

## GOOD MORNING

### WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy, breezy and cold. High 30, low 17.  
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### LOVE NOTES

Men seek to find their inner writer.  
Page C6

### BEEF BAN ENDS

U.S. producers say it might take a while to win back Japanese customers.  
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### NO CLEMENCY

Scharzenegger refuses to spare life of gang founder.  
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### AUSSIE UNREST

Violence breaks out for second night in Sydney, raising fears it could spread.  
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### TAKING THE YULE OUT OF YULE LOG

A battlefield guide to the War on Christmas.  
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### COMING UP

Christmas creativity  
Seven of Magic Valley's touching trees.  
Wednesday in The Times-News

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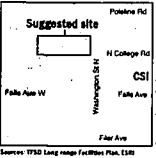
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# Planners tout new school

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — "The need we have in the community is real, and it is now."  
That was how Scot McNeley explained the current overcrowding of district schools to the Twin Falls School Board on Tuesday night. McNeley and the Twin Falls Long Range Facilities Planning Committee explained that schools are over capacity and the problem is only getting worse. Based on birthrates and kindergarten enrollment figures, Twin Falls schools will grow by 3.5 percent per year — the planning committee based its studies on a

## Proposed location for new high school



more conservative number of 2 percent for grades one through eight, 1 percent for grades nine through eleven, and 0 percent

Analysis of bond numbers for Twin Falls homes.  
See page A2

for grade 12. District enrollment for 2005-2006 is 7,021; Twin Falls High School enrollment is 1,352. Capacity is 1,500.  
Based on these projections, there would be an average of 42 students per classroom in Twin Falls elementary schools by 2009. John Allen of the Allen Group also said existing facilities cannot provide adequate space and services for the latest federal and state programs.

"There are a lot of special programs," Allen said, "and the older facilities just were not designed for those programs."  
He said some of the programs included lunch programs that use gym space and classes for students with special needs.  
The planning committee proposed a series of changes to district facilities that would change the face of almost every school building in Twin Falls. It calls for a second high school and renovations to expand the existing high school, as well as renovations to two elementary schools and one junior high.  
Please see SCHOOL, Page A2

## POST-IT NOTES

### CELEBRATE 25th ANNIVERSARY

Ubiquitous sticky notes had trial run in Boise in 1978

By Jan Uebelher  
Milwaukee Journal Sentinel

I'm sorry.  
Wake me at 8.  
Bread, milk, eggs.  
Post-it notes have carried these and other thoughts — urgent, mundane and everything in between — since they were introduced 25 years ago this year, presented with great fanfare as a small way to keep tabs on big things.  
Do you recall first seeing them? I do. It was the mid-1980s, a day when there were no cell phones, no Google and no eBay, and personal computers were just catching on.  
Someone had gotten a stack of Post-its at work. I examined them as any primate might when confronted with a new tool.  
What are these things, I thought. Handy, maybe, but who would actually buy them?  
They'll never sell, I thought, certain they'd go the way of that crazy idea, music on compact discs (I had all these albums, after all, did they expect me to abandon them?).  
Post-its, of course, have proved me wrong. Now most of us have computers, and mine — like most people's — is riddled in a fluttery wreath of notes with important cell numbers, passwords, details of my life both large and small. "Yes, cell ..."  
"Tom (ad) work ..."  
"Staff directory ..."  
Like a lot of inventions, things didn't start out so smooth. The Post-it began with a glitch in search of a job. Spencer Silver, a senior scientist at 3M's corporate research lab, had discovered a sticky, repositionable adhesive — and began to check with other 3M scientists "trying to discover a problem that the adhesive can solve," according to 3M. That was in 1968.

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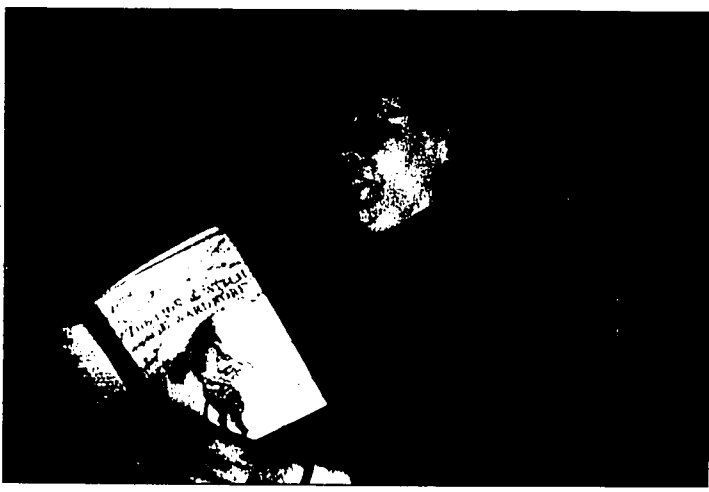
Please see POST-IT, Page A2

## REMINDER

• Post-it Note always been recognized as the most popular note.  
• Available in night standard sizes, 25 stripes and 62 colors.  
• 3M offers more than 3,000 Post-it products in more than 100 countries.  
Source: 3M

66  
Why did I become a writer? Chiefly, I think, because my clumsiness of fingers prevented me from making things in any other way.  
— C.S. Lewis in a letter dated December 1960 to Meredith Conan-Davis.

# LESSONS FROM LEWIS



Anne Hagerman Wilcox reads an excerpt from 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' by C.S. Lewis.

## Teacher sees lessons in author's life and works

By Joshua Palmer  
Times-News writer

WENDELL — At sixteen years old Clive Staples Lewis — better known as C.S. Lewis — imagined a story about some lions. Twenty-five years later he made a series of stories out of it called 'The Chronicles of Narnia.' The movie version debuted at No. 1 at the box office last weekend with \$65.6 million in sales.  
But beyond the ticket sales, Anne Hagerman Wilcox of Wendell believes there are important lessons children can learn from Lewis.  
"I always thought that I should teach the children how he started early because they

"They wanted someone who teaches children about C.S. Lewis," Wilcox said. "So in 1994 my father and I went to Cambridge, and then in 1998 I went to another conference that began in Oxford and ended in Cambridge."  
She said Lewis began studying at Oxford and continued his studies at Cambridge, so the conference followed his footsteps during the 100 year celebration of C.S. Lewis.  
Wilcox said Lewis has two exemplary qualities that intrigue her.  
"Mainly, it's because he's just plain a good storyteller," she said. "But also because he's a Christian apologist, talking about C.S. Lewis and not talk-

ing about Christianity is like talking about Tiger Woods, but not talking about golf."  
Wilcox — who is a devout Christian — said she has written two Bible studies, but said she did not write fiction. She does, however, have an extensive collection of information about C.S. Lewis that includes copies of his first drawings when he was a boy.  
Wilcox said she is eager to see the movie version of 'The Chronicles of Narnia.' Mostly, she wants to see the movie because she is curious about the creative license the producers have taken with the story line. Also, she is curious to see if they will come out with the six other Narnia adventures.

MAGIC VALLEY PEOPLE  
a slice from local life  
might want to start early," Wilcox said. "I feel that I can show children the creative experience of a child growing up."  
Wilcox teaches English language learning at Wendell Elementary School in the same town she was raised. But before she moved back to Wendell, she studied literature at Seattle Pacific University and traveled to Cambridge, England where she was invited to attend a C.S. Lewis conference.

## Museum guests travel back to London life in the Middle Ages

LONDON (AP) — Thoughts of the Middle Ages often bring to mind knights, castles and plague, but a new Museum of London gallery reveals much more about this tumultuous time.  
Visitors can jump into medieval London when they try on a replica of medieval bread, face the challenges of village life with an interactive computer game and see artifacts including the remnants of a Merton Priory stained glass window smashed when Henry



A leather shoe dated from the 1300-1400s, called a 'poulaine' with a long pointed toe that was stuffed with moss to keep its shape, is

## Mice grow human brain cells after stem cell injections

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Add another creation to the strange scientific menagerie where animal species are being mixed together in ever more exotic combinations.  
Scientists announced Monday that they had created mice with small amounts of human brain cells in an effort to make realistic models of neurological disorders such as Parkinson's disease.  
Led by Fred Gage of the Salk Institute in San Diego, the researchers created the mice by injecting ... about ... 100,000

per mouse into the brains of 14-day-old rodent embryos.  
Those mice each born with about 0.1 percent of human cell in each of their heads, a trace amount that doesn't remotely come close to "humanizing" the rodents.  
"This illustrate that injecting human stem cells into mouse brains doesn't restructure the brain," Gage said.  
Still, the work adds to the growing ethical concerns of mixing human and animal cells when it comes to stem cell and cloning research. After all, mice are 97.5 percent





Deborah Moore of Mendocino, Calif., holds a candle as she protests outside of San Quentin State Prison in San Quentin, Calif., Monday.

## Governor refuses to grant clemency

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger Monday refused to spare the life of Stanley Tookie Williams, the founder of the murderous Crips gang who awaited execution after midnight in a case that set off a debate over the possibility of redemption on death row.

Schwarzenegger said he was unconvinced that Williams had had a change of heart, and he was unswayed by pleas from Hollywood stars and capital punishment foes who said the inmate had made amends by writing children's books about the dangers of gangs.

"Is Williams' redemption complete and sincere or is it just a hollow promise?" Schwarzenegger wrote less than 12 hours before the execution. "Without an apology and atonement for these senseless and brutal killings, there can be no redemption."

He added: "The facts do not justify overturning the jury's verdict or the decisions of the courts in this case."

With a reprieve from the courts considered unlikely, Williams, 51, was set to die by injection at San Quentin State Prison early this morning for murdering four people during two 1979 holdups.

## Court will hear case on Texas redistricting

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court waded into the thicket of Texas politics Monday, agreeing to review controversial redistricting that produced ballot box gains for Republicans but an ethics rebuke and criminal delays for GOP Rep. Tom DeLay.

The justices had seemed to leave scant room in 2004 for the issue of challenge raised by Texas Democrats and their allies in Monday's case, but the high court is undergoing transition now.

Democrats claimed optimism following the announcement that the justices had agreed to hear arguments. "Today's Supreme Court action agreeing to take up the Texas case on Tom DeLay's illegal redistricting scheme is a hopeful sign that the voting rights of millions of minorities will be restored," said a House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi of California.

Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott countered. "After hearing the case, we expect the court will agree with the unanimous judgment of the three-judge federal court that the Texas redistricting plan is wholly constitutional."

DeLay spokesman Kevin Madden added, "The effort to deliver a new congressional map was founded in the belief that a history of gerrymandering efforts by Democrats in Texas had resulted in an unfair representation of Texas voters."

## Firefighters continue battle against raging blaze at British oil depot

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, England (AP) — Fears that one tank could contain highly volatile fuel forced firefighters to briefly halt their battle Monday against a blaze raging at an oil depot that has spewed smoke as far away as France and caused jitters on the global oil market.

Authorities said they believe the explosion Sunday at the Buncelfield depot north of London was an accident, but will examine other possible causes, including terrorism.

