics will include Cesarean deliveries, pain management, hospital procedures and non-comforting labors.
Cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

Learn CPR

A Heartsaver cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday in the Sage Room at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Education Center, 588 Addison Ave. W., Twin Falls.

The class is offered under the guidelines of the American Heart Association and includes emergency procedures for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, chest compression and choking response for adults and infants. The program includes classroom instruction and hands-on practice.
Cost is \$25. Pre-registration is required; call 737-2007.

Refresher course

A childbirth refresher course will be offered from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Dec. 20 in the lobby at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Downtown Campus, 660 Shoshone St. E., Twin Falls.

The class is for those who have previously taken childbirth classes. Childbirth preparation and procedures will be reviewed, along with a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center.
Cost is \$20. Pre-registration is required; call 732-3148.

"To do for you" is a listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Tuesday for publication in the following Monday's Image section. Mail notices to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 648, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or deliver to our office at 132 Fairfeld St. W.

Coats of many colors, textures lure buyers

By Elizabeth Wellington
Knight Ridder News Service

have more cloth coats, and more styles, in stock this year.

"It just seemed like a new era," said Manayunk designer Paula Hiam, whose fall collection boasts 16 coats that range in price from \$900 to \$1,800.

"I started to see these coat shapes in my mind to go with other pieces I'd already designed. I looked at the unbelievable textures of the tweeds, furs, and wool trims," Hiam said.

The lofty expectations of designers and merchandisers that we'll need several coats to get us through the winter fashionably is more proof that we see clothing as disposable, said Sigrid Weltge, professor emerita of design and fashion history at Philadelphia University. Until recently, coats — even more so than dresses or good suits — were considered investment pieces.

Basically, there was the Sunday coat, which became the everyday coat when you bought a new Sunday coat.

"As with many things in fashion, this ... needing to have so many pieces of outerwear has to do as much with affluence as it does with fashion," Weltge said.

It used to be, she said, that coats "were something you passed on to your relatives. They had great details — silver buttons, were beautifully tailored. That's where the phrase 'great coat' came from. This was big money."

Last winter, designers from Karl Lagerfeld for Coco Chanel and Oscar de la Renta to younger colleagues such as Tracy Reese and Behnaz Sarafpour dressed coats up and down. They used worsted wools in bright oranges and muted purples. Some added silky linings with popping black and white polka dots or pink and green stripes.

Tapestry coats were paired with cuffed, menswearlike trousers and simple white shirts. Fald coats were the featured piece in pants and skirt suits.

And now your favorite shopping habits have a coat or two priced to fit into your budget. Retailers nationwide say they

Number of Caesarean sections
The Washington Post

29.1 — Percentage of U.S. births performed via Caesarean section in 2004

27.5 — Percentage in 2003

20.7 — Percentage in 1996

From a report by the National Center for Health Statistics, the Caesarean section rate rose 20.4% in the first year recorded in the United States. The report is available at www.cdc.gov/nchs

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NO EXERCISE? Not an excuse for pregnant women

By John Briley
Special to The Washington Post

The bird flu hasn't gotten us out of our nation's overly sedentary life. The Great Sedentary Pandemic of 2005 — a virulent condition whose symptoms include watching television, working at a computer, commuting by car, and growing out of a favorite pair of jeans. Now we bring the sobering news that the illness is passing to the next generation in utero.

Only 16 to 19 percent of healthy pregnant women get the recommended levels of exercise, according to a study published in the October issue of *Medicine & Science in Sport & Exercise*. This is even worse than the lousy exercise compliance rate for all women in the study, 27 percent.

Healthy women with no unusual risk factors and an uncomplicated pregnancy should get the same level of activity as the rest of us: 30

minutes of moderate activity most days of the week, according to the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology (ACOG).

Sedentary pregnant women may face a higher risk of gestational diabetes and excess weight gain than those who are active. They may suffer more aches and pains, including backache. Exercise can help control depression, including the post-partum variety. It can also strengthen bones, joints and muscles to prepare for the ironwoman event they call delivery.

While the research record is not as clear, it appears that the general benefits of a mother's good health convey to the fetus. In any event, for healthy pregnant women who consult with their doctors, there is no risk to taking moderate, non-contact exercise.

Researchers in the current study mined data from 150,259 women age 18 to 44; of those, 6,528 were pregnant. In almost

all modes of exercise, non-pregnant women reported a higher participation than did pregnant subjects.

The prescriptions were walking — 52 percent of pregnant women reported walking for exercise, compared with 45 percent — and swimming (4 percent) and running (1 percent, respectively). ACOG recommends that pregnant women avoid scuba diving, contact sports or other exercises that might cause abdominal distress.

Walking makes sense as an activity for pregnancy; it is fairly low impact, highly accessible and easier to schedule than most activities. Water-based workouts might be even more appealing, especially during the third trimester. You feel lighter, have much lower risk of a fetus-damaging fall and encounter almost no impact.

"Most pregnant women are pleasantly surprised" by water workouts, says Christie McDonald, who teaches a prenatal

aquatics class at the Bethesda Chevy Chase (Md.) YMCA. "You are so light (in the pool). You can do a whole-body workout. For most women, the biggest apprehension is getting into a bathing suit. Once they're in the water, it's hard to get them out."

McDonald describes her 75-minute sessions as "a gentle water aerobics class," in which she uses "bigger, slower" moves than those in typical aquaerobics.

During the second and third trimesters, women should avoid exercise that involves lying on their backs. That could compress the inferior vena cava blood vessel, limiting blood flow to the fetus. This applies to certain moves in weight training, yoga and Pilates. Women participating in any of these should locate classes or trainers specializing in exercise for pregnancy.

And of course, No pregnant woman should begin, or continue, an exercise program without consulting her obsty-

Whooping cough still a threat in U.S

By Bllythe Bernhard and Scott Martinello
The Orange County Register

Meghan van Aarde's recent coughing fits kept her awake at night, left her gasping for breath and even interrupted her classes at California's Whittier Law School.

"I got to the point where I'll have to leave class. I knew I was disrupting other people," van Aarde said.

Doctors blame pertussis, commonly known as whooping cough, for a spike in hacking fits nationwide.

Despite decades of vaccinating children against pertussis, cases of the potentially fatal infection are at a 45-year high. Pertussis is the only contagious disease on the rise despite the availability of a routine vaccination for children.

An immunization advisory committee at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently expanded its recommendations for the pertussis vaccine to all adults. The vaccine is being added to the tetanus-diphtheria booster shot for adults and already has been recommended for adolescents. Pertussis immunization wears off about five to 10 years after children receive their last vaccine between the ages of 4 and

6. About 60 percent of those infected with pertussis are teenagers or adults, researchers say.

While pertussis is usually not serious in adults, it can be fatal to infants who have not received the full course of five doses.

There were about 26,000 reported cases of pertussis in 2004, the highest total since 1959. Experts do not know the reason for the increase, but suspect that more accurate diagnosing is at least partly responsible for the spike.

