

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Off and on rain showers. High 46, low 28.
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BACK TO LIFE

Students and faculty remember Justin and Spencer Nice.
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MISADVENTURE



Florida teen promises to tell the tale of his trip to Iraq.
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ROOF COLLAPSE

Five die as roof falls in on skaters at German Ice rink.
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'REALLY NOISY AND HOT OF FUN'

Red Hot Mamas welcomes new members.
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MPG

EMBARRASSMENT
Boise's college body game needs some more civility for visitors, today's editorial says.
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Co-op cooking
Local families collaborate to prepare meals ahead.
Food & Home in The Times-News

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Rainfall nearly triples average

By Terry Smith Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Rainfall last month was nearly three times more than average, making it the fourth-wettest December on record, according to the National Weather Service.

The records, based on accumulations at Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport, go back to 1963 when measurements at the airport were first started.

Nonetheless, the 3.06 inches of moisture recorded last month were well above the December average of 1.12 inches. Heavy rains in the final days of the month pushed December 2005 into the fourth spot overall for December accumulations.

The wettest December on record was in 1996 when 4.09 inches of moisture

Top 5 wettest Decembers	Top 5 wettest years
1996: 4.09	1995: 18.31
1994: 4.01	1993: 15.90
1983: 3.13	1996: 15.40
2006: 3.06	1998: 15.05
1981: 2.65	2008: 14.49
Average: 1.12	Average: 10.99
Source: National Weather Service	Source: National Weather Service

were recorded.

Moisture for the year also was above average. The yearly accumulation measured at the airport was 14.49 inches compared with an average annual moisture measurement of 10.99 inches. That was enough to rank the year fifth overall.

The wettest year on record was in 1995, when 18.31 inches were recorded.

Dave Decker, a hydrometeorologist technician with the weather service in Boise, said the unusually wet weather is attributable to low atmospheric pressure that has lingered over the Pacific Coast and the Intermountain West.

The low pressure "just allows all the storms to come in over the west," he said. Low atmospheric pressure in the winter typically means wetter, warmer weather, he said.

High atmospheric pressure, like that experienced in southern Idaho earlier in the month, can lead to air inversions and drier, colder weather.

"The good news about this is we're almost beyond the inversion season," Decker said.

State mulls school reform

Education agenda focuses on money and construction

By Anne Wallace Allen Associated Press writer

BOISE—Idaho's anti-tax revolt and a renewed push to spend more money on education could put lawmakers in an unenviable situation this year.

"For the past four years it has been very tight funding for school districts — both in operating dollars and in salary dollars," said Allison Westfall, a spokeswoman for state Superintendent of Public Instruction Marilyn Howard. "That's definitely some urgency."

Education costs Idaho about \$1 billion a year — about half the state budget. The Idaho public school system serves 256,000 children in grades kindergarten through 12, with another 60,000 students in Idaho's public colleges and universities. Then there are the people who work for these schools, including the teachers who are asking the Legislature for their first pay raise in five years.

With all these Idahoans involved, lawmakers will find themselves being pressed to satisfy a host of new demands from constituents, government bodies, and interest groups.

One of the largest issues on the table will be school construction. The Idaho Supreme Court ruled Dec. 21 that the system now being used is unconstitutional and leaves many students without a safe place to learn. Lawmakers will have to come up with a new system. The main players are still discussing the impact of the decision, said Robert Huntley, a former Idaho State Court Justice who represented the schools in a lawsuit against the state.

Another big issue coming up is school quality. The state Board of Education will present its plan, aimed at helping students prepare for college, by among other things, increasing math and science requirements for graduation. The cost would total \$1.5 million annually and gradually increase to \$17 million by 2013.

Board member Sue Tillo said promoting the high school redesign plan, and persuading lawmakers to pay for it, will lead the board's agenda.

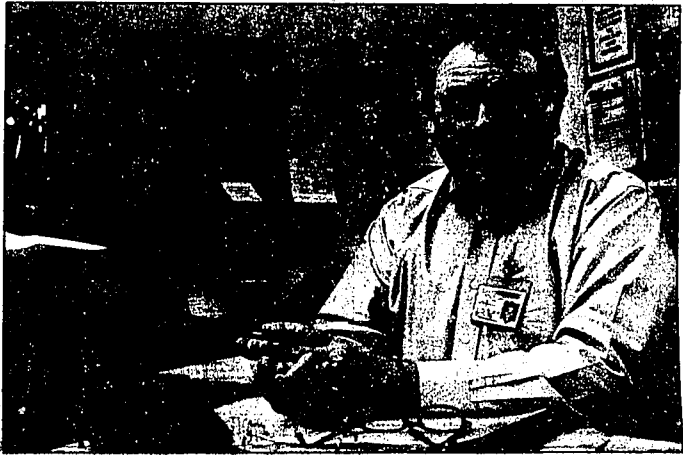
"We know we can and need to do more," Tillo said.

The board is made up of seven members appointed by the governor, and Howard, who was elected to the superintendent's job; the panel is usually expected to advance the governor's agenda. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has said he won't dis-



Howard

NO REGRETS



Councilman Chris Talkington, administrator for Twin Falls County Juvenile Services, is stepping down after 20 years on the Twin Falls City Council.

Talkington says farewell to 20-year council stint

By Terry Smith Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Chris Talkington never saw the race for City Council as a popularity contest. But he must have been popular with the voters — they elected him five times.

On the eve of his retirement from city politics, Talkington, a 20-year council veteran, leaves office willingly — he opted not to seek re-election — and with no regrets.

"Nope, I don't believe in looking back," he said. "I'm not a drive-through-the-rearview-mirror type of guy. I don't have any deep-seated regrets of what could have happened."

Talkington, in the final days of his council tenure, took the time in a recent interview with *The Times-News* to take a rearview look at his years in office.

He may not leave behind regrets, but Talkington leaves behind a legacy. He likes to point out that his tenure spanned four decades, two centuries and two millennia.

Talkington carries the reputation of a

On the agenda

The City Council will elect a new mayor tonight and swear in two new members, Don Hall and Greg Loring, who succeeded council members Chris Talkington and Elaine Steele. Neither sought reelection.

A new mayor likely will be elected by the city council to succeed Glenda Dwight, who's served the past two years and said she's not seeking reelection. Councilmen Lance Clow and Dennis Maughan have been lobbying for the job.

The council meeting starts at 5 p.m. at City Council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E.

man who speaks his mind.

"I never came on to the council," he said, "and sometimes I wasn't," he said.

City Manager Tom Courtney said: "Chris is not at all afraid to say what he thinks. He has no particular axe to grind and brings a balanced and broad perspective."

Talkington has a broad background to

go with that perspective. For the last four years he's been Twin Falls County Juvenile Services administrator. For six years before that he was operations manager at the Idaho Youth Ranch north of Rupert.

The son of a Twin Falls police detective, Talkington served in the U.S. Air Force Strategic Air Command during the Vietnam War. He has undergraduate and graduate degrees from Idaho State University. He was a news director at KMYT and the general manager of King Video-Cable Co.

His political career started in 1976 when at the age of 29 he was first elected to City Council. He became mayor six years later. Talkington, now 59, holds the distinction of being the city's youngest council member and youngest mayor ever elected.

He took a 10-year hiatus from local government, but was elected to the council again in 1994 and has served continuously since.

"I think Chris has been a very stabilizing force on the council," Courtney said.

Please see TALKINGTON, Page A2

Families wait for word about missing miners

By Derek Rose and Corky Slemaszko New York Daily News

TALLMANSVILLE, W.Va. — Rescuers were racing against time Monday night to reach 13 West Virginia coal miners trapped by a blast in the bowels of the earth while worried relatives prayed for their deliverance.

There had been no contact with the miners since the explosion, possibly sparked by a lighting strike, erupted a little after 6 a.m. at the Sago Mine outside Tallmansville, W.Va.

The first rescue teams had to turn back because of high carbon monoxide levels and officials feared the mine could become a coal-lined coffin because the miners' air filters can provide only a few hours of clean air and the men have no oxygen tanks.

You just have to hope that the explosions weren't of the magnitude that was

Please see MINE, Page A2

U.S. military hospital is on front line of the fight against the Iraq insurgency

By Antonio Castaneda Associated Press writer

BALAD, Iraq — The mood changed fast at the U.S. military's largest hospital in Iraq. An hour after a pancake breakfast for departing nurses, a medic rumbled in over the roar of his helicopter. All the facility's skilled hands needed to be ready immediately for a mass casualty crisis.

Within minutes all medical personnel on this sprawling U.S. air base, home to some 25,000 U.S. troops, were summoned to the hospital — a level of readiness needed only three times in the last five months.

Insurgents had overrun a check-point, killing at least eight Iraqi soldiers and wounding about 40 two days before Christmas. Inside this stretch of interconnected tents spanning 35,000 square feet, nurses replaced cushioned chairs in the chaplain's sanctuary with stretchers, transforming it into an overflow treatment room.

Please see IRAQ, Page A4



U.S. Army Maj. Hanie Bakkan, of Decatur, Iowa, watches surgery at the Air Force Theater Hospital in Balad, Iraq, on Dec. 23.

Russia says it will increase flow of natural gas

Ukraine denies siphoning supply from pipelines

MOSCOW (AP) — Russian natural gas monopoly OAO Gazprom promised Monday to boost the amount of gas it ships to European customers through Ukraine, claiming that country was stealing gas intended for the winter-bound continent.

The state-controlled company accused deliveries to Ukraine on Sunday because Kiev had refused to meet its demands for a fourfold price increase. Gazprom said after the cutoff to Ukraine that it would continue shipping full supplies to its European customers, about 80 percent of which goes through pipelines crossing Ukraine.

Despite that promise, within hours of the reduction of gas going into the pipes, other countries began reporting pressure falls. Russia said Ukraine was stealing gas. Ukraine denied that and said the reduced amount of gas in the pipes made the pressure too low.

An army of European countries on Monday anxiously called on Russia and Ukraine to work out the dispute as soon as possible. About one-quarter of Europe's gas comes from Russia — 80 percent of that via Ukraine — and the stranded missed fears of serious gas shortages as Europe suffers through a particularly cold winter.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Boyko Tymoshenko held telephone talks with European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana and other officials on the gas dispute and called for international experts to become involved, a ministry statement said.

"We have taken all necessary measures for Europe to receive gas in the full quantity. By tomorrow evening, full connections with Europe will be restored," Gazprom deputy chairman Alexander Medvedev said late Monday, according to Russian news agencies.

Gas dispute prompts Europe to question Russia's reliability

PARIS (AP) — What kind of neighbor cuts off gas supplies to winter? That question is being asked of Russia after it closed natural gas taps feeding Ukraine, a decision with implications for the rest of Europe.

In language reminiscent of the Cold War, many Europeans castigated Russia on Monday for shutting gas supplies to Ukraine over a price dispute. Russia's critics say the cutoff was Ukraine's punishment for reaching out to the West.

Beneath the criticism lay deeper questions about Russia's role in today's Europe. The shut-off came the same day Russia assumed the leadership of the G-8, after years of seeking a full-fledged place in the elite group of rich nations.

"The novelty of 2006 is Russia's reappearance on the map of world threats," said Italian daily La Stampa. "Only its tool has changed. Instead of nuclear warheads and the international communist movement, today there is the gas tap."

"In the year of the Russian G-8, the West must decide, for the umpteenth time, how to act toward a Russian czar with a claim not anymore on their lives, but on their stores."

The cutoff threatens shipments throughout Europe because Ukraine acts as a transit country for most of Russia's gas consignments to the continent.

In the wake of the European criticism, Russian officials said

late Monday they would resume some gas supplies intended for Europe. And most analysts expect Russia and Ukraine to reach agreement soon.

Still, the crisis is the latest sign that Russia has its own idea of where it fits in the global marketplace and political arena.

And that idea doesn't always match the dependable, predictable Russia that Europe dreams of.

"Russia is saying clearly to its partners that it is an energy superpower, saying 'We are actors on the world stage. You should listen to us,'" said Thomas Gomart, an expert at the French Institute of International Relations, a Paris

think-tank.

Beyond re-lighting European concerns about energy security, the crisis threatened to revive anti-Russian sentiment that last flared in Europe a year ago, during Ukraine's democratic revolution. Russian President Vladimir Putin has also been worrying Europe by clamping down on foreign non-governmental organizations and with his perceived backsliding on Russian democracy.

"Seeing Russia use this weapon is bound to have a political impact on the image of Russia as a well-behaved neighbor," Philip Hanson, a Russia expert at Birmingham University in England, said of the gas shut-off.

Ukraine's Westward aspirations since President Viktor Yushchenko took office a year ago have clearly irritated the Kremlin. Ukraine's Foreign Ministry alleged Sunday that the gas fight is aimed at wrecking the country's economy.

Ukraine says it does not oppose Gazprom's argument that higher prices are merited, but says an immediate increase from \$50 to \$230 per 1,000 cubic meters would cripple the energy-intensive heavy industries

that are a keystone of its economy.

Although Russia claims the dispute is a matter of simple economics, disdain for Ukraine and its leadership is clear.

State television channel Rossiya on Sunday showed an

animated film clip of an apparently dimwitted Ukrainian Cosack stealing gas from a pipeline. On Monday, Medvedev said "the president of Russia is more concerned about the problems of the Ukrainian people than their own leaders."

Roof collapses at German ice rink

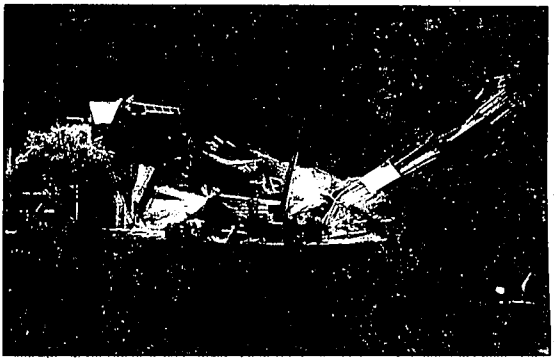
At least five die, while many remain missing

BAD REICHENHALL, Germany — Covered after heavy snowfall, officials in this small Bavarian town tested the weight of snow on the roof of their local skating rink and pronounced the structure unsafe.

Hours later, the roof collapsed onto dozens of people enjoying a school vacation afternoon — killing at least five, including four children, and trapping others between pieces of debris and the frozen surface of the rink.

Parents called out their children's names, and rescue workers — some arriving from neighboring Austria — swarmed around the building after the accident Monday. Doctors tried to make it with a primary at a sports hall next door, where injured people lay with intravenous hookups, and fire crews worked to shovel away the snow. A helicopter kept a floodlight on the scene as rescue workers scrambled into the early hours Tuesday to find victims and those that remained buried under the roof. With the structure stabilized, rescuers with dogs went into the building a little before midnight.

Five people were confirmed dead — two boys ages 12 and 13, a 7-year-old girl, and an 8-year-old girl killed along with her



The roof of an ice rink in the Bavarian Alps collapsed after heavy snowfall Monday with about 50 people inside, some of them children, police said. At least five were killed and rescuers hampered by darkness and snow searched for an estimated 10 missing.

mother — and as many as 35 were injured, police director Hubertus Andrej said. About 10 people were believed missing in the building.

Andrej said after midnight that more people found inside were believed to be dead, but that they were buried under debris and not immediately recovered. He did not give further details, and police

spokesman Franz Sommerauer would not say early Tuesday how many had been seen.

Sommerauer said rescue crews had gained access around half the hall, but still had not reached the suspected victims. They were trying to remove the largest chunks of concrete with the help of six cranes.

By late evening, a 6-year-old

girl had been rescued with no significant injuries, and officials were still hopeful of finding more survivors.

"There is still a chance that we can rescue living people from the rubble," said Rudi Zeis, a local fire chief.

Police said the death toll was nonetheless expected to rise as the search continued through the night.

North Korea: U.S. must lift sanctions

threatening to boycott the nuclear talks with Washington.

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea said Tuesday it cannot return to international nuclear disarmament talks unless the United States lifts sanctions imposed for its alleged currency counterfeiting and other illegal activities.

While under U.S. sanctions, it's impossible to sit face-to-face and discuss abandoning our nuclear deterrent," said the Rodong Simun, the North's ruling Workers Party newspaper in a Korean-language commentary carried by the official Korean Central News Agency.

"The U.S. sanctions are obviously the fundamental element that disrupts the six-party talks," the newspaper said.

The commentary was the first North Korean statement on the nuclear issue this year.

In September, Washington placed sanctions on a Macau-based bank, alleging it helped the North distribute counterfeit currency and engage in other illicit activities.

The next month, the U.S. sanctioned eight North Korean companies it claimed were fronts for proliferating weapons of mass destruction.

