

The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/100th year, No. 365

Saturday, December 31, 2005

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50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Rain likely, High 45, low 34.
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A LOOK BACK

The top 10 local sports stories of 2005 are announced.
Page B1

IT'S OFFICIAL

This has been the fifth-wettest month since 1963. And it's still raining.
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BOGGED DOWN

Amalgamated fighting mud to get sugarbeets
Page B5



SELF-DENIAL

Fasting for faith retains its healing, redemptive mystique.
Page C1

COMING UP



Business review
Energy prices atop the biggest business stories in 2005.
Sunday in The Times-News

Feds begin investigation

Justice Department probes into leak of Bush's domestic spying

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — The Justice Department has opened another investigation into leaks of classified information, this time to determine who divulged the existence of President Bush's secret domestic spying program.
The inquiry focuses on disclosures to The New York Times about warrantless surveillance conducted by the National Security Agency since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, officials said.
The newspaper recently revealed the existence of the program in a front-page story that also acknowledged that the news had been withheld from publication for a year, partly at the request of the administration and partly because the newspaper wanted more time to confirm various aspects of the program.
White House spokesman Trent Duffy

said Justice undertook the action on its own, and Bush was informed of it Friday.
"The leaking of classified information is a serious issue. The fact is that al-Qaida's playbook is not printed on Page One and when America's is, it has serious ramifications," Duffy told reporters in Crawford, Texas, where Bush was spending the holidays.
Catherine Mathis, a spokeswoman for the Times, declined to comment.
Disclosure of the secret spying program two weeks ago unleashed a firestorm of criticism of the administration. Some critics accused the president of breaking the law by authorizing intercepts of conversations — without prior court approval or

oversight — of people inside the United States and abroad who had suspected ties to al-Qaida or its affiliates.
Bush, who publicly acknowledged the program's existence and described how it operates, has argued that the initiative is legal in a time of war.
The inquiry launched Friday is only the most recent effort by the Bush administration to determine who is disclosing information to journalists.
Two years ago, a special counsel named to investigate who inside the White House gave reporters the identity of CIA operative Valerie Plame, an effort that led to perjury and obstruction of justice charges against Vice President Dick Cheney's top aide, Lewis L. Scooter Libby.
More recently, the Justice Department has begun examining whether classified information was illegally disclosed to The

See page SPYING, Page A2

IN A SPLIT SECOND

What to do when the universe deals you an extra moment

The Associated Press

If life is often a matter of split seconds — the train door that closes in your face, the chance encounter with the love of your life, the near-collision with an oncoming SUV — then the universe is about to bestow upon us a generous gift: the leap second.

Today, at exactly 5 p.m. Mountain Standard Time, one second will be added to our official record of time — Coordinated Universal Time, kept by a series of atomic clocks, housed in environmentally sealed vaults in about 80 time-keeping laboratories around the world and certified by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in Paris.

The reason for the extra second is simple: The earth is slowing down. Since the days of Sir Isaac Newton, scientists have understood the time it takes for the earth to make a full rotation is getting longer. The gradual deceleration is caused by the gravitational pull of the moon. The same force that brings the tides is putting the brakes on the earth's spin, albeit very slowly.

And because time is a function of planetary movement, our days are getting longer and, depending on how you look at it, time is slowing down. This discrepancy is something we have only recently become able to measure. That happened in 1958 with the advent of atomic clocks, which measure time using the constant frequency of a cesium atom.

When a 24-hour day, as measured by the world's atomic clocks, becomes more than 24 (0.001) seconds shorter than a solar day, those in charge add the leap second.

Eventually the 24-hour day as we know it will become a few minutes longer, although it will take millions of years. After hundreds of millions of years, the day will grow an hour longer. The rotation of the earth and its orbital path around the sun (which is being nudged in a perpetual gravitational tug-of-war with Jupiter) are inconsistent and always vary slightly.

"If we think of all the ways we've been jerked around in the universe, we'd probably be hating on the street," joked Geoff Chester, spokesman for the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington D.C.

But cosmic fancies matter little in the time of a single person, unit, even a day in the life of any one second.

Most of us will not pause to notice the extra second. But our machines will. Our computers and mobile phones, and global positioning devices, will all stop for one second at the appointed time as they calibrate to Coordinated Universal Time.

"All this stuff depends on precise time," Chester said. "And the problem that you have if you don't get all the clocks synchronized when the leap second occurs ... you could have potentially interesting effects — is that the Internet could stop working, cell phones could go out."

The official timekeeping devices of communications companies, the world over, television stations, newspapers, indeed The Associated Press, also will be affected. But that's not for one second. For the time is critical to our technological infrastructure, some of which operates at the speed of light. Measured from three squares of distance, it represents two-thirds the distance between the earth and moon.

For the average person, observing the leap second requires focus and effort. Most cannot feel the extra second of sleep to which he will be entitled. No ball will drop. The leap second will not be observed with a countdown broadcast live from Times Square in New York City.

But for those wishing to witness the event, the process is relatively simple and requires a stop watch and a common cell phone with a time display.

At the precise moment the display reads 4:59 p.m. (MST), start the stopwatch. When the display changes to 5:00, stop the watch. It should read 61 seconds.

There. Your extra second will have been spent.

IN SEARCH OF GAME



A good year for pheasant hunting bodes well for the birds' future.

Pheasant population remains stable, low

**By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer**
RUPERT — When he moved here in 1968, Tom Dailey thought some spots of Magic Valley offered the best pheasant hunting in the country.
Today, the pheasant population — and, in turn, pheasant hunting — just isn't what it used to be. Roadside surveys conducted by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game indicate the pheasant population in the area has decreased about 70 percent from the 1970s to the 1980s. While pheasant numbers have held relatively stable over the past decade, years such as this one give hunters like Dailey hope.
"I think it's probably one of the best

years in the last 10," Dailey said.
Whispers of pheasant population decline began circulating in the early 1980s. By the mid- to late-1980s, there was no doubt that fewer pheasants called Magic Valley home, said Randy Smith, regional wildlife manager for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Agency staff frequently sported an average of 1.5 to 2 pheasants per mile while doing bird counts in Magic Valley during the 1970s, Smith said. In 2004, Fish and Game employees only saw one bird roughly every 4 miles.
Pheasants are inextricably linked to their habitat — farmland. And, changes in farming can be linked directly to ups and downs in the pheasant population.
"We wouldn't have pheasants here if

not for farming," Smith said.
Many birds, even sage grouse — are more adaptable than pheasants, said David Munsd, wildlife biologist with Fish and Game. Pheasants are not native to the state. In fact, the bird is not native to the continent. Instead, the pheasant came from China.
"If you look back at the expansion of agriculture from the East, you can tie pheasant populations to it," Munsd said.
Hood irrigation lends more to providing habitat for pheasants on farmland than does sprinkler irrigation, Munsd said. Small wetland areas and stands of unusable cropland created a patchwork quilt pattern of prime pheasant habitat across Magic Valley under flood
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6 in '06

Six things in 2006 could change Magic Valley forever.

Fireworks. Alcohol. A giant copper ball.

These are the toys David Woodhead plays with on New Year's Eve.

In Baldus' column

Lucky's takes on a new role. Mall getting new store.

Quality time

Ideas for making the most of those final days of Christmas vacation.

Stomach bug mutates into medical mystery

The Washington Post
WASHINGTON — First came stomach cramps, which left Christina Shultz doubled over and weeping in pain. Then came nausea and fatigue — so overwhelming she couldn't get out of bed for days just when she thought things couldn't get worse, the nastiest diarrhea of her life hit — repeatedly forcing her into the hospital.
Doctors finally discovered that the 35-year-old Hilliard, Ohio, woman had an intestinal bug that used to be found almost exclusively among older, sicker patients in hospitals and was usually easily cured with a dose of antibiotics. But after months of treatment, Shultz is still incapacitated.
"It's been a nightmare," said Shultz, a mother of two children. "I just want my life back."
Shultz is one of a growing number of young, otherwise healthy Americans who are being stricken by the bacterial

infection known as Clostridium difficile — or C. diff — which appears to be spreading rapidly around the country and causing unusually severe, sometimes fatal illness.
That is raising alarm among health officials, who are concerned that many cases may be misdiagnosed and are puzzled as to what is causing the microbe to become so much more common and dangerous.
"It's a new phenomenon. It's just emerging," said Clifford McDonald, of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta.
"We're very concerned. We know it's happening, but we're really not sure why it's happening or where this is going."
It may, however, be the latest example of a common, relatively benign bug that has mutated because of the overuse of antibiotics.
"This may well be another consequence of our use of
See page MYSTERY, Page A2

Military death toll for '05 near '04 level

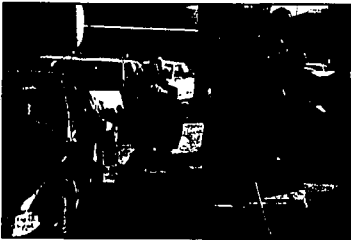
Fuel crisis hits Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Two more U.S. soldiers were killed in Iraq as the year wound down Friday, putting the American military death toll at 841 so far — just five short of 2004's lost lives despite political progress and dogged efforts to quash the insurgency.

In Baghdad, hundreds of cars lined up at gas stations as word spread that Iraq's largest oil refinery shut down two weeks ago because of threats of insurgent attacks. Nearly three years after the U.S.-led invasion, a fuel crisis again threatens to cripple a country with the world's third-largest proven oil reserves.

Violence waned on Thursday Friday, with at least 17 people killed in shootings, mortar attacks and a suicide car bombing in Baghdad. In the most serious incident, police said nine people were killed in a drive-by shooting — apparently because they were drinking alcohol in public. Two Iraqi Army captains were also gunned down in the town of Dujail, north of Baghdad, as they drove home.

A senior Sudanese diplomat



Iraqi motorists line up at a gas station in Baghdad on Friday. Long lines formed as word spread that Iraq's largest oil refinery had shut down and fears spread of a gas shortage. Iraq's largest oil refinery, in Beilji, was shut down on Dec. 18 because of the deteriorating security situation in the region.

said his country closed its embassy in Baghdad in an effort to win the release of six kidnapped employees.

"A statement was issued by the Sudanese government to close the embassy in Iraq to win the release of our kidnapped citizens," Charge d'affairs Mo-

hamed Ahmed Khalil told The Associated Press. He added that the embassy's 12 employees would leave Monday.

Al-Qaida in Iraq had threatened Thursday to kill five Sudanese on Saturday unless the country removed its diplomatic mission from Iraq.

The Sudanese Foreign Ministry reported on Dec. 24 that six of its embassy employees were kidnapped — including the mission's second secretary, Abdel Monem Mphammad Tom. It was not clear if the al-Qaida statement was referring to the same group.

The two new deaths of U.S. military personnel were announced Friday by the American military. A bomb killed one soldier when it struck his vehicle in Baghdad on Friday, while the second soldier was shot and killed in the western city of Fallujah.

Their deaths brought the number of U.S. military members killed so far in 2005 to 841, of whom 64 died in December. A total of 846 troops died in 2004 and 485 in 2003. The worst month in 2005 was January with 106 fatalities, followed by November with 96 and August with 85.

Teen leaves Baghdad for home after risky journey

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A 16-year-old from Florida who traveled to one of the world's most dangerous places without telling his parents left Baghdad on Friday to begin his journey home, the U.S. Embassy said, drawing to a close an adventure that could have cost him his life.

The mother of Tarris Hassan, the prep school junior whom U.S. officials took custody of in Baghdad this week, said she was "grateful" he was headed back. Shatha Atiya said she already knew what her first words would be to her son:

"Thank God you're alive," then I'll collapse for a few hours and then sit down and have a long discussion about his consequences," she said in Fort Lauderdale.

Consul General Richard B. Hermann said Friday that Fla-



Tarris Hassan

ssan "safely departed Baghdad." He reiterated warnings by the State Department and embassy against traveling to Iraq. Forty American citizens have been kidnapped since the war started in March 2003, of whom 10 have been killed, a U.S. official said. About 15 remain missing. Hassan spoke to The Associated Press early Friday, several hours before the embassy announcement, and he was still under the impression that he would be following his personal travel itinerary, which had him leaving the country by himself on Sunday.

Feds estimate that 2,000 Katrina evacuees are registered sex offenders

WASHINGTON (AP) — Governors in states that accepted Katrina evacuees are being urged to locate about 2,000 registered sex offenders who fled the Gulf region during the hurricane's mayhem and may have vanished from legally required tracking.

"When sex offenders know they're being watched, when they know they're being monitored, they are less likely to offend again," said Wade Horn, assistant secretary for children and families at the Health and Human Services Department.

"When they no longer believe they are being monitored or watched, they can be tempted to offend again." The Administration for Children and Families estimated that about 30 states are affected. In November, agency officials matched the names on sex offender registries in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama with the names of evacuees who applied for disaster assistance.

The agency came up with more than 2,000 matches. The find led Horn to work with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on a system that would allow state law enforcement agencies to find registered sex offenders who are receiving disaster assistance.

All states are required to have sex offender registries, and people convicted of sexually violent offenses are required to register their current addresses.

Federal authorities told Texas of 304 known sex offenders who had relocated to the state. Only 14 are known to have registered and provided their contact information to law enforcement, said Jerry Strickland, spokesman for Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott.

An additional inquiry that Texas authorities conducted with the National Crime Information Center found 188 people wanted in connection with other crimes. The attorney general's fugitive list identified 29 Louisiana fugitives on the FEMA list who were wanted for or convicted of violent crimes. Those fugitives included three wanted for homicide, seven for assault and aggravated assault, and seven for rape or sexual offenses.

States were not required to report back to the agency with their findings, so it's unclear how many have acted on the federal government's initiative. Some, however, had previously acted on their own.

Alabama ran criminal background checks on Katrina evacuees living in temporary housing in Alabama's 13 state parks.

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Fire damages Jerome building

JEROME — A fire did extensive damage Thursday night to the Jerome Chiropractic Clinic. No one was hurt. The cause remains under investigation.

The Jerome Fire Department and the Jerome Rural Fire Department battled the blaze from about 11:30 p.m. Thursday until 1 a.m. Friday.

"From the outside, other than the back, you probably wouldn't even know there was a fire," said Jerome Fire Chief Jay Jackson. "But it's pretty extensive inside."

The building at 219 S. Lincoln Ave. is owned by Mark Saccamano. Anclaire said a structural engineer will have to determine if the building is salvageable.

Rupert to swing in the new year

RUPERT — The new year will kick off with a bang tonight in Rupert as this Minidoka County town also celebrates the beginning of a yearlong series of centennial events.

The day's pre-show begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Minico High School gymnasium, 292 W 100 South. The "Hats Off to Rupert" program is scheduled for 8 p.m., followed by a dance at 9 p.m. A musical contest will be at 9:30 p.m., but contest at 10 p.m. and era costume contest at 10:30 p.m. A swing dance contest will begin at 11 p.m. Those attending will be invited to join performers in singing "God Bless Lang Syne" at 11:50 p.m. A countdown to the midnight balloon drop will follow. Fireworks over the football field will begin bursting at 12:10 a.m. weather permitting.

Tickets are \$5; those under 18 will be admitted free. Tickets are available at City Hall, the Book Store on the Rupert Square and at the door the night of the event.

Freeze on Skis near two decades of fun

TWIN FALLS — Take one ice-cold river, Add boats, a bevy of brave waterskiers and a wondrous charity and you've got a winter treat sure to please the entire family.

The 19th-annual Freeze on Skis will take place at noon Sunday at Shoshone Falls.

The event raises money for the John Bullman CNI Scholarship Fund and for Camp Handley-Gold.

For more information, call Hans Heeling, 420-2192; Henk Heeling, 734-5065; or Sandy Barton, 404-4099.

Emergency programs receive federal money

TWIN FALLS — Emergency food and shelter programs in Cassia, Minidoka, Twin Falls and Jerome counties have received notification of Phase 24, 2006 funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Twin Falls County will receive \$20,000; Minidoka County, \$12,749; Cassia County, \$10,215; and Jerome County, \$7,822.

A national board representing several charitable organizations, such as the Catholic Charities and United Way of America, distributes the federal money to expand the capacity of food and shelter programs in high-risk areas.

Local groups of county commissioners, agencies and organizations will decide how the money is distributed within their respective counties. The South Central Community Action Partnership administers the federal emergency program in Twin Falls, Jerome, Cassia and Minidoka counties.

Snowpack levels

Watershed	1/2005	2/2005
Upper Snake River	102%	41%
Henny Fork/Teton	112%	45%
Big Lost	133%	48%
Little Lost	103%	36%
Salmon	117%	46%
Big Wood	125%	49%
Little Wood	124%	48%
Salmon Falls	125%	52%
Oakley Basin	125%	51%

As of Dec. 30.

"An indicator of basin snowpack, or the respective countries. The entire snow season, which peaks in late winter, is shown in the picture above." — Dave Woodhead, owner of Woody's bar and grill.

ISP to motorists: Slow down

By Candace Baltz-Smylie
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — Idaho State Police have two words for Magic Valley drivers: slow down.

"This morning was chaos," said ISP Sgt. Chris Shenck on Friday afternoon. "Mostly slide-offs and a few crashes, but all driver error, drivers going too fast, not leaving enough space, everybody's always in a hurry anymore."

This has been the fifth-worst December and fifth-worst year in Twin Falls since 1963, when measurements began at Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport, according to the National Weather Service. And the rain continued to fall Friday night.

with more rain forecast today. All that moisture has added up to lots of wrecks.

"Every time weather hits, it does affect us — but icy roads don't cause accidents," said Capt. Dave Neal of the ISP. "They contribute to accidents, but they aren't what cause them. Drivers driving too fast for the conditions do."

Susan Bolton, a Gooding resident who commutes to Twin Falls each day, knows that well. In the last two weeks, she's seen multiple slide-offs and accidents on her way to and from work.

"I drive very slowly," Bolton said. "And all the trucks go past me. I do feel the pressure to speed up. Today, there was a semi truck in the passing lane

Got somewhere to go?

Want to know the road conditions? Call 511 for 24-hour Idaho road information.

Top 5 wettest Decembers

1996: 4.09
1984: 4.01
1983: 3.13
1981: 2.91
2005: 2.85 (and still raining)

Source: National Weather Service

Top 5 wettest years

1995: 18.31
1983: 15.90
1996: 15.40
1998: 15.05
2005: 3.4 (and still raining)

Source: National Weather Service

National Weather Service in Boise.

"We're expecting to have about three inches of precipitation for December, which is about 1.5 inches more than normal," he said.

Southern Idaho isn't the only wet area, though. Gronert said the effects of the system can be

felt all the way to China.

"It's caused by a moist flow off the Pacific, by a good flow moisture, the storm systems take moisture and produce rain with it," he said. "The firehose is kind of pointing at us right now."

Candace Baltz-Smylie covers the Magic Valley. She can be reached by e-mail at Candace.Baltz@hmail.com.

A safe place to play



Brynna Lea Krasznovigyi, 14, right, applies makeup to Randy Evans, 13, Friday night at a pre-New Year's Eve Dance Party for teens at the Twin Falls Salvation Army.

Salvation Army hosts Friday night fun for Magic Valley youths

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Amid the noise and chaos, a few youths enjoyed a safe place to relax and be with friends on Friday night.

It's all part of the Salvation Army's special event that is held every Friday evening for youth between 13 and 19 years old. They can unwind over a game of basketball, pool, or do just other activities provided by the Salvation Army's Youth Option program.

"It's just a great place for them to come

and hang out," said Trac Becker, the youth options director.

The youth must agree to rules that prohibit such things as smoking or drinking and they can be given written warnings if they break the rules. However, the kids that regularly attend the Friday night event respect the rules, Becker said.

Late Friday night, a small group of youth played basketball while some of the younger ones played video games and watched movies.

"It's something to do on Friday night," said Janae LeClair. "I like to play pool. I'm

not good at it, but I like it."

LeClair said she would just be sleeping if she wasn't at the event.

All the activities and refreshments are provided through donations to the Salvation Army, and those who oversee the activity volunteer their time. Recently, the program had to raise its entrance fee from \$1 to \$2, which pays for the utilities used during the event.

"If it wasn't for the donations, we wouldn't be able to offer much for the kids," said program director Eleanor Rainey.

Rupert man has a handle on facial hair

By Marie Mischel
For The Times-News

RUPERT — Charles Clark has turned heads all over the world.

The retired engineer is accustomed to stares from adults and pointing fingers from children. He's been getting them for 50 years, since he first grew a hand-diclar mustache in a Alaska.

"I spent 10 years in Alaska, and it was just something people did during the winter," the Rupert resident said.

When his job took him to Turkey, "It was of benefit to have. Turks are known for their mustaches. When I'd go to a village, they'd run and get the guy with the biggest mustache and we'd have to take pictures."

Clark also worked in Indonesia, where his mustache "was something. I was recognized. It was a tool. It helped me make quick acquaintance with the people. I was working with, in Indonesia I had a lot of fun with it."

He developed a game with the Indonesian children he saw growing in them like a monster so they would squeal and run and hide.

"They knew it was a game," said Clark's wife, Renee. She also found her husband's distinctive appearance useful. If the couple got separated, she

Get out the tweezers

Charles Clark will be competing in a mustache contest at 9:30 p.m. tonight, part of Rupert's New Year's Eve/Centennial Gala at the Minico High School gymnasium, 292 W 100 South. The gala starts at 7:30 p.m. and continues past midnight. Tickets are \$5; those under 18 will be admitted free. Tickets are available at City Hall, the Book Store on the Rupert Square and at the door the night of the event.

Vigilance helps reduce drunken driving

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Thinking about drinking and driving this weekend? Then you better sweat the small stuff because local businesses and police will be searching for signs of intoxicated drivers.

"We've established a pretty strong tradition of letting drivers know that we increase our enforcement during New Year's," said Capt. Matt Hicks of the Twin Falls Police Department. "I also think it's had a lot to do with local businesses remaining vigilant."

Bars in Twin Falls try to stop customers from driving if they appear to be drunk. However, it is extremely difficult to monitor all customers and there is no exact science to judge a customer's intoxication level.

"It would be easy if we could just give them a breathalyzer at the door," said David Woodhead, owner of Woody's. "But we can't do that so we just do the best we can to make sure that anyone who is really bad doesn't try and get behind the wheel."

Steve O'Connor, who with his wife, Bev owns O'Dunker's Draught House,



Local businesses and police will be taking extra precautions this weekend to prevent people from driving while drunk.

Twin Falls will drop the ball on Saturday

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Who needs Times Square when you have silos?

At 20 seconds to midnight, a few businesses in the Warehouse District will ring in the new year by dropping the ball — with a little Twin Falls twist.

The copper ball — believed to be part of an old whiskey still — will be lowered from the fifth floor of the silos at 5th Avenue South.

"Each, we were talking about dousing it with something and setting it on fire, but that had a lot of safety issues," said David Woodhead, owner of Woody's bar and grill. "It might have flames that could fall onto some lady's hat or something."

As the ball descends, tracked by high-powered spotlights, fireworks will ignite and a countdown video will be projected onto the silos.

Prior to the event, raffle tickets will be given for every can of food donated.

"The food all goes to the senior citizen center across the street," Woodhead said in a press release.

This is the third year Twin Falls has had its own "drop the ball" event.

So, what New York City has done with a few million dollars, Twin Falls has done with an old whiskey still and some abandoned silos.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Hair

Continued from A4
 would say the Indonesian word for "where," then use her fingers to draw a mustache on her face. They would know what she meant and point her in the right direction.
 "People always remember him," Renee said, recalling a visit to the LDS temple in Hountiful, Utah, when she saw Clark talking with a young woman she didn't recognize. It turned out that Clark had eaten dinner 20 years earlier with the young woman and her parents in their home in Indonesia. When she saw him in Hountiful, "she saw the mustache and it brought it back," Renee said.
 Even though her husband has had a hairy upper lip for

most of their married life, Renee won't comment on her feelings about the mustache.
 "Don't ask me what I think of it," she said, rolling her eyes, but smiling.
 Clark has been clean-shaven occasionally. When he does take a razor to his mustache, it takes about three months to grow back. The only maintenance he does is washing it with shampoo and waxing it to keep its shape.
 "I don't trim it," he said. "I don't do anything special to it. I do have to wax it, otherwise...it just falls down into my mouth and becomes a nuisance."
 Since settling in Minidoka County, "I don't get that much attention from it," he said. "It's just sort of a habit now."