Pertussis is difficult to diagnose because its initial symptoms — low-grade fever, runny nose and cough — mimic a cold, allergies or bronchitis. Research has indicated that some 97 percent of cases may go undiagnosed.

"I'm so concerned about the spread of pertussis," said Dr. Brian Levine, who treated van Aarde at the newly opened Cough Center in Mission Viejo. "We're treating adolescents and adults, but really it's a concern for mortality of infants under four months."

Levine founded the Cough Center to diagnose and treat whooping cough and chronic coughs caused by allergies, asthma or other illnesses. Patients with coughs often

overlook the symptom or don't know which type of doctor to see, Levine said.

Family members infected with untreated whooping cough can be blamed for 75 percent of pertussis cases in infants. The National Association of School Nurses launched a campaign in August encouraging older children to get pertussis booster shots.

Last spring, the Food and Drug Administration approved two new pertussis vaccines for teens and adults. In a study recently published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the vaccines were found to be 92 percent effective in preventing pertussis infection.

Babies with the disease are more likely to make whooping sounds and turn blue while coughing. Adults do not usually experience the signature "whooping" sound with their cough, Levine said.

In teenagers and adults, the cough is persistent, rapid and deep and can last for months. In more severe cases, the coughing can cause shortness of breath, vomiting and even hernias and rib fractures. It is most contagious during the first few weeks of symptoms.

Many cases are diagnosed when health officials begin monitoring family members and friends of a known pertussis patient.

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Go-cart accidents

The Washington Post

- 5 — Average number of days of hospitalization for children seriously injured in motorized go-cart accidents
 - 1 — Number of operations required by more than half of those injured
 - 2 — Minimum number of operations required by almost a third
 - 10 — The average age of children injured
- From a study by the University of Maryland, Baltimore at 10000, 10/10/06. For more information, call 733-7824.

The Times-News: Your guide to Magic Valley

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Getting rid of glasses for good

By Shari Roan
Los Angeles Times

The big promise of Laski vision-correction surgery — that you could throw away your glasses and contacts — was only a half-truth as maturing Laski patients are beginning to realize.

Laski has become hugely popular over the last decade, especially among young adults. But by middle age, virtually everyone develops presbyopia, the inability to read or focus close-up. So even former Laski patients are managing through drugstore racks for a pair of reading glasses that won't make them look like grandpa.

Soon, however, there may be a way for them to remain free of glasses. The Irvine, Calif., company Refractive Inc. is studying whether conductive keratoplasty, a radio wave treatment for presbyopia, can be used on people who have had Laski.

The idea is to pair the two treatments so people never have to wear contacts or glasses. A preliminary report presented at this fall at the annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in Chicago showed no safety problems and satisfactory outcomes for near and far vision.

"There were no patients who were dissatisfied. There was a significant improvement in near vision, and that distance vision was unaffected," said Dr. Daniel S. Dorrie, lead investigator of the study and an ophthalmologist in Kansas City. "There are very interested in this. These are highly successful Laski patients who say they'd really like to have a procedure for presbyopia that doesn't require anything. And conductive keratoplasty is a very simple procedure."

Eye doctors are eager to find options for aging Laski patients. More than 1 million Americans have had Laski, according to Refractive. The average Laski

Corneal tuneup

Conductive keratoplasty uses radio waves to reshape the cornea, countering the effects of aging on the eye's lens. The condition, called presbyopia, occurs as the lens hardens with age, resulting in blurred near vision. The CK procedure is done on one eye and takes about 3 minutes. It can be repeated as age continues to affect the lens.

How the procedure is done

- 1 A circular pattern is imprinted on one eye's cornea with a temporary dye to guide the technician.
- 2 A radio-wave probe, with a tip thinner than a human hair, traces a circular line on the cornea.
- 3 The outward curve of the cornea is increased, improving the eye's near vision.

How the procedure works

As presbyopia progresses, the eye's lens loses flexibility and can't adjust its focus on near objects. The radio energy of a CK procedure shrinks the corneal tissue in a "tight-lightening" effect. The adjusted curve of the cornea brings near objects into better focus, compensating for the less-flexible lens. The other eye's cornea is not adjusted, so distance vision is not diminished.

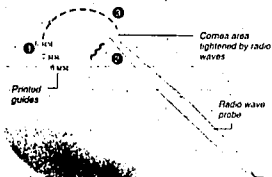
Uncorrected eye

Original cornea



Corrected eye

Reshaped cornea



These patients have spent five or 10 years without glasses. It's depressing for that group."

Conductive keratoplasty (Refractive calls its proprietary treatment NearVision CK) is a much different kind of treatment than Laski. It is performed using a probe — with a tip thinner than a strand of hair — that releases radio-frequency energy.

The radio waves are applied to the cornea in a circular pattern to gently shrink small areas of collagen; this creates a con-

strictive band that increases the curvature of the cornea, bringing near vision back into focus.

NearVision CK was approved in 2002 for hyperopia, a condition that can occur in people of any age in which near vision isn't clear. Last year, it was approved for the treatment of people whose only vision problem is age-related presbyopia.

The procedure has become the fastest-growing vision correction treatment since the introduction of LASIK in the mid-1990s.

WATCHING THE DAILY SHOW

Implications of the circadian rhythm

By Dennis O'Brien
The Baltimore Sun

Mention circadian rhythms, and most of us think of jet lag, sleep disorders or how tired we were after that all-night party. But researchers say that circadian clocks — which control a 24-hour biological cycle first documented by a French scientist in a darkened closet in 1729 — have profound effects on just about everything that walks, crawls or grows.

Circadian clocks control leaf and petal movements in plants. The term "circadian" comes from the Latin words *circa*, which means "around," and *diem*, which means "day." It was coined in the 1930s by Dr. Franz Halberg. Many circadian rhythms are a pioneer in the field who discovered variations in blood cells based on the time of day.

"These rhythms are built into you and into the color of our eyes," said Halberg, 86. "But the effects first were documented in 1729, when French astronomer Jacques Chretien de Mairan placed honeybees in a dark closet. Observing that they continued to open their leaves in the day and close them at night, he concluded that the plants' cycles were triggered by innate properties and not by sunlight or other external influences."

Almost 270 years later, scientists discovered that cryptochrome, a type of light-receptor pigment found in the human eye and in some plants, plays an important role in driving circadian rhythms. Researchers also have discovered that a master clock in a portion of our brains known as the suprachiasmatic nucleus triggers circadian rhythms by receiving signals from light receptors in the retina of the eye and passing them to other organs.

But even if the brain is not receiving light, the master will run by itself — which is why people and plants denied light will still operate by a 24-hour clock.

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These patients have spent five or 10 years without glasses. It's depressing for that group."

Conductive keratoplasty (Refractive calls its proprietary treatment NearVision CK) is a much different kind of treatment than Laski. It is performed using a probe — with a tip thinner than a strand of hair — that releases radio-frequency energy.

The radio waves are applied to the cornea in a circular pattern to gently shrink small areas of collagen; this creates a con-

strictive band that increases the curvature of the cornea, bringing near vision back into focus.