The 150 firefighters fighting the blaze with torrents of chemical foam withdrew at 3 p.m. after extinguishing flames in 12 of the 20 tanks that were initially ablaze, said Chief Fire Officer Roy Walker. Two hours later, his office said firefighters had resumed work after determining that the fuel in the tank was not as volatile as had been feared.

The terminal stores 4.2 million gallons of fuel, and the fire has caused unease on the oil market and raised questions about safety at the nation's oil facilities.

"There is nothing to suggest that it is anything other than an accident, but we're keeping an open mind and when we get into the site we'll treat it as a scene which could be a crime. We'll be doing full forensics," said Chief Superintendent Jeremy Alfred of Hertfordshire police. "We'd be remiss if we didn't."

Firefighters battled the enormous fire for more than 30 hours before pulling back Monday. Authorities shut down a highway nearby and extended a closed-off zone around the depot 25 miles north of London because of the chance the tank might explode, Walker said.

The terminal flames had resulted in one tank where they had been extinguished earlier.

"I don't want a human tragedy to go alongside the environmental tragedy that we've already got," he told reporters as firefighters withdrew.

Walker told reporters the firefighters were in "uncharted territory."

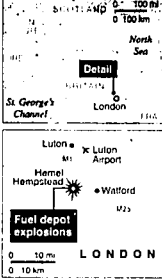
"This is the largest fire of this kind that the U.K. and Europe



Flames rise from one of the fuel tanks at the Buncelfield oil depot in Hemel Hempstead, England, Monday. Hertfordshire Fire Service said scores of firefighters had put out flames in 12 of the 20 fuel tanks burning at the Buncelfield fuel depot 25 miles north of London.

### Smoke over Europe

On Monday, scores of firefighters put out 12 of the 20 fuel tanks burning at the Buncelfield depot north of London. Sunday's explosions caused a huge cloud of black smoke to drift across northern France toward Spain.



Smoke over Europe. On Monday, scores of firefighters put out 12 of the 20 fuel tanks burning at the Buncelfield depot north of London. Sunday's explosions caused a huge cloud of black smoke to drift across northern France toward Spain.

## Insurgents: Iraq election 'satanic'; Bush upbeat as early voting begins

Leaders urge turnout

Shiite, Sunni Arab and Kurdish leaders in Iraq urged voters to participate in elections Thursday, but the election is expected to be marred by violence.

Major players in Iraq's Dec. 15 election

- Abdul-Aziz al-Hakim, 55: Cleric and powerful politician who heads the Shiite Muslim coalition.
- Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sayid, 75: Most powerful Shiite cleric, who urges support for al-Hakim's Shiite-led alliance.
- Ayad Allawi, 45: Secular Shiite who heads a coalition of Sunni, Shiite and Kurdish moderates.
- Saleh al-Mutlaq: Sunni Arab politician who intends to press for changes in the constitution.
- President Jalal Talabani, born 1933: Head of Iraq's Kurdish minority; Kurds allied with Shiites in forming new government.

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Al-Qaeda in Iraq and four other Islamic extremist groups denounced this week's parliamentary elections as a "satanic project" that violated God's law, but they stopped short of an explicit threat Monday to attack polling stations.

Despite the sound of detonations rumbling across the capital and at least 15 deaths in ongoing violence, early voting went ahead in hospitals, prisons and military bases, but President Bush offered encouraging words from Washington to Iraqi voters.

In a rare joint statement, the five militant groups denounced the election as a "satanic project" and said that "to engage in the so-called political process" violates "the legitimate policy approved by God."

The groups vowed to "continue our jihad (holy war) ... to establish an Islamic state ruled by the book (the Quran) and the traditions of the Prophet Muhammad."

However, the statement contained no clear threat to disrupt voting as in the run-up to the Jan. 30 election and the Oct. 15 referendum on the constitution.

The authenticity of the statement could not be verified, but it appeared on a Web site that often publishes extremist material.

The absence of a clear-cut threat could reflect the growing interest among Sunni Arabs, the foundation of the insurgency, to take part in the election. The Sunni decision to boycott the January ballot left parliament in the hands of Shiites and Kurds — a move which increased communal friction and cost the Sunnis considerable influence in drafting the constitution.

A leaflet that appeared Monday in the Baghdad Sunni stronghold of Azamiyah acknowledged that Sunni Arabs could make gains in the election but that "fighting will continue with the infidels and their followers."

Most of the 43 people injured in the blast before dawn Sunday were treated for cuts and bruises from flying glass. Two men with more serious injuries remained hospitalized Sunday night, and one was released Monday, police said.

## Activists demonstrate near Gitmo

HAVANA (AP) — American activists camping out at a Cuban military checkpoint outside the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay started their first day of a "water-only" fast Monday to protest the treatment of suspected terrorists detained at the base.

Members of the largely Christian group Witness Against Torture are demanding access to the prisoner camp to meet with inmates. The activists arrived late Sunday at the

checkpoint, which is about five miles from the U.S. base; after a five-day march from the eastern Cuban city of Santiago.

The Guantanamo detention center has become a symbol of the controversy over detainee abuse by the U.S. military.

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# Bin Laden may no longer run al-Qaida

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — Osama bin Laden may no longer have operational control of his terrorist network, the U.S. ambassador to Pakistan said Monday.

Ryan Crocker said bin Laden cannot communicate with his followers because he likely is hiding in a remote area, Pakistan's Geo Television and state-run, PTV reported after the ambassador met with local journalists.

U.S. Embassy spokesman Peter Kovach, who was at the gathering, confirmed the substance of the reports. He said the comments were made at a lunch for senior Pakistani journalists.

Neither station broadcast a tape of the remarks, and Kovach said he had no recording either.

According to Geo, Crocker also doubted suggestions that bin Laden's deputy, Ayman al-Zawahiri,

had effective control of al-Qaida, saying the fact that he issues occasional video and audio taped statements does not prove anything.

The al-Qaida No. 2 was last heard from on a tape that surfaced Sunday, urging al-Muslims to take up arms and saying a refusal to join the fight against Jews and Christians would lead to the defeat of an militant Islam.

He said the global Islamic community had "no hope for victory"

until all Muslims signed on to the al-Qaida-led jihad. His comments were contained in a 48-minute tape entitled "Impediments to Jihad."

The video portion of the tape was a still photo of a white-turbaned al-Zawahiri with English-subtitles running under it. The audio appeared to be his voice speaking Arabic.

It was impossible to verify the authenticity of the tape.

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 There's no middleman, manufacturing fees, or franchise fees to pay.*



**Weston Harris**  
 Innovator & CEO of National  
 ActiveEar & SportEar brands



**Robert Harris**  
 BC-HIS Founder & President  
 Harris Hearing Aid Center



**Sherry Summers**  
 M.S., CCC-A Clinical Audiologist  
 Practice Manager

Dear Friend,

There's one more thing you need to know. You see, we own both the manufacturing company and the retail hearing centers. My name is Weston Harris, my father is Robert Harris and we own both Harris Hearing Centers and ActiveEAR, the manufacturer of some of the finest hearing devices in the world.

What that means to you is:

- You can save up to 50%. In other words, you can get 2 hearing aids for the price of one. You could literally save thousands – up to six thousand dollars in some cases.
- You can get better hearing instantly with unsurpassed quality. I'll put my ActiveEAR hearing aids up against any competitive product.
- You'll get your new hearing aids in days, not weeks or months. (The nice thing about owning the manufacturing company is that I can make sure my customers get taken care of first.)
- Peace of mind from a guarantee / warranty that's about 5 times better than most competitors. I mean it. If you have any problems with the fit, comfort, technology, or sound quality of our instruments anytime within six months of your purchase, we will refit you, change out the instrument, switch to any other brand necessary to do whatever it takes to make sure you are thrilled with your hearing. We will also do it at OUR EXPENSE, not yours.
- I will give you FREE parts on your repairs for 5 years. The standard warranty in the industry is only one year (two if you're lucky).

What you need to ask yourself is: Have you been suffering from hearing loss for any of these reasons?

- You ask people to repeat often
- You have a hard time with background noise
- You have a hard time understanding voices on the phone
- You're not sure if you really need a hearing aid
- You believe your hearing loss is too small to be helped by a hearing instrument
- You've heard horror stories about fit and comfort problems
- You believe hearing aids will make you look like an "old geezer"

I can understand that. But if you're willing to give us a chance, I promise that we can make a tremendous impact on your quality of life. I invite you to come to a Christmas

open house at any of my ActiveEAR Centers on Wednesday December 7th to Wednesday, December 14th. If you'll make an appointment anytime during that open house, I'll give you a FREE hearing test and a FREE video exam of your ears (worth \$249.00), so you can see for yourself what your own hearing situation is. Just call any of our stores to set up an appointment. While you're there, my hearing specialists and audiologists will answer any questions you have about any of the issues mentioned above and anything else regarding your hearing, or hearing aids. When you come in, I'll give you a special report from a national consumer organization comparing the top 28 hearing aid brands. You'll see that our ActiveEAR & SportEAR brand scores very well among the top instruments available. We are directly connected with the most advanced circuit and component maker in the world to bring you the best quality & technology available for the best prices. Naturally, once your exam is complete we will recommend a course of action. If you don't need hearing help, we'll let you know. (After all, with the extraordinary guarantee and the exceptional pricing I'm offering, I can't afford to sell you something that doesn't fill your needs.) If we believe we can help, we'll tell you that too. We will also give you a price quote up to 50% less than any local competitor on comparable equipment and a delivery timeline dramatically faster than most competitors. With over 48 years of experience under our belts and having served tens of thousands of customers, nothing gives us greater satisfaction than improving your hearing to give you the best possible quality of life. Remember, you can save up to 50% compared to the competition on the best quality hearing instruments you can buy. But you must act before Wednesday, December 14th to take advantage of this special offer, so call now to make your appointment for a FREE hearing exam. I look forward to serving you soon.

Sincerely,

Weston Harris, BC-HIS  
 Innovator & CEO of  
 National ActiveEAR &  
 SportEAR brands

Robert Harris, BC-HIS  
 Founder & President  
 Harris Hearing Aid Centers

P.S. Please allow me to make this offer even better...

1. If you opt for our AE Premium 100% Digital Model, you'll get 3 years of loss and damage insurance, instead of the standard 1 year warranty.
2. I'll also include a year's worth of FREE BATTERIES.
3. If you buy the AE Premium model during the open house, I'll also include FREE LIFETIME SERVICE OF:
  - retesting of your ears
  - reprogramming of your hearing aids
  - cleaning, adjustments and minor repairs.

**Take advantage of our Christmas Open House...call and make your appointment today!**

**ActiveEAR™**

**Idaho Falls**  
 1920 Channing Way  
 208-552-0475

**Boise**  
 11513 Fairview Ave.  
 208-323-1395

**Twin Falls**  
 1485 Poleline Rd. E.  
 208-735-1263  
*(Inside Magic Valley Mall)*



**Nampa**  
 324 A Caldwell Blvd.  
 208-463-0133

**Pocatello**  
 Coming Soon



Twin Falls boys-basketball hosts Century.

