# Hitting the big time

Buth snowmobile racer Willie Elam is the top qualifier for Winter X Games 10 in Aspen, Colo., in late January.

See page D1 for the story.



# GOOD MORNING

### **WEATHER**



Today: Dry travel weather expected. High 48, low 27. Page A2

# COMING HOME

Rumsfeld announces scaling back of troops in Iraq.

Page A3

### GOING HOME



After four decades of ministering to southern Idaho, a Burley priest is retiring to his native Spain.
Page B6

# YES, VIRGINIA

The Times-News helps keep Santa's spirit after this season with a reprinting of the farmour reply to a little girl's question.

Page A6

# **CHURCH** CELEBRATES

Mormons honor anniversary of church founder's birth.

Page B2

# COMING UP



**Buiging with promise** 

Peek inside several Christmas stockings being opened this morning.

Sunday in The Times-News

### INDEX

Businesses/Services C6
Classified
Comics
Community
Crossword
Dear Abby
HoroscopeB4
Jumble
- Magic Valley
Money
Movies
Nation
ObituariesB2
Opinion
Random facts
ReligionB6
Sujdojku
Sports
Weather
WestB2-3,A7
8,EA bholW

# VOICES HEARD ON HIGH



Jeremy Way, left, and his brother Branden Way get bundled up by their mother, JoAnn, before partici-parting in Diane Stevens' annual Christmas caroling outing Tuesday night in a Twin Falis neighborhood.

# Carolers spread Christmas cheer

Time News writer

TWIN FALLS — Nothing beats a mug of homernade eggnog before a night of caroling, except for, perhaps, a bowl of hot soup.

Friends of Diane and Charlie Sevens gathered to warm heir vocal cords — and bellies — at the Stevenses' annual Christmas party, before setting out into the cold for a night of holiday warbling. It's important to observe traditions like caroling said Diane, because they remind us of the purity of the season. So she and about 20 friends wowed to remout 20 friends wowed to remote the process.

bors, as well.

First, though, the group chatted in the living room over

hors d'oeuvres Tuesday night. It was the perfect holiday sering A heary fue roured over a raised stone hearth. Lights from an 8-foot Christmas rree cat shadows on faces. And the series of the series of the series of the series of the opposite room the toposite room the form of a footal evening.

Outside, the older kids hurled snowballs in the dark, inside, their parents swapped stonies of Christmases past.

After all the guests arrived, and all had their fill of Christmases past.

After all the guests arrived, and all had their fill of Christmase cakes, Diane passed out the songbooks. She led a melody refresher course, putting emphasis on Charlies farmeter and the Air. Most guests didn't seem to recognize the song, But by the second time

through, aided by Charlie's booming baritone, the guests sounded like a trained choir. It was time. Mothers bundled their little mes with scarves and hats. Children snatched up flashinghts. Mugs of eggnog were swapped for songbooks. Imming, through the neighborhoods off Stadium Boulevard, and the first house, the resident heard the carolers approach and was already standing on the stoop when the first line to Silent Night' echoed off the snow-covered houses. "Merry Christmas," the carolers shouted. "Merry Christmas," the carolers shouted. "Press See CAROUMO, Page A2

Please see CAROLING, Page A2

A time mourn



A memorial for the three Nice children rests against police barri cades and crime scene tape Friday alternoon at 1831 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

# School attended by twin boys prepares for healing

By Blair Koch Times News corre

HAGERMAN — The halls f Hagerman Grade School

HAGERMAN — The halls of Hagerman Grade School are empty and quiet, the only evidence of activity is the Christmas decorations lining the halls.

Two desks, one belonging to lastin Nice in Room 8, and the other belonging to his twin brother, Spencer, in Room 11, still have crayons and workbook waiting for the control of the children, according to count document of the control of

ments.
Hagernan School District Superintendent Lee
Mitchell explained that the
deaths are a blow to the en-tire community and not something amone foresaw.
There will be residue of this tragedy for a long time to come. The said. This is a very close-halt community. Everybody is feeling the loss.

Read a letter from immy Nine, one of the grandlathers of the three children killed Wednesday.

See page A6



Buckets of miscellary aus Buckets of miscelline aus school supplies sit of up chairs and desks Friday morting in the kindergarten class froum of Spencer Nice at Hag imman Elementary School. Spencer Nice 6, bits twin brother in tim, and established wednesses of their families of the state of

# Funeral set for Tuesday

Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Authorities reported no new developments. Friday in the deaths of three children earlier this week.

Jim lumior Nice was transferred to the York manuferred to the York manuferred to the York manuferred to the York manufer to the York manuferred to the York manuferred to the York manufer guard at Hagie Vallier guston at Medical Center.

Nice was charged Thursday with three counts of first-degree munder. A criminal complaint alleges he poisoned to death his children, 6-year-old twins Spencer and Justin Nice and 2-year-old Raquel Nice.

Funeral services were ten-

Funeral services were ten-tatively scheduled for Tues-

day at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints chapel in Hagerman. At the Nice home at 1831 Fourth Ave. E in Twin Falls, where the children were found dead Wednesday morning, police no longer guarded the property. A portable toiled, in the front yard the day before, was gone, an indication that investigations have completed their work. Yellow crime scene ribbon still surrounded the property. A makeshift memorial, part of it propped against a police barricade, continued to grow.

balloons, a Christmas wreath, flowers and teddy bears show that a communi-ty grieves for three of its chil-dren.

# Alito defended government right to order domestic wiretaps

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito defended the right of government officials to order domestic writers for national security when he worked at the Reagan Justice Department, an echo of President Bush's rationale for spying on U.S. residents in the war on terror.

Then an assistant to the solicitor general, Alito write a 1984 memo that provided insight on his views of government powers and legal recours — seen now through the prism of Bush's actions — as well as clues to the Judge's understanding of how the Supreme Court operates.

The National Archives released the

memo and scores of other documents related to Alito on Friday, the Associat-ed Press had requested the material under the Freedom of Information Act. The memo comes as Bush is under fire for secretly ordering domestic spying of suspected terrorists without a war-rant.

of suspected terrorists without a war-rant.
Senate Judiciary Committee Chair-man Arien Specter, R-Pa., said Monday he would ask Allio about the presi-dent's authority at confirmation hear-lags beginning Jan. 9. The memo's re-lease Friday prompted committee De-mocrats to signal that they will press the conservative jurist about executive powers.

Please see ALITO, Page A2



Court nominee Samuel Allto fist to Sen. Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., in this Nov. 18 flie photo in

### TWIN FALLS FORECAST

day: Nice with dry travel weather expected. Highs upp

# ight: Partly cloudy. Lows upper 20s. norrow: Mild with increasingly cloudy skies. Highs 40s

# BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Enrly log burning off to partly cloudy afternoon skies Highs low 40s Tonight: Dry and partly cloudy with late night for redeveloping. Lows upper 20s Tomorrow: A nice Christmas Day despite increasing clouds Holbs 40s.



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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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Mall Information

### Mall information

Mall information
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Snapshots from a school party show Sp his kindergarten classroom in October.

# Children <sub>-</sub>

Continued from A1

He explained that the boys, who attended kindengarten at Ilagerman Grade School, were well-known and liked by both the faculty and students.

I had most of my staff call me last night, "Mitchell said fraid," XIII are very emotional about the situation.

Mitchell explained that the boys attended school regularly and seemed to be happy, well-adjusted young boys.

They were good kids and mannerly," he said. They seemed to be enjoying file: specified in the staff and students. The parents of the boys classmares will be notified of their deaths so they can explain to their children what happened.

When school resumes Ian. 2.

pened. When school resumes Jan. 2,

counselors will be on hand to help students and faculty work through their grief.

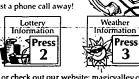
The boys crayons and work-books, however, will remain out.

Their desks and other personal items will remain in the classroom for a period of time and gradually removed, Mitchell said. 'Children will adapt quicker than adults in situations like this, but you don't want to remove those visuals right away, but work through the loss as the kids come to understand that they won't be coming back to school.' Funeral arrangements for the

oming back to school. Funeral arrangements for the ice children were pending Friday night.

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair\_20@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

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# Body of former Bacardi executive found four days after plane crash

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Iwo Miami-Dade firefighters fishing on their day off Friday found the body of the 20th victim of Monday's fatal scaplane crash. Twenty people were killed when Chalk's Ocean Airways Flight 101 plunged into the water off Miami Beach Monday, but only 19 were recovered that day.

The Miami-Dade Medical Examiner's Office positively identified the dead man, the U.S. Coast Guard said. Miami Beach police said the missing passenger was Sengio Danguillecoun, 42.0 Miami, a former Bacard Limited executive and greatgrandson of the company's founder. His wife, lacqueine Kriz Danguillecourt, was travelling with him and also died.

Capt. Frank Leavitt said he and co-worker Andrea Sweetman spotted the body at around 9:30 a.m. about three miles off Key Biscayne. "It looked like it had been out there for days," said Leavitt. "In our line of work, we deal with a lot of tragedy and we see a lot of bodies, but coming up on one like this, finding one like this, it is something that has really affected us."

# New York back on the move after strike

NEW YORK (AP) — Relieved New Yorkers happily hopped on subways and buses Friday and drove into the city without car-pooling requirements a day after a strike of the nations largest mass transit system ended.

ended.

Rachael Staten, who waited for a downtown Manhattan subway, said she had missed the trains during the three-day

strike.
"It didn't feel like New York without it," said Staten, of Brooklyn. "I felt really excited when I swiped my (fare) card. I hadn't done it in a few days." Subways and buses returned to service smoothly for more than 7 million daily riders, though the traffic flow was though the traffic flow was the control of th

Catavas Craw Carlos Catavas Ca

# Alito

### Continued from A1

Continued from A1

The memo dealt with whether government officials should have blanket protection from hassutts when authorizing wiretaps. 'I do not question that the attorney general should have this immunity.' Alito wrote. 'But for taccital reasons,'I would not raise the issue here.' would not raise the issue here.' when the sport memorial the government would fine, the leagan administration took the fight to the Supreme Court in the case of whether Nixon's attorney general. John Mitchell, could be sued for authorizing a warrandess domestic wiretapto gather information about a time state of which will be a supported terrorist plot. The Fill had received information about a conspiracy to destroy utility tunnels in Washington and to kidnap Henry kissinger, then national security adviser, to protest the Vietnam Wast.

In its court brief, the government argued for absolute immunity for the attorney generals vital responsibilities in connection work of the court of the court of the court of the court of a social security are at least descripting of absolute immunity as routine prosecutorial actions taken either by the attorney general or

by subordinate officials.

"When the attorney general is called upon to take action to protect the security of the nation, he should think only of the national pood and not about his pocketbook," the brief said.

Signing the document was Rex E. Lee, then the solicitor general, officials from the lustice Department and Altio.

Altio's analysis about the court and the need for an incremental legal strategy proved present. The case ultimately led to a 1985 ruling by the Supreme Court that the attorney general and other high level executive officials rould be sued for violating people's rights, in the court was the attorney and the supreme Court that the attorney general and other high level executive officials rould be sued for violating people's rights, in the court of the danger that high federal officials will disregard constitutional rights in their zeal to protect the national security; but the supplies of the danger that high federal affording such officials an absolute immunity. The court held.

However, the court said

held. However, the court said Mitchell was protected from suit, because when he authorized the wiretap he did not realize his actions violated the Fourth Amendment.

The decision was consistent with the Supreme Court's unan-

imous ruling in 1972 that it was unconstitutional for the government to conduct whereaps without court approval despite the Niana administration's argument that domestic and-war groups and other radicals were a threat to national security. Allors and advised his bosses to recede the second property of the second propert

without a warrant to thwart ter-rorism.

"Any connection between Judge Aitros 1984 memoran-dum and the current discussion of terrorist surveillance by the NSA is 'a real stretch," Comyn said in a statement.

# Caroling Continued from A1

Continued from A1

Then to the next house. The sound of crunching snow and ice underfloot allmost drowned the squeaks of children excited to be out in the night air.

Kathleen Kober, in her pajamas, stood on her porth for the meat song, "Away in a Manger." She lingured for a moment when the song ended, watching the carolers wander to the next house.

house.
"I think it's great that people

still do this." she said. 'And they have beautiful singing roices. When the said world. 'Angelse Have Heard in High. 'Go Telli on the Mountin.' All sung with sincerity. At each home families gathered, sometimes arm in arm, to hear the choruses of ancient and familiar songs. And each time, the carolers' calls of 'Merry Christmas' were met with smiles and thanks. Christmas lights from sur-

rounding houses illuminated the singers path. And as the evening wore on and temperatures left, the resilient carolers ambied shrough the night—amming the souls of the lucky residents of Stadhum Boulevard who bore witness to their Christmas cheer.

Times News features writer Man Christensen can be mached at 735-3243 or malachris-tensen@lec.net.

# Court disqualifies Sunni candidates Bird flu virus could reach

BAGHDAD. Iraq — An Iraqi court has ruled that some of the most prominent Sunni Muslims who were dected to parliament last week, won't be allowed to serve because officials suspect that they were high-ranking members of Saddam Husselns Baath Party. Knight Ridder has obtained a copy of the court ruling, which has yet to be circulated to the public.

The ruling is likely to dampen

nouc. The ruling is likely to dampen ush administration hopes that Bush administration hopes that the election would bring more of the disaffected Sunni minori ty into Iraq's political process and undermine Sunni support for the insurgency. Instead, the

or many points process of the commission is still the

members.

The commission is still counting ballots and said it would have the final list of winners sometime next month.

But preliminary results showed that some of the prominent Sunni politicians on the list had likely won seats. Among those who could lose their seats are: Adnan al-Janabi, the second-highest ranking member of the constitutional cunnuttee and a top candidate on U.S.-backed former prime minister Ayad Allawi's slate, and Rasem al-Awadi, a National Assembly member and also on Allawi's



A Iraci demonstrator screams slogans in Baghdad on Filday as several hundred thousan noon prayers, with many carrying banners denouncing last week's elections. Large dem across the country Filday to protest what many say were unfair parliamentary elections

slate. Five members of the Iraqi Accord Front, the principal Sunni electoral slate, also were on the list. Saleh Mutlaq, a prominent Sunni politician, sald that the ruling, would agitate already Sunni politician, said that d ruling would agitate alread frustrated Sunnis who are que thoning the validity of d

frugarated Sunnis who are ques-toring the validity of the elections.

"The streets will tell you their reaction," Muthaq said.
On Friday, thousands of Sun-nis demonstrated in Baphdad, charging that the election was rigged in favor of the majority Stiller Muslims. The demonstra-tion wasn't a reaction to the court decision because the fraqi

want many say were unfair parillamer people hadn't learned of it.

Teame to protest against the fraud. There are some shilties in my neighborhood who told me that they votted twice, said of the control of the determination. Should a government be formed based on the current results of the elections, then I think it will be illegitimate."

A month before the Dec. 15 election for a 275 member par-liament, Iraq's de-Baathification committee submitted 185 names of suspected Baathists and told the electoral commis-sion that they should not be

allowed to run, said al-Larni.
One of the electoral commission rules states that "Someon who had reached a certain membership level in the hierarchy of the dissolved Baath Parry" cannot be a candidate unless he or she renounces that membership.

undess he or she renounces that membership."

After the commission approached them, some slates voluntarily removed candidates, but the commission didn't force everyone to withdraw, al-Lami said. Instead, they allowed the candidates to run, saying that the committee did not present any evidence against the suspected Baathists.

# Europe as early as spring

Knight Ridder News Service

ISLE OF RIEMS, Germany—No one is worned about the ra-ditional Christmas, gones in Europe this war but health offi-cials are strandling to prepare for what some believe is the cer-cain arrival this spring of a deadly strain of bird flu in mi-grating wild birds.

Europe first saw the deadly 158N1 bird flu strain this au-tumn, with cases discovered among dead wildows or small flocks of domestic birds in

Croatia, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine, Experts are convinced that those cases are only a warning of what's to

Thomas Mettenleiter, the president of Germany's leading animal disease center, the Friedrich Loeffler Institute, said millions of wild birds left Europe flusfree this autumn to winter in Africa.

Thom thought make with —

There they'll mix with migrat-ing birds from Southeast Asia, where the lethal strain of the virus is far more common.



e wish each and everyone of our relatives, friends, co-workers and those who have trusted their work to us over the past year... Dory Morry Christmas and a lappy. Sew Yeart Mona and Rollie

Marlow's Ranch Cabinets 

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# **Transplant** patients meet in France

IYON, France (AP) — The woman who received a new nose, chin and lips in ground-breaking surgery last month had a warm that with the man who was the world's first double hand transplant patient, a psychiatrist who has treated both of them said Friday. Denis Chateller, the Frenchman who received new hands in a January 2000 operation, offered the woman and encouragement at a meeting held discreetly hursday to avoid meetia scrutiny. De Dantiele Bachiman said. Between a privacy laws, the woman of the privacy laws and the privacy laws and the privacy laws and the privacy laws are the privacy laws and the privacy laws and the privacy laws are the privacy laws and the privacy laws and the privacy laws are the privacy laws are the privacy laws and the privacy laws are the privacy laws are the privacy laws and the privacy laws are the privacy

woman can be identified only as Isabelle.

"I think they really clicked," as Isabelle.

"I think they really clicked," Bachmann said in an interview with The Associated Press at her office in this southwestern Cipic. In revealing last week that he had accepted a request from Isabelle for a meeting, Chatelier told AP that he needed two years to adjust to his transplant enough to be able to say "my hands" instead of "the hands."

# Plane crashes; all 23 onboard believed killed

believed killed

BAUJ, Azerbaijan (AP) — An Azerbaijan Altilines passenger place with 23 people about a coast and all aboard were believed killed a police official said early Sanurlay.

The police dury officer in the Sabunchi region north of the capital, Baut, said the wreckage was found along the shore. He capital, Baut, said the wreckage was found along the shore and capital, Baut, said the wreckage was found along the shore. He capital, Baut, said the wreckage was found along the shore. He capital, Baut, and the was not authorized to act as a spokersman.

The plane was identified as an An-140, a twin-engine turboprop. It did not hit near any buildings, an official from the Babu transport police was quore cases agency by the RIA-Norosst cases agency by the RIA-Norosst cases agency to the capital, two airport employees told The Associated Press. Both said there were labo five crew members.

bers.
Both Baku and Aktau are cen-ters of the thriving Caspian Sea oil industry, which has attracted substantial foreign investment.

# Rumsfeld announces U.S. troops in Iraq will be reduced by 7,000

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Defense ecretary Donald Rumsfeld an

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Defense Secretary Denald Runsfeld announced Friday that the number of U.S. combat troops in Iraq vould be reduced by about 7.000 early nearly and the reduced by about 7.000 early nearly and the reduced by the reduce

pleased with the progress being made by the Iraqi Security Forces and the increased role they are playing in providing security in Iraqi. But during the news conference conducted inside Haghdads heavily fortified Green Zone, where most of the country's government offices are housed, more than 10,000 demonstration took to the capitals where words are distincted to the contract of the country in the contract of the country in the country i

and are believed to comprise the bulk of the insurgency, has recently returned to the political arena after boycotting the coun-try's lanuary elections. Sunnis-turned out in force last week, but according to preliminary re-sults, their paries' won fewer seats than they expected, an outcome they attribute to foul play by the Shite Muslim-led

play by the Shine Muslim-led government.

"I am frustrated," said Muhammed Mashadani, a 61-year-old man, who used a came in one hand and carried an Iraqi flag in the other. Mashadani said he worded last week in favor of the Sunni Tawafing Jate, but 'my right is abused because of the cheating." He said he would participate in every protest until 'we bring our people to power."

# Israel to enforce zone

JERUSALEM (AP) - Israel will enforce a new off-limits zone u the Gaza Strip with artillery, hel icopter and gunboat fire, its

icopter and gunboat fire, its latest response to Palestinian rocket attacks on Ivraeli Itown, defense officials said Friday. The promised barrage would mark some of Israels toughtest military action in Gaza since withdrew from the coastal strip in September, Palestinian offi-cials on Friday promised to send more of their security forces to the Gaza border to prevent rock-et attacks.

et attacks.

Srael's deputy defense minister. Zeev Boim, said the no-spe zone was part of Israel's stepped-up response to the militant rocket fire, which has internsified since the Gaza with drawal. Israel has launched missiles and artillery fire at sus-pected launching areas said killed several militants in recent months.

MALL OPEN TODAY SHOWING

"will get the message and th this will stop the rocket squad-Boim told Israel Radio. "If w must, we will have to tighten the screw further."

must, we will have to tighten the screec further.

Boint ruled out a major ground offensive in Gaza and acknowledged that the highly inaccurate homemade. Quesam rockets do not pose a strategor threat to Israel.

The rockets have a range of about six miles Since the Gaza pullout, miliants have been able to move their launch sites closer to a border fence, bringing the Israeli city of Ashkelon into range, along with sensitive infrastructure installations including a power plant and a finel deport.

Preferred launch sites have been the nams of three lewish settlements in northern Gaza. Chee to the border with Israel.

The 'no-go zone' will be 1.5 miles deep and run along the northern and eastern edges of Gaza, defense officials said.



# Stem-cell research faked, panel says

panel says

SFOUL South Korea (AP) —

New DNA text results expected within days will prize whether disgraced South Korean serientist. Ilwang Woo-sik ever cloned stem cells as be claimed in a landmark research paper, a inversity panel said Findly abeling the deception a blow to all science.

Those tests also should determine whether Ilwang created the worlds first cloned human embryo and the only cloned dog as he asserted in research that kindled worldsvide optimism of revolutionary cures for locate.

The Seoul National University panel said Hwang had Iroged DNA tests supporting his May article in the journal Science.



Diana's Tip of the Week



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The Times-News magicvalley.com

# Man offers Hanukkah holiday magic

KANSAS CITY. Mo. (AP) —
The letters pour in from childdren around the world, telling
two magical far-off figures their
holiday withse.
These missives aren't sent to
Santa Claus. They come from
fewish boys and gifts with, for so
Santa Claus. They come from
fewish boys and gifts with, for so
Committee, They crop for an agoless Kansas City couple known
simply by Viddish derivatives
for grandmother and grandfather, Bubble and Zadie.
The story was created in 1881
by Danny Bloom, then a thirtysomething public relations
professional at an Alaskan community college who wanted to
pen a holiday narrative for fewish children.

"I moreomber as a Jewish kid

ish children.
"I remember as a Jewish kid
myself growing up in Massachusetts every winter reading
the newspaper and seeing the

Organizer of rescue

network dies at 80 Los Angeles Times

them, Bitha Williams said.

After using his legal skills to help form Seattle Mountain Rescue and later lead it, Paul Williams to the radious scene. The recognized they needed a parent organization so there was some uniformity to rescues across the country, his son said.

In 1862.

rescues across and seed at Mt. Hood. Ore. Williams drafted in-terior of the Mt. Hood. Ore. Williams drafted what became the national Mountain Rescue Association: he also ded that group. The largely volunteer organization oversees team training and seldom charges for its search-and-rescue operations, according to the group's Web-site.

Researchers decode strand of

Los Angeles Times

mammoth DNA

TV shows about Santa Claus, Jewish kids couldn't participate, he said. The story told of a diminutive grandma and grandpa, bundled up for the cold, who are able to fly through the skies on the first night of Hanulkah, Bubble and Zader moved to clanass City to una tallor shou. They wist tchildren everywhere, bringing them stories and songs instead of girls.

In 1985, his story was published as "Bubble and Zade Come to My House." It wasn't a huge sell but publicity surjounding its release kerpethidien's letters coming by the thousands. Bloom answered them all with handwritten all with handwritten.

notes.
The popularity of Bubble and

through the years, as Bloom moved to Japan and now, to Chlayd City, Thiwan, where he is a freelance writer.

He is 56, single, and rents a fith-Boor studio apartment. He tides a bleyde and motor scooter because he has no car and sends e-mails from an Internet cafe because he doesn't have a computer.

computer.
With his book out of print, many of Bloom's young writers have found it at a library, come across it on the Internet, or have parents who as children read the Bubble and Zadie story

themselves.
Using an address posted on-line, most children send letters the traditional way, though Bubble and Zadie have also re-

most are exactly what Bloom hoped for — messages of innocence and simplicity. "Your Hambidah story in the book is so beautiful and I enjoyed having Grammy read it to me," wrote a 7-year-old Kansas City girl.

I was so happy to get your letter in the mail because here in Idaho there are not many lewish people, said an II -year-old girl from Boise. An Al-year-old boy from Teaneck, NJ, wrote: "My older sister says you might be fake! Are you?"

When responding, Bloom says, he tries to put himself in his own grandmothers frame of mind, not praching about religion, just being a friendly older presence who treats children as his equals.

He signs all his notes Bubble and Zacle."

# Feds disclose secret monitoring of mosques

WASHINGTON — Federal law enforcement officials said Friday that Fili agents have secretly monitored radiation levels at Islamic mosques, businesses and homes for several years in large cities to determine whether nuclear or chemical bombs were being assembled.

nermical bombs were being as-embled.

The officials sald no suspi-lous radiation levels have been

The officials said no suspi-cious radiation levels have been found.

The disclosure, following the revelation a week ago that the government has secretly spied on U.S. citizens without cour permission, angered a number of U.S. Muslim leaders. They cited a Supreme Court ruling three months before the Sept. II. 2001, attacks in which the justices rejected such govern-ment monitoring.

"All Americans should be concerned about the apparent trend toward a two-diered sys-tem offisistic, with full rights for-most citizens and another di-tribution of the control of the Council with a conformal special with the control of the council and the Council of the nation's largest Muslim civil liberites group. But Issides Department offi-cials said the monitoring was lawful. They said investigators used special equipment to gauge radiation levels at homes.

warchouses and religious centers of some Muslim groups, and that the testing was sometimes carried out in or near parking lots and driveways—amas the government believes the property of the

# NYC authorities investigate possible theft of body parts

NIEW YORK (AP) — Michael Bruno's life had been uncomplicated: He was an Immigrant who worked hard, spoke his mind and succumbed to kidney cancer two years ago at 75.