Drunken

Continued from A4
 Hicks said most intoxicated drivers are reported by the establishments that serve alcohol.
 The Twin Falls Police Department will put two additional officers on the streets this weekend — a strategy the department says has contributed to fewer intoxicated drivers.
 "The number of traffic violations during New Year's is significantly higher than other days, and it's for a good reason," Hicks said. "It's one of the ways we step up our enforcement and visibility."
 Local businesses have also showed their teeth in the fight against public intoxication. When inebriated customers from a nightclub began creating problems for other downtown businesses, the businesses asked the city to shut it down — which it did.
 "It will make things easier for us because they served liquor, and it made problems that came over here," O'Connor said. "We serve beer and food

New Year's crackdown
2004-2005
 8 vehicle accidents*
 1 driving under the influence
 4 reports of driving under the influence
 68 traffic stops

2003-2004
 4 vehicle accidents*
 0 driving under the influence
 3 reports of driving under the influence
 63 traffic stops

Numbers represent New Year's Eve and New Year's Day incidents.
 * None of the vehicle accidents involved alcohol.
 Source: Twin Falls Police Department

over here cause we like to keep our people fat and happy. That's the key to keep them happy and safe so they can come back."

Become a philanthropist in one easy step. Go on vacation and donate your Times-News to our schools.

Four states report widespread flu outbreak

PHOENIX (AP) — Four western states are the nation's hotspots for flu, and an epidemiologist predicts infections will grow after the holidays as children return to school and adults go back to work.
 Arizona, Utah, California and New Mexico report widespread flu infections, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's weekly flu report. It is the CDC's highest designation for flu activity.
 "We think the worst is still yet to come," said David Engthaler, epidemiologist for the Arizona Department of Health Services. The nation's flu season typically peaks in January, February or March.
 The number of flu cases is not known. Many patients do not report cases to doctors, and doctors may not test specifically for flu in people who do seek treatment, officials said.
 Wait times at some emergency rooms in metropolitan Phoenix are getting longer as flu patients seek treatment, leading some hospitals to rearrange their staffing plans.
 Melissa Voll, 26, said she thinks she caught the bug at a halfway house where she works with recovering drug addicts. But she did not plan to approach flu season any differently in the future.
 "If it's free, I'll get a flu shot," Voll said Friday while waiting at

an emergency room in Phoenix. "Other than that, no."
 She said she does not have health insurance and went to the hospital after over-the-counter drugs failed to relieve her symptoms.
 Deborah Bussemeyer, spokeswoman for the New Mexico Department of Health, said her state is on par with a typical flu season.
 A spot check of a few hospitals in New Mexico found none inundated by patients. But doctors' offices, urgent care centers and some emergency rooms in Albuquerque reported an increase in cases.
 In Los Angeles, about 6 percent of visitors to clinics and hospitals reported influenza-type symptoms. That figure was nearly 12 percent in the San Francisco area.
 Susan Mottice, a state epidemiologist in Utah, said recent reports indicate the rate of flu activity there is rising. "That means we haven't yet peaked, and we don't know when we'll peak," Mottice said.
 At the University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City, doctors saw an influx of emergency room patients with flu-like symptoms during the week before Christmas, but the increase was not significantly higher than in busy periods in previous years.
 Dr. Art Mollen, who operates

two medical offices in Phoenix, said this flu season is far busier than in the past, but most illnesses are mild to moderate.
 "We are not to the point where we are overwhelmed," said Mollen, who expects the wave of cases to taper off into a fairly normal flu season.
 Glen Novak, a spokesman for

the CDC, said it's not known whether the outbreaks in the West reflect what other states can expect.
 "There is no data to indicate it's any different from previous seasons, but we are at the beginning," Novak said. Other states still have time to catch up, he said.

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 P S N V

NARNIA
 The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe
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Trump may consider run for governor

Knigt Ridder News Service

ALBANY, N.Y. — Could New York's state capitol building become the next Trump Tower? Republican sources said The Donald — who in 1999 toyed with the idea of running for the White House on the Reform Party line — is mulling a bid to persuade New Yorkers to hire him as their next governor.

Senate GOP leader Joseph Bruno tantalized reporters this week by declaring a wealthy mystery candidate is "thinking about seeking the party's backing to replace Gov. George Pataki."

Bruno — a longtime Trump admirer who has gained new clout within statewide GOP circles as Pataki prepares to leave state politics — wouldn't name the potential candidate.

A billionaire Republican, real estate developer, casino mogul and TV star, Trump has been a big supporter of the Bruno-controlled troupe of Republican state senators.

But he also has sent donations to Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, the current Democratic front-runner in the governor's race.

Another businessman who has been nudged to run for governor is Tim Wamer, Chairman of Richard Pan-sons, whom Pataki tried to recruit for the race.



Nicole Clark sits through what used to be the kitchen in her sister's home in Cross Plains, Texas, on Friday. Wildfires spread through the area earlier this week and destroyed homes and other buildings. Clark's sister lost a dog and precious mementos in the fire.

Firefighters contain deadly blazes in Oklahoma, Texas

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — Firefighters on Friday contained many of the wildfires that raced through Texas and Oklahoma and killed four people, but officials worried that forecasts for more warm, dry and windy weather could set the stage for additional blazes.

Oklahoma and much of Texas remained under burning bans, because authorities believe the fires were mostly set by people ignoring fire bans and burning trash, shooting fireworks or throwing out cigarettes.

In southern Oklahoma's Bryan County, a grass fire has scorched nearly 10,000

acres and destroyed 10 homes near the small town of Achille broke containment lines Friday morning, but firefighters with a water-dropping helicopter were able to bring it back under control later, Achille Fire Chief Dean Collins said.

"It's ridiculous how dry we are out here," said Albert Ashwood, director of the Oklahoma Department of Emergency Management.

The blazes, which began Tuesday, spread quickly through the dry countryside, where temperatures were in the low 80s and wind gusts reached 40 mph.

Judge grants Reagan assailant right to visit parents overnight

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal judge Friday loosened the restrictions on John W. Hinckley Jr., allowing the hospitalized presidential assailant to spend seven overnight visits with his parents in Williamsburg, Va.

Hinckley, who shot President Ronald Reagan in 1981, had been permitted to leave St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington for outings around the nation's capital. He wanted to make longer trips and travel outside the area to his parents' community in southeastern Virginia.

U.S. District Judge Paul L. Friedman ruled Hinckley could be allowed initially three, three-night visits and later another four, four-night visits. It was not known Friday when Hinckley will make the visits.

The Justice Department could

appeal the decision. Justice Spokesman John Novack said the order was being reviewed.

Friedman said Hinckley "is not permitted to leave one or both parents' supervision at any time during the course of the conditional release" except when the hospital deems it necessary.

The government had opposed Hinckley's requests to visit Williamsburg, a three-hour drive from the forensic hospital where he has been held since 1982.

When Hinckley shot Reagan

and three other people in 1981 as the president emerged from a elevator hotel, he was suffering from major depression and a psychotic disorder that led to an obsession with actress Jodie Foster.

Hinckley found not guilty by reason of insanity in 1982, said he shot Reagan to impress Foster.

His doctors have said his depression and psychosis are in full remission.

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Bush signs Patriot Act extension, defense bill

CRAWFORD, Texas (AP) — President Bush, unhappy with Congress for not permanently extending the Patriot Act, on Friday signed a bill that renews the anti-terrorism law for a few weeks and pushes lawmakers to take up the debate over its measures.

The president signed about a dozen other bills, including one funding government agencies and a defense measure that funnels extra money to Iraq, Afghanistan and the Gulf Coast.

Bush is spending the week between Christmas and New Year's Day at his Texas ranch. He plans to return to Washing-

ton on Sunday.

Bush is urging lawmakers to extend permanently parts of the Patriot Act set to expire.

The Patriot Act extension keeps anti-terrorism laws that were due to expire Dec. 31 in place until Feb. 3. The one-month extension means lawmakers must debate again in January the merits of government anti-terrorism powers that some critics fault for not protecting Americans' civil liberties.

The extension allows the FBI to continue to investigate terrorism cases using powers granted in 2001, including roving wiretaps and the authority to

intercept wire, spoken and electronic communications relating to terrorism.

The defense bill Bush signed keeps the Pentagon running, provides \$50 billion more to military action in Iraq and Afghanistan, and gives \$29 billion in hurricane aid to the Gulf Coast. The Gulf Coast aid includes \$11.5 billion for community grants to spur economic development, along with money for schools and to start shoring up New Orleans' levees.

The bill provides \$3.8 billion to prepare for a possible outbreak of bird flu and liability protections for flu drug manufacturers.



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Stay Near Go Far

OTHER VIEWS

To leap or not to leap

Chicago Tribune

Just before midnight chimes Saturday night on the world's official clock in Greenwich, England, an extra second will be added. This will mark the 23rd time a leap second has been added since international timekeepers decreed in 1972 that atomic clocks would be delinked from the planet's rotation.

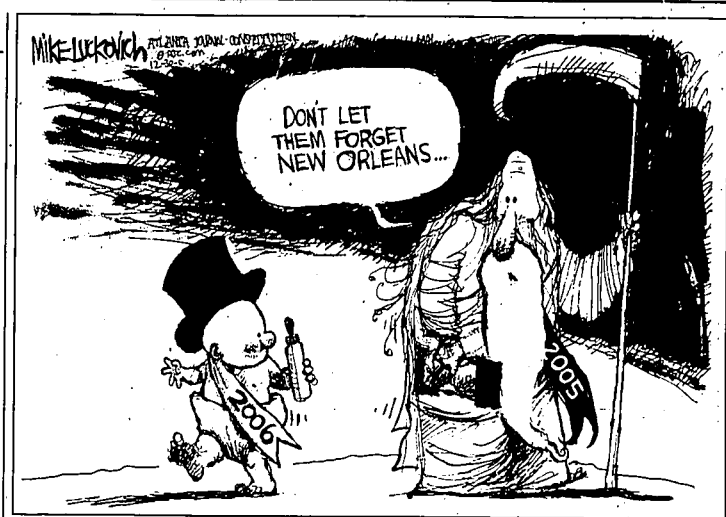
Blame the necessity for these occasional leap seconds on Mother Earth, she adamantly refuses to rotate evenly and predictably with atomic clock time. That's due primarily to Earth's molten core and all the liquid sloshing around the surface. The moon's pull creates daily tidal action that brakes the Earth's spin in an uneven manner. The International Earth Rotation and Reference Systems Service in 1972 became the coordinator of the two time scales—the Earth's and atomic clocks. It's the two deviate by more than nine-tenths of a second, the group or Dec 31. The previous adjustments have all been additions because the Earth's spin is slowing ever so imperceptibly. If Earth suddenly speeded up, however, the group could subtract a second. The last leap second was added at the end of 1998. Long before atomic time-keeping, Earth provided the only clock anyone needed. Morning came when the sun rose and evening when the

sun set. Earth's clock was sufficient for millennia, even after humans developed other ways to measure time.

All that changed when humans, with their insatiable lust for technological advances, invented atomic clocks. These clocks keep time by measuring the resonant frequency of atoms (cesium 133 is the standard) as they pass through a magnetic field. Atomic clocks measure time to the billionth of a second.

Although 22 leap seconds have been added to time without a hitch — like, well, clockwork — over the last 33 years, scientists will be watching with special care this New Year's Eve for the addition of the 23rd leap second. The modern world relies increasingly on global positioning and telecommunication systems high in the skies that are linked inextricably not to Earth time but to atomic time. Some experts worry that randomly adding a second here or there could be disruptive to the precision time they require. That risk, they fear, increases along with humankind's technological reach.

That lack here on terra firma, the concept of an extra second is less a technological worry and more a cosmic gift. For those keeping track in Chicago, your bonus 2005 second will come at 5:59:59 p.m. Central Standard Time. When it's midnight in Greenwich, That gives all of you one more blink of an eye to prepare for New Year's Eve festivities and the dawning of the new year. Spend it wisely.



Let's try to get a sense of perspective

BILL FERGUSON

It's a common practice when the end of a year approaches to take stock and consider what was accomplished over the past year and what might be on the horizon in the one to come. When it comes to this column, I have the feeling that I haven't accomplished nearly as much as I would have liked to, and I'm not optimistic that 2006 will be much of an improvement. When I started this column more than six years ago, I hoped that I would be able to use it to make a difference in some small way to help people through their problems. I thought that if my words were clever enough and my logic persuasive enough, I might be able to move people to action on issues where action was sorely needed.

There are some really big, bad things going on in our country that I don't seem to register with most Americans, and I really can't understand why that is. We have a president who knowingly, blatantly and unapologetically broke federal law by eavesdropping on American citizens without the required judicial authorization. If the president thought he should have the power to do that, he should have asked Congress to change the existing law. Instead he decided to just ignore the law, and has said that he'd continue to do so. Since the story broke we've heard voices here and there timidly suggest that maybe, possibly, we should think about impeaching this president. Let's heaven's sake! Citizens should

be swarming the White House and the Capitol building, demanding that the law be upheld. But you will see what the new year brings. Perhaps Congress will hold some hearings. That will teach him. And how about that federal budget deficit? Our children are being set up for a financial meltdown because we elect people who can't say no to tax cuts and big spending programs. There is no way, I believe, that we can think about our long-term financial outlook without feeling sick to my stomach, yet voters insist on booting any politician who dares to raise the possibility of increasing taxes or cutting popular spending programs. It's like we think that government money is mana falling from heaven that will rain down on us forever.

"Happy Holidays" instead of "Merry Christmas." If only we can make sure a Christmas tree is always called a Christmas tree, all will be well. What a sense of perspective we have! And if we can teach intelligent evolution in science class, I'm sure our children will turn out all right, even though they may one day be living under a virtual dictatorship in a bankrupt country. I don't know if they need someone to pray to in the America they are likely to inherit from us. As you can tell, I am badly in need of a healthy dose of motivation if I'm going to keep this column going in 2006 and beyond. Maybe Santa let a little common sense and selflessness under the tree for the American people this year.

Bill Ferguson is a columnist for the Moscow (Id.) Telegraph. Readers may write to him at fer_gator@msm.tn.net.

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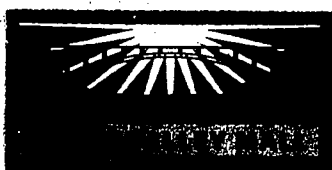
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Heidi Jean Jessica Kris Lynacy Nancy A. Jerry Jesse John Julie Kana Karen Marianne Randy Rex Richard Robert Shellen Tammy Vicki | Dani
Dustin Ed Hobbins James Jason B. Jason N. Jerry John Julie Kana Karen Marianne Randy Rex Richard Robert Shellen Tammy Vicki | Oranges Julius
Cherish Lavinia Teri | M-rilyn
Martinez III Melissa Melvin Michael Michelle Miguel Monica Nancy Noel Paul Peggy Phillip Reagan Richard B. Richard B. Robin Robyn Sabrina Sandie Sara Scyler Shane Shelley Stan Sunshine Susan Tamara Theresa Tina Trudi | Roxann
Sandra Sarah Sokey Shane H. Shane N. Shannon Sharalyn Sonia Fung Sugesonie Terry Theresa Timothy Todd Robin Trece Vanessa Venetia Will Will | Emily
Lindsay Isabel | Under the Rainbow
Brianna Maria Merced Xam | Vanity
Amanda Amanda K. Ashley V. Jessica Shayla Justine Kale Lorena Lynn Megan Noelle Whitney Triaha | Verizon
Bret Cayla Dana Danielle Lary Lorie Lupe Lynne Manuel Miranda Nate Yuyuki | | |
| Active Ear
Corey Edna Tonya | Calendar Club
Aza Danni Kellie Samantha | Corral West
Ann Cindy Corie Janie Jenrie Jeff Kelly Linda Liz Lola Pam Whitney | Gamer's World & Sports
Debbie Kevia Nancy Steve Stevea | Gamestop
Christy Chris Don James Jeffrey Joey Jose Karl E. Matt E. Nathan Rojelio Stephan Susan Tyrell | Lotus House
Brenda David Francisco Fred Janis Maria Yesenia | Mariposa
Erica Erica Lorraine Alexis Kaylene Roxanna Shayla | Payless-Shoe Source
Amol Heather Kaylene Priscilla Rachel Sara Suzy Vicki | Pretzel Maker
Chris Felicitas Joshua Maria Mary Jane Megan Ryan Teddi Ann | ShopKart
Aida Alexis Eric Allison G. Allison T. America Andrea B. Arnee W. Ashley L. Ashley S. Brooke Chantel Charlotte Chase Chelsea Christopher Crystal Delia Devina Dianna Dwayne Eric James Jennifer H. Jennifer J. Jessa Robert Jessica Jillyen Jordan Juanita Julie Kalvia Karen Kathy Kayla Kelly Kevin Dorinda Kim Kimberly Kristina Kristina Lori Lynette Mary Mar Matthew Megan Melodie Meredith Michael Mirela Mirna Naanette Nathan P. Nathan M. Nicole Pam Patricia Peggy Peggy Priscilla Raegan Randi Robyn Roisna Ronda | Spencer Gifts
Chris Dillon Jade Jill Kindy Lauren R. Lauren S. Noeh | Sunglass Hut
Angel Clayton Penny Shana Sheila | Victoria's Secret
Amy Emily Jenni Jessica Keri Kristin Melissa Nicole Nikki Tia Viki | Villa Pizza
Bobby Kerri Kyle Savannah Tiffany | Vision Communications
Amber Cesat Maria Wells Fargo Gail Jenna Kathy Nayeli Susan Toni | Zales Jewelers
Andrew Brian Christina Marc Maribeth Nick Samantha Vickie |
| Alert/Verizon
Lynseye Mike | Alert/Verizon
Amy O. Brenton Bob Britany Calvin Cara Carrie Chantell Clemente Diana Efran Emilio Emily Erin Gavin Gina Greta Ignacio Janie Janet Laurel Larry Jessica | Alpine Jewelers
Bonnie Isaac Jeff Josefine Mike Stacy | Arztan Mexican Restaurant
Angel Angelica Macaria Maria Mariela Rafael | Bath & Body Works
Amanda Amber Bu Ashley Bethany Cheleoa Cindy Cynthia David Elisa Erica Enka Heidi L. Jacqueline Jamie Katelyn Kelle Lisa Mackenzie Marlena Meiba Meranda Regina Rose Ruzanna Sarah Vickie | Beneficial Mortgage Co. of Idaho
Christy Eric Jettie Janis Sarahi | The Body Shoppe
Tami Angelita | The Book
Allison Angie Arnon Billy Brandy BreAnn Brittany Brooke Curtis Des Elaine Jaclyn Jana Kerrie Kortni Krystal Larene Leisa Lisa | Chiffnancial
Adam Alicia Amber Amy Andrea G. Angylica Ashley Boney Brandi Brionne Britany Carina Carme Chad R. Chad T. Cheryl Cnrs Cindy Collette Courtney Cynthia Daniela | Chiffnancial
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A look back at the 2005 top national sports stories.

Fantasy FootballB4
Bowl gamesB2
MoneyB5

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

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

I wonder what must the guys be feeling at the Auto Zone Bowl and Gaylord Hotels Bowl and not to forget the Chick-fil-A, a testament to that great southern tradition of fried fowl and bad spelling.

Bernie Lindcome of the Rocky Mountain News

TRIVIA

QUESTION: In the 1984 NBA draft that produced Michael Jordan, Hakeem Olajuwon, Charles Barkley and John Stockton, whom did the Clippers pick first? Hint: He was out of the league in a "flash."

...answer below

IN BRIEF

Bowler dies after third 300 game

PORTRAGE, Mich. — A bowler collapsed and died at a bowling alley shortly after rolling the third perfect game of his life. Ed Lorenz, 68, bowled a 300 Wednesday in his first league game of the night at Airway Lanes. When the referee got up to bowl in the fifth frame of his second game, he clutched his chest and fell over and efforts to revive him failed.

Burley boosters meet Monday

BURLEY — The Burley Booster Club will meet Monday, Jan. 2, at 7:15 p.m., in room 100 at the Burley High School.

All parents of Burley junior and senior high school students are invited. For more information, call 678-9763.

Soccer club holds sign-ups

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Falls soccer club is seeking boys and girls ages 8-18 to participate in its spring soccer program. Registration for new and returning players who have not yet registered will be held Thursday, Jan. 5, from 5-7 p.m. in the KMT Community Room, located at 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

For more information, contact Pat Rybicki at 734-7637 or Sasha Parlovic at 733-9411.

Ripken registration starts next month

TWIN FALLS — Cal Ripken Baseball registration for players ages 9-12 (as of April 30, 2006) will be held Monday, Jan. 9 and Tuesday, Jan. 24 from 6-8 p.m. at the Blue Recreation Building at Harmon Park. Players must reside in Twin Falls County and provide a birth certificate. Registration fee is \$50 and fund-raiser participation is required.

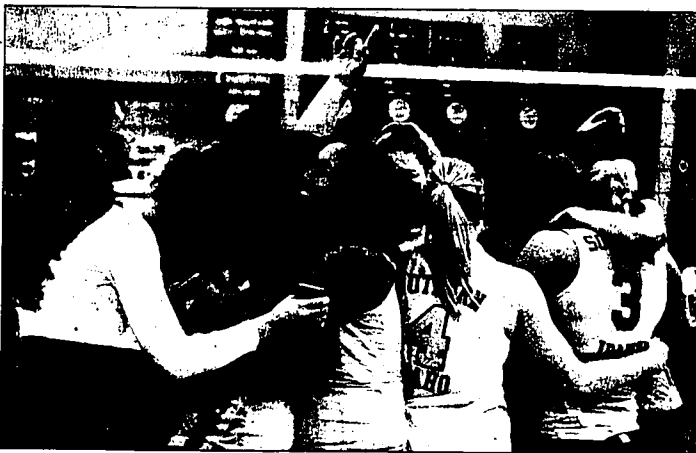
Jerome Rec offers hoops tourney

JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District will hold a basketball tournament for girls in grades 7-8 and boys in grade 6 on Jan. 6-7. The deadline to register is Dec. 30. For more information call Rick at 320-2349.

Compiled from staff reports
TRIVIA ANSWER: Lancaster Gordon.

LOCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

No doubt



College of Southern Idaho volleyball team members react after their championship victory in the NJCAA national championship match.

CSI volleyball title highlights 2005's area sports stories

TWIN FALLS — Call me Thomas, because I doubt. In hindsight, it was foolish, but when news of setter Kaylene "Judge" Finna's knee injury hit the Times-News sports department, I thought the College of Southern Idaho women's volleyball team's shot at a NJCAA national title was as torn up as his right anterior cruciate ligament.

It seemed like a replay of Andreeza Santos' left knee injury in the final practice before nationals in 2003. The one key player the team couldn't afford to lose, lost for the season. Yes.

Thankfully, this Golden Eagles team (52-2) proved to be a lot more than one player. The ability of freshmen Puhli Uhiwaha and Aneli Cobi-Ontivero to step forward into a setter's role was critical.

The rest of team also stepped up, making adjustments to be new setters and powering the ball over the net. It took a lot of hard work. But head coach Ben Stroud remarked that this group of women weren't afraid of hard work way back on the first day of practice.

That hard work came from a burning desire to reclaim the national title after many fans and the remaining sophomores felt their best chance was taken away in 2004. That fire was sparked after the National Junior College Athletic Association ended a potential championship season for CSI with a scholarship sanction in November 2004.

No matter, the hindrance seemed only to inspire Stroud and the team. "They just wanted it so bad, and I wanted it more," Stroud said after the title match. "You know, after everything that happened last year, I wanted it. A little bit of this goes toward those kids."

The winnigest junior college volleyball program now has its eighth NJCAA championship and another set of All-Americans to fill its program. It's beat Miami-Dade, the No. 2 program, all six times the teams have met in the title match.



PAISLEY PRINT Joe Paisley

The title is the school's first since 2000, which ended a run of seven straight championships in eight years. But black words on white paper do little to convey what the championship meant to the players. "We'll have this forever," said sophomore Martina Szymanska. "Of that, there's no doubt."

No. 2 Shoshone wins girls basketball and volleyball state Class 1A titles

A group of players — led by Kyla Astle, Kallie Axelson, Hailey Harris and Katie Strunk — came around every generation or so for a small town like Shoshone.

This was a historic year for Shoshone athletes. "I almost feel sorry for the younger girls, that they'll have to try to live up to this," head coach Tim Chapman said after leading Kendrick 50-32 in February. "But hopefully those girls look up to this team and say they want to be like them. In 20 or 30 years, these girls are going to be in the 'Legends of the Game' ceremony they have during the championships."