North Korea reacted swiftly and angrily, calling the U.S. allegations a "sheer lie" and threatening to boycott the nuclear talks with Washington, South Korea, China, Japan and Russia unless the sanctions were lifted.

"Washington says it has convincing evidence of the North's wrongdoing, but stressed that the issue is a law enforcement matter unrelated to the nuclear talks."

North Korea claims the U.S. is seeking to overthrow its regime behind a smoke screen of dialogue. It says the sanctions and emphasis by the U.S. on the North's human rights abuses are signs of Washington's "hostility."

In September, the North pledged at the nuclear talks in Beijing to give up its atomic programs in return for aid and security assurances. But no progress was made on implementing the agreement after North Korea placed new conditions — which the U.S. said were unacceptable — on its disarmament.

The talks recessed in November. Negotiators agreed to meet again, but did not set a date.

The dispute flared in October 2002, following U.S. allegations that the North was running a secret nuclear weapons program in violation of international agreements.

U.N. seeks to question Syrian president

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — U.N. investigators pressed the Syrian government Monday to question the president and foreign minister about the assassination of a former Lebanese leader, a spokesman for the inquiry said Monday.

Nasra Hassan, who speaks for a U.N. commission heading the probe, also said investigators want to interview former Syrian Vice President Abdul-Halim Khaddam "as soon as possible."

Khaddam alleged in a television interview broadcast Friday from Paris that the Syrian president had threatened former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri several months before Hariri was assassinated in a Feb. 14 truck bombing.

"The U.N. commission has already sent a request to interview Syrian President Bashar Assad and Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa, among others," Hassan told The Associated Press.

"The commission is waiting for a response from the Syrians," she said. She refused to say when the request was made.

There was no immediate Syrian government comment on the request, the second time investigators have asked to meet with the president. The first time was in July and Syrian officials refused.

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, John Bolton, urged Syria to join the request. "We strongly support the commission's investigative efforts," Bolton said in a statement Monday. "We expect the government of Syria to comply with these requests fully and

unconditionally as the Security Council resolutions require."

The commission has said several people whom Hariri spoke to after he met Assad in August 2004 said he told them the Syrian leader had threatened him over his opposition to extending the term of Lebanon's pro-Syrian president.

Syrian officials, including al-Sharaa, have denied any threat was made.

After Khaddam's interview, Syria's ruling Baath Party stripped him of membership and joined parliament in demanding his trial on a charge of high treason, the official news agency SANA reported Sunday.

While Khaddam, who is in France writing a book, said Friday he ultimately planned to return to Syria with his family, it was unclear if he would go back facing a treason charge. Conviction would bring the death penalty.

"Khaddam has joined the

band of enemies who are targeting the country and its citizens," the Baath Party said. "Khaddam has betrayed the party, the country and the (Arab) nation. The National Leadership has decided to dismiss Khaddam from the party and put him on trial."

In two interim reports published late last year, the commission accused Syrian and Lebanese intelligence officials of being involved in Hariri's killing. In an interview with the media, the outgoing commission chairman, Dorey Melhis, has said Syrian "authorities" were behind the assassination.

Syria has repeatedly denied the charge and tried to discredit those who testified to the commission.

The assassination of Hariri, in a blast that killed 20 other people in central Beirut, was a turning point in modern Lebanese history.

As he was seen as a quiet opponent of Syrian influence in Lebanon, his killing provoked mass demonstrations against Syria. Combined with international pressure on Syria, these protests forced Damascus to withdraw its troops from Lebanon in April, ending a 29-year military presence.

But the bombings targeting anti-Syrian figures have continued, with at least 14 attacks on prominent Lebanese since Hariri's death. Lebanon has asked the United Nations to investigate those as well, but the world body has declined.

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NATION/WORLD

Teen promises to share details from Iraq journey

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. (AP) — Faced with his first school day since his solo trip to Iraq, American teen Farris Hassan kept a low profile Monday but promised to share more details about his odyssey after getting some rest. ... Farris, who was inspired by a high school journalism class to see Iraq up close, said he would hold a news conference sometime Tuesday. ... Farris' mother, Shaitha Atyah, said the school has no plans to suspend her son but did want to

discuss his decision to skip classes when he began his travels on Dec. 11. Atyah also said there would be "consequences" for not telling his family that he was going to a dangerous war zone. ... Farris returned home Sunday night to a throng of reporters and camera crews, then had a steak dinner with his father, his mother said. ... Farris was able to secure an entry visa for Iraq because his parents were born there, although they have lived in the United States for more than three decades. ... He had thought he would be able to take a taxi from Kuwait into Baghdad for the Dec. 15

parliamentary elections, but the border was closed for friends. He stayed with family friends in Lebanon before flying to Baghdad on Dec. 25. ... In Iraq, he stayed at an international hotel along with other Americans drawing a crowd at a Baghdad food stand after using an Amble phrase book to order. ... Last Tuesday, Farris contacted The Associated Press bureau in Baghdad and related his story. ... Farris left Baghdad on Friday, as U.S. Consul General Richard B. Herrmann reiterated State Department warnings against

traveling to Iraq. Forty American citizens have been kidnapped since he was started in March 2003, of whom 10 have been killed, a U.S. official said. ... Classmates at Pine Crest School said they were not surprised Farris went to such extreme lengths. ... "I definitely think he took it a little far but that's Farris so I'm not really surprised that he did this," said King, who participates in the same journalism program as Farris. ... Farris is pretty preserved at times and then he'll start talking about politics and it's like he goes from one extreme to another, Jordan said.



Farris Hassan, 16, center, of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., talks to the media across the street from his father's condo on Monday. Hassan kept a low profile Monday but promised to share more details about his orthodox trip to Iraq.

Iraq

Continued from A1 For American doctors and nurses assigned to the Air Force's 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group, the incoming patients were the latest in an unrelenting stream of U.S. and Iraqi casualties, victims of a conflict that fills their hospitals with over 1,000 admitted patients a month, some 400 of whom require surgery. ... Inside the facility, duties were scribbled on pieces of tape and stuck to nurses' scrubs to help doctors identify personnel. ... Over the next half-hour, 17 soldiers — all requiring surgery — were rolled in on stretchers, some with wounds ghastly enough to startle even veteran surgeons. ... It's weird, the ones that hit you," Maj. Julia Woodul, a nurse, said of the hospital's patients, about 70 percent of whom are Americans. ... "Maybe it's the ones with the color of my son's eyes," she said. ... The atmosphere remained tense as the hospital braced for the arrival of 19 more Iraqi soldiers from the sector. ... And this was a relatively calm day in Iraq. ... Still, the chaos brought back memories of the last catastrophe, on Sept. 29, when three star bombs hit beyond the base walls killed more than 100 people in this predominantly Shiite district 50 miles north of Baghdad. ... That attack took place on the first day of work for several of the doctors. ... When the victims began pouring in, one of the military's three neurosurgeons in Iraq, Maj. Gerald Grant, was performing nerve transplant surgery on an Iraqi with a gunshot in the leg. ... Only a few feet away, another soldier in grave condition waited for Grant's skills. ... Grant tried to wrap up the transplant surgery, peering through powerful lenses strapped around his head to guide his careful stitching. ... Later, with the facial reconstruction only partially complete, Grant and other doctors aborted the procedure to free up a bed for others with more severe injuries. ... The wounded would fill all six operating tables for seven straight



Above, U.S. Air Force medical personnel stand back while X-raying a wounded Iraqi soldier's leg at the Air Force Theater Hospital in Balad. Left, U.S. Air Force Col. El Powell, commander of the hospital, yells to staff inside an overflow room at the hospital.

man survived. ... The next day hospital officials searched for the unidentified soldier's family so they could make a decision about the man, who remained in a coma with his swollen brain now covered by a temporary seal. ... "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing," the unknown Iraqi soldier lay silent except for a heaving respirator. ... "His prognosis is not good. We'd like to bring his family here to make a decision about his care," Grant said, speaking slowly. ... As the carers fang out "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing," the unknown Iraqi soldier lay silent except for a heaving respirator. ... "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing," the unknown Iraqi soldier lay silent except for a heaving respirator. ... "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing," the unknown Iraqi soldier lay silent except for a heaving respirator.

of relief for the dozens of medics who waited outside with stretchers and wheelchairs. ... But the medical need was greater than just the victims of the morning. ... "I try to detach myself. It's not possible to be emotionally involved with everyone, or else it'd get in the way of your job." ... Many of the victims have wounds that likely would have been fatal in previous wars. ... Grant led a team that removed a swath of his skull to allow his brain to swell without building pressure inside his head. ... It could be reattached later if the

Sunni group OKs outline for coalition government

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraq's main Sunni Arab group made an unprecedented trip north to see the Kurds and agreed Monday for the first time on broad outlines for a coalition government — possibly opening a way out of the political turmoil that has gripped the country since disputed elections. ... A promise of Iraqi army protection for tanker truck drivers reopened the country's main refinery — a last-ditch effort by the Shiite-led government to avert a fuel crisis that has led to deadly riots and the oil minister's resignation. ... The violence that followed the Dec. 15 parliamentary elections was unabated. ... As part of the bargaining for a new coalition government, President Jalal Talabani assured Prime Minister Ibrahim al-Jaafari that his fellow Kurds would not object to the United Iraqi Alliance, the Shiite religious bloc that won the most votes in the election — again nominates him for the prime minister post. ... But it was the agreement struck Monday by Kurdistan regional President Massoud Barzani and representatives of the main Sunni Arab Iraqi Accordance Front that opened the way for a new broad-based government. ... "They will be part of a future government," said Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Zebari, a Kurd who sat in on the meetings. ... Sunni Arabs and secular parties, such as the one headed by Shiite former Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, have complained the elections were tainted by fraud and intimidation. ... "The pact with the agreement, the Accordance Front seems to have broken a pact to only discuss those complaints during their meetings with the Kurds. ... position groups are waiting for

a team of international monitors — which came to Baghdad on Monday — to assess the elections and examine the complaints, which number about 1,500. ... "We were shocked today when we heard that our brothers, who signed agreements with us yesterday to discuss just the fraudulent elections with the Kurdish leaders, instead were discussing forming a national unity government," Saleh al-Mutlaq, head of the Sunni Arab National Dialogue Front, told The Associated Press. ... Accordance Front leaders Adnan al-Dulaimi and Tarek al-Hashimi discussed the shape of a future government with Barzani in Irbil, which in recent days has become a pilgrimage site for southern politicians. ... "We pray to God to help so that this country may get out of this trial and that it regain stability, security and peace," said al-Hishimi, who also leads the Iraqi Islamic Party. ... steps in the right direction."

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hours as every available doctor treated multiple patients. ... "Things move fast around here. You don't have time to hold everyone's hand and be sympathetic," said Grant. ... "You don't see anything, anything like this at home. ... You leave here a different doctor than when you arrived." ... Lt. Col. Eugene Ross Grant led a team that removed a swath of his skull to allow his brain to swell without building pressure inside his head. ... It could be reattached later if the

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of relief for the dozens of medics who waited outside with stretchers and wheelchairs. ... But the medical need was greater than just the victims of the morning. ... "I try to detach myself. It's not possible to be emotionally involved with everyone, or else it'd get in the way of your job." ... Many of the victims have wounds that likely would have been fatal in previous wars. ... Grant led a team that removed a swath of his skull to allow his brain to swell without building pressure inside his head. ... It could be reattached later if the

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Jerry Reimer looks through the charred remains of his grandmother-in-law's home in Guthrie, Okla., on Monday. Dry and windy conditions made for perfect conditions for fires that have plagued Texas and Oklahoma in the past week.

Virginia may test DNA in case of executed man

Convicted killer maintained innocence

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — With less than two weeks left in Gov. Mark R. Warner's term, time is running out for him to arrange DNA testing that could determine whether Virginia sent an innocent man to the electric chair in 1992.

If the tests show Roger Keith Coleman did not rape and murder his sister-in-law in 1981, it will mark the first time in the United States an executed person has been scientifically proved innocent, say death penalty opponents, who are keenly aware that such a result could have a powerful effect on public opinion.



Coleman

A Gallup poll in October found that 64 percent of Americans support the death penalty. That is the lowest level in 27 years, down from a high of 80 percent in 1994.

Coleman was convicted and sentenced to death in 1982 for the murder of 19-year-old Wanda McCoy, his wife's sister, who was found raped, stabbed and nearly beheaded in her home in the coal mining town of Grundy. Coleman's attorneys argued

that he did not have time to commit the crime, that tests showed semen from two men was found inside McCoy and that another man bragged about murdering her. Coleman was executed on May 20, 1992. "An innocent man is going to be murdered tonight," the 33-year-old said moments before he was electrocuted. "When my innocence is proven, I hope America will realize the injustice of the death penalty as all other civilized countries have." Tom Scott, who helped prosecute the case, said he has no objection to retesting the DNA and is confident doing so would confirm Coleman's guilt — provided the sample has been properly preserved and not tampered with.

Crews look for victims in burned-out towns

Dry, windy weather continues fire threat

RINGGOLD, Texas (AP) — Carol Ezzell shook her head in disbelief as she stood between the burned-out shell of her mother-in-law's home and the charred remains of a grocery store that her husband's family started in the 1950s.

Both structures were destroyed by a grass fire that devastated most of this ranch-and-cattle town near the Oklahoma border, burning about 50 homes and 40,000 acres as the wind swept the blaze 13 miles from Ringgold to Nocona. It was one of dozens in drought-stricken parts of Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

"It didn't take 30 minutes," Ezzell said Monday, describing the fire that destroyed all but seven buildings on the town's Main Street, including the post office, as well as livestock and hay fields.

Everyone had been accounted for in Ringgold, which has about 100 residents, but crews searched from house to house for potential casualties in other fire-blackened towns, including Kokomo and Cross Plains, where more than 90 homes and a church were destroyed last week.

Since Tuesday, fires have charred thousands of acres of grassland and farmland and destroyed more than 250 structures across the region. Four deaths were reported last week in Texas and Oklahoma.

Ezzell said the wind caused little fire tornadoes. "It was just turning and every time it would make a loop it would just leap" and begin burning somewhere new, she said.

The weather service said conditions could worsen Tuesday, with low humidity and above-normal temperatures in the 70s in a region experiencing one of its worst droughts in 50 years. Forecasters also predicted high winds, which make fighting the fires from the air more difficult.

"We are preparing statewide for an intense response tomorrow, particularly from the ground," Texas Gov. Rick Perry said.

Computer models Monday showed no rain in the foreseeable future, said Jesse Moore, a National Weather Service meteorologist in Fort Worth. He said the region's last appreciable rain was about a quarter-inch on Dec. 20, Oklahoma is more

than a foot behind its normal rainfall of about 36 inches for this time of year.

Many firefighters remained on the job Monday trying to contain several of the 20 fires that broke out the day before in Texas, including one in Eastland County, about 125 miles west of Dallas, that stretched for 25 miles.

Firefighters said they were close to containing the fire but were concerned about an expected wind shift.

"Yesterday was a tough day in Texas," said Perry who was in Nocona on Monday to survey the damaged area. "We had over 50,000 acres of land burned."

Since Nov. 1, Oklahoma wildfires have covered more than 285,000 acres and destroyed 200 buildings, said Michelle Finch, a spokeswoman for the Agriculture Department's forestry division.

"This has been an unprecedented year for fires," Finch said. Fire season in Oklahoma usually begins around Feb. 15 and lasts until April 15, but this past year the fires began in June and have gotten progressively worse, Finch said.

Crews in southeastern New Mexico were helped by calmer weather Monday as they mopped up four fires that had blackened more than 80,000 acres of grassland and burned 11 houses near Hobbs since Sunday.

The flames forced the evacuation of 200 to 300 people on the city's fringe — including about 170 from two Hobbs nursing homes.

All but about 50 had returned home.

"Chance" is a wonderful Border Collie who has been waiting a long, long time for a home. He needs a place where he can be active and receive some TLC.

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home by midday Monday, authorities said.

Brothers Chris and Kelly Pfeiffer used garden hoses, shovels, rakes and their feet to save four homes in their rural neighborhood near Hobbs.

"We were spraying down the neighbor's house with water and every time you hit it with a stream of water, steam would come off," Chris Pfeiffer said. "It was like hitting a frying pan with water."

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EDITORIAL

Unsportsmanlike conduct penalizes Boise bowl game

For some college football teams, it's bad enough to play a bowl game in December in Boise.

It's worse when the hosting city insults the team and its top player.

Organizers for the MPC Computers Bowl in Boise appear to have learned their lesson after an embarrassing episode last week involving a Boston College player.

Overshadowing a fantastic game last Wednesday, bowl officials and some local fans took some well-deserved heat after comments made at a "neutral" team banquet.