Typical Italian can driver, realled his son, Vito. "He had an opinion about everything." It's only after death that his story became ghoulish. Authorities believe his body and those of hundreds of other british brockeaster. Altitudit Cooke — were secretly carved the property of the cook of the

Paul Williams, a Pacific Northwest climber who responded to the increasing popularity of mountain climbing in the 1950s by helping to establish a national network of mountain rescue voluniteers, has died. He was 80.

Williams, a lawyer who also worte a guide to organizing mountain rescue units, died from congestive heart failure at home Wednesday in Hansville. Wash, said his son, Brian. The was a natural leader who knew the back country and the perils people would get into. After using this legal will be a southern a light williams and will be a southern and williams and parts were then sold for a profit.

Worse, health officials fear some of the stolen body parts were diseased, and could infer natients who received them is kin grafts, dental implants or other orthopodic procedures—a risk concealed by paperwork doctored with forged signatures and false information. "It's not just diarespectful to my father," said Vito Bruno, who has sued one of the fune, who has sued one of the fune, lideous crime against other people."

hideous crime against other people."
In the Cooke case, authorities confirmed this week that investigators contacted the late broadcaster's family after finding paperwork indicating his bones had been removed and sold by a Fort Lee, N.J. tissue bank, Blomedical Tissue Services, before he was cremated. Cooke, best known as the host OFBS' Masterpiece Theatre: died from cancer last year at 95



Vito Bruno is shown at his Vito Bruno is shown at his Brooklyn, N.Y., home with a pic-ture of his father Michael Bruno on Friday. Authorities believe Michael Bruno's body parts, and those of hundreds of other people, were lilegally harvested and

in Manhattan.

The family insists it never signed off on the procedure, and that someone had faidfied documents by changing his cause of death to heart attack, and by lowering his age to 85. Harvesting bones from cancer patients violates nules by the rood and Drug Administration. A daughter, Susan Cooke Kirtedge, said the family was "shocked and saddened" by the news.

shocked and saddened by the news.

"That people in need would have received his body parts, considering his age and the fact he was ill when he died, is ap-palling to the family, as is that his remains were violated," she said.

# **Body part prices**

Approximate prices pay for cadaver-deri human tissue

Skin: \$1,000 per square toot

e \$5.0

Bone: \$3,800 for a femur

Patella tendon: \$3,000 to \$4,500

# without hearing, lawyer

Man jailed for over a year

without hear)

DALLAS (AP) — A man was jailed for more than a year without ever seeing a lawyer as the waited for a repeatedly post-poned cour hearing, galning release only after a cellmate told an attorney about the case.

Walter Mann St. 69, was seen the more more than twice the time he would have served if he had been convicted in his contempt-of-court case. Mann's legal troubles began in 2002, when his 13-year-old son assaulted him and was sent to a juvenile detention center. Mann, who was unemployed and on disability benefits, was ordered to pay \$50 a month for the boy's housing but never did, according to court records.

Prosecutors sought to have laccording to court restords.

Prosecutors sought to have had been court, which led to an order that he be brought before a judge.

that he be brought to the beginder.

The judge then incarcerated him in September 2004 for three warrants alleging that Mann wrote bad checks. Then he waited more than a year as his contempt case was postponed again and again.

"He wasn lost in the system," said Sheriff's Department

spokesman Sgt. Don Peritz. "We knew he was here ... we hold them until the judge says to hold him no longer.

An October 2004 court dock-te entry suggests the judges order was lifted, but Sheriff's Department records do not show it being lifted or Mann's release ordered.

Had he been convicted in the contempt case, he would have served a maximum of six months in jail and faced a \$500 fine.

His release came after cell-

months in jall and faced a \$500 fine.

His release came after cell-mate Jim Brooks, 64, heard from Mann that he had never seen a lawyer.

"I said, 'Man, why don't you call your people?' He said, 'Nah, I dom't want to bother them with anything.' Brooks said.

Brooks, Jalled on minor theft changes, told his public defender, who told another public defender, who told another public defender, shoshama Paige, She made several calls and Mann was released the same day, was released the same day, and the same day and the same day and the same day and the same day the same day and the same day the same da

# Researchers say Napoleon's troops were killed by lice

Los Angeles Times

Louse-borne diseases such as typhus and trench fever devas-tated Napoleon's army during his di-fated invasion of Russia In 1812, killing nearly one-third of his army, according to a study by French researchers. Napoleon invaded Russia with half a million men that summer, but escaped with only a few thousand. Twenty-five thousand French soldiers es-caped to Vilnius, Lithuania

during the retreat, but only 3,000 survived to continue the retreat. The rest were buried in

retreat. The nest were buried in mass graves.
Historians have long stressed the role of disease in the deaths, but now Dr. Didier Raoult and his colleagues at the Universite de la Mediterranee in Marseille, France, have provided the first firm evidence of this supposition. The team worked with remains found at a former Soyte that the northern suburits of Vulnius.

**BIG PIANO SALE!** 



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The Times-News magicvalley.com

A new sequencing technique has enabled researchers to decipher I percent of the genetic bility of the control of the long-extinct woody mammont, the largest fragment of DNA ever decoded from a fossibility species.

The results show that the retaines developed from African elephants 6 million years ago and from Asan elephants a relatively short 440,000 years later. The feel suggests it could be proposed to the control of th

# SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU .

Volunteers — The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of the Magic Valley, a relate in Action Frogram Inc., is in the Critical Frogram Inc., in the Critical Frogram Inc., is in the Critical Frogram Inc., in the Critical Frogram Inc., is in the Critical Frogram Inc., in the C

Clothing — The College of Southern Idaho Refugee Cen-ter's in need of winter clothes, especially for men. Donations can be dropped off from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (closed for the lunch hour) Monday through Friday. Call Teresa at 736-2166.

Tax help — The internal Revenue Service and American Association of Retired Persons is in need of volunteers throughout south central ladah to prepare federal and state tax returns for the elderly, disabled, non-English speaking people and

This public service column is de-signed to match needs in the communities of the sign to com-munities of the sign to com-ties in the Magic Valley with volunteer help.
If you need a volunteer, call the Retired Senior Volunteer Pro-gram (RSVP), at 730-2122, Ect. 220. RSVP is a United Way-sponsored agency at the College Please autimular request. before 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday for Saturday publication. Call weekly to rotain request.

those with limited income.
Volunteers receive free training. No tax experience is needed, but computer experience is helpful. People of all ages, backgrounds and skill membership is not required. Those taking the free tax classes are asked to commit at least classes of the college of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave. Course materials are available now. Volunteers are relimbursed for

program-related travel ex-penses. Call Fred Ripley at 543-6544 or e-mail him at

or e-mail him at feripley@aol.com, or call the La Posada Tax Clinic at 735-189 and ask for Bob, or check out 1-888-AARPNOW or visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Medicare volunteers — The College of Southern Idaho Office on Aging is in need of volunteers to help senior citizens enroll in the new Medicare prescription program. Training is provided, the enrollment period is from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays, now through May 15. Cali 736-2122.

Drivers — The College of Southern Idaho Office on Aging needs drivers, age 53 and older, to transport clients to doctors and grocery shoping throughout the Magic Valley. Drivers are reimbursed mileage and covered by excess insurance. Call Edith at 736-2122, ext. 320, or Kitty at 878-0727



ica Cabral, 9, and Vanessa Ruiz, 10, dip their hand-made ornaments in sparkles

# Murtaugh students take turns as Christmas elves

MURTAUGH — Murtaugh eighth-graders played holiday elves at their fourth annual Breakfast With Santa event.

The Dec. 2 fundraiser was considered a great success by the young organizers. About 75 children ate breakfast, had their photo taken with Santa and made ornaments to take home.

The eighth-graders helped with the event by organizing, taking tickets, serving breakfast and

helping the other children make ornaments.
"This fundraiser is to make money for the up-coming trip to Lagoon and for their eighth-grade graduation," said Heather Spencer, middle school advisor.
"It was a orned bookfor."

graduation," said fleather Sperior, middle school advisor.

"It was a great hreadfast," said Breka Reyrs, an eighth-grader wito helped at the event.

"It had fun helping the little kids make amanents," added blias fluit, another eighth-grader.

Thekets were \$6 each and included breaklast, a photo with Santa, played by Kirk Vantzewuen, and the supplies to create an ornament to take home.

# Albion welcomes Santa with sirens

By Mary Lynne Bristol For The Times-News

Albion and visitwith children in the library, where he gave

ALBION — It was a cold, blustery night when Santa came to visit the Albion Valley.

With lights and stress, the was returned by the Albion Valley.

With lights and stress, the was returned by the Albion to the Color of the Col



People hang angels on the Memorial Tree for Christmas. The angels were inscribed with the names of deceased loved ones. Angels purchased in previous years were already hung on the tree.

to be surprised. He then was driven to the homes of shut-ins in the community where he presented each with the gift of a little Christmas tree.

The evening was sponsored by the Albion Four Leaf Glover Club with Edie Fitzgerald serving as chairman. The Albion Telephone Company and its employees, city Maintenance Supervisor Stewart Waldemar,

city Maintenance Assistant Kay Powell and Chief of Police Bruce Bristol put up the Christmas lights and banners. Fire Chief Jeff Leach and all

Mary Lynne Bristol is a mem-ber of the Albion Four Leaf Clover Club.

# HELPING OTHERS \_



Tristan Blake, Alexa Davids, Jasmine Cedillo, Miguel Arceo, Balley Daubs and Colby Carson sort toys that were collected by second-graders at Dworshak Elementary School in Burley. The toys were donated to the Mini-Cassia Christmas Council to distribute to families in need. The stu dents were reading about kindness and came up with the idea of holding a toy drive for those less fortunate.

# **DeMary Library closes**

Demary Library closes doors during holiday RUPERT — The DeMary Memorial Library, located at 417 Seventh St., will be closed the following days for the holi-days: Today, Monday. Dec. 31 and Jan. 2, 2006. For more information, call the library at 436-3874.

# BJ Duplicate Bridge

BJ Duplicate Bridge
Club announces winners
RUPERT—The BJ Duplicate
Bridge Club has announced the
season of Marcitan Contract
Bridge League-sanctioned open
palar play for Dec. 20:
North/south: First, George
and Nancy Glisson: second, That
Stephenson and Mildred Wolf,
blind, Susan Peans and Marie
Price; and fourth, Vera Mai and
Nancte Woodland. East/west
First, Chuck and Shirley Hunter,
second, Donna and Lee Moore,
third, Delphine Cole and Sanfra Sextori, and fourth, Pat
Adams and Mariene Temple.
The club plays bridge at 1
p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert
Elia. Refreshments are served.
The club plays bridge at 1
p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert
Elia. Refreshments are served.
The club invites all area duplicate players. For more

information, call 878-3997.

# **OVAC opens auditions**

for 'West Side Story'

OAKLEY — Oakley Valley Aris announces the auditions for the Spring production, "West Side Story."

Story:
Auditions are open the public and held from 7 to 9-30 p.m. Jan. 5 and 9 s.m. to noon Jan. 7 at the Howeli Opera House. Those planning to audition should ome prepared with a musical number to sing.

For more information, call 677-ARTS.

### M.V. Duplicate Bridge Club announces winners

Club announces winners
TWIN FALLS - The Mage Valley Duplicate Bridge Club has
announced its weetly winners:
Dec. 13: First, Leona Waston
and Susan Morris second, San
Smutny and Al Anglin; and
third, Donald and Ruth Rahe.
Dec. 14: First, Riley Burton
and Peggy Hackley: second,
Elalne Bowen and Ruth Skeem;
third, Lonnie Burns and Herb
Burgess; and tied for fourth,
Marilyn Bodkin and Sue Skinner
and Doris Finney and Joyce

Johnston.

Dec. 15: First, Betty Grant and Joye Astorquia: and tied for second, Beverly Reed and Enid Cook and Kay Higer and Nathan

Higer.

Dec. 17: First, MaxThompson and Wilma Driscoll; and second, Riley Burton and Joe Blackford.

Blackford.

Beginning Jan. 3, the schedule and location of games will be changed to 1 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday at the Moose Lodge, 835 Falls Ave. and at 7 p.m. Thursday and 1 p.m. Suruday at Max Thompson's home, 2679 Pole Line Road E. All newcomers are welcome.

For more information or a partner, call Thompson at 735-8208.

### Kimberly Public Library adds Items to shelves

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Public Library, 120 Madison W, has added several new items to its shelves.

its shelves.
Audio tapes: "The Tin Man" by Dale Brown; "Year of The Tiger" by Jack Higgins and "Rocket Boys: A Memoir" by Homer H. Hickman Jr.
Juvenile fiction: "What Mr.

COMMUNITY EVENTS Mattero Did' by Priscilla Cummings: High Rudiain' by Brian lacques: The Penultimate High Rudiain' by Brian lacques: The Penultimate High Rudiain's High Rudi

TWIN FALLS - The Brain In-

### **Brain Injury Support** Group meets in January

Last Night Celebration
BURLEY — The Burley Centennial Celebration Last Night
celebration will be held at 6 pm.
Dec. 31 at Centennial Puk.
The event will include a closing ceremony and the passing
of the "100" centennial lighted
sign to the Rupert Centennial
Committee to help kick fru
peris centennial celebration.

### Rupert sponsors 100-year celebration

RUPERT — The opening gala for Rupert's 100-year celebra-

jury Support Group for people who have had a brain injury of or any family, friends or consequence affected by a brain injury of the many of the many

**Burley Centennial holds** 

Last Night celebration

tion will start at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 31 at Minico High School, 292 W. 100 S.

The cost is \$5 for adults and relident age 18 and younger are free. Fickets are available to calling 312-1556 or 436-390;.

The theme is 'Has Oil to Rup John Colling and Colling 312-1556 or 436-390;.

The theme is 'Has Oil to Rup John Colling and Colling and John Colling

held.

Special invitations have been sent to the members of Bravo Company who will be honored.

# EDITORIAL

# Keep Santa's spirit alive this Christmas

ore than a century ago, young Virginia O'Hanlon sent the editor of *The New York Sun* a question that still perplexes parents: "Is there a Santa Claus?" Her letter was turned over to Francis P. Church, and his eloquent reply was published that Christmas of 1897.

As is our usual custom, The Times-News is leased to reprint Church's wisdom on yet another Christmas Eve.

We take pleasure in an-wering at once and thus swering at once and thus prominently the communi-cation below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

Dear editor:

Dear ecitor.

I am 8 years old.

Some of my little friends
say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says 'If you see it in
The Sun, it's so!'
Please tell me the truth, is
there a Santa Claus?

Virginia O'Hanlon 115 West 95th Street"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do no believe except they see. They think that nothing can be

a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All sminds. Virginia, whether they be mens' or children's are little. In this present with the poundless world about hink as measured by the satellite nice capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a

nd kñowledge. Yes, Virginia, there is a

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as lowe and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and Joy.

Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no portry, no romance to make tolerable the existence. We

should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extin-

guished. uisneo. Not believe in Santa Claus!

You might as well not be-lieve in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus; but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men neither children nor men neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the un-seen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that strongest men that

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernal

and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding. No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

# The Times-News

ers of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinback, Steve Crump, Eleanore Burkhart, Ramona Jones and David Cooper.

# LETTER

### A letter of condolence from the Nice family

from the Nice family
The family of Jim Nice would
like to convey their deepest
sympathy to Leslie Nice. We
yould also like to say that we
the sympathy to Leslie Nice. We
yould also like to say that we
the sympathy to the sympathy to
the sympathy to the
to be ling experienced by Leslie
and everyone who lowed the;
children, and express but love
and appreciation for piece loompaunity support express but love
that appreciation for the loompaunity support expressly the
temporal or are famile, fore in
Twin Falls: Thank you for being
to understanding the want to
say that the love and generous
in the time gift the hornife was
that been so greatly appreciathas been so greatly appreciat-

in the time received when the washes have so greatly appreciated. Thank you so much.

We as a family, are trying yery hard to make sense of this wright now. As of yet, we have bot been able to speak with Jim. We are all overwhelmed with the loss of these children and also of Jim. All that we, as a family, can say is that we have

always seen Jim as a very loving father and so the shock of this tragedy has been especially devastating for us. There is so much going on right now that we are all emo-

devisating for us.
There is so much going on right now that we are all emotions of the control o

### Write to us

The America's wiccomes of Biggin from readers on with the state of the public interest Booking of the public interest Booking of the public interest bed at the public that it is 400 words. Include your signature, ing address and telephone ber. Writers who sign letters with false particular, be permeted to the permeted of the perm

# The Christmas card vendetta ends now

7

I you haven't gotten a Christmas eard from me. don't think it hate you or have decided to kick you out of me. I want doing you, me and the spirits of economic efficiency a favor by unilaterally disamting in the hazardous and costly escalation of Hallmark exchanges. This is according to the smartest minds of 'game theory 'economics, which is all about helping us live happily together despite our worst instincts.

# JAY HANCOCK

If you thought saving the planet from World War III was the most important accom-plishment of Nobel Laureate Thomas C. Schelling, think

Thomas C. Schelling, think again.
Schelling, emeritus professor at the University of Maryland and co-recipient of the economics Nobel in Stockholm, Steveden, this month, faid the groundwork for ending the mutually assured "Seasons Greetings" that darkens so many doors this time of year. In his 1978 book, "Micromothess and Marcobehavior, Schelling described the spiral of fears and assumptions that leads to wasteful holiday-card procurement.

leads to wasteful holiday-card procurement.

"People feel obliged to send cards to people from whom they expect to receive them, often knowing that they will re-ceive them only because the



HOW DYOULIKE THAT? WE BRING HIM ALL THOSE GIFTS AND THE KID SAYS HAPPY HANUKKAH!

WHAT SORT OF CHRISTMAS GREETING IS THAT?

1

ò

عجيور

that true; ...
And already been received.
Oh, the excess.
Sensible people who might readily agree to stop bothering each other with Christmas cards find it embarrassing, or not quite worth the trouble, to reach such agreement.
Schelling added.
British economist Tun Harford noted Schelling's observations in the Financial

Times a few weeks ago, and he too, lamented the 'grim ritual' of reciprocal felicitation pursued by some families. Both would prefer to stop, 'he says. 'Dut neither is going to be the first to do so. 'Dechange' is not the first to do so. 'Dechange' is not the total the same securities. Schelling is best known for describing competitive trade offs in defense and offense that underlaid the Cold War. Nuclear holocaust was avoided because Moscow and Washington publicly promised to blow each other to smithtereens in the event of a first strike by the

other, and both believed it.
Schelling's prescription for
Christmas and Hanukkah
cards, however, is different. All
addresh lists and holiday-card
obligations, wrote the Nobel
laureate, should be liquidated
in a sort of "bankupity" proceeding in the form of a bonfire.
So, to everybody. I love you
and value your friendship and
wish you the best holiday ever.
Therefore I am not sending you
a card.

1

E HE

Jay Hancock is a financial columnist for The Baltimore

# When 'Merry' Christmas was bawdy

A "War on Christmas" is being waged in the United States, says a new book by a Fox News an-chor. Should cards and stores wish us a vaguely religious-sounding "Merry Christmas" or a vaguely secular "Happy Holidays"?

sounding "Merry Christmas or a vaguely secular "Happy Holidays." In this war of words, it is worth looking at the far from reverent history of that little word "merry. When I was in elementary school in the early 1950s, a teacher told our class that when we wished people a merry Christmas, we were expressing the hope that they would experience the same joy that Jesus mother felt at the birth of her son: that is, a Mary Christmas. It took me decades to realize just how wrong my teacher was. "Merry "refers not on lary but to mirth, and when the tenn first became linked with Christmas, its connotations were anything but holy.

That linkage took hold during the Elizabethan period—a time and place we still think of as Merry Fagland. Before that period, the word merry sometimes meant cheefful, but by the late 1500s havfor that was cheerfully botsterous."

mirth' especially associated with the effects of alcohol or even uninhibited escaulity. In 1576, it was reported that onen and started a fight because he

### STEPHEN NISSENBAUM

was "merry with drink." More than a century later, another Englishman reported that "drunk" was a more polite word for what "the vulgar call merry.

In Elizabethan England, "Merry Andrew" was a clown. "Merry Andrew" was a clown. "Merry main" was a game of dice. A "merry night" was given up to revelty. "Merry-boot" referred to a bastard. And a "merry-bout" was a common euphemism for sexual intercourse.

Merry was first commonly

common cuphemism for sex-ual intercourse.

Merry was first commonly applied to seasonal festivities in those years — and with the same connotations. In an alco-hol-drenched scene in Shakespear's play 'King Henry IV (Part 2),' one soused character wishes the equally tipsy Sir John Falstaff 'a merry Shrove-tide.' (Shrove Tuesday, the day before Lent. is better known to us as Mardi Gras.) That character regules Falstaff young year, while God for the coming year, while dar, and lusty lads roam here and there, so merrily."

Christmas in the Elba-

cheap and temales dear, and lusty lads roam here and there, so merrily." Christmas in the Eliza-bethan era was an equally "merry" season. When the Pu-ritans seized political power in England in 1644, they made it

illegal to celebrate the holiday, and in 1659, the rulers of Massachusetts did the same. (The law was resinded under outside pressure in 1681.) Pu-ritans had sound theological outside pressure in 1681.) Putians had sound theological reasons for suppressing Christmas: lesus himself never proposed that Christians observe his birth (as he did ask them to commemorate his death), nor did the Bible offereven the slightest clue about the slightest clue about the slightest clue about powerful reason for the Putians han on Christmas had to do with holiday mertiment. Boston minister Increase Mather wrote in 1687 that 'the Generally of Christmas keepers observe that festival after such a manner as is highly dishonourable to the name of Christ. And Increase's son Cotton Mather observed a fewers later that 'the feast of Christ's nativity is spent in Revelling Dicting Carding Christ's nativity is spent in Reveling, Dicing, Carding, Masking and in all Licentious Liberty

Masking and in all Licentious Liberty.

An English clergyman claimed that the common Christmas ritual of mammung involved men and women cross-dressing and rearning from house to house to buse to the singing of Christmas carols was just a cover for mixed companies of young people to engage in Rioting Chambering, and Wantonness. An ing, and Wantonness." An Elizabethan bishop, Hugh La-

timer, put the matter most succinctly. "Men dishonour Christ more in the 12 days of Christmas, than in all the 12 months besides." During the 19th century, new Christmas rituals were devised that tamed the old seasonal revelry. (Whether they brought the Christ back into Christmas is another question.) But "Merry Christmas" has remained the greeting of choice—although not without resistance, even before our own multicultural era.

not without resistance, even before our own multicultural era.

In the 1820s, when the new rituals were beginning to take shape, Clement Clarke Moore wrote what would become the most beloved of all American Christmas verses. A Visit from St, Nicholas. 'It's interesting that the Santa Claus who so magically appears in that poem has diruples that are merry' (perhaps befitting his etilish personage), but the departing with Sunta chooses to bestow it for a 'Happy Christman's the place possible that Moore, the place possible that Moore, the place possible that some of the place possible that some of the place possible that some of today's evangelical Christians have managed to forget?

Stephen Nissenbaum, a re-tired professor of history at the University of Massachusetts. ote "The Battle for

# LETTERS -

### Threats from enemies require the Patriot Act

require the ratinot act
To Sen Larry Craig:
As an ardent supporter of
yours in the past, I am very uncomfortable writing a letter in
opposition to your stand on the
Patriot Act. Nevertheless, I
must do so because I believe
your are completely wrong on
this one.
We submit to firsking and
hazeaze scarches prior to get-

uns one. We submit to frisking and baggage searches prior to getting on an airplane because to not do so could result in us getting blown up. This is an infringement on our individual liberities but, in a time when we are at war, a necessary one. The Patriot Act should and will be rescinded when people both here and abroad have stopped trying to kill every one of us. If you know something we don't, please let us know. We could all use some good news for Christmas. However, the work of the could all use some good news for Christmas who you are voting with Scary, but?

DAN HENRIE

Burley

# **Getting in touch**

Want to me<sup>b</sup>e your feelings known to your representatives in Congress? Here's how:

Sen. Mike Crapo

In Twin Falls, call or write: Heather Tiel, regional direct 202 Falls Ave., Suite 2 Twin Falls, ID 83301 734-2515; Fax 733-0414 In Westington In Washington: 239 Dirksen Senate Office B Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-6142

e-mail messages can be sent via Sen. Crapo's home page at www.senate.gov/~crapo

Sen. Larry Craig in Twin Falls, call or wr Mike Methews, region 560 Filer Ave. Subs A Twin Falls, 10 83301

Craig takes a valid stand for libertles

This is in response to Mike

734-6780, Fax 734-3905 In Washington; 520 Hart Senata Office in Land 520 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510 V (202) 224-2752

e-mail: http://craig.senate.gov/email

Rep. Mike Simpson

director 1201 Fills Ave. E., Luising State 1201 Fills Ave. E., Luising State 1201 Fills Ave. E. Luising State 1201 Fills Ave. E. Simpson's e-meil throw his Webones.

Bevan's letter of Dec. 21: I would like to let Mr. Bevan learn from the past and be pre-pared for the future. Benjamin Franklin's warning:

Those who would give up essential liberty to purchase a little temporary season deserve, neither theory no season deserve, as the congress said the other day, Mr. Buth les a president, not a king, in a president, not a king, in the other congressions said. Arr. Bush does not need the Patriot Act — be that everything he wants any single lew wants are season of the president of the patriot for as Sen, Larry, Craig, someone has to history the guts to tell Mr. Bush does not need to tell the guts to tell Mr. Bush where to go.

gon ten and boat where to go. Remember, March 23, 1933. The first Patriot Act was passed by Hiller to stop the terrorists and save the Germans. Merry Christmas, Happy, Holidays, etc. BARI FEDAIE Twin Falls

### Letter correction

Friday's paper listed the wrong names for a letter. The letter headlined 'An appreciation for the season in Paul' was written by George and Rosier Toner of Paul.