The basketball title in February cemented their spot as one of the top groups in recent Idaho high school sports history. That was the second state title (2004 volleyball) in four months to go along with 2004's second-place finish in basketball. But they weren't bridesmaids for long.

Add in this fall's IA state volleyball title and there's little doubt. The Indians have not dropped a volleyball match to another IA team since the state title match in 2003 against Troy. "They're just a tremendous group of students, tremen-



Indian senior Hailey Harris (20) drives past her Kendrick defender during the third quarter of Shoshone's 50-32 win over the Tigers.

dous," said head coach Larry Messick last month. "I couldn't happen to a better group."

They proved they had the mental toughness it takes to be champions, over and over now. "These girls have been focused all year," Chapman said after the basketball title. "After (2004's) loss, every girl got an 8x10 photo of the Idaho Center with Feb. 19, 2005 written on it. Because that was the goal — to show everybody we could win it all."

That they did.

No. 3 CSI women take second at nationals

The top-ranked Golden Eagles women (34-2) would have liked a better result in the NJCAA women's championship game, but a 83-50 loss to Central Arizona did little to

downplay the history made by the 2004-05 team. It was the fifth NJCAA tournament appearance by the women's program and second in a row under two-time Region 18 coach of the year Randy Rogers. The team took the consolation championship last year.

It was the best NJCAA finish ever by a Scenic West Athletic Conference team.

No. 4 CSI men take third at nationals

Expectations are always high for the Golden Eagles men, but few should have been disappointed in their third-place finish at the NJCAA men's basketball Division I tournament.

It was the second year in a row the Eagles advanced to

Chargers playing for pride and little else

The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The Denver Broncos and San Diego Chargers scuff at suggestions their season finale is meaningless. OK, there will be some statistical milestones at stake Saturday, such as the possibility of the Broncos having two 1,000-yard rushers and the Chargers posting consecutive 10-win seasons for the first time in 24 years.

But this game means nothing in the playoff picture. Denver (12-3) has clinched the AFC West title and a first-round bye.

The only bye for the Chargers is an exhibition game in last year, was saying goodbye to their playoff chances last weekend, when they looked listless in losing 20-7 at Kansas City.

The Broncos plan to hold out four injured starters: linebacker Al Wilson, defensive end Courtney Brown, cornerback Darrent Williams and running back Mike Anderson. They'll otherwise begin taping up for their playoff opener in two weeks.

"I am not sure how anybody treats a regular-season game like an exhibition game in last year," the big difference is that when you play your second unit, you play your first pre-season game, there are 65 players on your team, you have a chance to play your second unit. When you go in with seven offensive linemen, if you want to use your second unit, there would only be two guys on that offensive line."

"You have to put a product out on the field. When you have four starters out of the game as we do, you have to have everybody else playing. If you did play your second unit, who would play special teams?"

Please see CHARGERS, Page B2

Collins eager for matchup with Giants

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. — Kerry Collins would like nothing more than to spoil the New York Giants' chance at the NFC East crown.

The team he led to the 2001 Super Bowl made him expendable when it traded him to the Raiders. Eh Manning on draft day last year.

Collins joined the Raiders and has struggled to match the success he had in five solid seasons with New York.

"Certainly I was disappointed when things went down the way they did, and so to exact a little bit of revenge this weekend would be nice," Collins said. "But first and foremost, we want to win. It's our own reasons. It's been a tough year, and we want to finish the right way."

"What a fitting subplot for a New York team trying to win the division and the Super Bowl playoff game on New Year's Eve — a frightening thought considering the Raiders' rosy fan following."

It could be the final game in Oakland for Collins and coach Norv Turner, whose team has won just nine games in his two seasons. Collins will cost too much next season under his current contract, but could take a pay cut to stay.

Collins insists he no longer has any ill feelings toward his former franchise. He did not meet Manning until just a few weeks ago, when the Raiders played at the Jets on Dec. 11. "It's been a good play in this league for a long period of time and I've always enjoyed watching him play," Manning said. "For me, I didn't know what was going to happen. Oh."

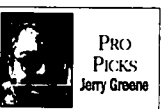
Please see GIANTS, Page B2

When winning hurts the cause

ORLANDO, Fla. — Week 17 — a/k/a "Garbage Week" in the NFL.

At least it seems that way when some teams know they are in the playoffs and want to protect their stars, while other teams know they are not in the playoffs and have nothing to protect.

Or so it seems. (Cue sinister music.) Week 17 is also when some teams benefit by losing, although the NFL doesn't want you to think about that. Yes, we're talking ethics here, people. Heavy stuff. Two examples: The New England Patriots host the Miami Dolphins, while



the Cincinnati Bengals are at Kansas City at the same time Sunday. If New England wins and the Bengals lose, the Patriots become the AFC's third seed — and probably play the Pittsburgh Steelers in the first round of the playoffs. But if the Pats lose, they will finish seeded fourth and definitely host the

Jacksonville Jaguars. Which foe would you want?

The Houston Texans are at San Francisco in a classic finish. If the Texans lose, they will have the first overall draft pick and can sign USC RB Reggie Bush as soon as he hires an agent. But if they win, they will be in a "strength of victory" teabreaker, with as many as four other teams for the first pick. I'm thinking the Texans punt on second down Sunday.

LAST WEEK: Based on what I wrote here, I was 10-6 straight up (159-81 for season) and 8-7-1 against the spread (118-115-7 for season). Time for

the big finish! Chargers won't be able to fire it up vs. Broncos

Denver (12-3) at San Diego (9-6) on Saturday — Chargers favored by 5.5. Broncos need no help while Dis-Chargers are being helped. Says grumpy Dis-Charger Coach Marty Schottenheimer: "Our starters will start, our starters will play." Too bad you didn't figure that out sooner, Marty. In an Arking-insult-To-injury Upset Special, Broncos by 3.

East: Rutherford Giants (10-5) at Oakland (4-11) Saturday — Giants favored by 9. This Please see PICKS, Page B2

SPORTS

Find out who cares in Week 17

For fantasy football leagues playing their championship game in the final week of the NFL regular season, one huge question looms: Who cares?

FANTASY FOOTBALL John McFarland



Green Bay quarterback Brett Favre looks to pass downfield while Chicago's Tank Johnson pass rushes.

Fantasy Finale

This is the final fantasy column of the season.

BACK AVOID SLOWLY AND NOBODY GETS HURT

Case, in the name of Stoney Case, don't start these guys: If you're feeling nostalgic, start Green Bay's Brett Favre for what would be his final game. If you want to win, sit Favre, who has no touchdowns and nine of his career-high 25 interceptions in the past four games.

RUNNING BACKS: LEE LAY LONG

The Chiefs' Larry Johnson is just plain frightening, with eight straight 100-yard games and scores in six straight. He's the NFL's third-leading rusher despite sharing time about half the season, and he faces a mediocre Bengals defense.

If Dallas' Julius Jones doesn't get hurt between now and kickoff, he should shred the Rams' 30th-ranked run defense. He's coming off his first 100-yard game in nearly a year and carried for his first 100 yards since October.

Jacksonville's Fred Taylor finally eluded the injury report and should likewise dodge timid Titans tacklers. Taylor's coming off his first 100-yard game since October, and Tennessee has allowed a 100-yard rusher in four straight games.

Start Jerome Bettis and Willie Parker for the Steelers, who should earn the final AFC playoff spot by running over Detroit. The Lions are mostly just wondering what's going to happen next year, and some players may end up deciding to sport 'Ere Millen' signs.

Seattle's Shaun Alexander is a good start if you need a touchdown and little else. The Seahawks are certain to let him set the NFL record with his 28th TD, then bench him seconds later.

RED FLAGS

You get the feeling Reuben Droughns is a little tired after being the Browns' only offense all year. He hasn't scored a touchdown, run for 100 yards or averaged more than 3.8 yards a carry for the past five weeks.

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Miami's Ricky Williams had his first 100-yard game since before the whole drug testing/inner peace/world travel thing, but the resurgent Patriots defense should bring plenty of bad karma.

WIDE RECEIVERS: THROW HIM THE DARN BALL!

Start Cincinnati's Chad Johnson and the NFL's toughest manzanda even if the Bengals rest Carson Palmer. Backup Jon Kina can find just one just one against the Chiefs' fishy pass defense.

Forget who's quarterbacking for the Rams. They could dust off Dieter Brock and Torry Holt would have 100 yards and a score. He has two touchdowns and three 100-yard games over a variety of throwers over the past seven weeks.

Likewise, Santana Moss will keep producing no matter who's starting in Washington. He's coming off his 100-yard game and trails Carolina's Steve Smith by 32 yards for the league lead in yardage. Oh yeah, and the Redskins need to win.

The guy the Redskins traded for Moss, Laveranues Coles, is trying to make the swap look like he's for the jets. He has three of his five TDs this season in the past two weeks.

Start Miami's Chris Chambers and enjoy this odd start about him. He has six touchdowns in the past five weeks, the same number as Steve Smith, Randy Moss and Chad Johnson combined during that span.

MAYBE THROW HIM THE DARN BALL!

Chicago's Muhsin Muhammad could be a good start. The Bears and Rex Grossman need to keep learning about that forward pass thing before the playoffs, and the Vikings are done.

SHOW HIM THE DARN BENCH

If you have Colts receivers, give them a rest. The good ones won't play much, and Jim Sorgi will be throwing the ball kind of near the others.

Where'd Kansas City's Eddie Kennison go? He has just one score in the past five weeks.

DEFENSE TO WATCH: STEVENSON, GASKIN, SEAHAWKS, REDDICKS, PATRIOTS.

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Broadcaster critical with staph infection

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Former Rams receiver and current broadcaster Jack Snow was in critical condition Friday with a staph infection.

The 62-year-old Snow was at Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Hospital spokesman Jason Merrill said he could not discuss details of the illness.

Rams spokesman Duane Lewis said Snow became ill in November. He was better, but was hospitalized last week.

Lewis said Snow's family was with him at the hospital. He believed Snow's son, San Francisco Giants first baseman

J.T. Snow, was among them. Jack Snow, a color analyst on the Rams' radio broadcast even before the team moved here 10 years ago, was last in the booth Nov. 20 during a home loss to Arizona. He has missed the last five games. The Rams play their season finale Sunday night in Dallas.

Snow has been part of the Rams' virtually since being drafted out of Notre Dame in 1965. He spent 11 years as a player with the team when it was in Los Angeles, retiring in 1975.

He was selected to the Pro Bowl in 1967 and still is among the team leaders in several receiving categories.

Staph bacteria are a common cause of skin infections. Healthily people might carry the bacteria on their skin and in their noses. Still, the germ can cause serious surgical wound infections, bloodstream infections and pneumonia.

Snow did not know how 'Staph got the infection, most common among those who live in close proximity to others. That can include sports teams. In fact, the Rams had a outbreak of the infections in 2003.

The Chargers, 12-4 last year, won in the playoff picture until being done in by two losses sandwiched around their win at Indianapolis, which wrecked the Colts' perfect season.

LaDainian Tomlinson, bothered the last 3.5 games with a rib injury, will try to end a four-game slump in which he's been kept out of the end zone and failed to crack 100 yards.

With 19 touchdowns, Tomlinson still needs one to own the franchise single-season record outright. He's tied with Chuck Muncie, who set the record in 1981.

Collins' former teammates understand why he might be a little amped to make a statement to Giants management.

"Well, that's good. He should," said Pro Bowl defensive end Michael Strahan, held without a sack in last week's loss at Washington. "I'm sure he's not happy with the way he left the Giants and I'm sure I would."

Collins has completed 276 passes for 3,428 yards and 17 touchdowns, but also has thrown 12 interceptions and been sacked 36 times. He's hoping for a big game against his

old team, which would provide this downtrodden team with a little boost heading into the off-season.

The Raiders (4-11) have lost their last five games and seven of eight, scoring just 30 points in the past four games.

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Chargers

Continued from B1

Quarterback Jake Plummer put it best. "Just being a professional, you know you have to go out and play. You don't want to look bad on Saturday. Every one of our guys is mature and knows that there isn't really anything on the line except if we win we'll have 13 weeks. Any time you can do that is a big accomplishment. We will approach everything the same way we have since Week 1 as far as preparing and getting ready and hopefully getting a W."

The Broncos have the chance to make some history.

Collins has become quite adept at dealing with setbacks in his life and moving forward. The 11-year pro overcame an alcohol problem early in his career with Carolina, then bounced back with the Giants.

This season began in promising fashion for Collins. He had his shining moments early, but has been booed by Oakland fans and benched in favor of backup Marques Tuiasosopo for the last three games.

He's been blamed for a good chunk of Oakland's problems,

namely an ineffective offense that has struggled despite having Randy Moss, Jerry Porter and LaMont Jordan, who will miss his second straight game with turf trouble.

"Kerry gets excited for every game, and I'm sure he'll be a little more here," Turner said. "But you know, he's played enough and he knows you've got to go play. And you've got to play within what we're doing and what the defense is giving us opportunities to do."

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Giants

Continued from B1

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Twin Falls High School senior Brady Jardine passes the ball past Blue Raiders defenders during a recent game in Twin Falls.

This late entry into the top 10 certainly bodes well. CSI has high standards and they certainly picked a coach that can match those expectations. The longtime Twin Falls High coach certainly went to the area's college talent slip away to rival programs.

It's difficult to pick an individual accomplishment for the area's top 10 over so many others. There are simply too many state honorees. So, a couple area athletes who succeeded at the national level crack the list this year.

Wendell's Jaymie Goodbody took third place in the young women's heptathlon competition at the 2005 USAITF National Junior Olympic Track & Field Championships in Indianapolis, Ind. this past summer.

The Stanford track athlete was hardly disappointed by the third-place showing, matching her finish last summer. Her 4,715 points was her second-best all-time.

Amarda Ward, 12, won the national Junior Olympics cross country title for girls ages 11-12 a couple weeks ago. There's an excellent chance you'll be reading about her in a top 10 a few years from now.

Jaymie Goodbody and Amanda Ward

Times-News sports editor Joe Call 733-0931 to subscribe.

Picks

Continued from B1

is one of five games that can affect the NFL playoffs — and there are 29 combinations of results that can change the qualifiers and the seeding. But you can ignore the 15 combinations that include the Raiders winning. Giants by 12.

(All remaining games are on Sunday.)

Miami (8-7) at New England (10-5) — Patriots favored by 6. Patriots would be better off losing. But ending the regular season by losing to the Fish at home? Shameful. Proud Pats by 12.

New Orleans (3-12) at Tampa Bay (10-5) — Bucs favored by 13.5. If you're the Saints you just want the pain to run. If you're the Bucs, you just want to do enough to win. Bucs by just cautious 8.

Tennessee (1-11) at Jacksonville (11-4) — Jaguars favored by 3.5. Jaguars favored a quarterback. Titans must find one. Meanwhile, Titans defensive coordinator Jim Schwartz says, "We know how to stop the run. If you're the Bucs, you just want to do enough to win. Bucs by just cautious 8."

Arizona (5-10) at Indianapolis (13-2) — Colts favored by 10.5. Colts look vulnerable for the top two spots. Sons' just as suddenly, the Colts have the support of millions, too. No offense, Arizona fans (Bucs of you, but I want Tony Danza's team to win. Colts by 10).

Baltimore (6-9) at Cleveland (5-10) — Ravens favored by 3. It's like the Ravens' offensive alarm clock finally went off in that they have scored 78 points in the past two weeks. Meanwhile, Browns' QB Charlie Fryer was sacked eight times and fumbled four times last week. I think his message is clear — he doesn't want the ball. Ravens by 7.

Buffalo (5-10) at East Rutherford Jets (3-12) — Bills favored by 1.5. Jets Coach Herman Edwards had to pick a general assistant coach, too, between Brooks Bollinger and Mick Jagger, uh, Vinny Testaverde. Said Herm: "Brookie, nobody respects a quarterback called Brookie. Bills beat Brookie by 10."

Carolina (10-5) at Atlanta (9-7) — Panthers favored by 4. All this the Underchevrons Ball. I'm disgusted with both teams, so I'd like to pick a tie. (OK, heads 'n' tails, the Panthers, tails it's the Falcons... OK, go to Panthers by a dime, uh, by 0.

Cincinnati (11-4) at Kansas City (9-6) — Chiefs favored by 7.5. Do Bengals care about winning? Chiefs must win and hope the Detroit Lions (14) beat the Pittsburgh Steelers. Regardless, Chiefs RB Larry Johnson hopes for rain late last week. "It's so much fun to get in the mud and stomp around." I feel the same way — although the neighbors don't like it. Muddy Chiefs by just 4.

Detroit (10) at Pittsburgh (10-5) — Steelers favored by 13.5. Hey, the Lions could win — just as soon as Jennifer Aniston and Angelina Jolie dump

Brad Pitt for me. (Guess I should be rooting for the Lions, huh?) Steelers by just 10.

Seattle (13-2) at Green Bay (3-12) — Cheeseheads favored by 3.5. Even for "entertainment purposes only," this point spread is absurd. The Seahawks will have players bad enough to lose to the Heads unless Seattle orders its guys to drop those intercepted passes. In a Moral, Lock Upset Special, Seahawks, P's by 7.

Chicago (11-4) at Minnesota (8-7) — Vikings favored by 4. Either way, say "Goodbye," Mike Tie. In a Maybe-It-Beats-The-Other-Team Special, Da Bears by 10.

Washington (9-6) at Philadelphia (6-9) — Washington favored by 7.5. Ladies and gentlemen, a round of applause for the defending NFL champion from Philadelphia as they leave the stage. Washington by 9.

Houston (2-13) at San Francisco (3-12) — Texans favored by 1. Niners: "OK, no ahead and score." Texans: "No, why don't you score?" Niners: "We're polite hosts, so you score." Texans: "Aye before beauty, you score." ... This could take a while. In a Texans-Aren't-Dumb-Enough-To-Win Special, Niners by 2 in a Sumb.

St. Louis (5-10) at Dallas (9-6) on Sunday night — Cowboys favored by 12.5. Hey, it's the last Sunday night game on ESPN. Turn out the lights, the party's over? What? The winner? Who cares? Cowboys by just 6.

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SPORTS

LSU throttles Miami



Miami tailback Quadrine Hill (23) looks on at the end of a 40-3 loss to Louisiana State in the Peach Bowl Friday in Atlanta.

UCLA wins Sun shootout; Cavaliers rally past Gophers

ATLANTA (AP) — Matt Flynn did so well in his first start, the Peach Bowl turned into 60 minutes of fun for No. 10 LSU.

What happened after the game wasn't nearly so nice.

Flynn threw two touchdown passes. Joseph Addai rushed for 130 yards and the Tigers humbled No. 9 Miami, even running a couple of fake kicks in a 40-3 rout Friday that marked the Hurricanes' most lopsided bowl loss ever.

There were shoves and punches thrown between players immediately after the game as both teams left the field into the same tunnel. Georgia State Patrol officers intervened, and minutes later Miami's Andrew Bain, apparently dazed, was escorted by officers back out of the tunnel.

Flynn, a sophomore filling in for injured starter Lamar Russell, completed 13 of 22 passes for 196 yards with no interceptions. He also rushed for 39 yards and was named the offensive MVP.

Led by Flynn, LSU (11-2) rebounded from its worst game of the year, a 44-14 loss to Georgia in the Ivie, J. Southwestern Conference championship game, returning to the Georgia Dome and delivering one of its strongest performances of the season.

LSU scored on eight straight possession in a streak that started with a field goal late in the first quarter, included two third-quarter scoring drives, and lasted into the final quarter.

Even with a lopsided lead, LSU attempted to add to the rout, successfully faking a field goal while leading 34-3 late in

the third quarter and then failing on a fake punt with a 40-3 lead late in the game.

LSU piled up 471 yards, the most allowed by Miami this season. The Hurricanes (9-3) entered leading the nation in pass defense and ranked third in total defense.

The Tigers were just as impressive on defense, holding Miami to 153 yards and six first downs — none in the second half. Kyle Wright completed only 10 of 21 passes for 100 yards.

LSU's dominant performance negated Miami's plan to utilize cornerback Devin Flester as a multiple threat on offense.

On Miami's first possession, Hester lined up at tailback and receiver and also took a direct snap at quarterback. Hester had two catches for 40 yards and six carries for 24 yards.

Hester had a 24-yard run on the possession to set up a field goal. But overall, the junior and the Hurricanes were contained.

LSU had its largest margin of victory in a bowl game, easily surpassing its 45-26 win over Michigan in the 1995 Independence Bowl. Miami's previous most lopsided loss in a bowl game was a 29-0 loss to Arizona in the Fiesta Bowl on Jan. 1, 1994.

Virginia 34, Minnesota 31

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Virginia had a distracting December with four coaches departing for new jobs. Markques Hagans and his fellow Cavaliers kept their focus back in the Music City Bowl.

Connor Hughes kicked a 39-yard field goal with 1:08 left, and Hughes threw for a career-high 358 yards in helping Virginia overcome a 14-point deficit to beat Minnesota 34-31 Friday.

Minnesota had every opportunity to blow the Cavaliers out and win this bowl for the third time in four years, but the nation's fifth-best offense bogged down after taking a 31-24 lead early in the fourth quarter.

Gophers running back Lawrence Maroney finished with 26 carries for 109 yards, giving him a school-record, 1,404 for the season. The junior immediately announced he would enter the NFL Draft.

No. 17 UCLA 50, Northwestern 38

EL PASO, Texas — Brandon Breazzell returned two inside kicks for touchdowns and Drew Olson recovered from an awful first quarter by throwing three TD passes, leading No. 17 UCLA to a 50-38 win over Northwestern in the Sun Bowl on Friday.

With star tailback Maurice Drew limited to punt returns after a first-half shoulder injury, Chris Markey finished with 150 yards rushing and Kahil Bell added 136 yards. The Bruins (10-2) gave coach Karl Dorrell his first bowl victory in three tries.

The Wildcats (7-5) pulled within 36-31 with 2:29 to play when Brett Basanez threw a 9-yard touchdown pass to Mark Philmore, but Breazzell — a receiver lined up to make sure the Bruins kept the ball — returned the ensuing inside kick 43 yards.

After Basanez added a 5-yard

TD pass to Shaun Herbert with 23 seconds remaining, Breazzell struck again by taking the next inside kick for a 41-yard score, punctuating the highest-scoring Sun Bowl ever.

It figured to be a wild afternoon, as both teams came in ranked among the national leaders in offense but among the nation's worst defenses. Sure enough, the Wildcats set a Sun Bowl record with 584 total yards and the teams combined for another record with 1,037 yards.

Missouri 38, South Carolina 31

SHREVEPORT, La. — South Carolina's game plan of keeping Brad Smith in check worked great — for a half, anyway.

Then, the Missouri quarterback broke loose, as he has done so often in his career, rushing for three touchdowns including a 1-yarder in the first half — and passing for another to rally the Tigers for a 38-31 victory over the Gamecocks in the Independence Bowl on Friday.

Smith, who rushed for 1,151 yards and passed for 2,022 this season, accounted for 431 of Missouri's 584 yards as the Tigers staged their biggest comeback victory of the year.

Missouri (7-5) trailed 21-0 after the first quarter as Steve Spurrier's Gamecocks dominated the first half. South Carolina (7-5) outgained Missouri 312 yards to 174 in the first half and held the football almost 11 minutes longer (20:02-9:50).

The Tigers didn't convert a third-down until the final 58 seconds of the half.

Heat notch 14th win in a row over Wizards

WASHINGTON (AP) — Gilbert Arenas career-high 47 points weren't enough to end the Washington Wizards' streak of futility against the Miami Heat, who made it 14 in a row over their Southeast Division rivals with a 128-113 victory Friday night.

Dwyane Wade scored 34 points, Shaquille O'Neal had 28 points and 10 rebounds, and Antoine Walker had 21 points and 13 rebounds for the Heat, who shot 55 percent and pulled away in the fourth quarter for their highest scoring output of the season.

Arenas made 15 of 29 field goals and 13 of 14 free throws carried his team through three quarters, but went 1-for-6 in the fourth as part of a team-wide 5-for-22 slump.

whose streak is fourth-longest in franchise history and six short of the record set in 2003-04. Jason Kidd also scored 21 points and added nine assists.

At Harrington had 26 points for Atlanta. Joe Johnson had 20 and Tyronn Lue 18 for the Hawks, lost their third straight.