Boston College players and coaches were not amused when speakers peppered their comments with pro-Bronco cheers during the Beyond The Game Dinner.

BC Coach Tom O'Brien said the event's blue-and-orange fervor served as a motivation for the Eagles 27-21 win.

I ought to thank the mayor and the people of Boise for getting this team ready to play," said O'Brien. "I've been to 19 bowl games in my life and I've never seen anything like that in my life when we sat through that banquet here."

O'Brien jeered Mayor Dave Bieter for throwing in some wishes for BSU to win a close game. Nothing compares, just a little extra hoodlum that didn't sit well with the visitors.

But the jokes made by MPC Computers CEO Mike Adkins at BC defensive end Mathias Kiwanuka's expense were worse. Adkins made a joke about mispronouncing Kiwanuka's name — a really a bad choice.

"You don't disrespect the best player on the opposite team by making fun of his name and having everybody in the audience laugh at him," O'Brien said.

"I've never been that disrespected as a player on Boston College football, as a member of the city of Boston, and as an individual," said Kiwanuka.

To see the mayor get up and definitely say some disrespectful things and then to have that followed by the CEO of the title sponsor, saying what he said and kind of attacking me personally, I think that was ridiculous to say the least."

Adkins, Bieter and MPC Bowl Executive Director Gary Beck, all quickly apologized to O'Brien and Kiwanuka. And as embarrassing as the episode was, it shouldn't be allowed to become a black eye to Boise's successful college bowl enterprise.

Teams from around the country have been cordially treated with respect in the Boise bowl's nine-year run.

But when the game features the hometown Broncos, the city, its leaders and bowl officials need to do everything they can to stop looking like a bunch of homers. Otherwise the joke's on them.

Keep civil liberties off the casualty list

It's ironic that on the day when Christians were celebrating the arrival of the Light of the World and Jews were beginning their eight-day Festival of Light known as Hanukkah, our nation was re-living a very dark chapter of history.

The same document that guarantees every American the right to mark Dec. 25 as a Christian holiday, or a Jewish holiday, or a cultural holiday such as Kwanzaa or just a day off from work is the same document that the executive branch of the federal government thinks it can ignore in the name of national security.

J.R. LABBE

The enumeration of citizens' rights known as the Bill of Rights — everything from free speech to the right to be secure in one's home — isn't just a listing of suggestions that can be ignored when they become inconvenient.

The Fourth Amendment is a crucial part of the ordered liberty that distinguishes our society from government. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

Individual freedoms are balanced with effective and efficient government. The gold standard of democracy, the model that the United States is attempting to export to the rest of the world. But the enacting of an executive order that asserts a war power to allow domestic surveillance without judicial review, one hopes that the Iraqis and the rest of the world will understand the phrase: "Do as we say, not as we do."

Our nation has been here before, shoring up its electronic surveillance against U.S. citizens — and it wasn't pretty.

Have we forgotten the findings of the Church Committee? Governmental abuses of the 1970s are how we ended up with the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act that established a secret court to review surveillance requests by intelligence agencies.

The Bush administration has the tool it needs to con-



The enumeration of citizens' rights known as the Bill of Rights — everything from free speech to the right to be secure in one's home — isn't just a listing of suggestions that can be ignored when they become inconvenient.

duct exactly the kind of spying it believes is crucial to national security. The requirements to secure a warrant from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance court aren't onerous. FISA even has an emergency procedure that allows the National Security Agency to authorize a search and then go to the court up to 72 hours later to seek confirmation of that authority.

President Bush's advisers appeared to know that the commander in chief was tipping close to a constitutional mine field when he issued the executive order that authorized electronic surveillance on telephone calls and e-mails that could include a U.S. citizen as one of the parties. At least they sounded that way in the transcript from the Dec. 19 news conference with Gonzales and former NSA director Lt. Gen. Michael Hayden.

"We have had discussions with Congress in the past — certain members of Congress — as to whether or not FISA could be amended to allow us to adequately deal with this kind of threat, and we were

advised that that would be difficult, if not impossible." Gonzales said in response to a question of whether the administration would "do the country a better service" if it fixed what it thinks is the problem of FISA's lack of "agility."

Why even ask about amending FISA if the executive branch believed it had the authority it needed?

It's hard to argue against the need for U.S. security personnel to be able to engage in "signal intelligence" — intercepting communications that may prove valuable in detecting and preventing a future attack. Engaging in such intercepts is nothing new in time of war. Surveillance technology is a byproduct of every conflict. Compromit is supposed to be found in Gonzales' authorized assurance that "the reputation of the president is only to engage in surveillance of communications where one party is outside the United States, and where we have a reasonable basis to conclude that one of the parties of the communication is either a member of al-Qaeda or affili-

ated with al-Qaeda." But I am not comforted — not when a U.S. citizen could be on the other end of that call. Not when one of the distinguishing features of this nation's operating document is that the executive branch of government doesn't spy on U.S. citizens unless the independent judicial branch has issued a warrant.

The Republicans who stood on the Senate floor last week and defended Bush's gross overuse of executive power — and that includes the junior senator from Texas, John Cornyn — should be keenly aware that they are defending a precedent they may come to regret. It's all accolades for the commander in chief who is saving his people from evil when the president is Republican. Would we hear the same kind of kudos if the president were from the other party?

Cornyn had the gall to say that "none of your civil liberties matter much after you're dead." He may have a point — a very bad one. That kind of sound-bite fearmongering indicates the weakness of his administration's argument.

Bush and his supporters can repeat the "We're at war" mantra until Osama bin Laden is found. It doesn't justify trampling on the Constitution by constructing a false Sophie's Choice of national security vs. civil liberties.

Jill R. Labbe is deputy editorial page editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. Readers may write to her at 400 W. 7th Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, or via e-mail at jrlabbe@star-telegram.com.

The Times-News

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

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

Sen. Larry Craig
In Twin Falls, call or write: Mike Mathews, regional director 550 Filer Ave., Suite A

Outside the mainstream with Ronald Reagan

Last June the Discovery Channel conducted a viewer poll asking who the greatest American was. George Washington, Ben Franklin, Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr. were on the list, but none of these extraordinary individuals claimed the accolade.

TONY PERKINS

The winner, instead, was Ronald Wilson Reagan, the 40th president of the United States.

Now some people want to claim that having served this president, or just having agreed with him on the issue of abortion, is not only out of the mainstream of American life but disqualifying for high public office.

Consider the case of Sam Alito.

To a handful of Senate Democrats, President Bush's nominee to replace Justice Sandra Day O'Connor raises alarms because he wrote a memo in 1985, as an attorney in the Reagan Justice Department, that advocated state regulation of abortion and questioned the legitimacy of the 1973 Supreme Court abortion rulings.

Sen. Patrick Leahy, a Vermont Democrat, cited on news of the 20-year-old memo and said that it raised concerns about Alito's "eagerness to engage in activism to change a law with which he disagrees."

Sen. Chuck Schumer of New York, one of the Senate Judiciary Committee's most vociferous advocates of a pro-abortion litmus test for judicial nominees, suggested that Alito "seems to have something of an agenda"

Because the Supreme Court doesn't write laws and Roe and its progeny have typically operated to nullify laws written by legislators, Alito's disagreement, however one characterizes it, is with judges, not lawmakers.

Put aside for the moment whether a "law with which he disagrees" is even an issue here. Because the Supreme Court doesn't write laws and Roe and its progeny have typically operated to nullify laws written by legislators, Alito's disagreement, however one characterizes it, is with judges, not lawmakers.

for the court. The more outlandish because his memo, written in Reagan's service, urged the Justice Department to avoid any "frontal assault" on the abortion cases — themselves and to instead support regulations that would require doctors to inform women seeking abortions about such basic issues as fetal development, adoption alternatives and their right to child support.

Moreover, Alito's memo to his superiors at Justice could be meaningful only if a state's election laws had been changed after hearing all the competing arguments, to specifically provide for imparting such information to pregnant women and girls. Pat Leahy's definition of "eagerness to engage in activism" is apparently a willingness to defer to legislative judgments common to health care in dozens of contexts.

Something more is at work here, of course. For decades, despite the mounting evidence that their all-or-nothing radicalism on abortion has cost them at the polls, Democratic politicians have been willing to tolerate deviation after deviation from orthodoxy on every other issue except abortion.

Presumably Jimmy Carter, the 39th president, is out of the mainstream, too. On Nov. 3, he held a group of reporters. I have

always thought it was not in the mainstream of the American public to be extremely liberal on many issues. I think our party's readers — some of them — are overemphasizing the abortion issue."

The next logical step for these liberals was to get out from public office anyone in their ranks who thinks former President Carter is right. Judging by recent commentaries from liberals like columnist Richard Cohen, who recently described Roe as a "bad decision" that may be costing liberals "a bit of (their) souls," to State writer William Safire, who says Justice Harry Blackmun's Supreme Court papers "vindicate every indictment of Roe: invention, overreach, hubris, absolutism and indifference." The rank-and-file critics of the abortion cases are growing.

The interest groups that now dominate Democratic politics on the judiciary are leading their cause, and the party they claim to support, down a garden path of horrors, not roses. If they skewer Haman and filibuster Sam Alito — as distinguished a nominee to the Supreme Court as President Bush is likely to offer, a man with 15 years of appellate review on the bench and a clear record of thoughtful judicial conservatism — they will only begin higher the mountains of abortion absolutism on which few of their fellow Americans are willing to stand with them.

Tony Perkins is the president of the Family Research Council, a conservative advocacy group. Readers may write to the author at P.O. Box 6, Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20007; Web site: www.frc.org.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words, include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters will receive a complimentary copy of the issue.

Don't forget the value of dads

The young woman was sandy-haired, not much over 30, slender and fairly attractive. But somewhere along the way she had given up on men. What she really wanted was a baby — and she wasn't especially choosy about who would perform the act of fathering the child.

**E. THOMAS
MCCLANAHAN**

"After all," she added breezily. "It's the 21st century."

Casual conversations these days can certainly take odd detours.

If, the father of a teenager, looked at this young woman from across a gulf of more than 20 years and thought: Be careful what you wish for. I'm blessed as a father, but parenting is hard enough with two. I couldn't imagine doing it alone.

The young woman mentioned the last guy who had agreed to ... well, you know. He had shared his seed for some reason. It didn't work out. Meanwhile, her biological clock was ticking.

To me, it's always shocking to hear this sort of thing from unmarried women. Of course, it would have been useless to try to argue her out of her dream. I did remark, however, that if she was depending on becoming pregnant, about 15 years later she might see things in a different light. She might wish she had some help.

More women today are thinking along similar lines. No, this isn't the single-parenthood paradigm of the inner city. These are middle-class women with decent incomes. Their children are less likely to grow up poor. A recent New York Times story headlined, "First Comes the Baby Carriage," reported on the growing number of single women choosing to be inseminated with sperm purchased online.

They peruse profiles of

I'm blessed as a father, but parenting is hard enough with two. I couldn't imagine doing it alone.

anonymous donors and make their selection as if from a genetic buffet. Some who become pregnant send other women their leftover sperm.

A dozen years from now, what will the children of these women think about this brave new world? All children want to know the special story of their origins. What will these women tell them?

The other day I was scanning cable channels and landed on a chat show in which Maureen Dowd, The New York Times columnist, dryly noted that men are no longer needed for reproduction. Dowd has a book out titled "Are Men Necessary?" The Times story about women buying sperm on the Internet covered all the angles, except one: It virtually ignored the possible effect on children.

At one point, the reporter observed — as one might take note of a quaint but archaic myth — that some of these women are accused of being selfish, "because of the widely held belief that two-parent homes are best for children." How we strain mightily to deny the obvious. It's true that not all two-parent families are exemplars of domestic harmony. Yes, some relationships are destructive, some couples shouldn't stay together, etc. etc. Every general rule has exceptions.

Yet most parents know there are times when Junliar can't talk to Mom, and if there's somebody around called "Dad," Junliar's chances of getting the emotional connection he

needs are greater. And it works the other around way as well. Sometimes, Mom is the best person to consult. As they grow up, kids gravitate from one parent to the other. In a mysterious but perceptible rhythm.

For 10 years I was a Big Brother volunteer. My "little brother," DeAndre, is grown up now. He drops by occasionally, and last year he mentioned that he had traveled north to another state to meet the man he believed to be his father.

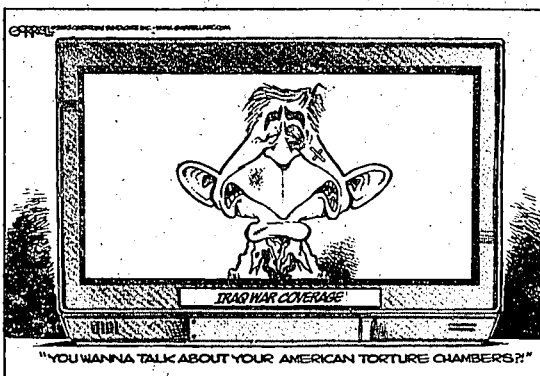
Up to that moment, DeAndre had never laid eyes on the man. DeAndre's mom loved him and worked hard to give him a decent life. But the absence of his father left a void. He rarely mentioned the subject, but it would pop out sometimes. Once, he blurted defiantly, "My father will miss seeing me grow up."

I don't remember many details from DeAndre's account of the meeting, but it was clear that what he sought was simple acknowledgment. His message was, in effect, "Look at me. I exist."

DeAndre's quest, however, turned out to be futile and deflating. A blood test revealed that the man was not his father. I have no doubt that many of the children born to "single mothers by choice" will run out healthy and successful. Human beings are pretty adaptable.

But many will grow up with a lot of pain and confusion because of decisions by women who have convinced themselves that men aren't "necessary." It may be the 21st century, but no amount of rationalization will ever stamp out a child's innocent yearning for a father.

E. Thomas McClanahan is a member of the Kansas City Star editorial board. Readers may write to him at: Kansas City Star, 1729 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, Mo. 64108-1413, or by e-mail at: mccclanahan@kstar.com.



LETTERS

So-called Republican exceeds limits with Craig

Jim Conder's latest letter is way over the top. Apparently, Mr. Conder never understood President Reagan's 11th Commandment, "Thou shalt not speak ill of a fellow Republican." Reagan had the ability to disagree and persuade without name-calling and personal attack. Reagan was not vindictive, never carried a grudge and left it to others to tell of his accomplishments. Genuine Republicans can still learn from President Reagan.

Shouldn't everyone have the right to express their opinion? Absolutely. Constructive criticism is a vital part of our national discourse. What I object to is for someone who has sought high public office under the Republican banner to conduct himself in an unseemly manner. The personal attack on U.S. Sen. Larry Craig reflects poorly on Mr. Conder.

A footnote: The Patriot Act has been extended for five

weeks. If the end result is a stronger anti-terrorism bill and one that protects the civil liberties of innocent Americans, we will all owe Sen. Craig a debt of gratitude for a tough vote and a job well done.

MEL QUALE
Twin Falls

Organ shortage leads to more organ donations

Regarding "Not all organ recipients can donate organs," Dec. 20:

In her response to my Dec. 16 letter to the editor, Ranne Capps suggested that people who need organ transplants are excluded from joining LifeSharers. That is not true. LifeSharers does not discriminate against anyone because of any medical condition. Because the organ shortage kills so many people, surgeons are now routinely transplanting organs they would have thrown away just a few years ago. So anyone who is willing to donate their organs can join

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DAVID UNDIS
Nashville, Tenn.
(Editor's note: David Undis is the executive director of LifeSharers.)



Read our compliments and quibbles
Every Friday in Opinion

Study shows children no safer in SUVs than in cars

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. (AP) — Children are no safer riding in sport utility vehicles than in passenger cars, largely because of the doubled risk of rollovers in SUVs cancels out the safety advantages of their greater size and weight, according to a study.

Researchers said the findings dispel the bigger-equals-safer myth that has helped fuel the growing popularity of SUVs among families. SUV registrations climbed 250 percent in the United States between 1995 and 2002.

"We're not saying they're worse than their terrible vehicles. We're challenging the conventional wisdom that everyone assumed they were better," said Dr. Dennis Durbin, a pediatric emergency physician who took part in the study, published Tuesday in the Journal Pediatrics.

Erin Shostack, a spokesman for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, said he had not seen the study but cited government research released last summer that found SUVs have become less top-heavy since 2000 and made dramatic improvements in rollover resistance.

The study, which Durbin called the first on SUVs and child safety, was sponsored by Partners for Child Passenger Safety, a research project of Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the world's largest insurer, Bloomington-based State Farm Insurance Co.


The researchers looked at accidents involving nearly 4,000 children under age 18 between 2000 and 2003, and found child injury rates of about 1.7 percent in both cars and SUVs. The study examined only 1998 or newer cars and SUVs with second-generation air bags.