The Times-News regrets the error.

# Idaho lawmakers mixed over domestic spying

Crafe

Craco

BOISE (AP) — Idahos all-Republican congressional delegation says Congress should hold hearings early next part to probe the legally of President Bush's wartantless wiretaps an American citizens suspected of terrorist activities.

activities.

But the delegations kevel of concern over the revelations that the White House authorized domestic spying by the National Security Agency (INSA) splits along the same fault lines as their votes on the recent reauthorization of surveillance provisions of the Patriot Act.

the recent reauthorization of surveillance
provisions of the Patriot
Act.
Sen. Larry Cralg and
Rep. CL. Buch' Otter,
who both opposed renewal of the Patriot
provisions unless added,
say they are bothered
by the potential privacy
sales with say they are bothered
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these types of things," said Simpson, who represents idaho's 2nd Congressional District comprised of the eastern half of the state. "In the long run, people will be glad we have a president who is looking out for their safery." Otter, who represents Idaho's western half and Parhandle in the 1st District, agreed there are good reasons to monitor telephone calls and e-mail of suspected terrorists. But he said there is a clearly established process of Judicial oversight through the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act

(FISA) Court to obtain warrants for such wiretapping. And he is concerned that the White House appears to have circumvented that process.

The Founders envisioned a nation where

"The Founders envisioned a nation where people's privacy was respected and the government's business was open." Otter said in a prepared statement in response, to questions from The Associated Press. These actions from that vision on its head, if the government is willing to bend the utiles on this issue, how are we supposed to believe it won'd abuse the

rules on this issue, how are we supposed to be-lieve it won't abuse the powers granted by the Patriot Acti"

Simpson, however, says the debate over the constitutionality of Bush authorizing do-mestic surveillance should not influence the face of the Patriot Act.

should not influence the fate of the Patriot A. "Going over the edge and tying this to the Fatriot. Act, saying we should not reauthorize it because of this, that holds no water." said Simpson.

Craig was one of only four Republicans in the Senate who joined with Senate who joined with the Patriot reauthorization and force negotiators to reconsider additional protections before an extension of the law expires at the end of next month. As a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, he would be a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, the women's constitutional powers to authorize the NSA warrantless intercepts.
"I'm not in a position to say

thorize the NSA warrantless intercepts.

"I'm not in a position to say yes or no, but obviously, the president had by his interpretation the authority," said Craig. At the same time. I'm particularly concerned about the long-term effect of the line we may be crossing."

# Naming rights to lure donors to remodeling

BOISE (AP) — Naming rights for rooms and gardens at the new governor's mansion in the foothills of idaho's capital city will be up for bid soon, as organizers of a renovation effort try to raise the \$3\text{ million needed.}

So far, about \$235,000 — up from \$201,000 in October — has been collected to revamp what will be known as "The Idaho House." The 1880s-ern home was donated last December by billionaire J.R. Simplot. By the property of th

These will be "individuals and businesses that have done business in daho or been in idaho and basically want to leave something that would be a legacy for the state, leave something in perpetuly," said Sch. Brad Little, R-Emmett, and a member of the five-person Governor's Housing Committee, which has steered the effort to assume ownership of the house following Simplor's gift.

No state general fund money.

Ø

No state general fund money is being used for the renova-

is being used for the renova-tions.
Glynn and Hanks have as-sembled a network of 75 to 100 contacts across the state who will coordinate local fundrais-ing efforts.
"This kind of campaign lends itself to people making commitments over several months or a year," said Glynn.
"Its highly likely there will be in-kind gifts."



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# LAST CHANCE TO SEE LOCAL TALENT IN CHRISTMAS TELEVISION SPECIAL

The Magic Valley was the filming location for some outstanding vocalists & musicians. Today and tomorrow will be your last chance to see them perform in A Magical Valley Christmas. The 30 minute Christmas special airs exclusively on KMVT channel 11.

Today 5:30pm 10:36pm

Christmas Day 4:30pm













# World

# Holocaust 'Avengers' recall acts of revenge

JERUSALEM (AP) — A group of elderly Holocaust Survivors came forward Friday with accounts of a death squad they formed after World War II to Make revenge on their Nazi personed hundreds of Stoffices. In a broadcast on Israel Channel How TV the survivors — some of whom fought in the Warsaw Chetto uprising — recounted hundring down former Stoffices and Stoffices and Stoffices and the Stoffices and Stoffices

their homes and killed them, they said:
Members of the group, code-named "the Avengers," said they received a large amount of a senic from Paris and laced loaves of bread felt on hundreds of SS officers inprisoned in an American camp aider the war. Many were reportedly hospital-zed but it was unclear if any of the said they were also.

died.

They said they were also planning a broad operation in Dachau and Nuremberg, but the lewish leadership in what would soon become Israel forced them to abandon the

"I didn't see myself as a mur-derer, not then and not today," Sincha Rotem told Channel

derer, no uner aus.
Sincha Rotem told Channel
Two.
The broadcast focused on a
rare reunion of the group earlier
dips month in a Tel Aviv suburb.
Fifth most of the "Avengers" eigler dead or in their late 70s and
40s. Rotem told The Associated
Pices they gave into family presgree to recount their experiences
de children and other relatives.
Theports of Jewish death
equads have surfaced over the
fears, and several books have
been written. Earlier this year,
fastel's government refused a
request from Ivoland to extra
the surface to the squad
member.
Aaron Breithart, senior reAaron Breithart, senior re-

request from Poland to extra dite a suspected death squad member.

Aaron Breithart, senior re-searcher at the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Ange-les, said the tale of the bread-poisoning plot was plau-obbe.

oreat-passoning piot was plau-sible. "This is not a story that some-body is telling out of a hat. There was such a plan. We just don't know how close they got." Breitbart said.

# China finds corruption in mine probe

The Washington Post

Billing - The Chinese government announced Friday that if found astonshingly serious corruption, chaotic management and lax enforcement of safety rules in Investigating coal mine disasters that have killed thousands for Chinese workers this year.

If Yulong, who heads the cabinet-level Work Safety Administration, said at a news conference that 95 people have been formed over for criminal prosecution this year for their policient the explosions and prosecution this year for their policient the explosions and prosecution this year for their policient the explosions and prosecution this year for their policient the explosions and lending the explosions and comminist Party officials were sanctioned administratively, including two deputy promicial governors, he said.

- More than 6,000 miners perioded in Chinese coal shafts during 2004, making mines in China the worlds-most dangerous. More than 4,000 were killed in the first inter months of this year and the rhythm has continued unabarded including 171, who died one month ago at the infast of the period of the content of the period of the progression of

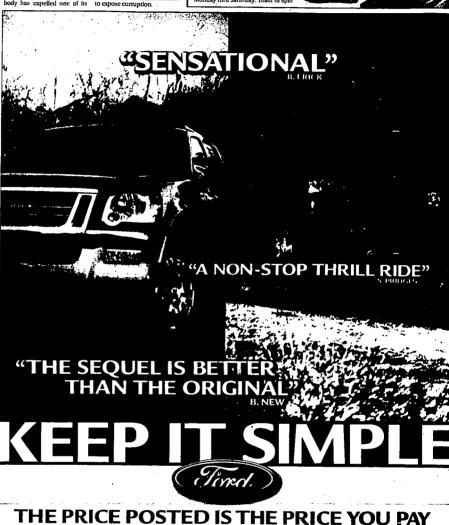
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# Eleven lawmakers expelled from India's parliament

NEW DELHI (AP) — Taking a stand against corruption. India's parliament ended its winter session friday with a vote to expel II awmakers caught taking bithes—in a television station's sting operation.

The lower house vote to expel II awmakers and the upper house threw-out one member, the first time that body has expelled one of its

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EART % WEST FORD STORES

Editor: Matthew Brudy, 735-3234

Sun Valley

names run

The Associated Press

after actress

The Associated Press
SUN VALLEY — Janet Leigh,
whose shower stall murder in
Affred Hitchcock's movie "Isytoo", is one of the most
recognizable scenes ever prodeed it hollywood, now has a
worked by hollywood, now has
a
waltey Resort's Bald Mountain
Ski Area.

"She was an ambassador for
Ski Area.

"She was an ambassador for
Sun Valley's glamorous side,"
ber daughter, actress Jamie Lee
Curtis, told the Wood River
Journal. "And I know she made
people happy just by being
here."

Journal. And I know she made people hang, just by being here.

Leigh, who died in 2004 at age 77, was one of hollowoods top film stars when she first visited Sun Valley in 1963. She became one of the first celebrities of the she was the she had been died to the second home in control of the she was the sh

Section B

The Times-News

Saturday, December 24, 2005

# AROUND THE VALLEY

### Sempra meeting scheduled Jan. 4

A public information meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4 in the Shoshone High School gymnasium concerning the proposed coal-fired Sempra plant in Jerome County. State represent as well as guest speakers as well as guest as

Another meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Jan. 5 in Gooding at the county extension office located at the fairgrounds.

# Meeting will discuss safety event grant

safety event grant
TWIN FALLS — The Idaho
Children's Trust Fund has made
available a \$2.500 grant for prevention activities and events
that support increased awanness of child abuse and reglect
prevention.

A Community Coalition is
meeting to organize and implement activities planned during
the month of April, which is
designated as National Child
Abuse and Neglect Prevention
Awareness Month. Interested
individuals and organizations
are vedcome to participate.
The next planning meeting
will be held at 10 am. Jan. 5 at
the Department of lieath and
Wellare on Pole Line Road
Wellare on Pole Line Road
Wellare on Pole Line Road
Line I am. 1 am.

### Christmas will bring several closures

Several Closures
TVIN FALLS — Many offices
and facilities will he closed for
Orhistmas Here's a rundroot or
What will be open or closed
through Monday.

• City and county offices will
be closed Monday.

• State and federal offices
will be closed Monday.

• U.S. post offices will be
open today, but closed Monday.

• Local banks will be closed
Monday.

Albeit Soft is universelved.

Relps troops' families

TWIN FALLS — Governor
Disk Kempthome on Tuesday
Disk Kempthome on Tuesday
Disk Kempthome on Tuesday
Disk Kempthome on Tuesday
District of Idaho Gausard
Reserve Family Support Fund
Head Fund
The Idaho Guard and Reserve
The Idaho Guard and Reserve Rementation of the Idaho Guard and Reserve Rementation of the Idaho Reserve Rementation of the

# Snowpack levels 32% 36% 33% 34% 31% 32% 33% 34% 35% 6, 23 Little Wood Big Lost Little Lost Henrys Fork

\* Local banks will be closed Monday,

• Twin Falls Public Library will be closed Monday,

• Twin Falls Chip Fold State of State o Monday.

• Trash collection will follow the regular schedule. Albertson Foundation

# helps troops' families

# See page B3

TWIN FALLS — Christmas isn't just for kids.

It's for dogs and cats, too. And probably a few horses, godts and a gerbil or twu.

"We treat them just like part of the family, like our grand-thildren.' said Jim Davis of Twin Falls. He and his wife. Charlene, as and Jim Davis of Twin Falls. He and his wife cocker spanled and Cleo the German shorthair. "We wrap gifts — all kinds of toys — and they help open them." he said. "We just treat them like part of the family."

Their son Scouts dog, Rox-Their son Rox-Their so

Gretta Von Schnauzer

Their son Scott's dog, Rox-inne the Dalmatian, is sumpered every day but espe-ially during the holidays.

Keeping pets safe for the holidays.

"She usually wears her Santa hat." Scott Davis said. "She's got one with a ribbon. I usually take her picture under the tree. She gets presents and opens them. Het her open my presents because she enloys opening presents." Christmas Is also a dogic affair over at the Severa place in Burley.

"I buy for my dog, Jed."

Christmas lights and decorate the tree." Severa said. "He gets tangled up in the lights for me."

Me.

And there are presents under the tree for led, too, including a guardian angel dog tag and some chew and

cluding a guardian angel dog tag and some chew and squeaky toys.

"He has bones for his stock-ing, too." Severa said. "It says 'Dogs love Christmas, too." In fact, led has a dog biscuit named after him.

named after him.

The last two years, I have baked dog biscuits for my company's holiday craft fair. Severa said. They are a peanut butter mixture labeled. Uncle led's Good Boy Biscuits. I have sold out each year.

Severa said tijust seems nat-

# TREASURED GIFT

# Family adopts stray dog

By Sandy Miller Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — One cold winter night live years ago, Betty Hadlock heard scratching at her back door.

She opened it to find an abandoned little pup, shivering and whimpering and looking for a kind person to take her in. She looked to be part husky, part chow, maybe a little something else thrown in for good measure.

little something else thrown in for gold mental the laboration of gold mental the laboration of gold mental the laboration of the neighborhood, hoping to find someone who had been frantically searching for their lost friend. But they didn't find anyone. The sad truth was the puppy had probably been abandoned.

"I especially think its very actuel to drop off animals, liadlock said. But its been a blessing in many ways. We tried to give her away but no ne wanted ther. Weve been awful glad. She's pretty special.

one wanted her. We've been awful glad. She's privil special."
That's because that little husky-chow-something else mix has brought so much joy to the Hadlock household. The couple took her in, named her Bear, which later became "Missy Pool Bear."
"I just think she is a gift from God." Hadlock said. I guess someone just thought I vould need her this time of year."
This will be Hadlocks first. This will be Hadlocks first. This will be Hadlocks first of year without lear through the hadlock said. I guess someone just thought I vould lear through the hadlock said who died in the hadlock and Missy Pool Bear are feeling the big empty spot where Bill used to be. "We lost our paps three months ago and she has really been said and wonderling where he is," Hadlock said. I am so thankful that I have to share my loss."
Gary De'eronimo, a local canine behavior specialists add that's perfectly normal.
"It's her connection to her husband." De'eronimo said. "If they had this animal together, she's going to relate this to her husband.

And when it comes to Christmas Missy Pools Bear is very much part of the celebra-

And when it comes to Christmas. Missy Pool Bear is very much part of the celebra-tion. She even dons her Santa Claus coat and reindeer

Claus Coat and reindeer antiers.

"She has her share of Christ-mas presents under the tree, not only from us, but from family members also," Had-lock said. "The kids bring her presents. Every time I put something under the tree, she



Birty Hadlock shows eff her dog 'Missy Peeh Bear' in a Santa suit et her home in Jerome. Hadlock says she'fa grateful Missy Pooh Bear is around to help comfort her after the recent death of her hus

goes over and sniffs. She has a stocking on the fireplace with a picture of her and her daddy. DeGeronimo and his wife.

Jean, put presents under the tree for Sandi, their 13-year-old golden retriever, and Chelsi, their 12-year-old Labrador

"Christmastime is great." DeGeronimo said. "It's a time to share your feelings with your loved ones and your ani-mals are loved ones as well." As for Haddock, Missy Pooh Bear has turned out to be her most treasured gift of all. "She has turned out to be the

most special pet in the world." Hadlock said. "I would like to honor my dog in return for the happy life she has given us."

# Times-News writer Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at smiller@magicvalley.com. CHRISTMAS IS FOR PETS, TOO

# 2005 proved to be historic water year

janss, owned son Valley from 1964 to 1973. Besides "Fsycho". Leigh also starred in "The Manchurian Candidate" with Frank Sinatra. Little Women, "Angels in the Outfield." Touch of Evd. "Houdin," The Fog and "Hallowen H2O. 20 Years Later" with Curtis in 1998. Some of the events surrounding the naming of Leigh Lane included a free showing of "Psycho" on Thursday. "The more Psycho" would not have been my choice." Curtiss and "I would have picked "Bye Birthe" because I don't like to be finghrened. But that's what they choice to go with."

By Cindy Snyder Ag Weekly correspondent

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — From

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — From spring rams to water agreements, 2005 was a historic year in many ways for southern Idaho water tisers.

Our biggest issue this year was that it rained and saved our hides this spring, 'said Ited Diehl, manager of the North Side Ganal Co, in ferome. 'That was a real big plus. We were looking at a 50 percent after water supply and ended up going to 100 percent. That was a great windfall for us.'

The entire Upper Snake reservoir system ended the 2005 irrigation season with 500,000 aere-feet more water in storage than it had in 2004. 'We've always said spring noiststure would make or break. We've always said spring noiststure would make or break with the USDA. Station Service in Boise.

This spring definitely broke some forecasts — most notably on the Salmon River Canal Co, tract where an early April forecast of 0.25 aere-feet per share turned into 8.8 aere-feet per share turned into 8.9 aere-feet per share turned into 8.9 aere-feet per share turned into 8.9 aere-f

reservoirs and stretched irriga-tion water supplies, the rains did not erase the water shortages that have plagued v

# Families let animals join in on holiday fun "He's a member of the family," she said. "If you see something you know they'd like, you have to get it for them"

By Sandy Miller Times-News write

anair over at the Severa place in Burley.

"I buy for my dog, Jed."
Abbie Severa said. "He is my 2-year-old chocolate Labrador and my baby."
In his own special way, Jed helps deck the halls.
"In the best me new to the

like, you have to get it for them.

Gary DeGeronimo, a local canine behavior specialist, and its perfectly fine for people to include their pers in their holdsy celebrations. But he said its perspective and its important to keep the said its important to keep the said its important to keep the said its perspective at concept its a special day However, they do know therei more attention being given to them. DeGeronimo said. Thereis absolutely nothing wrong with hall, its Ok as long as people understand this is fun for their dogs because they're getting more attention and they're

# Mormons honor church founder | Steelhead retain

# Leaders gather in Vermont to mark birthday

SHARON, Vt. (AP) — On the 200th anniversary of the birth of church founder Joseph Smith, members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints commemorated his life and

members of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints cominemorated his life and work with a cross-country celebration of works and song.

A consideration of works and song. The control of works and song. The control of the co

church's Salt Lake City conference center with songs by the famous Tabernacle Choir and a capacity 21,000-person crowd.

Like the church's biannual conference, the celebration was broadcast via satellite to members in 160 different countries. The 95-year-old Hinckley had been expected to speak to



A girl plays on the grounds of the Joseph Sr. i'h Birthptace Memoria on Friday in Sharon, Yt., as The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Sainta marks the bicentennial of Smith's birth. nith's birth.

a set of buried gold plates that contained the ancient records of Christ's dealings with the inhabitants of the Americas. Smith's translation of the plates became known as the Book of Mormon, the foundational text on which Mormons base their religion.

Smith's original church had just six members and 5,000 copies of the Book of Mormon were published at first. He sent out a handful of missionaries to preach and draw new members to the faith.

church members live from Vermont, but he changed plans
midday Friday and tapted his remarks, returning home on a
private plane. A winter storm,
which by broadcast time had
snow falling on the Smith monument, was the reason for the
change, said church managing
director of public affairs Bruce
Olsen.

change, Sau crustal Bruce Olsen.
One-hundred years ago. Smith's amilversary was marked processed of the control of the control of the church, dedicated the 38-5 foot tall polished granite obelisk monument on this hillside in rural Vermont.
Joseph Smith founded the church in 1830, 10 years after he claimed to experience a vision of God and Jesus in a grove of trees near his family home in Jahryyan, NY. He also said an angel named Moronti led him to

orbital and under we internees to the failst to the failst chart is one of the fastest-growing religions, with more than 12 million members — half of them outside the United States. Some 130 million copies of the Book of Mormon are circulating in 73 different languages.

"If (non-Mormons) care at all about the history of religion in

their own country, they should certainly be interested in the Indicates of loseph Smith, said commerce of loseph Smith, so the Commercius of sociology and religious studies at Washington Sate University, who is currently a visiting scholar at the Claremont Gmduate University in California. Both in successions

Claremont Graduate, University in California.

Both in numbers and influence, Mormonism today, is 'the most numerically Important American religion,' said Mauss, himself a lilelong church member and a past president of the Mormon History Association. The growth of the church since the midd-20th century has helped to changed the perceptions non-Mormons have of the faith, Mauss said. But those are both negative and positive changes, he said.

The positives are those which see Mormonism as an increasingly legitimate religious tradition, entitled to a certain amount of attnituded on and appreciation for its unique preciation for its unique preciation for its unique

tradition, entitled to a certain amount of admination and appreciation for its unique teachings and lifestyle, he said. This is also accompanied by more negative feelings as the political and economic influence of the church sometimes looms large. Mormons are viewed largely as ultraconservative because the church has strict lifestyle sandards, shunning the use of action lo, for example, and favoring traditional family practices. Faithful members also adhere to a standard of titling to percent of their income to the church, which is said to be worth billions, but never publicly reports its annual income response.

# **ESA** protection

GRANTS PASS, Ore. (AP).—
Ten groups of steelhead from Southern California to Washington will retain Endangerd Species Act protection under a new policy that lists only those that spend time in the ocean, exempting fish that remiain in their native rivers. NOAA Fisheries announced Friday.
The change in policy was prompted by a suggestion from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which has jurisdiction over trout and steelhead that remain in rivers, that the two agencies

vice, which has jurisdiction over trout and steelhead that remain in rivers, that the two agencies adopt the same polley for defin-ing steelhead populations. NOAA Fishteries retained the old policy for salmon, sald Carth critical fisheries biologist for NOAA Fishteries retained the old critical fisheries biologist for While steelhead are the same genus as salmon, they are differ-ent species and have much different life histories. Most steelhead migrate to the occan, particularly from coastal rivers, but some stay behind in the river their whole lives, par-ticular in rivers far from the occan.

dicular in fivers iar item unocean.
While salmon die after returning to their native rivers to
spawn; some steelhead survive
to return to the ocean and
spawn again. Tests have shown
steelhead and rainbow trout
from the same rivers are genetically identical, despite their
behavioral differences.

cally identical, despite their behavioral differences. The decision by NOAM fish-ries was applauded by Trout Unlimited and the Native Fish Society in Porland, who said counting steelhead and geneti-cally identical rainbow trout in the same population groups could use to inflated fish num-ber of the could result in removing protections for some

steelhead that need it.
"I think it was a little bit of bu-reaucratic infighting that led to this, but I think it was the right result," said Jeff Curtis of Trout Unlimited.

result," said Jeff Curtis of Trout Unlimited.
However, David Hogan of the Center for Biological Diversity said It was bad news for steel-head in Southern Callfornia, which are in such bad shape that the resident his head to be protected over all he fish that that the resident his head to be protected over a beginning to the head of the control of the control head of the control and Southern California populations, this is a very poor decisions with almost no scientific basis. Hogan said. "So it is possible that this could end up in court again."

very poor decisions wut aurose no scientific basis. Hogan said. So it is possible that this could not up in outra again. The decision also dwngraded projection for Upper Columbia River steethead in castern Washington from endangered to threatened.

Bill Baske of the Native Steethead in Bill Baske of the Native Bill Baske of the Native Handward and existence of the Native Handward and particularly hard time because there are so many daris between the ocean and their spawning grounds. Steelhead that survive to spawn again are often killed trying to get back downstream because while there are provisions made to help small juvenile fish headed downstream, there are no measures taken for large adult fish, he said.

NOAN Fisheries re-examined its 1998 threatened and endangered species listing decisions on steelhead and salmon after a federal court ruling found that wild fish and hatchery fish in the same population group had to be considered together when listings are being determined.

# Fired BYU professor loses lawsuit

PROVO, Utah (AP) — A former Brigham Young University professor who contended he was wrongfully terminated from his job has lost his claim against the Provo school. Richard Thwalts. 53, was seeking up to \$1 million in damages, claiming wrongstult termination and breach of contract.

ontract. A 4th District jury found in svor of BYU on Friday, after a

A do BYUO Firlday, after a Oalay trial.

Oalay trial.

Oalay trial.

Oalay trial.

Thwaits' attorney argued that his client was forced out by ambitious colleagues. The university contended the professor had engaged in misconduct and broken the law.

Thwaits had been chalman of the university's animal science department, director of its veterinary technician pro-

Richard Lee Long

TWIN FALLS — Richard Lee Long, age 68, of Iwin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 21, 2005, at

his home.

A funeral will be held at noon Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2005, at the Eastland LDS. Chapel, 847 Eastland Drive N. A viewing from 10 to service time will be held at the church. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park, Funeral arrangements are under the direction of White Monuary. Twin Falis.

Oscar 'Ozzie' Gracida

gram and a tenured professor. He was placed on paid leave by the university during an inter-nal investigation into alleged misconduct and was fired in

During the trial, Thwaits's attorney. Evan Schmutz, Characterized his client's firing as the result of a witch hunt. Schmutz said: that when Kent Grookston took over the College of Biology and Agriculture, he wanted to close the school's animal science department and its vet tech program. Several of the complaints against Thwaits were made to Grookaton by Egraduate studies and the College of Biology and Agriculture, and the Complaints against Thwaits were made to Grookaton by Egraduate studies of the College of

DEATH NOTICES

Abbie B. Pyne
TWIN FALLS — Abbie B. Pyne, 81, of Twin Falls, died early Friday morning. Dec. 23, 2005, at the home of his daughter in Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be made by Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Abbie B. Pyne

Frank McAuley
TWIN FALLS — Frank Mrangements will be made to the home of his daughter in Twin Falls.

Arrangements will be made by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Olga Ann Yost of Twin Falls, funeral at noon today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Friends may call one hour before the service.

Jacklyn (Jackie) Walker of Kimberly, memorial sonder Kimberly, memorial service at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

---- Services -

mberly, memoral service at p.m. Wednesday at the arke's Magic Valley Funeral ome: 2551 kimberly Hoad with Falls. Wednesday at Kentralis. Wednesday at Wednesday at Wednesday at Wednesday at Wednesday at Wednesday at Mere E, Twin Falls. Friends may fall from noon until 1:30 p.m. at the chapel.

Thwaits began with a "friendly wrestle" with a female student in a hot tub during a depart-ment trip. Clark said Thwaits's actions

to the faith

ment rip.

Clark said Thwaits's actions became progressively more sefous despite a warning leiter. The school learned that he had allegedly dispensed animal science medication to a visiting faculty member in the guise of prescribing if for the instructor's pet, court documents said. He also had allegedly given a student the controlled substance, court documents said. Thiwaits was investigated by Utalis Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing for practicing medicine without a license. In 2001, he pleaded no contest to the 
third-degree felony.