Suns 110, Bobcats 100

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Eddie House scored 12 of his 26 points in the fourth quarter to lead the Phoenix Suns to a victory over the Bobcats.

House shot 10-of-18 from the field to help the Suns win their third consecutive game.

It was a redemption of sorts for House, who was waived by the Bobcats last season as they closed in on a trade for shooting guard Kareem Rush. Knowing that House's minutes would dwindle, once Rush arrived, Charlotte let him go.

Keith Bogans came off the bench to lead Charlotte with 18 points.

Bucks 113, Knicks 108

MILWAUKEE — Mo Williams scored 30 points and Michael Redd added 22 to lead the Milwaukee Bucks to a victory over the struggling New York Knicks.

Williams, starting at point guard with a sprained foot, led the Bucks' dynamic backcourt as Milwaukee improved to 14-1 when scoring more than 100 points.

Bobby Simmons had 18 points and Jamaal Magloire added 15 for the Bucks.

The Knicks dropped to 7-21 — matching their worst start since 1986-87 — and fell into last place in the Atlantic Division, percentage points behind Toronto (8-22).

Stephen Marbury had 23 points and 12 assists one game after he didn't hit a shot from the field and was criticized by coach Larry Brown. Maurice Taylor scored 18 points, Channing Frye added 15 and Eddy Curry 12.

Warriors 111, Mavericks 109

DALLAS — Baron Davis scored a season-high 34 points, including the go-ahead basket with 5 seconds left, to lift Golden State past the Mavericks.

Jason Richardson had 32 points and Thy Murphy contributed 18 points and 14 rebounds for the Warriors.

Dallas led by as many as 10 in the fourth quarter, but Richardson scored 16 in the final quarter and Davis added eight.

With the game tied at 109, Davis nailed an open 21-footer from the left wing with less than a second left to give the Warriors their first lead of the fourth quarter.

Jason Terry missed a 20-footer at the buzzer that would have tied the game.

Golden State beat Dallas for only the third time in the last 26 meetings.

Dark Nowitzki's 24 points and Jerry Stackhouse's 19 paced the Mavericks, who had won six of their previous seven.

No. 18 Kentucky holds off Ohio Bobcats

CINCINNATI (AP) — Joe Crawford and Brandon Bradley had career highs Friday night, rescuing No. 18 Kentucky from an off-night by its top two guards and rallying the Wildcats to a 71-63 victory over Ohio in their annual trek across the Ohio River.

Crawford scored 23 points and Bradley had 16 in an offense so stagnant at times that each player's mouth smacked by black leather shoe laces on the floor. Kentucky (9-3) got little from its two point guards — Baron Bonita was 2-of-4 for six points and Patrick Sparks was 1-of-10 for three.

Ohio (6-2) led most of the game, but led by only one point three times. The Bobcats unraveled after leading 59-55 with 0:44 to go. Italan Samu had a tip-in and a three-point play that gave Kentucky its first lead since the middle of the first half and started the closing sprint.

Mychal Green led Ohio with 16 points, but in the first half, when the Bobcats shot 65 percent from the field.

The Wildcat made what was likely their final trip to the downtown arena where they have played a game each of the last eight seasons to reward their fan base in northern Kentucky. The contract to play at U.S. Bank Arena ends after this season.

They have lost only once in 14

games at the arena — Dayton beat them by two in 1999. Ohio had never won a game there, but the Mid-American Conference's top-ranked team lost its shooting touch down the stretch.

No. 19 N.C. State 79, No. 12 G. Wash. 58

RALEIGH, N.C. — The moment came when the outcome already was decided, yet that hardly mattered to North Carolina State's Iban Estunova.

Looking over at the players for No. 12 George Washington,

he saw the body language of an opponent which knew it was beaten.

"That's such a good feeling to get when you're on the court, and you're doing that to the other team," Estunova said. "And you know that even though you're ahead, you're stomping and you keep playing hard, you keep playing defense."

Carl Elliott had 14 points for the Colonials, and leading scorer Iban Estunova finished with 11, about five points below his average. Transfer Regis Koundjia, finally eligible after arriving from LSU, had nine points be-

fore fouling out in his debut.

Ark.-Little Rock 73, Idaho St. 72

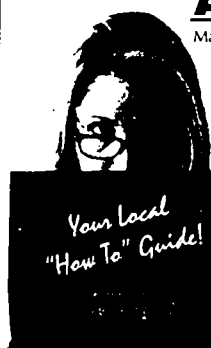
LOGAN, UTAH — Elijah Muldrow scored 18 points and led four Trojans in double figures as Arkansas-Little Rock topped Idaho State 73-72 in the consolation game of the Gossner Foods Holiday Classic Friday night.

Rashad Justin-Jennings also scored 17 and pulled down a game-high 12 rebounds while Lekheythann Malone added 14 for the Trojans (7-5).

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Bloxham gets promotion in T.F.

TWIN FALLS — Greg Bloxham has been promoted to store manager of the Everton Mattress Factory store on Second Avenue in the Old Town District. Bloxham joined the Everton retail sales team in 2003.



Bloxham, the store, now called Everton Value Direct, offers mattresses and furniture.

More parents saving for kids' college

NEW YORK — All those reports about the rising cost of a college education appear to be having an impact on the savings patterns of American families.

A survey finds that parents with children under age 18 are more concerned about saving for their children's education than they are about saving for retirement.

The study was commissioned by The Vanguard Group mutual fund company, which is based in Valley Forge, Pa., and Upright Investments Inc. of Needham, Mass., which channels shopping rebates into educational savings accounts.

The survey found that 37 percent of the more than 1,000 parents who were interviewed said saving for college was of primary concern, compared with 31 percent who said retirement was their top financial concern. The rest said that saving for a house, car or other major purchase was most important.

NWA mechanics turn down proposal

DETROIT — Union mechanics and plane cleaners at Northwest Airlines last fall loved an offer of their labor leaders Friday and voted to continue their four-month-long strike.

Mechanics rejected a proposed settlement that offered four weeks of severance pay. It would have made strikers eligible for future job openings, but would have returned no one to work immediately.

Forty-seven percent, or 1,258 of the 2,223 mechanics and plane cleaners who voted, rejected the contract, 73 percent of the striking members voted.

Delta says it lost \$182M in November

ATLANTA — Delta Air Lines Inc., the nation's third-largest carrier, said Friday it lost \$182 million in November, pushing its red ink to \$11.6 billion since January 2001.

The Atlanta-based airline, which filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection in New York on Sept. 14, also said in a court filing that it spent \$2.39 billion in the 30-day period.

It must file a monthly operating report with the bankruptcy court.

The latest loss, which is equivalent to 36 cents a share, includes \$11 million in preferred stock dividends that Delta accrued but did not pay. Spokeswoman Chris Kelly said, "It still considered the money part of its loss."

Citigroup leads bid to acquire Chinese bank

NEW YORK — A consortium led by Citigroup Inc. has bid \$3 billion for a controlling stake in China's Guangdong Development Bank, a leading Chinese business magazine reported Friday. If completed, the deal would be among the largest ever foreign investments in China.

Guangdong Development Bank is mid-sized lender. It is considering bids from two additional suitors, the magazine said: France's Societe Generale SA and China's Ping An Insurance Co. Citigroup spokeswoman Shannon Bell declined to comment. Officials at the Guangdong Development Bank could not be reached.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

Amalgamated moving mud to get beets

Warmer weather poses threat of rotting crop

By Chris Baldus
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The ground has gone soft. Warm weather drove frost from it. And rain deepened the mud.

So getting trucks to the many large piles of harvested sugar beets waiting in fields is taking "major excavation," said Vic Jaro, Amalgamated Sugar's agricultural manager.

"We're doing it, but it's taking quite an effort," he said.

You have to use graders to scoop the mud aside, making a solid access road for the factory trucks, he said.

They have to get there, though. Beets to the outside of the piles froze during a prolonged December cold snap and are at risk of thawing and rotting, he said.

"We're in process of taking those frozen beets preferentially (to the factories)," he said.

So far, the beets are still in good shape. They're "slicing up

well" at the factories and are of good quality, he said.

The harvest was another good one for Idaho sugar beets, said Bill Sigrist, National Agricultural Statistics Service crop statistician.

The service is estimating 4,693,000 tons of beets were harvested from 167,000 acres this year. The forecasted yield is 28.1 tons per acre, which is 6 less than 2004, he said. However, in 2004, 3,000 acres went unharvested. In 2005, only

Sugarbeet harvest

2005 numbers	2004 numbers
158,000 acres planted	155,000 acres planted
167,000 acres harvested	162,000 acres harvested
28.1 tons per acre	28.7 tons per acre
4,692,000 tons total	5,510,000 tons

Source: National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2005 crop estimates as of Nov. 14

1,000 went unharvested, he said.

"It was the fourth-highest in terms of tonnage," said Jaro. And depending on what the sugar content numbers turn out

to be, "our projections say (the harvest) could be one of our best," he said.

Beet prices are high after Gulf Coast hurricanes devastated sugar-cane fields.

Go ahead and dream ...



Home and Garden Television's Dream Home, a 5,700-square-foot traditional-style mountain home perched atop a ridge in the Blue Ridge foothills near Lake Lure, N.C., is shown in December. Even if you're lucky enough to have the winning entry out of the more than 40 million expected to pour in between Sunday's start of the contest and the Feb. 17 deadline, actually taking up residence may well prove unthinkable.

Just don't count on moving into HGTV contest home

By Tim Whitmore
Associated Press writer

LAKE LURE, N.C. — Go ahead and dream. That's what Home and Garden Television's annual Dream Home contest is all about.

Just don't get too attached to the idea that you'll actually live in the 2006 grand prize, a 5,700-square-foot traditional-style mountain home perched atop a ridge in the Blue Ridge foothills near Lake Lure. Even if you're lucky enough to have the winning entry out of the more than 40 million expected to pour in between Sunday's start of the contest and the Feb. 17 deadline, you might find that taking up residence is prohibitively expensive.

The contest's 2005 winner, Don Cruz, moved from suburban Chicago to Tyler, Texas, to take possession of his dream home, a lakefront property valued at \$1.5 million, plus furnishings. But taxes on his winnings are expected to total more than \$650,000, and local officials slammed the door on Cruz's plan to pay his bills by renting the boathouse and a

“ Ordinary people cannot keep a home like that. I think it's meant to change your life, more than that they (HGTV) expect you to keep it.”

Kathi Nakao, 2004 home winner

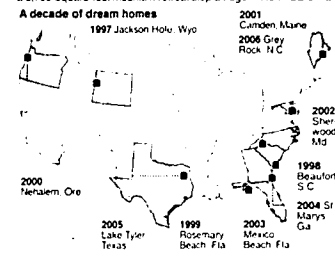
master bedroom. In a recent interview, Cruz said his still living in the house in Tyler and has no plans to leave, even as April 15 looms.

"We plan to stay," he said. "God will provide. We'll say a prayer, turn it over to him and he provides. We'll all work out."

The daunting fiscal math of the Dream Home — even if you survive the initial tax crunch,

Dramatic locations become a reality

After building eight straight waterfront homes following the initial 1997 Dream Home in Jackson Hole, Wyo., HGTV has constructed a 5,700-square-foot mountain retreat atop a ridge in North Carolina

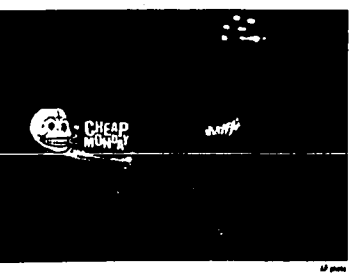


there's the annual expense of local property taxes, plus maintenance and upkeep — has kept all but two of the mountain homes from ever living in their homes.

This year, the prize package includes \$250,000 from Charlotte-based Tending Tree to help the winner with the tax bill, but HGTV says several winners' families from ever living in their homes.

Please see DREAM, Page B6

Anti-Christian jeans are hot among youth in secular Sweden



A man wears a pair of Cheap Monday jeans, at a shop in Stockholm Thursday. The brand of jeans are a hot commodity among young Swedes.

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — A punk-rock style, trendy tight fit and affordable price have made Cheap Monday jeans a hot commodity among young Swedes, but what has people talking is the brand's ugly logo: a skull with a cross turned upside down on its forehead.

The jeans' makers say it's more of a joke, but the logo's designer said there's a deeper message. "It is an active statement against Christianity," Bjorn Aldae told the Associated Press. "I'm not a Satanist myself, but I have a great dislike for organized religion."

Andix inslax has a purpose beyond selling denim: to make young people question Christianity, which he called a "force of evil" that had sparked wars throughout history.

Such a remark might incite outrage or prompt retailers to drop the brand in more religious countries.

But not in Sweden, a secular nation which cherishes its free speech and where churchgoing has been declining for decades.

Cheap Mondays are flying off the shelves at about \$50 a pair. The jeans have also been shipped throughout Europe and to Australia, and there are plans to introduce them to the United States and elsewhere.

The jeans' makers say about 200,000 pairs have been sold since March 2004 — and note they've received few complaints about the grinning skull and upside down cross, a symbol often associated with satanic worship.

Even the country's largest church, the Lutheran Church of Sweden, reacts with a shrug. "I don't think it's much to be horrified about," said Bo Larsson, director of the church's Department of Education, Research and Culture.

"It is abundantly clear that this designer wants to create public opinion against the Christian faith... but I believe that the way to deal with this is to start a discussion about what religion means."

P. 6 see see JEANS, Page B6

MONEY

Dream

Continued from B5
the network still doesn't expect viewers to actually live in the Dream Home.

"He (Cruz) is not losing money," she said during an interview on the patio of the Lake Lure home. "It's just his idea of the dream is to get out of that house. Whereas our vision of the dream is that it enables you to do what you want to do."

That a notion seemed by Kathi Nakano, the 2004 winner, who spent several extended sojourns at the home she won in St. Mary's, Ga., before selling it in July.

"Ordinary people cannot keep a home like that," she said from Sacramento, Calif., where she lives. "I think it's meant to change your life, more than that they (HGTV) expect you to keep it."

The twist to the Dream Home competition is that unlike a cash lottery, what attracts millions of entries is not a vague dream of wealth, but the tangible reality of the home itself.

Starting Jan. 1, the Lake Lure house's assets will be shown off during several hours of HGTV programming, climaxing with a live broadcast April 22 in which one of three finalists will be given the key to the home.

Hopeful entrants can take

360-degree Internet tours of its rooms, the real estate can even travel to Lake Lure and walk through the house.

The combined effect is a depiction of a lifestyle as detailed as the picture on the Pioneer Elite plasma television that hangs in the home's game room. A life that includes a wine cellar, an exercise room and your own sauna.

"You start imagining, salivating, fixating on the home," said Anthony Pratkanis, a professor of social psychology at the University of California at Santa Cruz. "It's a phantom fixation — an unavailing alternative that looks real. ... The contest plays along with it."

The same principle — a fantasy seemingly made real by its details — is central to much advertising, pornography and many a con scheme, Pratkanis said.

Fantasy or not, the contest has been a real-world smash for HGTV since the first Dream Home, in Jackson Hole, Wyo., was given away in 1997. It generates hours of wintertime programming, including popular shows with sponsors who like the buzz and product placement it offers.

Atlanta-based Land Resource Companies is the developer of the Lake Lure, the 4,000-acre community to be

built around this year's Dream Home. For the company, it's a long-term engagement — the Georgia house won by Nakano two years ago was also in one of its developments.

Spokesman Cameron McCarty says Gray Rock received 6,000 inquiries for the contest, which was announced as a Dream Home site; meanwhile, St. Mary's, Ga., is still getting HGTV-driven inquiries two years after its Dream Home was given away.

Nakano's own story offers an illustration of how the contest hits its audience and its sponsors. In 2003, she happened to turn on HGTV and "catch a program that was showing some furniture."

"I said, 'I'd like to get that kind of furniture,'" Nakano said. "And they explained they had given it away in the Dream Home."

The following Jan. 1, she watched as the 2004 Dream Home was unveiled. Later, she took an Internet tour. And 11 of that year's approximately 36 million entries were hers — including the one that won.

(contestants can submit one Internet entry per day and as many mail entries as they want).

Nakano spent 29 years work-

ing for the finance department of the California state government, with an accounting background, she knew as soon as she won the home that she would not be able to keep it.

"I never let myself get where I thought I was going to stay there forever," she says.

With the money from its sale, she said, she paid the taxes on her prize and financed a renovation of her Sacramento home. She and her husband gave money to a local charity and helped their children. Nakano also bought herself a coveted 1996 Chevrolet hot rod.

"That's my prize," she said. "I truly believe that HGTV is doing something great and they're doing it to change your life for the better," she said. "It's a rollercoaster ride, but I was at the top of it for a long time — and I still am."

She has followed media accounts of Don Cruz's effort to live in his Dream Home with sympathy.

"When they were moving there, I felt so sorry for them, because I thought, 'Oh, you just don't know. You just don't know what it entails to keep a property like that,'" she said. "Hopefully they'll be able to sell it and have their own, smaller version of a dream home."

Dow ends 2005 in the negative

NEW YORK (AP) — Investors marked the last trading day of 2005 Friday with the same caution they faced all year — trying to find a good reason to buy stocks and coming up short. Stocks fell for their December loss, and the Dow Jones industrial index finished the year with a loss.

With little news to spur buying, stocks fell as investors consolidated their meager profits on the year. As a result, the Dow suffered its first down year since 1998, although other major indexes posted modest gains for 2005.

This year was marked by skyrocketing energy prices, a slowing economy and the Federal Reserve steadily raising interest rates — all of which made investors nervous over the state of the economy and kept stocks volatile but ultimately led to a decline since the end of 2004.

Looking ahead, investors hope the Fed will stop raising rates as early as possible in 2006 to avoid slowing the economy unnecessarily, and nervousness on this point has kept stocks in check through December.

"It's really the Fed at this point that's kept the market in check," said Hans Olsen, managing director and chief investment officer at Highm Legg Advisors. "The historic conversation between the Fed and the markets has become a bit of an argument over whether there's really inflation, and whether we need those rate hikes."

The Dow fell 67.32, or 0.62 percent, to 10,717.50. The Dow needed to remain above

10,783.1 for a positive 2005. Broader stock indicators also lost ground. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 6.13, or 0.49 percent, to 1,249.23, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 12.84, or 0.58 percent, to 2,205.32.

Bonds moved lower in volatile trading, with the yield on the 10-year Treasury note rising to 4.40 percent Thursday. The inversion of the yield curve this week — with two-year bonds now yielding more than the 10-year — pressured stocks, as many on Wall Street felt that such an inversion augurs a slower economy and a possible recession.

Investors' uneasiness against most major currencies, while gold prices also moved higher. Energy prices bubbled on the previous session's gains, with a barrel of oil rising to \$61.04, up 72 cents, on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Crude futures rose 10 percent in 2005.

Those high energy prices and their impact, real and potential, on consumer spending, inflation and corporate profits kept Wall Street on edge for much of the year, although investors' attitudes remained bullish. Wall Street bought heavily into each rally this year, but while the Dow flirted with the psychologically important 11,000 in both March and April, it never sustained. It ultimately prevailed each time and investors cut those rallies short in order to preserve profits.

For the year, the Dow fell 0.61 percent, while the S&P rose 3 percent and the Nasdaq gained 1.37 percent.

Jeans

Continued from B5
Other Christians, however, are calling for a tougher stance against the jeans.

"This cannot just keep quiet about this," said the Rev. Karl Erik Nyland, vicar of St. Mary Magdalene Church in Stockholm. "This is a deliberate provocation against Christians and I object to that."

Nyland complained that Swedish companies don't treat Christianity with the same respect that they afford other religions.

"No one wants to provoke Jews, or Muslims, but it's totally OK to provoke Christians," he said.

Some buyers have ripped off the logo from the back of the

panis, or even returned the jeans once they realized what the symbol means. But such cases are very few, according to the brand's creator, Orjan Andersson, who said he doesn't take the logo too seriously.

"I'm not interested in religion," he said. "I'm more interested in that the logo looks good"

Henrik Petersson, 26, said he picked up his first pair of Cheap Mondays a few months after they were launched because he liked their punk-rock style and the logo caught his eye.

"I think it's a cool thing, it stands out from the rest," he said. "I'm really reflected over whether there is an underlying message."

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like AAPL, MSFT, and their price changes.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Includes columns for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Diary.

INDEXES

Table showing various market indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, and their values.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing local stocks with columns for Name, Div, PE, Last, YTD, and Chg.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 325 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most on the Nasdaq National Market and the 100 most active on American Stock Exchange.

Company names are listed alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation). Company names used in this report are the beginning of each letter's last.

Div: Current annual dividend rate paid on stock, based on the last quarterly or semiannual declaration. Unless otherwise footnoted.

Yield: Price stock was trading at when earnings closed for the 12-month period. Div: Loss or gain for the day. No change indicated by "n/a".

Fund Name: Name of mutual fund and ticker. Brief: Not asset value, or price at which fund could be sold. Chg: Daily net change in price.

SP: Standard & Poor's 500 Index. Last: Last close. Div: Dividend. YTD: Year-to-date. Chg: Change.

Dividend: Dividend per share. Dividend Yield: Dividend per share divided by current price. Dividend Payout Ratio: Dividend per share divided by earnings per share.

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NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various NASDAQ stocks like AAPL, MSFT, and their price changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various American Stock Exchange stocks like AAPL, MSFT, and their price changes.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for commodity name, price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and various oil products.

Table with columns for contract name, price, and change. Includes items like Natural Gas, Heating Oil, and various metal futures.

Table with columns for contract name, price, and change. Includes items like Gold, Silver, and various stock indices.

Table with columns for contract name, price, and change. Includes items like Crude Oil, Gasoline, and various energy products.

Table with columns for contract name, price, and change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and various agricultural products.

Table with columns for contract name, price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Soybeans, and various grain products.

BEANS

Table with columns for bean type, price, and change. Includes items like Soybeans, Lentils, and various legume products.

CHEESE

Table with columns for cheese type, price, and change. Includes items like Cheddar, Swiss, and various cheese products.

POTATOES

Table with columns for potato type, price, and change. Includes items like Russet, Yukon Gold, and various potato products.

METALS/MONEY

Table with columns for metal type, price, and change. Includes items like Gold, Silver, and various metal products.

SOYBEANS

Table with columns for soybean type, price, and change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and various soybean products.

GRAIN

Table with columns for grain type, price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Wheat, and various grain products.

CHICKENS

Table with columns for chicken type, price, and change. Includes items like Broilers, Turkeys, and various poultry products.

POTATOES

Table with columns for potato type, price, and change. Includes items like Russet, Yukon Gold, and various potato products.

METALS/MONEY

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Table with columns for grain type, price, and change. Includes items like Corn, Wheat, and various grain products.

CHICKENS

Table with columns for chicken type, price, and change. Includes items like Broilers, Turkeys, and various poultry products.

Unclaimed property awaits proper owners

This is a list of unclaimed property of more than \$100 belonging to people in the zip codes 83300, 83302 and 83303. To claim property contact Idaho Unclaimed Property, P.O. Box 70012, Boise, Idaho 83707 or call 1-800-972-7660 ext. 7627. For more go to www.tidc.idaho.gov.

Gardman

Carson Astoria, RT 2 Box 250 Henry Adams, 1226 Washington St. Delena Pearl Olson, PO Box 464 Allen Blvd, 506 1/2 S Main St. New Allen, 534 7th Ave W. Bactereseth Dax Inc, PO Box 1000, 1000 W. 1st St.

Hagerman

Jessie Patterson, PO Box 523 Patrick Russell, 601 S. 2nd St. East Street, PO Box 523 Fred Stuetgen, 2604 E. 1st St. Shelia Therpeup, 808 E. Adams Rd S.

Rupert

Louis Allen, 100 S. 325 E. Virginia Anderson, 302 3rd St S. Hector Angula, 124 S. W. Virginia Anderson, 609 S. 2nd St. William Bunkley, 455 S. 400 E. Manuel Cardona, 140 South 400th Ave. Wesley Courtneyman, 102 2nd St. William Darrah, 823 5th St. Christine Day, 5 E. 700 N. Mendenhall Avenue, 501 S. 2nd St. Green Agency, PO Box 1263. Lata M Hadley, 809 8th St. Lane Johnson, 1743 2nd St. Robert Johnson, 1066 N. 300 S. Rose Johnson, 1060 N. 300 S. Sterling Lawler, 624 G. St. S. Virginia Anderson, 1218 9th St. S. 4. Daniel Pauley, 801 2nd St. Eleanor F Powell, 534 14th. Rose Ruiz, 400 W. 100 S. William S. 400 W. 100 S. Margaret Nered, 342 Washington St. Louise Sorenson, 1215 Idaho Street. Audine Olson, 730 1/2 Idaho Street.