On average, the SUVs weighed 1,300 pounds more than the cars studied. The study found that the weight of SUVs enhanced safety, reducing the risk of injury by more than a third.

But that was offset by findings that SUVs were more than twice as likely as cars to roll over in crashes. Children in rollovers were three times more likely to be seriously injured than those in non-rollover accidents, according to the study.

HOME TOWN BUSINESS GUIDE

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT



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The Washington Post

**Alito behind
interpretive
signing
statements'**

WASHINGTON — As a young Justice Department lawyer, Supreme Court nominee Samuel A. Alito Jr. tried to help tip the balance of power between Congress and the White House a little more in favor of the executive branch. In the 1980s, the Reagan administration, like other White Houses before and after, chafed at the reality that Congress' reach on the meaning of laws extends

beyond the words of statutes passed on Capitol Hill. Judges may turn to the trail of statements lawmakers left behind in the Congressional Record when trying to glean the intent behind a law. The White House left no comparable record. In a Feb. 5, 1988, draft memo, Alito, then deputy assistant attorney general in the Office of Legal Counsel, outlined a strategy for changing that. It laid out a case for having the president routinely issue statements about the meaning of

statutes when he signs them into law. Such "interpretive signing statements" would be a significant departure from run-of-the-mill bill signing pronouncements, which are "often little more than a press release," Alito wrote. The idea was to flag constitutional concerns and get courts to pay as much attention to the president's take on a law as to "legislative intent."

Since the president's approval is just as important as that of the House or Senate, it seems to follow that the president's understanding of the bill should be just as important as that of Congress, Alito wrote. He later added that "by forcing some rethinking by courts, scholars and litigants, it may help to curb some of the prevalent abuses of legislative history." The Reagan administration popularized the use of such statements and subsequent administrations continued the practice. (The courts have yet to give them much weight, though.)

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be buying ground beef that contains less than 20% fat—unlike some of our competitors' so-called "lean" ground beef. It also means you can see and inspect what you're buying and talk to our meat cutters about exactly what goes into our ground beef. So stop by Swensen's this week and stock up on real lean ground beef at unreal prices.

**Family Packs
LEAN GROUND BEEF**

5 LBS. or More! **\$1.79** LB.

Less than 5 Lbs. \$1.89/LB.

SWENSEN'S QUALITY MEAT

Boneless Baron of Beef ROAST \$1.99 LB.		
Beef CUBIE STEAK \$3.49 LB.	Boneless Beef LONDON BROIL \$2.49 LB.	Beef T-BONE STEAK \$4.99 LB.
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GREEN CABBAGE 39¢ LB.	ICEBERG LETTUCE 89¢ EA.	AVOCADOS 79¢ EA.
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Mini CARROTS 89¢ 1 LB. Bag	Large APPLE 79¢ LB. (See Varieties - Dry Only)	Anjou PEARS 79¢ LB.
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STOCK UP ON THESE SAVINGS FROM SWENSEN'S...

Western Family PINEAPPLE 99¢ Asst. 20 oz.	Kellogg's POP TARTS \$1.88 14.7 oz.	Krusteaz Buttermilk PANCAKE MIX 2/\$3 32 oz.	Western Family PANCAKE SYRUP 2/\$5 88 oz.	7-UP PRODUCTS 10/\$10 2 Liter Bottles (AAW Root Beer, AAW Cream Soda, Country Time 7-Up)
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Campbell's SELECT SOUPS 3/\$5 Asst. 19 oz.	Hunts TOMATO SAUCE 3/89¢ 8 oz.	Western Family SLOPPY JOE SAUCE 79¢ 14.5 oz.	Lay's POTATO CHIPS 2/\$4 11 oz.	

Western Family DOG FOOD \$4.49 20 LB. Bag	Western Family CAT FOOD 4/\$1 Asst. 6.5 oz.	Dawn DISH SOAP 2/\$5 25 oz.	Western Family FROZEN ORANGE JUICE 99¢ 12 oz. Concentrate	Western Family REFRIGERATOR BISCUITS 4/\$1 Asst. 7.5 oz.	Western Family SLICED CHEESE \$1.79 12 oz.
Bounty PAPER TOWELS \$5.99 8 Roll Pkg.	Downy FABRIC SOFTENER \$3.99 40 oz.	Tide DETERGENT \$6.99 100 oz. Liquid or 70 oz. Powder			

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CAKE DONUTS 5/\$1	RAISIN BREAD \$1.69	SUNFLOWER BREAD \$1.19
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PRICES EFFECTIVE TUESDAY THRU MONDAY

Let's know: People
have strange initials to
bring on the storm.
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City Editor: Matthew Brady, 735-3234

The Times-News

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Section B

AROUND THE VALLEY

ONE DAY AT A TIME

Hagerman school remembers Justin and Spencer

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — Students at Hagerman Grade School sat quietly at their desks Monday morning, adjusting to the routines of school after Christmas vacation and to the loss of two of their classmates.

Twins Justin and Spencer Nice, along with their 2-year-old sister, Raquel, were found dead Dec. 21 in a Twin Falls house.

Their father, Jim Junior Nice, has been charged with three

counts of first-degree murder. The twins' desks in Rooms 8 and 11 remain unchanged, their school supplies neatly tucked inside.

Hagerman school Superintendent Lee Mitchell kept it that way to help the students acknowledge the loss, and he brought Gooding County Detective Ron Geer, Wendell High School counselor Jennifer Goodbody and Hagerman Schools counselor Ray Hoffman to talk with the students and staff.

"There has already been a certain amount of closure felt by the staff and students," Geer said. "Of course everyone is sad, but I think that it helped that the kids had been notified and given the opportunity to get the details and process the deaths at home."

Hoffman said the team met with the twins' teachers first thing Monday morning, and given the circumstances they are doing well.

"We then went into the classrooms to see what their needs would be," he said. "There were questions of why and how it

happened but we wanted to move away from those details to remembering Justin and Spencer."

As a way of expressing themselves, the kindergartners will create cards for the twins' family.

Goodbody said the boys' classmates had already processed a lot of their emotions giving credit to the school for contacting parents right away about the tragedy.

"The kids were really mature about it," she said. "They were ready to come in and talk about

their memories with their friends."

Mitchell said he is pleased with the way the school is handling the tragedy.

"We are a team," he said. "We all work together for a common cause — the kids and creating a safe and secure environment for them and I think that with the steps we took we are doing just that."

Blair Koch lives in Buhl. She can be reached by e-mail at blair_208@hotmail.com or by calling 316-2607.

Man reaches plea deal in rape case

BURLEY — A Burley man sentenced to a rider as part of a plea bargain could spend at least 10 years in life in prison in the 2003 sexual battery of a Rupert teenager.

Paula Passillas Caldera, 39, of Burley, received a retained jurisdiction, allowing him to serve a rider at the North Idaho Correctional Center in Coeur d'Alene.

With proper behavior and compliance, Caldera could be released after 180 days, something prosecutors said they were extremely unhappy about. But they opted for the rider to spare the victim from having to face Caldera in court.

The case went to trial but was stopped after the victim, now 18, was so emotionally distraught she could not testify, Cassia County Prosecutor Blaine Cannon said.

Home buyer education courses coming soon

BOISE — Finally! Home Buyer education courses will be offered at two Magic Valley locations in the coming months and also will be available online statewide for the first time.

Administered by the Idaho Partners for Home Buyer Education Inc., classes designed for first-time home buyers or those wanting home-buying information cover topics ranging from qualifying for a mortgage and choosing a real estate professional to making an offer and closing. Course graduates may be eligible for up to \$3,000 for down payment or closing cost assistance through the Idaho Housing and Finance Association.

Specifications on the Finally Home! program, contact schedules are available on the IBEA Web site at <http://www.ibea.org/nonprofit/ibeasite>.

The online courses can be found at <http://www.ibea.org/FinallyHomeOnlineCourse>. The fee for the first time is \$40.

The regional training partner for the Magic Valley-area classes is the College of Southern Idaho in Pocatello. For more information, to register or for more information.

In Halley, the course will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. Jan. 23 and 30. In Twin Falls, the class is set for 6 to 10 p.m. Feb. 6 and 13. Pre-registration is required.

The courses also are offered later in the year.

Workshop will cover grain marketing

BURLEY — The Idaho Barley Commission is sponsoring an Idaho Grain Marketing and Risk Management workshop from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Jan. 11 at the Buhl Inn.

Topics include the 2006 grain market outlook, maximizing returns in cash and futures markets, using technical signals to trade futures contracts and grain marketing simulation. Featured speakers are Darrell Holiday, president of Advanced Market Concepts in Manhattan, Kan., and Craig Corbett, a dryland farmer from Soda Springs.

Admission is free, but registration is required for an accurate meal count. Call (208) 334-2090 to register.

Other co-sponsors are the Idaho Wheat Commission, Idaho Grain Producers Association, Western Center for Risk Management Agency, USDA Risk Management Agency, University of Idaho District 4 Central School, Bushy Agricultural Resources Inc., Coors Brewing Co., Great Western Malting Co., AgriSource Inc., General Mills, DL Evans Bank, Farm Credit Services, Mountain State Insurance, Premier Insurance and Farmers Crop Insurance Alliance.

Pajama Game auditions will begin next week

TWIN FALLS — Auditions for the Dilettante group's March musical, "Pajama Game," will be held from 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday and 5 to 9 p.m. Monday at the Immanuel Lutheran School on Richards Ave. East.

Rehearsals will begin Jan. 10 at Morningside Elementary School, 701 Morningside Drive.

For more information, call Director Jennifer at 324-2457 or 316-1671.

— compiled from staff reports

Embracing the elements



College of Southern Idaho groundskeeper Jim Howard tests a new snow removal brush Monday. When snow falls, groundskeepers begin clearing the sidewalks at 4 a.m. to ensure they are clear for morning classes.

Groundskeepers enjoy independence, camaraderie

By Michelle Dunlop
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A rusty bolt threw a wrench in the plans of College of Southern Idaho groundskeepers on a gray January morning.

It's a slow Monday for the people charged with keeping campus sidewalks free of snow in the winter and lawns green and well-manicured in the summer. But, there's always something to do.

"As far as idle time, there's not a lot," said groundskeeper Macho Rodriguez.

On the day after New Year's, Rodriguez and co-workers Larry Tate and Jim Howard wrestled with a stubborn bolt on a piece of snow removal equipment. Not to worry,

outside is another. "I couldn't handle a desk job," Rodriguez said.

There are few moments in either summer or winter that Rodriguez and the groundskeepers even have the opportunity to sit behind a desk, or sit much at all. In the winter, the maze of sidewalks at CSI has to be cleared of snow and ice by 8 a.m.

Groundskeepers arrive as early as 4 a.m. during a storm to make the walkways safe. On warm winter days, the grounds crew takes advantage of good weather to service equipment.

During the summer, the crew maintains 120 acres of landscaped ground, Tate said. Besides mowing the massive lawns on campus at least once

a week, he said, the crew also maintains the campus' shrubs, trees and flowers.

Construction at CSI presents the challenge of new landscaping. And, this summer, Tate, Rodriguez and Howard will begin converting the campus' sprinkler system from city water to canal water.

Like Rodriguez, both Howard and Tate enjoy their work. In fact, Howard left a career in sales and Tate abandoned a construction job for landscaping at CSI.

"It's really like a large family here," Tate said.

Michelle Dunlop reporter can be reached at 735-3237 or by e-mail at mdunlop@magvalley.com.

SPECTACULAR CELEBRATION

Buhl begins centennial festivities with a bang

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — Fireworks lit up the Saturday night sky as part of Buhl's centennial celebration kick-off.

The New Year's Eve party, held at the Clear Lake Country Club, was the first of many events planned throughout the year.

"It was a wonderful evening," said Mayor Barbara Gletzen. "Everyone had a great time."

More festivities are coming up. At 5:30 p.m. today, the Centennial Committee will dedicate the centennial clock and Legacy Wall.

Cindy Darnell, the winning artist who created the design to be featured on the Legacy Wall, will be at the dedication.

Following the dedication, home decoratives will be served during a reception and gallery opening highlighting Darnell's art at the Eighth Street Center. The gallery opening is free and the public is encouraged to attend.

"This is just the beginning of exhibits that will tie into Buhl's centennial," said Kelly Dahluso, executive director for the Buhl Arts Council.

"This is just the beginning of exhibits that will tie into Buhl's centennial."

— Kelly Dahluso, director of the Buhl Arts Council

She said Darnell's work will be on display through February. The wall will be located in the center of town, behind the centennial clock on the southeast corner of Main Street and Broadway Avenue.

Holly Langton, president of the Buhl Centennial Committee, explained the process of choosing the art for the wall.

"When we went looking for the artwork, we had the project written into the curriculum of the University of Idaho," she said.

Langton explained that the art students then came to Buhl and toured the area. They returned to Moscow and went to work. In summer 2004, committee representatives traveled

to the northern Idaho school and narrowed the selection to six designs.

"We had them displayed at City Hall," Langton said. "And after public input, Cindy's design was chosen for the Legacy Wall."

The Legacy Wall will be built once the money has been raised. The committee has about half of the estimated \$40,000 needed.

The committee is still selling bricks for the memorial wall. They come in two sizes: 4 inches by 8 inches and 8 inches by 8 inches and are selling for \$25 and \$50 each.

To buy a brick, call 543-0968 or 543-8970.

Buhl will officially mark its 100th birthday in April.

Blair Koch can be reached at 735-3237 or by e-mail at blair_208@hotmail.com.

Dial 'D' for delinquent

Heyburn takes aim at late payers

By Marie Mischel
For The Times-News

HEYBURN — Last February, 485 Heyburn residents paid their bills late.

"That's a lot for a municipality this small," Deputy City Clerk Deb Hopkins told City Council members last week as she proposed a \$2.649 computerized program that would remind people to pay their bills.

The City Council unanimously approved the purchase.

The program also can be used for any notification, such as planned power outages or days when roads will be dip-sealed. City Superintendent Scott Spevak said.

United Electric, which uses the program, has had excellent results, Hopkins said.

Spevak warned council members that people may complain about getting calls from a machine.

But Hopkins said the machine has "a very nice voice. It doesn't sound like a computer voice at all."

In other business, resident Clair Wardle asked the council to raise the speed limit to 35 mph on 1st Street from 21st Street to the bridge.

"It is difficult for me and some other people's know to keep it down to 25," Wardle said.

Responding to Councilman Dee Ray Bailey's comment that the lower speed limit brings the city money from elementary fines, Wardle said, "that's a poor reason to keep it at 25, to create revenue for the city."

Student wins \$5,000 for Paul Elementary School

First-grader's actions will help pay for new playground equipment

By Marie Mischel
For The Times-News

PAUL — First-grader Chase Jones has won his school \$5,000 for playground equipment.

Chase entered and won the monthly "Let's Just Play" drawing sponsored by the television network Nickelodeon.

He was one of 20 winners nationwide in October to receive \$5,000 to go toward play facilities in communities or at schools.

Entrants were required to tell why play is important and what equipment was needed to help them play better and why. The entries then were chosen in a random drawing.

Shonna Jones, Chase's mother, said the entry form was sent home with Paul Elementary School's newsletter.

"I said, 'Oh, Chase, let's just fill it out,'" she said. "I mailed it and never thought another thing about it."

Then, one Wednesday in mid-October, she came back from buying groceries and found a message on the answering machine from a Nickelodeon representative saying Chase had won.

"I know when I listened to the message I played it over and over," she said. "I was in shock."

Soon it was time to pick up Chase from school. When she arrived at Paul Elementary, Principal Colleen Johnson had already been notified of the winning draw and was ready to announce the winner.

The winning \$5,000 blurb, blurb, blurb," Chase recalled. "It was exciting. It will make kids happy."

Chase has been allowed to help choose what equipment the money will purchase. His friends suggested that the money be used for a Play Station 2, but the physical education teacher, Mary Ann Shaff, is thinking more along the lines of a climbing wall, tethers and, for the younger children, spring rocking animals.

School officials have applied to the Mindokoa County School District for a matching grant so they'll be able to buy more equipment.

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-3208 Monday through Saturday. Deadlines is 4 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for notices is obituaries@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Nubern (Bud) Mason



TWIN FALLS — Nubern (Bud) Mason, 72, passed away Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at his home following an extended illness, with his loving family by his side.