# Death penalty withdrawn over misplaced evidence

SALT LAXE CITY (AP) — A judge rescinded ax killer Elroy Tillman's death sentence Friday and gave him life in prison with the possibility of parole, but state attorneys promised to fight to keep the 70-year-old in prison for the rest of his life. Tillman waived his right to have a jury decide a new sentence and, by agreement with prosecutors, accepted the deal approved by 3rd District Judge Leslic Lewis.

The victim's family didn't want to relive the ordeal of court proceedings 22 years after Tillman's conviction. Assistant Attorney General

after Tillman's conviction. As-sistant Attorney General Creighton Horton said Friday. Tillman turned his fate over to the Utah Board of Pardons and Parole, which has yet to schedule a hearing to consider whether hell ever be released. When it does hold the hear-ing the board likely will reli Tillman. "We'll char about it ta possible release) in 30 years." Horton said.

Hornon said

The change of events came four months after the state four months after the state Supreme Court overturned Tillman's death sentence—but not his 1983 murder conviction—over complaints that prosecutors misplaced some evidence that surfaced only weeks before Tillman was scheduled to be executed in 2001.

At 70, Tillman could die on his own before prosecutors could have assured his execu-tion, Horton said.

Your Local

"How To." Guide!

# Agency disputes troopers' account of fatal van crash

SAIT IAKE CITY (AP) — A
Utah State University van was
traveling near 75 mph before a
rollover crash that stilled eight
students and an instructor, a
state agency said in disputing
students and an instructor, a
state agency said in disputing
students and an instructor, a
state agency said in disputing
the Utah Highway betroi.

The Division of Risk Management also concluded that-none
of the passengers was wearings
eat belt before the Sept. 26
crash, agreeing with the patrois
findings. One of the two students who survived said he and
at least four other passengers
wore seat belts.
Everyone was ejected when
the van rolled down an embankment along Interstate 84
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grind."

The two survivors and the families of the eight students killed have filed claims against the school and the driver that

are being handled through mediation.

Mediation will lead to a faster and easier resolution than going to the courts, where the states liability would be capped at \$1.1 million — not enough to cover the medical bills for the wo survivors, their families contend.

It's doubtful any forum will resolve the varis speed, but it's not a critical issue for mediation. Trentadue said.

The Highway Patriol calculated the van's speed based on a standard match formula and evidence such as the length of skid marks. It stands by its estimate the van was traveling at 95 mph or faster. Thooper Jeff Nigbur said.

The state's lower speed estior laster. House said.

The state's lower speed estimates was welcomed by a

The states tower speed esu-mate was welcomed by a survivor as vindication for the driver, instructor Evan Parker, who lost control when the van blew a tire and rolled at least

who best chinds when he van bebew a tire and rolled at least four times. The last thing he'd want to The last thing he'd want to The last thing he'd want to the control of the control of

# OBITUARY.

or obtinery rates and information, call 735-3278 Monday through Saturday, Deadline is 4 p.m. for next-ley publication. The e-mail address for obtinueses is obtin@maglcvalley.com. Death notices are a free erricos and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obtinuese online, or to place a mes mage in an individual colling possiblook, go to www.maglcvalley.com and click on "Obtunese."

# Erik Alexander Drew

Erik Alexander Drew was born on Feo. 23, 1953, in Greenbush, Mass, to the late Ronald Drew and loving mother, Elena Steinmetz. Erik passed away on Dec. 15, 2005, at 6:32 p.m. at the Good Samarian Hospital. Erik is survived by his wife and best friend, Pamela Drew; his two sons. Shaun Christopher Drew and Justin Samuel Drew. He is also survived by his siblings. Lisa,

Mary, Robert, Dan, Lea, Ellen and Joanna: and grandson, Erik.

He had a wonderful zest for life and cared deeply for his family and friends. He was always takering around doing some thing, He was a pack rat to the fullest. He was in the process of building a village for his Lionel trains. Mary, Robert, Dan, Lea, zuen and Joanna; and grandson, Erik. He had a wonderful zest for life and cared deeply for his family and friends. He was a lover of trains. He was a lover of trains. He was a lover of trains. He was a possible to the second before the second before the process of building a village for his Lionel trains. He will be cremated at the Cremation Society of Illinois.

son City, Nev., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seastrom. A celebration of Gary's life will follow the serv-ice.

bly...... His loving wife, Pamela

# **Need Advice?**



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# Agency: Ski village won't threaten lynx Feds will likely revoke

DENVER (AP) — A development planned at the base of a remote ski area near the Continental Divide has cleared a key hurdle with a federal wildlife agency's finding that the project won't affect the overall survival of federally protected lynx.

agencys means that the projection won't affect the overall survival of federally protected dynx.

The opinion issued Thursday by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service affirms a preliminary report on the development period on the development period on the development of the Wildlife Service and in southwestern Colorado.

The Initial opinion released in October said 11 to 13 brux could be hit and killed in their case of the Wolf of the Colorado.

The Initial opinion released in October said 11 to 13 brux could be hit and killed in the increased highway traffic expected over the next 40 years and that lynx mumbers could be reduced by another 32 because of habitat loss.

Federal biologists said the final report didn't include the numbers because of confusion about the earlier estimates. They said based on traffic projections, only four of the potential deaths could be pinned on the development.

The potential defacts on lynx have helped fuel the opposition to The Wilage at Wolf Creek, proposed by Texas billionaire Billy for 'Red' McCombs. The report on lynx is among the information the U.S. Forest service needs for a final decision on a road proposed across national forest land to the nearly 300-acres owned by the 300-acres owned by the avell-McCombs Joint Ven-

The final environmental in

The final environmental impact statement on the road could be issued as early as fartuary.

"The most important element in this decision, other than its positive findings, is that it is one more large step forward in the development



Snow-covered lodges are shown at the base of the runs at the Wolf Creek Ski Area west of South Fork, Colo., on April 20. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced Friday that the agency doesn't believe that a development proposed at the base of Wolf Creek Ski Area will Jeopardize lynx.

of The Village at Wolf Creek and it opens the door to the U.S. Forest Service's forth-coming decision approving access roads for The Village at Wolf Creek," said Bob Honts, president and chief executive of the company building the village.

or me company ounting the village. The land and surrounding The land and surrounding Rio Grande National Forest link sites in the San Juan Mountains considered to be some of the best lynx habitat in the state, according to Fish and Wildlife. Federal biologists acknowledge the sites are also part of the core area of Colorado's lynx restoration unorazin.

tion program.
"I think it's hard for anybody

base of Wolf Creek St Area will Jooj to reasonably argue that it doesn't have a major effect' on the state program, said Jeff Berman of Colorado Wild, an environmental group that has sued to stop the development. The Northwest and Malne in November were deemed important recovery areas for Jynx by the Fish and Wildlife, while Colorado wasn't included in areas critical to the car's future. Federal biologists said the ski village won't Jeopardize the overall population of Jynx in the lower-B states. Thowever, there's going to be some adverse effects to Iynx in

lower 48 states.
"However, there's going to be some adverse effects to lynx in a localized area," sald Susan Linner, supervisor of Fish and

Wildlife's field office in Col-

Wildlife's field office in Colorado.

The agency recommended that the developers assemble a panel of experts, subject to review by the government. to reduce the danger to lyns.

The Colorado Division of Wildlife's efforts to restore the cat to its southermnost historic turf have fared well after a rocky start in 1999. The state has released some 200 lyns, mostly from Canada. About 100 lyns kittens have been born in Colorado.

Trapping, poisoning and development eradicated the state's native lynx by the early 1970s.

# Idaho brucellosis status

BOISE — The U.S. Department of Agriculture will likely strip lidaho of its covered brustellosis-free status following infections in eastern and central idaho, a move that would force cattle ranchers to do expensive testing before their animals are shipped out of state.

pensive testing before their animals are shipped out of state.

In decision is expected in Indianary, state Department, of Indianary, state Department, or Indianary, state Department, or Indianary, state Department, states and Indianary, states and Indianary

The infection can lead to spontaneous abortions, infertility, decreased milk production and weight loss in cattle, elk, bison and other mammals. It is rarely transmitted to humans.

mammals. It is rarely transmitted to human 50 cattle were ted to human 50 cattle were slaughtered in eastern Idaho after veterinarians confirmed brucellosis infections at a Swan Valley beef ranch in carly Octo-discovered in an Acceptation, where an infected helfer from the Swan Valley herd had been slupped.

According to federal rules, two cases of brucellosis in one state within two years trigger the automatic loss of disease-

Idaho in brief

free status.
Still, Idaho said it may appeal. Still, Idaho sald it mayapped, againg that because the infected helier at the Arco feedlot originated in the Swan Valley, herd, the cases shouldn't be considered separately, Idaho could apply to regain its brucellosis-free status if no infected cattle are found in 2006.

Neighboring Wyoming lost its brucellosis-free status in 2004.

### Mother dies after being struck in parking lot

Motner dies atter being struck in parking lot

POST FALLS — A 39-year-old Post Falls mother of four has died after she was hit by a truck in a grocery store parking lot. The Earlier Sandarian Standard Charles Earlier Sandarian Standard Charles Earlier Sandarian Standard Sandarian Sanda

Eastman-King was named the Post Falls Education Associthe Post Falls Education Associ-ations Patron of the Year in 2004 for her volunteer work and service.

— compiled from wire reports

# Pets and the holidays

- Keep your pet on its normal diet. Any change of diet, even if one meal, may give your dog or cat severe indigestion and diar
- mea.

  Don't give pets holiday leftovers any keep pets out of the
  garbage. Pouttry bones can splir
  ter and cause blockages. Greasy
  specy and fatty foods can cause.

- Alcohol and pets do not mix. Place unattended alcohole drains where pets cannot reach them if ingested, the animal could become very sick and weak and could even die of respiratory failure. Neep alumbum foll and callo-phane candy wrappers away from pets. They can cause vomiting and unlesshall blockage.
   Be careful with holidary floral arrangements. Lifes can cause known yellow plants such as mistelee and holly befree can also be
- cause mild vomiting or nausea and Christmas tree water can be a breeding ground for bacteria that can also cause nausea, vom-iting and diarrhea in pets.
- ring and diafrime in pets.

  Decorations such as ribbons
  and tinsel can become lodged in
  the intestines and cause intestinal obstruction.

  A Christmas tree should stand
  on a flat, wide base. You might
  also want to anchory your tree.
  Cats often see trees as excellent
- If you plan to entertain, provide a "safe haven" to which your pets

can retreat when they get overly excited and there is a possibility of escape.

If you are going away for the holidays, make sure pat enclosures are severe, that your pets are wearing proper identification and that arrangements have been made for their cate.

Millions of pets will be homeless this holiday seasons. Sharing seasons that the seasons sharing seasons.

made for their care.

Millions of pets will be home-less this holiday season. Shelter animals appreciate toys, treats and especially love and attention as much as yours. Visit a local



# Tune Up Your Home For the Holidays!

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# Pets .

# Continued from B1

Continued from B1 seeing their owners happy, which gives them a good feel-ing."

DeGeronimo said it's also important to make sure people myo cafe uifs.

Deceronism important to make sure people give safe gifts. "Make absolutely certain theres' nothing that could hurr your animal — no glitter on the wrapping or ribbons the ani-

mal could choke on," he said.
"Make it a moment you super-vise just as you would with a young child."
Santa about.

young child."
Santa also pays a visit to Ann and John Whites pets, Gretta Von Schnauzer, a 7-year-old miniature schnauzer, and Siamese cats Cheech and

Chong. "They all get presents," Ann

White said.
And Gretta just seems to know which gifts are hers.
She doesn't bother to open anything that doesn't belong to her. White said.
And Gretta enjoys showing off her gifts.
If she gets a stuffed toy, she'll want everyone to see him." White said. "She'll take

him to everyone and show them." Animals, White said, have al-ways been a part of the family. "She's a little person in a fur coat," White said.

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



Comes Calling on Christmas Eve.

Guess who will be

Love: Jay, Gene, Mark Van Wagoner, LaRue Sharp & families • 21 Grandchildren • 68 Great Grandchildren • 46 Great, Great Grandchildren

Grandelinaren, via

# Water

### Continued from B1

Cortinued from 81
users for five years. A coalition
of seven irrigation entities in
southern Idabo made a water
delivery call last January. Both
surface and groundwater users
spent much of the year gathering information about water
use and deficiencies for the
hearings that are scheduled to
begin in March.
After years of negotiation,
water-right claims by the Nez
Perce Tribe were finally resolved when the Legislature
approved the Nez Perce Agreement. In exchange for
minimum streamflows in the
Clearwater and Salmon rivers
and a consumptive water right
for the reservation, the Tribb
waived forever its claims to
water in the Snake River, the
Snake River, the
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Snake River

provided funds for water improvement projects on the reservation, a land swap and cash for investments.

History also was made this summer when the state bought water rights for the first time. Lawmakers approved a deal to buy 75,000 acre-feet of water from the Bell Rapids Mutual Isrogation Co. at a cost of Silo per acre-foot.

Bruce Newcomb. R-Burley and speaker of the House, said the buyout ensures there will

the buyout ensures there will

Stay in touch by reading The Times-News always be water available for salmon-recovery efforts. Given a decision by a federal judge in Oregon in late 2005 that the Bonneville Power Administra-

tion is not managing for salmon recovery, the buyout looks even better. If the judge's decision stands, BPA could be forced to operate the four lower

Snake River dams as if they have been breached.

That has consequences both in terms of potential power rates and shipping.



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### Comics







By Rick Kirkman and Jerry So

By Garry Trudeau





T certainly hope not!

Say! I ve got a bottle in my toom

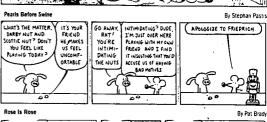
By Scott Adams















Birthday today? Peace will abound

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders



Visit

Santara

guitar.





WILLY IT TOOK A WHILE FOR SANTA'S TRADITION TO CATCH ON

CAUGHT ONE

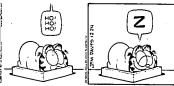






THAT'S RIGHT... NOW I'M GOING SHOPPING FOR ME.









By Charles M. Schulz

HERE'S THE WORLD WAR I FLYING ACE SITTING IN A SMALL FRENCH CAFE... IT IS CHRISTMAS EVEAN





By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart







"Mary and Joseph couldn't check into the hotel 'cause the cleaning ladles were still doing the room."

# Preserving mother's memories brought joy to her and family

DEARABBY: Don't most of us enjoy stories from our parents' and grandparents' pass? During the last few years of my moth-er's life, she was confined to her home and then to a nursing home.

home and then to a nursing home.

I urged her to write her memories of childhood in a lined notehook that I provided. On one hand, those stories needed to be preserved for my children, and on the other, it gave my mother aproject to work on and keep her mind active. She enjoyed it and filled about 29 agies, She described her child-hood days, then continued hrough courtship, marriage, my birth, struggles through the Great Depression, and the Great Depression, and the building of a new home. It gave a clear view of times gone by a family treasure in her handwriting.

My reason for writing this is to remind your readers to ask those old-timers to write their memories before those treas-

any reason for wrining into so to remind your readers to ask those old-linters to write their memories before those treas-ured stories pass into oblivion. — ROBERT TLANDIN, N.C. DEAR ROBERT Thank you for the reminder, And readers, maybe you should jot down your own memories yourselves. On another note, every year I hear from older people on fixed incomes who are worried be-cause they don't have enough money to buy gifts for their familles. Something like this would make a priceless gift.



PS. It could even be video- or audio-taped if a friend or family member has the equipment.

DEAR ABBY: My brother is being married soon, and hes planning to have his dog serve as the ring bearer in the wedding. My 2-year-old daughter will be the flower girl. My mother thinks that having a dog in the wedding is down wedding in the wedding and the mother wedding is discovered and she worried about what the guests will think. She plans to tell my brother that she duesn't approve.

think. She plans to tell my brother that she doesn't approve.

The dog is well behaved and, frankly, my daughter is more likely to cause a problem than the dog. I think a wedding is completely up to the couple, and they should do whatever will make the day special for them. What do you think?

—DOGGONE WEDDING PARTY:

DEAR WEDDING PARTY:

DOTAL WEDING PARTY:

DOTAL WEDDING PARTY:

DOTAL WEDING PARTY:

DOTAL WEDING

# **Rodent wardrobes: Woman** dresses her guinea pigs in style

WINONA, Minn. (AP) —
Looking for the perfect outfit for
your guinea pig? A Winona
woman might be able to help.
Carly Austin kukowski designs and sells guinea pig gear
ranging from leopard-print
dresses to elf costames with
a few second of the second of the second
B started as 5 joke two years
aga, when Austin-kukowski, 25,
sade a sweater for her guinea
pig to wear outside. She later
tried other designs.
A friend sarcastically suggestdisher ty to sell the costames
on chay, and Austin-kukowski
took the suggestion seriouski.
Four months later, Austinkukowski said she has solid
about 100 costumes to people
as far away as Australia and
England. Monta third of the orders come from New York City,
she said.
Austin-kukowski, who works
as a nurses adie has filled cusdress come from New York City,
she said.
Austin-kukowski, who works
as a nurses adie has filled cusdress come from New York City,
she said.
Hartin kukowski, who works
as a nurses adie has filled cusbrands included— as well as a
white lare weedling dress.

Hawweis kie trook out a classfiled ad in a local papier.

"Christiams, evistumes — forguinea pigs \$7, Santa, elf, many
more, Mins see to fedice."

Fruit basket had

### Fruit basket had an extra ring with it

LA CROSSE, Wis. — Todd On-dell knew there would be more than fruit and nuts in one of the holiday baskets he packed this year-for the Downtown Rotary, and now he knows he was right.

and now he knows he was right.

The business owner lost his gold welding band as he was packaging one of the group's 240 holday haskets Dec. 12.

Ondell had hand-wrapped the red baskets in cellophane, with a twist, and he figured a some point the ring fell off.

He searched his house, his car

An elf sult and reindeer cap is modeled by Carly Austin-Kukowski's guinea pig, Uam, on Tuesday in Winona, Minn. Austin-Kukowski has created a home business selling themed costumes.

### Odds & Ends

and his collee shop. His fellow Botaman helped check the floor, pallets, cracks and concrete in the area where the baskers were assembled.

Ondell made a poblic pica for recipients to check the mode and bottom cellophane of the baskers for the gold ring. Jeff Road of 14. Crescent, Minn., found in the bottom of a finit basket even though he hadn't beard about Ondell's loss. He memtioned the find to his father, who had heard the story and informed his sory and unformed his sory and unformed his sory and at a thursday's Rotary Chab meet a Thursday's Rotary Chab meet ing.

at Thursday (1904).

In honor of Rood and the person who bought the fruit basket for his family, Ondell made a donation to the Rotary Club.

This very glad I found it. Rood said. This nice to know muraches still happen at Christmas."

# Christmas tree carries

Christmas tree carries unwelcome passenger ENGLBAWID, E. — A 16-year-old girl studying before going to school was started by an apparent Christmas tree stowaway.

"Tim looking at the tree and the angel jux pops off. Mary Kathleen O'Connor said of the luesday morning incident. And a second later, this head juxt popped up. The eyes were, like, glowing. I was thinking, Oh my God' And I screamed.

Her family called police, and Wilham E. O'Donnell, a state Game. Commission deputy, wildiff conservation officer, respectively and the family hard being prossum family the family hard being prossum family the family hard being measured for a dealer in selver.

O'Donnell cased the animal

# Parts of Bible were written behind bars

Lots of books were written from jail cells. Most people don't realize that includes some of the Bible. Jhanks to missives that Paul wrote while in the slam-

Paul wrote while in the slammer.

This day in history: On Christmasker, 1818, losel Mohitook the words for a song he titled 'Stille Nact' to Austrian headmaster Iranz X. Gruber on Christmas Eve. Gruber was to write a melody and guntar accompaniment because the church's organ had broken down. He completed the task—what we call 'Sient Night'—in time for the next day's Christmas service.

The world generates more than 10 billion jenetis each time for the next day's Christmas service.

The world generates more than 10 billion jenetis each great 2 billion in the United States alone. Why, then, can we never find one when we need if "Slent Night' was one of three songs that we know of that were actually written on Christmass."



mas Eve or Christmas Day, The
other two are "O Little Town of
Bethlehem" and "Hark the Herald Angels Sing" of every day,
America consumes about eight
Am African forest elephant
Am African forest elephant
and African forest elephant
and the stand 300 pounds
of leaves each day It absorbs
about 45 percent of that in
water and nutrients, leaving behind about 165 pounds of dung,
Louslana Gov. Ilimmie Davis
wrote more than 400 songs, including You Are My Surs-hine'
and "It Makes No Difference
Now." Elected to office in 1944

and 1960. Davis so far is the only governor also elected to the Country Music Hall of Fame Sinclair Lewis's official FBI file included this damning fact. The writes propaganda for ac-cepting the Negro as a social equal.

cepting the section are equal.

Shakespeare mentioned
America only once in one of his
plays. That was in "The Comedy of Errors." in which a
character compares his girltriends nose to the faraway
continent.

triends nose to the faraway continent.

To slip the surty bonds of earth, the space shuttle has to accelerate from 0 to 17,500 mph in 8 mijuttes.

America's prison population is the larges in the world. More than 2 million people are incarcerated, including 1 out every 75 American men.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmon-gerstemingo-barrett.com

# Warmed by the pleasure of giving

or giving

To rinose who dream of a white Christmas, 1988 was a dream come true. A winter can be a common than a foot of now in our rarea early that Christmas Sunday morning. From the warmth and security of my living room, it was a magnificent sight. The sonow lay in' a thick, power planket that gave the roads, yards and orchards outside the appearance of being loined to getter as one huge flat, white field. Smoke curied out of brick chirdneys that extended up through what seemed to be a thick layer of marshmallow rooftop frosting, giving every house a cozy Courter & Ives or namentation. The boughs bent shapply beneath the heavy load of snow, and "the treetops glistened." Just like the song says.



VALUE SPEAK Joseph Walker

It was picturesque — no uestion about it.

question abouth.
Until you tried to travel in it.
Then all of that beaufid snow suddenly became an ity adversary that caused tires to spin and made roads impassable. All of which was fine for those who were inclined to spend a nice, quiet Christmas at home. But for those who planned on traveling fover the river and through the woods?—or even just a few blocks to attend through the woods.—or even just a few blocks to attend church services — the snow presented a challenge of significant proportionar to me just how significant those challenges would be when tried to negotiate the two blocks to church on foot. Trudging through the deep snow was labergown and the store of the church of the church of post through the deep snow was taken by the control of the church is devailed to the church of the church is the church is the church of the church is the church of the church is the church is the church of the church is the church of the chur

**By Loretta Burkhart** 

URLEY --- After a 40-year Roman Catholic ministry in southern Idaho, "Father luan" is homeward bound.

The Rev. Juan Maria Garatea is retiring and returning to his home in Spain.

On Christmas Day.

On Christmas Day.

He'll be 'greaty missed,' said the bishop of the Bois Diocess. Michael Driscoll. As a priest Boise Diocess since 1966, Garatea served the Catholic community as an assistant at St. Nicholas Parish in Rupert and as an associate pastor at both St. Anthonys Farish in Pocatello and St. Edward the Confessor Church in Whis Falls. His earlier duties included a ministry at St. Peter's in Shoshone and Our Lady of Guaddulpe Center in Twin Falls. Granten also helped establish Our Lady of Guaddulpe Church in Jackpot.

For the past 12 years be for the Both St. Peter's in Jackpot.

For the past 12 years be for the Both St. Peter's in Jackpot.

For the past 12 years be for the Both St. Peter's in Jackpot.

helped establish Our Lady of Guadalupe Church in Jackpot.

For the past 12 years, he has served the Mini-Cassia area at the St. Therese Little Howard Church here. The Church here to only a prother priest but a friend. Driscoll said. "Ills ministry in all of the parishes he has served was very well received by the people, who loved him personally. And while he will freturn to his native Spain and be available for ministry to his own people, he will be greatly missed here in Idaho among the Catholic people of the Diocese of Boile.

Others of the faith will also miss Garates's dedication to the church.

Others of the fauth stoke and siss Gardesia dedication to the church.

Thate to see him leave the area. Said the Rev, John Morgan In a telephone interview from Our Lady of the Snows Church in Hauley. "We appreciate his ministry."

Tle's got a great sense of humor. Morgan said. "He's a dedicated priest - and we'll miss him."

Ref Charles of the Snows of t



Father Juan Garatea jests a prayer over the casket of Jesse Jose Naranjo during a funeral service at St. Therea's Little Flower Catholic Church in Burley earlier this month. Garatea is retiring after working for the church in southern idaho for 40 years and is returning to his native Spain.

# A SHEPHERD GOES HOME

# After four decades in Idaho, 'Father Juan' returns to Spain

(and) we hate to lose him."

Another of Garatea's col-leagues praises his character.

He's a man of his word."

said Sister Rose Mary, ad-ministrator of La Posada Ministry in downtown Iwin Falls.

ministrator of La Iwada Ministry in downtown Iwin Falls.

Father Juani's a declicated man tandh faithful to his-picedy duties. I'l was a priv-ulege to work with him, and his community and friends will miss him.

Tidaho was good for me-said a soft-spoken Garatea, 69, who came to America sa young priest from Keketito, in Bickais in the Basque re-gion of northern Spain.

And the challengs he faced in his new chosen country were a big part of that.

Although with limited English, I felt very much alone." but he quickly warmed up to the job.

Each new assignment in southern Idahn seemed the perfect place to be, he remember. Faver place I pat 1 am thinking. This is the best."

The pinnacle of his ministry, he says, was the hours he spent in lambing sheds with Basque sheepherders on Idaho hillsides.