MORNING LINE

SPORTS QUOTE

Unconfirmed reports leave little doubt that it is Manny's place. There's not much in the attic, and the oven mitts look barely used.

The Seattle Times' Dwight Perry on Red Sox left fielder Manny Ramirez putting his 4,500-square-foot, four-bedroom, six-bathroom Boston penthouse on the market for \$6.9 million.

TRIVIA

QUESTION: In 1946, Army and Notre Dame played for a famous scoresless tie at Yankee Stadium. Four players in that game won Heisman Trophies. Who were they?

ANSWER below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- High School BOYS BASKETBALL: Bonneville at Minico, 6 p.m. ... Girls BASKETBALL: American Falls at Butley, 6 p.m. ... Wrestling: Burley at Declo, 6 p.m. ...

IN BRIEF

Ramsey released from CSI hoops

TWIN FALLS — Freshman center Ronnie Ramsey of Los Angeles, Calif., was recently released from the College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team. Golden Eagles head coach Barry Pevney announced on Monday...

Ramsey is the second CSI player to be removed from the team this season. Forward Xavier Kirby of Blountville, was removed from the team during pre-season practices.

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Army's Doc Blanchard won the Heisman in 1945; Army's Glenn Davis won it in 1946; Notre Dame's Johnny Unitas took it in 1947; and Notre Dame's Leon Hart won it in 1949.

SPORTS

Sports Editor: Joe Paisley, 735-1239 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

INSIDE

Local, NFL, NBA ... B2 Scores and stats ... B3 Money ... B46

Riley back in as coach

By Tim Reynolds Associated Press writer

MIAMI — Pat Riley is again the coach of the Miami Heat, replacing Stan Van Gundy following his resignation Monday for family reasons.

Riley, whom Van Gundy succeeded on the bench shortly before the 2003-04 season, will make his debut Tuesday night when Miami opens a four-game road trip in Chicago.

"I will get back into this quickly," said Riley, the 69-year-old team president. He said he hasn't even looked at a playbook for two years.

Riley coached the team from 1995-03 after winning four titles with the Los Angeles Lakers and a stint with the New York Knicks.

Players were not available for immediate comment. The team left for Chicago on Monday, shortly before the press conference announcing the shake-up and learning of Van Gundy's decision.

"I made this decision for one reason and one reason only: I love my family," Van Gundy said. He said that because of travel, games and practices, he would have seen his children at home only 49 days out of 170 this season.

"That's just not enough any more for me. It's just not enough," Van Gundy said. "I mean, it's been like that for my kids' entire lives. I've got a 14-year-old daughter and it started to hit me when I started thinking about her birthday, which was last month. I've got four more years left with her. And then she'll be off to college and I'm just not willing to sacrifice any more of those four more years."

Riley's eyes welled with tears as Van Gundy announced the reasons for his decision. Van Gundy said Riley has tried for weeks to persuade him to stay. "It came down to a choice, and for me, the choice was clear," Van Gundy said.

Van Gundy will remain in the organization, and insisted he had no desire to coach elsewhere in the NBA. Van Gundy's job status was the subject of speculation in South Florida for months, starting when Riley — his mentor — said shortly after the team's 2005 playoff run ended that he may take a larger role in the team's day-to-day operations.

That comment, which seemed innocuous at the time, set off speculation that Riley was planning to dismiss Van Gundy and take over a team with two of the NBA's biggest stars, Shaquille O'Neal and Dwyane Wade, in his quest to bring the Heat their first title.

This year, the team was in first place but with only a 11-10 record, although without O'Neal for 10 of those games because the 12-time All-Star had a badly sprained right ankle. Rumors that Van Gundy's job may be in jeopardy continued to swirl, but Van Gundy insisted Monday his relationship with Riley has never been better.



Former Miami Heat coach Pat Riley, left, listens as Stan Van Gundy explains the reasons he is resigning as head coach of the team, during a Monday press conference in Miami. Riley will take charge of the team. Van Gundy is stepping down for family reasons.

coached the Knicks (1991-95). Van Gundy was Riley's top assistant for eight seasons, getting the top job shortly before the 2003-04 campaign when Riley walked into his office unexpectedly and told him he was stepping aside.

And now, in a move perhaps not so unexpected but certainly just as sudden, Van Gundy is gone, six hours after leading the Heat to an overtime win over Washington on Sunday night.

The move came nearly four years to the day after Jeff Van Gundy, Stan's younger brother, resigned as Knicks coach, 19 games into the 2001-02 season.

Jeff Van Gundy, now the Houston Rockets coach, said at the time he'd lost his focus and thought about quitting since that summer.

"The question I've always had

for him is 'why did you go back,' Stan Van Gundy said. Through a Rockets spokesman, Jeff Van Gundy declined comment Monday.

Before coming to the Heat, Van Gundy had college stints at Vermont, Castleton State, Canisius and Fordham, Massachusetts. Lowell and Wisconsin. When Riley joined the Heat, Van Gundy came with him — in large part because his brother, Jeff, was under contract to the New York Knicks and couldn't stay on Riley's staff.

His first season as head coach didn't get off to a good start, with the Heat losing Van Gundy's first seven games. But with Wade leading a talented nucleus of young players, Miami finished that season 42-40 and as the No. 4 seed in the

Playoff see VAN GUNDY, Page B2

Dungy, Colts face dilemma

By Michael Marot Associated Press writer

INDIANAPOLIS — When the Indianapolis Colts face San Diego on Sunday, the regulars who made them the third 13-0 team in NFL history are likely to play.

After that, things could change. One day after the Colts wrapped up their third straight AFC South title, a first-round bye away from home and advantage throughout the playoffs, coach Tony Dungy again had to contend with the NFL's hot topic: Will the unbeaten Colts continue playing their starters?

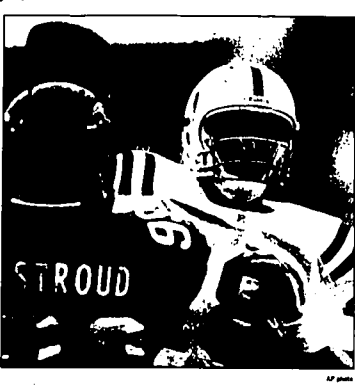
"We'll probably play this game like a normal game," Dungy said Monday. "Once we get to the NFL games, we'll see. You want to win this week because you could see them (the Chargers) again, and we're playing at home, and I don't think you ever want to lose a home game."

For most teams that wrap up all the significant playoff advantages early, it's a question they cannot avoid. But with the Colts a game away from joining the 1972 Miami Dolphins as the only NFL teams to go 14-0, the discussion whether they will continue to chase the NFL's second perfect season has intensified.

Audit questions Colorado spending

The Associated Press

DENVER — A state audit released Monday stated the records of former Colorado football coach Gary Barnett's football camp were in such disarray that auditors couldn't be sure whether any dollars were broken in more than \$400,000 worth of transactions.



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning, right, makes a first-quarter pass as Jacksonville Jaguars defender Marcus Stroud, left, closes in, Sunday in Jacksonville, Fla.

In Dungy's mind, the Colts have little at stake these last three weeks. By winning 20-18 at Jacksonville on Sunday, the team achieved the last of its regular-season goals by clinching the AFC's top seed.

They now have only one more game outdoors — Dec. 24 at Seattle.

Now the question: Does Dungy owe it to his players to pursue NFL history by using his regulars right down to the last regular-season game? He has indicated he believes perfection should take a back seat to the ultimate goal of winning the Super Bowl.

Most Colts acknowledge they want to continue playing, not surprising given that Peyton Manning, Edgerly James and Marvin Harrison don't even like taking breaks during practice. "If I'll rest when I'm through playing football," James said Sunday. "Right now, it's just a groove that we're in, and we just want to keep going."

Dungy did acknowledge Monday that injured players, such as starting linebacker Cam Lewis and starting defensive tackle Corey Simon (sprained foot), might not play again until they are 100 percent. James sat out the Jacksonville game. Simon was expected to have an examination Monday after injuring his foot against the Jaguars, which he did not finish.

Dungy was not certain how severe the injury is. "That one looks like the most serious we had yesterday, so I think we're in pretty good shape," Dungy said.

Simon would have a full Monday to recover before the Colts play another meaningful game Jan. 14 or 15.

The other part of Dungy's equation is using healthy starters sparingly. "One thing we have to do is get our backup guys comfortable with being in there."

See COLTS, Page B2

Artest seeks trade

INDIANAPOLIS — Ron Artest's days with the Indiana Pacers might be numbered as he desires to play elsewhere carries any weight with management.

The former NBA defensive player of the year let it be known in various interviews over the weekend that he wants to be traded. That his agent "hagun" him in Indianapolis and that the team would be better off without him.

Artest's agent, Mark Stevens, did not immediately respond Monday to a message from The Associated Press seeking comment. Messages also were left with Pacers spokesman David Bernier.

On Saturday night, a day after ESPN first broadcast a story about Artest's unhappiness with the Pacers, coach Rick Carlisle said any talk about a possible trade is "not my department. That's not something I'm going to talk about."

Artest, who leads the NBA in steals and is the Pacers' second-leading scorer with a 19.4 average, has missed three of the past four games with a sore right wrist. He was on Saturday's game, an 80-66 win over Memphis, but was not available for comment.

Indiana went 2-1 in the games Artest missed. "If Ron feels that way, then that's the way it feels," Carlisle said. "We're going to let him wear what he wants to wear with any guy that wants to wear a Pacers uniform."

"Bottom line, if you want to wear it, we're with you. If you don't want to wear it, we're not going to give you a shirt off."

Artest missed 73 games and all the playoffs last season after he was suspended by the NBA for triggering the brawl with fans in Detroit. "I still think my past hurts me here," Artest told The Indianapolis Star. "I think somewhere here I'm thinking fresh."

SPORTS

Falcons drop Saints



Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick (7) dives across the goal on a two yard touchdown run as New Orleans Saints defender Will Smith (91) gives chase in the second quarter at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Monday.

ATLANTA (AP) — Michael Vick and the Atlanta Falcons served notice that they are still dangerous — and not yet out of the playoff race. Vick ran for two touchdowns and passed for one score before a late knock-out of the game with bruised ribs, and the Falcons beat the New Orleans Saints 36-17.

Vick threw a 54-yard touchdown pass to rookie Roddy White on a flea-bucker play. But in the fourth quarter, Vick was slow to get up after taking a late hit from linebacker Ronald McKinnon, who drew a penalty on the play.

New Orleans Aaron Brooks passed for 185 yards and a touchdown and Antwan Smith rushed for 60 yards and a touchdown on 11 carries. Falcons cornerback DeAngelo Hall, who seems to thrive in Monday night games, provided the first big play of the game when he stripped the ball from receiver Joe Hmon following a third-down catch for first-down yardage in the first quarter.

Senators bury Avalanche

DENVER (AP) — Dany Heatley scored the go-ahead goal in the third period and two other assists, and Ottawa scored four times in the final period to overwhelm Colorado 6-2.