He was born Sept. 14, 1933, to Nubern John Mason and Grace Bertha Dean Mason in Jerome, Idaho. He was raised and attended school in Wendell, Idaho. Upon graduation, Bud entered the Navy, married Bonita Fecker, and to this union, two sons were born, Courtney and Andrew Ray. In 1971, he married Georgene Rigdon Hine and became a father to Vickie (Phil) Bohardt, Tim (Debbie) Hine, Fernie (Elmer) Freeman and Pete (Melanie) Hine. He was proud of all his children and spent many hours enjoying them and the grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Bud was an insurance agent for Farmer Bureau, worked for Carter Mutt Packing in Buhl, drove for Wagner Transport, and approximately 30 years ago, Bud started his own

business, Bud's Detail, and continued until his retirement. Bud was an avid fisherman and outdoorsman. He enjoyed camping with his family and was always searching for a new fishing hole. He spent many hours tying flies and sharing them with his sons, grandsons and friends. If someone wanted to go hunting or fishing, Bud would enjoy taking you, sharing a story or drawing a map from memory to these spots.

Bud was preceded in death by his parents and one sister, Shirley Summerlin. He is survived by his wife, Georgene

and his six children; nine grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren and two brothers, Dean Mason and Ed (Billie) Mason.

A graveside service will be conducted next Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006, at Sunset Memorial Park. Services are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."

*He raised them all, the ponds, lakes,
Magic Dam and the river Snake.
His secret spots he guarded well.
He would tease and grin, but then he'd tell.
His touch was soft, and his caresses true.
He fished for pleasure and kept very few.
But, he's left us Lord, and our hearts are sad,
He's in your care, and for that we're glad.
For your son, the fisherman, his love grew deeper.
One of his Lord, you've got a keeper.
By his brother, Ed Mason*

Mary E. Buel



Heyburn — Mary E. Buel, an 88-year-old former resident of Heyburn, died Friday, Dec. 30, 2005, at West Valley Hospital in Caldwell.

She was born Nov. 6, 1917, in American Falls, Idaho, the daughter of Archie T. and Clara Rose Sorenson. She received her education in American Falls, graduating from American Falls High School. She married Kenneth Charles Buel on June 12, 1937, in American Falls. While Kenneth was on the railroad, they lived in various areas prior to moving to Rupert in 1951. Mary worked as the Milwotoka County Probate Clerk for many years. Following retirement, she and Kenneth moved to Heyburn. Kenneth passed away on Feb. 20, 2001, and Mary then moved to Heyburn to be near her son, and where she had since resided. Mary

was an excellent artist and thoroughly enjoyed oil painting. She also liked doing crafts and ceramics. She had a beautiful yard and spent countless hours planning and grooming the landscape and gardens. She was a former member of the Rupert Chapter No. 39 of

the Eastern Star.

She is survived by her children, Ardeth (Robert) Stark of Heyburn and Melvyn (Beverly) Buel of Caldwell; one foster-son, Kenneth (Echo) Mock of Pocatello; six grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and seven great-great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, Kenneth, she was preceded in death by her parents and an infant sister.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, 2006, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St., Burley, where friends and family may call one hour prior to the service. Burial will be in the Michael. Burial will be in the Rupert Cemetery. The family suggests memorials be directed to Shriners Hospitals for Children in care of Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley.

Harriet Louise Pedersen



TWIN FALLS — Harriet Louise Pedersen (Louise) died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005, as a result of injuries sustained in a motor vehicle accident.

She lived a happy, full life and was active and independent until she was injured. She was 86 years old. Louise was born in Greybull, Wyo., on Aug. 21, 1919. Her parents were Arnt and Nels Jensen, who preceded her in death. She attended schools in Salt Lake City. She was faithfully active in the LDS Church throughout her life. It was at a church service in Bountiful, Utah, that she met her eternal companion, Edward Pedersen Jr. (Ted). Louise and Louise were together from 1943 when they were married until Ted died in 1995. Certainly, it was this loving relationship that led to her relief. Louise and family that defined Louise more than anything.

After living in Salt Lake City, Pocatello and Boise, the couple moved to Twin Falls, Idaho, where they lived for the rest of their lives. They were involved in the retail business in Twin Falls and other locations, including the name State Hardware and later Pedersen's. Louise was a contributing member of the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers. Throughout her life, she worked in the church with the

Primary and Relief Society. Up to the time of her death, she was an involved and loved member of her ward. Louise will be remembered for her devotion to her husband, family and church, but also for her razor-sharp wit. She had a gift for a clever comment at unexpected times that everyone around her enjoyed.

She and Ted enjoyed traveling extensively until Ted became sick during the last years of his life. Louise's family and friends will not forget how lovingly she cared for Ted during those difficult years. Louise was respectful and caring of those around her. She had five children, 16 grandchildren and

14 great-grandchildren. She was keenly interested in and followed the lives of every one of them. They, as well as everyone who knew her, will miss her.

She is survived by all of her children, Susan Karlson (Lennett) of North Salt Lake City, Utah, David Pedersen (Cassie) and Marjorie Pedersen (Trudy), all of Twin Falls, Idaho, Kerry Pedersen of Salt Lake City, and Sherrie Sussler (Mark); and by two beloved brothers, Richard and Jessel Jensen of St. George, Utah, and Robert (Betty) Jensen of Hurricane, Utah. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by one sister, Marjorie Jensen Little.

A service for Louise will be conducted at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, 2006, at the 7th Ward LDS Chapel, 847 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls. Friends may call at the church from 12:45 to 1:45 p.m. Interment will be held at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 4, 2006, at Sunset Memorial Park. Services are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park." Those who may wish to give a donation in lieu of flowers are encouraged to give a gift in Louise's name to the American Diabetes Association, P.O. Boxes 71263, Meridian, VA 22116-7023.

Alan Wayne Chapman



WINNEMUCCA, Nev. — Alan Wayne "Chappy" Chapman, 46, of Winnemucca, Nev., passed away Dec. 7, 2005, at St. Mary's Hospital in Reno, Nev., after a short illness.

He was born in Lancaster, Calif., on July 7, 1959. He was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. The family moved to Idaho in 1964 and to Twin Falls in 1965. Sports, fishing, hunting and racing were his favorite pastimes. He graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1977. As a young boy, he observed by Mail Contracting of 1984 and declared that heavy equipment operator would be his vocation (rent/Tonka equipment). He was employed by the gold mining companies in Nevada for many years. When the mines closed, he drove long-haul trucks and was employed by Mail Contracting of America at the time of his

death. His eyes and other tissue were donated for possible transplant.

He is survived by his parents, Bernard W. "Chappie" Chapman and Dolores Hetering Chapman of Twin Falls, Idaho; his brother, John (Sandy) of Boise, Idaho; sister,

Dena (Larry) Mabbutt of Shoshone, Idaho; his nephews and nieces, Nathan, Danielle and Sara Chapman of Boise, and Elizabeth and John Mabbutt of Shoshone, Idaho.

A memorial service for Alan will be held at 1:30 p.m. Jan. 7, 2006, at the American Legion Hall, 447 Seastrom St. (off Eastland Drive S.) in Twin Falls, with Pastor Dale Metzger officiating. Following the service, there will be a "Celebration of Alan's Life" from 2 to 4:30 p.m. at the hall. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorials be sent to the American Diabetes Association, Idaho Affiliate, 11111 S. 44th St., Boise, ID 83705. The Washoe Memorial Funeral Home of Reno, Nev., and Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls, Idaho, are in charge of the cremation.

TV association hands control over to Idaho Public Television

LEWISTON (AP) — The Orchard Community Television Association is disbanding after five decades, handing over its local television service to Idaho Public Television.

The association began just after KLEW-TV, a Lewiston-Clatsop Valley CBS affiliate, went on the air in 1955. The station's transmissions blocked the already fuzzy signals many residents were receiving from Spokane stations. Bud Yochum told the Lewiston Tribune.

"It just took everything out," said Yochum, one of the original association board members.

So Yochum and six other men formed the association, changing an \$11 annual fee to residents who wanted access to 10 local, Spokane, public and Christian stations. Over the years the fee climbed to \$20 a year, paid on the honor system. Viewers did much of the work, keeping the subscription costs much lower than that of cable or satellite.

Maintaining the service wasn't always easy, and the honor

66
We're losing so many board members. We're all getting past that age.

99
— Bud Yochum, association member

system didn't always work. Board members sometimes had to knock on the doors of homes with antennas where the residents weren't paying, and used caller identification to check for nonsubscribers who called to complain about transmission problems.

"The office was in my home and the kitchen table was my desk for many years," said Darlene Eggers, who was the association's paid secretary starting in 1964.

The angriest television viewers were always those who didn't pay, Eggers said.

The longest disruption came in 1997 when high winds knocked down the association's tower. Service was finally restored weeks later after board members organized a work party to rebuild the tower.

The board members are growing older, said Yochum, 67, and several served until their deaths.

"We're losing so many board members," Yochum said. "We're all getting past that age."

As much as 33 percent of the population doesn't receive television through dish or cable, Morrill said.

"We want to be sure these people are served," he said.

DEATH NOTICES

Gordon Hagler
JEROME — Gordon R. Hagler, 82, of Jerome, died Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2005, at the Twin Falls Care Center in Twin Falls.

The funeral will be conducted at 11 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, 2006, at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel, with the Rev. Richard Goetsch officiating. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Burial will follow in the Filer Cemetery.

the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, with military rites by the Mini-Cassia Veterans and Pastor Dan Lovelace officiating. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday and one hour before the service at the mortuary. Burial will follow at the Rupert Cemetery.

2006, at the Twin Falls Care Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

Roy Adamson
RUPERT — Roy Adamson, 80, of Rupert, died Sunday, Jan. 1, 2006, at Country Side Care and Rehabilitation.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, 2006, at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Robert Balch
RUPERT — Robert "Bob" Balch, died Saturday, Dec. 31, 2005, after a prolonged illness.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Norma Smurthwaite
BUHL — Norma Smurthwaite, formerly of Buhl, died Sunday, Jan. 1, 2006, in Utah.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

Madian Martinson
BUHL — Madian Martinson, 87, of Buhl, died Sunday, Jan. 1,

2006, at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

Eugene Larson
TWIN FALLS — Eugene "Gene" Larson, 84, died Monday, Jan. 2, 2006, at his residence in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by DeMar's Gooding Chapel.

SERVICES

Laurence DeVon Andersen of Murtagh, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Murtagh LDS Chapel, 23709 U.S. Highway 30, and service at 3 p.m. today at the 2nd Ward LDS Chapel, 200 S. 10th St., Burley; friends and family may call from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. today at the Murtagh LDS Chapel (Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome).

neral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Donna Len Hagar Riedlinger of Paul, funeral at 2:30 p.m. today at the Paul Baptist LDS Chapel, 200 S. 10th St., Burley; friends may call one hour before the service today at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

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1301 E. 16th St. • Burley (Outside Farmers Insurance Bldg.)

Pearl Klausner of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Burley 2nd, 4th and 10th Ward LDS Chapel of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 515 E. 16th St.; friends may call from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home).

Lewis James Holloway of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Wednesday at the Church of the Brethren, 461 Filer Ave.; friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at White Mortuary.

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Twin Falls, Burley, Hailey

Ray Meierhoff of Buhl, graveside service at 11 a.m. today at the West End Cemetery (Farmer Funeral Chapel).

Lina Gallegos of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Christian Center Assembly of God Church, 317 W. 27th St., Burley; friends may call one hour before the service at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

In Memory Of

CPL James Brian Moulson
August 14, 1970 - January 3, 2001

IT HAS BEEN 5 years since you were taken from us. You haven't been forgotten by your family, friends and the community you served. You will always be in our hearts. We love you and look forward to being together again someday.

Love,
Dad, Sandee, Mom,
Charlie, Bob and Derek

Gail L. Diamond of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Fu-

*A*s with grateful hearts that we extend this thank-you to the friends, family and businesses that were so supportive during the passing of Richard T. Gillespie.

Richard was a central figure in our family and we were unprepared for his passing.

Many of you found ways to convey your regards, friendship, encouragement and love in ways that have eased our grief.

It has been a wonderful comfort to know that so many people called Richard a friend and shared his life.

From our family to you: Thank-you!
May the Lord bless and keep you safe throughout this new year. — The Gillespie Family

Funeral Home of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary, Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main St.; viewing for family and friends one hour before the service today at the mortuary.

Funeral Home of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary, Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main St.; viewing for family and friends one hour before the service today at the mortuary.

NATION

LET IT SNOW

In colder climes, rituals aim at encouraging storms

By Martha Irvine
Associated Press writer

When it comes to conjuring a snowstorm, 8-year-old Taylor Zelman has more than a few tricks aimed at getting the day off from school.

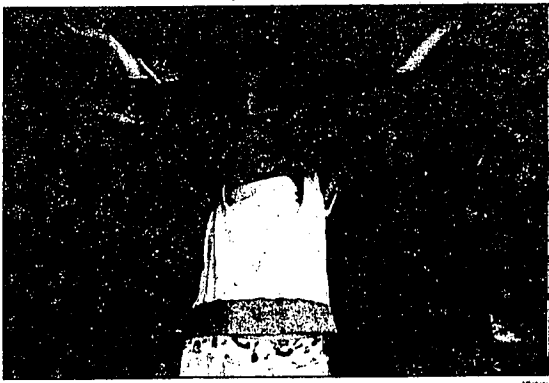
She puts her pajamas inside out and backward. She runs around the kitchen table five times and flushes ice cubes down the toilet. And as she goes to sleep on winter school nights, she faithfully repeats, "I want it to snow. I want it to snow. I want it to snow."

"My teacher told me to throw an ice cube at a tree, but I haven't tried it yet," says the third-grader from Leesburg, Va. "I'm sure there's tons more I could do." Indeed, there are many snow rituals kids and adults alike use in hopes of getting a day off from school or work. Some sing songs and perform arm-falling snow dances, while others place white objects or silverswirl underneath their pillows.

Chris Conit fondly recalls his elementary school days in Madison, Conn., when — wearing only underwear — he would run around the house several times and then lie down on the ground and count to 30, or "15 if there was already snow on the ground because it was cold," says Conit, who is now 24 and lives in Massachusetts.

In Gahanna, Ohio, high school English teacher Mary Lou Purdy keeps a snow globe that says "snow days" on her office desk. She and colleagues regularly shake it as they walk by.

"I'd like to have fun, Purdy says, is anticipating the possibility of a day off. "It breaks up the monotony of winter. Otherwise, it's one gray day after another," she says. "There's something so comforting about getting to roll over and stay under the covers — and enjoy the serenity of the snow."



Taylor Zelman, 8, puts on her pajamas backward at her home in Leesburg, Va., on Dec. 21. The backward pajamas ritual is just one of several Zelman goes through in her quest to make it snow and hopefully get a day off from school.

Halle Rozansky, a 16-year-old high school junior in Abingdon, Pa., agrees and says she has become more likely to try the pajama or silverswirl tricks as she has gotten older.

"We definitely take it more seriously, because extra sleep is good," Halle says, referring to herself and her 13-year-old brother, Robbie. "And we also have more time to study."

But not everyone who uses snow rituals is after a day off. Skip Traynor, an avid winter-time hunter and fisherman from Alma, Mich., shaves ice cubes and sprinkles them in the trees behind his house to influence the weather. For him, the snow is

helpful for tracking animals.

He also throws ice cubes into a nearby lake to encourage it to freeze — but concedes that it makes sure to do this under the cover of darkness.

"Do I really want anyone to see me conducting my ritual?" asks Traynor, who is 58 and first learned the snow-conjuring tricks from his grandfather.

Even those who doubt their own snow rituals say there is something about trying that makes it feel better. In nothing else, hope becomes a bonding point, says Stuart Vyse, author of the book "Believing in Magic: The Psychology of Superstition."

"We are susceptible to doing things that give us a sense of control over the world, even if we know it's not true," says Vyse, a psychology professor at Connecticut College.

Tiny worms survived destruction of shuttle

The Washington Post

Tiny nematode worms in aluminum canisters aboard the space shuttle Columbia fell up to 25 miles when the orbiter blew up but were recovered alive in Texas.

The survival of the nematodes, each one about as big as the comma on a sheet of newspaper, suggests ways in which simple life forms might endure traumatic interplanetary journeys, researchers say.

A report in a paper published last week in the journal *Astrobiology*, said a team led by NASA's Ames Research Center had placed six coffee-can-size canisters of nematodes aboard Columbia to monitor muscular atrophy during spaceflight. Each canister held seven or eight petri dishes containing the worms.

Team member Catherine Conley, a NASA astrobiologist, said nematodes are useful in studying how prolonged spaceflight can affect the aging process in humans as well as human tolerance for cosmic

ray exposure and muscular deterioration from weightlessness.

The team said that when Columbia broke up the morning of Feb. 1, 2003, the nematode canisters plunged from the orbiter at speeds up to 650 mph and hit the ground with an impact 2.295 times the force of Earth's gravity.