NearVision CK was approved in 2002 for hyperopia, a condition that can occur in people of any age in which near vision isn't clear. Last year, it was approved for the treatment of people whose only vision problem is age-related presbyopia.

The procedure has become the fastest-growing vision correction treatment since the introduction of LASIK in the mid-1990s.

These patients have spent five or 10 years without glasses. It's depressing for that group."

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Antibody levels are clues to MS severity

By William Hathaway
The Hartford Courant

Some secrets of multiple sclerosis, a disease that afflicts between 250,000 and 300,000 Americans, have remained remarkably resistant to scientific inquiry.

While new magnetic resonance imaging technologies have allowed doctors to spot the disease's white matter lesions, doctors still can't tell newly diagnosed patients whether the course of the autoimmune disease will be relatively benign or life-threatening.

"It's frustrating for patients," says Dr. Michael Carrithers, assistant professor of neurology at Yale University School of Medicine. "For some patients, the MRI looks bad, and they end up doing well. On the other hand, some have an MRI that looks good, and they don't do so well."

But scientists are beginning to understand at least some of the molecular mechanisms involved in how and why the disease progresses — including what triggers an immune system attack on myelin, the layered, fatty sheath that surrounds and protects the body's nerve cells.

Researchers at the University of Connecticut Health Center and Yale University Medical School have found that one antibody to myelin protein could

prove to be a valuable tool to diagnose the likely severity of a case of multiple sclerosis.

Myelin facilitates the transmission of the chemical and electrical signals that link the central nervous system, the brain and the rest of the body.

MS results from the immune system's damage to the myelin. The initial symptoms — blurred vision or muscle weakness — are mild for most patients. The symptoms typically recur and sometimes worsen. In severe cases, MS can be disabling and can result in paralysis.

Antibodies to two myelin proteins — MOG, or myelin oligodendrocyte glycoprotein, and MBP, or myelin basic protein — have been found in many MS patients, and are implicated in the damage to the central nervous system.

There is some evidence that certain levels of each antibody in the blood might indicate where a patient will experience either a quick recurrence or a more severe form of the disease.

However, other studies assessing the importance of the antibodies have been inconclusive. For instance, the antibodies have been found in some people who have no symptoms of MS. So the mere presence of MOG and MBP — the proteins that attract the destructive antibodies — is



Researchers Cecilia Maria and Steven Pfeiffer, who work at the University of Connecticut Health Center, have uncovered potential indicators of the severity of multiple sclerosis.

not useful for diagnostic purposes. While there is no cure for MS, doctors do have several treatments available. However, some of the treatments have potentially dangerous side effects. Developing a way to help predict which patients are at highest risk of severe disease would be of great value in determining whether to treat a patient aggressively, doctors say.

Hoping to be able to predict

the course of MS, researchers also are refining imaging technology and seeking genetic markers associated with the disease, says Susan Raimondo, community programs director for the Greater Connecticut Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

"We do have a long way to go, but things are getting better," Raimondo says, adding that there is much greater recognition of the importance of diagnosis and early treatment.

Coming in
The Times-News

Treadmill troubles

Exercise equipment can lead to injuries.

Next week
Image

Unique Candy Suggestions!

- *Owyhee Butter Toffee
- *Kookaburra Liqueur
- *Huckleberry Tea
- *Joseph's Sugar
- Free Cookies
- *Spud Bar Mailers.

If you haven't got it, you probably don't need it. — December 12, 1983

Sav-Mor Drug
100 MAIN ST. WEST - 733-0222
DOWNTOWN TWIN FALLS

Elder Law Forum
Straight Talk on Elder Law and Estate Planning

BRAMBLE BUSHES

QUESTION: I remarried later in life. I would like to have my spouse administer my estate at my death and receive the benefit of my estate during her lifetime. At her death I would like the remainder to go to my children by a prior marriage. Is this practical?

Your plan has two phases: **estate settlement and trust administration**. Spare your spouse the fear of suspicion (if not spiteful) step-children through the use of careful planning. If setting your estate would be complex and require a succession of discretionary decisions, consider the use of an independent executor or administrator. It may have your spouse the distress and unmitigated criticism of unappreciative step-children.

As to the second phase — **trust administration**, if you put your spouse in the position of deciding how much of your estate she needs for her benefit during the period of time she survives you — make sure you spell out clear standards governing the use of funds. If conflict is foreseeable, consider the use of an independent, professional trustee.

Though controlling family relations from the grave is not an option, thoughtful advanced planning is within your grasp.

Voorhees LaMure LLP
Key Bank Building - 2nd Floor • 208.736.6000
Certified Elder Law Attorney by the National Elder Law Foundation
Certified Estate Planning Law Specialist by the State Bar of Idaho

The Natural Way Health Store
Holiday Season Sale
20% DISCOUNT
ALL MERCHANDISE
November 28th - December 31st
Quality Products of Everyday Necessities for Members & Non-Members
1200 Mountain View Blvd. • 17 Cavendish Street West • 206-715-7205

Randal Wraalstad, DPM
Twin Falls Orthopedics, P.L.L.C.
Complete Foot & Ankle Care
562 Shoup Avenue West • Twin Falls, Idaho
734-3455

ANKLE INJURIES

Question: My son sprained his ankle yesterday while playing basketball. Today, it is very swollen. What should we do?

Answer: Ankle and foot sprains are very common among athletes. Usually, the sprain is simple, and responds well to R.I.C.E. (Rest, Ice, Compression and Elevation). Medications such as Ibuprofen or Aleve can also help.

Sometimes the sprain can be so severe that the ligaments are torn or small fractures can occur. These may require x-rays, casting, crutches or even surgery.

Please call your foot specialist if the sprain is severe or if symptoms don't subside in a few days.

The Times News

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LINE AD DEADLINES

Publication Day	Deadlines
Sunday	4 pm Friday
Monday	4 pm Friday
Tuesday	2 pm Monday
Wednesday	2 pm Tuesday
Thursday	2 pm Wednesday
Friday	1 pm Thursday
Saturday	1 pm Friday

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.



LEGAL NOTICE

High Desert Storage under provisions of Idaho Code 28-7-210 will sell or dispose of stored items ASAP.

PUBLISHED: December 9, 12, 2005

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO: RICARDO R. LIZARRAGA
You have been sued by Ricardo Lizarraga, the plaintiff, in the District Court in and for Twin Falls County, Idaho, Case No. CV-05-4926.

The nature of the claim against you is for divorce. Any ID# 00067124592005N
Parcel No. RPT1806000390A

PUBLISHED: December 12, 19, 26, 2005 and January 2, 2006

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 05-18598
ID# 00067124592005N
Parcel No. RPT1806000390A

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in cash, in full of the debt secured by the mortgage.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-18598
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Parcel No. RPT1806000390A

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, AND THAT THE DEBT MAY BE DISPUTED. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4)(a) IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

RECON TRUST COMPANY, N.A.
Name and address of the Current Trustee is:
ReconTrust Company, N.A.
177 Countywide Way, LAN2-68
Lancaster, CA 90028-1821
Successor Trustee
PHONE: (800) 281-8219
Darlene Rial, Assistant Secretary
ASAP732616

PUBLISHED: December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2005

LEGAL NOTICE

The Mid-Snake River Conservation and Development Council (RC & D), is seeking proposals from qualified professionals for the design of updating 8 county fire plans.