According to retured state Sen, Laird Noh, who owns Nohl Sheep Company, the animals were brought in off the ranges across the state rasually in Descenber? when And thoughout the winter, and thoughout the winter. And thoughout the winter, shepherds stayed in sheep camps with their livestock.

Since many of the earlier sheepherders could speak only Basque (Garatea would go from camp to camp inviting the men to attend Mass.

It was important to him that these men have a chance to communion, he says. "And the majority came." "And the majority came." "And the majority came." But his wintry wandering, in Idaho's outback were no small endeavors. In making the portual cir-cuit, he'd travel from east of Rupert to the Shoshone and Gooding areas and west to camps around Casteford— and beyond. In each of hillside canvas-covered cathetrals, he'd tell his fellow shephen's about the love of God—in their na-tive tongue.

tive tongue.

Not only were the spiritual rewards recipiocal, they were

rewards recipiocal, they were appreciated. "You bet your life," said Ambrosio Aspiazue, a retired foreman of Noh's sheep com-pany. "He was a good priest —he was my good friend."

Friendships are still important to Garatea, who is looking forward to spending time with old friends in his homeland. "And with my sister," he said.

And with my sister, he said. In a letter Garatea received recently, she writes. It is enough time to be separated. Come as soon as you can. Don't be one second late. It doesn't plan to be. And though he's retiring from the priesthood, it will make little difference in his chosen work.

It's a beautiful time to retire—but I am always a priest, said a teary eyed Garatea.

Times-News correspondent Loretta Burkhart can be reached at 734-3990, or write to her at loret-taburkhart@onewss.net.

# **Festivus** 'Seinfeld'- inspired holiday 'for the rest of us' catches on maximus:

**Knight Ridder News Service** 

Festivus is for the rest of us and

What started as a made-up holiday in the fictional universe of "Seinfeld" eight years ago is now so popular it seems real. It has become the tongue-in-cheek remedy for the over decoration, commercialization and forced cheer synonymous with the season.

decoration, commercialization and forest cheer synonymous with the decoration, commercialization and forest cheer synonymous with the raise and mon-fash althe celebrate the episode's gage (father-son messting) and lines (Tit's 4 Festivas miracle') at parties and bast, traditionally on Dec. 23, the day deemed as Festivas.

This year alone two books were published on Festivas, online stores are hawking festivas wares and businesses are advertising Festivas specials. Sure, Festivas is getting bigger all the time. But is it losing its anti-commercial edge?

If has been snowballing since Benderic and the surface of the store of the surface of the s

So the winery expanded its offerings to Festivus posters and sonvenir glasses. The festivus was table looks a lot like, well. Christmas. Animal glasses. The festivus was table looks a lot like, well. Christmas. Animal horns with Rudolphis red nose and coloral hights decorate the \$16 boat looks of wine.

Wouldn't true Festivus believer sink inexpensive wine from a box instead? "Frobably." Whiteman says laughing. But we haven't produced that yet.

Then there are Festivus poles for sale... by several vendors. You can get a small tabletop pole or ones, the height of a Christmas stree that conveniently fit invide Christmas stree that conveniently fit invide Christmas stree that conveniently fit invide Christmas tree that conveniently fit invide Christmas tree that conveniently fit invide Christmas for the height of the he

# Happy Festivusi

"ADDIVINATION OF THE HOUSE OF T

ne, posters, glasses: w.festivuswine.com

Festivus origins Frank Costanza: "Many Christmases

tree," says Kevin Farrell, senior director of economic and housing development for the Downtown St. Louis Fattnership. Next year we want to make it even bigger. We have a lot of ideas, including a festiven parade."

The world was introduced to the butter but investently fun. homeyon butter but investently fun. homeyon butter but investently fun. homeyon was the second-fiddle storyline in the episode. The strake," part of the ninth and final season of "Seinfeld," not yet out on DVD.

The main storyline revolves around the character of Kinmer Chichael Richards) returning to work at baged shop after a 12-year strike. But the Festivus dinner at the Costan-ahouse stole the show. Frank (Jerry Stiller), told the story of how he and another man fought for the last dell in a store, Frank wanted the doll as a

ago, I went to buy a doll for my son. I reached for the last one they had, but so did another man. As I rained blows upon him, I realized there had to be

upon him. I realized there have use use another way. Coamo Kramer: What happened to the doll? Costanza: "It was destroyed. But out of that a new holiday was born..... a Festous for the rest of us!" Kramer: "That must be been some kind of doi!."

Source: "Seinfeld," episode No. 166, "The Strike"

Christmas gift for George (Jason Alexander). Frustrated by the commercialization of Christmas, Frank Created Festivos in 1966 to Orkerio, one of the writers of the now-famuos spisode, says his father invented Festivos in 1966 to other invented Festivos in 1966 to fixe date annuas on. The modifies didn't involve a pole orgineamese, tiddn't involve a pole orgineament, there was wrestling. O'kee's memoria, tiddn't involve a pole orgineament, with the pole of th

# **Episcopal Ascension announces theme for Advent**

TWIN FALLS — "For Unto Us a Child is Born" is the theme of Advent season events at the Episcopal Ascension Church. A family service begins at 5:30 p.m. today with the children presenting. The Mystery of Christmas. A choral Eucharist at 10:30 p.m. features singing of Carolis and choir anthems, and a festive celebration of Jesus' birth starts at 11 p.m. Wespers at 7 p.m. Sunday provide a flinish to the Christmas Day celebration with favorite hymns and special readings. On Jan. 1, a Jessons and carolis service offers another chance to sing favorite carols and listen to a fuller story of Christmas. Sunday school will not be beld, but the nursery will be open.

# T.F. church will hold live Nativity today -

INPO MATIVITY TODAY

TWIN FALLS — A Christmas
Eve worship service will begin at
6 p.m. today at the First Christian Church, 601 Shoshone St. N.
Rylie Baker, Sunday school children and the church choir will
be featured in special music.
A live Nativity will be portrayed from 7 to 9 p.m. on
Shoshone Surret.

Shoshone Street.

Worship begins at 10:50 a.m.
Sunday. Ferris Sweet and the
church choir will provide special music, and Pastor Jim

Tubbs will speak on "Hope of Is-rael: A Child of Bethlehem." Sunday school will not be held.

### Paul church will hold Christmas Eve service

PAUL — A Christmas Eve service will be held at 6 p.m. today at the Paul United Methodist Church, 127 W. Clark

St.
Christmas Day worship starts at 10 a.m. Sunday with a prayer and song. Participants will then take their worship into the neighborhood to visit shut-ins and the elderty.

### Rupert church sponsors Christmas Eve services

Christmas Eve services
RUPERT — Christmas Eve
Candielight services will be held
at 6 and 11 p.m. today at the Rupert United Methodist Church,
805 HS.
The services include scripThe services include scriptme structure of the services include scripswith the meditional surging of
"Silent Niew 100 the World" as the
closing number. At 6 p.m., the
soloist will be Cassandra Holst
with Dorls Bruns at the organ.
Soloist Rob Newman with

Peggy Gulbranson at the plano are featured at the 11 p.m. serv-ice. The public is invited to both

services.
Worship will be held at 10:50
a.m. Ghristmas Day in the
church sanctuary. The public is
invited to 'Come as you are' to
celebrate the birth of Jesus. Sunday school will not be held, this
week only.

### First Christian in Burley announces holiday service

announces holiday service BURLEY — The First Christ-ian Church, 1401 Oakley Ave., will hold a Christmas Eve serv-ice from 6:30 to 7 pm. today. The church also will conduct services from 4:30 to 5 p.m. today at Syringa Plaza, 626 Elba Ave.

Ave.
Christmas Day worship will be held at 10:55 a.m.
The public is invited to attend any or all of the services.

# Candlelight service

planned for today planned for today

HOLLISTER — A Christmas
Eve candielight service will be
held at 7 p.m. today at the Hollister Community Prestyterian
Church, 2461 Central Ave.
Elder Chuck Upton will speak
on "Restoration, Reflection and
Renewal." Scripture reading will
be isalah 7:14. Il Corindulars

5:17-18 and Luke 2:8-11, 20, Justin Lanting will play the organ. Everyone attending will receive a candle. A coffee and dessert social will follow the service. Visitors are welcome.

# Church plans special

Christmas service
BURLEY — The First Prebyterian Chuirén, 2000 Burton Ave.
in Burley, will hold a Christmas
Eve service at 7 µm. today. The
choir will perform Christmas
music. Solos and special readings will be presented.
Sunday's service. "Celebrating the Birth of Christ," begins
at 10:45 a.m., with the Rev. Nina
Lashari presenting the story.
For informat."

ri presenting the story. information, call 678-

### Zion Lutheran hosts candielight service

Candolight Service
BURLEY — A Christmas Eve
candlelight service will be held
at 8 p.m. today at Zion Lutherau
Church, 2410 Miller Ave.
Christmas Day worship begins at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

# Communion service

scheduled for today TWIN FALLS — The Christ-ias Eve communion service

will be held at 9 p.m. today at the First Presbyterian Church, 209 Filth Avc. N.
The message by the Rev. Al Fry will be "You Did That for Met" The Hallelujah Handbell Ringers will perform 'Come, All Ve Shepherds' and 'Carol of the Bells', and the Ghancel Choir will sing 'Air for Advent' and 'God So Loved the World.' Christmas Day worship will begin at 10 a.m. with the message "The 12 Days of Christmas." Sue and Elizabeth Ha will perform a flute and

began at the 12 Days or Christmas. Sue and Elizabeth Ha will perform a flute and voice duet. Refreshments will be served after the service in the fellowship hall.

Everyone is welcome.

### Gooding Methodist holds Sunday service

GOODING — The Gooding United Methodist Church, 805 Main St., will hold a service Sun-day to thank God for all of his

glfs.
Coffee and donuts will be provided at 10:40 a.m. Worship begins at 11 a.m. Children of all ages are invited to participate in Children's Church to learn about the "True Meaning of Christmas."

Christmas."
Family "Watch Night" activi-ties begin at 8 p.m. Dec. 31 for a New Year's Eve celebration. A special "Watch Night" contem-

Walker \_

porary worship service starts at 11 p.m. Bring the whole family lavorite games and finger foods. On Jan. 1, the New Year's Day celebration starts with coffee and donuts at 10:00 a.m. Worship with the topic "The Dedication of Jesus" will be held at 11 a.m. Children of all ages are invited to Children's Church to learn about "Wise Men Who Still Seek Hilm."

For information, call the

### Church welcomes public to Christmas worshin

to Christmas worship

IEROME — The First Preshyterian Church of Jerome, 262 E.
Ave., plans a worship service at 7 p.m. tonight. Christmas caroling will be held, and there will be lessons from the Bible. Nursery care will be provided.
A regular worship service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Sunday.

For information, call the

For information, call church at 324-2972. 1he

The Times-News welcomes news of church events. Send in-formation to Ellen Thomason. The Times-News, Po. Bas Sel. Ivin Fells, ID 83303, or Trena Fegun. South Idalio Press office. 230 E. Main St., Burley, ID 83318. Deadline is 5 pm. Wednesday for publication on the Saturday relizion page.

# In one Mexican town, one faith fits all — or else

Los Angeles Times

SAN NICOLAS IXMIQUIL-PAN, Mexico — In the rural hamlet of San Nicolas, there are people who use a bulldozer and a backhoe as instruments of God.

God.

Angry Catholics used the backhoe to cut off Nicolasa Vargas water after she and her farmworker husband were conspicuously absent from the fiesta honoring the village's parton saint, St. Nicolas of Tolentino, whose cherubic status smiles from a perch in the towns whitewashed chapel.

Gutlermo Cano a mild-mannered municipal employee, couldn't help pay for music at the fiesta. Nor would he eat the tamales or drink the alcohol. All that was against his religion, he constal Christians to bright than for a new temple, local Catholic leaders blocked the most off the costal Christians to bright than for a new temple, local Catholic leaders blocked the most for the property with the bulldozer. "We told the evangelicals that they won't be holding any more meetings here in San Nicolas, said Genaro Gutterrez, a high school teacher and one of a group of community-appoints of delegates who run many local affairs. They take advange to recruit more followers.

For Gutterrez, every evangelical in San Nicolas is another loose thread in the social fabric. It believes all people here have an obligation to help out in the fiestas for St. Nicolas and dozen others for Catholic leonary and the community of 8,000 people living amid cabbage fields and dozen others for Catholic lout sto the southern region of Chiapas, the steady growth of changled catoguist and the surrounding villages practices a Protestant faith. The number has increased diamand. The control of focal communal assembles to enforce religious traditions.

According to census figures, one in sk residents in burniquily and the surrounding villages practices a Protestant faith. The number has increased in every census since 1970.

Freedom of religion is guaranteed by Mexico's 1917.

Freedom of religion is guaranteed by Mexico's 1917.

Freedom of religion is guaranced by Mexico's 1917.

of a revolution that sought, among other things, to limit the power of the Catholic Church. But in rural Mexico there are many other kinds of communi-ty, authority, builder

San Nicolas, residents choose communal leaders in informal assemblies. Called "delegados," those leaders function like small town mayors — or, de-pending on your point of view like dictatorial "caudillos," or stronzmen.

like dictatorial "caudulus, or strongmen.

The baroque spirituality of the Catholica has defined life for centuries in San Nicolas and countless other villages across Mexico. Helping out at the flust is mandatory, as is a contribution (in cash or labor) to pligitunges such as the one by bleyde to visit the statue of the Virgin Many at San Juan de tos Lagos. A lawyer takes attendance: If you don't pitch in, you yay a fine.

dance: If you don't pitch in, you pay a fine.

But the austere evangelical: find the colorful ceremonies and iconography lacking.

They want to be able to brag that their community is 100

and iconography lexring.

They want to be able to brag that their community is 100 percent Catholic.' said Cano, a 34-year-old member of San Nicolas' only Pentecostal congregation. They something we don't want for the something we don't want for greatest spiritual need. Bapitzed a Catholic in the moments of greatest spiritual need. Bapitzed a Catholic in the church in San Nicolas. Cano converted to Pentecostalism as a young man. Now he believes in the power of the words in the says, that told him not to 'ven-rate sanuse." It is the blick, he says, that told him not to 'ven-rate sanuse. On the same for the catholic church. They feel everyone should pay for the band at the flesta for 15 Senor de Jahan, a statue of a crucified-lessis that's been in the cathedral in Ismiquilpan since arriving there in miraculous circum-stances in 170.

"We are defending our identify what we are 'said Gottenez. the Catholic control of San Nicolas' If you let in auryone, and even worse this type of sect, this community will be divided.

Local legend has it that when the Catholic faithful brought the statue of El Senor de Japan through burniquilpan on their way to Mexico Ciry, it suddenly became impossibly heavy to little the cold Oran India and Needel on Catholicies are a blend of Indian and Western beliefs. The Carbelic saints are stand-lins for carbelic saints

causous saints are stand-ins for the many gods of polytheistic Otomi culture.

# -Missionaries

Subscribe today. Call 733-0931 for delivery.

Called to serve:



BUHL — Elder Arthur Chan-dler Jr. and Sister Elna H. Chandler were called to serve a mission for The Church of Jesus Christof La ichigan Detroit Mission. The Chandlers have lived in Buhl for eight years and are in the Buhl 2nd Ward. He is a re-tired firefighter, and she worked as a cosmetologist. They served two previous miscions. to Que-zon City, Philippines, and to Pakistan and Malaysia. They will enter the Mission Training Center on Jan. 2.

The Times-News redections news of church missionaries from the send information to Electromason, The Times-News, PO, 80x 548, Itoin Falls, D. 83303, or Theua Tagun, South Idaho Pers office, 230 E. Main St., Burley, ID 83318, Deedline is 5 pm. Weinesday for publication on the Saturday religion page.

Continued from B6 got a half-hour. If we divide up I'm sure we can — "It's done," George interrupted. "Every house in the neighbor-hood, Menry Christmas." I looked at George and at the smaling faces of men and boys who had left their warm homes, and Curistmas on sents to may a

who had left their warm homes and Christmap presents to me, mountain of snow so that their neighbors could safely trackled to worship—and lwept. There were no words to express what I was feeling and what they had taught as the but Christmas Studies and the studies of service, noses running and charge pink from the cold, we were warm.

arm.

Because of effort, Because of over But mostly, because of

Joseph Walker is a freelance writer from American Fork, Utah.

# Coming up in The Times-News

# Artful alterations

Tailors' tricks for fitting clothes to difficult body shapes. Monday in Image

# Healthier treats

Girl Scouts prepare to tout their cookies' nutritional improvements

Wednesday in Food & Home



call Karen at 335\$270 or e-mail churches@magicvalley.com.

# "How can an American education become more relevant?"

"We could start using the daily newspaper in our public schools." Walter Cronkite

# RELIGION

# Mormons gain diverse members in inner cities

Might Ridder News Seivice

PHILADELPHIA — Donce
Itoliand, a 30-vear-old carpentey's apprentice, joined the
Morrmon church in Philadelphia two years ago because it
Morrmon church in Philadelphia two years ago because it
gave him 'the fruits of the spirit.
Peace: A good feeling inside.
Holland and his wife. Roosalyn, are both black. The
Morrmon church is as white as
it's most famous members.
Donny and Marie Osmond,
and in Philadelphia, Eagles
Coach Andy Reld. But for the
last decade or so, the Morrmons.
Officially known as The Church
of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
saints, or LIDS, have been expanding in city neighborhoods
with large black and Spanishspeaking populations.
The Hollands Joined after

Saints, or LLSs, have ucers expanding in city neighborhoods with large black and Spanish-speaking populations.

The Hollands joined after some missionaries knocked on their door and explained the some missionaries knocked on their door and explained the properties of the some missionaries knocked on their door and explained the properties of the some missionaries of the some properties o

new building opened earlier this year.

Mormons count 12 million members around the world, 5.5 million members are small but growing. There is a kind of changing face of the LDS church because of its, continuing commitment to work in the finner cities, said debyn Hammarberg, an associate professor of anthropology at the University of Pennsylvania who has studied the Mormons.

The growth has occurred recently in part because, like more clean churches, the Mormon content churches, the Mormon content churches, the Mormon church was also million method to the content of the more content of the content of the more content of the content of

most churches the preschood involves a small, select group, in the Mominon church leaders in 1878. Church leaders in 1878. Church leaders in 1881 and 1879. Church leaders in 1881 at 1879. Church members believe mons call a "revelation which church members believe comes directly from god. The revelation proclaimed that "all worthy men. without regard for race or color could be ordained for the priesthood. Some members, however, say the church needs to go further, repudating old beliefs, such as the one that said blacks were cursed and so could not be priests. "If the church would apologize, it would do wonders for provelytizing among blacks, said Darron Smith, a black Mormon and author of "Black and Mormon." Other churches, he noted, including Southern Baptists, have apologized for racts historic she church as a teenager in 1980 because he

liked the answers it offeréd about family and the afterlife. Church members also were very friendly, he said. But when he has criticized the church's previous attitudes towards review for the heaven and the church's previous attitudes towards backs, white Mormons often brought up old teachings to hack priess.

"This is systemic." Smith said. This is a part of how people have learned to understand the said. This is a part of how people have learned to understand the said. This is a part of how people have learned to understand the dangers. The said Church officials said they emphasize the importance of diversity and the dangers of discrimination to current teachings.

Despite the church's history, several black members said only the Mormon church ever felt like home.

Almad S. Chriftt, who grew had been a support of the control o

his modler's feelings and con-verted too.

He knew about the pre-1978 ban but said it didn't bother 'It was something that the church had clearly moved be-jond. he said. 'It was clear to me that the church was moving forward and I was willing to judge it by its fruits."



Los Angeles Times

As Christmas approached,
Ont Larsuel of Aliadena, Calif.,
studied the racks devoted to religious cards at Vroman's
Bookstore in nearby Pasadena.
Larsuel, a kindergarten
teacher and a Christian, sends
the control of the control of the control
teacher and a Christian, sends
there closest friends and family
each year, in addition to the
photo cald of her family that
goes to everyone. She carefully
chooses cards that reflect her
belief that 'you need to have
hope that things will get better.

You need to have faith, You
need to have some spiritual
connection that blinds you

Card Association, a trade group, about 30 percent of customers choose Christmas cards with refligious messages. That has been rising since the Sep. 11 terrorist attacks four years ago, companies and shops reportlek in the ards that are overty religious, that might have a Nativity scene or biblical verse." said Deidre Parkes, a spokeswoman for hillmark the largest card publisher in the United States.

The war in Iraq and other world events have influenced customers choices in cards this year, according to Isabel Loriente.

merchandlse marilager of the guit shop at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels in Los Angeles. Shoppers at the 'Roman Catholic cathedral—who include many non-Catholics — seem to be passing up cards decorated with candy canes and nostigic Americana in favor of direct religious messages and imagele Americana in favor of direct religious messages and imagely. They see the secularization of Curistmas and understand that component but also want to confirm the religious identity of Curistmas," Loriente said. American Greetings' officials say the company has increased its individual cards with religious themes 20 percent over the last three years.



# LIVERY

CHRISTMAS EVE SATURDAY

STORE OPEN

Purchase before 2pm & we'll deliver up to 25 miles from any Magic Valley location on Christmas Eve day!

**UNBELIEVABLE PRICES!** We're Making It Easy!





Scott Edwards, who is Catholic, and wife Eve, who is Jewish, are raising Jessie, left, 3, and Ariana, 5, in both faitht and are decorating for two symbolic holidays at their McLean, Va. home. The first state of the McLean, Va. home. The first state of the McLean, Va. home.

# 'TIS THE SEASON

# Merry Christmas — and Happy Hanukkah. too

WASHINGTON — For the first tune in her life. Eve Erkwards, of McLean, Va. will get to unwrap prevents Christmas morning and light the first candle of Hanukkah on Christmas night. It's Christmas time in the city. And Hanukkah in the city. And the city of the first time since 1950 and for only the fourth time in 100 years. And Edwards — who is levelsh, married to a Catholic and raising their two daughters in both fauths — is primed for the occasion.

Tim packing up the menoral with the candles and taking it to my Catholic mother-in-laws, said Edwards. Said Edwards. Said Edwards. Said Edwards. Said Edwards. Said Edwards. Said Edwards as excitually seven amplification. The light in the lift is the light of Hanukkah was Dec. 23 But of Hanukah was

But in some households, there may be a few debates; Will it be mashed potators with that big meal or potato laskes?

There's no reason an interfault family can't enjoy potato laskes with their Christmas dinner. Etawards sand, settling the matter for one household.

Many things will commune as the matter for one household.

Many things will commune as the matter for one household.

Many things will commune as the matter for one household.

Stemy leaves have on Dec. 25, 100 per pancales; at area house, 100 per pancales; at the morning off, And the DC. lewish Community Center, for the 19th year, will send about 1,000 volunteers to work in 60 area hospitals, unsing homes and other facilities. This year, the difference is that the call for volunteers has been extended to Muslam, Buddhist and Hindu group.

We're trying to make the event welcoming to all religions.

We're trying to make the event welcoming to all religions of the center of the center of community center of the center of the center of the volunteers will be invited back to the community center for the volunteers will be invited back to the community center for the process of the center believing and food from around the world.

For interfalth families, the holl-days clearly spought the hazards of "The December Dilemma."

That term was adopted a few years ago by the Interfalth families to proceed of creater Washington.

the double celebration.

"Every interfaith farmile, perceives it differently, but for us, we think it's cool." said lennifer Liebreich, 30, of Takoma Park, Md. a Catholic married to Rob, a lew, and the mother of 6e amy family's house and we'll est my family's house and we'll est my family's house and we'll est my family's house and we'll estain the menorah to them again... I think my husband has actually learned more about Judakom being married to mtan the ever knew before.

The Liebreichs and other interfaith families appreclate what the two holdidays share: Both are happy social occasions, they say, and both the miracle of the lights, when oil that seemed sufficient to light a temple menorah for one night managed to last for eight. But few families care for the blended terms that have surfaced in popular culture, such as Chrismukkah and Hanumas. The other night, the Liebreich put up their Christmas tree,

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Requires pro-pay-ment prior to pub-lication, Major credit/debit cards; and cash accepted, Check processing over the phone.

733-0931 The Times-No

The Times-News

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CONSTRUCTION
framing Carpenter
and Laborer needed.
Call 208-678-5715 or
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Is a new job at the top of your Christmas List? If so give us a coll. Choose from a 11 Western or all 48 states. Food Grade Tankers. Class A CDL. tanker approximated 2 yes

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Do you need some cash to help
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The Times-News is looking for a
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Monday thur Friday during the
Legislative session.

If you are interested in eaming some extra cash call Kathy at 208/735-3348.

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Editor I

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-Circulation Sales Manager
This position manages all areas of home delivery and single copy sales plans and oversees the sales initiative of our customer service representatives.

·Customer Care Manager

-Home Delivery Manager

-Customer Care Manager
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Representative for an expanding week, by neverpaper based in Hailey (labo.)
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Section 115

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and late model
equipment. Call
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Apply in person at:
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Must have valid
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Apply at
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Should be a qualified welder & backhoe operator. Insurance, 401k, paid vacation, holidays, catetoria plan. Wage DOE. Send resume to "Resume" PO Box 14
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Maintenance worker,
Must have apprennce
in welding/fabrication,
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Diesol Mechanic,
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wages & benefits.
Please call Dewrit
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Cooks \$9/hr. depending on experience.
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-Marimum typing
spaed-45 sypm.
-Computer skills
-Accurate speeing
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9 "Wheel or Fortune" buy 10 Ojibwa 11 Throw hard 12 Moises of baseball 13 Works on

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30 Strong tummy muscles? 31 Ms. Moreno 32 Essence

32 Essence 33 Artistic work

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Saturday, Dec. 24, 2005

# THE ACES ON BRIDGE®

"As a result of a general defect of nature, we are either more confi-dent or more fearful of unusual and unknown things." — Julius Caesar

In four spades, there is nothing you can do about the three aces you are missing, but you need to avoid a second trump loser. The "book" play here is to lead toward your king and then finese dummy's 10 on the next round. An alternative anomach is to lead first ternative anomach is to lead first ternative approach is to lead first to the queen. If it holds, then duck to the queen. If it holds, then duck on the next round unless East-plays the jack. If the queen loses, next eash the king. The "book" line gains over the "atternative" when East has the singleton ace, ace doubleton, or a small double-ton. The "alternative" line gains when East has jack tripleton or jack doubleton. iack doubleton

jack doubleton.