Sony settlement could include music downloads

Los Angeles Times. Sony BMG Music Entertainment has offered free music downloads to as many as 11 million customers to settle lawsuits filed in January 2005. The proposed settlement requires Sony BMG offer the 2.3 million customers who purchased CDs containing XCP software a replacement disc not containing piracy software and a choice between two compensation options. The first option would give customers \$7.50 and a code to download an album from a list of about 250 titles. Customers who forgo the \$7.50 could download three albums from the list. Court papers said Apple Computer Inc. iTunes. Amazon Store might be one of the download services fulfilling the settlement.

Something missing? We're able to customize our market reports. If you're interested in a stock, mutual fund or commodity that's not in our report, give us a call and we'll try to include it. Please call Ramona Jones at 733.0931, Ext. 262, with your suggestions.

MUTUAL FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and change. Includes various equity, bond, and specialty funds.

COMICS



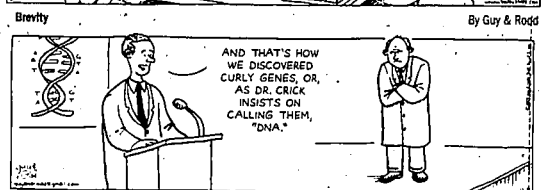
By Johnny Hart



By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



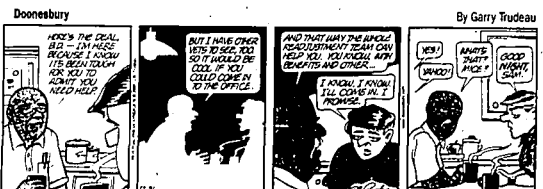
By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



By Guy & Rodd



By Scott Adams



By Barry Trudeau



By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



By Lynn Johnston



By Bob Thaves



By Greg Evans



By Bruce Tinsley



By Stephan Pastis



By Brian Crane



By Pat Brady



By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



By Wiley



By John Deering

Pisces should stay at home and watch the ball drop on TV this year

IF DEC. 31 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: The year ahead will be anything but dull even if you may feel held back by the responsibilities. Break free of restrictions and pursue lifelong dreams between now and March. Cuddle up and enjoy your stable alternatives or start things inspire you to make important progress. In late June and early July, avoid taking major steps in any direction as you may land in a deep pit. Your charms will be intensified in the last quarter of 2006, making it a good time to search for true love or make a successful change in career.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): This New Year's Eve will give you ample opportunity to make smart resolutions for the year to come. Cuddle up at home with a favorite someone and make romance a priority.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Either physical or emotional weather could put a damper on party plans — but even so, you may be singled out for tender treatment. Spend the last day of 2006 with a devoted follower.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make a firm resolution to speak only good things about others or say nothing at all. If you meet

HOROSCOPE Jeradine Saunders

someone new, you may be compelled to learn everything possible about his or her life. You might feel rather than the pecking order when others prove they rule the roost. Make a New Year's resolution to be high above petty squabbles and gracefully accept limitations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Use style to ring out the old and ring in the new. Traditions that were once appealing may have lost their luster. Be resourceful about finding creative ways to enjoy the holiday.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Celebrate this New Year's Eve with homegrown entertainments amid comfortable surroundings. Genealogy may become a passion, or perhaps you will get in touch with long-lost relatives.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Put a party hat on your head and toot your own horn. Even if people try to rain on your parade, your irrepressible sparkle will act as an umbrella. Resolve to put oth-

ers first in the year to come.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Appearances really do count. Be on your best behavior when out in public on this New Year's Eve. Intense heart-to-heart conversations can give you plenty of food for thought.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You can't keep a secret. Mysteries may be revealed and conversations could elicit disclosures. Stay awake until midnight and stifle yawns to participate in New Year countdowns.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Being a moody loner for a few hours will give you a chance to recharge your psychic batteries. Resolve to concentrate on achieving key ambitions in the year ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't miss deadlines. Minor frustrations can act as a spur to accomplishment. New Year's Eve entertainments might start out stuffy and dull until tiny tensions thaw out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): The pen is mightier than the sword in business. Those who stay home and watch the ball drop on TV aren't likely to miss anything important. Share your innermost desires with someone you trust.

COMICS

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

HOW CAN YOU WALTZ IN HERE ASKING FOR A PASS AFTER GOOFING OFF ALL WEEK?

WOULD YOU PREFER THE RHUMBA? A FOX TROT? MINUET...?

GREEN ACROBAT (WALKER)

Blonde By Dean Young & Stan Drake

HAPPY NEW YEAR, HONEY!

HAPPY NEW YEAR, DEAR

TWEET!

I'M AFRAID THAT OUR LITTLE OLE CLOCKO HAS BECOME A PARTY ANIMAL.

The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

ELEVEN FIFTY-NINE AND FIFTY SECONDS... TEN... NINE... EIGHT... SEVEN... SIX... FIVE... FOUR... THREE...

TWO... ONE... HAPPY NEW YEAR!

UH, WILDFORCE... IT'S JUST TWELVE NOON, NOT MIDNIGHT!

Garfield By Jim Davis

OH, SO YOU HAVE A PARTY TO GO TO TONIGHT?

RUB IT IN, WHY DON'T YOU?

fweeeeee

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

I WISH MY MOTHER-IN-LAW WOULD STOP TRYING TO RUN MY LIFE!

WHAT DID SHE DO NOW?

THIS YEAR SHE WROTE DOWN MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS FOR ME!

Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

IT'S 9 O'CLOCK

IT'S YOUR JOB, CHIP, TO WAKE US ALL UP AT 11:55 SO WE CAN CELEBRATE

CELEBRATE WHAT? ANOTHER BORING NEW YEAR'S EVE?

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

I WISH MY MOTHER-IN-LAW WOULD STOP TRYING TO RUN MY LIFE!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN WE'RE ALL OUT OF HORS D'OEUVRES?

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

CLOSED TILL MIDNIGHT

WHAT'S WITH MIDNIGHT?

THAT'S WHEN THE STUPID BALL DROPS

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

THE FAMILY CIRCUS

"Thanks for listening, and stay tuned for Jeffy comin' up next."

"HEY, YOU GUYS ARE MISSIN' ALL THE FUN!"

Dementia turns mild mother into an unpredictable crank

DEAR ABBY: My mother is suffering from an Alzheimer's-like dementia, and her personality has changed greatly. Mother has gone from being a conscientious and polite woman — most of my high school friends called her "June Cleaver" — to losing the checks and balances that prevent her from saying whatever comes to mind.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

Specifically, my mother can be very unpredictable in restaurants. She has several times, while the hostess has been walking up to the table, demanded in a loud voice that they "turn off the damn music!" No matter what we say to her, she does not understand that this behavior isn't acceptable. What can we say to people in a situation like this that doesn't denigrate my mother, but will help them understand the situation?

—TORN IN FRAMINGHAM, MASS.
DEAR TORN: I know this situation is painful, and you have my sympathy. You should quietly inform the host or hostess of the truth, that your mother now does not always like, but is suffering from dementia. That's not "denigrating." That's the truth. That way, they won't assume a relationship as rude and demanding; they will understand that she is not responsible for what she's saying.

DEAR ABBY: My wife passed away a little over a year ago

from cancer. I am a widower now. My question concerns how I should refer to my wife in conversation. I don't want to say "my dead wife." It seems a bit insensitive or maybe a little off-putting.

I was recently on an airplane going back east to visit my former brother- and sister-in-law. During the flight I got into a wonderful conversation with one of the flight attendants. She seemed really interested in me — until I told her the reason for my trip. Then it was like an invisible barrier went down between us. The minute I mentioned my wife had died, the "connection" was over. Can you help me?

—DANNY IN PHOENIX
DEAR DANNY: I don't know what caused the flight attendant to back off from what seemed like a promising beginning, but it's possible that she wasn't as interested in pursuing a relationship as you assumed. Had she been interested, mentioning that you are widowed would have been the signal that made her forge ahead. In the future, it's perfectly acceptable to mention the fact that your wife

passed away. It means you're eligible. Simply refer to her as your deceased wife.

DEAR ABBY: We recently moved and would like to meet more of our new neighbors by inviting them for wine and cheese.

However, many of the nearby residents are young parents with small children, and I do not relish merlot and bric spilled onto our new white carpets. By visiting toddlers who may be into rough-and-tumble games.

Can you suggest a firm but polite way to say, "Please come, but leave the kids at home"? Help!

—FLORIDA READER
DEAR READER: Allow me to offer some suggestions. First, schedule the party from 4 to 9 p.m., which will better the chances that it will be past the little ones' bedtime. Second, when you invite these neighbors, state that alcohol will be served and the party is for adults only. And last, just in case some of your guests show up with children in tow anyway (it will happen), skip the merlot and serve white wine.

DEAR READERS: From the bottom of my heart, I wish all of you a happy, healthy and prosperous 2006. And please, if you're driving tonight, don't drink; and if you're drinking tonight, don't drive. Stay safe, everyone!

Babylonians started New Year parties

This day in history: The tradition of making resolutions on the New Year dates back to early Babylonians. So is the tradition of hard partying the night before. In fact, the Babylonian new year celebrations incorporated the twelve days of feasting and orgies, making our New Year's Eve revelries seem mighty tame indeed.



RANXMI
KINNESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

In 1786, the poet Robert Burns, fed up with the dreariness of his native Scotland, decided to emigrate to Jamaica. As he had no money for transportation, so he began selling a small volume of poetry. He published himself. To his surprise, the booklet became such a success that he no longer had time or reason to go to Jamaica. He became Scotland's national poet instead. (You sing his most famous composition on New

Your "funny bone" isn't funny and it isn't a bone — it's the ulnar nerve, which is exposed to be a laughing matter. Banging the ulnar nerve can give you pain and tingling in your fingers. It got its "funny" name from the bone that runs from your shoulder to your elbow — the "humerus."

An elephant's brain weighs four to five times more than a human's.

Go light on the rooking sherry!

ry if you're using a microwave oven. Because its cooking time is faster, there's much less time for the alcohol to evaporate away.

While teeth can grow anywhere between 3 and 10 inches, depending on the species. Each year, the teeth grow a new layer of enamel, making it pretty easy to age a whale by cross-counting one of its teeth and counting the rings. That is, if you can get one of its teeth.

The emperor penguin, largest of all penguins, can weigh almost 90 pounds and grow to be about 4 feet tall. A million of them could fit the period at the end of this fact.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factmings@msn.com.

Iraqi infant with birth defect discovered during raid flying to U.S. for medical care

ATLANTA (AP) — An Iraqi infant with a severe birth defect began her journey Friday to the United States, where she will receive medical care at the urging of U.S. soldiers who discovered her during a raid.

Noor al-Zahra, 3 months old and her family took off in a military transport plane from the Baghdad airport on the first leg of a trip that was to bring them to Atlanta today.



Staff Sgt. Darryl Clark, 40, Lulu, Ga., 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry, Lawrenceville, Ga., gets the honor of feeding baby Noor after delivering baby formula to her grandmother after their supply ran out at Camp Liberty, in Baghdad, Iraq, on Wednesday.

Noor — also known as "Baby Noor" or, to the Americans, "Baby Nora" — was discovered by troops three weeks ago during a raid on a house in Abu Ghraib, the poverty-stricken town west of Baghdad that is home to the notorious prison.

The soldiers noticed paralysis in her legs, and what appeared to be a tumor on her back, said Debbie Stone, a social worker in suburban Douglasville.

Soldiers subsequently learned that the child had spina bifida, a birth defect in which the backbone and spinal cord do not close before birth. The "tumor" on the baby's back was actually a fluid-filled sac containing the spinal cord and membranes that are supposed

to cover the spinal cord.

It is not yet clear how much physicians will be able to do to

help her after she gets to Atlanta, said Dr. Roger Hudgins, the pediatric neurosurgeon who agreed to take the case.

Stone received an e-mail about the infant from her friend, Lt. Jeff Morgan, who asked her to see if she could arrange for medical assistance.

Morgan and Stone began working to arrange help in the United States, and Children's Healthcare of Atlanta agreed to treat the child.

Doctors have seen e-mailed photos of Baby Noor and received some medical information, but they will need to do a full evaluation before attempting surgery, Hudgins said.

The child has myelomeningocele spina bifida, considered the most severe form, Hudgins said.

Baby Noor was given slim chances of survival by her doctors in Iraq, noted Adam Roberts, pastor of Shepherd of the Hills United Methodist Church in Douglasville, the church to which Stone and Morgan belong.

The care is to be provided for free, Hudgins said. The surgery and accompanying care would cost \$200,000 if it were billed.

Mayor could face jail for snowball throwing

TOPEKA, Kan. — Not only did Mayor Bill Buntten miss a tree while throwing a snowball at it, he also violated a city ordinance.

Kristen Aberle, of Thawville, Ill., wrote to Buntten after the little-known Topeka ordinance was pointed out as a "Dumb Law" in her government class.

"I thought somebody was pulling my leg," the mayor said. "But I checked, and she's actually right."

Buntten admitted his fastball missed the tree by about 30 feet, but he said that didn't make his crime any less serious.

"After I write to you, I am going to the police station and

Odds & Ends

report myself and throw myself on the mercy of the court," Buntten said in a letter dated Dec. 27.

After that, he's going to have an ordinance drawn up to repeal this Dumb Law lest our already-crowded prisons are filled up with children who while making a snowman, get carried away and had a snowball fight.

Violators could be fined up to \$499 and jailed for 179 days for breaking the rule, which also prohibits stones and "other missiles."

Buntten said he asked the city's attorney "to draw up an

ordinance to delete that part of it about snowballs."

Dog owners must have insurance in Austria

VIENNA, Austria — Authorities are putting the bite on the city's new dog owners starting next week.

Under new city laws, liability insurance will be mandatory for Vienna dog owners who have canines born after Jan. 1.

Policies must have minimum coverage of \$64,000. They are meant to pay for legal, hospital or other costs arising from any damage or injury.

— compiled from wire reports

WORLD

Palestinian police go on rampage at border

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — Palestinian policemen went on a rampage over the killing of a colleague and seized the Gaza-Egypt border crossing for security forces Friday, sending European monitors to flee in the latest sign of growing mayhem in the coastal strip.

A British aid worker and her parents were released from captivity and brought to Israel early Saturday, days after Palestinian gunmen seized the

family in the southern Gaza Strip, officials said.

A previously unknown group calling itself the Mujahedeen Brigades Jerusalem Branch claimed responsibility for the kidnappings and threatened to abduct more foreigners if Israel doesn't end its "no-go" zone in the northern Gaza Strip.

Friday's border takeover and the kidnapping of the Britons fed worries that chaos in Gaza may be spreading to

outsiders brought in to help develop the area following Israel's pullout.

Gaza has experienced a wave of shootings, kidnappings and armed takeovers of government buildings in recent months, undermining Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas' efforts to impose law and order in the wake of Israel's withdrawal from the area in September.

In new violence, a 14-year-

old boy was killed Friday when a powerful Palestinian family attacked a local police station for a second straight day. Their assault the previous day caused the death of the police officer that set off the furious eruption by police Friday.

About 100 policemen stormed the Rafah border terminal in the morning, firing in the air and taking up positions at the crossing, security officials and witnesses said.

Haiti postpones elections

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Haiti's national elections, set for Jan. 8 and plagued by delays and disorganization, will be postponed for a fourth time, electoral officials said Friday.

Three Organization of American States election workers were kidnapped Thursday, police said, illustrating the lack of security surrounding the vote.

The presidential and legislative elections — the first since a rebellion ousted President Jean-

Bertrand Aristide nearly two years ago — were to have been held in November and have since been postponed three times.

Delays in distributing 3.5 million voter ID cards, disorganized voting centers and problems with the voter database were the main reasons for the latest postponement, Rosemond Pradel, secretary general of Haiti's Provisional Electoral Council, told The Associated Press.

Former VP says Syria threatened Hariri

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Former Syrian Vice President Abdul-Halim Khaddam, a one-time stalwart of the ruling Baath Party, said on Friday that former Lebanese Premier Rafik Hariri was threatened by Syria months before he was assassinated.

Khaddam made the claim as he declared a formal break with President Bashar Assad in a television interview from Paris, criticizing the regime and citing corruption and its failure to reform.

Hariri was subjected to many threats from Syria. "Serious things were said. Once he was summoned to Damascus... and spoken to in extremely harsh words by President Bashar Assad," Khaddam said in the interview with Al-Arabiya, the pan-Arab satellite broadcaster, his first since he left Syria several months ago.

A U.N. probe into Hariri's killing has implicated Syria, but Damascus has denied the allegations.

Khaddam became a Syrian vice president in 1984 and resigned in June. He was the nominal leader in Syria for a short period after Assad's father, Hafez Assad, died in June 2000.

Khaddam's criticism reflected serious cracks within the Damascus regime and brought to the open a simmering power struggle within the leadership that has played itself out in recent years in the power shifts and alliances in Syria and in neighboring Lebanon, where Syria held sway until its troop withdrawal in April in the upsurge after Hariri's assassination.

In the interview, Khaddam was bitterly critical of the current Assad government, saying the ruling Baath Party and other popular organizations had been reduced to vindicating "decisions made by the president."

He claimed to have left his homeland on good terms with Assad. "There are differences in opinions, but there was mutual respect," he said, adding that his family was with him in Paris when he was writing a memoir. He denied that he had been threatened and said he would return to Syria.

Migrants die in police clashes

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Thousands of riot police using water cannons and attacking with truncheons cleared a ramshackle Sudanese refugee camp early Friday, and security officials said at least 20 refugees died in the melee. Protest leaders said 26 were killed.

The violence capped a night in which authorities intermittently conducted last-ditch negotiations and sprayed squatters with jets of water before launching the assault to end the three-month protest at the camp.

Hundreds of Sudanese have been living in the park since September to protest the U.N. refugee agency's refusal to consider them for refugee status. They want to be resettled in a third country, such as the United States or Britain, rather than go home after a peace deal ended the 21-year-long civil war in Sudan.

An official Interior Ministry statement said 12 protesters died and 74 police were wounded. Bus- and other ministry officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak to the press, put the number of dead at 26.

Boutros Deng, one of the protest leaders at the camp, told The Associated Press that 26 Sudanese were killed, including 17 men, two women and seven children.

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FORD STORES

On air: Catholics hope to get into radio.

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Section editor: Steve Crump - 735-3223

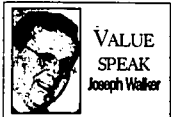
The Times-News

Saturday, December 31, 2005

Section C

Take a sad song, and make it better

Jon was outraged — or at least, as outraged as a 13-year-old boy can be. "This song," he snarled, "is awful!"



VALUE SPEAK Joseph Walker

Generally, I don't pay much attention to comments (teenagers make about the music of my generation. How can ear drums pounded into commercial submission by the likes of Eminem and Flyy (pronounced Flyy I'm not joking) Cent hope to understand the subtle rhythmic nuances of the Moody Blues or the potent musicality of Chicago? But this song was "Hey, look by the Beatles — by most accounts one of the greatest songs of the rock 'n' roll era. It has gentle passages, it has hard-driving licks. It has at least one really good scream by Paul McCartney. I couldn't let Jon's uninformed dig pass unchallenged.

"This song," I sniffed right back, "is simply the most successful song ever released by the greatest popular musical group of all time. It sold more than 5 million copies in six months and is still being played on music stations all around the world 37 years after it was recorded. Your music will be as outdated as my polyester bell-bottoms next week."

"You listen to it, Dad," Jon protested. "Listen to it for the first time. Never mind that he is almost an exact replica of me at 13 — this couldn't possibly be my child! He may very well have my height, my dimples and my disposition, but if he doesn't have my music in his soul it's time to re-write the song."

I took a deep breath, perhaps if I explained the song to him a little he would understand it more. I talked to him about the Beatles, and where they were on their musical journey, and how they evolved through the years and how they were soon to disband and get their separate ways. I explained Yoko Ono.

I tried to help him see how this song mirrored one of the most chaotic, frenzied years of a child's life — the U.S.S. Pueblo incident in North Korea, the Tet Offensive, the Battle of Saigon, the My Lai Massacre, the assassinations of Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert Kennedy, the Democratic National Convention, student riots, "Rosemary's Baby," the black-power protests at the Mexico City Olympics, the election of Richard M. Nixon.

It took all seven minutes and 11 seconds of the song's then-unprecedented running time to get through it all, but finally I thought I saw the slightest of understanding on his adolescent face.

"I think I sort of understand what you're talking about," Jon said. But I still don't think it's right to make fun of the Jews."

"Now it was my turn to be confused. "The Jews?" I repeated. "I don't think I'm anything about Jewish people."

"But the song does," he said, an unspoken "well, DUH!" written all over his face. "It says 'Hey,

Share your redeeming virtues
The Times-News is preparing a Religion page article about redemption, and what it means to Christians. Jews and Next? If you'd like to share your thoughts about redemption, e-mail Steve Crump at scrump@magvalley.com or phone him at 735-3223. Deadline is 5 p.m. on Wednesday.

Neither bread nor wine

Fasting retains its healing mystique

By Loretta Burkhardt Times-News writer

JEROME — After reading a note left for her on the kitchen table, Jonetta Mandis faced a devastating, life-altering circumstance.

The message was so distressing that "Part of me didn't want to live," she recalled. "That was just more than a year ago."

Unable to sleep that night, she went outside and began walking around her property, "crying out to God."

As the hours passed, she came to one significant conclusion: "I was to go on a fast."

Through a lifelong Christian, until that night the thought of fasting had never crossed her mind.

Nevertheless, Mandis, now 41, obeyed a voice she believes came from God.

When in a desperate search for peace, she began a fast that would last for 40 days.

During the fast, her daily nourishment was limited to water and nutritional drinks. Still, and particularly on the job, she began receiving "more strength physically, than she had known."

When the fast was finally over, "the spirit of rejection had broken off," Mandis said. But that's only part of her story.

"Fasting brought me closer to the Lord," she said. "With an increase in her spiritual communications with God, her mode of prayer was altered."

"My prayers changed to 'Lord, change me,'" Mandis said. "And she believes he did."

"I'm speaking about faith, and the change was an increase in faith," she says. "Although her initial ordeal is yet unresolved, she's not wavering from her stand of faith — and someday 'soon' it will be totally resolved."

Her reference is the New Testament book of Hebrews, Chapter 11, Verse 1: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

"So I'm standing on that word," she said. "Where prayer and fasting are concerned, the benefits are far-reaching, Mandis believes. She lost 33 pounds, and a healthier diet has become her lifestyle."

"My diet for food has completely changed," and she no longer craves "the soda pop — candies and sweets."

Her desire since fasting is for "healthier eating."

"You get rid of the junk and you're ready for purity," she said. "It's a cleansing — and flushing, spiritually."

"One morning's breakfast: 'When I'd eat pancakes — in



Jonetta Mandis stands in her living room at her home near Jerome. Mandis began fasting after a devastating event occurred in her life.

an hour I'd be hungry again. That doesn't happen with oatmeal."

Mark Hetsley, an elder at Calvary Chapel, says there are numerous reasons to fast.

"When we fast we want to make sure it's God's will that we're fasting — when we're going to fast for a specific thing, we need to make sure it's God's chosen fast," he said.

"And the Lord will let you know," Hetsley said.

Another Magic Valley resident experienced fasting as a way of finding a more direct line to God. And the war in Iraq played a major role.

In what would become a year's fast, Elha Carruthers made the decision to give up chocolate — beginning in November 2004 — when a family friend with the Montana National Guard went to Iraq.

"The reason? To help her remember to pray for him every time I wanted chocolate," she said.

And to any offer of chocolate she'd respond with "Nope! But it's time to say a prayer for Dick — for his safety and his family's well being."

And a year later, the effort was reciprocal.

During a stopover in Germany on his return trip to the United States, her friend bought a small box of chocolates and sent it to Carruthers, "along with a thank-you note," she said.

But fasting is not always done for individual reasons.

In the Jewish faith, fasting is also done "in gratitude," said Robin Dober of Twin Falls.

According to Dober, observing Jews fast on seven different days during the Jewish calendar.

Five of those days are considered minor fast days — when fasting is observed from sunrise to sunset. The other two are major fast days when Jews refrain from eating or drinking from sunset to sunset the next day.