PUBLISHED: December 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14, 2005

INVITATION TO BID

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center will receive sealed written bids for the following equipment items until 10:30 a.m. MST, Wednesday, December 21, 2005.

PUBLISHED: Monday, November 21, 2005 and Monday, December 12, 2005

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 05-18598
ID# 00067124592005N
Parcel No. RPT1806000390A

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PUBLISHED: December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2005

NOTICE OF LETTING

Sealed proposals will be received by the IDAHO TRANSPORTATION BOARD only at the office of the IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT.

PUBLISHED: Monday, November 21, 2005 and Monday, December 12, 2005

COMPUTERIZED BIDDING DISKETTES

ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
The right is reserved to reject all proposals, or to accept the proposal or proposals deemed best for the State of Idaho.

PUBLISHED: December 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16, 2005

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 05-18605 Doc ID 00077687322005N Trust Order No: 5610731

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-18605 Doc ID 00077687322005N Trust Order No: 5610731

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in full of the debt secured by the mortgage.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-18605 Doc ID 00077687322005N Trust Order No: 5610731

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TS No. 05-18605 Doc ID 00077687322005N Trust Order No: 5610731

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PUBLISHED: December 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2005

INVITATION TO BID

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center will receive sealed written bids for the following equipment items until 11:00 a.m. MST, Wednesday, December 21, 2005.

PUBLISHED: Monday, November 21, 2005 and Monday, December 12, 2005

INVITATION TO BID

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center will receive sealed written bids for the following equipment items until 11:30 a.m. MST, Wednesday, December 21, 2005.

PUBLISHED: Monday, November 21, 2005 and Monday, December 12, 2005

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. 05-3278-D On 02/29/2005 at 8:00 AM (recognized local time) in the 1000 by First American Title 260 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83303.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-3278-D On 02/29/2005 at 8:00 AM (recognized local time) in the 1000 by First American Title 260 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83303.

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in full of the debt secured by the mortgage.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-3278-D On 02/29/2005 at 8:00 AM (recognized local time) in the 1000 by First American Title 260 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83303.

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in full of the debt secured by the mortgage.

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TS No. 05-3278-D On 02/29/2005 at 8:00 AM (recognized local time) in the 1000 by First American Title 260 Third Avenue North Twin Falls, ID 83303.

The following described property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder, payable in full of the debt secured by the mortgage.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THIS FIRM IS ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE, AND THAT THE DEBT MAY BE DISPUTED. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4)(a) IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

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

AD FOR BIDS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Division of Public Works, State of Idaho...

Estimated Cost: \$105,950

Jan P. Frew, Deputy Administrator, Division of Public Works

PUBLISH: December 12, 13 and 14, 2005

PUBLIC NOTICE

Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices...

IMPORTANT

Legal advertising information PO Box 448 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-8548

LEGAL ADVERTISING

Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday...

LOAN NO. 043839373 T.S. No. 107955297 Parcel No. RPK916100400IDA

NOTICE OF SALE... On March 09, 2006, at the hour of 11:00am, of said day, at the front entrance of First American Title Company...

LOST Car, yellow, insured. Lost a month ago. He is young & a little skilish. Answers to Pull/Fit. I miss my kitty. Please call 928-927-4374.

107 Pregnancy Alternatives

PREGNANCY CRISIS Tests Always Confidential. 734-7472

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE

T.S. No. F-40781-ID-DL Loan No.: 30787253 On 3/7/2006 at 11:00 AM (recognized local time), at the main entrance to Alliance Title & Escrow...

109 Lost and Found FOUND 2005 National Finals... FOUND # leather chinch strap that has been cut... FOUND car Himalayan Pearl...

106 Professional Services BANKRUPTCY Inexpensive Williams Law... Handy Gaf Cleaning and Repairs. Better than the guys... We are a debt relief agency...

113 Child Care Services CHILDCARE state licensed... DAYCARE & Preschool 7am to 6pm, ICCP certified...

200 Employment AUTOMOTIVE Auto Service is looking for motivated hard working people... Classified Private Party Ads.

200 Employment CONSTRUCTION Drywall Tapers needed... CUSTOMER SERVICE Wanted for fast paced multi-task environment.

200 Employment CONSTRUCTION Experienced Framers wanted... DRIVER Van driver, to transport children ages 3-15.

200 Employment DRIVERS Wanted for weekly doctored refrigerator runs to California... DRIVERS (1) Vacat CDL w/doubles...

FOUND dog, male, large, black/brown, white, neutered. Approx. 5 miles north of Shoshone... FOUND dog, older male, black lab w/ white snout... FOUND Golden Lab puppy, male, approx. 6 months old...

111 Entertainment Services ACCOUNTING Accounting local accounting firm is looking for a Tax Season Preparer/ Accountant... SANTA FOR HIRE: Available Days & Evenings... SANTA VISITS Great suit. Experienced. Available evenings...

200 Employment Asking Questions? Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone... Absolutely NO SALES!!! Strictly research... 113 Child Care Services CHILD CARE All ages welcome! Full time openings avail. \$10.00 per day per child...

CLERICAL Legal Secretary, experienced, multi-lingual, excellent grammar and computer skills... DRIVER Full-time driver position with Hazmat Full benefits and 401k...

DRIVER Homestyle Direct is looking for a Part time Delivery Person for clients in the Southern Idaho area... CONSTRUCTION Operators needed for Truck Drivers, Loaders, Excavators, Scrapers & Crawlers.

DRIVERS DADE TRUCK Full time and relief drivers needed to run 11 western states... DRIVERS *TOP GUN* Truck Driving Academy Class A, B, C, D Licensing

DRIVERS (1) Vacat CDL w/doubles Daily trips to S.C. Utah, 23 cents a mile + benefits... DRIVERS Six eyes Trucking en español disponible

113 BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss.

REMEMBER That birthday ad you placed some time ago in The Times-News? Here is the time to see how you can pick up your pictures.

The Wood River Journal The Wood River Journal is looking for a responsible Newspaper Carrier to work as an independent contractor...