Patrick Eaves, Bryan Smolinski and Brandon Bochenski followed. Dominik Hasek stopped 22 shots and has allowed only 19 goals during a 9-0-1 streak. Daniel Alfredsson had three assists.

good had to make just 16 saves to help Detroit win its third straight. Pittsburgh's Mark Bechert stopped with 28.9 seconds left.

Jazz end Pistons' win streak

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Andre Kirilenko had 22 points, 12 rebounds and seven assists, and a short-handed Utah Jazz ended Detroit's six-game winning streak.

Wally Szczerbiak scored 23 points. Kevin Garnett had 19 and Marko Jarić added 14 and 10 assists for the Pistons. Detroit's six-game winning streak that had sent them to the top of the Northwest Division.

Bryant scored 43 points, including a 3-pointer that tied it at 97 and his amazing 3 that put the Lakers ahead 104-102. Bryant was forced to put up the long shot from the right wing because Dallas center DeSagana Diop had knocked the ball from him at the top of the key.

76ers 90, Timberwolves 89, OT

PHILADELPHIA — Chris Webber had 27 points and 21 rebounds, and Allen Iverson added 19 points and 10 assists to help the Philadelphia 76ers win their third straight game, 90-89 in overtime over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Monday night.

Bucks 112, Knicks 92

NEW YORK — Reserve Dan Cozzer scored a season-high 18 points, and the Milwaukee Bucks won their third straight. Michael Redd finished with 31 points to lead Milwaukee, which has won six of seven and improved to 1-1 against Eastern Conference teams. Maurice Williams added 15.

Hornets 91, Suns 87

PHOENIX — J.R. Smith scored a season-high 26 points, including four free throws in the last 17.6 seconds, and the New Orleans Hornets held off the Phoenix Suns to snap a five-game losing streak.

Colts

Continued from B1. including backup quarterback Jim Sorg. Dugny said, "I think that can be done with a series here or there, when the game really matters."

Lakers 109, Mavericks 106

DALLAS — Kobe Bryant swished a shot with 34.9 seconds left that was spectacular even by his standards — about a 30-footer falling away with a hand in his face and the shot clock expiring — to send the Lakers past the Mavericks.

Timberwolves 89, OT

PHILADELPHIA — Chris Webber had 27 points and 21 rebounds, and Allen Iverson added 19 points and 10 assists to help the Philadelphia 76ers win their third straight game, 90-89 in overtime over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Monday night.

Van Gundy

Continued from B1. Eastern Conference playoffs.

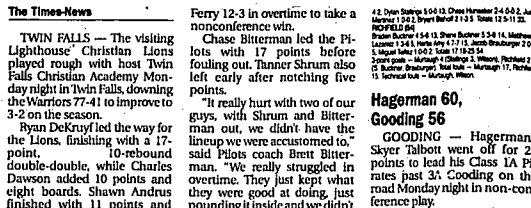
Colts

Continued from B1. Eastern Conference playoffs.

Colts

Continued from B1. Eastern Conference playoffs.

Lions maul Warriors



The Lions, finishing with a 17-0 point, 10-rebound double-double, while Charles Dawson added 10 points and eight assists. Shawn Andrus finished with 11 points and seven assists for Lighthouse Christian.

Local sports where everything started to swing. Lions head coach Sam Fowler said, "We got after it a little on defense and we were just a little too big. TFC played really hard though, I was really impressed."

Richfield 54, Murtaugh 33. RICHFIELD — Richfield defeated Murtaugh 54-33 Monday night in nonconference play.

Richfield 54, Murtaugh 33. RICHFIELD — Richfield defeated Murtaugh 54-33 Monday night in nonconference play.

Maple Leafs 3, Mighty Ducks 2

TORONTO — Tomas Kaberle and Alex Steen scored power-play goals, and Toronto ended a three-game skid with a victory over Anaheim.

Glenns Ferry 57, OT

GLENN'S FERRY — Foul trouble caught up to the Glenns Ferry Pilots as the Parma Farmers outscored host Glenns

Richfield 54, Murtaugh 33

RICHFIELD — Richfield defeated Murtaugh 54-33 Monday night in nonconference play.

Advertisement for Santa Sale featuring Honda TRX 250TM for \$2995, Yamaha, and Kawasaki. Includes details about rebates up to \$500 off on select models, 15% off on all ATV bags and covers, and 20% off on all Fox and No Fear Clothing. The sale runs from Dec. 15th to Dec. 17th.

SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Area ski report

Report: Conditions in the area... Snow totals... Skiing conditions... Mountain views... Local news snippets...

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists various sports teams and their records.

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Padres resign Roberts, near deal with Brock... Padres player... Contract details...

Gooding girls announce fundraiser... Gooding High School girls basketball team... Fundraising efforts...

Westbrook placed on injured reserve... Westbrook injured... Philadelphia Phillies...

Jerome Rec offers hoops tourney... Jerome Recreation District... Hoops tourney for girls...

N.D. receives demand for Fiesta Bowl tickets... Notre Dame... Fiesta Bowl tickets...

Wilson first black head coach in Ivy League... Wilson named... Ivy League football...

Red Sox job... Boston Red Sox... General manager search...

Between them, Ben and Jed have intimate knowledge of every player in our organization... Team management...

Westbrook replaces Bob Shoop... Westbrook named... Shoop's departure...

Compiled from staff and wire reports... Summary of sports news...

WHAT'S ON T.V.

Basketball

7 p.m. on Wave Forest men. ESPN, 7 p.m.

Hockey

7 p.m. on BUSES, O.M. 6 p.m.

BASKETBALL

NBA Eastern Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct., and Games Back.

NBA Western Conference Standings

NBA Western Conference Standings table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct., and Games Back.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Big Ten

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists Big Ten college basketball teams.

SEC

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists SEC college basketball teams.

ACC

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists ACC college basketball teams.

Big East

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists Big East college basketball teams.

Midwest

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists Midwest college basketball teams.

Mountain West

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists Mountain West college basketball teams.

Southwest

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists Southwest college basketball teams.

SOFTBALL

NCAA Division I

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NCAA Division I softball teams.

NCAA Division II

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NCAA Division II softball teams.

NCAA Division III

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NCAA Division III softball teams.

NAIA

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NAIA softball teams.

USA Today/ESPN Top 25 Poll

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, W, L, Pts. Lists top 25 softball teams.

NCAA Division I Ice Hockey Poll

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, W, L, Pts. Lists top 25 ice hockey teams.

NCAA Division II

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, W, L, Pts. Lists top 25 ice hockey teams.

NCAA Division III

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, W, L, Pts. Lists top 25 ice hockey teams.

NAIA

Table with 5 columns: Rank, Team, W, L, Pts. Lists top 25 ice hockey teams.

FOOTBALL

NFL

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NFL teams.

College Football

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college football teams.

NFL Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NFL teams and their records.

College Football Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college football teams.

NFL Standings

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College Football Standings

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NFL Standings

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College Football Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college football teams.

NFL Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NFL teams and their records.

HOCKEY

NHL Eastern Conference

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NHL Eastern Conference teams.

NHL Western Conference

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NHL Western Conference teams.

College Hockey

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college hockey teams.

NHL Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists NHL teams and their records.

College Hockey Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college hockey teams.

NHL Standings

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College Hockey Standings

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NHL Standings

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College Hockey Standings

Table with 5 columns: Team, W, L, T, Pts. Lists college hockey teams.

Advertisement for Honda Civic Sedan 2006 Motor Trend Car of the Year. Includes images of the car and text: 'Middlekauff Has Been Chosen to Showcase the New... GT40... MIDDLEKAUFF HONDA... 808.738.4840 • 800.448.8880... Come In And See One Today!



MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, Price, Change. Includes categories like Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, and various oil products.

POCKETEEL

Price returned on Dec. 6 (renewal) spot delivery in Twin Falls and Coalingco, on Dec. 7 (renewal) in Twin Falls. Prices current on Dec. 7.

POCKETEEL

POCKETEEL (AP) - Idaho Farm Bureau's... POCKETEEL - White wheat 7 1/2 bushels... POCKETEEL - Yellow wheat 7 1/2 bushels...

WHEAT

WHEAT - Minimum: cents per bushel... Dec 057 58.5 58.5 +0.5... Dec 058 58.5 58.5 +0.5...

WHEAT

WHEAT - Minimum: cents per bushel... Dec 057 58.5 58.5 +0.5... Dec 058 58.5 58.5 +0.5...

CHEESE

Cheddar cheese prices on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange... Dec 057 87.55 87.00 -0.55... Dec 058 87.00 86.00 -0.90...

POTATOES

CHICAGO (AP) - USDA - Major potato market... Dec 057 87.55 87.00 -0.55... Dec 058 87.00 86.00 -0.90...

SUGAR

NEW YORK (AP) - Sugar futures trading on the New York Board of Trade... Dec 057 13.72 13.68 +0.04... Dec 058 13.68 13.64 +0.04...

METALS/MONEY

By The Associated Press... Selected world price, Monday... Dec 057 13.72 13.68 +0.04... Dec 058 13.68 13.64 +0.04...

BEANS

Valley Beans... Prices are for green, 120,000 lbs. U.S. to 1 bushel... Dec 057 13.72 13.68 +0.04... Dec 058 13.68 13.64 +0.04...

GRAINS

Valley Grains... Prices are for mixed, mixed grain, on... Dec 057 13.72 13.68 +0.04... Dec 058 13.68 13.64 +0.04...

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AMZN, EBAY, etc.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

AMEX

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NASDAQ

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

LOSERS

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

DIARY

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INDEXES

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NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 250 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange... Company stocks are listed alphabetically by the company's full name... Market Report: Stocks are listed in order of their closing price change...

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, GOOG, etc.



## AROUND THE VALLEY

### Sheriff identifies man found in snow

**ROGERSON** — Authorities have identified a man who froze to death in the South Hills, but are withholding his name until his family can be notified.

The man's body was found Friday by a snow machine operator in the Fifth Fork area some 22 miles southeast of Rogerson. He had apparently walked about five miles from his car after it became stuck in snow on a remote unmaintained road, according to the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office.

Authorities were not sure when the man died, and have not been able to verify his residence, according to Sheriff's spokeswoman Nancy Howell.

She said the man had stayed at several area motels, but had a California driver's license and his car was registered in Nevada.

Howell said the incident is being investigated as an accident and no foul play is suspected.

### Energy discussion will be held in Buhl

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

The Idaho Energy Education Project will show the film "The End of Suburbia," followed by a discussion of energy-related issues. The Idaho Energy Education Project is not oriented to a particular point of view, but its purpose is to expand public awareness of energy related issues and their effects. The event will last from 6 to 9 p.m. at the 8th St. Center in Buhl.

The program will include a chili and continental supper. If you plan to attend, RSVP to Bill Chisholm, 543-4418.

### Idaho 75 plan now ready for review

**SHOSHONE** — The Federal Highway Administration has approved the Idaho 75 Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public review and a public hearing date has been set.