"I can't say I was surprised the worms were alive, because we spin them up to 2,000 G's in the lab without thinking about it," Conley said in a telephone interview. "What surprised me was that they found the canisters at all."

Discovery May End Heartburn Forever

WASHINGTON — Gastrointestinal (GI) problems like acid reflux, heartburn and ulcers may be eliminated with a new type of chewable tablet. Scientists say that GI problems are not the result of excess acid, but the body's inability to deal with it. Peptat 300 is a patent-pending formula that includes an extract known as DGL that strengthens the body's natural defenses against acid.

Peptat 300 goes to work immediately on stomach acid while addressing the cause of GI problems. Scientists say that the DGL in Peptat improves the body's protective substance, increases the lifespan of digestive tract cells, and improves blood supply to the area. Articles have appeared in peer-reviewed journals like the British medical journal *The Lancet* or *Taganet*. Peptat also works faster than Protonix. Peptat may make these types of drugs obsolete because DGL has no side effects.

The problem with acid blockers is that they can interrupt the body's normal digestive process. Peptat 300 is a natural alternative and is available at pharmacies without a prescription or call 1-800-339-3301. Available locally at: See-Mor Drugs, 139 Main St., Twin Falls, 733-8133 and 1109 Main St., Boise - 543-4347. ©2005 www.kay-drugs.com

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

66

Save that pot of coffee back there for me. I'll take it home and pave my street with it.

99

— Announcer Keith Jackson, who will call Wednesday's Rose Bowl game, at an ABC-ESPN news conference Sunday at the Rose Bowl media hotel in Beverly Hills, Calif.

TRIVIA

QUESTION: What quarterback holds the record for throwing at least one touchdown pass in 19 consecutive seasons? (Hint: Think Monday Night Football)

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- High School**
- BOYS BASKETBALL**
Bliss at Carey, 7:30 p.m.
Magic Valley Christian at Jackpot, Nev., 3:30 p.m.
Kimberly at Valley, 7:30 p.m.
Wendell at Hagerman, 7:30 p.m.
- GIRLS BASKETBALL**
Bliss at Carey, 7:30 p.m.
Burley at Century, 7:30 p.m.
Castelford at Murtaugh, 7:30 p.m.
Community School at Blotch, 7:30 p.m.
Gooding at Wood River, 7:30 p.m.
Hansen at Lighthouse Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Minto at Bonneville, 7:30 p.m.
Rift River at Oakley, 7:30 p.m.
Twin Falls at Jerome, 7:30 p.m.
- WRESTLING**
Twin Falls at Burley, 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

T.F. Rapids hold soccer sign-ups

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Rapids 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 from 5-7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5 in the KNVW Community Room, located at 1100 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

For more information, contact Barry Bledwell at 734-7637 or Sasha Pavlovic at 733-9411.

Cal Ripken sign-ups start 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. For more information, contact Alan Sutzman at 539-7388 or Bill Merritt at 280-0802.

Burley Elks hold youth Hoop Shoot

BURLEY — The Burley Elks will hold its annual Hoop Shoot for boys and girls ages 8-13 Saturday, Jan. 14, at the Civic Center in Rupert.
Registration will begin at 8 a.m. Birth certificates are required.

Spartans booster club meets next Monday

REPORT — The Minico High School Booster Club will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9 in the Minico High School Library. Parents with students in grades 9-12 are urged to attend. Call 430-5268 for more information.
Compiled from staff reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

Vince Testaverde, who has played from 1987 to 2005. Johnny Unitas (from 1956 to 1973) and Fran Tarkenton (1961 to 1979) are tied for second, each with 18.

2006 BOWL CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES

Big-play Buckeyes

Ted Ginn-fueled Ohio State rolls over Notre Dame

By Bob Baum
Associated Press writer

TEMPE, Ariz. — Troy Smith found a measure of redemption and Notre Dame found itself a bowl loser again in a Fiesta matchup brimming with big plays by the Buckeyes.

Suspended from last year's Alamo Bowl for taking \$500 from a booster, Smith hooked up on a pair of long touchdown passes and fourth-ranked Ohio State beat the No. 5 Irish 34-20 Monday night.

Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly was sending them to their eighth straight bowl loss. Santonio Holmes set a Fiesta Bowl record with an 85-yard TD catch, then said he forgave his senior season to enter the NFL draft. Ted Ginn scored on a 68-yard end around and caught a 56-yard touchdown pass for the Buckeyes (10-2).

Darius Walker scored all three touchdowns for Notre Dame (9-3). The Irish fell to 13-14 overall in bowls, a disappointing end for Charlie Weis in his first year as their coach.

Smith, the offensive MVP also set out this year's record but has improved steadily since then. He completed 19 of 28 passes for a career-high 342 yards and ran for another 66 in 13 attempts.

"As you watched Thy throughout his career every day in practice, he learns a little something and gets better, and he learns from every ball game," Ohio State coach Jim Tressell said. "His very passionate about being a great quarterback, and each day he's taking a step closer to it."

The junior from Cleveland capped his performance with a pair of third-and-long completions on the Buckeyes' final scoring drive. Antonio Pittman, who rushed for 136 yards in 21 carries, broke free on a 60-yard touchdown run to seal the victory with 1:46 to play.

"I'd really, I want to let you know that sitting out of last year's bowl, I didn't think about that as much as you probably think I did," Smith said. "To me, this year's seniors, this group of guys on the field, that's what it was about. I don't like taking a lot of credit for what goes on on the field because it takes 11 guys."

Forget the stereotype of plodding, but Notre Dame's offense, the Buckeyes won with speed.



Ohio St. teammates Ted Ginn, rear, and Santonio Holmes celebrate Holmes' 85-yard touchdown reception during the second quarter against Notre Dame at the 35th Annual Fiesta Bowl college football game in Tempe, Ariz.

Ginn caught eight passes for 167 yards. He zigzagged into the end zone on his long run en route to their third Fiesta Bowl victory in four years. Holmes caught five passes for 124 yards.

A.J. Hawk, Ohio State's Lombardi Award-winning linebacker and the game's defensive MVP, sacked his girlfriend's brother, Brady Quinn, twice. Hawk also ran down Quinn to stop a third-down play early in the fourth quarter.

Quinn, a third-team all-American behind Matt Leinart and Vince Young of Texas, completed 29 of 45 for 286 yards but no touchdowns. Walker gained 90 yards in 16 attempts.

The teams met for only the fifth time in their storied histories, and for the first in a bowl game.

The Irish gave up a season-high 617 yards, 275 on the ground.

The previous record for longest pass in the Fiesta Bowl was 79 yards from Tennessee's Ted Taylor to Penn State's Proise against Florida State in 1999 and Oregon's Joey Harrington to Samle Parker against Colorado in 2002.

It was the 35th and final Fiesta Bowl in Sun Devil Stadium. The game moves to the Arizona Cardinals' new stadium in the west Phoenix suburb of Glendale next year.

History on the line at Rose Bowl

National title game only a day away

By Ralph D. Russo
Associated Press writer

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. — When Reggie Bush, Matt Leinart and Southern California step onto the field, the most watched moment in college football history could be in mind.

Bear Bryant in his hood-south hat, watching over Alabama. Stacey Bud Wilkinson and his unbeatable Oklahoma teams. Army's M. Inside and Mr. Outside. Texas running Darrell Royal's wishbone to perfection.

With 34 straight victories and consecutive national championships, USC has already secured a place among the greats. Where they rank, exactly, is up for debate. But this much is for certain: Pete Carroll's Trojan dynasty can carve out a spot all its own.



Texas quarterback Vince Young answers questions during Monday's Rose Bowl media day in Carson, Calif.

Facing their toughest challenge yet, the No. 1 Trojans play No. 2 Texas for an unprecedented third straight national championship.

"Well, the very fact that no one's ever done it is testimony to how difficult it is," said former Notre Dame coach Ara Parseghian, who won two championships and 95 games in 11 seasons with Notre Dame.

"It's almost impossible to stay in that superiority position because of the very nature of the game."

The Associated Press poll began crowning champions in 1936 and five years later Minnesota became the first school to win consecutive titles.

USC became the ninth team to repeat with an emphatic 55-19 victory over Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl last January.

In between, Oklahoma did it for Wildkinn (1955-56) and for Barry Switzer (1974-75). Nebraska also turned the trick with two coaches — Bob Devaney (1970-71) and Tom Osborne (1994-95).

Running backs Doc Blanchard (Mr. Inside) and Glenn Davis (Mr. Outside), the last teammates to win consecutive Heismans before Bush and Leinart, led Army to championships in 1944-45.

Bryant won two in a row twice at Alabama — 1964-65 and again in 1978-79. The Crimson Tide

Irish not losers for long

TEMPE, Ariz. — No one was calling Jim Tressell an offensive genius before the game. Those accolades went to the guy on the other sideline, the one with the crewcut and the stapled stomach.

You know, the one with those Super Bowl rings earned while coaching New England's offense. Charlie Weis had the bling and the quarterback, just 2:01 into the Fiesta Bowl, his offense also had an astonishingly easy touchdown.

"Our mentality going in was to take chances," Weis said. "The game understood the risk-reward factor because I explained it to them how we were going to play the game."

The team also understood what it would have meant for the Irish to break a seven-game bowl losing streak that dates back 12 years. It couldn't, though, and its magical season ended without a magical finish.

Before anyone starts feeling sorry for Weis or the Irish, though, imagine what lies ahead.

In just one season, Weis has resurrected a team that was considered dead by many and rejected the vaunted Notre Dame name to the top of college football. He came within a whisker of being the national No. 1 team in the game of the year, made a Heisman candidate out of quarterback Brady Quinn, and brought back the swagger in South Bend.

Along the way, he made himself very rich with a new 10-0 team that has a \$145 million bowl payday who can complain?

Winning the Fiesta Bowl would have been a nice way to finish it off. Losing it doesn't make what happened at the previous 11 games mean any less.

"Obviously it's a bit ironic," Weis said. "When you win a game it obviously has a more positive effect than when you lose. I'm not going to say it has no effect at all, but these guys now realize what to do."

Weis had told his players and the media that this team would be remembered by the way it played in the final game of the season, not what it did along the way to Arizona. A 9-3 season would be nice. Weis said, but a 10-2 season with a win in the Fiesta Bowl would make a statement.

He hasn't been wrong about many things since leaving the Patriots to take the Notre Dame job, but Weis was wrong about that. This will be a season ultimately remembered not for a 34-20 loss in the Fiesta Bowl, but for the new era he ushered in.

He took over a team going nowhere with an underperforming quarterback, installed a pro offense and led the Irish to within six points of finishing the season in St. Louis.

Martz may, indeed, be a candidate for an opening, especially the one in team looking for offensive help.

The Saints, who own the No. 2 pick in the draft and a possible shot at Southern California quarterback Matt Leinart, might do worse — Martz's specialty is developing quarterbacks, as he did with Kurt Warner and Marc Bulger in St. Louis.

Rivers is a former of the top coaching prospects. Because he is of Hispanic heritage, he also fits the specifications of the Rooney rule, which requires that all teams with vacancies interview at least one minority candidate.

NFL's coaching unemployment list lengthens

By Dave Goldberg
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Almost as soon as the St. Louis Rams announced Monday that Mike Martz was out as head coach, they asked the Chicago Bears for permission to talk to Ron Rivera, their defensive coordinator.

Something in Houston, the Texas Tech Dom Capers and asked Denver for permission to talk to offensive coordinator Gary Kubiak.

That's the way of the NFL. If there's a "hot" coaching prospect out there, try to get to him as soon as possible before the competition grabs him. And there's a lot of competition this year.

Four coaches were let go on "Black Monday," the day after the regular season ends and the traditional day for firing coaches. Martz, Capers, Mike Sherman of Green Bay and Jim Haslett of New Orleans were canned.

They join Mike Tice of Minnesota, fired after the Vikings' final game on Sunday, and Dick Vermeil of Kansas City, who retired Sunday at the age of 69. With the firing of Detroit's Steve Mariucci in November, that brings to seven the number of vacancies, with the prospect of one more — Norv Turner of Oakland, who could learn his fate Tuesday.

That's not an unusual number, especially since there were just three new coaches this season. Since the AFL-NFL merger in 1970, an average of 5.9 jobs per year opened up.

None of the firings were surprises. Haslett's job has been in question most of the season as the Saints, who finished 3-13, went through a chaotic period in which the team was driven from its home by Hurricane Katrina; settled in San Antonio; and played "home" games in three different stadiums, including its opener at Giants Stadium, home of its opponent, the New York Giants.

The 54-year-old Martz took a medical leave this season after five games with an infection of the heart lining and was not allowed back on the sidelines, in part because of differences with director of football operations Jay Zymnunt. At the time he left the team, his career record was 56-36 and he had led the Rams to the playoffs four times, and to the Super Bowl after the 2001 season.

That it was no surprise when New Orleans' offensive players heard of the availability of Martz, known for his innovations, and lured he be considered for the opening. "It's like an offensive-minded coach," wide receiver Dante Stallworth said, nodding when

SPORTS

Mountaineers down Bulldogs



West Virginia running back Steve Stator (10) runs away from the Georgia defense en route to a 52-yard touchdown in the first quarter of the Sugar Bowl football game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta on Monday, Jan. 2.

ATLANTA (AP) — Enough with those jokes about the Big East. West Virginia clearly deserved its place in the Bowl Championship Series.

Steve Stator rushed for a record 204 yards and three touchdowns to lead the No. 11 Mountaineers to a 38-35 victory over eighth-ranked Georgia, which couldn't take advantage of the home-field edge Monday night in the first Sugar Bowl ever played outside of New Orleans.

West Virginia (11-1) stunned all those red-clad fans at the Georgia Dome by jumping to a 28-0 lead by the opening minute of the second quarter. The Bulldogs (10-3) rallied, twice closing within a field goal in the second half, but they couldn't finish one of the greatest comebacks in bowl history.

Give most of the credit to Stator, who wasn't even the Mountaineers' best freshman runner in fall camp and didn't crack the starting lineup until the sixth game of the season. Georgia certainly had no answer for the speedy back, who couldn't finish one of the greatest defenses such as All-American safety Greg Blue in the dust

on a pair of 52-yard touchdown runs.

Slaton eclipsed the previous Sugar Bowl rushing record, a 202-yard performance by Pitt's Tony Dorsett in a national championship-clinching victory over Georgia in 1977.

Capital One Bowl

No. 21 Wisconsin 24, No. 7 Auburn 10

ORLANDO, Fla. — Brian Calhoun rushed for 213 yards and No. 21 Wisconsin upset No. 7 Auburn 24-10 in the Capital One Bowl on Monday, giving coach Barry Alvarez a win in his final game.

Calhoun, a junior considering a leap to the NFL, carried 30 times and scored on a 33-yard run in the fourth quarter. John Stocco threw for 301 yards and two touchdowns for the Badgers (10-3).

The Tigers (9-3) were held scoreless in the first half for the first time this season and finished with only 236 yards. Wisconsin gained 548.

It was a fitting farewell for Alvarez, who led Wisconsin to eight bowl wins in 16 seasons and now will focus on his duties as athletic director.

Gator Bowl

No. 12 Virginia Tech 35, No. 15 Louisville 24

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Marcus Vick threw two touchdowns passes and James Anderson returned an interception 39 yards for a score to help lead Virginia Tech.

The Hokies (11-2) scored on three consecutive possessions in the second half, culminating in a 17-10 deficit to take a 28-24 lead. Anderson intercepted Hunter Cantwell's pass and returned it 39 yards for a touchdown with 5:04 left to seal the victory.

The loss snapped a five-game winning streak for Louisville (9-3). Cantwell, a freshman walk-on making his second start in place of Brian Brolom, threw three interceptions and lost a fumble.

Cotton Bowl

No. 13 Alabama 13, No. 18 Texas Tech 10

DALLAS — Jamie Christensen kicked a career-best 45-yard field goal as time expired to lift Alabama to the victory over Texas Tech (7-5).

Christensen, who missed a

39-yarder and had a 36-yard attempt blocked, barely got the low, spinning line drive through the uprights. It was the first time in the 70-year history of the Cotton Bowl that the game was decided by a last-second field goal.

Brodie Croyle threw a 76-yard touchdown pass on his first attempt for Alabama (10-2). He was 19-of-31 for 275 yards.

Coy Hodges tossed a 12-yard pass over the top for the tying score with 2:56 left. Texas Tech (9-3) came in with the nation's top passing game at 403.6 per game, but was held to a season-low 225 yards.

Outback Bowl

No. 16 Florida 31, No. 25 Iowa 24

TAMPA, Fla. — Chris Leak threw two touchdown passes to Dallas Baker and Florida held on for the win.