Advertisement for Sunrise Express. Twin Falls, ID. EXPRESS 1-800-635-0825. COMPANY DRIVERS Owner/Operators. Deluxe Late Model Equipment Weekly Settlements Holiday & Vacation Pay Health Insurance - 401K

LOST Car, white, brown, wearing black collar. Reward call 208-260-1610. LOST Border Collie answer to 'Loo', lived in Jerome area... LOST Chinese Shar Pei near 4th Street and Madrona male, blonde REWARD!!! call 733-5164

LOST Red Heeler, no collar, 10-11 months old. Lost in Wendell/Tulite area on 12/2 731-5447. LOST small reddish brown dog on 12/9 2006 behind Sweetheart Manor, Burley. Very friendly. 12-15 lbs. white streak between eyes with white chest and feet, neutered, wearing collar. 208-478-989 or 219-0357

Advertisement for EZ Pay. 'Don't forget yourself this Christmas!' Give yourself a Times-News EZ Pay subscription and charge it to your checking, debit or credit card account. You'll save enough money it's like giving yourself a month of The Times-News for free! We can even help with stocking stuffers. Choose: A \$15 Gift Certificate to Magic Valley Mall OR A \$15 Gift Certificate to Smith's Food Stores. Call 733-0931 to start EZ Pay today. You'll thank yourself all year long! The Times-News magicvalley.com

112 Auctions

Upcoming Auctions
Check Out The Magic Valley Section of The Times-News for the auction calendar, everyday and on Line 247 at www.magicvalley.com

113 Miscellaneous For Sale

BATH TUB brand new, 8 jets, with heater only, \$109. Call 208-484-9418.
BIG SCREEN TV RCA home theater system, \$50. Call 208-539-1186.

114 Miscellaneous For Sale

REFRIGERATOR G.E., 500 cu. ft., \$175. Call 208-733-3979.
ROCKING CHAIR- Antiques, \$300. Call 208-733-3979.

115 Musical Instruments

DIGITAL GRAND PIANO Kawai, \$1,200. Call 208-733-3979.
ORGAN Conn, exc. condition with bench. \$1000/offer. Call 208-543-2118 after 4pm.

116 Wanted To Buy

WANTED 300 Winch-estor, mag rifle or a 300 cal. Remington mag for a Christmas gift. Also good used wash-er & dryer. 934-5738.

117 Motorcycles

HONDA '94 CR500, exc. shape, plus all accessories. \$650. Call 208-731-7539.
YAMAHA '93 2 seater with trailer and accessories. \$2000. Call 208-324-4451.

118 Aviation

NOTICE Classified Advertisers
Please check your ad for accuracy the first day it runs. The Times-News will only be responsible for any errors reported on the first day of publication.

Sudoku puzzles with numbers in a grid format.

119 Jewelry

ROLEX style Men's yellow gold ring, 20 bands 1 1/2 in. \$195/offer. Call 208-733-3979.

120 Miscellaneous For Sale

GAME TABLE Great ideal Footbal, arcade, pool & pinball. Call 208-733-3979.
MITSUBISHI 82' big screen, 12' wide, 12' high, 12' deep, 12' wide, 12' high, 12' deep, 12' wide, 12' high, 12' deep.

121 Miscellaneous For Sale

SCREEN Make a room (3) wall tv with stand. 7' x 7' ft. with stand. \$45. White ceramic. Call 208-733-3979.

122 Miscellaneous For Sale

PIANO Baldwin Acrosonic, Spinnet size. Excellent condition. \$2000. Call 208-733-3979.

123 Miscellaneous For Sale

WANTED Old gas pumps or gas station items. Call 208-733-3979.

124 Miscellaneous For Sale

WANTED To buy books, Western mag, old books, literature, LDS, military, etc. I travel to buy. Call 208-733-3979.

125 Miscellaneous For Sale

WANTED To buy truck and truck parts. Call 208-733-3979.

1008 Trucks

CHEVY '02 Silverado 1500, 4WD, extended cab, 150 miles of chrome, lots of extras, good load. \$2083. Call 208-733-3979.

1009 Trucks

FORD '88 Ranger, 2000, exc. cond., 1800 miles, new truck tires. \$2695. Call 208-733-3979.

126 Miscellaneous For Sale

AR SCISSOR Body by Jake Pad \$250, sell for \$225. New never been out of the box. Call 208-654-2118.

127 Miscellaneous For Sale

REFRIGERATOR \$125. Free delivery. \$125. Call 208-733-0510 or 208-404-4162.

128 Miscellaneous For Sale

WASHER/DRYER \$200. Pallet table with chairs, \$25. Pool pump \$200. Call 208-733-3979.

129 Classifieds

It pays to read the line print. Call Twin Falls to place your ad. 208-733-3979.

130 Medical Supplies

RASCAL SCOOTER R235, all new. Call 208-733-9916.

131 Miscellaneous For Sale

WHEELCHAIR almost new motorized, 300 lbs. capacity. \$400. Call 208-733-3979.

132 Miscellaneous For Sale

ARCTIC CAT '03 900M1, 159 hp. Call 208-733-3979.

133 Miscellaneous For Sale

CHEVY '98 Silverado 4x4, 1.9L, 150,000 miles. Call 208-733-3979.

134 Antiques And Collectibles

CHEVY '68 Chevrolet Malibu, hp 283. \$1200. Call 208-733-3979.

135 Business & Service Directory

Grid of 20 small business advertisements including Art School, Computer Repair, Handymen, Painting, etc.

Zoom in for these extra savings!

Classified-Line Ads

5 LINES \$15

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)
12 each additional line. Private Party only. Pets and merchandise only.

The Times-News Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 800-658-3883 ext. 2
magivalley.com

Monday, Dec. 12, 2005

THE ACES ON BRIDGE® Bobby Wolff

"Kind hearts are more than coro nets,
And simple faith than Norman blood."

— Lord Tennyson

There is some esoteric stuff in "Inspired Cardplay" by David Bird and Martin Hoffman, available at <http://www.orionbooks.co.uk/>. Twelve topics are covered, each with excellent instructive hands. Today's comes from the chapter on avoiding ruffs.

Defending four spades, West led top diamonds and declarer ruffed the third round. The way home is to ruff hearts in dummy, but with East marked by the bidding — more than a singleton, care needs to be taken.

Cashing the top hearts would lead to a ruff of the king and, later, an overruff. A technique for avoiding adverse ruffs is to lead toward an honor through the player who has the ability to trump.

So — cash one top trump in hand, then the heart ace. Enter dummy with the club ace to lead dummy's second heart. If East ruffs in, it will only be a heart loser that East collects — South's king is still intact. Now, with only one heart loser to be dealt with, trumps can be drawn and the last heart loser ruffed.

Suppose that East discards. The heart king holds, but with two heart ruffs needed, there is still the danger of overruffs. If South ruffs a heart low, East overruffs and returns a trump — down one! The way forward is instead to ruff a heart with the spade king, return to hand with a club ruff, then ruff the fourth heart. East can overruff, but South wins the return, draws the last trump, and claims.