Of the two major fast days, Yom Kippur — known as the

Fasting: a short history

Day of Repentance — is considered the holiest day on the Jewish calendar. The other is Tisha B'Av, which is a 25-hour fast that marks the destruction of the first and second Jewish temples in Jerusalem, and other tragedies that have befallen the Jews. And while partial or total exemptions apply for those who are ill or for those for whom fasting would pose a medical risk, fasting in Jewish practice means complete abstinence from food and drink, including water. According to a recent article

Fasting: a short history

preliterate peoples, fasting is often practiced before and during a vision quest. Among the Evenk of Siberia, shamans (religious people thought to have the power to heal and to communicate psychically) often receive their initial visions with a quest but rather after an unexplained illness; after the initial vision, however, they fast and train themselves to see further visions and to control spirits. Priestly societies, among the Pueblo Indians of the American Southwest fast during rituals before major ceremonies connected with seasonal changes. Fasting for special purposes or before or during special sacred times is a characteristic of the major religions of the world. In Jainism, for example, fasting according to certain prescribed rules and practicing certain types of meditation leads to trances that enable individuals to dissociate themselves from the world and reach a transcendent state. Buddhist monks of the Theravada school fast on certain holy days of the month. In China before 1949, it was customary to observe a fixed period of fasting and abstinence before the sacrifice during the night of the winter solstice, a time when the heavenly Yang (positive energy) principle was believed to begin

its new cycle. In India, Hindu sadhus (holy men) are admired for their frequent personal fasts for various reasons. Among the Western religions, only Zoroastrianism prohibits fasting, because of its belief that such a form of asceticism will not aid in strengthening the faithful in their struggle against evil. The other Western religions — Judaism, Christianity, and Islam — emphasize fasting during certain periods. Judaism, which developed many dietary laws and customs, observes several annual fast days, primarily on days of penitence such as Yom Kippur or mourning. Christianity, especially Roman Catholicism and Eastern Orthodoxy, has observed a 40-day fast period during Lent, a spring period of penitence before Easter, and during Advent, a penitential period before Christmas. Among Roman Catholics the observance of Lent is generally less strict to individual church members. The month of Ramadan in Islam is a period of penitence, and total fasting from dawn to dusk.

Mormons focus on anniversary of church founder's birth

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Though The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints is one of the world's fastest-growing religions — though 120 million copies of the Book of Mormon are in print — believers still endure suggestions by mainstream churches that they are not authentically Christian. Yes, the Mormons once called themselves "a peculiar people." But as the church celebrates the 200th anniversary of founder Joseph Smith Jr.'s birth, its president says his flock is well within the Christian fold. "Of course we're Christian. The very name of the church declares that," said Gordon B. Hinckley. In a recent interview with The Associated Press. "No one believes more strongly in the divinity of the

Lord Jesus Christ. No one believes more strongly in his redeeming sacrifice. The Book of Mormon is another witness for the divinity and reality of Jesus Christ," he said. "The more people see us and come to know us, the more I believe they will come to realize that we are trying to exemplify in our lives and in our living the great ideals which he taught." Smith founded the Mormon church in April 1830. 10 years after he claimed to experience a vision of God and Jesus in a grove of trees near his family home in Palmyra, N.Y. He said an angel, Moroni, later led him to a buried set of gold plates inscribed with the story of a lost tribe of Israel that had settled North America. Smith's translation of the plates became known as The Book of Mormon,

the first of the unique scriptures the church follows alongside the Bible. The church teaches that Smith was a prophet and considers the men who succeeded him as church president to this day as the "prophet, seer and revelator" on earth for Mormons. Even more than the 78-year-old Pope Benedict XVI, the 95-year-old Hinckley bears weighty responsibilities for his church. Hinckley holds authority to convey divine guidance to church members and direct appointment of the leaders of every regional body and local congregation worldwide and all the tens of thousands of Mormon missionaries. This year alone, he visited Africa, Russia, Iceland, Korea, Taiwan, India and western U.S. Please see MORMONS, Page C3



Gordon B. Hinckley, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, demonstrates how to play "mumble peg" using his pocket knife off the tip of his nose, during a recent interview in Salt Lake City. The goal of the game is to get the knife to stick, tip down, in the surface below. In this case, that's the top of Hinckley's walnut desk, an heirloom used by at least two church presidents before him.

RELIGION

Rock Creek announces theme of service

TWIN FALLS — A special New Year's Day theme, including the offering of holy communion, will be observed during worship at 10:10 a.m. Sunday at the Rock Creek Community Church, 131 Grandview Drive.

First Assembly hosts two special guests

TWIN FALLS — Pastor Craig Johnson and Catherine Johnson, both formerly of Twin Falls, will be special guests at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the First Assembly of God Church, 189 Locust St. N.

Church news

Johnson will be the guest speaker. Johnson is currently on an educational sabbatical from the Bayshore Assembly in Long Island, N.Y., where he has been the associate and youth pastor for three years.

Rev. Stevens will be speaker at church

HOLLISTER — The Rev. Bruce Stevens will be the worship speaker at 11 a.m. Sunday at the Hollister Community

Prayer session will be held on Wednesday

TWIN FALLS — The monthly Centering Prayer practice session will be held from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday at the Ascension Episcopal Church, 371 Eastland Drive N.

Liberty Quartet will perform on Jan. 7

A Community Concert featuring the Liberty Quartet will be presented at 7 p.m. Jan. 7 at the Gooding United Methodist Church, 805 Main St.

Several Magic Valley-area residents have been called to serve

Matthew and is in the Burley 1st Ward. He graduated in 2001 from Burley High School and attended Brigham Young University for one year.

Called to serve:

Elder Robert John Miller will serve in the Tennessee Knoxville Mission.

Elder Brent Hunter will serve in the Pennsylvania Philadelphia Mission.

Hunter is a 2005 graduate of Valley High School and is in the Rupert 4th Ward.

Returned from serving:

Elder Joshua Eric Jones served in the Ecuador Guayaquil South Mission.

Elder Brent J. Stokes served in the Chili Orsonso Mission.

Stokes graduated in 2003 from Twin Falls High School, where he played basketball.

Austin Matthews will serve in the Germany Munich-Austria Mission.

Matthews is the son of Becky Matthews of Burley and the late Paul

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Catholics hope to get in on radio boom

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The Roman Catholic Church is the largest denomination in America, but you wouldn't know it from religious radio.



John Lilla talks about his hope that radio will revitalize the Catholic Church. Heading Pope John Paul II's call to evangelize and spread the message of the church, Lilla and many other Catholic lay people are planning to start radio stations across the country.

Stephen Gajkoski, president of the Charleston, S.C.-based Catholic radio trade group, thinks people are open to hearing the message of the church, despite the clergy sex abuse crisis which has battered the church for almost four years.

radio the way Protestants have, said Doug Sherman, president and founder of Immaculate Heart Radio, which operates Catholic stations in California, Nevada and soon in New Mexico.

YOUNG WOMANHOOD RECOGNITION AWARDS

HYBURN — Cara Linn VanTassel completed the requirements to receive Young Womanhood Recognition Award and received the award at the Hyburn 4th Ward Young Women in Excellence program on Nov. 9.

VanTassel is a senior at Muncie High School, where she participates in various clubs and organizations and is involved in student government. She also is a member of the church's Seminary Council for the 2005-2006 school year. She is

the daughter of Chad and Gina VanTassel and the granddaughter of Gib and Janet Richardson and Elda VanTassel.

Israel angers Greek patriarch

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's President Moshe Katsav angered the Holy Land's Greek patriarch, Theophilos III, by appointing both himself and an elected predecessor to the annual state Christmas party for 250 religions and political dignitaries.

Jerusalem's Old City to Jewish settlers. Israel has not recognized Ineios' removal or the elevation of Theofilos.

the long-term lease of Orthodox property — allegedly approved by Ineios — enraged the church's predominantly Palestinian flock because it strengthened the Jewish presence in east Jerusalem, which Palestinians claim as capital of a future state. Theofilos says he will not recognize any land deals signed by his predecessor.

Magic Valley Realtors Online

Advertisement for Magic Valley Realtors Online featuring photos of Bonnie Ross, Mark E. Jones, Connie Herbert, Ray Sabala, and Paul DeMeule, along with the website magicvalley.com and contact information for The Times-News Online.

BORDER CONTROVERSY

Debate surrounds Texas church that aids illegal immigrants

EAGLE PASS, Texas (AP) — For illegal immigrants weary from a long desert journey, the Rev. Jim Lolocono is there with food, shelter and sometimes a trip to Western Union.

He asks only to see U.S. Border Patrol papers, proof that the immigrant has promised to appear before a judge.

Lolocono, and other priests along the border, reflect Roman Catholic social teaching that recognizes the right of nations to control their borders, but also asserts that people who cannot support themselves have a right to find work in another country for their survival.

But promoting such compassion for illegal immigrants, and helping them once they are inside the United States, is a tough sell these days. Pressure grows on government officials to better secure American borders, especially after the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

Chris Simcox, co-founder of the Minute-Man Project, a burgeoning vigilante group which fights illegal immigration, said there should be limits to mercy for people who break federal law.

"We have a long history of churches being sanctuaries because they perceive these people as being just children of God," he said. "But how do they know they're not aiding and abetting terrorists?"

An estimated 9 million to 13 million illegal immigrants live in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

In recent years, Eagle Pass, a town of about 22,000, has seen a rise in illegal immigrants, attracted by its central location between San Antonio and Monterrey, Mexico.

Some have darted across the city's golf course, whose fairways line the banks of the Rio Grande. Others bunch on sidewalks en route to the downtown bus station. As many as 150 a day have passed through Eagle Pass this year.

"It's a hard trek between Central America and the United States," said Lolocono, pastor of Our Lady of Refuge Catholic Church in Eagle Pass, a 500-member congregation four blocks from the U.S.-Mexico border. "They come here ready and worn out. They really just need TLC at that point."

In 2003, U.S. and Mexican bishops issued a statement on a migration, saying that "more powerful nations, which have the ability to protect and feed their citizens, have a stronger obligation to accommodate migration flows." The bishops also said that nations were obligated to respect the dignity of migrants "regardless of their legal status."

The parish does provide limited help to illegal immigrants who haven't yet declared themselves to the Border Patrol, Lolocono said. But he said he encourages them to make contact with the agency and, without



Rosa Ella Navejas looks up as she finishes praying the chapel where a statue dubbed "The Undocumented Christ" hangs from a crucifix at Our Lady of Refuge Catholic Church in Eagle Pass, Texas. The crucifix was found floating in the Rio Grande last year. For illegal immigrants weary from a long desert journey, Father Jim Lolocono of Our Lady of Refuge is there with food, shelter and sometimes help obtaining cash to continue their trip.

proof of that action, they are not allowed to use the church's phones, nor are they given rides to the bus station or financial institutions.

Hilario Leo, spokesman for the Del Rio Sector of Border Patrol, which includes Eagle Pass, said agents were aware of the church's aid to immigrants, but the agency's focus is on border crossers and smugglers.

Eagle Pass Police Chief Tony Castaneda said he doesn't believe the church is breaking any laws or abusing its status in the community. Instead, he said the church is keeping illegal immigrants from desperation that makes criminal activity a tempting alternative, he said.

"They're not turning to petty crime and becoming a nuisance to our city," Castaneda said. "Once they leave Border Patrol, very little assistance is given to them. Word has spread quickly to come to that church."

Adding to the congregation's standing is a mysterious crucifix, found floating in the Rio Grande by U.S. Border Patrol agents more than a year ago and later placed in the church's chapel.

Lolocono named the fiberglass, life-size piece "The Undocumented Christ" because he said it serves as a symbol of divine empathy, for the plight of immigrants. Thousands of people have come to the church to pray in front of the statue and

place photos of loved ones and notes with prayer requests on an adjacent peg board. Founded in 1884 by the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate, the church leaves its doors open overnight for immigrants to rest until the office opens in the morning.

Mely Garcia said she and her 3-year-old daughter, Susan, could have died if the church hadn't provided refuge. During their two-week journey from Honduras, they slept in a rat-infested house, endured food-carrying guides and ached from hunger and thirst.

They crossed chest-high water in the Rio Grande and walked in chilly temperatures for a half hour before Border Patrol agents arrested them and questioned them for four hours.

A stranger brought them to the church hall, where Lolocono and the nuns cared for them.

Soon after, Lolocono drove the mother and child to a Western Union kiosk and arranged for Garcia's husband — a baker in Atlanta — to send \$300 to pay for her bus ride to Georgia. The priest made sure she got the 10 percent discount his church negotiated with the bus company for immigrant travel, then prayed for the mother and child.

Said Garcia: "All I could do was cry and thank God for what they've done."

Retired clergy keep on working for personal and financial reasons

Knight Ridder News Service

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Myron Wheeler volunteers three mornings a week helping to build houses for needy people and one day a week at a hospital information desk.

James P. Kelleher teaches part time at a seminary. Russell E. Money teaches Sunday school and volunteers at a medical center in a program designed to improve long-term care for the elderly.

They are among thousands of clergy in this country who will fill their retirement years with — more ministry.

"Every retired priest I know is booked months in advance to help with the sacraments in parishes," says the Rev. Robert Murphy, vicar general of the Catholic Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph. "They're all working like Trojans."

Wheeler, 83, is a retired Presbyterian minister who spent years working for the trust department of IBM Bank while also filling pulpits part time after he left full-time parish ministry. As a volunteer at Habitat for Humanity of Kansas City, he says, "I've mixed concrete, I've dug ditches, I've put up walls. I've done drywall, painting, cleaning kitchen cabinets, plumbing."

Kelleher, 74, retired as

archbishop of the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas in January after serving since 1993. He's spending this semester teaching at a Catholic seminary northwest of Chicago.

Money, 72, a retired Disciples of Christ pastor, also helps with a Wednesday morning chapel service at Truman Medical Center-Lakewood.

"I push wheelchair and serve communion," says Money, who also leads a local organization of retired pastors.

Many retired clergy have been freed to do more of this kind of volunteer (and paid) ministry because they enjoy better pension benefits that have become more widely available in the last several decades.

"It used to be that you had to die with your boots on," says Mgge, Charles McClain, pastor of Care of Ars Parish and vicar for personnel of the Kansas Archdiocese. "But now I think we really make an effort to provide for the needs."

Similarly, benefits available to Reform movement rabbis in the United States through the Reform Pension Board "really have allowed us to have a lot of rabbis who have real independence and dignity," says Rabbi Arnold Sher, director of placement for the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Federal appeals court upholds Ten Commandments display

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — A federal appeals panel has ruled that a courthouse in central Kentucky can display a Ten Commandments display because other historical documents are included.

A three-judge panel for the U.S. 6th Circuit Court upheld a lower court decision favoring a display at the Mercer County courthouse in Harrodsburg that shows the commandments alongside nine other documents, including the Bill of Rights and Declaration of Independence.

The ruling said the American Civil Liberties Union relied on a

false understanding of the Constitution in opposing the display and this "construct has grown tiresome... The First Amendment does not demand a wall of separation between church and state. Our nation's history is replete with governmental acknowledgment and in some cases, accommodation of religion."

In New Jersey, a federal panel placed on level with other documents having significant civil, legal and political influence, the Commandments' own historical significance. It becomes more pronounced, Circuit Judge Richard Sridharan wrote for the panel.

Mormons

Continued from C1

ropes — the most traveled president in church history. About half of all Mormons live outside their United States.

It also falls to Hinckley, a third-generation Mormon who was appointed president in 1995, to respond to those who question church practices and teachings.

The denomination has been criticized in recent years for the practice of posthumously baptizing thousands of deceased loved ones (among them Holocaust victims) and those of other faiths. Mormons believe individuals' ability to choose a religion continues beyond the grave.

Asked about the practice, Hinckley said performing the baptisms only provides the option for non-Mormons to query church practices and teachings.

The church also has tried to distance itself from its history of polygamy, but some fundamentalist Mormons still support the practice, Hinckley said. The doctrine of polygamy "came of revelation and was discontinued by revelation."

"We believe in honoring, obeying and sustaining the law. And so, we have very little sympathy with those who disobey the law in this manner," he said.

Hinckley defended the church's practice of disfellowshipping, or excommunicating, ex-Mormons for what they have written about the denomination. He said this step has been taken against "very few" people and only if they try to damage the church.

"It's only when they begin to teach what they believe to try to influence others that action is taken against them," he said.

Relations with other denominations has also been an issue. Some churches do not recognize Mormon baptism, in effect denying that Mormonism is fully Christian. The Latter-day Saints, through their teachings, raise similar questions about other churches. In the scriptural Doctrine and Covenants, Smith taught that the Mormon church is "the only true and living church upon the whole Earth."

Hinckley said Mormons "believe in the virtue in the lives of other people in other church-

es," and that all churches "do great good."

"Our position is simply this, we see you bring all the good that you have, wherever you have acquired it, and see if we may add to it," he said.

Religious leaders in Utah credit Hinckley with cultivating a greater ecumenical spirit between Mormons and other faiths.

"There's a real readiness in both directions to come together for matters that concern us about life in the community," said Roman Catholic Bishop George Niederauer, who is leaving to become archbishop of San Francisco.

Episcopal Bishop Carolyn Tanner Irish was raised Mormon and knew Hinckley when she was a child, Irish said. "He's worked very hard to encourage the church in the direction of acceptance of their neighbors."

Hinckley thinks that during his 10-year tenure, the church has "in a very real sense come out of obscurity and darkness, and it's better understood and appreciated."

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Sunday Services 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
IMPACT Youth Church Sundays @ 6:30 p.m.
(208) 736-0727
1061 Eastland Dr. N. Twin Falls, email: agra@twinfalls.com

Calvary Chapel
The voice of the Lord is a still small voice

Sunday Morning Service @ 10:00am
Live on TV Channel 10
Pastor: Pastor Mark Sjostrom
798 Eastland Drive N. Twin Falls, ID 83301
733-1452

Magic Valley Places of Worship

To advertise your church services and events call Karen at 735-3270 or e-mail churches@magicvalley.com.

Celebration can take hat off to volunteers

By Coren Hart
Times-News correspondent

RUPERT — Rupert's 100th birthday starts tonight. There will be a little of every party you ever heard of, all rolled into one dazzling evening.

Tired of the same-old, same-old? Then pick up your tickets at the door and brace yourself. Dance till midnight. Get showered with balloons. Watch performances of every style of dance popular from 1906 to date.

Extravaganzas like this one don't happen without two years of planning, generous donations and enough volunteer hours to build the Blues. Service groups have hitched their membership into high gear to make sure everyone has a great time.

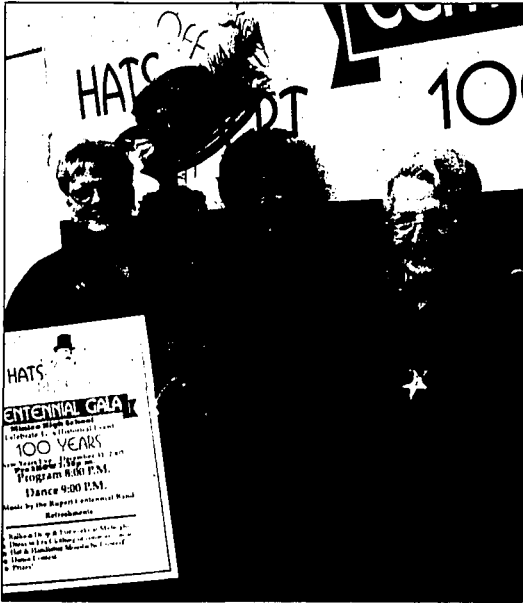
Kathy Mooso, who leads the Mini-Cassia Red Hat Society, said her organization will act as hostesses and docters.

"I just thought this would be a huge amount of fun to do this party," Mooso said. "I was born and raised here and this makes me so proud of my home town."

She doffed her red hat and smiled.

Dore Stansbury represented

The opening gala for the city of Rupert's 100-year celebration will be held at 7:30 p.m. today at Minico High School, 300 W. Highway 24. Tickets, which are available at the door, are \$5 for adults and children younger than age 18 are free. The theme is "Hats Off to Rupert." The contest will be held for the best mustache and hat. A swing dance contest is also planned.



Kathy Mooso, Mini-Cassia Red Hat Ladies queen, doffs her satin chapeau to tonight's celebration. Left, Annie Holmes of Xi Omega Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, and on the right, Dore Stansbury, representing the Eastern Star service organization, encourage people to come and have a great time.

the Minidoka County News. Holmes not only works at the Minidoka County News, she is also the recording secretary of the Beta Sigma Phi Sorority, Mini-Cassia Xi Omega Chapter. She saw a great opportunity for her sorority to serve the community and brought it up at a meeting.

"They agreed to do the balloon drop," Holmes said. "It's actually five balloon drops at midnight. It will be in the center of the Minico main gym and at each of four corners."

The extravaganza is financed largely by a \$10,000 donation

from First Federal Bank. Rupert branch, authorized by bank President Ron Clawson.

"He handed us the check and said to have a great party," said Gary Schorzman, co-chairman of the Centennial Committee. "How do you get better than that? It takes a village! It takes a community and hundreds of volunteers. Sometimes the volunteers are overlooked. But nothing would happen without them."

They have also planned a mousethat contest, dance contest, party foods and hors d'oeuvres, T-shirts and pins and

honored guests, Senator Dean Cameron and Governor Dirk Kempthorne will make guest appearances, as will Teena Krays of CNN.

Perhaps the most relevant event will be a grand march and ceremony honoring Rupert's returned soldiers, the men and women of Brass Company. All ages are welcome and there will be fireworks at midnight.

Times-News correspondent Coren Hart can be reached at 436-1186 or by e-mail at jmm-reviews@afklink.net.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Registration open for Know Your Government

RUPERT — Local eighth and ninth grade 4-H members can participate in the Idaho 4-H Know Your Government Conference that will be held the weekend of Feb. 18 in Boise.

Delegates will participate in legislative or judicial workshops and learn how the state government decision-making process works, how teens can participate politically to influence state government, how the state judicial system works, what is involved in bringing a case to court and observe the legislative process in action. They will meet and share ideas with legislators, judges and other elected officials and have breakfast with legislators and judges. Registration is \$30, plus bus transportation. Scholarships are available from the Minidoka County 4-H Leaders' Association and the Minidoka Soil & Water Conservation District. The deadline to return applications and a letter of recommendation is Jan. 6. For more information, call 436-7184.

Twin Falls Senior Center holds dance Jan. 15

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Senior Center is canceling its dance on Jan. 1 due to the New Year's holiday. A dance will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. Jan. 15 at the center, 530 Shoshone St. W. The Melody Masters will perform.

CSI offers computer classes for the semester

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave., will offer several computer classes this spring.

"Introduction to the Internet" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 19 through Feb. 15, in the Shields Building Room 101. The cost is \$95. The class is a survey of Internet origins, structure and components. Students will learn Internet access options and tools, with an emphasis on Web browsing, e-mail and search techniques. "Introduction to Database Management" will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 19 to Feb. 15 in the Canyon Building Room 107. The cost is \$95. Students will explore applications of computerized database management, define database management, list uses, design, create and enter/edit records information and print database files. For more information call 742-6288 or 742-6289.

CSI class in Gooding teaches yoga techniques

GOODING — The College of Southern Idaho, South Side Center, 202 1/2 Hwy. 4, is holding a yoga course this spring. The class will meet from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 10 to May 10, at the center. The cost is \$105, or \$10 for seniors age 60 and older.

The course will explore classical yoga postures and the history and philosophy of yoga. Each class includes stretching, strengthening, breathing and relaxation techniques.

For more information or to register, call the center at 934-8678 or visit the office.

CSI offers evening computer classes

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave., is offering several evening computer classes.

"Computer Literacy Skill Development" will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 19 through Feb. 15, in the Shields Building Room 101. The cost is \$95.

CSI says the class will help students develop skills to meet the computer literacy requirements for graduation from CSI. This course will provide an overview of hardware components, operating systems, e-mail, Internet, networks and application software.

"Troubleshooting Hardware for the PC" will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 19 through Feb. 15, in the Canyon Building Room 107. The cost is \$95. Students will learn about computer hardware, software troubleshooting and hardware troubleshooting. This course will help prepare students for CompTIA A+ hardware exam.

For more information call 742-6288 or 742-6289.

AARP announces driver safety course schedule

The American Association of Retired Persons has released its January schedule for driver safety courses.