However, since you are almost certain that West has the spade ace, you revise your calculations to weigh East's holding a small doubleton against his holding jack tripleton or doubleton. The possibilities here appear to be equal—but you also need to take into account what you know of the distribut you also need to take into account what you know of the distribution of the rest of the hand. Since West has at least three more hearts than East, the latter surely has the longer spades. Hence the alternative line, which allows for East to hold jack-third of spades, is more appealing. So win the heart ace and play a spade toward dummy's queen, which holds. Now play a low spade from dummy and duck when East plays low. West perforce wins his ace and continues with a heart. You win the king, draw East's last trump, and knock out the club ace, conceding a dia-

draw East's last trump, and knock out the club ace, conceding a dia-mond at the end.

NORTH ♠ Q 10.4 3 ♥ 7 6 5 2 ♦ K Q 4 ♣ Q 6

Bobby Wolff

EAST # J 9 5 # 9 4 # 9 7 5 3 # 9 8 5 4 WEST ♠ A 8 ♥ Q J 10 8 3 ♠ A 10 8 2 ♣ A 7

SOUTH ♠ K 7 6 2 ♥ A K • J 6 ♣ K J 10 3 2

Vulnerable: Neither Dealer: West

The bidding:

North East Pass Pass Pass Pass 4 A All pa West
1 ♥
2 ♦
Pass South

Opening lead: Heart queen

### BID WITH THE ACES

South holds:

♠ K 7 6 2
 ♥ A K
 ♦ J 6
 ♣ K J 10 3 2

South West North East 1 ♥ Dbl. Pass

ANSWER: Jump to two spades, natural and invitational. You are not making a jump shift in a new suit, which would be game-forcing, since North's double has shown spades. So you are effectively jump-raising his suit, suggesting extras, but not enough to force to game. With more you would start with a cue-bid of two hearts. hearts. .

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff-e-mindspring com Copyright 2005, United Feature Syndicate, Inc

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towing pkg., \$11, MIDDLEKAUPP

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ger, \$70. 734-6858.

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house, real wood,
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Singer XL10 embroidery/sewing machine, 733-8345. SADDLES (2) Icather, 18 inch, 1-\$825 and 1-\$195. Stove heavy duty shop barrel with lan, \$195. Snow blade with wheel weights and chains for garden tractor, \$195. 208-733-8484.

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208-280-0345.

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age, \$2,800.733-8190
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PRACTICAL ORD '75 F-250, 4x4, 34 ton with flat bed, exc. cond., 59K ong-nal miles. \$4,500/offer Call 208-324-4824

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DODGE '92 Dakota, extra cab, 4x4, V8 magnum. Too many extras to kst. \$3,750 Super nice. 734-5153

ORD '96 F-250 XLT ext. cab. #334. \$8588 208-735-3900 dir .

FORD '98 Ranger XLT, w/extras 38,000 mios, fike newl Call 208-404-3358 or 208-735-1425.

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The Times News magicvalléy.com

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1010 Autos CHEYY '95 Corsica, 175,000 miles. Engine runs great, needs tranny work. \$275 'As is'. Please call 208-312-1467. CADILLAC '99 DeVille V-8 loaded Deep green, 25 mpg., runs excellent, \$6,950. Call 208-539-3993.

DODGE '03 Neon SE, 4 door, loaded, brand new condition, 27K miles. Best offer. Call 208-731-4106.

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You and Tare going to go down to one of the local dealerships and pick out the car of your choice before the end of this year! I love you,

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

The Times-News

Saturday, December 24, 2005

Section D

# MORNING LINE

### **SPORTSQUOTE**

66

The ridiculously long halftime show should allow Orange Bowl coaches Joe Paterno,

79, and Bobby Bowden, 76, time to catch a nap.

— Bud Geracle of the San Jose Mercury News on the Jan. 3 Penn State-Florida State game

### TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Which player holds the NFL single-season record for most combined yards gained rushing and receiving?

# IN BRIEF

# Little Dribblers hoops camp set

hoops camp set
TWN FALIS — The Line
Dribblero basetball camp will
be held for players grades K-G and
Monday, Jan. 23 ar Twin Fali
High Schools Baum Gymnashum.
The camp will divided into two
age groups, grades K-3 and 4-6.
Grades K-3 will meet 10 a.m.
to noon each Saturday and
Monday from 6-7 p.m. They will
also perform at halfitime at the
varsity girls basketball game on
Tuesday, Jan. 27.
Players in grades 4-6 will
meet if to 10 a.m. each Saturday
and on Monday from 7:20-8:20
m. for competition finals and
an award for every camper.
Cast for the camp is \$30 and
almit of 200 campers will be adcarried and a custom Brotin bastelball.
Registration forms are availBet blocal elementary.

tration forms are avail-

schools or can be picked up at Donnelley Sports or the Iwin Falls High School office. For more information, call Matt Harr at 737-5208 ext. 3050.

### CSI hosts winter hoops camp

hoops camp

TWN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho men's and women's baskethall programs will hold their winter junior basketball camp Dec. 30-31 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day the camp is open to boys and gris grades. 8-8 and the registration fee is \$50. Farticipants will receive a camp I-shirt, a CSI pony of the camp will be led by the CSI coaching staffs and players, and will provide participants the CSI coaching staffs and players, and will provide participants the opportunity to interact with their favorite Golden Eagles players, for more information, call men's head coach Barret Peery at 732-6460.

The CSI officier ananager Christi Ure at 732-6466.

### **CSI** offers winter baseball camp

TWIN FALLS — The College
Of Southern Idaho is holding its
23rd annual Southern Idaho
Baseball Camp. Dec. 27-29.
The camp will be held inside
the 70,000 square foot Expo
Center located on the CSI campus in Twin Falls.

pus in Win Falls.
Instruction covers hitting, pitching, catching, infield/outfield skills and bass running,
CSIs staff combined with present and former professional
players will provide a great
learning experience to the participants. ticipants. For more information, call Skip Walker at 732-6650 or 734-6285.

# Compiled from staff reports

# TRIVIA ANSWER:

Marshall Faulk with 2,429 yards (with 1,381 yards rushing and 1,048 yards receiving) for the St. Louis Rams in 1999.

# CORRECTION:

RJ Salvi scored 14 points in Minico's 61-54 win over Preston Thursday. The Times-News re-treived incorrect information.

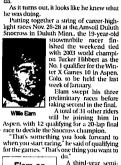
# **Getting Air(time)**

# Buhl snowmobile racer qualifies for 2006 X Games

By Nathaniel Garrabrandt Times-News writer

BUHL — When Willie Elam graduated om Buhl High School in January, the toice was college or play. He chose play And then moved to Cana-

As it turns out, it looks like he knew what he was doing.



### Elam on the Tube

the Tube
TV: SPN and ABC
will present live
coverage of Winter X Games 10
Jan. 28 31.
ESPN2 will our
late right highlight
programs from
Jan 29 — Feb 1
and ESPNS
SportsCenter will
uffer present cover
Jan. 21 and Tube
Jan. 31 and Tube
doy, Feb. 1 at 9
p.m. MST.

g, he saud of qualitying some things you want to do.

A third-year semi-prafessional rider for the Okonks, Alberta-based Blair Morgan lacing team, Elami Bacing them since the age of 13.

His hig break came in 2002, when the Morgan team accepted the then-high school sophomore's application for a postition as a semi-pro-rider. The 30-year-old Morgan, known in X Games circles as 'Ali' or 'Superman,' is widely regarded as



onth's qualifying event. The Buhi semi-pro enters Win Wille Elam gets some air during last months queter X Games 10 tied for the top qualifying spot.

the greatest athlete in the sport's history
After attending school during the week, full-time job.

Please see AIR, Page D2

# Jayhawks win first bowl in decade

The Associated Press

FORI WURTH, Texas — Jason Swanson threes for 307 yards and four touchdowns, one more than he had in the regular season, and the Kanass Jayhawks beat Houston 42:13 Friday night in the Fort Worth Bowl for their first winning season and first bowl victory in 10 years.

Tailiback Jon Cornish turned two shovel passes from Swanson lutio scores, and also nashed two showlesses from Swanson into scores, and also nashed purt since and Styard Score in the last Jayaback of 150 Jahead to sale, and kick all season turned a muffed purt into an 85 yard score in the last Jahead (150 Jahead) to sale judge the Jayhawks (75 Jahead) to sale Jaheads (150 Jahead) to sale yards of the Jaheads (150 Jahead) to sale yards of the Jaheads (150 Jahead) to sale yards of the Jaheads Jaheads (150 Jahead) to sale yards of the Jaheads Jahe

ORIANDO, Ha. — If you desperately need relief from the stress and strain of the week before Christimas, then do whatever you must do to watch Cincinnate July host to Buffalo at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Christimas Ew. And pray that Bernsums Ew. And pray that Bernsums WR Chad Johnson scores. Here's why, according to what Chad told The Enquiter of Cincinnati.

Chad told The Enquirer of Cincinnati:

"With Christmas being the day after, you can look forward to the (scoring) celebration being part of something that has to do with Christmas You know there are a lot of deer in the area. Don't laugh. That me, I've got Rudolph. His nose is red. I hit him. He's bandaged up, but he's going to come out. The cynical media Scrooges doubted him, so he continued: On the highway.2 hit a deer. I



ton defenders Rocky Schwartz, left, and Wade Koehl after a reception during the first half of football action in Fort Worth, Texas, on Friday.

third starting quarterback used by Kansas this year. He hurt his leg during the preseason, but took over in late October after Adam Barman and Brian Luke

Adam Barman and Brian Like Struggled. Cougars junior quarterback Kevin Kolb started his 36th straight game and already is the career total offense leader at the school where David Klingler and Andre Ware also threw passes. Kolb was 2006fet a passes for

Andre Ware also threw passes. Kolb was 20-of-44 passing for 214 yards with three intercep-

PRO

Picks

Jerry Greene

kept him. He's at home in the

kept him. He's at home in the garage. I'm going to use him for the celebration. He's a prop. He's limping, but he's alive. I'll prob-ably get in trouble with the Humane Society, It wasn't my fault. He ran in the road. This is going to be the great-est celebration of all time, man.' Rudolph the DOA reinder had avery bloody nose.

ent.
• LAST WEEK: OK, it was a disaster but give me a break. Who knows what these teams

on In Fort Worth, Tazas, on Friday, tions, all turned into scores by Karisas.

Kolib had a 1-yard sneak for Houston's only touchdown. The Course of the Hold to a season and the Houston's only touchdown. The Course 124.

For the Hold to a season and the Houston's All the Hold to a season and the Houston's All the Hous

Is it a week for resting or one

it yards and divided into the end zone.

The consists 30-yard TD catch in the third quarter, and the second led to Murph's TD catch with 9 minutes left for the final touchdown.

with 9 minutes left for the final, touchdown.

Five minutes into the game. Murph muffed a punt. The ball rolled several yards away from him before he picked it up, circled around several defenders and ran all the way to the left sideline. He then cut back across the field and shipped past a tackler into the open. Swanson had completions of Swanson had

is into the open.

Swanson had completions of
31 and 19 yards on the first two
plays, but the layhawks didn'i
get another first down on the
opening drive. The Cougars
then went three-and-out before
lustin Lairds 57-yard punt that
Murph muffed.
Comish's first TD was a 13yard play in the second quarter.
Mark Sumnons added a 32-yard
score in the third when he
caught Swanson's pass near the
20, then was free when he twisted inside and the defender
slipped.

# Oh, deer, can Bengals' Johnson possibly be serious? What's in a name?

Taking calls, writing previews. I see a lot of the same names day-to-day in the local

He leads rashing yards in a single game — 20 cames for 291 yards in a 26-0 shellacking of Louislana State University in 1996. That number is fourth on the total single game yards list.
 He's second for single-sea

with 1.736 for 1999.

• He is third on the most average yards per game list (163.3 in 1999) and fifth in career (105.5).

• He had three 200-yard games for his career.

• He is third for most risches in a single game (36 %). Ole Miss in 1999 and vs. Southern Missin 1999.

1998).

• He holds the record for most rushes in a season (302 in

most rushes in a season (302 in 1999).

• He holds the record for most career rushes (727).

That's who Shaun Alexander is. Just thought you should know, (Source: University of Al-abama)

nately for them. Housion is not even the best 2-12 team. That would be San Francisco, which lost to the lags by just a point last week. Underachieving Jags by 12.

• Tennessee (4-10) at Mlami (7-7) — Dolphins favored by 5.5 Will the Fish rise above 5000 Hey. it's a miraculous time of year Let's call it "Miracle on Biscayne Boulevard". Fish, but by just 3.

• Buffalo (4-10) at Clarin-

are doing now? 1 was 9-7 straight up (149-75 for season) and dead even 8-8 against the spread (110-108-6 for season, still above 500). This week looks worse.

for fun?

The first 13 games listed will be played on Saturday.

Allanta (8-6) at Tampa Bay (9-5) — Buccaneers favored by 3.1 dont know! Im as clueless as Boston Red Sox management. No matter what I say about the Bucs. they do the opposite. They are embarrassing me! OK, know how toget even. Bucs by 7. (Heh-heh. Embarrass me now!) cayne soulevart. Fish, but by just 3. "Buffalo (4-10) at Clncinnati (11-3) — Bengals favored by 13.5. Throw it to Chad? Throw it to Chad? Throw it to Chad? Throw it to Chad? Throw but especially on Chad and on Rudolph. If he hash lost too much blood. Bengals by 21. "Dallas (8-6) at Carolina (10-4) — Panhers favored by 5. Offensive linemen never get any Please see PICKS, Page D4 owl)

\* Jacksonville (10-4) at Houston (2-12) — Jags favored by 6. These Jags are embarrassing themselves. They are the worst \$0-4 team ever. Fortu-

day-to-day in un-roundup.
But I don't see people named

But I don't see people named 
'Moose' anymore. 
I was working on this column 
around the time Nathanici was 
local twanted them the cubic 
local twanted them the cubic 
local twanted the transport 
local twanted to 
hand that way, who 
knows what or who is lurking 
between the cracks of this 
decades-old building ite floud 
back and white photo and a 
business card for a martial arts 
place in town. 
On the business card, listed 
as "group leader," lust below the 
in-yang symbol, was Serge 
'Moose' Azzolini. Nyw, since 
wo only moved to our part of 
the building less than a year 
Please see Butt. Page D2

# Shaun was Shaun before he went pro

"Do you know his name?" the ec. 16 issue of Sports Illustrat-

Dec. 16 issue of Sports Illustrated asked.

If you've seen it, gracing the cover is Seattle Seahawks workhorse Shaum Alexander, who SI describes as "the leading rusher in the NFL" on the best team in the NFC."



been a bit obscure in the league despite stellar performances since 2001. So who's Shaun Alexander? And why do people seem sur-prised that he's exploded in the NFL?

PLI Down at Bama, we know

BLUZ Brad Guire

# Cavaliers carve up Pacers | Tigers lose rematch with Century

CLEVELAND (AP) — LeBron lames scored a season-low 14 points, but added nine assists and eight abounds in 16 fifth interest of the control of

rebounds and five blocks. Fred Jones had 15 points for the Pac-ers. who were just 4-of-19 on 3-pointers.

### Trail Blazers 91, Timberwolves 83

Timberwoives 83

MINNEAPOLIS — Zach Randolph had 21 points and 10 rebounds. Ruben Patterson added a season-high 23 points and a season-high 23 points are considered a season-high 23 points a cycrame coach hate McMilland selection to earn a victory over the Timberwoives with the Timberwoives It was Portland's third win in 14 games, a slide that has the Blazzes family in the cellar in the Northwest Division. Wally Suzzerbiak scored 26 points and Kevin Garnett added 24, eight rebounds and six assists for the Wolves, who scored only 13 points in the final period.

### Nuggets 108, Rockets 86

PROCKETS 86
DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored 25 points and Denver held Tracy McGrady to a single basket over the first three quarters to snap a four-game losing streak with a victory over the hobbled Houston Rockets.

Marcus Camby had 12 points and 16 rebounds and Andre Miller had 19 points and nine assists.

# Bucks 101, Hornets 94

Bucks 101, Hornets 94
MILWAUKEE — Michael
Redd scored 14 of his 36 points
in the fourth quarter, leading
Milwaukee past New Orieans.
Andrew Bogut added 14
points, T.J. Ford had 12 and Mo
Williams 11 for the Bucks.
David West led the Homets
with 27 points and a seasonhigh 18 rebounds. Rookie Chris
Paul added 24 points as the
Hornets lost for the sight time
in seven road games in December.

# Spurs 95, Raptors 90

Spurs 95, Raptors 90
SAN ANTONIO — The Duncan made all four of his
fourth-quarter shots and nearty finished with a triple-double
to lead San Antonio over
Toronto.
Duncan scored nine of his 27
points in the final period, and
added 10 rebounds and eight
avaists.

### Nets 95, Heat 88

MIAMI — Vince Carter tied a career high with 51 points, 37 in the second half, and the New Jersey Nets extended their sea-



Cleveland Cavallers' LeBron James (23) dunks against the Indians Pacers during the third quarter of the Cavallers' 94-89 NBA basketball win Friday in Cleveland.

son-high winning streak to five games with a 95-88 victory over the Miami Heat on Friday

games with a 20-00 vincey occurs the Miaml Heat on Fridgy night.

Carter had 19 points in the third, then 18 more in the fourth — including 12 straight free throws to seal the win.

Isaon Kidd added 12 points for the first time in 11 meetings, including a four-game sweep in last season's playoffs.

Shaquille O'Neal had 24 points and 14 rebounds, and Dwyane Wade added 17 points — on only 4-for-20 shouling—for Miami, which hosts the Lox Angeles Lakers on Sunday in a much—anticipated Christmas matchup.

# Hawks 111, 76ers 108

ATIANTA — Allen Iverson scored 53 points, the fifth-high-st total of his career, but loe lohrson had 24 to lead Atlanta over Philadelphia.

Zaza Pachulia added 23 points, including the go-ahead free throws, and Al Harrington scored 22 for Atlanta, which won for the fifth time in six games.

# Lakers 104, Magic 88

ORLANDO, Fla. — Kobe Bryant had 21 points and nine assists, and Chris Milm scored 20 points to lead Los Angeles over Orlando.

over Orlando.

This first game since scoring a carrer-high 62 points against Dallas on Tuesday night. Bryant was 6-61-61 from the field. Lamar Odom had 18 points, six assists and right rebounds, and Smush Parker added 16 points, five assists and five rebounds for Los Angeles.

Clippers 97, Bobcats 88 CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Elion

Brand had 38 points and 20 re-bounds as the Los Angeles Clippers pounded their way on a victory over the undermanned Charlotte Bobeats. Chris Kaman added 22 points and a career-high 22 rebounds for the Clippers. Los Angeles snapped a five-game road losing streak by exploiting Charlotte's shortage of big men.

# Pistons 97, Warriors 85

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Richard Hamilton scored 28 points and Ben Wallace added 15 points and 14 rebounds to help the Detroit Pistons im-prove to 21:3 with a win over Golden State. Rookie the Diogu Inad a ca-reer-best 27 points for Golden State, making 13 of 15 field goals attempts.

# Knicks 98, Jazz 90

Knicks 98, Jazz 90

NEW YORK — Jamal Crawford scored 28 points and Stephon Marbury had 22 points and seven assists as the New York Knicks snapped a season-high seven-game losting streak with a victory over Utah.

Gordan Giricek had 19 points and Mart larpring added 15 for Utah, which finished a 14 road

# Grizzlies 95, Bulls 77

Grizziles 95, Bulls 77
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Mike
Miller scored 27 points and
grabbest 10 rebounds, and Pau
Gasol added 19 points and 11
Gasol added 19 points and the
Memphis Grizziles over the
Chicago Bulls 95-77.
Miller was 8-0-15 from the
field, including 6-of-12 from 3point range.
Gasol shot 6-of-9 and added
four blocks and five assists.

# Sharapova out with right shoulder injury

CJLD COAST, Australia (AP)

Maria Sharapova withdrew from the Australian women's hardcourt tennis tournament at Royal Pines on Saturday due to a strained right shoulder. I am very disappointed to have to withdraw because my right shoulder is not yet ready to allow me to compete at the tour level." Sharapova said in a statement. tatement.
I hope to be able to play

there) in 2007, and will be doing everything possible in consultation with my doctors to be healthy enough to play the Australian Open (in January).

The 18-year-old Sharapova sustained the injury in the second half of this season after she became the first Russian-born female to reach the No. 1 ranking.

ng. She reached at least the

quarterfinals at all 15 events she played, losing to the eventual champion of all four majors this year.

The Royal Pines event, which begins Ian. 2, will mark the return from retirement of former world No. 1 Martina Hingis, who also plans to play in a Sydney tournament the following week, and the Australian Open on a wild card beginning Jan. 16.

# Air\_

# Continued from D1

Continued from D1.

Dubuth marked Elam's first mice of the season and his first big step into the professional ranks.

"Is a pretty big deal for a semi-pro to make the X Games," he said.

The national TV exposure doesn't hut either.
"They's 2 huge deal," said team to-owner and manager lamie Anseetine. We race the WPSA (World PowerSports Association) series, but the X Games — there's so much TV exposure. If you win at the X Games, your notoriery shoots up immediately it is the biggest race we do all year."

And Elam treated it as such, gearing up for competition throughout the offseason in the weight room and atop a motorcycle.

"As far as his training, he's in the best shape of our whole

cycle.

"As far as his training, he's in the best shape of our whole team," said technician Cory

Grant. "It's just obvious that he trains hard, in this last race it was obvious that he was in better shape than 80 percent of the other index. Out of 100 entires, there were only a handful of guys that were at his level." Now settled into the season's routine, it would seem that play might not be the right word after all.

"It ust work on the sprogram."

might not be the right word after all.

I just work on the snowmobile all day and go to the gym and just ride a little bit; Said Elam, who won his first official rice in Fairfield back in 1999.

The fairfield back in 1999.

The difference is more than the level of competition.

The riding style out there compared to here is a lot different, said Grant. It's a lot more aggressive now. He's a gendeman-type rider, very well respected by the other riders. Where many of these other younger guys would just as

much take you out, but in a cornet. he'll find another way
around."

Though his results speak for
themselves. Elam says that he
still hasn't adjusted.
"Id never really done it," he
said. 'I never grew up doing it,
but that's how you've got to race
out here. You ride a lost more aggressively out here. I still haven
really adjusted. I don't really run
into people or anything."

really adjusted. I don't really run into people or anything? Elam had a rough introduction to aggressive racing, suffering a minor knee highry in last year's Duluth race when a sted landed on him. In only a year, he's gone from under a sled to atop the medals stand. It felt pretty good, to be up there with (Tucker Hibbert) and quite a few of the top guys. Said Elam. It feels pretty cool to be one of the faster ones now, in ever thought it would be like that."

# down hill. Century finished the half on a 9-2 run behind Tucker Long's seven first half points. The Tigers could manage only a pair of free throws by Mike Nor-ris and trailed 25-23 at the break.

Ilmes-Hows writer

JEROME — The last time ferome and Century battled, a last second lay-up by David Prescott made the difference in double overtime as the Tigers raillied for a victory.

Firlday - afternoon Jerome wouldn't have that chance.

Century pulled away, in the second half to defeat the Tigers 62-46 in boys non-conference basicetabla action.

We just didn't convert. Our wood didn't all, said Jerome conduction that, said Jerome conduction that is said Jerome conduction that will be good for us. We have played a ton of games.

games."
Zack Dietz got the Tigers out
of the gates early with a jumper
and a three-pointer for the early
8-0 advantage.
Century came back to cut the
deficit to a single point after the
first manter.

delicit to a single pour arter are first quarter. Jerome led 21-16 two min-utes into the second period before things started to go

be an extended to the second of the paint in the second half and began to pull away. Post Sean Button poured in nine points in the third quarter and limited Jerome to a single shot each time down the floor. Rutton finished with a gamelagh 12 points, the only Diamondback player in double figures.

David Prescott scored on the fast break off the assist from Brett Boesiger late in the third, but the Tigers trailed 42-35 heading into the final period. Prescott, who led Jerome will.

heading into the final period.
Prescott, who led Jerome with
12 points, returned the favor
with an assist to Bossiger to
start the fourth and the lead was
down to five.
That would be as close as
Jerome would get. Century
went on an 8-0 run to push the

lead to double digits A slam-dunk by Boesiger at the 3:20 mark made the score 50-42 and ignited the crowd, but the Dia-mondbacks went 10-for-10-from the free throw line to Ice

ignited the crowd, but the Dia-mondbacks went 10-for-10 from the free throw line to lee the victory. Century (5-3) coach Cody Shelley said his team got things going in the second half. "We found a good rhythm. We stopped their transition bas-kets and got some of our own," Shelley said. "Then we were able to pound the ball inside to Rutton. He did a good job." Boesiger and Dietz each chipped in 10 points for ferome. The Tigers (5-4) host Filer on Dec. 30.

12 15 17 20 -- 62 13 10 12 11 -- 40

Century 13 (10 11 m et COPICUM 13 (10 11 m et COPICUM 15 (10 11 m et

# Senators light up Islanders on the road

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) —



UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) —
Backup Ray Emery stopped 25
shots, and four Ottawa players
scored against Rick DiPietro to
give the Senators a 4-2totro or Fairle Eaves.
Partick Eaves.
Partick Eaves.
And Dany Heatley scored for the
Senators. 3-0 against the 1s
anders this assoun. The team
will meet one more time this
standers this assoun. The team
will meet one more time this
standers this assoun. The team
will meet one more time this
standers this assoun. The team
will meet one more time this
the senators. Who have an Eastor the Senators.
New York got power-play
goals from Jason Blake and
Mark Parish and 22 saves from
Jibrieuro But the Islanders fell to
5-13-6-1 against the Senators at
home.