A public hearing will be from 3 to 8 p.m. Jan. 26 at the Blaine County Senior Center, 721 3rd Ave. South in Hailey.

The plan proposes to improve Idaho 75 from U.S. 20 to Ketchum.

Copies of the plan will be available Monday at locations in Bellevue, Hailey, Ketchum, Sun Valley, Shoshone and Boise:

- In Bellevue at the City Hall and Library, 115 Pine St.
- In Hailey at City Hall, 115 South Main St. and Blaine County Planning and Zoning, 219 First Avenue South, Suite 208
- In Ketchum at the City Hall, 480 East Ave. North and the Community Library, 415 Spruce Ave. North
- In Sun Valley at the City Hall, 81 Elkhorn Rd.
- In Shoshone at the Idaho Transportation Department, District 4, 216 S. Date St.
- In Boise at the Idaho Transportation Department, 3311 W. State St., and the Federal Highway Administration, 3050 Lakeharbor Lane, Suite 126.

Public comments will be accepted through Feb. 24.

For more information, e-mail project managers at chuck.carnohan@idaho.gov or akriskn@playworld.com or visit the Web site: [idaho.gov/get-involved/d4](http://idaho.gov/get-involved/d4). Click on Idaho 75 Timmerman to Ketchum.

— compiled from staff reports

### Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	Year*
Salmon	105%	20%
Big Wood	111%	30%
Little Wood	105%	20%
Big Lost	105%	28%
Little Lost	93%	27%
Henry's Fork/Teton	103%	26%
Upper Snake Basin	102%	30%
Oakley	118%	28%
Salmon Falls	112%	29%

As of Dec. 12

\*A comparison of Basin snowpack.   
 \*A comparison of Basin snowpack.   
 \*A comparison of Basin snowpack.

# Fate of disputed road contract on the line

By John Miller  
 Associated Press writer

**BOISE** — The fate of a disputed contract to manage Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's \$1.2 billion highway-construction program is on the line at Wednesday's Idaho Transportation Department board meeting.

Parsons Brinckerhoff, which lost the \$5 million annual contract, has filed a 4th District Court lawsuit against Idaho over an Oct. 27 board vote that gave the contract to Washington Group International, a Boise company, and Denver-based CH2M Hill.

The suit alleges political favoritism.

Federal Highway Administration officials also have asked the state to reconsider — on concern that the Washington Group consortium was based on its ties to the state, not the merits of its proposal.

A tape recording of the Octo-

ber meeting indicates board members chose Washington Group and CH2M Hill at least in part because they supported Kempthorne's "Connecting Idaho" project in the 2005 Legislature and because they're local companies.

The decision went against an evaluation team of transportation engineers and other state officials that had voted 9-0 to give it to New York-based Parsons Brinckerhoff and its partner, HDR Engineering of Omaha, Neb.

The board's options Wednesday include sticking to its original vote, reversing its decision or even redoing the bidding process, officials said.

The panel also could split the contract between the companies, although that wasn't part of the original proposal and could require complicated negotiations.

"I'm interested in compromise, but I don't know what that

might be," Clinton Topham, Parsons Brinckerhoff's Salt Lake City-based district manager, told The Associated Press.

Kempthorne's highway-building plan, the state's largest ever, calls for selling bonds to raise cash to pay for projects that include a second bridge over the Snake River Canyon between Twin Falls and Jerome. The debt would be repaid with future highway money from the federal government.

The dispute over who manages the project has brought into focus just how important "Connecting Idaho" is to the governor, the companies aiming to have a hand in the work and their lobbyists.

Both Washington Group and Idaho Associated General Contractors, a building industry group, are paying Phil Heberger, Kempthorne's chief of staff until 2002, to promote the project for them.

Kempthorne, who vetoed

eight bills last year when "Connecting Idaho" stalled temporarily in the Legislature, was honored by the contractors' group last June for his role in winning its eventual approval.

In addition, Lance Giles, Kempthorne's transportation policy adviser, telephoned or spoke with at least three people on the seven-member board before the Oct. 27 vote, though the governor's office and the board member say no pressure was exerted to pick Washington Group and CH2M Hill.

On Nov. 21, Parsons Brinckerhoff hired Kathy Ruffalo, Kempthorne's former top transportation adviser, to assist in its appeal.

Kempthorne aides including Brian Whitlock, his chief of staff, have downplayed the dispute, saying it's unlikely "Connecting Idaho" will be delayed. Members of the 2006 Legislature, which convenes in January, must approve \$261 million for

projects due to begin next year.

Still, members of the governor-appointed transportation board called the dispute "more than just a hiccup."

"We're trying to go in and look at this openly," said Gary Bliock of Castledorf, who voted to give the contract to Washington Group and CH2M Hill. "We're not trying to derail this thing. I'm not sure if we've done anything wrong, but if we have, we'll address it."

Meanwhile, Washington Group, which maintains it won based on its proposal's merits, is watching closely what happens Wednesday. Its negotiations with the state over the contract's financial details are on hold during the dispute.

"We are continuing to do some of that preliminary planning work that was called for," spokesman Jerry Holloway told The Associated Press. "They're very minimal in nature, just some things that can be done to help keep things moving."

## Our Lady OF Guadalupe

Some 1,200 people look on as Victor Gonzales, as Juan Diego, raises his arms during the festivities.

## Irrigation costs going up to pay for spillway replacement

By Marie Mitchell  
 For The Times-News

**BURLEY** — Customers with the Burley and Minidoka irrigation districts will see an increase next year in their assessments.

The Bureau of Reclamation plans to replace the Minidoka Dam spillway, and the two irrigation districts will pay 42 percent of the \$40 million cost, said Kandy Bingham, Burley Irrigation District manager.

The dam is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation, but Bonneville Power, the Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Parks and Recreation, and both Burley and Minidoka irrigation districts all pay fees for its use and will be charged a portion of the spillway replacement cost.

The replacement project is still being studied; the tentative construction date is 2010.

The cost of the entire spillway replacement was estimated at \$40 million; MDS' portion would be \$13 million and BIR's about \$5 million.

However, MDS Manager Bill Thompson said he expects the project's price tag will be higher because the estimate came in before recent hikes in the cost of concrete and steel.

Both local irrigation districts raised their rates for 2006 to cover not only rising operation costs but to begin building a fund to pay for the spillway.

The Bureau of Reclamation wants all of the money upfront, but that's almost an impossibility," Bingham said. He added that the district is seeking federal funds, possibly through the Safety of Dams program, to help reduce the cost to the local irrigation districts.

Recently, BIR sent out its 2006 billing with a letter explaining the cost increase. The assessment was raised from \$40 per acre to \$45 per acre. Of that \$5 increase, \$2 will be used to pay for increased operating costs and costs associated with lawsuits; \$3 will be put into a fund for spillway replacement, Bingham said.

For MDS, this year's assessment is \$11.50 per acre.

Please see SPILLWAY, Page B3

Above, Alejandro Rodriguez of Twin Falls adjusts the mask of his traditional custom, which reflects the Mexican state of Jalisco. Below, Eleyka Zuniga, 9, of Jerome holds a portrait of Our Lady of Guadalupe on Monday night during the celebration at St. Jerome Catholic Church.

## Openness in government discussed at workshop

By Terry Smith  
 Times-News writer

**TWIN FALLS** — Elected officials and government workers attended a workshop Monday to learn how to get in trouble.

Nearly 80 participants, including news media and political activists, attended the Idaho Open Meeting/Public Records workshop at the College of Southern Idaho Herrett Center. The event was organized by Idahoans for Openness in Government and sponsored by The Times-News.

Presenters included Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden, who explained the importance of openness in government and also talked about records that can legally be withheld from public review.

"A public record is a public record and it is none of the government's business what a requester wants to do with that document," Wasden said.

Idahoans for Openness in Government is a nonprofit Boise-based coalition that promotes open government and freedom of information. The Twin Falls workshop was one of several being held around the state by the organization in partnership with Wasden's office, the Idaho Association of Counties and the Association of Idaho Cities.

Twin Falls County Sheriff Wayne Tousey attended along with eight of his employees. He said the workshop will help his staff have a better legal understanding of when to release and when not to release information.

Presentations included information on the state's open meeting law, including instances when the public can be legally excluded. Penalties for noncompliance were discussed. Offending officials could be fined up to \$300.

Harold Mohlman, a Minidoka Fire Protection District commissioner, said he attended "just so we don't get in trouble in holding our meetings." Mohlman actually wore three hats at the event: he is also president of the Idaho Water Users Association and president of A & B Irrigation District in Rupert.

Idaho Attorney General Lawrence Wasden speaks to local elected officials and government workers Monday about openness in government at the Herrett Center in Twin Falls.





OBITUARIES

Dustin Paul McCollum

**KIMBERLY** — Dustin Paul McCollum, age 10, of Kimberly, Idaho, with worn brown eyes and a constant smile became an angel Dec. 10, 2005.

He was born April 23, 1995, in Twin Falls, to Kenneth Lynn McCollum and Cheryl Armstrong. Dustin was in the fifth grade at Kimberly Elementary School. His sweet smile would warm anyone's heart. He was always happy and was always busy enjoying life. He loved his motorcycle and loved riding it with his sister and his dad. He loved Scouting and was looking forward to working on becoming an Eagle Scout. He lived in Kimberly, Idaho, all his life except for a three-year period when his family lived in California. He loved to go everywhere with his dad. He was going to be a motocross racer and a fireman with some electrical work on the side. He loved to visit his grandma, Maxine, and could even be persuaded to deliver Aunt with her on occasion. His family was his and he loved to just be with them.

He was innocent and sweet and



shrewd and wise beyond his years. He was always curious about everything and he was the apple of his dad's eye. Whether it was to go to work or just to play around, he could always be found tugging along with his dad. There are no words to describe the loss we feel or the hole he has left in our hearts. May God keep him close until we are together again.

Surviving Dustin are his parents, Kenneth McCollum of

Kimberly and Cheryl Armstrong of Twin Falls; sister, Kendra McCollum of Kimberly; grandmother, Maxine McCracken; grandparents, Dick and Joyce Armstrong and many aunts, uncles, and cousins and his cat, Cheech.

His grandfathers, Paul Kenneth McCollum and Robert L. McCracken, preceded him in death.

A funeral for Dustin will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 15, 2005, at the Park's Magee Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho, with Bishop Blake Gardner officiating. Interment will be held following the service at the Back Creek Veterans Memorial Cemetery in Hansen, Idaho. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005, at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, the family wishes memorials to be sent to the Boy Scouts of America, Snake River Council, Camp Bradley Fund, 2800 Falls Ave. E., Twin Falls, ID 83401, or the Dustin McCollum Memorial Fund, in care of any Wells Fargo Bank.

Pearl J. Davis



**RICHFIELD** — Pearl J. Davis, 79, beloved wife, mother, grandmother and friend, was called to Heaven on Saturday, Dec. 10, 2005. She died peacefully at home, with her husband of 59 years at her side.