Leak threw for 277 yards and Baker finished with 10 catches for 147 yards for the Gators (9-3), who led 24-7 at halftime. Vernell Brown returned an interception 60 yards for a touchdown, and Termaine McCollum also ran back a blocked punt for a score.

Drew Tate threw for 346 yards and three touchdowns for Iowa (7-5).

More than just the Geezer Bowl

MIAMI (AP) — Bobby Bowden and Joe Paterno may be tried for weeks to turn the attention away from themselves.

The Orange Bowl is about the kids, they insist, one traditional powerhouse trying to put an exclamation point on its comeback and another trying to dig its way out of malaise. No one cares about a couple of 70-year-olds, even if they are the winningest coaches in major college history.

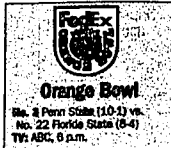
UH-huh. No matter how hard Bowden and Paterno try to spin it, Tuesday night's meeting between No. 22 Florida State (10-1) and No. 22 Florida State (8-4) is all about those old guys on the sidelines.

"For somebody to say it's not a big deal, I think they'd be lying," Florida State running back Lorenzo Booker said. "This is like a once-in-a-lifetime deal, and it's not going to happen every other century. We won't be alive, because you have to coach a long time to do what these guys have done."

"It's something you can't tell your kids," Booker added. "That you actually played for the guy that won the most and played against the guy that was second on the list."

Bowden and Paterno are models of both longevity and success in a profession that thrives on turmoil. Bowden holds the major college record with 359 wins, and Paterno is right behind him at 353. Both are in their 70s — Paterno celebrated his 79th birthday two weeks ago and Bowden turned 76 in November — and both have been head coaches for 40 years. Paterno has spent his entire career at Penn State, while Bowden in his 30th year at Florida State.

For decades, Paterno and Bowden's programs were among the best in college football. Bowden's team finished in the top five every year from 1967 to 2000, and he won two national titles during that run. Paterno's 1982 and 1986 teams



Orange Bowl
No. 22 Penn State (10-1) vs. No. 22 Florida State (8-4)
TV: ABC, 8 p.m.

were national champions, and four other squads were unbeaten. He had one losing season in his first 34 years of coaching.

But both teams have struggled lately, and winning this game would bring a measure of redemption for each.

"The thing about great teams is if you don't finish the story, it ain't going to be a story that's going to be remembered," cornerback and tri-captain Alan Zemanis said. "We go out with a loss, it's going to feel like everything we did in our season, we did it for nothing. We brought a lot of stuff back. But for our seniors, for the young guys, we've got to go out with a win."

Through the Seminoles finished with four losses, they stunned then-No. 5 Virginia Tech in the ACC Championship to earn a tie to the Orange Bowl. Beating Penn State would make it two victories in a row over top-five teams, and three this season.

"People won't remember the little title losing streak that we had. But they will remember that the game we had against Virginia Tech was a fluke," receiver Willie Reid said. "I think it would put an exclamation point on the whole season, and be a good way to start the new one."

And, like it or not, it will give one of the old guys bragging rights.

"These are the two best football coaches ever. This could be their last meeting," Reid said. "If it is, we want to send coach Bowden out on a winning note against coach Paterno."

Pilots punish Marsing

The Times-News

GLENN'S FERRY — The Glenns Ferry Pilots basketball team exploded for 31 first-quarter points en route to a decisive 74-58 victory over visiting Marsing on Monday night.

"We had that big first quarter, and that really puts you at ease," Glenns Ferry coach Steve Gilman said. "The Pilots head coach changed it up in the second half and we caught them off guard. They switched to a diamond-and-two against us and scared us in the third quarter."

Cody Darrington scored a game-high 22 points in 20 minutes, hitting on 20 of those points in the first half.

"They held him to two in the

second half — or he held himself to two," Blitterman said. "He only shot three times in the second half, so they managed him up pretty well."

The Pilots finished with four players in double figures, as Chase Blitterman finished with 16, Tanner Shrum scored 15, and Andy Crane dropped in 11 to complement Darrington's big night.

Glenns Ferry heads to Melba Friday before hosting Filer on Saturday.

Glenns Ferry 74, Marsing 58
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SCORES AND STATS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

WHAT'S ON T.V.

- Football: Orange Bowl, Penn St. vs. Virginia Tech, at Miami, ABC, 6 p.m.
Basketball: Oklahoma St. at Pepperdine, ESPN, 6:30 p.m.
Hockey: Wild at Red Wings, OLN, 6:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams like New Jersey, Philadelphia, and their game results.

Baseball

Table listing baseball game results for teams like Boston, Cleveland, and Houston.

Baseball

Table listing baseball game results for teams like Houston, Cleveland, and Boston.

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Area skt report

Area skt report: Skating events including the U.S. Figure Skating Championships and the World Figure Skating Championships.

Wrestling

Wrestling: Results from the 2006 World Wrestling Championships.

Wrestling

Wrestling: Results from the 2006 World Wrestling Championships.

Wrestling

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2006 NFL Draft

Table listing NFL draft picks by round, including names of players and their college affiliations.

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Table listing NFL draft picks by round, including names of players and their college affiliations.

Hinga makes a statement during return

Hinga makes a statement during return to Australia. He expressed his excitement to be back in his home country.

Raiders win coin flip for sixth pick in NFL draft

The Oakland Raiders won the coin flip for the sixth pick in the NFL draft. They selected Mike Sherman.

Hinga is playing on the tour again for the first time in three years

Hinga is playing on the tour again for the first time in three years. He is enjoying the experience.

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stastics skill and athleticism, the study said.

Raiders win coin flip for sixth pick in NFL draft

The Oakland Raiders won the coin flip for the sixth pick in the NFL draft. They selected Mike Sherman.

Hinga is playing on the tour again for the first time in three years

Hinga is playing on the tour again for the first time in three years. He is enjoying the experience.

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Advertisement for Middlekauff Honda featuring the '06 Honda CRV 4x4 LX and '06 F-250 Crew Cab Lariat 4x4. Includes prices and contact information.

su do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocorn

1		3	7		
	6	5	8	3	
4	8		6	2	5
	7	3			6
5	8	1	5		4
3	1	9		5	7
	2	4	7	1	
9		8			2

V. EASY # 29

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-8.

250 Employment

MEDICAL DIRECT CARE
Direct Care Staff needed working with developmentally disabled people. Fun work environment & high staff to resident ratio. All shifts avail. Apply in person 1110 N Lincoln, Jerome.

MISCELLANEOUS
Immediate opening for Production and Manufacturing. Excellent benefit package. Drug Free Workplace. Mail resume to The Gettel Company PO Box 97 Twin Falls, ID 83303 (mailto:info@gettel.com)

PLUMBERS
Plumbers and Fire Sprinkler Fitters. Growing co. in Sun Valley area is looking for journeymen or 3rd yr. apprentices. Call 208-725-8280.

RECEPTIONIST
Front desk position available at busy chiropractic office. We are looking for a high energy, confident individual with strong interests in working with people. Please bring resume to 1738 Addison Ave. Mon-Thurs.

260 Employment

PLUMBER
Service Plumber needed. Call 208-328-4128

PROFESSIONAL
FT & PT Behavior Specialist needed. Four year degree req. Flex hours, compeli. live 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 208-725-1006

RETAIL
Convenience Store Attendant Part Time Available for any shift. Competitive salary Apply at Stinker Corner Market 600 E. Main Jerome

TECHNICAL
Heavy Truck/trailer tire Technician/walk around maintenance needed. Wages 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 2518 Doe Taylor Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho or fax resume to 208-726-5320.

SALES
South Idaho Press has an opening for a Classified Sales Representative. Full-time, base plus pkg. commision, Mon-Fri, 8am-5pm. Job Requirements: *H.S. 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 while managing multiple deadlines. People skills important. *Ability to work with a variety of customers. *A valid insured vehicle, a valid drivers license and current MVR are required. You must be able to work flexible hours and Saturdays. You must be able to pass a background check, drug test and drug test. Apply in person or send resume to Cable ONE 261 Eastland Drive Twin Falls, ID EOE

200 Employment

RESTAURANT
Now hiring for all positions. Waitstaff, Cooks, Baristas and Dishwashers. Pick up applications at 413 Main in Gooding.

RETAIL
Convenience Store Attendant Part Time Available for any shift. Competitive salary Apply at Stinker Corner Market 600 E. Main Jerome

TECHNICAL
Heavy Truck/trailer tire Technician/walk around maintenance needed. Wages 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 2518 Doe Taylor Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho or fax resume to 208-726-5320.

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200 Employment

SALES
Magi Call is looking for a aggressive, outgoing person for inside sales. 20+ hours a week but may work full time into for the night person. Pay DOE. Bring Resume to Magi Call 645 Blue Lakes Blvd.

RETAIL
Convenience Store Attendant Part Time Available for any shift. Competitive salary Apply at Stinker Corner Market 600 E. Main Jerome

TECHNICAL
Heavy Truck/trailer tire Technician/walk around maintenance needed. Wages 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 2518 Doe Taylor Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho or fax resume to 208-726-5320.

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Business Opportunities

WFM Falls Unique up scale gift shop in Historic District Business only 734-1004.

401 School Instruction
Massage Technician Training 108 hours, begins 2/20/06 Runs 12 weeks on Fri 7-10pm & Sat. 10-5:30pm. Massage Therapy Training, Nutrition starts on 2/7 & Deep Tissue II 2/9. Twin Falls Institute of Holistic Studies. 208-328-4870

CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the fine print! Call The Times-News to place your Ad. 208-733-0931

CLASSIFIEDS
It pays to read the fine print. Call Times-News to place your ad at 208-733-0931.

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 scams, write to: Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580 or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD
TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

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 a completed application (resume optional) to: South Idaho Press, 230 E. Main, Burley, ID 83318. Attn: Jiri Buslick, Circulation Manager

200 Employment

FEED MILL OPERATOR FT. Must have OJD Class B. Good salary, medical benefits. Please call 208-200-0570

MANAGER
Automotive Sales Manager Seeking professional automotive sales manager. *Experience required *Must be able to effectively coach, train and motivate a sales team. *Great working environment. *Excellent benefits. Send resume to: Mr. Ken Lynch, General Sales Manager, Con Paulco Inc., P.O. Box 483, Jerome, ID 83338. Drug free workplace. EOE

200 Employment

FURNITURE MAKER
Custom furniture shop looking for Furniture Makers & Finishers. Call 208-423-5505

LABORER
General Laborer, P/T/F available for Twin Falls, Jerome, etc. No experience necessary. Call 733-9277

MECHANIC
Full-time Diesel (Methane) to start ASAP. Pay is excellent. Please call 731-3366 for more information.

MECHANIC
Heavy Equipment Diesel Mechanic Heavy DDE. Please fax resume to 208-725-8284 or mail to P.O. Box 2578 Twin Falls, ID 83303. Needed immediately!

200 Employment

TWIN FALLS Care Center
Our census has increased now hiring for CNAs (evenings & nights) LPNs, RNs, PRN RNs Full/Part-time

Looking for dependable people with great attitudes. We offer medical/dental vision 401k and paid vacation. Pick up applications at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr.

200 Employment

Cable TV & Internet Sales
Cable ONE is the preferred television & high speed internet provider of the Magic Valley. We need ambitious, enthusiastic individuals with strong interpersonal skills (bilingual preferred) who want an exciting career opportunity in cable TV & high-speed internet sales. A valid insured vehicle, a valid drivers license and current MVR are required. You must be able to work flexible hours and Saturdays. You must be able to pass a background check, drug test and drug test. Apply in person or send resume to Cable ONE 261 Eastland Drive Twin Falls, ID EOE

200 Employment

MEDICAL
Assistant part time 20 hrs/week. Pick up applications at 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho. -Contact Patty Hatchison 734-0294

MANAGEMENT

Seastrom
Rare Opportunity for the New Year
Seastrom is looking for a Production Supervisor. Requires leadership exp., ability to problem-solve, prioritize jobs, maintain a positive team atmosphere. Working knowledge of computers required. Must have above average communication skills, be detail oriented. Seastrom provides excellent benefits, competitive pay, training, paid time off. Send resume to: Seastrom Mfg., 456 Seastrom St. Twin Falls, ID 83301 Or apply online: www.seastrom-mfg.com Drug Free Workplace EOE

New Today

ClearTalk
Wireless made simple.
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

SALES

The Woodruff Journal
Seeking an assertive and dynamic Sales Representative for an expanding weekly newspaper based in Halley, Idaho. As part of Lee Enterprises, we offer competitive wages, benefits & opportunity in this growing, challenging market. To apply, bring by our office at 607 S. Main St., Halley for an application or email resume to: Trey Spaulding @Lee.net

Seastrom

Great Opportunity for the New Year
Inside Sales / Account Manager
This position will have the responsibility of internally coordinating the sales & customer service activities for an existing & prospective customer database. Ideal candidates will demonstrate excellent communication skills, exhibit a professional temperament, & possess a proven track record in telephone sales. Seastrom has recently implemented a competitive wage increase. Full benefits package & generous paid time off is also included. Send application to: 456 Seastrom St. Twin Falls, Idaho or online at www.seastrom-mfg.com. NO PHONE CALLS. Drug Free Workplace, EOE.

The Times-News & South Idaho Press

Currently taking applications for the Mini-Cassia area. (See ad #111) Adult and Junior routes.

MOTOR ROUTES
7 Day Delivery
Kasota area, Hazelton, and Edon

WALKING ROUTES
RT. 28: Burley South Idaho Press Burton Ave. to Overland Ave. & West 18th St. to West 21st Dr.
RT. 210: Burley South Idaho Press Overland Ave. to Hansen Ave. & East 18th St. to East 23rd Dr.
RT. 220: Burley South Idaho Press Hansen Ave. to Hilland Ave. & East 18th St. to East 22nd St.
RT. 223: Burley South Idaho Press Hansen Ave. to Almo Ave. & East 24th St. to East 27th St.
RT. 427: Rupert Times-News A St. to Sharon Heights Subdivision & 12th St. to 18th St.
RT. 428: Rupert Times-News D St. to H & 16th St. to 20th St.
Also carriers wanted in Paul and Heyburn areas. If you are interested in being a newspaper carrier or substitute for the South Idaho Press & The Times-News contact: Amy at 677-6761 230 East Main, Burley District Service Manager

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 | • 300-500 Bracken St. N.
• 100-600 Filer Ave. W. | • 400-500 Durrell Courts
• 100-200 Maurice St. N. | • 100B-1100 Parkway Dr.
• 1000-1200 Parkmeadows Dr. |
| TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS |
| • 1200-1500 Evergreen Dr.
• 1200-1400 Holly Dr.
• Higher Profit!
• Sign on Bonus! | • 1300-1800 Biltmore Dr.
• 1300-1800 Targhee Dr.
• Sign on Bonus! | • 500-700 Rose St.
• Paradise Place Apts. | • 100-500 Tyier Street
• 100-500 Van Buren
• 100-500 Harrison |
| TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS |
| • 400-600 Falls Ave. W.
• 400-900 Rosewood Dr. | • 300-999 Main St.
• 100-200 Brook Dr. | • 500-800 Montana
• 200-800 Wyoming | • Motor Rt. 609 55 miles/hrs delivery time
• \$700-750 every 4 weeks |
| TWIN FALLS | BUHL | GOODING | GOODING |
| • Substitutes and Carriers wanted • Motor Route | • Substitutes and Carriers wanted • Motor Route | • 300-600 Adams St.
• 300-500 Ash St. S. | • 100-500 6th St.
• 500-900 Yakima St. |
| CAREY | BELLEVUE | KIMBERLY | FILER |
| • New Park Area, Subdiv.
• South Park Area | • 700-900 Wendell St.
• 500-900 Falls Ave. | • 350-500 Buckingham
• 250-400 Kottlingham Dr. | • 700-900 Academic Dr.
• 700-900 Monroe St. |
| TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS |
| • 500-650 Oak St. N.
• 140-950 Polk St. W. | • 500-1000 Eastland Dr. N.
• 500-800 Rimview Dr. | • 1100-1300 Brundage Cir.
• 1700-1900 Pomerelle Dr. | • 400-900 7th Ave. N.
• 400-900 8th Ave. N. |
| KIMBERLY | TWIN FALLS | TWIN FALLS | BUHL |

Call now for more information about routes available in your area!
Jerome, Halley, Shoshone, Gooding & Wendell: Kathy Harman 735-3348
Twin Falls West: Filer, Buhl, Castleford: Amy Packham 735-3347
Twin Falls East & Kimberly: Bryna Guire 735-3346
Burley & Hazelton: Amy Miller 677-6761

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"I know all about that game from soup to nuts."