Blaine Jan. 5 at the Blaine County Senior Center, 701 Third Ave. S. For more information, call Brenda at 746-3141.

Twin Falls Jan. 9 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 12 and 14 at the Senior News Building, at the College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave.

Call Brenda at 733-9680.

Buhl from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Jan. 26 and 27 at the Buhl Life Department, 201 S. Broadway.

Call Brenda at 733-9680.

The cost is \$30 and no driving is involved. The participation requires that students do not have to be AARP members or attend. Idaho law requires insurance companies to give a discount to anyone age 65 or older. The classes are for anyone age 50 and older, though younger people can attend. Students must attend both sessions to receive a certificate of completion.

For more information call 742-6288 or 742-6289.

Elks Lodge holds New Year's celebration

BOISE — The Snake River Elks Lodge is holding a New Year's celebration at 6 p.m. today at the lodge, 112 E. 20th St. The cost for dinner will be \$10 per couple. Dancing is \$9 per couple. The Country Club is located at 1000 W. 10th St. For more information call the lodge at 342-7200.

SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU

Volunteers — The Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers of the Magic Valley, a Faith in Action Program Inc., is in need of volunteers to transport a dialysis patient on Tuesdays and Thursdays from an area south of the Twin Falls Airport and to the nephrology center of Holy Lane Road. Mileage reimbursement and volunteer insurance is available. To help with this or other areas, call 733-6333.

Clothing — The College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center is 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 Idaho to prepare federal

and state tax returns for the elderly, disabled, non-English speaking people and 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 levels are welcome. AARP membership is not required. Those taking the free tax classes are asked to commit to at least 40 hours over the 10-week tax season. Classes start Monday at the College of Southern Idaho, 315 Falls Ave. Course materials are available now. Volunteers are reimbursed for program-related travel expenses.

Call Fred Ripley at 543-6544 or e-mail him at fcripley@aol.com, or call the La Pineda Tax Clinic at 735-1189 and ask for Bob, or check out 1-888-AARP-NOW or visit www.aarp.org/taxaide.

Drivers — The College of Southern Idaho Office on Aging needs drivers, age

This public service column is designed to match needs in the communities of the eight counties in the Magic Valley with volunteer help.

If you need a volunteer, call the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 736-2122, Ext. 329. RSVP is a United Way-sponsored agency at the College of Southern Idaho.

Please submit your request before 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday for Saturday publication. Call weekly to retain request.

55 and older, to transport clients to doctors and grocery shopping throughout the Magic Valley. Drivers are reimbursed mileage and covered by excess insurance. Call Emily at 736-2122, ext. 329, or Kitty at 878-0727.

HONORING VETERANS



Right, students and staff at East Minico Middle School in Rupert hold their hands over their hearts while the American flag is raised by the color guard from Mountain Home Air Force Base.



Above, after the Veterans Day program, area veterans and members of the Idaho National Guard's 218th Brigade Combat Team sit lunch at East Minico Middle School.

A TIME WITH ART



Community adults and students from Cindra's After School Academy in Buhl spent an afternoon creating their own fall wreaths, with materials provided by The Mustard Seed. Thana DeKruyf collected the supplies, spoke on the history of wreaths and encouraged participants, organizers said.

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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	5	9	8		
7	8				

HARD

#33

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page C-11.

200 Employment

DAIRY
Relief Milker/Feeder needed. Experience preferred. Call 208-546-2158.

GENERAL
Kitchen Help needed. Twin Falls Care Center is looking for some part-time help on the week-ends, holidays and week-days. Would prefer someone with institutional experience, but will train the right person. You must be able to work in a fast paced kitchen, quick learner and dependable. Please apply in person at 674 Fossilford Drive. FOF

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Driver needed for local commodity haul. Class A CDL, wage DOE. 208-260-5579

GENERAL
Production Mechanic, FT
Painter-automotive
Construction
CDL A
Housekeepers
Plastics Mfg.
Forklift
Factory Workers
Personnel Help
733-7300
www.personnel.com
No Applicant Fee!

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Kruze Nationwide Inc. now hiring OTR Company drivers. Great home time. A place where the driver matters. 325-3470.

GENERAL
We Need OTR Tax Preparers & Marketers
Learn computerized tax preparation in classes starting the week of 01/02/06. Bilingual helpful. Or earn income being a Liberty Tax Service marketer. Must be friendly and outgoing. No exp. necessary. Call Today 1-866-871-1042.

Help Wanted: SALES ASSOCIATES

Positions Available—Twin Falls

If you are organized, motivated, and passionate about customer service and building a business, we want to meet you.

EVERTON GALLERY

Submit Your Resume ONLINE to Info@evertonartgallery.com or Fax To 208-326-3417

• Competitive Pay • 401(k) Retirement Plan • Flexible Schedule • Growth-Oriented Health Benefits • Life Insurance • Employee Discount

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Hewitt Arnold and Mike Argriton

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

TAING

TAWLZ

LUFUES

DOMBEY

A: IT

WHEN THE PILOT ASKED FOR A RAISE, HIS BOSS SAID—

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: LATHE BULLY JITNEY SURETY
Answer: What he gave the horse when it opened its mouth — JUST A BIT

200 Employment

Asking Questions
Conduct public opinion polls over the telephone. Absolutely NO SALES!!! Strictly research, \$7.00 to \$9.00/hour. Casual work environment. Flexible evening, day, and night hrs. 15-30 hours/week. Great part-time job or second job. Close to CSI campus. For more information Call 208-735-2853 *****

200 Employment

CLERICAL
If you are looking for an interesting permanent, full-time position that utilizes your excellent computer skills and provides opportunity for advancement, this may be the position for you. Duties include data entry, telephone, insurance processing. High school diploma, computer and office experience are required. Advanced education or insurance experience would be a plus. Mail resume to Staley Leavitt Insurance, PO Box 1947, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or email m.smack@leavitt.com

200 Employment

CLERICAL
The Cassia County Farm Service Agency (FSA) office located in Burley, Idaho is accepting applications for an Office Assistant position. This is a temporary position and will start 01/09/06. The job duties include general office work including filing, answering telephone, working with customers and a wide variety of computer programs. Qualified applicants must have good computer skills. Salary will depend on experience. Job applications may be picked up at 1351 E. 16th in Burley, ID and will be accepted until 01/03/06. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

200 Employment

CONSTRUCTION
Experienced Roofers Needed. Call 208-404-4478

200 Employment

CONSTRUCTION
Supervisors, layout, concrete and steel erection Benefits. Call 208-536-2156

200 Employment

DAIRY
Experienced milker and outside help needed. Hansen area. Call 423-5110.

200 Employment

DRIVER
Individual and team Cattle truck drivers. Must be 25 years old with CDL and good driving record. New and late model equipment. Call 208-308-8621 or 208-308-8643

200 Employment

DRIVERS
New Job

200 Employment

INSTALLERS
Star West Satellite Technicians

BUY IT! SELL IT!

A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEED

BUY IT! SELL IT!

Are you planning a move? Classifieds will point you in the right direction to find the house you desire. 733-0931

Special Financing

No Credit Bad Credit Bankruptcy

2001 DODGE NITRO Was \$8588

2002 CHEVY AVALANCHE Was \$7888

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$9488

2001 DODGE NITRO Was \$5288

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$6388

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$6388

2001 DODGE NITRO Was \$9988

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$11688

1999 NISSAN QUEST Was \$11788

2000 CHEVY BLAZER 4X4 Was \$6388

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$9388

2000 CHEVY BLAZER 4X4 Was \$11788

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$13988

2000 CHEVY BLAZER 4X4 Was \$14388

2000 MAZDA PROBLEGE Was \$11588

2006 JEEP LIBERTY 4x4 Price \$18202

2006 DODGE 2500 QUAD 4x4 Diesel Price \$29483

You Save \$5200

You Save \$9000

2006 DODGE DAKOTA EXT CAB Price \$14350

You Save \$5800

2006 DODGE DURANGO 4x4 Price \$22140

You Save \$10900

200 Employment

FEED MILL
OPERATOR Ft. Must have CDL Class A. Good salary, medical benefits. Please call 200-280-8579

GENERAL
House Manager position open. Fill out application at Walker Center 605 117 Ave. S. Twin Falls, ID 83330

IRRIGATION
Flood Irrigator needed. Western Montana irrigation background 315/506-115/06. \$8.20 per hour, references req. Must be able to ride horse, back and change irrigation dams. Housing provided. Excellent workman's comp., work related supplies and equipment provided. Call 406-777-3510

IRRIGATION
Nighttime Repairman & Serviceman needed in the Magic and Treasure Valleys. Should be a qualified backhoe operator. Insurance, 401k, paid vacation, holidays, cafeteria plan. Wage DOE. Serious resumes to "Resume" PO Box 14 Twin Falls, ID 83303

LAW ENFORCEMENT
The City of Twin Falls, ID is accepting applications for POLICE OFFICER. Applicants must be POST certified or eligible to participate in the selection process. Additional information and City employment application are available at the office of the Personnel Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East, Twin Falls, ID 83301 or by phoning (208) 735-6600. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer Drug Free Workplace

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Drivers wanted \$18 per hour. Apply in person at Jerome Domino's

MEDICAL
Activity Assistant part time 20 hours/week. Pick up applications at 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho. Contact Patty Hutchison 735-4254

MISCELLANEOUS
Immediate opening for Production and Manufacturing. Excellent benefits package. Drug Free Workplace. Full resume to: The Gettler Company PO Box W Twin Falls, ID 83303 email to info@gettler.com

MISCELLANEOUS
Several full time warehouse positions available in Built, Twin Falls and Kimberly. Must have good physical skills and the ability to lift 75 lbs. Repetitive. All shifts available. Apply in person at American Staffing 1025 Shoshone St. Ste. 3 Twin Falls or call 208-734-6452 for more information.

TWIN FALLS Case Care
Our census has increased, now hiring for LPNs & CNAs Full-time RNA Part-time

Looking for dependable people with great attitudes who attend medical dental vision 401k and dental location. Pick up applications at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr.

200 Employment

RESTAURANT
Cooks & Cook Both positions are part-time. Must be available mornings & evenings and be 19 yrs old. Bilingual a plus. Apply in person at B Beans & A Burrito 799 Cheney Dr.

RESTAURANT
Now hiring Cooks, for days and nights. Apply in person at Addison Pizza Hut

RESTAURANT
Now hiring for all positions Waitstaff, Cooks, Bartenders, Dishwashers Pick up applications at 413 Main in Gooding.

RETAIL
Convenience Store Attendant Part-time Available for any shift. Competitive salary. Apply at Slinker Corner Market 805 E. Main Jerome

TECHNICIAN
Diesel Heavy Truck & Trailer Technician Needed full-time. Qualified candidate will possess:
•Variable experience and/or training
•Steady employment history
•Own hand tools
We offer competitive wages based on experience excellent benefits include uniforms, boot allowance, holiday pay, vacation pay, health, dental, vision insurance available, calsoneta plan and 401k. Apply in person at Sunrise Express 2516 Doc Taylor Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho or fax resume to 208-736-5320.

200 Employment

PLUMBER
Service Plumber needed. Call 208-328-4128

RETAIL
Assistant Manager for Idaho Youth Ranch Thrift store in our Rupert location. Retail experience preferred. \$6.85 per hour plus benefits. EOE. Apply in person. 508 E. on the square in Rupert

SALES
Telemarketer for hospital products & supplies. Call 208-735-1808

TECHNICIAN
Heavy Truck/trailer the Technician/yard maintenance needed. Wage based on experience. We offer competitive wages based on experience. Uniforms, boot allowance, holiday pay, vacation pay, health, dental, vision insurance available. Apply in person at Sunrise Express 2516 Doc Taylor Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho or fax resume to 208-736-5320.

WELDER
Barclay Mechanical is Welder positions. Benefits available. Apply in person at 190 W. 100 S. Hwy 24 Paul, ID 208-438-9108 All Applicants subject to pre-employment drug test.

CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the fine print! Call the Times-News to place your ad 208-733-0931.

ACROSS

- Waters down
- Eimer, to Bugs
- Mell Lazarus comic strip
- Zhou
- Lactarian
- NBA star Shaq
- Japanese dog
- Buddhism branch
- Capone colleague Frank
- Calls to mind
- Main artery
- Color changer
- Clarence Thomas
- accuser Hill
- Votes to defeat
- Uncertainties
- Tote
- Seraph, e.g.
- Tubular pasta
- Srmdigen
- Pirate ship
- Floor cabinet
- Goof
- Creamy color
- Let up
- Thin pancake
- Oomph
- Capone feature
- Slueth played by Bogart
- Senior soiree
- More adorable
- Sewing machine man
- Monks' leader
- Go clamming
- Theater walkway
- U.S. painter
- Rumpelgrind
- Israeli gun
- Is a snoop
- Sen. Kefauver
- School favorite
- Five-in-a-row board game

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12/31/05

Friday's Puzzle Solved

SCAT	PROBE	SPEW
ARCH	LAURA	HULA
MERE	OKRAS	ARMY
OPERATE	WITNESS	
ATSEA	GLEAN	
XYLOPHONE	SNOOP	
RUE	STUMP	AIR
ALTAR	SIMILARLY	
YESMAN	NASAL	
AGILE	CRAMP	
LACTEAL	SNEEZER	
OBOE	CACAO	AUTO
SULU	IMAGE	DRAW
STAR	NATAL	YELLOW

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- Gunk
- Luncheonettes
- Setting for "The King and I"
- Eggs purchase
- On the rocks
- Steadfastness
- "Lisa"
- Like Lyonnaise potatoes
- Paris subway
- Not glossy
- Police blotter info
- Some coll. degrees
- Florence's river
- Panache
- Across
- Zwelliger
- Breeze through
- Negative link
- Pit bull's warning
- Supported
- Hairstyles
- Pub purchase
- Motel room requisite

- DOWN**
- Listened to
 - Neither flat nor sharp

- Facing a pitcher
- One or two
- Grip aid
- Small hooper
- Reagan's Ed
- AAA offerings
- NFL linebacker Warren

MECHANIC
for large ranch in Southeast Oregon Good working knowledge of diesel and gas farm equipment, from heavy equipment and much more. Ranch background helpful. Organizational and people skills essential. Non smoking drinking work environment. Good wages, health, dental, vision, 401k after first year. No school bus available. References required. Call 541-493-2706

MECHANIC
Full-time Diesel Mechanic to start ASAP. Pay is excellent. Please call 731-3364 for more information.

MECHANIC
Heavy Equipment Diesel Mechanic Wage DOE. Please fax resume to 208-733-0804 or mail to P.O. Box 2378 Twin Falls, ID 83303. Needed immediately!

MEDICAL
We Want You! If you are a dedicated, Certified Nurse Aid or a Registered Nurse. The new management at Sun Bridge for Twin Falls wants you to join us. Our heightened emphasis on our employees is evident by our new wage scale. Our excellent benefits include health dental and life insurance. 401k plan, vacation and sick pay. Come join our energetic health care family. Apply in person at Sun Bridge for Twin Falls 640 Frier Ave W. EOE

PROFESSIONAL
FT & PT Behavior Specialist needed. Four year degree req. 35 hours, competitive wages & benefits avail. Call 731-0305

RECEPTIONIST
Receptionist/Office Assistant computer experience required. Purchasing experience a plus, outgoing personality with strong communication skills. Full time position with excellent benefits. Fax resume to 208-735-1906 Attn: Butch

SALES
South Idaho Press has an opening for a Classified Sales Representative. Full-time, base plus comp commission. Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm. Job Requirements: •HS Diploma req. •Minimum typing speed 45 wpm •Excellent computer skills •Accurate spelling •Good communication skills •Ability to handle multiple tasks, work in a high energy environment •Managing multiple deadlines. People skills include: •Ability to work with a variety of customers •Excellent patience and professionalism while providing excellent customer service •Bilingual a plus!

Please mail your resume to: Kim Patterson South Idaho Press 230 East Main St. Burley, ID 83318

SALES
The Wheel-Builder Journal Seeking an assertive and dynamic Sales Representative for an expanding weekly newspaper based in Hailey, Idaho. As part of Lee Enterprises, we offer competitive wages, benefits & opportunity in this growing, challenging market. To apply, stop by our office at 507 S. Main St., Hailey for an application or email resume to: Trey Spaulding @Lee.net

SALES
Outside Advertising Executive We are seeking a motivated self-starter to sell newspaper advertising for The Times-News in both the Burley and Twin Falls markets. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills time management and organizational skills and ability to meet deadlines. Must have reliable transportation. Media sales experience and related college degree is preferred but not required. Commission income plus corporate benefits, including medical, dental, vision, 401k retirement, and employee stock purchase plan. Reply to: Janet Goffin Advertising Director PO Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303 janet.goffin@lee.net. We are an equal opportunity employer

CIRCULATION
South Idaho Press currently has the following positions available in the Circulation Department. Customer Service Representative This position is scheduled to work Monday through Friday with rotating weekends and holidays. Full benefit package. Customer Service Representative (Weekends)-Part Time This position would be scheduled to work Saturday & Sunday mornings (approx. 8 hours per week). Customer Service and Retention Representative (Evenings)-Part Time This position would be scheduled to work Monday through Friday evenings (approx. 15 hours per week) with rotating weekends and holidays. Ideal candidates will possess good verbal and written communication skills, good computer skills, have a good telephone presence, enjoy working with the public, be detail-oriented, self-motivated, and comfortable doing outbound calling. All candidates must have a valid driver's license and be able to work weekends and holidays to be considered. If interested, please submit completed application (resume optional) to: South Idaho Press 230 E. Main, Burley, ID 83318 Attn: Jenni Busick Circulation Manager

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We are seeking a motivated self-starter to sell newspaper advertising for The Times-News in both the Burley and Twin Falls markets. Must possess excellent verbal and written communication skills time management and organizational skills and ability to meet deadlines. Must have reliable transportation. Media sales experience and related college degree is preferred but not required. Commission income plus corporate benefits, including medical, dental, vision, 401k retirement, and employee stock purchase plan. Reply to: Janet Goffin Advertising Director PO Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303 janet.goffin@lee.net. We are an equal opportunity employer

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EARN EXTRA CASH BY DELIVERING

The Times-News

No experience necessary

We are currently accepting applications for independent contractors to deliver The Times-News to our customers. Are you available between 3 and 6 a.m., seven days a week? See how much extra income you could make in just a few hours each week.

DO YOU LIVE NEAR ANY OF THESE LOCATIONS? IT'S AN EASY WAY TO PICK UP EXTRA CASH ...

• 2600-2900 9th Ave. E. • 2700-2900 Elizabeth Blvd TWIN FALLS	• 300-500 Bracken St. N. • 100-500 Frier Ave. W. TWIN FALLS	• 400-500 Durall Courts • 100-200 Maunce St. N. TWIN FALLS	• 1000-1100 Parkway Dr. • 1000-1200 Parkmeadows Dr. TWIN FALLS
• 1200-1500 Evergreen Dr. • 1200-1400 Holly Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 1300-1800 Blinnwood Dr. • 1300-1800 Turbide Dr. • 500-900 Main St. • 400-900 Rosewood Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 1300-1800 Blinnwood Dr. • 1300-1800 Turbide Dr. • 500-900 Main St. • 400-900 Rosewood Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 500-700 Riese St. • Paradise Place Apts. TWIN FALLS
• 400-500 Falls Ave. W. • 400-900 Rosewood Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 300-999 Main St. • 100-200 Brook Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 500-800 Moettans • 200-800 Wyoming BUHL	• Motor Rt. 609 55 miles/2 hours delivery time \$700-750 every 4 weeks GOODING
• Substitutes and Carriers wanted - Motor Routes CAREY	• Substitutes and Carriers wanted - Motor Routes BELLEVUE	• 300-600 Adams St. • 300-500 Ash St. S. KIMBERLY	• 100-500 6th St. • 500-900 Yalima St. FILER
• New Park Area. Substn. • South Park Area TWIN FALLS	• 700-900 Wendell St. • Eastwind Drive • 500-900 Falls Ave. TWIN FALLS	• 350-500 Buckingham • 250-400 Knottingham Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 100-500 Tyler Street • 100-500 Van Buren • 100-500 Harrison TWIN FALLS
• 500-500 Oak St. N. • 140-950 Polk St. W. KIMBERLY	• 500-1000 Eastland Dr. N. • 500-800 Riverview Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 1100-1300 Brumage Cir. • 1700-1900 Pomeroy Dr. TWIN FALLS	• 400-900 7th Ave. N. • 400-900 8th Ave. N. BUHL

Call now for more information about routes available in your area!
Jerome, Hailey, Shoshone, Gooding & Wendell: Kathy Norman 735-3348
Twin Falls, Filer, Buhl, Castford: Amy Padcham 735-3347
Twin Falls East & Kimberly: Bryna Guire 735-3346
Burley & Hazelton: Amy Miller 677-8761

New Today

CLEAR TALK

Now Seeking Retail Sales Associate For Full and Part-Time Position for Twin Falls Retail Store

Applicants Should Possess: Excellent Customer Service, Communication, Organization Skills, And Have A Positive Attitude. Previous Sales Experience Preferred. Bilingual in English/Spanish is a plus

Qualified Individuals Fax Resumes to: 208-735-5277 email sales@cleartalk.net

Idaho's Local PCS Carrier

REAL ESTATE

TIMES-NEWS ROUTES AVAILABLE

TWIN FALLS
RT. 713
1200-1600 Evergreen
1100-1600 Juniper Street North

RT. 722
2600-2900 9th Ave. E
2700-2999 Elizabeth Blvd.

RT. 794
1300-1800 Bitterroot Drive
1300-1800 Targhee Drive

RT. 833
100-500 Harrison St
100-500 Van Buren Street

KIMBERLY
RT. 554
500-630 Oak St. N.
140-900 Taylor St. W

RT. 558
300-500 Adams St.
100-500 Washington Street

If you live in these areas and are interested in being a newspaper carrier, please contact Bryna District Manager 208-735-3248

TIMES-NEWS

The Times-News is currently looking for Independent Route Carriers

Gooding Motor
45 miles
110 customers
2 hours delivery time
\$700-\$750 every 4 weeks

RT. 503
300-800 Montana St.
200-800 Wyoming

RT. 504
500-800 9th East
200-800 Michigan
800-900 Wyoming

JEROME
RT. 823
100-500 W. Ave C
100-600 W. Ave D

RT. 837
100-200 E. Ave. E
100-500 E. Ave. F

SHOSHONE
MOTOR ROUTE 617
Suburbia
3 1/2 hours 75 miles
1-2 days a week
\$50 per day

If you live in these areas and are interested in being a newspaper carrier, please contact Mgr. 735-3348

301 Business Opportunities

TWIN FALLS Unique up scale gift shop in Historic District Business only 734-1604

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

Big profits usually mean big risks. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center: 1-800-876-7060

401 School Instruction

Massage Technician Training
108 hours, begins 2/3/06, Runs 12 weeks on Fr 7:00am & Sat 10-5:30pm
Massage Therapist Training, Nutrition starts on 2/7 & Deep Tissue 1/29
Twin Falls Institute of Holistic Studies
208-328-4870

401 School Instruction

CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the fine print.
Call Times-News 1-800-876-7060
208-733-0931

501 Open House

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Selling Property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding time share and real estate sales, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

502 Homes For Sale

EDEN Country home, 0.59 acres, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, large yard, partially fenced. Must see! \$132,900. Call 208-825-9020 after 7 pm or on weekends.

FILER classic 2 story farm home, 3.5 acres, 3 bdrm, 2 full baths, pool, nice place. Evenings after 6pm 328-4179 or 731-1122

HAZELTON

Comfortable 2626 sq. ft. bedroom home, family room, covered patio, hot tub, in-law units, on 6.51 acres \$229,960. Call Henry 410-2608

CAREY
4 bedroom home on 4.5 acres, outbuildings, serene setting, bathing nearby.