- NORTH** 12-13-A
 ♠ K 7 2
 ♥ 4 2
 ♦ 10 8 7
 ♣ A 9 4 3 2
- WEST**
 ♠ 10
 ♥ Q J 9 8 6 3
 ♦ K Q J
 ♣ 10 8 7
- EAST**
 ♠ J 9 4
 ♥ 5
 ♦ A 9 5 3 2
 ♣ K Q J 6

- SOUTH**
 ♠ A Q 8 6 5 3
 ♥ K 10 7
 ♦ 6 4
 ♣ 5

Vulnerable: North-South
 Dealer: West

The bidding:
 South West North East
 3 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass Pass
 4 ♠ 4 ♠ 4 ♠ 4 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Diamond king

LEAD WITH THE ACES 12-13-B

South holds:
 ♠ 7 2
 ♥ J 7 4
 ♦ 8 7 5
 ♣ A 9 4 3

South West North East
 1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠
 2 ♥ Pass 3 ♠
 3 ♠ Pass 6 ♠

ANSWER: I'd lead a diamond — without any conviction, I admit. Since East does not sound at all worried about hearts, maybe your best chance is to set up a diamond trick before declarer dislodges your club ace. You could play for a club ruff. I suppose, but you still may have a chance to recover this way, whereas cashing the club ace looks like putting all your eggs in one basket.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bw@twf-mag.com or to www.twf-mag.com

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1006 SUVs 1010 Autos 1010 Autos 1010 Autos 1010 Autos

1006 SUVs

JEEP '05 Grand Cherokee
 White, V-6, AWD, cloth, loaded 2.1 to choose from @ \$19,488.

PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

Autos

CHRYSLER '05 300C, loaded, navigation, sunroof, 12,000 miles, perfect condition. Call 208-431-8254.

DODGE '01 Neon SE, 4 door, AT, AC, PS, CD, excellent condition. \$5,995. 736-0515.

DODGE '03 Neon SE, 4 door, loaded, brand new condition, 27K miles, excellent condition. Call 208-731-4106.

DODGE '97 Neon, AC, PS, AT, CD player, low profile tires, custom wheels, \$2000! Call 208-731-4106.

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PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

1008 SUVs

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PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

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GMC '97 Yukon, leather, excellent body, 89K miles, excellent cond. \$10,750. Call 208-736-4592.

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PRACTICAL CAR SALES 736-4481

1008 SUVs

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

It was so cold in Philadelphia, you could see the Philadelphia Eagles' last dying breath.

Jay Leno, on this week's "Monday Night Football" game

TRIVIA QUESTION:
Who was the first player from a California school to win the Heisman?
...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- High School Basketball**
Hagerman at Gooding, 7:30 p.m.
ISDB at Bliss, 7:30 p.m.
Lighthouse Christian at Twin Falls Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Murrough at Richfield, 7:30 p.m.
Parma at Glenns Ferry, 7:30 p.m.
- Girls Basketball**
Dietrich at ISDB, 7:30 p.m.
Shoshone at Twin Falls JV, 7:30 p.m.
High School Bowling
Girls Baker Kickoff at Filer, 4 p.m.

IN BRIEF

CSI booster luncheon is today

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho booster luncheon will be held Monday at noon in Taylor Building Room 277. Golden Eagles coaches and athletes are invited in attendance to give updates on their respective programs.

Gooding girls announce fundraiser

GOODING — The Gooding High School girls basketball program is selling fruit gift packs as a fundraiser until Wednesday, Dec. 14.
A pack of tied Delicious apples cost \$13. Fuji apples \$15 and oranges \$10. A mix of pears, apples and oranges costs \$15.
Call Nancy Chis at 336-2643 or 934-4831 or a player with any questions.

Valley Rec. holds youth hoops sign-ups

HAZELTON — The Valley Recreation Department's youth basketball sign-ups will be held Saturday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Valley High School gym. The program is for boys and girls in Grades 3-6. For more information, call Rob Grant at 825-5021.

Jerome Rec offers hoops tourney

JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District will hold a basketball tournament for girls in grades 7-8 and boys in grade 6 on Jan. 6-7.
The deadline to register is Dec. 30. For more information call Rick at 320-2349.

CSI hosts youth basketball camp

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho men's and women's basketball program will hold their winter junior basketball camp Dec. 30-31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day. The camp is open to boys and girls grades 7-8 and the registration fee is \$80. Participants will receive a camp T-shirt, a CSI poster, and an open ticket to any of the Eagles' remaining home games.
For more information, call men's head coach Brent Peery at 732-6496, women's head coach Randy Rogers at 732-6480, or athletics office manager Christy Ure at 732-6486.

Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:
Running back Mike Garrett of USC, in 1965.

Record-breaking rodeo

Austin breaks earnings record, Cody DeMers finishes strong at NFR

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Bull riding champion Matt Austin broke Ty Murray's season money record Sunday, earning \$12,368 for a second-place finish in the final round of the National Finals Rodeo to push his total to \$320,765.
Austin, from Wills Point, Texas, broke the record of \$297,896 that Murray set in three events in 1993. The 23-year-old rider, who clinched the world title Friday night, also topped the NFR aggregate standings with 586.5 points on seven successful rides.
"I never imagined I'd win this much money in one year," Austin said. "All this hasn't soaked in yet. I hope to do as good as this next year. I'm going to go out, try my hardest and keep that same mind frame."

Bobby Welsh of Gillette, Wyo., won the 10th round with an 89.5-point ride on Hot Darns. Austin had an 88.5, and Zack Gates of Tonasket, Wash., was third with an 87.5.
In bareback, Cimmaron Gerke of Fort Worth, Texas, scored 84 points on Fancy Free to tie the Kelly Timberman of Bliss, Wyo., for the NFR aggregate title with 417.5 points.
Timberman had an 83.5 on Real Deal, and the half-point difference allowed Gerke to tie him in the aggregate standings. It was the first tie for the bareback riding aggregate standings since 1983.

"I came in and did everything I wanted to do," Gerke said. "I wanted to win the average, and I would let the world title go itself out. I said at the beginning of the week that it was my goal, and luckily I reached it."
Will Love of Canyon, Texas, claimed his second gold buckle in the world standings with \$185,485. Timberman, who earned \$99,320 in the NFR, was second with \$167,834.
Cody DeMers of Kimberly, Idaho, won the round with an 89 on Free Fall. Andy Martinez of Pavillion, Wash., and Wes Stevenson of Kauffman, Texas, followed with 88s.
In steer wrestling, Canada's Lee Graves won the world title with an event-record \$206,415 and also took the aggregate crown with a time of 39.20 seconds over 10 rounds.



Cimmaron Gerke rides Fancy Free for a score of 84 in the final round of the Bareback Riding at the National Finals Rodeo in Las Vegas on Sunday. Gerke won the aggregate standing in the NFR.

"I've worked so hard at this for so long," Graves said. "I've been steer wrestling for about 10 years now, and I've been here at the finals seven times. I've been on both sides of the fence. I've come in here and had terrible times, and this time I told myself that it's time for me to do something."
Birch Negard of Buffalo, S.D., won the round in 3.7 seconds. Dean Gorsuch of Gering, Neb., won second in 4.9, and Beau Franzen of Sidney, Mont., was third in 4.3.
In team roping, header Clay Ryan of Billings, Mont., and heeler Patrick Smith of Midland, Texas, claimed the world

title with \$167,204 each. The aggregate crown went to Lee Womlam of Llano, Texas, and Cory Putska, of Lexington, Okla., at 71.70 seconds.
Speed Williams and Rich Skelton, both of Llano, Texas, won the 10th round in 3.9. Ryan and Smith were second in 4.0, and David Key of Caldwell, Texas, and Clayton Grant of Clayton, Calif., followed with a 4.1.
In saddle bronc, Jeffrey Willett of Belvidere, S.D., won the world title with \$278,168 and added to his NFR record for earnings in the event. He made \$118,629 in the NFR, which was second to Billy Elz.