Pearl was born April 3, 1926, in Birie, Idaho, the second child of James LeRoy and Ida May Radford. Her family later moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, where she graduated from high school in 1945. While there, she met Jerry A. Davis, a handsome young man from Eden and they were married Jan. 5, 1947. In 1948, Jerry and Pearl moved their young family to a farm north of Richfield, Idaho, and in 1960 they moved into Richfield, where they still live.

Pearl was an active member of the Richfield L.D.S. Church, the Richfield American Legion Auxiliary and the Richfield North End Club. She spent many hours helping at the senior center, delivering meals to her housebound friends and neighbors. Her

She was also the proud grandmother of 14 grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren. She is also survived by seven brothers, Vee (Ivan), Gerold (Clara), Dean (Helen), Ival (Virginia), Jay (Helen), Rex (Hazel) and Keith (Kerri) Howell; and one sister, Vonda (Rodney) Hyington.

She was preceded in death by her parents, an infant sister and a brother, Dorcel.

She will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A funeral will be conducted at 1 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2005, at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Richfield, by Bishop Charles Trec. Burial will follow at the Richfield Cemetery.

Friends may call from 4 to 7 p.m. today (Tuesday) at DeMaray's Shoshone Chapel and from 11:30 a.m. until 12:45 p.m. Wednesday at the church in Richfield.

Funeral services are under the direction of DeMaray Funeral Service in Shoshone.

hobbies included bowling, sewing, playing cards and being Grandpa Pearl to all the children in Richfield.

Pearl is survived by her husband, Jerry A. Davis; six daughters, Elaine (Robert) Faddis, Diana (Dennis) Behrens, Susan (Dean) Cox, Christine (Bert) Kyrin, Vickie (Mike) Saul and Jerri Davis; one son, Allan (Sabrina) Davis.

Charges to be refilled in alleged coffee poisoning

**BLACKFOOT (AP)** — A woman accused of trying to kill her ex-husband by putting rat poison in his coffee pot has been released from jail after the charge was dropped.

But Bingham County Prosecutor Scott Andrew told The Morning News of Blackfoot that he will file it again once his office receives test results from the Idaho State Police crime lab.

Brenda Hook, 47, was arrested July 13 and held on \$70,000 bail on a charge of attempting to kill with poison in hearings last summer in the case, her ex-husband, Jerry Hook of Moreland, testified that nauseating pain, bleeding and hives he had been experiencing ceased after he quit drinking his morning cup of coffee.

Brenda Hook is accused of putting d-COIN rat poison in Jerry Hook's coffee maker. Jerry Hook told the judge that his ex-wife, who lived next door, had threatened to harm him and that he called police after discovering a container of rodent killer under his sink that he had not purchased. He was treated by a doctor for poisoning and has recovered.

Bingham County Magistrate Charles Hoos ruled after Brenda Hook's arrest that prosecutors had sufficient evidence to hold her, and trial was set for December.

But last week, Andrew dropped the charge, saying he needed test results from the Idaho State Police crime lab that were not yet ready.

The law firm guesses Hoos suspects a trial within six months of charges being filed. Brenda Hook's lawyer, Dave Cannon, had refused to waive her right to that speedy trial.

So Andrew had the case dismissed without prejudice, meaning it can be filed again.

He said he also plans to refile a previously dismissed charge of felony conspiracy to destroy evidence.

Spillway

Continued from C1  
 for larger parcels will be \$35 per acre, up from \$31 per acre. The minimum assessment, for lots an acre or smaller, will increase from \$36 to \$45. MID directors approved the increase at their October meeting.

MID customers receive a 5 percent discount if they pay their bill by March 1.

The increase will cover not only rising costs of fuel, but also will begin to build a fund to pay for MID's share of the proposed rebuilding of the Minidoka Dam spillway within the next 10 years, Thompson said.

"It is pretty tough to come up with that kind of money," Thompson said, pointing out that a \$1 increase would raise \$77,000 annually and MID has less than 10 years to raise at least \$13 million. "You can see that it will take a little of rising assessments to make that. We'd rather not raise assessments, but financial circumstances being what they are, we have no choice."

The MID increase will affect "everybody that pays an assessment that gets water," including residents of Acquia, Heyburn, north Burley and Rupert, Thompson said.

Most local cities affected by the increase are passing the cost on to their water customers.

Rupert's irrigation costs have gone up about \$4,000. Water Superintendent Dennis Andrew said, but "at this point we have not increased fees, but there is a good chance in the future that we will have to."

The Acquia City Council voted recently to increase its rates by \$2 for larger lots and

\$2.50 for smaller lots, bringing fees to \$10 for the larger lots and \$6 for the smaller ones, said City Clerk Eldon Stephenson.

Residents in the Green Acres subdivision of North Burley will pay the \$182.42 total increase in the bill, Burley City Clerk Melanie Haynes.

The matter is scheduled to be discussed Wednesday at the Heyburn City Council meeting. In Paul, the increased MID assessment will raise the city's irrigation rates from the current minimum of \$34.29 to \$47.75, the per acre assessment will increase from \$29.46 to \$33.25. The increase will allow the city

to recover the costs of the irrigation water system operation.

A public hearing on the proposed increase in Paul is

scheduled for Wednesday in front of the City Council. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall, 1525 600W.

**KING KONG PG-13**  
**Midnight Show**  
**Tues., Dec. 13th**  
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**Tickets go on sale**  
**Tues., 13th 8:00 a.m.**  
 Movie opens for regular shows on Wed., Dec. 14th

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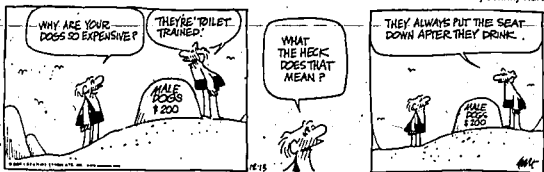
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COMICS

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Baby Blues



By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

Baldo



By Hector O. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

Brevity



By Guy & Rod

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

The Elderberles



By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Frank and Ernest



By Bob Thaves

Luann



By Greg Evans

Malhard Filmore



By Bruce Tinsley

Pearls Before Swine



By Stephan Pastis

Pickles



By Brian Crank

Rose Is Rose



By Pat Brady

Zits



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

Non Sequitur



By Wiley

Strange Brew



By John Deering

# Stand under the mistletoe, you're bound to get a surprise kiss

IF DEC. 13 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You have recently set your compass in a certain direction and can sail through most of this year without making a change of course. August may bring some lucky breaks and a sense of peace and contentment. If you need to launch important plans do so while benevolent providence shines your way and take advantage of whatever you are offered. Avoid making key decisions or changes in October when you may labor under the strain of a heavy workload and extra duties. If you cross your is and dot your i's you may be able to relax by the end of the month.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): The rising fever pitch of holiday excitement surrounds you. Those close may drag you along shopping expeditions or to parties. Love and tender moments of shared affection are easy to express.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stand under the nearest mistletoe and you are certain to receive a surprise kiss. Go shopping for those oh-so-special gifts that require impeccable good taste and discrimination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Know your limits. Your mental concentration is high and ex-

## HOROSCOPE

### Jeraldine Saunders

remely useful for balancing checkbooks. You have a knack for finding gifts that suit your budget and reflect good taste.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): In today's cheerful atmosphere you are apt to shower everyone with tokens of appreciation and may receive a few yourself. Don't break the bank to repay kindnesses or buy on credit.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Try a little tenderness. Scrumptious cookies and fun-filled lunches may fill you to bursting with the finest things life has to offer. Buy and try only the very best of everything today.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Play Trivial Pursuit. Use a deft touch with detailed projects that require careful organization. Holiday functions are enjoyable and it is a good time to spend wisely on Christmas presents.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Play Santa Claus with someone who has a beguiling twinkle in his or her eyes. This is a good time to visit the malls or the stores and find that special something to

please your significant other.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A break with routines might give you a chance to meet some fascinating people or visit exotic places. Your romantic wishes can come true tonight when affectionate stars smile on lovers.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Those generous impulses of yours will be repaid with a big smile. Do your holiday shopping but don't splurge on anything that will break the budget. The lights are green for love.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be a whiz with a database or simply show off as a font of arcane knowledge spouting a plethora of historical facts. Your charm can make you a winner with either love or money.

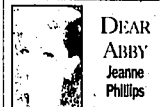
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Holiday cheer is on the rise. Take advantage of pleasant celestial conditions to attend social events or shop for those special gifts. You are sure to hit the target if you aim for love.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Jingle your bells. Affectionates may bond closer and romance can flourish under those heavenly stars. Buy items of refinement and elegance that will please that special someone. E

COMICS

# Santa, as symbol of giving, lives forever in our hearts

**DEAR ABBY:** I am 8 years old, and I have a question that has bothered me for months. Is Santa Claus a real person, and if not, why does everyone say he is? And if Santa Claus isn't real, where do all the letters go?



**—CONFUSED IN KINGSTON, N.Y.**  
**DEAR CONFUSED:** Santa Claus is more than a human being. Santa Claus is the living symbol of selfless giving, handed down from one generation to the next. In 1097, a girl named Virginia asked the same question in a newspaper. A very wise newspaper editor, Frank Church, wrote in reply:

"Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus... the most real things in the world are those which neither children nor men can see... Thank God, he (Santa Claus) lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood."

Letters to Santa Claus go where every other letter goes, directly to the U.S. Postal Service, which makes sure the letters reach their destination regardless of rain, hail, sleet or snow.

Read on for a testimony from a true believer:

**DEAR ABBY:** Yesterday afternoon, as I was opening my

mail, I came across an envelope with my name and address printed on it, but no return address. I assumed it was junk mail that had been made to look like a Christmas card. I was curious to get the better of me, so I opened it.

Inside was a Christmas card. It read, "Grand Rapids, Mich., Dec. 9." Abby, I don't know anyone in Grand Rapids.

I'm divorced. My ex-husband hasn't been helping me to support our children. Times have been hard. Obviously, the card was sent by someone who cares about us very much — someone who went to great trouble to remain anonymous. The money was a blessing. An equally great blessing is the fact that the children had a chance to witness such an act of generosity and kindness.

I hope that Santa is reading your column today, because I want to say thank you very

much from the bottom of my heart. I am grateful.

**— STILL BELIEVES IN SANTA, HOUSTON**  
**DEAR STILL BELIEVES:** I'm printing your letter with the conviction that some kind of all will ensure that it is delivered as far north as a reindeer can fly. A perceptive person once said that true generosity is doing something nice for someone without taking credit for it. However, your case is exceptional — and how fitting of your beautiful "Santa" to take a box. I know readers of all ages will be as gratified as I was to read about his act of kindness in this, the season of giving.

**DEAR ABBY:** When you're a guest in someone's home and use the powder room, and the only soap on the bathroom sink is the kind that's pretty and looks like little flowers... do you use one and throw it away when you're finished, or just rinse your hands with plain water?