NEW 1500 sq. ft. bdrm, 2 bath mfg home at Friendly Village \$85,000

HOME INSPECTIONS

2000+ since 1993
Bill Baker 208-329-5115

JEROME

The main floor apartment has 3 bedrooms, 1 bath and is currently rented. The basement apartment has 1 bedroom and 1 bath and is also rented. Great investment property. Call Alex Castaneda 539-5758 or Judy 831-5271. 3914 MCLSP9200129 PC#2741

STATE REALTY, INC

JEROME 1000 sq ft.
3 bdrm, 1 bath, Tudor style, 1 car detached garage, fenced back yard, full bsmt. Very clean 503 East Main St. \$97,500. Call 208-324-5625

RUPERT For sale by owner! Easy no down financing available! Call today 679-2653

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm.
1 bath, 1/2 fenced back yard, 625 2nd Ave W \$80,000. Call to see 208-733-5949

COUNTRY LIVING ON THIS NICE ACREAGE

yet close to town, 3 bedrooms 2 baths, 3-car garage, garden area, all on sprinkler system \$230,000

American REAL ESTATE & APPRAISAL
734-5650
733-9790 733-0669

Housekeeping Hints

CHECK FAUCETS AND BULBS. Dripping water rattles the nerves, discolors sinks and suggests faulty or worn-out plumbing. Burned-out bulbs leave prospects in the dark. Don't let little problems detract from what's right with your home.

Liz McGarrigle
John Realty
1001 Park Avenue #1
Office (208) 734-6500
Cell (208) 308-8841
www.lizmcgarrigle.com

502 Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS
3 bdrm, 2 bath, manufactured home on permanent foundation. Approx. 1568 sq. ft. New electrical system, plumbing, vinyl windows and flooring, A/C, auto sprinklers, electric, forced air heat. 666 Callaway Ct. By owner, 593-1000. Call 735-4192

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm.
2 bath, 4 car garage on .45 acre in town. New condition. Asking \$142,000. By owner. Call 208-404-1240.

TWIN FALLS
4032 N 2300 E
2310 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Family Room
Covered Patio
3 Car Garage
1.40 Acres
\$315,000

Gem State Realty, Inc.
Walt Hess - 737-3939

TWIN FALLS CUTE tier up! 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, good location. \$84,500-208-420-6210

TWIN FALLS
Free MLS Search
www.homesale.com

TWIN FALLS
What's Your Home Worth
www.mapvalleyhomevalues.com

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES

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502 Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 2 bdrm, 1 bath.
New carpet throughout, paint, new gas furnace, W/D hook-up, w/30" TV near Main St & H.S. Big lot, pets rag. Avail now \$585+dep 731-5745

BUHL 2 bdrm, W/D
hook up, fenced yard, new carpet, gas heat \$360 month + dep Call 208-539-1468

FILER Clean 1 bdrm to 2 bdrm homes, \$375-\$400 month + \$300 security dep. Call 208-731-0919

FILER clean country home 3 bdrm, 1 bath. No smoking \$650 mo + dep. Refs required. 420-3503

HANSEN 130 Pine St.
\$535 month + deposit. GOODING 413 Colwood, \$375 month + deposit. 1598 East Shoshone, \$515 trailer in park. 731-4952

HANSEN 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car W/D
hook up, \$625 + dep, ref. no pets. Avail 1/10/06 731-1975

JEROME 2 bdrm, 2 bath mobile home, approx 1200 sq ft. Court Space F. \$430 mo + dep. No pets. Call 208-543-8256

JEROME 1 1/2 by well
beaver. Jerome and 7F 2 bdrm home in park. Secured, quiet, park like setting. Complete furnished. \$650 mo. taking apps 324-5701 (before 6 pm)

JEROME CUTE 2 bdrm
house, extra storage, fenced yard with trees in town. New carpet, stove & ref. \$500 mo + \$450 dep. Call 208-602-5160

JEROME West 3 bdrm
country home on 1 1/2 acres, available. No pets. Only Can have up to 7 head of livestock. \$900 month + \$500 deposit. Day phone 324-3301, after 3pm call 208-637-6390

512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies

WENDELL FARM
For Sale
150 acres behind West Point Store
1952 deep well.
Call 208-543-4209

513 Acreage and Lots

BUHL Home sites w/views, 38 acres with extra water, \$190,000 + 3 acres with trees, \$40,000. Both North of Buhl. Call 208-843-4208.

GOODING 40 acres
new, pool, indoor arena, and 2 bedroom house. \$385,000. Strickland Real Estate. 208-355-0792.

GOODING horse property.
5 acres, new 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, shop/barn. All cross fenced, full water shares with corrals. Call Strickland Realty 208-358-0792

514 Income Property

RUPERT Own your own business and live in the same location. 16 unit rentals, office, and 2 bdrm, 2 bath residence. Great business opportunity or investment. Call 208-878-3259 or 431-8382 leave message.

519 Cemetery Lots

SUNSET MEMORIAL (4) Plots.
1 company (double) marker. 2 Evergreen vaults. Older Pinehurst section. Asking \$4,000. These were dedicated to a civic organization. Call Tracey, 208-733-6333 and leave message.

501 Furnished Homes

Classified Department
Classified Sales Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday
Call our office in Twin Falls 733-0931 ext. 2

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WENDELL FARM
For Sale
150 acres behind West Point Store
1952 deep well.
Call 208-543-4209

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm.
2 bath, 4 car garage on .45 acre in town. New condition. Asking \$142,000. By owner. Call 208-404-1240.

TWIN FALLS
4032 N 2300 E
2310 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Family Room
Covered Patio
3 Car Garage
1.40 Acres
\$315,000

Gem State Realty, Inc.
Walt Hess - 737-3939

TWIN FALLS CUTE tier up! 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, good location. \$84,500-208-420-6210

TWIN FALLS
Free MLS Search
www.homesale.com

TWIN FALLS
What's Your Home Worth
www.mapvalleyhomevalues.com

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1952 deep well.
Call 208-543-4209

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502 Homes For Sale

WENDELL FARM
For Sale

HAGERMAN 3 bdrm, 1 bath, WD hook-up, new carpet, \$460 + dep. Call 539-1468.

KIMBERLY 3 bdrm, 1 bath w/attached 2 car garage, RV spot, auto lawn sprinklers, all appls. Included. No pets/smoking. \$700 mo. + dep. Call 423-4102.

KIMBERLY Central location, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, appls, WD hook-up, storage, \$500 month.

TWIN FALLS Newly built split level 3 bdrm., 2 bath, appls. Garage, fenced yard, no pets. \$500 month. Spacious, 4 bdrm, 2 bath, newer appls., nice landscape, oil garage, no pets or smoking, \$950 month. Quiet neighborhood, 2 bdrm., WD hook-up, gas heat, \$400. mo. Cozy 2 bdrm., appls, oil street parking, elect. heat, \$475 mo. The Mgmt 733-0739

TWIN FALLS New 3 bdrm., 2 bath, all appls, WD, No smoking/pets. \$850 mo. + dep. 208-734-9986.

TWIN FALLS nice studio, \$350 month + \$250 deposit. Call 208-731-8010.

TWIN FALLS President street, Clean 2 bdrm, house, New paint, WD hook-up, wood stove, no pets \$595 + \$500 dep. 733-7097

TWIN FALLS Remodeled house, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, partial barn, garage, WD, water, sewer, garbage incl. Pets neg. \$650mo + dep. 1139 S Ave. E. Call 208-629-8319.

TWIN FALLS very nice, very clean, cute 1 bdrm. No smoking/pets. WD hook-ups. \$500 mo. + dep. Call after 5pm 734-8493.

RICHFIELD
Richfield Ranch w/ immaculate 3 bdrm, 2 bath home. 2-car insulated garage and outbuildings. Borders BLM and Little Wood River. Fantastic views. \$785/mo. Please call 726-4404.

WEWENELL 645 East Ave. A. 2 bdrm., 1 bath. \$495 month + \$495 deposit. No pets. Call 539-1403

SHOSHONE 3 bdrm, house and 2 bdrm. house, appls. Nice yard. No inside pets. Call 208-308-2941

SHOSHONE 2 1/2 bdrm., carport, storage shed, lg. yd. by river. 1 bth \$575 + 1", last mo. 280-1025.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm., 1 bath, clean, nice yard. \$400 mo + \$300 dep. 731-0919

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 1 bath, hardwood floors and new carpet, \$700 month + deposit. No smoking/pets. Call 208-737-9676

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, \$800 mo + \$500 dep. Magic Valley Ranch. Call 208-543-2439.

TWIN FALLS big clean older house, 4 bedrooms + extra rooms. \$550 month + deposit. Call 208-490-0807 or 208-326-3268.

TWIN FALLS Cozy 2 bdrm, possible 3, 1 bath, WD hook-up, fenced yard, pets welcome with extra pet deposit. \$650 mo. + \$500 dep. 733-7818

Have a Happy New Year, and thanks for making 2005 such a great one!



IRWIN REALTY *of Course!*

www.irwinrealty.com

Twin Falls (208) 734-6500 Toll-Free (800) 658-3863 Buhl (208) 543-8510

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The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is a violation of the law. If you are informed that any dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis, call HUD Toll-free 800-669-9777. The Civil Rights telephone number for the hearing impaired is 800-927-6275.

Call us today. Put our team of 60 Real Estate Professionals to work for you!

¡¡¡HABLAMOS ESPAÑOL!
NORBERTO ARTEAGA
420-0846



Go to www.canyonsiderealty.com and view 1000s of properties listed with the multiple listing service. We can show them all!

700 S. Lincoln JEROME 208-324-3354 • 1-800-273-6339 • Fax 224-1343 208-734-0099 • 1-800-408-6977 • Fax 733-6648 TWIN FALLS 208-735-0590 • FREE MARKET ANALYSIS 208-934-4334 • 1-800-669-3455 • Fax 934-5494 • 1-800-616-7554 • 208-837-6922 • Fax 837-6924

HOMES • LAND • INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

We at CANYONSIDE REALTY wish all of you a healthy & prosperous 2006!



If you are interested in SELLING your existing home or wanting to BUY the house of your dreams, then you need to call any one of our Real Estate Professionals listed in this ad. Yule feel right at home with us!

Hammett/Russell
Earl Ward 208-590-0225
Rich Morrison 208-590-0225
Wanda E Cruz 208-590-0225

Jerome
208-324-3354
Bonny Ross
Dave Ross
Chris Barber
Ashlee Barber
Bonnie Becker
Barry Brackett
Jessica Boyd
Sandra Capote

Twin Falls
208-735-0590
Wanda Foster
Norberto Arteaga
Mikayla Bernard
Marilyn Bryson

4 BEDROOM

DECK ALL AROUND

PERFECT FOR YOU!

Classified Line Ads

5 LINES \$15

10 DAYS

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items)
\$2 each additional line. Private Party only. Pets and merchandise only.

The Times-News magickvalley.com Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 800-658-3883 ext. 2

Sudoku Answers:

2	8	3	7	1	5	6	9	4
7	6	5	9	8	4	2	1	3
1	9	4	3	6	2	5	8	7
5	2	1	4	7	3	8	6	9
9	4	6	1	2	8	7	3	5
8	3	7	6	5	9	4	2	1
3	1	2	5	4	6	9	7	8
6	5	9	8	3	7	1	4	2
4	7	8	2	9	1	3	5	6

706 Farm/Ranch Supplies

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815 Exercise Equipment

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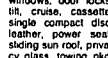


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JAGUAR '02 X-Type, AWD, in style, off lease, what a buy! #C1590 Only \$17,977



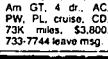
JEEP '02 Liberty Utility, 4 door, V6 3.7 liter, AT, 4 WD, AC, power windows, door locks, tilt, cruise, cassette, single compact disc, leather, power seat, sliding sun roof, privacy glass, towing pkg. \$11,880



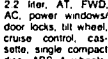
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TOYOTA '01 Camry LE sedan AD, 4 cylinder 2.2 liter, AT, FWD, AC, power windows/door locks, tilt wheel, cruise control, cassette, single compact disc, ABS 4 wheels \$925

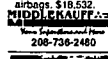
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PONTIAC '88 Bonneville, 4 door, 4 optional, almost like new. Call 208-736-2964

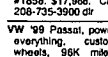
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SEEKING COMPANION
 DF, 40, 5'2", brown/blue, great smile. Enjoys fishing, slow dancing, romantic evenings and more. Looking for a SM, 38-45, who has a relationship with the Lord, stable, funny and outgoing. Burley #879925

HARD TO FIND A GOOD ONE?
 Independent SWF, 28, N/S, hard-working mother of one, N/S, fun-loving, likes to dance, ride dirt bikes, by now things. Seeking a real SWM, 26-40, for dating, maybe more. Green-wood #848945 @ crack77

SINGLE MOM
 WF, 19, 5'6", black/blue, with on daughter, good cook, enjoys anything fun with the right person. Looking for WM, 18-25, to have fun with. Hollister #859300

SLEEPLESS IN TWIN FALLS
 SWF, 40, seeks educated, athletic, intelligent, kind, humorous, emotionally/financially secure gentleman for LTR. Must be communicative, enjoy outdoors, horses, dogs, animals, family life. Kimberly #860671

LET'S HANG OUT
 SWF, 36, homebody ready for a change. I am looking for somebody to hang out with and just have a good time. If you're interested, contact me! Twin Falls #863033

I WANT TO LIVE, LAUGH...
 and love again. WF, 34, mother of two boys, loves the outdoors, long conversations, cuddling and more. Looking for art understanding, honest, good man, 34-45. Finley #893542 @ Kamster

MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE
 SWF, 55, N/S, new to the area, likes to ride bikes, read, swim, wants to meet kind, considerate, honest SWM, 56-70, N/S. Hollister #773734

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
 SF, 39, mother, kind-hearted, easygoing, soft-spoken, likes camping, fishing, family times. Looking to meet a light-hearted, child-friendly man who wants to share friendship, fun times, and a possible LTR. Burley #827646

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
 SF, 21, 5'2", short brown/dark brown 130lbs, looking for someone child-friendly, outgoing, honest man to share a friendship, fun and maybe more. Hollister #874260

ARE YOU THE ONE?
 SF, 27, 5'8", Leo, smoker, blonde/hazel, seeks man, 19-30, smoker, who really needs a friend. Hollister #829003

SEEKS FUN AND MORE
 SWF, 51, outdoorsy-type, likes dining out, dancing, laughs! Seeking a nice guy, 45-60, for romance, fun, maybe LTR. Abion #010169 @ DelaFayehelg

CHRISTIAN LADY
 Very fit SWF, N/S, loves working out, the Lord, going to Mass on Sundays, nature, animals. Would like to meet an even-tempered gentleman, 53-63, who enjoys similar things. Hollister #839733

SEEKING SPECIAL SOMEONE
 I'm looking for that special person to be with me. I like the outdoors and someone to cuddle up with. Someone who isn't shy, likes to go dancing and movies. Hollister #833786 @ casu781

SEEKING GOOD FRIEND
 Attractive SF, 49, 5'4", 130lbs. Cancer, likes dancing, seeking open, honest SM, 45-55, to befriend and develop a relationship. #868667

NEEDS SOME SUGAR
 SWF, 48, loves walks, picnics, hot tubbing, cuddling on the couch, seeking SWHM, 38-54. Hollister #844241 @ SemiSuite

MEN SEEKING WOMEN

HOW ABOUT ME?
 SWM, 62, hard-working, loves the outdoors, horseback riding, 4-wheeling, snowmobiling, occasional nights out. Seeking happy, sincere lady who loves animals and the great outdoors. Friendship/relationship. Hurdon #8743399

I'VE BEEN LOOKING
 SM, 39, athletic, enjoys sports. Looking for an older BBW that keeps herself up. Gooding #873680

WORTH YOUR CALL
 Employed SM, 39, 5'8", 165lbs, brown/hazel, Leo, secure, socializes, likes camping, fishing, road trips, cuddling, dining, movies, sports, NASCAR. Seeking outgoing, spontaneous SF, 25-48, similar interests. Hollister #834722

MAKE ME YOURS
 SWM, 27, outdoor-type, likes dinners, movies, I just got back from Iraq. Looking to meet a nice SWF, 18-27, to have fun and live life to the fullest. Hollister #883843 @ aftershockrob

DO YOU LOVE JESUS?
 SWFC, 34, devout conservative, sincere, sensitive, empathetic, N/S, N/D. Enjoys going to movies, candlelight dinners, indoor/outdoor activities. ISO SWHF, 24-34, any race, honest, dependable, church-going, has personal relationship with the Lord. Hollister #882582 @ JesusFanatic

WORTH IT!
 SWM, 26, 6'2", shaved head, red goatee, 225lbs, very athletic, enjoys metal and rock music, snowboarding. Looking for an outgoing girl who wants to have fun. Hollister #874113

NEW TO THE DATING SCENE
 SWM, 35, very real person, enjoys the outdoors, horse riding, hunting, skiing, seeking honest SF, 23-45, to love and cherish. Hollister #867057 @ JustTime102005

ONE WOMAN MAN
 SWM, 58, 5'6", 150lbs, clean-cut, N/S, easygoing, hardworking, likes movies, dancing, Country music, outdoors, camping. Seeking fun SWF, 48-58, slender for friendship maybe more. #851957

LOOKING!
 SWM, 53, kid-at-heart, laid-back, enjoys drives in the mountains, thunder storms, fishing, hunting, gardening, slow dancing, tv. Seeking SF, 40-55, N/S, to share my interests together. Rogerson #8649335 @ wilye

DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH
 SWM, 28, with various interests, ISO SF, 22-35, to share casual dates, good times and just get to know. Possible LTR. Appleton #851341

BURLMAN
 SM, 21, Leo, N/S, loves to fish, camp, and play video games. Seeking an attractive woman, 18-29, to have fun with. Burley #854545

LOOKING TOO
 SWM, 52, enjoys golf, movies, gardening, getting lost and finding the way home, seeks SF, 35-55, to get to know each other. Pal #875531 @ helnbak

ARE YOU THE ONE
 SM, 18, laid back enjoys the outdoors looking for someone who shares the same interests. please call Hollister #8873481

DISO HONEST RELATIONSHIP
 SM, 39, 5'7", 150lbs, black/brown, enjoys fishing, taking walks, dancing, etc. Looking for SF, 18-50, for a LTR, kids ok. Corraler #865547

FRIENDSHIP FIRST
 WM, 45, black/green, likes movies, theater, walks, bowling, dancing, music, music and more. Would like to meet a WF, 45+, for possible relationship. Hollister #858908

ARE YOU DOWN-TO-EARTH?
 HW, 28, hardworking, looking for an honest, trustworthworthy woman, 20-35, who likes to go out and have a fun time. Gooding #866014

ROMANTIC
 SWM, 42, 5'8", enjoys fishing, cutting, gardening, long drives and more. Looking for someone for their friendship, maybe leading to something more. Appleton #862225

LOVER, NOT A FIGHTER
 SM, 30, like kids but not sure I want them, enjoys sports, outdoors, taking drives, seeking pretty lady, 25-35, for friendship. Gooding #836290 @ bigstrap-per42003

COME JOIN ME!
 SWM, 6, 175lbs, enjoys camping, fishing, dancing, walking. Seeking female for a friendship, quality time and good conversation. Contact #856223

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE
 SWM, 54, enjoys outdoors, likes bike riding, exercises, doing about anything. Seeking SF, 47-57, to share same interests. Hollister #847528 @ emherenew

MAKING YOU'RE THE ONE
 SM, 42, electrician, enjoys the outdoors, roping/riding, time with friends, quality times with a special lady. Will you be that lady? Buhl #870343

SEEKS PRETTY CF
 WM, 52, 6'4", weightlifter, enjoys hunting, fishing, outdoors, church, animals, cruising in my muscle car. Seeking pretty Christian lady, 30-50. Twin Falls #865969

LET'S HANG OUT
 SWM, 20, looking for SF, 18-24, who enjoys walks, outdoor activities, snowboarding, video games, dancing, eating out, and trying new things! Hollister #847697 @ skull1663

A GOOD MAN STILL EXISTS
 SM, 32, hard-working, active, enjoys family times, golf, stock car racing, shopping, simple times. Seeking sincere, child-friendly woman who knows how to enjoy life. Fairfield #742631

TIRED OF GAMES, ETC?
 SWM, 39, very romantic, like to cuddle and give massages. Do not lie, cheat, or play games. I enjoy the outdoors, listening/playing music, going out. Seeking SF, 18-45. Hollister #864717 @ twin-fallsman3301

MAYBE IT'S YOU
 Easygoing good-hearted, affectionate SM, 28, 5'7", long brown/brown, smile, 170lbs, likes fitness, camping, fishing, movies, I enjoy, open-minded, loving SF with like interests. Burley #757893

LET'S TALK
 SM, 21, 5'10", 210lbs, out going, fun, walking, conservative, likes fishing, walks, camping, more ISO active SF who enjoys the same. Hollister #8604445

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MAKE IT HAPPEN
 SWM, 21, 5' 11", average build, Sagittarius, N/S, seeks WF, 18-50, N/S, just east of here. Cury #756992

SEEKING COMPANION
 SWM, 28, single father of two. Seeking single female 25-35, who is honest, truthful and likes to have fun. Hollister #865856

LOOKING FOR A FRIEND
 Simple, easygoing, affectionate SWM, 45, likes fishing, hunting, snowboarding, camping. Seeking similar lady to share friendship, fun, special times, possible LTR. Hollister #818128

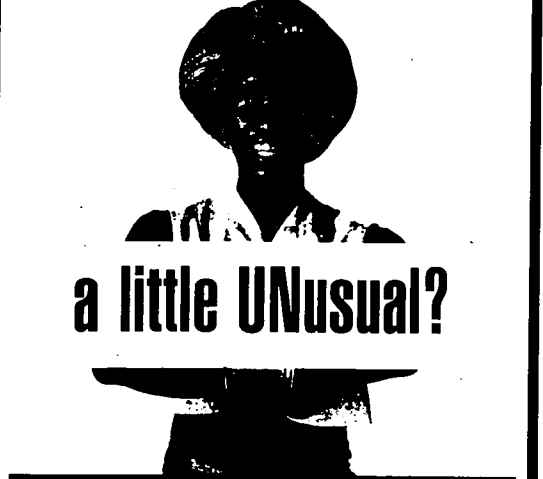
LOCAL TRUCK DRIVER
 W, 6'2", BBW, likes fishing, camping, cooking, the mountains, quiet times at home and time with a significant other. Seeking WF, 35-55, for dating, hopefully leading to LTR. Hollister #836262

PRETTY OPEN
 Kind-hearted WM, 29, 5'7", 160lbs, brown/brown, enjoys fishing, fishing, outdoors, working out, hanging out with friends, more. Looking for significant other. Seeking WF, 18-35, for dating, hopefullly leading to LTR. Hollister #836262

COUNTRY GENTLEMAN
 Easygoing DWM, 60, 5'7", 140lbs, self-employed, N/S, likes camping, fishing, traveling, dining out. Seeking active SWF, 40-60, N/S, looks unimportant, must be honest, caring and true, friendship first, maybe LTR. Twin Falls #816440

HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU
 SM, 50, enjoys the outdoors, hunting, fishing, camping, Seeking SF, N/D, who enjoys the same, for talks, dates, friendship and more. Hollister #850460

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GUIDELINES: Heart 2 Heart ads are for adults 18 or over seeking monogamous relationships. To ensure your safety, carefully screen all responses. First meetings should occur in a public place. Abbreviations are permitted only to indicate gender preference, race and religion. We suggest your ad contain a self-description, age, height, lifestyle and avocations. Ads and replies are screened for obscenity and profanity. The publisher reserves the right to remove copy containing questionable phrases, to reject in its sole discretion, any advertisement on account of its text. This publication assumes no responsibility for the content or reply to any Heart 2 Heart ad. The advertiser assumes complete liability for the content and all replies to any advertisement or recorded message and for any claims made against this publication and its agents as a result thereof. The advertiser agrees to indemnify and hold this publication, its employees and its agents harmless from all costs, expenses (including reasonable attorney fees), liabilities and damages resulting from or caused by the publication or recording placed by the advertiser or any reply to any such advertisement. By using Heart 2 Heart, the advertiser agrees not to leave his or her phone number, last name or address in his/her voice greeting. Not all boxes contain a voice greeting. For customer service call 1-811-430-8173 or email heart2heart@placenetpersonal.com.

SINGLES LINGO: A-Asian B-African American/Black C-Christian D-Divorced F-Female H-Hispanic J-Jewish M-Male N/S-Non-smoker N/D-Non Drinker N/Drugs-No Drugs P-Professional S-Single W-White LTR-Long Term Relationship

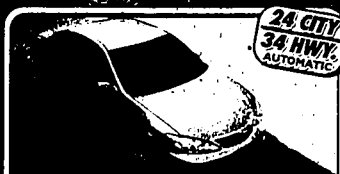


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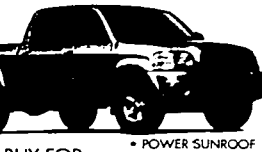
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