-13-6-1 against the Sena

home. Ottawa took control early with three goals in a span of 2:42 in the first period.

# Maple Leafs 2. Bruins 1

Maple Leafs 2, Bruins 1
TOIRONTO—Bryan McCabe
and Darcy Tucker had goals,
and Toronto repaired its scoring touch on the power play
and railied to beat Boston.
McCabe also had an assist for
the Maple Leafs, who netted
both goals on the power play
just one night after going 0-foryell the man advantage in a
4-1 loss at Boston.
Toronto had lost five of seven

4-1 loss at Boston.
Toronto had lost five of seven
while going 6-for-47 (13 percent) with an extra man.
McCabe, who leads the league
tht 28 power-play points, gave
Toronto a 2-1 lead at 7:52 of the

third period.

Ed Belfour made 25 saves for his 449th career victory.

Sergei Samsonov scored for the Bruins, who have lost five of

seven. Hannu Tolvonen took the loss, but made several im-pressive stops and finished with 26 saves.

# Hurricanes 4, Panthers 3

Hurricanes 4, Panthers 3
RALEIGH, N.C. — Justin
Williams and Rod Brind'Amour
scored third-period goals to
help Carolina shake off a miserable night on the power play
and beat Florida.

Eric Staal and Matt Cullen
also scored for the Hurricanes,
who won all five games on their
11-day homestand. Martin Gerber made 22 saves.
Olli Jokinen had two goals
and an assist to lead the Panthers, and Gary Roberts also
scored.

### Predators 5, Blue Jackets 4

Blue Jackets 4
COLUMBUS, Ohlo — Paul
Karha had assists on three of
Nathvilles' four first-period
goals and the Prediors hung
on to beat Columbus.
Nathville scored three powerplay goals for its fifth straight
win and eighth in 11 garnes.
Jaroslav Blaastik scored two
power-play goals for Columbus
19-25-11, which has fost six in a
row. Davie Wescott added a goal
and an assist for the Blue Jackets, losers of eight of 10 at home.

# Sabres 4, Lightning 1

Sabres 4, Lightning 1
TAMPA, Ha.— Ryan Miller
made 30 saves, and Henrik
Tallinder had a goal and an assist to lead Buffalo.
Miller stopped Martin St.
Louis on a first-period breakaway. The Sabres, who had a
seven-game winning streak
halted in a 4-1 loss at Porida on
Thursday, improved to 16-2-1 in
their last 19 games.
Vinny Prospal scored for the
Lightning, who have lost four
straight and five of six.

# Capitals 4, Canadiens 2

Capitals 4, Canadiens 2
WASHINGTON — Rookie
sensation Alexander Ovechkin
scored his 20th goal of the season and Jeff Halpern had there
assists in Washington's win
over Montreal.
Matt Pettinger gave Washington a 3-2 lead at 12-21 of the
third off assists from Chris Clark
and Halpern to help the Capitals win back-to-back games for
only the second time this season.
Montreal's Steve Begin had

son.

Montreal's Steve Begin had tied it at 2 at 6:16 of the third pe-

### Flyers 5, Penguins 4

Flyers 5, Penguins 4
PITTSBURGH — Sidney
Crossly scored twice 44 seconds
apart early in the third period in
his first game since being left off
Canada's Olympic team, but
Mike Knuble and Peter Forsberg scored two late goals to
cally Philadelphia past Pittsburgh after blowing a three-goal
lead.
Forsberg scored twice and
Simon Gapie got his 25th goal
— and fifth in four games
against Pittsburgh — and an assist.

# Thrashers 1, Devils 0

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.1. —
Rookie Michael Garnett
stopped 29 shots to record his
first NHL shutout and Marian

first Nill, shutout and Marian llosas scored on a power play in the second period to lift Atlanta over New Herse.

The victory was the fourth win in five games for the Thrashers (15-16-5), with the lone loss coming in a shootout against Washington on Thurs-day night.

The Devils (15-15-5) lost for the second time in three games since general manager Lou Lamoriello assumed the coach-ing duties.

# No. 9 Washington extends home win streak to 31

SEATTLE (AP) - Bobby Iones

SEATTLE (AP) — Bobby Jones scored 12 points — including the 1,000th of his career — and No. 9 Washington extended the nation's longest home winning streak to 31 games with a 54-37 victory over Lehigh on Frieday. The ranged game — with 38 total turnovers — led to the Hussies' lowest scoring night since Feb. 15, 2003, coach Lorenzo Romar's first season in Seattle. The run-and quan Hussies (10-0), off to their best start in 30 years, entered the game averaging a national-best 95-8 points. Lehigh shot 29 percent and finished with the levest points for a Washington opponent since Feb. 29, 1952, when the Hussies beat Washington State 73-37.

That's how Washington coasted to its 800th win at Hee
Edmundson Pavilion, more
than any other NCAN team in its
current arena. The University of
Penasylvania has won 729

# No. 24 Ohio St. 74,

Tennessee St. 65

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Je'Kel
Foster continued on his scoring

tear with 19 points and No. 24 colors to the State rallied down the stretch to beat Tennessee State 74-65 on Friday night.

Terence Dials also scored 19 points for the Buckeyes (8-0), who jumped into the Top 25 this week for the first time in almost first time in almost many the state of the State 10 points for the State 10 points in three victories while shooting 63 percent from the field and 59 percent behind the art.

Wayne Arnold was 7-of-8 from 3-point range and scored from 4-points range and scored from 4-points assists and Relley Erstin added 12 points.

# Blitz

### Continued from B1

ago, there's no telling who origi-nally had this card or how old it

what it is, is an omen. An omen of what? I have no idea.

Are there any local athletes named "Moose" that I haven't heard about? Or perhaps you would like to be called "Moose."

# Let's go bowling

Let's go dowling.
It's bowl season, that special
time of year when the relatives
quit flighting just enough to
watch a few balligames.
Twe never made it to a
MPC/Boise Sidat/HumanitariMicron/St. Lukes/Theo Bell
Arena Bowl, brought to you by
the Idaho Dairy Council. Got
milk? So I don't have much to
write about. But 10 have other
write about. But 10 have other

Back in 1996, my high school band marched in the Fiesta Bowl Fande. It was almost 10 years ago and i'm getting senile, so fongive me if I only remember the and processed was that a few hotel rooms were broken into and some band uniforms came up missing. They resurraced during the parade when a drunk and/or insane man ran drunk and/or insane man ran through the band with the bright orange and black coat through the span distriction was trying to march around him while the police tackled him to will be police to the police to the police to the police of the

while the pourse whether a warment.

Now brace yourself for another Alabama story. I know your all dying with anticipation.

On Jan. 1, 2000, I went to the Orange Bow in Miami as part of The University of Alabama Miles Solida Standard Miles S

played Michigan, and the stands weren't packed. Maybe it was the Y2K fear of planes falling from the sky or the fact that Gladys Knight was the half-time entertainment. The jury is still out.

still out.

The parade was on New Year's Eve. and just prior to starting, we were told to stay inside around midnight because the locals liked to hir guns in the air to celebrate the new year. What goes up must come down, otherwise known as gravity.

Mossty! still feel guilty for tripping over a homeless man on my way to the Walgreens from our hote! I apologized and gave him Ss.

Times News sports writer Brad Guire was micknamed "Sloth" in high school, Mock him at 1-800-658-3883, ext. 229, or

SPORTS IN BRIEF

# **SCORES AND STATS**

# WHAT'S ON T.V.

- FOOTBALL

- NFL regional coverage, Fox, 11 a.m. NFL regional coverage, CBS, 2 p.m.
- Hawaii Bowl, Nevarta vs. Cen
- tral Florida, ESPN, 6:30 p.m.

# BASKETBALL NBA AT TIME MET EASTERN CONFERENCE MANUEL DAMES

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4p. Silver Moustain — fri 5:23a cldy 30 or Silver Moustain — fri 5:23a cldy 30 depress set packed save 18 - 25 bess 35 of 67 hrols, 4 of 7 ldn, 52% open, Mou-lier: 8:34a-4p, fri 8:38a-7p; Set/Sex: No. 4.

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ORLS BASICETE

FOOTBALL

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POLIS COLTS (13-1) AT SEATTLE
POLIS (12-2) — Cots Out 1 Piers Der

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HOCKEY

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Boise State men down,

San Francisco Dons

San Francisco Dons
TEMPE. Ariz. — Coby Karl
scored 20 points to lead Boise
State past San Francisco 69-58
in Thursday right's consolution game of the ASU Hoops
Classic.
Eric Lane had 13 points, including a 3-pointer with 12:14
left that put the Broncos (6-4)
ahead to stay at 48-46.
Bolse State made 101 straight
free throws in the final 2:39 to
secure the win. Its third in the
leading the state of the borse of
the bench for the Dons (4-8), who have lost three straight.
Cavic made five 3-pointers in
seven attempts before foulling
out.
San Francisco's Armondo

out.
San Francisco's Armondo
Surratt added 13 points and
seven assists and Alan Wiggins
had 11 points and 11 rebounds.

had 11 points and 11 re-bounds. The Dons led 34-31 at half-time but then missed 10 of 12 shots over an eight-minute span as Boise State stretched its lead to 57-50 with 4:59 re-

maining.

San Francisco never got closer than four the rest of the way.

### Navy slotback tied TD record

tled TD record

SAN DIEGO — Only four players have scored five touch-downs in a bowl game, and two of them did it in San Diego.
Reggie Campbell, meet Barry Sanders.

"That's pretty exciting." Campbell, the small, speedy Navy slotback said after being told he had matched Sanders five-TD performance that came 17 years earlier on the same field.

Campbell's thrilling per-

camp 17 years earlier on the same field.

Campbell's thrilling performance, which included 230 all-purpose yards, led Navy to a 51-30 win over Colorado State in the Poinsettia Bowl at Qualcomm Stadium.

The 5-foot-6-sophomore had touchdown catches of 55 and 34 yards, and scoring runs of 22.2 and 21 yards.

The 5-foot State of 10 and 10

the guys lawds locked up to as a rumular back. Campbell salts as a rumular back. Campbell salts as a rumular back. Tampbell salts with the other players with five This in a boxt were Michagins Neil Snow against Stanford in the 1902 Rose Bowl and San Jose State's Sheldon Canley against Central Michigan in the 1990 California Bowl.

Campbell was spectacular practically every time he touched the baff for Navy (8-4), which was playing in a third straight bowl game for the first time in academy history.

He ran 16 times for 116 yards, caught two passes for 89 yards and returned four kick-offs for 85 yards. Navy, the nation's top-ranked rushing team with an average of 305.2 yards, can for 467 yards and hands of 167 yards and hands of 167 yards and hands of 167 yards and yards as the teams combined for a bowl-record 1,183 offensive yards.

Hookins and lones

# Hopkins and Jones

Hopkins and Jones
agree to rematch
BRISTOL. Conn. — Roy
Jones Jr. and Bernard Hopkins
have agreed to a March 11
fight. representatives of both
fighters told ESPA:Corn on Friday.
The fight would be a rematch of a 1993 bout, which
Jones won by unanimous decirematch of a 1993 bout, which
Jones won by unanimous decirematch of a 1993 bout, which
Jones won by unanimous decirematch of a 1993 bout, which
Jones won by unanimous decition that it's very exciting.
Bernard is very happy about it
and so is Roy It's fantastic,
said Richard Schaefer of Golden
Boy 'Promotions, which
promotes Hopkins.
The 12-round light heavyweight fight is scheduled to be
shown on HBO pay-per-view,
though no site has been selecttold.
"We have a deal," Jones' adviser Brad Jacobs said. "I have

Richard's word that Hopkins is in. And Roy told me. Tark sp. Everybody reviewed what was on the table and were able to agree to it."

Hopkins (46-44-1, 32 KOs.), who turns 41 in January, made a middleweight-record 20 title defenses before losing by decision twice to Jermain Taylor this year.

sion twice to lerman tayor this year.
Jones (49-4, 38 KDs), who turns 37 on Jan. 16, is a former middleweight, super mid-dleweight, light heavyweight and heavyweight champion. For a decade he was consid-ered the best pound-for-pound fighter in the world, but he has lost three straight: including two by knockout.

### Trimmed Damon unveiled by Yankees

# Russia's hockey team

loaded with NHL players

loaded with NHL players

MOSCOW — Alexander
Ovechkin, the 20-year-old
Washington Capitals nooke, is
among the 19 NIL players on
the Russlan roster for the lurin
Olympics amounted Priday.
Alexal Yashin of the New York
Islanders, Alexer Kovalev of
Montreal, and goaltender
Nikolai Nishalbulin of Cheago
also made the 23-man moster
that features 11 players from
the 2002 bronze medal-winning team.

that resources in proper from the 2002 bronze metal-astining team.

One prominent NHL figure Overhilm voni facte is Heyerar States of Pinkhungh Fenguins center Sidney Crossby, with was passed over by fean Canada. The two phenomes are widely considered to be the future of the NHL.

Remaining players follow: Remaining players foll

# Nevada coach seeks

elusive bowl victory ellisive nowl victory

HONOEULU — Nevada
football coach Chris Ault is trying to secure perhaps the only
major accomplishment that
has eluded him in his 21-year
coaching career — a bowl victory

But the winningest crack in school history is 0.2 in lowel games. He lost 35-34 to Hool ing Green in the 1992 Las Weges Boot and feld 40-37 in overtime to Toledo in the 1995 Las Weges Boot.

That means nothing, "said Ault, who will coach in his third bowl game on Saturday when the Wolf Pack takes on Central Fordia in the Hawaii Browl.

Compiled from whe moorts.

MIDDLEKAUFF HONDA

# '06 Honda CRV 4x4 LX

Automatic
 Air PW/PL
 AM/FM Cassette/CD

Was \$23,939 Save \$1,995

'06 F-250 Crew Cab Lariat 4x4 



We match your down, You finance...



# Manning's play-calling autonomy began in Seattle

SEATTLE (AP) — Before Peyson Mannings dist NP1, pausan 1998. Indiampolis offer NP1, pausan 1998. Indiampolis offer NP2 are confinator Tom Monte gave his top overall draft choice timely advice.

"Look, if these heatphones 50 down have a play call ready Moore said.

The Aug. 8. 1998. preseason game inside Seattles Kingdome was the first time Manning used a heimet speaker to connect him to his coaches headsets On the second play, the headests stoped working, the second play, the headests stoped working. Manning has the second play, the headest stoped working and the second play, the headest stoped working and the second play, the headest stoped working and the second working and the second working the second working and the second working and the second working the second working and the second working and the second working the second work

Son have gard.

Son have gard.

Son Have gard.

For \$4 touchdowns, the most between an NFL passer and for \$4 touchdowns, the most between an NFL passer.

Eight seasons later. Manning will still be freedancing the play will still be freedancing the play will still be freedancing at least for part of this watered-down Coils-Sea: hawks holiday feature.

With Indianapolis (33-1) having clinhed home-field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs and no longer in pursuit of a perfect season, coach frony Dungy said — before he learned of the death of his 18 learned home the death of his 18 learned home time to backup Im Song.

Manning will start, as he have the said of his 18 learned home to the career. Hu song will find, he learned home the last to San Diego last Sunday, but played the rest of the game. Doctors say Harrison faces no rock of further injury by playing Saturday, But there sait much reward in him doing \$6.

Seattle (12-2) has plenty of reward at stake. The Seahawks

Continued from D1
pub, which is often a good
thing. The Cowboys O1s are
form Bucker and Rob Petit.
Their main responsibility will
be to scream 'Watch out.'' as
Carolina Dis Mike Rucker and
dinhs Peppers make a holiday
sandwich out of Cowboys OB
Prew Bleedone, Feasting Pantheir Cowboys of the Cowboys of their
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b

**Picks** 



Indianapolis Colts quarterback Peyton Manning sets to throw pass against the Jacksonville Jaguars, on Dec. 11, in Jack-



need a win or a Chicago loss or a Chicago loss or a Chicago loss or a chicago loss or a chicago lar-sesson games to clinch the NFUS top seed.

Seattle is 21-4 at home share the end of the 2002 season.

We're going to play our game, whether they play all their guys or any of their gays. NFL rushing leader Shatun Alexander guys or any for their gays. NFL rushing leader Shatun Alexander guys or any form Priest Holmes' single-season record of 27.

Th's not about them. It's about us.

"It's not about them, It's about us."

And it's not about turning oil the Golts' headphones. That won't help Scattle clinch home-field advantage — at least not while Maming is playing.

Scahasks coach Mike Holm-gren dictates each play to Mail Hasselberk, though the quanterback sometimes audibiles. Does have the servey Manning's autonomy?

"No. I don't get jealous of that," said Hasselberk, the NFCs highest rated passer with 22 touchdown passes and nine interceptions. That teems like a very hard job.

The is a great quariethack leading maybe one of the best feating and in the playing on one of the best teams on all time. You admit a team like this."

called his work: "A good experi-ence." Like I said, scary. Rams

ence. Take I said, scary, Rams by just 7.

Philadelphia (6-8) at Ari-zona (4-10) — Cards favored by I. In a One-There-Was-A-Re-son-To-Care. Upset Special, Eagles by 4.

Indianapolis. (13-1) as Scattle (12-2) — Seaturkeys fa-vored by 8. Well keep this one short in light of the tragedy in-volving the family of Colis-toach long Dungy. Seaturkeys by just 3.

# 43 days left until Super Bowl XL

Standings as of **December 23** 

Check out past predictions at www.manicraller.com/misc/sportspick

SPORTS WRITER

SWENSEN'S MARKETS JERRY FOWLER



JOE PAISTRY



**ROB GREEN PARTS/SERVICE TEAM** 

Son Francisco at St. Louis Tennesse at Stagns Philodelphia at Arusono Indianopolis at Seam Oakland at Tenne



with this coupon

**Swensens** 

# Eliano at Tampa Bay Buffelo at Tamanati Dallas at Tarolina Letta Dat New Orleans lacksonville at Elections of Machineria





PRASAPS THAI CUISINE RICK JOHNSON, **MINNESOTA VIKINGS FAN** 



Tennesse at Mann Philadelphia at Argani Indianapolis at Centre Oakland at Tenne



AUTOPRIDE AILENE JOHNSON



short in light of the tragecy molesing the family of Coliscoach Iony Durgy, Seaturkey by just 3.

Oakland (4-10) at Denver (1-3)—Broncos favored by 13. Ironthall injuries confuse me. The report on Raiders BR Lamont Iondan says he has 3 jain in the toe. What? Toe jain? Is that a fangus? Evenywww. Bruncos (2). In Just 4 food 10 food 1 Buy any entree and get the second of



equal or lesser value for free! Not valid with any other offer \* Expires Jan. 7, 2005









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ntana Moss, center, runs after catching a pass against the Seattle

# Redskins try to keep going • Jacksonville (minus 6) at Houston: The way the Jags played against the 49ers last week, anything can happen against a team that's trying to blow the Reggie Bush pick ... JACUAIS 16-12.

The Washington Redskins are officially back from the dead. After four losses in five games and six in eight, they've won three in a row and can make the playoffs simply by winning their last two. Or even just by beating the New York Glants on Saturday if some other things break for them.

day if some other units of them.

This wont be as easy as their 35-7 win over Dallas last Sun-day After all, the Glants won the first meeting 36-0 and have their own ambitions, such as clinching the NFC East with one more win.

As usual, Joe Gibbs is showing class in victory, just as he does in defeat.

As usual, Joe Gibbs is showing class in victory, just as he does in defeat.

As he was walking off the field last Sunday, he tried to signal studium officials to stop playing Marina. Don't Let You't lables Grow Up To Be Corebay. On the public address system, and the public address of the public address of the public address of goat when things go right.

1 just think that we always want to win the right way, and when you lose, you want to lose the right way, Gibbs said. 1 link we always want to the thind of team that does that.

Despite the pounding the Redskins took at the Meadow, and the work of the public and the public way to be a public way to be

is 6-8.

3. The voting by fans, players and coaches is a bigger event than the game. Teams send out their gays who made it. Others complain — often justifiably — about the ones who were ignored. Then as many as 20-25 players voted to the squads never get to flavavii because of injury, fatigue and/or because they've aiready collected the bonuses they get for being voted in.

in.

About 15 years ago, when the Detroit Lions had a young Burry Sanders and appeared on the verge of being decent for one of the few times in the last 50 years. Lomas Brown, their best offensive lineman, asked a few people why he hadn't made the Pro Browl.

Stay patient, he was told. Barry will run for a zillion yards, you'll get credit and you'll make it. Once you make it, you'll never get off.

Sure enough, Brown made it nd didn't get off. Even injuries



against a feum that's trythe to be a second that styling to blow the Reggie Bush pick ... AGUANS 16-12.

Buffalo (plus 13.5) at Cincinnath The Bills are 0-6 on the road. That sounds like the old Bungles ... BENGALS, 33-10.

Chicago (minus 6) at Green Bay (Sunday): Not much left in the poor Pack ... BEARS, 23-2.

Minnesota (minus 1.5) at Baltimore (Sunday): Two long-term Yalings trends: they faderm Yalings trends to the January of Tanuary (minus 16 January of Jan Dave Goldberg Barber, of course, went for 220 against Kansas City last week and has a career-high 1,577 yards rushing with two

Picks

But the Giants have injuries now, the Redskins have mo-mentum and home field ... REDSKINS, 24-20.

# The picks

The picks

- San Diego (plus 1) at Kansas Giy: Iwo teams in desperation mode. Despite their win in Indy last week, the Chargers need help to get in. They have to help themselves first. — Called Files. 31-21.

They have to be the themselves the Called Files. 31-21.

They have to be the themselves the Called Files. 31-21.

They have to be the control to the control

ing to the sixth AFC playoff spot, have to be careful ... STEELERS, 16-13.

Voting by rote is the rule in the Pro Bowl follies

# Look out for fantasy playoff roadkill

that great manages is m.
"Oh yeah," we remembered while hoping against hope that steven lackson or Tennessee's Chris Brown might actually score, "It's a bad idea to draft a lot of guys on rotten teams."

# FANTASY FOOTBALL: John McParland

John McFarland

You can get away with it early and in small doses, but by the time the fantasy playoffs roll around, bad teams start doing what they usually do: They fall apart and have had hick.

Manner weet not in injured for Manner weet out in injured for side of the start o

QUARTERBACKS: A SAFE BET

While everybody's talking
about Colts possibly resting
against the Seahawks, Mat-Hasselbeek should be a good
start. Seattle is still trying to lock
up home-field advantage and
lasselbeek has thrown seven
touchdowns in his past two
cames.

Insection to the control of the cont

Every week, it seems, I suggest starting Ramas City's Participen and San Diego's Drew Brees and then they're mediorer. First me this time. In their game earlier this year, Green passed for 347 yards and two TDs, and Brees Isad 324 and three scores.
 Here's a special holiday management of the problem.

Here's a special holiday message to Panthers owners;

Arizona Cardinals quarterback Kurt Warner sits on the bench with his knee wrapped in ice after being injured against the Houston Texans during the sec and quarter on Dec. 18 in Houston.

Start/em if you got 'em, Jake Delhomme hasn't had more than one TD in six of his last seven games, but the suddenly feeble Dallas delense should fix

man one 10 in six of his last seven games, but the suddenly feethe Dallas delense should fix BACK AWAY SLOWLY AND MACK BAWAY SLOWLY AND AND BAWAY SLOWLY AND AND BAWAY SLOWLY BAWAY MACK BAWAY SLOWLY BAWAY MACK BAWAY SLOWLY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY BAWAY MACK BAWAY B

RUNNING BACKS:
ALL DAY LONG
SAR. Diego's LaDaimia
Sara. Diego's LaDaimia
Tomilinvon has a rib injury and
hasn't scored in three weeks,
but did you see that Kaiss, vity
defense last week Most Chiefs
couldn't get alouds of like Har-ber's greecy, let alone hit him in
the ribs.
In the ribs.
In the ribs of the ribs of the ribs of the ribs
and faces a Reskins defense he
burned for 20% sards earlier this
year. Therefore, he should have
214 yards this week for his staft
straight game over 100.

Cincinnati's Rudi Johnson
S mow in that category of
starters you never bench, with
nine Th's in his bat five games.
Some owners worry he'll he
a safe start against the Bills
Wil-aworst mit defense that
his Lackling Kansas Cray's Larry
Johnson seems to be physically

impossible, even for the Chargers' No. 1 run defense. The last time he didn't go over 100 yards awas Oct. 30 against the Chargers, back when he was sharing time. And he still had 9.2 yards

ers, back when he was sharing ime. And he still had 92 yards per carry.

\* Tampa Bay's Cadillac Williams has been steady aside from his 23-yard game against the Patriots. He'll benefit from a inlead-up quarterback and an Adanta run defense that allows about 120 yards a game and all sorps of secret.

\* Pom bother trying to figure out the properties of t

Convention of the control of the con

thats not enough in the play-offs.

Minnesota's Koren Robin-son is a line rags to riches story, but his QB is also good for about 100 yards and faces a Baltimore defense that still has some

defense usar som in pride.

• It's probably safe to assume it was a fluke when Brooks Bollinger passed for 327 yards last week, so keep benching fets

excivers.

• DEFENSES TO WATCH:
Redskins, Patriots, Panthers,
Ravens, Bears.

# Shanahan: Division title not enough are fied with Cincinnati for th

DENVER (AP) — At the be-ginning of the season, pretty much every team in the NFL puts "Division Tule" some-where high on their list of goals. Broncos coach Mike Shana-han isn't shy about wanting more.

hart rose my.

A win Saturday against the
A win Saturday against the
Denver (11-3) its first Al C West
tile in seven year and guarantiee the Broncos their first home
playoff game since 1998, the
year they last won in the postseason. ason. To Shanahan, though, divi-on titles aren't what it's all

about.
"It absolutely means nothing unless you do something with it, and I think that is the focus of our\_football\_team," Shanahan

if, and triffix mary increases our football team. Shanahan said.