**— EMBARRASSED IN DELAWARE**

**DEAR EMBARRASSED:** Please don't feel embarrassed; yours is a very common question. The answer is that guests should feel free to use what is offered by their hosts. The hosts can throw away the soap later if they wish.

Beetle Bailey



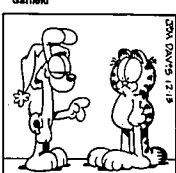
Blonde



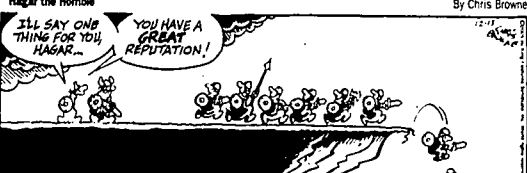
The Born Loser



Garfield



Hagar the Horrible



Hi and Lois



Classic Peanuts



The Wizard of Id



Dennis the Menace



\*REMEMBER JOEY, CHILDREN SHOULD BE SEEN BUT NOT OVERHEARD.\*

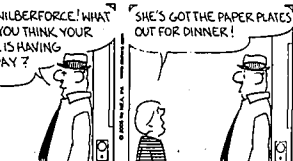
By Mort Walker



By Dean Young & Stan Drake



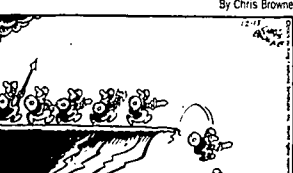
By Art Sanson & Chip



By Jim Davis



By Chris Browne



By Chance Browne



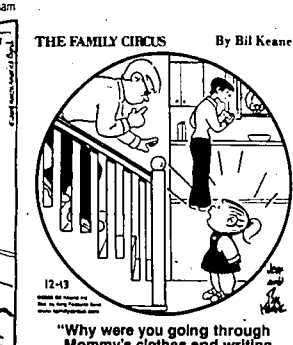
By Charles M. Schulz



By Briant Parker and Johnny Hart



By Hank Ketcham



"Why were you going through Mommy's clothes and writing down the sizes?"

## Grant lets New Jersey arts center host New Orleans Jazz Orchestra

**NEWARK, N.J.** — The sound of New Orleans jazz and the aroma of gumbo will be swirling around Newark for the next two years.

The New Jersey Performing Arts Center on Friday announced a two-year residency program with the New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, funded by a \$200,000 grant from the Prudential Foundation.

The money follows a \$300,000 grant from Prudential Financial Inc. to sponsor the orchestra's inaugural national tour, allowing it to proceed despite the loss of significant funding after Hurricane Katrina.

The collaboration with NJPAC will bring music, food, educational workshops and a Thanksgiving 2006 performance by the orchestra, said Lisa Mayfield, a trumpeter, composer and the orchestra's founder.

"We'll try to bring all those elements of New Orleans culture and jazz," said Mayfield, who also holds the title of New Orleans Cultural Ambassador. She said Newark got a feel for the brass band culture.

Mayfield, 27, said the residency would be a virtual experience, designed to give Newark new tastes of New Orleans. "We plan for people to be able to smell the French Quarter, taste the gumbo and see the Mardi Gras Indians," he said.

### Joss Stone tops list of celebrity dog owners

**NEW YORK** — When it comes to celebrity dog-owning skills, Joss Stone is tops, according to an online poll of readers of two dog magazines.

Stone, who has a poodle named Dusty Springfield, volunteered for the North Shore Animal League America after seeing an ad for a dog in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina and Wilma, said the New York Dog and The Hollywood Dog magazines.

The 18-year-old British singer



From left, John Fernandez, president and CEO New Orleans Jazz Orchestra, Leon Denmark, vice president programming New Jersey Performing Arts Center, and Gabriella Morris, president of the Prudential Foundation, as they listen to Grammy nominated trumpeter Irvin Mayfield.

### Kanye West plays annual MTV New Year's party

**NEW YORK** — MTV's annual New Year's Eve party from Times Square will feature musical performances by Kanye West, Alanis Morissette, Shakira and Fall Out Boy.

The two-hour telecast, which begins at 10:30 p.m. EST (8:30 p.m. PT) will have MTV's Dave Karger, James Van Der Beek, Quindus Philip, La La Vazquez and Steve Cash on as hosts, the network announced Monday.

Common, All-American Rejects and Young Jeezy will also perform. There will be an appearance by the Rev. Run and his family, MTV said.

"For years, New Year's Eve on MTV has always been the best new music to our viewers," said David Sirokinik, executive vice president, MTV News and Production. "2007 is no different, with amazing performances from some of the biggest artists from the past year. We will have wall-to-wall music straight through to 2008."

MTV has been holding New Year's Eve parties since 1980. The first one was held at New York's Hotel Diplomat.

— compiled from wire reports

## Early congressmen weren't paid well

Politics for money wasn't always the name of the Washington game. The first congressmen were paid only \$6 a day (about \$40 in today's money).

This day in history: last in time for the holiday shopping on Dec. 13, 1974, the Susan B. Anthony dollar coin entered circulation, quickly becoming more unpopular than legal tender ought to be.

Much to his family's displeasure, Harry Croonin dropped out of law school to drum and sing in a jazz band. Harry, who also went by "Blind," did OK.

Here's something to remember in the middle of your next Super Mario game: The name Nintendo in Japanese translates to something like "Work hard



Jack Mingo, Erin Barrett

and leave luck to heaven." Have you ever heard of the petroleum bug? It's a bug that feeds off of other insects that get trapped in its sticky, gooey oil deposits. The fly — haemaphysa petrolei — is native to California.

William Morgan invented volleyball in 1895 to give sedentary businessmen an activity that was not quite as strenuous as the recently created sport of

basketball. The shortest president of record in the history of the United States was James Madison. He was only 5-foot-4 inches.

A reader reminds us that the giant turtle is not only the oldest living animal on Earth, but also a very special one.

Credit cowboy philosopher Will Rogers, in part, for the creation of Kentucky Fried Chicken. Harlan Sanders heard him say the name. "Let me tell you something. Life begins at forty. In the throes of a middle-class Sanders decided to open a chicken restaurant.

Ten were once the hunters and gatherers, but nowadays, 71 percent of the primary food shoppers in a family are women.

NATION

'How do I love thee? ...'

# Men try to find their inner writer at church workshop

By Stephanie Simon  
Los Angeles Times

MCKINNEY, Texas — After 26 years of marriage, Charles Batsen says his wife means everything to him. He just wishes he knew how to tell her.

"It's always going in a million different directions and when we talk, it's almost like a text message: Hey, I love you. Got to go." That's not enough, he said. Not for the way he feels.

So Batsen enrolled in a church workshop to learn how to write a love letter.

The course has become a surprise hit in scores of churches across the nation. It falls promoted by pastors who hope the old-fashioned letter can strengthen the frazzled modern family. Intent on writing not only to their wives, but also to their children and their parents, more than 5,000 men have joined support groups to help one another put their feelings to paper.

The groups — led by men trained at an evangelical church here in suburban Dallas — are springing up in California, South Carolina, Oregon and Alaska. In a rural parish in Little Axe, Ala., and a mega-church in Jacksonville, Fla.; in congregations of Quakers, Catholics, Seventh-day Adventists, Lutherans and Southern Baptists.

Participants get a list of recommended adjectives, sample letters to crib from, even a CD with a 50-minute tutorial on "The Lost Art of Letter Writing."

Still, many say the Letters From Dad program is the toughest challenge they have ever faced.

"This isn't something I do," said Steve Weller, 69, a retired software developer.

His two daughters are grown, with children of their own, but Weller never told them he loved them. Then he took on a mentoring role in his church; he felt he should subject himself to open up.

Weller started with a letter to his oldest daughter. The tone was a bit distant, with praise for her "sensible, mature outlook" and her "focus and growth."

"But he ended with this: 'You are a daughter I am very proud of. I love you, Maria.'"

He planned to present the letter at her 40th birthday dinner.

"But he ended with this: 'You are a daughter I am very proud of. I love you, Maria.'"

Will she accept it? It was really afraid."

After dessert, he took out his three paragraphs, neatly typed. As he read them aloud, Maria's eyes misted; she put her hand on his knee. He reached out and rested his hand atop hers.

"That was a great, great day," he said.

Weller described the moment to his writing support group at McKinney Fellowship Bible Church. The love-letter movement began with congregation member and veteran video producer Greg Vaughn, who thought the writing workshops could be his biggest market yet — and his most rewarding mission.

Vaughn, 57, found his inspiration while doing a chore.

Cleaning out the garage during the summer three years ago,

he came across a rusted fishing tackle box belonging to his late father. He went to toss it out, then stopped, realizing that the tangled lures inside were all he had left of his dad.

Vaughn cursed his father for not leaving him anything more meaningful. Then he asked himself whether he had done better. If he died right then, what would he leave his four children and three stepchildren?

Vaughn had made a point of always telling his kids he loved them — something his own father had never been able to do. Vaughn had even written them sweet notes from time to time; his daughter Brooke cherished a "Love You" that he'd scrawled on the paper wrapped around a wire hanger.

But as he held the tackle box, Vaughn knew a hanger wasn't the legacy he wanted to leave. He resolved to give his children letters expressing his pride and his faith in them; his hopes for their future; his memories of joy they'd shared.

He didn't have the slightest idea how to go about it.

Vaughn is dyslexic and always has hated writing, so he scoured

his address book for friends he thought might be able to advise him. A dozen agreed to help.

His first effort was ready by Christmas 2002.

Soon, Vaughn was besieged with requests to teach more men to write.

A producer of Christian videos on topics such as parenting, marriage and morality, Vaughn felt sure he could sell the Letters From Dad concept to many of the 85,000 churches on his mailing list. So he set about developing a curriculum that he could license to pastors. He launched it this summer with the publication of his book, "Letters From Dad."

In five months, Letters From Dad has become the primary focus of Vaughn's 20-employee business, Grace Products Corp. At least 80 pastors have come here to take Vaughn's \$95 workshop.

Sociologist W. Bradford Wilcox calls Letters From Dad an effort to "domesticate men in the pews."

With divorce rates steep — even among faithful churchgoers — religious leaders have long sought creative ways to engage men in family life.

# Mistrial declared as jury deadlocks in Vioxx trial

HOUSTON (AP) — The nation's first federal Vioxx trial ended Monday with a hung jury but the case involving the 2001 death of a Florida man who took the once-popular

painkiller for a month will be retried, a judge said.

The mistrial leaves Vioxx's maker Merck & Co. with the prospect of facing a new jury that could hear allegations

that the company withheld information from the New England Journal of Medicine about a 2000 Vioxx study so the drug would appear safer than it was.