Everybody the lagans defense included - knew what was coming next."
"We've got who I think is the best player in the NFL," was all the explanation Colts coach Tony Stewart needed after Sunday at Jacksonville in a game they should have comfortably wrapped up some five minutes earlier. Peyton Manning & Co. needed a first down in the worst way.
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In Tony they trust

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — For all the film study, meetings and practices, schemes and coverages, huddles, and even audibles, the Indianapolis Colts' shot at football immortality came down to something much simpler: Trust.



Facing a third-and-seven at their own 23, struggling to protect a 26-10 lead with 1:39 left Sunday at Jacksonville in a game they should have comfortably wrapped up some five minutes earlier, Peyton Manning & Co. needed a first down in the worst way.

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Everything the lagans defense included - knew what was coming next."

And if they go on to win 19 straight games and the Super Bowl, surpassing the 1972 Dolphins in the league — that simple 12-yard hitch throw from Manning to Dallas Clark will say as much about their success as anything that happened before or after.
Ahead 26-3 with about seven minutes left, the Colts elected to play prevent defense against a lagans team that hadn't completed a pass longer than 16 yards all day.
So, naturally, the quarterback back David Garrard looked up with Jimmy Smith for 34 yards on the first play of the drive. Jacksonville went on to score, then recovered an onside kick, scored again, added a two-point conversion.
But this time, with three time-outs left, Jacksonville coach Jack Del Rio elected to kick off long and see if his defense could get the ball back.
It looked like a smart move when his defense stalled Indianapolis running back Edgerrin James for three yards on the first play and zero on the second.
With the Colts in an obvious passing situation, the Jacksonville pass rushers — who already sacked Manning a season-high three times — came flying in pocket and hurried back to the line, then reached out to wrap up Manning with both arms extended — a half-second too late.
"It's called a 'trust' play," Manning said. "Each Sunday, I have the best players and I backed up a little because the guy was in my face. You just trust that Dallas will be in the spot, because I couldn't really see him."
The greatest feeling when it works," he added.
Please see **UTKE**, Page D4

Broncos to Ravens: Nevermore

By Eddie Pelis Associated Press writer

DENVER — The game tape probably belongs in the trash. Still, it was a win, and in this case it left the Denver Broncos tantalizingly close to their first division title in seven years.

Kyle Johnson made a tipoff catch for a touchdown, Clint Johnson set a franchise record with an interception in his fifth straight game and Al Wilson made a big hit on the goal line Sunday to lift the Broncos to a 20-13 victory over the stumbling Baltimore Ravens.
"There are games you have to win ugly sometimes," Broncos coach Mike Shanahan said.
Denver improved to 10-3 and, after the game ended, both Kansas City and San Diego lost to give the Broncos a two-game lead in the AFC West with three to go.
The end of the Chiefs game, a 30-17 rout, was shown on the scoreboard and the couple of thousand fans still filing out of the stadium cheered wildly when the Cowboys scored the late, go-ahead touchdown. It was one of the most exciting moments of another flat day at Invesco Field.
The Broncos haven't won the



Denver Broncos wide receiver Rod Smith, left, dives for extra yards after catching a pass for 28 yards as Baltimore Ravens safety Chad Williams, center, and linebacker Bart Scott cover him during Sunday's game.

AFC West since 1998, the year they started 13-0 en route to their second straight Super Bowl title. To win the whole thing, they'll have to get much better than they were against Baltimore (4-9).
Jake Plummer threw for 236 yards and the touchdown to Johnson. Jason Elam held to 63 yards and Mike Anderson had only 21.
A better team would have taken advantage of Denver on

thrown interceptions with the Ravens in scoring range.
Despite all that, Baltimore trailed by only two after Mark Clayton caught a 39-yard touchdown with 1:52 left.
Denver's only touchdown got a first down on Ashley Lyle's end-around to seal the game.
The difference turned out to be Billicek's decision to go for it on the south-and-goal from the 1 earlier in the fourth quarter. On that play, Wilson knocked Chester Taylor back for a 4-yard loss to keep the score at 12-3.
"Being down on the 1-yard line, it was too much to pass up the chance in our circumstances," Billicek said. "To kick the field goal and then have to go the distance to score a touchdown wasn't going to go."
Of course, that was hardly Baltimore's only missed opportunity.
"The red zone has been our nightmare," Heap said.
Denver's only touchdown was a 7-yard pass in the third quarter from Plummer to Johnson, who tought off Ravens cornerback Chris McAlister and made a nice catch in the front corner of the end zone, barely keeping both feet in for his sixth score of the season.

atmosphere," Bush said. "I can definitely see myself playing here, playing for the New York Jets."
The Jets are among the hapless teams, including Houston, San Francisco and Green Bay, in danger of finishing with the worst record in the NFL and the first pick in the draft.
Leinart said he wasn't ready to give up college life after winning the Heisman in 2004. But he also knew he was coming back to play with Bush in an offense that might be unmatched in the history of college football.
Even without Leinart, USC would have been tough to beat this season. With him, the Trojans have run their winning streak to 34 games and can become the first team to win three straight national championships by beating Texas.
Bush thanked Leinart on Sat-

Will Bush follow Leinart's lead and return to USC?

By Ralph D. Russo Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Reggie Bush is on the dock.
The Heisman Trophy winner has a little more than a month to decide whether he'll enter the NFL draft or become the second straight junior from Southern California to pass up a chance to be the No. 1 pick and go back to school.
But it's not as if Bush can spend his holiday season weighing the pros and cons, pondering the biggest decision of his young life. There's still a national championship game for which Bush must prepare.
For now, he's putting his future on hold.

Heisman in the last four years. "We've got our work cut out for us with Texas," Bush and Trojans quarterback Matt Leinart, last year's Heisman winner, play Texas for the national title on Jan. 4, marking another historic moment for the USC dynasty. Never before have the Heisman Trophy winners played together in a college game.
The deadline for underclassmen to declare for the NFL draft is Jan. 15.
Bush did allow for a moment of speculation at his post-victory news conference at a Manhattan restaurant.
"I love the whole East Coast



atmosphere," Bush said. "I can definitely see myself playing here, playing for the New York Jets."
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Bush thanked Leinart on Sat-

urday saying, "Your decision to come back has changed my life."
If Bush returns to USC, he'll make life a whole lot easier for highly touted quarterback John David Booty. Leinart's likely successor.
The pipeline of talent running into USC these days is unsurpassed, but replacing Bush and Leinart in the same year would be daunting.
If Bush does come back, he'll be the third straight Heisman winner to play another year of college football and a huge favorite to repeat.
Oklahoma quarterback Jason White, whose NFL prospects were suspect at best, got a sixth year of eligibility after winning the Heisman in 2003. White finished third in the Heisman voting last year behind Leinart and fell short in his bid to become the second

two-time Heisman winner, along with Archie Griffin.
Leinart finished second behind Bush and Texas quarterback Vince Young.
Bush's victory was one of the most lopsided in Heisman history. In 2003, Simpson, another star tailback from USC, received more first-place votes (855) than Bush's 784.
Young, also a junior, has had the longest career in his senior season, but his NFL stock has been on the rise, too.
The end Bush could both be back in New York next year for the Heisman presentation.
In losing the Heisman, Young said he felt he had let down his team, family and hometown of Houston. And he promised to take that feeling into the Rose Bowl.
"This will give me a little more edge, a little more ego," Young said.