To essentially dismiss a mile that has been so long missing might seem unreasonably arrogant, especially for a team that hasn't won a playoff game in seven years.

But give Shanahan credit, He was the one who, last year.

But give Shanahan credit. He was the one who, last year, elicited snickers when he said the Broncos were very close to being a Super Bowle-cabler team, the day after they lost 49-24 to Indianapolis in the obscuring.

24 to Indianapolis in the playoffs. And he's the one who has as-sembled and coached this year's team to a record well beyond most people's espectations. In his 11 seasons as coach, he



has gone 112-62 and established Denver as one of the top
franchess in the league. He has
won two Super Bowls, and
though New England and, now,
Indianapolis have surpassed
the Broncos as the NPIS elite,
he no longer pens in anything
other than a Super Bowl title as
an acceptable goad.

Part of that is because of history, in 1996, when the Broncos
won the dission and were considered the Super Bowl facorite
they lost to Backsonalle in one
of the biggest possession upects
in NPI. Instory, The next year,
they went in as a wild-card and
won twice on the road or notic
to their first Super Bowl tide.

In other words, there are
many paths to a championship.
'Our football team is wellaware-llast-went-in-position-tocontrol our own destiny.'
Shanahan said. 'But to win the
division is not our goal. It's a
nice first step.'
While Indy
was pleased and the crucial
first enough by this goes with it.
still up for gabs. The Broncos
is still up for gabs. The Broncos
is still up for gabs. The Broncos

are fied with Cincinnat for the conference's second-best record and own the tichreaker advantage.

Of course, that conversation could be common the Bromeros can't get past the Raiders, who are had this year but are still the Raiders, Denver's laggest rival.

Great, but only one step.

We know what's at vlake, "Jake Plummer said. "We know that we can go out there and put ourselves in a really nice position. If we get this W." in puts us one step closer to having a really nice playoff scenario."

Movies Interstate Will Operate on a Limited Scedule for Dec 24 So Our Employees can Spend Christmas Eve with Their Famile We Will Open Dec 25 at Noon at all Theatres

# Jerome 4

onnides Of Namid #2 1243 King Kong 11312 33 049 upon by Dozen #2 12 30 - 24 with Dick & Jane 113 12 38 - 21

# Twin 12

# Invest in the future!

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# Voting by rote in Tarik Glenn shouldn't have been supprised. The De was told he made the MTC he be was under a offensive tackle. Then the league discovered its computers had dropped poor Tarik to fourth among ATC layers at the position, making him an alternate. The fact is Glenn is just No. 4 in the pecking order at that position and pecking order at that position and pecking order is the most important factor in Pro Bood voting, especially on the different period of the pecking order and the willies. In the pecking order is the most important factor in Pro Bood voting, especially on the different period of the pecking order is the most important factor in Pro Good order and the Willies. In the pecking of the pecking order is the most important factor in Pro Good order and the Willies. In the pecking of the pecking of the pecking order is the pecking of the peck

FOOTBALL Dave Goldberg

and bad teams didn't stop him. A decade later, at the end of his career, he was laughing about the year he played for Anzona, missed half the season with injuries, and still made the Pro Bowl.

"I stunk, the team stunk and the year."

Bood.

T stunk the team stunk and they voted for me, he said.

There were the usual strange doings when the vote was announced his week:

Glenn. More a computer glich thus anything else Colern. More a computer glich thus anything else Colern and Rod are automatics and Anteron is an older Lornas Brown and the source and is now making it because the Bengals went from avdid to good, and he deserves it.

Jackson/lie When you're 10-4, you should have more than one guy (defensive tarkle Marcus Stroud.) The obvious mission is outside linebacker Mike Peterson, who was left off in lawir holy Caro Jone, San Demonstration of the strength of the source of the property of th

LAST WEEK: 8-8 (spread)

13-3 (straight up)
• SEASON: 104-116-4 (spread) 155-69 (straight up)

Pro Bowl follies

Itian Utlacher Go figure.

Ost Utmensyon of the Gamis the exception, Utmensyon and Michael Stralam both made it at defensive end in the 21C and Michael Stralam both made it at defensive end in the 21C all and a strain and Michael Both both that the last to do it, in 2001.

Another Gant, Lay Feely, No. Ite didn't made it, but the's the last to do it, in 2001.

Another Gant, Lay Feely, No. Ite didn't made it, but the's the NGC sits all didn't made it, but the's the NGC sits all didn't made it, but the's made 30 of 36 field great, but he's made 30 of 36 field great, but here of the misses were purchased again e-witness in Scottle. It he mades one of those, the Giants are 11-3 and hold the lemakes one of the set the Gants are 11-3 and hold the there are to the Schawks for NFC. home, field advantage. Doesn't clutch kicking for lack of it count?

A few automatics missed this provides on same resort for Pally hurt Dawkins, And a few new guys having big wars made it; hune, Chicago linebacker Lance Briggs and Unenvisora.

But there are others who are there because they are always there.

One is Ty Law, the only let to make it; center Kevin Mawae, the

One is Ty Law, the only let to make it: center Kevin Massac the automatic center, is out for the automatic center, is out for the season although the probably got votes from people who don't know that Yes, he has six interceptions, but he's not the same hundown cornerback he was for New England, Strictly reputation. But the most automatic prosition is the offensive line, where there is that pecking order.

Thus Massac gets hurt and holy left Saturday seps in because he's playing, well on the least team in the league. Thus Roaf makes it despite his injunce the Lornas Brown syndrome. The Lornas Brown syndrome. The Lornas Brown syndrome. The Lornas Brown syndrome. Samuels, all high first-Christoff Samuels, all hig

may dop on. anyway. But few people watch the game. Everyone watches the se-

# BRIEFLY IN MONEY

# **American Express** settles lawsuit

MIAMI — A \$75 million set-dement has been approved between American Express Co. and thousands of cardholders who contended in a class-ac-tion lawsuit that they paid hidden transaction-fees for charges made in foreign cur-rencies.

changes made in foreign cur-recting in the settlement, approved this week by U.S. District ludge Cecilia M. Altonaga, affects more than 83,000 cardholders who paid some form of transaction fee forom March 28, 1997, through Oct. 15, 2004, Settlement amounts could range from \$15 to millions of dollars, lawyers involved in the case said friday. The lawsuit, initially filed in state court in August 2003 and then transferred to federal court, claimed that American Express failed to adequately inform cardholders that they would be updaged an adjust would be updaged an adjust to revenue of the proper of the conversion of charges and claim foreign currencies to U.S. dollars.

foreign currencies to U.S. wollars.

Instead, the fee was embedded in the transaction amount that showed up on cardholders' bills, making it 'invisible to consumers,' said the lawsuif lied by Edward LiPuma, an anthropology professor at the University of Miami who was represented by attorneys Tucker Ronzetti and Adam Moskowitz.

"We wan pleased that the class

Moskowitz.
"We are pleased that the class is able to get substantial relief and that American Express agreed to change its business practices," Ronzetti sald of the settlement.

### FDA approves lens to correct eyesight

to correct eyesight

WASIINGTON — The FDA
has approved a surgically implantable lens designed to treat
has approved a surgically implantable lens designed to treat
has approved a surgically implantable lens designed to treat
has a surgical control of the surgery.
Saar Surgical Co. Said Friday.
The Monrovia, Calif. manufacturer of eye surgery products
said it expected to start shipping Myopic Visian ICL. to
trained doctors within eight weeks. It will join on the market
handler implantable lens, the
Artisan, made by the Dutch
company Ophner BN and appudministration in 200 and Drug
definisher and the company of the

cataracts.

The ICL is approved for sale in 41 countries. It has successfully been implanted in more than 40,000 eyes worldwide, the company said.

# GE agrees to buy realty firm for \$3.2B

General Electric Co. agreed Thursday to pay \$3.2 billion for Arden Realty Inc. ending months of speculation with a deal that would reshape the market for office space in Southern California. GE Real Estate, the Fairfield.

Gr. Real Estate, the Farmena, Conn., conglomerate's real es-tate investing unit, would pay \$45.25 per share in cash, and assume Arden's \$1.6 billion in assume.

SB2.5 per share in eash, and east assume Arden's \$1.5 billion in debt.

In turn. GE will sell a selection of Arden's major properties to the Arden's major properties to the Arden's major properties to the Arden's major properties (Arden's Angeles, and Arden Towers in San Diego, or to Trizze Properties Inc. for \$1.6 billion Los Angeles, Sand Arden is Southern California's largest office landford. It owns 192 billion for an arden's and Arme ounties.

The Sale expected of close by Arden's Sale and Arme ounties.

The sale expected to close by Arden's Arden's Sale expected to close by Arden's Ard

# New home sales plunge in November

# Analysts says it's more evidence that market is cooling

WASHINGTON — Sales of WASHINGTON — Sales of new homes plunged in November, by the largest amount in nearly 12 years, providing the most dramatic evidence yet that the red hot housing market over the last five years is starting to cool down.

The Commerce Department reported Friday that new single-family homes were sold at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.245 million units last month, a drop of 11.3 percent

from October, when sales had surged to an all-time high.
Last, month's decline was even bigger than the 8.7 percent depend that was lived an analysis of the sales of both new and sisting homes are still on track to servecords for a fifth straight year in 2005, analysis are forecasting also will decline in 2006 as the housing boom quiets down.
Analysts are looking for home

sales will decline in 2006 as the housing boom quiets down. Analysts are looking for home sales to dip by around 6 percent next year under the impact of rising mongage rates. Analysts

believe that house prices, which had been soaring at double digit rates, will moderate as well. Some of that price moderation was evidenced in the November report, which showed that the median price of a new home sold was \$225,200 last month. That was 125,200 last month. That was year-over-year price change in two years. The November median price was down 4.1 percent an price was down 4.1 percent from the October median sales price of \$234,800,

In other economic news, the Commerce Department reported that orders to U.S. factories for big-ticket manufactured goods jumped to a record \$223 billion in November. That was a 4.4 percent increase from October, representing the largest percentage advance in six months. Orders for durable goods had risen 3 percent in October. In the percent in the p

October.

The gain in demand for durable goods was far above the L.1 percent increase Wall Street analysts had been expecting But the strength was concen-trated in a surge in demand for commercial aircraft, which shot up 133.8 percent to \$25.9 billion from \$11.1 billion the previous

gories.
Some economists are worried that housing prices in some areas have been driven higher by a speculative frenzy that

Please see HOMES, Page D8

# A late Christmas



crowds in mails earlier in Decamber, the nation's retailers got a sales surge last weekend and have seen solid traffi ny merchants are depending even more on the day before Christmas and the post-holiday business to save their seas

# Stores depend more on procrastinators this year

NEW YORK — Retailers can blame the calendar. They can blame the weather. They can blame the weather. They can blame the weather. They can even try to blame New York City's transit strike. But in the end the 2005 shopping season may just be another case of merchants not giving shoppers what they really want — must-have items at reasonable prices. Without white-hot apparel products or toys to lure people to the nation's malls and stores, many shoppers have opted to hold off until the flual hours before Christmas, or until the

hold off until the flual hours be-fore Christmas, or until the post-Christmas sales to open wide their wallets. Consumers even have taken the easy way out by buying the procrastina-tor's savior; gift-cards. "More Americans are waiting to the end to shop for Christmas than any other time in the last 10 years, said C. Britt Beemer, chaltman of America's Research

Group, based in Charleston, S.C. "The consumer was never excited about anything that they saw this Christmas."

excited about anything that hey saw this Christmas:

A quirky calendar hasn's heped. Hankkah, which belgins bee. 25, is falling late, and christmas Ewe is on a Saturday, letting, shoppers wait even longer than last year and creating more angst for the nation's stores. Merchants with a big presence in New York City, such a Sakis Inc. and Bloomingdale's and Macy's parent. Federated Department Stores Inc., were hit by a three-day transit strike that left commuters too exhausted to shop.

Higher heating fuel and gasoline costs have added to consumers' burdens, even though unemployment is relatively low and personal income has been rising.

Gadgets, like Microsoft Corp.'s Xbox 360 videogame console, new slecker versions of

the Apple Computer Inc.'s 19-ed digital muster players and flat-screen TVs. have belied flat-screen Tvs. have belied flat-werwish to electronic stores like Best Buy Co. Inc. and discoun-ters such as Wal-Mart Stores Inc. and Target Corp. John Waszczak, a sales mar-ager at Best Buy's store in Duluth, Ga., said that "small LCD televisions and portable DVD players have sold out the most."

DVD players have sold out the most.

Online retailers also have empoyed a robust holiday season, with non-travel online spending up 24 percent, according to com/score Networks Inc., an internet research company. Online merchants saw a surge late in the season, with sales soaring 29 percent for the week ended Dec. He compared to the same period a year ago.

For many other retailers, particularly apparel stores, the season has become a game of brinkmanship between savey

consumers who have learned they may get better deals if they wait long enough and merchants who are trying to maximize profits.

According to a survey of 1,000 shoppers conducted by the International Council of Shopping Centers, only 26 percent of households completed their holiday shopping as of Dec. 18, compared to 31 percent during the same time a year ago.

send of the same time a year ago.

Two been busy. I haven't had the time, 'said karen Townsend of Dayton. Ohio, who was at the local Dayton Mall earlier this week, and had 30 gifts to buy. This is not typical for me. I've been traveling on business and just involved in other things.

But Townsend's procrastination paid off when she found deals like 40 percent off sweaters at Limited Brands' Express store. Tim thinking native this is a way to go,' she said.

# Albertson's shares drop after change in sale plans

BOISE — Shares of Albertson's Inc. plunged Friday after the supermarket chain said it is no longer considering a sale of the entire company.

Albertson's stock fell \$2.74, or 12 percent, to close at \$20.54 Friday on the New York Stock Exchange. The stock has traded in Stock and the Stock and the

corp., according to the newspa-per.
According to the report, Al-bertson's board was considering selling some un-derperforming stores and its pharmacies, using the proceeds to recapitalize.

# Banks try to sell themselves to immigrants sending funds

MIAMI — U.S. banks have

MIAMI — U.S. banks have raced to join the remittance industry in recent years, seeking a share of the billions of dollars immigrants send to their native countries, especially around the holiday season. But as they try to get a piece of the business, many immigrants are reductant to shift from the smaller mom-and-pop stores and the money transfer services they are accustomed to using to send money home. With remittances to Latin America and the Caribbean estimated to be a \$45 billion Industry, it's no surprise U.S. banks are interested. Many also see remittances as a way to other services. In the last year alone, major banks have unveiled an array of new services to court immi-

sending funds
grants away from the hundrods of money transfer
services operating in the Unitded Sates. Wachavia Bank
unwelled a card that allows
families in Latin America and
the Caribbean to withdraw
money from an ATM linked to
U.S. bank accounts. Wells
Fargo Bank expanded its
money transfer service to El
Salvador and Guatemala, and
Bank of America announced it
was offering free money transfers to Mexico.

The industry efforts have
won it an estimated 3 percent
of the market, according to remittance expert Manuel
Orozzo, of the Inter-American
Dialogue, a Washington, D.C.based think tank.

Despite the banks efforts,
immigrants continue to shy
away from sending money
through banks for a variety of
reasons. In many cases, banks
Please see BAMUS, Page D7

# Negotiating skills work well at FCC

# Abilities of chairman will be put to the test

By Arshad Mohammed The Washington Post

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — In the nine
months since he became chairman of the Federal
Communications Commission
(FCC), Kevin Martin has pushed
through a series of decisions
that have made the country's
made it harder for smaller companiles to compete with them.
On three major mergers and
a string of regulatory decisions,
the has persuaded a divided FCC
to vote unanimously, testimony
to political skills that observers
say far outstrip those of its
Over the next year. Martin's
negotiating abilities will be put
to the test as he tries to advance

wath when the media women ship rules and how to shore up the government and poor regions. There is also perusiant speculation—the industry that the former college student-body president may someday run for office. During an interview this week in his office, Martin was disciplined when talking about his policy initiatives, and he demurred when asked if he had ambitions for elective office.

ambitions for elective office, ambitions for elective office. Asked if he might want to serve a second term as FCC chairman, he said: 1am hoping to survive my current term. In part, Martins ability to who Democratic votes at the FCC has been a virtue born of neces-



a generally deregulatory agenda and grapples with nettlesome is-sues such as how to rewrite media owner-

mission split between two
Republicans and two Democrats, with one emply seat. To get
anything done, the has had to
make compromises.

Martin said he would continuse to try to win as many youth
core in the said of the contintion of the continent of the continent
commission and gives
him a working majority.

"Trying to address the concerns or perspectives of the
other commissioners in all of
our orders makes our decisions
stronger." Martin said. "That's
how I approach all of our decisionmaking and will continue
to do that."

Michael Copps, one of the
FCCS two Democratic commissioners, made clear that he
finds it easy to work with Martin.

"I like Kevin Martin as a

innus it easy to work with Mar-tin.

"I like Kevin Martin as a friend and I trust him as a col-league," Copps said in an interview. "We don't always agree, but we know how to find

Please see FCC, Page 07.

# **FCC**

Continued from D6
common ground and get
things done
things done
things done
the description of the hot
telecommunications
and
media issues.
He said he was pleased that
major cable companies plan to
offer packages of familyfriendly programming but said
it was unclear whether "consumers are going to be able to
see that as an alternative that
they will be able to subscribe
to."

Some analysis wonder if the packages — which have been rolled out by both Time Wafner Cable and Comeast Corp. — will be so pared down that they attact few subscribers. He provided more details on the results of a revised FCC study, saying that allowing cable customers to buy channels individually rather than in

packages could in many cises lower cable prices. For di-tital subscribers, costs could cnop by about 2 percent.

Martin said it was too carly to write 'net neurality' rules to prevent cable and phone compress to go to web alone of their choice. But he said, of the said with the said, of the said with the said. He said with the s

18.
Among its major actions this year, the FCC:
• Approved SBC Communications Inc.'s purchase of AT&T Corp., Verizon Communications Inc.'s acquisition of MCI

Inc. and Sprint Corps merger with Nextel Communications Inc.

Required voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) providers to give their customers enhanced 911 service.

to give their customers enhanced 911 service.

• Dropped requirements that local phone companies must lease their high-speed SUL lines to Internet service providers at reduced rates.

Some consumer groups said the DSL decision could be the death knell for small internet service providers. But Martinistald it would spur investment in broadband networks and that wireless and power companies will provide more choices over those of the cost of building the cost of building the networks is so building the networks is so high that competition will not emerge soon.

"Hinging a regulator, police."

emerge soon.
"Hinging a regulatory policy
on the idea that there's going to

be numerous competitors in a marketplace with their own facilities ... it's a great vision to lave but I think the empero's wearing no clothes in this to the competition of the competi

Dec. 23, 2005 Dow Jones Industrials .a 17 10,250 - 10 ppg OCT Low 10,869 83 Pct, change from previous: -0.06 ord high: 11,722.98 Jan 14, 2000 Dec. 23, 20 Nasdaq composite 2.249.42 Pct. change from previous: +0.13

# Stocks barely move despite good news

"You can send photos and money," he said.
Wells Fargo has worked with Mexican banks to facilitate remittances for more than a decade, but for some banks the learning curve is steep, said Danny Ayala, head of Wells Fargo's global remittance program.

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks barely moved Friday, even though durable goods orders improved by the largest amount in six months. Volume was light on Wall Street, as it often is, before Christmas With little in the way of year-end gains to lock in, traders yawned their way through one of the final sessions of the year.

The major economic news came from the Commerce Department, which reported partony, which reported acropy and the year. The major economic reported items were up 4.4 period acroom (3223 billon last month, following a 3 percent a lan in October.

The data reflected sparing de-

rection as a percent jain in october.

The data reflected oaring demand for commercial aircraft durable goods numbers would have fallen had the aircraft figures been removed. So the biggest one-month advance since last May was treated on Wall Street as a non-event. In afternoon trading, the Dow lones industrial average fell 6.17, or 0.06 percent, to 10.883.27.

Broader stock Indicators were nearly unchanged. The Standard & Poor's 500 Index rose 1054, or 0.04 percent, to 1.286.66, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 2.93, or 0.13 percent, to 2.249.42.

For the week, the Drav is up 7.68, or 0.07 percent, the 5.84 has risen 1.34, or 0.11 percent and the Nasdaq is down 3.06, or 0.07 percent, the 5.84 has risen 1.34, or 0.11 percent and the Nasdaq is down 3.06, or 1.04 has risen 1.34, or 0.11 percent and the Nasdaq is down 3.06, or 1.04 has risen 1.34. The dollar was higher against other major currencies in European trading. Gold prices algainst other major currencies in European trading. Gold prices also rose.

Cude oil futures rose slightly, a barrel of light crude settled at 559.43, up 15 cents, on the New York Mercandul Exchange.

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NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

# Banks

### Continued from DR

Continued from D6
have succeeded in attracting
more Hispanic customers but
not in getting them to send
money. Orazoc said.
"They don't think of the
bank as a place to send money.
They think of the bank as a
place to save money." he said.
Many lumilgrants, especialby those here illegally, don't
have forms of identification required to do business with
banks. Some U.S. banks now
accept consular identification
acds from countries such as accept consular identification cards from countries such as Mexico. Guatemala and Ar-gentina, but customers still need a backup form of ID such as a driver's license or birth ate, poldo Gomez, 36, who

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

came to South Florida to work in a nursery, said after hearing radio ads touting Bank of America's free transfer program, he tried to open an account there with his consular card.

I thought it's more safe to deposit the money. he said, but they told me I needed any but they told me In ended any other form of ID. I just came here eight months ago. I don't have any. came to South Florida to work

here eight months ago. I don't have any:

Cost is another concern. A report released in December by the national nonprofit Applessed Center for Law & lustice found that while the entry of banks into the remittance business helped bring down the price of money transfers, banks didn't always

-14 -19

offer the cheapest services. The average cost of sending \$300 was about \$15, the report said.

In many cases, banks are finding convenience also plays

finding convenience also plays a role.

On Washington Avenue in Homestead, about 35 miles southwest of Miami, migrant workers spent a recent evening perusing stores for Christmas gifts such as T-shirts, cowboy boots and perfumes — as well so using the stores' wiring services.

as using the stores wiring ser-vices.
Santos Gonzalez, 33, who ar-rived from Chiapas a month ago, said he liked coming to the street to pick up presents, see friends and send money home.

Wells Fargo's global remittance program.

"We're starting from zero for the most part." Ayala said.

Despite the slow start, Ayala is optimistic about the ability of U.S. barks to play a role in the remittance industry.

"A \$45 billion market from the U.S. to the Latin and Caribbean region is definitely a market that most financial institutions would like to be part of," Ayala said.

MARKET SUMMARY MOST ACTIVE (81 on a Manue Vol (00) Last Naad1007/373779 41 40 Microsch 305729 26 64 Oracle 279813 1234 SmusS 200453 6 83 Caco 227470 17 35

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HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

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# CLOSING FUTURES

note Commodities quotes were not from Sinclair & Co. on Friday, ne from Sinclair & Co., 733-8013 or

# **BEANS**

# **GRAINS**

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### CHEESE

# **POTATOES**

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# Comcast to offer package aimed at family viewing

The Baltimore Sun

Comeast Corp. announced plans Thursday to roll out a lage-teach processory of the care to combat the to much of the programming it sells is not suitable for families.

The family the package includes channels such as National Geographic, HGTV, the Weather Channel, the Disney Channel, CNN Headline News, CSPAN and Discovery Klds.

The move comes as cable companies have faced government and consumer pressure to exclude violence, sex and other topics from certain cable pack ages and to promote more family friendly programming. Headling the care to the care to buy channels a lacare, paying only for the ones they want to watch.

Time Warner Cable announced last week that it would aunch a family package early need year as well.

Connexts family package will cost an average of \$31.20 a

month. That price includes an average of \$12 for basic cable, 425 for a digital cable box and \$14.95 for the 16 family the channels.

Comeast already offers a sports the package for \$4.95 a month — with channels like—and a Hispanie the package that costs \$3.95 a month and the cludes stations such as MTV Espanol and Telemundo.

Consumers will still be able to get all 16 channels in the family package through existing packages, the company said.

As we've seen with some of our Hispanic tiers and some of our Hispanic tiers and some of our Hispanic tiers and some of our Sports tiers, these are categories that consumers have going the control of the seen of the control of the seen with some of our Sports tiers, these are categories that consumers have going the control of the seen of the seen

# Homes

Continued from D6
could see prices plunging as
sales slow in the horiest marsales slow in the slow in t

as a drag on the overall economy.

By area of the country, sales were actually up by 13.4 percent in the Northeast, the biggest percentage increase in this region since January 1994. However, sales fell in all other area, led by a 2.2.1 percent drop in the West, the biggest decline in this region since February 1995. Sales were down 18.3 percent in the Midwest and fell 5.5 percent in the Midwest and fell 5.5 percent in the South.

The 4.4 percent rise in orders for durable goods, items expect-

ed to last at least three years, was the largest one-month advance since a 7.3 percent rise last May.

Analysts had expected a big gain in aircraft orders because of the sales success Boeing Co. had at the Dubal air show. Analysts said that Boeing booked 148 new plane orders for the month compared to 36 orders in October. On all types of transportation products were up 15.6 percent as the strength in commenced aircraft was offset by a 5.7 percent drop in orders for motor vehicles and parts and demand for military aircraft fell 44.3 percent.

Orders for non-defense capital goods, seen as a good abortoneter of business plans to expand and modernize, rose by 19.6 percent, but all of that strength was in the surge in air-raft orders. Euchding aircraft orders Euchding aircraft orders. Euchding aircraft seed to the strength was in the surge in air-raft orders. Euchding aircraft seed aircraft orders Euchding aircraft seed to the seed of the seed o

# Something missing?

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to include it. Please call Ramona Jones at 733-0931, Ext. 262, with your

# MUTUAL FUNDS

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