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Dorland 11:15 • 1:30  
Indecent 12:00 • 1:15

**January 4**

Chronicles Of Narnia PG 4:45 • 8:30  
Chicken Little 11:15 • 1:00  
Harry Potter And The Sorcerer's Stone PG 10:00  
Your Mine & Ours 11:30 • 1:15

**January 12**

Legend Of Zorro PG 4:45 • 8:30  
Chicken Little 11:15 • 1:00  
Just Friends 11:30 • 1:45  
Teacher PG 10:00 • 1:15  
Aeon Flux 11:30 • 1:45  
Chronicles Of Narnia PG 10:00 • 1:15  
Your Mine and Ours PG 11:15 • 1:00  
Call Me When You're In 11:30  
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WORLD

Violence continues in Sydney, raising fears it could spread

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Violence spilled into a second night Monday as scores of youths drove through predominantly white suburbs of Sydney, smashing windows of cars, homes and stores and raising fears of spreading racial unrest.

Prime Minister John Howard called the violence "staggering" but denied it was rooted in racism. Arab community leaders said the unrest would heighten racial tensions as cell phone text messages warned of retribution by the Arab community and attacks by neo-Nazi groups.

Carloads of youths tore through the suburbs Monday night, attacking vehicles and throwing bottles through windows. While only one person was reported injured and six arrested, there appeared to be more damage to cars and stores than on Sunday.

Television images of Sunday's riot shocked Australians, who pride themselves on tolerance and credit an influx of immigrants with helping build up the country after World War II.

The president of the Islamic Friendship Association of Australia, Kayser Trad, said the violence was "bound to happen."



A New South Wales police officer, left, draws his weapon as police arrest youths in the southern Sydney suburb of Cronulla, on Monday. Violence on the streets of Sydney spilled into a second night as scores of youths drove through beachside suburbs smashing windows of stores, homes and apartments, police said.

Police said the riot shocked Australians, who pride themselves on tolerance and credit an influx of immigrants with helping build up the country after World War II.

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Colombian insurgents disarm

OTU, Colombia (AP) — About 2,000 right-wing paramilitary fighters, including a warlord considered a major drug trafficker by the United States, turned in weapons and helicopter gunships Monday in one of Colombia's largest disarmament ceremonies in years.

In exchange for disbanding the fighters from the outlawed United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, or AUC, were granted amnesty and will begin receiving a monthly stipend of \$180 from the government. The camouflage-clad fighters filed past an outdoor stage and handed over 1,254 rifles to government officials at a heavily guarded ranch in the northwest. They also surrendered 90 other guns, 526 grenades, 13 rockets and two helicopter gunships, which were parked behind the demobilizing fighters.

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NATION

# Immigration booms as U.S. grapples with borders

WASHINGTON (AP) — Immigration (both legal and illegal) has accelerated, pushing the percentage of the U.S. population born in other countries to the highest point in nearly a century.

There are 35.2 million foreign-born people living in the United States — about 12.1 percent of the population, according to a report Monday by the Center for Immigration Studies.

The report comes as the House prepares to take up a bill to curb illegal immigration by boosting border security and requiring workplace enforcement of immigration laws.

About 7.9 million people moved to the United States in the past five years, the highest five-year period of immigration on record, according to the report, which is based on the Census Bureau's Current Population Survey from March.

If the trend continues, immigrants will soon make up an even larger portion of the population than they did during the last immigration boom, at the beginning of the 20th century, the report said.

"The 35.2 million immigrants living in the country in March 2005 is the highest number ever recorded — two-and-a-half times the 13.5 million during the peak of the last great immigration wave in 1910," said the report by Steven Camarota, the center's research director.

The center advocates tougher policies on illegal immigration and favors attracting immigrants with needed job skills.

The report estimates there are about 8.7 million illegal immigrants living in the United States. Other estimates range from 9 million to 13 million.

# High-tech for seniors moves far beyond The Clapper

WASHINGTON (AP) — One day people with Alzheimer's disease could have telephones that show them a picture of the caller and remind them who it is and when they last talked.

They might walk across a floor with sensors that check their gait and sound an alarm if they fall. Others might relax on a bed that monitors their pulse and breathing.

New technologies for seniors, supplementing conveniences like The Clapper and emergency warnings like Life Alert, are on display this week at the White House Conference on Aging.

"The goal is to provide technologies that help seniors and their families live happy and healthy in their own home," said Eric Dishman, chairman of the Center for Aging Services Technologies, or CAST, and general manager and global director of Intel Health Research and Innovation groups.

CAST, which put together the technology exhibition, brings together 400 businesses, groups, universities and others working to find new ways to improve life for older people.

There are four main focus areas for the new innovations. Dishman said: disease prevention, early detection, caregiver support and maintaining independence.

Take Intel's phone for those with early and developing cases of memory-wasting Alzheimer's. A screen, like that of a computer monitor, sits next to the phone. No more embarrassing pauses while the person getting the call tries to remember who Christine is. Using caller ID technology, the screen can provide a photo of the caller, tell who they are and when they last talked.

Health Watch has a medicine cabinet that can be programmed to keep track of what medicine it holds and when it should be taken.

Floor sensors developed by the Medical Automation Research Center at the University of Virginia track the movement of a senior.

They can recognize changes in gait and detect a fall and call a caregiver for help. Virginia's team also developed the bed that senses breathing rate and pulse and can call a caregiver for help if there is a sudden change.

# Family returns chair from Lincoln's box to theater

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Inside the box at Ford's Theatre where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, most of the furnishings are carefully chosen replicas: the heavy gold drapes and tassels, the red, gold and white floral carpet, the presidential rocker.

But last week, the National Park Service got hold of the real thing. A carved-back, cane-seat

parlor chair that was in the presidential box the night Lincoln was shot by actor John Wilkes Booth — perhaps the one Mary Todd Lincoln was sitting in — was donated to the government by a Virginia family that had kept the artifact for 140 years.

"This is a fabulous thing we've been given. We're very excited about it," said Gloria Swift, the Park Service's curator for Ford's Theatre.

After the assassination dark-

ened the theater in 1865, the government bought the structure and turned it into a three-story office building. One of the workers dismantling the theater claimed his boss had told him to take anything he wanted out of the presidential box. He removed the parlor chair and gave it to the Virginia family, where it was handed down for generations, Swift said.

The family, which Swift said

has asked to remain anonymous, tried to sell the chair to the Park Service in the 1950s, when the theater box was being reconditioned as a historic site. The agency didn't have the cash to buy it and made a replica instead, Swift said.

The current patriarch of the family told the Park Service recently that ownership of the chair was weighing on her. "All her friends told her she is crazy, that she should sell it on

eBay," Swift said. "But she said that giving it to us felt like the right thing to do."

Historians checked the chair for authenticity, the age, markings, style, material and documentation all checked out. And it perfectly matches the chair that Mary Lincoln is sitting on, as well as one empty chair, in a sketch of the assassination in Frank Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper, the period's paper of record.



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RESTAURANT Server Lunch & dinner... SALES Full time Sales

302 Homes For Sale

BUHL \$89,900 Incredible views, full water... GEM STATE REALTY, INC.

602 Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS 3664 N 2800 E... Gem State Realty, Inc.

614 Acreage and Lots

TWIN FALLS 40 acre property... SHOSHONE dairy

602 Unfurnished Homes

GOODING 3+ bdrm... HAGERMAN 3 bdrm

604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex

KIMBERLY new 3 bdrm... TWIN FALLS Large 3 bdrm

MECHANIC Work on... TWIN FALLS Care Center

MECHANIC Custom farm business... PLUMBER Shop Parts

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SALES

Outside Advertising Executive... We seek a motivated self-starter

SALES

Business Opportunities... Big profits usually mean big risks

SALES

Public Service Message... We want to make you a team

SALES

Business Opportunities... We want to make you a team

SALES

Business Opportunities... We want to make you a team

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SALES

Business Opportunities... We want to make you a team



Sudoku Answers:

Grid of numbers for Sudoku answers, arranged in a 9x9 grid.

NEW Antique Mall

Now Open! Dealers wanted. Call Susan at 208-735-1105 for info.

BIRTHDAY PHOTOS

Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos for you...

REFRIGERATOR

\$150. Elect. Stove, 115v. New! 2 burner. Set approx. \$150.00 set approx. \$150. 208-441-0341

REFRIGERATOR

Maytag, side-by-side, water in door. \$200. DSHWASHER, Kenmore, \$125. 208-1723 or 420-4223.

Business & Service Directory

To advertise call classifieds 733-0931 ext. 2

Grid of classified ads including: OIL PAINTING, CARPENTRY, COMPUTER REPAIR, CONSTRUCTION, BATH AND KITCHEN, BUILDINGS, BUSINESS SERVICES, CLEANING, HANDYMAN, and more.

Hot Tub & Pools

CRAFT BAZAAR: Will have crochets, knits and counted cross stitch items and Christmas Ornaments. 2154 Greenwood Dr. 208-735-2255

Computers

AMD 1000, 256 ram, 40gb hard drive, Win98, XP. \$200. Call 208-732-0512

Firewood

COAL Stoker & Lump. Delivered or you haul. Moores's Inc. 423-5533

Furniture & Carpet

BED Black Iron w/canopy, mattress & box springs set. New, 12x12. \$1799. 208-429-6350

Furniture & Carpet

ARMORIE solid hard-wood computer armchair, custom made. \$1800 or 220-0288 733-4530

Computers

AMD 1000, 256 ram, 40gb hard drive, Win98, XP. \$200. Call 208-732-0512

Firewood

COAL Stoker & Lump. Delivered or you haul. Moores's Inc. 423-5533

Furniture & Carpet

BED Black Iron w/canopy, mattress & box springs set. New, 12x12. \$1799. 208-429-6350

Classifieds

PIANO Baldwin baby grand, very nice \$3,800. 733-3905

Classifieds

It pays to read the fine print. Call Twin Falls to place your ad. 733-0931

Wanted To Buy

WANTED 300 Winchester mag rifle or a 300 Winchester mag rifle. Also good used washer & dryer. 934-5738

Wanted To Buy

WANTED 300 Winchester mag rifle or a 300 Winchester mag rifle. Also good used washer & dryer. 934-5738

Snow Vehicles

TRAILER 2 place lift bed, one year old in good condition. \$200. Call 208-280-1187

Boats And Accessories

YAMAHA B flag trumpet, used, \$250. \$1500. 208-431-3787

Aviation

Classified Advertisers: Please check your ad for accuracy the first day it runs.

Auto Parts And Accessories

FORD '98 302crt, \$1300. 208-606-283

Medical Supplies

WHEELCHAIR almost new motorized wheel scooter. Sold here \$7,000. 733-0655

Antiques And Collectibles

ARCTIC CAT '92 570 outboard motor, 155 hp. Excellent condition. \$2800. 208-358-487

Medical Instruments

DIGITAL GRAND PIANO: 5 foot Oak wood tone, like new. \$1000. 208-437-326

Medical Instruments

ROLEX style Men's yellow gold 26 diamonds 14 ct w/ 18Kt yellow gold link bracelet & box chain with approx. 1.24 carat diamond ring. 208-735-4981

Medical Instruments

ORGAN: 48 tone, 4 manual, 5 foot Oak wood tone, like new. \$1000. 208-437-326

Medical Instruments

ARCTIC CAT '90 outboard motor, 155 hp. Excellent condition. \$2800. 208-358-487