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National Football League

WEEK 14

National Football League

East	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Buffalo	1	10	0	151	294	202	420	640	210	400
Indianapolis	2	9	0	162	240	161	330	540	270	130
Jacksonville	2	9	0	106	191	106	106	106	106	106
Atlanta	3	6	0	121	169	214	330	470	130	120

North	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Carolina	1	1	0	169	250	250	510	730	300	510
Cincinnati	1	9	0	155	293	420	420	850	200	320
Cleveland	4	6	0	136	193	202	240	440	220	220
Pittsburgh	4	6	0	108	207	130	160	270	270	0

South	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Atlanta	1	10	0	160	290	160	600	700	200	900
Jacksonville	1	9	0	102	227	420	520	130	240	240
Tennessee	4	6	0	155	229	340	150	370	120	120
Florida	1	10	0	138	193	174	150	470	100	0

West	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Denver	1	1	0	179	222	222	420	830	220	320
San Diego	1	9	0	115	232	420	830	220	320	
Oakland	1	9	0	161	208	510	340	730	120	320
Seattle	2	8	0	208	251	251	200	240	210	0

NFC

East	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
NY Giants	1	9	0	160	241	610	330	110	830	410
Philadelphia	1	9	0	163	223	330	520	330	220	520
Washington	2	6	0	158	251	420	420	330	270	520
Dallas	5	6	0	208	254	430	150	310	270	520

North	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Chicago	1	10	0	162	210	140	610	530	130	810
Minnesota	1	9	0	155	246	510	110	740	610	
Green Bay	1	9	0	201	257	140	260	290	150	520
Detroit	3	10	0	238	255	240	160	030	370	140

South	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Carolina	1	10	0	162	246	246	420	210	730	510
Tennessee	4	6	0	192	214	420	420	630	630	220
Atlanta	2	7	0	163	227	230	420	310	440	120
Jacksonville	1	10	0	183	251	251	210	120	120	

West	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Seattle	1	1	0	166	271	410	420	110	100	810
San Francisco	1	9	0	165	307	370	530	310	270	140
Arizona	1	9	0	158	251	240	110	280	330	
San Diego	2	8	0	154	186	310	250	080	020	140

Collis 26, Jaguars 18

Collis	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Jacksonville	0	3	0	15	18					

Patris 35, Bills 7

Patris	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
New England	7	7	0	34	35					

Benja 23, Browns 20

Benja	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Cleveland	7	7	0	3	20					

Baron 12, Ravens 10

Baron	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Dv
Baltimore	3	0	0	7	10					

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Player	Team	Yds	TDs	Ints
Tom Brady	NE	202	1	0
Patrick Manning	NYG	150	0	0

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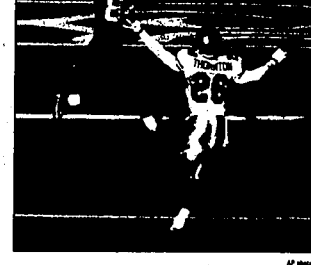
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Seattle Seahawks wide receiver Bobby Engram catches a 28-yard touchdown pass in front of San Francisco 49ers defender Bruce Thornton for the first score of Sunday's game in Seattle.

Seahawks flumox 49ers

By Gregg Bell Associated Press writer

SEATTLE — Matt Hasselbeck got up hives after throwing his first incompletion Sunday, San Francisco's Derek Smith had just buried his helmet into the Seattle quarterback's chest and drove him into the ground.

"I was just trying to breathe. I felt like I was underwater," he said. A few weeks running plays later, Mike Holmgren said his breath — and then flooded the futile 49ers. He completed 21 of 25 passes for 226 yards and a season-high four touchdowns in just three quarters to breeze his NFC-leading Seahawks past San Francisco, 41-3.

Bobby Engram caught two of Hasselbeck's scorching throws, as the NFC West champions (11-2) won their team-record ninth straight game. They also showed they might bring along a hot quarterback with NFL rushing leader Shaun Alexander into the playoffs.

"The biggest thing people are missing is, Matt's been leading us on this three-game winning streak," said Joe Luvinski, who caught one of Hasselbeck's TD passes. "The only other time Hasselbeck threw more than five passes in his 104-game career was a five-1D performance on Nov. 23, 2003, an overtime loss at Baltimore."

"I really hate saying good things about him, because it goes to his head," center Robbie Taylor said, almost laughing. "All you hear about is Shaun, which is great. He deserved it. But Matt's done a great job leading this team."

Toebek has been given this franchise never has gone the Super Bowl. He won't with Adams in 1998, when Adams was hurt. But Hasselbeck completed eight of his first nine passes for three touchdowns over the first 15:20 of the game.

The Seahawks completed their division schedule 6-0, the first time in the franchise's 30-year history it has been spotted without a loss.

"When things are rolling, you can kind of joke about it."

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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Area ski report

Report on ski conditions for various resorts including Sun Valley, Snake River, and Shoshone. Includes details on lift operations, snow conditions, and trail status.

Table with columns for Team, W, L, T, Pct, and other statistics for various sports teams.

Table with columns for Player, Pts, Reb, Ast, and other statistics for basketball players.

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WHAT'S ON T.V.

Football: Saints at Falcons, ABC, 7 p.m.

Hockey: Penguins at Red Wings, OLN, 8:30 p.m.

BASEBALL

MLB Postgame Report: Chicago Cubs at St. Louis Cardinals. Cubs won 4-3.

MLB Postgame Report: New York Yankees at Boston Red Sox. Yankees won 5-4.

MLB Postgame Report: Atlanta Braves at Philadelphia Phillies. Braves won 6-5.

MLB Postgame Report: Houston Astros at San Diego Padres. Astros won 7-6.

MLB Postgame Report: Los Angeles Dodgers at San Francisco Giants. Dodgers won 8-7.

MLB Postgame Report: Pittsburgh Pirates at Cincinnati Reds. Pirates won 9-8.

MLB Postgame Report: Milwaukee Brewers at Chicago White Sox. Brewers won 10-9.

MLB Postgame Report: Tampa Bay Rays at New York Mets. Rays won 11-10.

MLB Postgame Report: Florida Marlins at Atlanta Braves. Marlins won 12-11.

Baseball: Detroit Tigers at Cleveland Indians. Tigers won 3-2.

Baseball: Kansas City Royals at Minnesota Twins. Royals won 4-3.

Baseball: St. Louis Cardinals at Chicago Cubs. Cardinals won 5-4.

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Baseball: Atlanta Braves at Florida Marlins. Braves won 15-14.

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