Eugene O'Neill

From Julian Pottinger's "Win the Big Match" (available from www.sterlingpub.com) comes another challenging problem.

As West, defending against four spades doubled, you lead the club king and see a rather more suitable dummy than you had hoped for.

Your partner follows with the club two, which looks like a suit-preference signal for diamonds, as you both know that no more clubs are cashing. How should you continue?

East has bid diamonds and appears to be showing strength in the suit. It may therefore seem natural to try a diamond next, which can hardly cost a trick. Does this make a diamond switch correct?

Yes and no. It will often succeed, but unfortunately, defending passively will not work if South turns up with four clubs. If your partner's ace will take care of his two rads, and declarer will happily crossruff hearts and clubs, losing just two trump tricks at the end.

Might playing ace and another trump sometimes gain? You will trump two times in dummy, so indeed the investment may come back with interest. This strategy certainly works well as the cards lie. Declarer makes six trump tricks and two aces, but only one ruff.

Does any danger attach to this assault on trumps? Almost certainly not, since you can virtually guarantee two club tricks for your side plus two black aces, unless your partner has real club length — in which case he would surely have supported you at some point in the auction.

NORTH 10 9 4 A 6 5 4 A 7 3 2

WEST AQ AK Q 7 3 9 8 AK J 9 4

EAST 5 10 9 8 2 5 K Q J 6 5 10 7 2

SOUTH K J 8 7 6 3 2 J 10 4 Q 8 6 3

Vulnerable: East-West Dealer: West

The bidding: South West North East 1 1 1 1 3 NT 3 NT 4 4 Pass Dbl. All pass

Opening lead: Club king

BID WITH THE ACES

South holds: 5 10 9 8 2 5 K Q J 6 5 10 7 2

South West North East 1 1 1 1 3 NT 3 NT 4 4 Pass

ANSWER: There are two reasons to respond two hearts here. The first is that hearts is your most likely game if partner has a good hand.

The second is that if the opponents bid two spades, you want to be able to compete to three diamonds to get both your suits in economically. Bidding the suits in this order might even suggest that your diamonds are at least as good as your hearts — or you would not have bothered to bid them at all.

If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbywolff@midstatepub.com

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Farm/Ranch Supplies

GRAIN BINS (6) As-built... walk and augers. Must be moved by crane... 208-875-0789.

Hay Grain & Feed

BARLEY STRAW, oak foot bale, 1,000 tons... call 208-793-3530.

DAIRY HA

HAY 200 tons, small bale, yellow, \$50 per ton... call 208-368-2428.

QUALY 3 cuttings, good quality, close to Twin, all dry amount. Call 208-733-2520.

HAY 3', bright green, locally barn stored, 13 lb bale, 500 per ton... call 208-441-7148.

HAY 50 tons, 1' crop, 1 lb bale, 500 per ton... call 208-441-7148.

HAY alfalfa, grass, mixed, 2' stiling, soft small amounts, 2' x 2' Corolla available... call 208-308-0482.

HAY and Straw for horse and calf feed... call 316-244-0666.

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T.S.G. Hay Retriever Co. 208-280-0839.

AD Business And Service Directory

HORSE SHOEING

Coed Wetzelske, 208-432-8884 or 208-308-7590.

Antiques And Collectibles

COOKIE JARS, many varieties, call & pepper... call 208-308-3870.

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Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want to let go of... call 208-734-3471.

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REFRIGERATOR Kenmore... call 735-6547 or 731-0835.

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WASHER/DRYER set Kenmore... call 735-6547 or 731-0835.

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WASHER/DRYER set Kenmore... call 735-6547 or 731-0835.

Electronics

HOME THEATER 5 piece surround sound... call 404-24-2455.

TELEVISION 60" big screen Mitsubishi TV... call 208-734-6919.

Computers

SONY Vaio desktop computer, excellent condition... call 208-293-2660.

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COUCH with matching ottoman, Neutral colors... call 208-734-3471.

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SOFA w/matching love seat, including table... call 733-1818.

WATER BED, King size, in good cond... call 208-280-0929.

WATER BED, King size, in good cond... call 208-280-0929.

WANTED Old gas pump or gas tank... call 208-866-0274.

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WANTED Old VWV1 & VWV2 newspapers... call 208-734-3471.

WANTED To buy 2 young ducks or prefer 200... call 204-3074.

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SNOW PLOW if you have a snow plow... call 208-324-5858.

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PIANO 1904 Meister upright... call 208-735-8385.

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WANTED 2250 rifle... call 208-735-8385.

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Wanted To Buy

WANTED used conference room... call 208-431-2807.

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FOUND 22 rifle and 12 gauge shotgun... call 208-539-0800.

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Aviation

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SK-DOD '03 Summit... call 208-431-8158.

SK-DOD '03 Summit... call 208-431-8158.

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NEWMOBILE RENOVER... call 731-1008.

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UTILITY TRAILER new, 7'x12', all steel... call 208-324-5457.

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FORD '99 Bronco pickup... call 208-431-6967.

Semis And Heavy Equipment

KW 7233 W9, 4000lb... call 208-734-3471.

Campers And Shells

RESIDENCY '98 35' wheel, 51K miles... call 208-731-2121.

Motor Homes/RVs

NEWMAR '98 Dutchman... call 208-731-2121.

Snow Vehicles

ARTIC CAT '02 Mountain Cat... call 208-431-8254.

POLARIS '93 lots of extras... call 208-734-3471.

POLARIS '98 RMK 700... call 208-734-3471.

SK-DOD '00 Summit... call 208-431-8158.

SK-DOD '03 Summit... call 208-431-8158.

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Pets And Poultry Supplies

BUILDING, 1/2 English, 1/2 Redwing... call 208-875-0789.

CHIHUAHUA AKC registered... call 208-423-4035.

DOBBERMAN puppies... call 208-423-4035.

FREE attention... call 208-423-4035.

FREE Blue Heeler... call 208-423-4035.

FREE Golden Lab... call 208-423-4035.

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Pets And Poultry Supplies

FREE Lab cross, housebroken... call 208-734-3471.

FREE Lab cross, 9 months old... call 208-734-3471.

FREE 1 year old male & Schnauzer... call 208-734-3471.

FREE Pit Bull puppies... call 208-734-3471.

FREE Pit Bull puppies... call 208-734-3471.

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FREE Pit Bull puppies... call 208-734-3471.

Pets And Poultry Supplies

LABRADOODLE puppies

COMMUNITY

The Times-News

Tuesday, January 3, 2006

Section D

RED HOT MAMAS

Red Hat Society expands with new chapter in Gooding

By Pat Marcantonio
Times-News Writer

GOODING — The Red Hats are springing up in the Magic Valley like spring flowers.

One of the newest groups of women known for their red chapeaus and having a good time is The Red Hat Mamas, started last October by Deborah Pauls in Gooding after she had gone to a Red Hat meeting in Jerome.

"They had such a good time and I thought, 'We need that in Gooding,'" she said.

She found that many women had retired from jobs and finished raising children and many had also gone through deaths in their families. In fact, lots of spouses. They needed such a group.

"This is a real opportunity for them to get out and see women," she said. "And it's a made a real difference."

The group of 30 meets once a month at different restaurants around the Gooding area, as well as Hagerman and Bliss. Member Joani Pauls says the group has gone rafting on the Snake River, designed a float for a parade and just talked, laughed and gossiped at lunches that stretch out to two hours or more.

"I can be really noisy and lots of fun," she said.

While the focus is on friendship and fun, there is some community work such as collecting food for a food bank. "Our group is up and doing," Deborah Pauls said.

The members have become more than just a part of an organization. "They become almost a family."

"You get to be very good friends," Deborah said. She had a good demonstration of that while recovering from surgery. A day has not gone by that someone hasn't called, visited or sent flowers.

Recently the Red Hat Mamas participated in a Christmas party in Twin Falls with nine other groups. There were



Members of the Red Hat Society are known for wearing red hats and purple clothing, among other things. Here they are shown at a recent local gathering.

About the Red Hat Society

While visiting a friend in Tucson, Ariz., several years ago, Sue Ellen Cooper impulsively bought a bright red fedora at a thrift shop. A year or two later, she read the poem, "Warning" by Jenny Joseph, which depicts an older woman in purple clothing with a red hat.

Cooper felt a kinship with Joseph and decided to give her, Linda Murphy, a birthday gift of a vintage red hat and a copy of the poem. Linda enjoyed the hat and poem so much that Cooper gave the same gift to another friend, then another.

It occurred to the women that they were becoming a sort of "Red Hat Society" and that they should go out to tea in their red hats and purple dresses to complete the poem's image.

Their group swelled to 18, and they encouraged other people to start their own chapters. The organization has indeed grown to include chapters across the country, conventions, its own Web site, magazine and even credit card.

"The Red Hat Society began as a result of a few women deciding to greet middle age with verve, humor and fun. We believe silliness is the comedy relief of life, and since we are all in it together, we might as well join red-gloved hands and go for the gusto together. Underneath the frivolity, we share a bond of affection, forged by common life experiences and a genuine enthusiasm for wherever life takes us next," Cooper said.

Source: RedHatsociety.com

games, prizes, entertainment, lunch and a gift exchange organized by the Red Hat Mamas. "We had 80 people and none

of us had the same hat on," Deborah said.

The Red Hat Mamas are the second Red Hat group in the Gooding area. The first was the 4 WA (What Wonderful Women with Attitude).

There is no cost to join the Red Hat Mamas, but it asks \$4 per year to go towards scrapbooks and cards for members and \$1 per meeting for cards.

The Red Hat organization has become so popular because it was "time for something to be done for women," Deborah said. "Some worked for a lot of years and raised their children and they forgot what it was to have fun, and we go and have fun."

While some chapters have closed memberships, The Red Hat Mamas welcomes new people.

"It gets better every month," Deborah said.

For more information or to join, call Deborah Pauls at 934-5003 or Joani Pauls at 934-8366.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

American Red Cross sponsors blood drive

BURLEY — The American Red Cross is sponsoring a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Monday and from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Jan. 10 at the National Guard Armory, 2000 E. Main St.

Those planning to donate blood will need their blood donor card or a picture identification.

For more information or to make an appointment, call Lori at 878-4140.

DAR meets for a potluck lunch Saturday

TWIN FALLS — The Daughters of the American Revolution will meet at noon Saturday for a potluck lunch and business meeting at Maurcen Williams' home.

Tom Bandolin, chief biologist for the Sawtooth National Forest, will present a program on "Wildlife Preservation: Hummingbirds."

Roll call topic is, "Why did you join the DAR?" Prospective members are welcome to attend.

For more information, call Betty Pastoor at 738-8415 or Diane Greene at 308-1810.

M.V. Duplicate Bridge announces winners

TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley Duplicate Bridge Club has announced its winners for Dec. 28:

First, Sam Smutny and Ruby Grimes; second, Doris Finney and Joyce Johnson; third, Madeline Sawaya and Mary Pfeiffer; fourth, Pauline Mulliner and Patricia Cooper; and fifth, Donald and Ruth Rahe.

Due to the holidays, only one game will be held. Games will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Wednesdays at the Moose Lodge, 835 Falls Ave. Games will also be held at 7 p.m. Thursdays and 1 p.m. Saturdays at 2679 Pole Line Road. E All bridge players are invited to attend.

Carleen's Fabrics announces classes

HEYBURN — Carleen's Fabrics & Crafts etc., 450 21st St., announces its classes for January:

Jan. 3: Tuesdays are finish a project day. Call the store for space availability. Refreshments will be served.

Jan. 5: Free rag quilt class. Fabric must be purchased at Carleen's. Call for an appointment.

Jan. 6: Piecemaker's block of the month from 6 to 8 p.m. The class is free and refreshments will be served.

Jan. 7: Victorian Christmas tree skirt from 2 to 5 p.m. The class is taught by Carleen and the cost is \$15.

Jan. 11: Free rag quilt class. Fabric must be purchased at Carleen's. Call for an appointment.

Jan. 17: Finish a project day. Call for space availability and refreshments will be served.

Jan. 18: Beginning piecing from 6 to 9 p.m. taught by Carleen. The cost is \$30 and includes a second class.

Jan. 19: Open project day for learn to knit a scarf. Call for space availability.

Jan. 20: Stitcher's Corner from 6 to 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Jan. 21: Easy machine quilting from 1 to 4 p.m. The cost of the class is \$20.

Jan. 28: New cotton table quilt from 1:30 to 4 p.m. taught by Carleen. The class is \$15 and kits will be available.

For more information, call 679-3573.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Local student receives his Eagle Award

Benjamin Taylor, son of Mike and Leslie Taylor of Kimberly, received his Eagle Scout Award on Oct. 5.

The 15-year-old has completed 29 merit badges and qualified for a rank in the Palm. He is in Troop 89, under the lead of Les Nelson.

Benjamin Taylor is sponsored by The Hansen Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For his project, he constructed nesting boxes for blue birds and kestrel hawks to be used by the Idaho Fish and Game Department in its mosquito abatement program. The project required 88 hours and he was assisted by troop members and leaders.

Benjamin is a sophomore at Kimberly High School. He is on the cross-country team, participates in the high school rodeo team and Ski Club and plays saxophone and piano.

Filer student attends national leadership forum

Nathan McGregor attended the National Youth Leadership Forum on Law in Washington, D.C. in November.

He participated in a mock trial and a supreme court simulation and explored monuments, the Smithsonian Museum and more.

McGregor was chosen for forum based on his achievements, which include placing first in the regional speech competition and in economic event at the Regional Business Professionals of America Conference.

receiving the 2003-2004 Highest U.S. History

Student Award and the Highest District Writing Assessment Score Award; the 2002-2003 Highest English Student Award, Highest Science Student Award, the Most Industrious Student of the Year Award and more.

Burley resident receives Eagle Scout Award

Sam Harris, son of Tim and Peggy Harris of Burley, received his Eagle Scout Award at a Court of Honor on Nov. 6.

He completed 26 merit badges in Troop 14, under the lead of Clay Handy and Nolan Peterson and sponsored by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

For his Eagle project, he made wooden benches with concrete pads and placed them in the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley. Seven others helped and the project took 38 hours to complete.

Sam is a 15-year-old ninth-grader at Burley Junior High School. He plays the piano and is active in football, basketball and baseball.

Local TOPS member reaches goal

Talking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS) member Linda Heyhurst of Twin Falls has reached her weight goal and attained the status of Keep Off Pounds Sensibly (KOPS).

Heyhurst said that in the past she had gained weight and was determined to gain weight year after year. She would take off a few pounds, join and then quit the non-profit TOPS groups, and

regain what she had lost and more. Due to health problems she decided she had to lose the weight once and for all. Since 1998, when she had reached her top weight, she has lost 107 pounds.

Heyhurst credits her success to her renewed dedication to taking care of herself, her faith and encouragement from her husband, TOPS members and friends. She now wants to help others deal with weight and health problems, the organization reports.

The group's other Keep Off Pounds Sensibly members are Margaret Boyver, Edna Kulken Frank, Stella Pennington and Jan Bylund.

TOPS meets for a weigh-in at 11:30 a.m., followed by a meeting at 12:30 p.m. Mondays at St. Edward's Parish Hall, 152 Seventh Ave. E.

To join the group, call Hayhurst at 736-7237.

Burley resident attends civic education program

Mallory Hughes of Burley will attend the Presidential Classrooms Media and Democracy Program from Feb. 11 to 18, 2006, in Washington, D.C.

The program's mission is to provide civic education programs for outstanding high school students; expand their knowledge of politics, government and roles and responsibilities of institutions and organizations involved in policy-making; and provide insights into the complexities of the policy-making process and interaction between government entities and organizations around the world.

Interactive sessions will include policy-makers, diplomats, scientists, military leaders, journalists, public officials and others.

Students work with their peers on a group project throughout the week, one of which is selected for publication in Newsweek. Students can also earn college credit

through the University of Virginia for their week at Presidential Classroom.

For more information about Presidential Classroom, visit www.presidentialclassroom.org.

Locals attend National 4-H Congress in Atlanta

Several Idaho 4-H members attended the National 4-H Congress held in November in Atlanta, Ga.

Local delegates included Brian Gillespie of Rupert, son of Kent and Donna Gillespie, who represented Idaho's 4-H beef program. The eight-year 4-H member is a junior at Minico High School.

Jenna Meeks of Twin Falls, daughter of Sharon and Jim Meeks, represented Idaho's 4-H horse program. She is a senior at Twin Falls High School.

Delegates this year raised funds to build a Habitat for Humanity home and participated in service learning projects to help the community.

Speakers at the 4-H Congress included Miss America 2005 Deirdre Downs and motivational experts Eric Chester and Dan Thurmond. Delegates also toured Atlanta-area sites including the Centennial Olympic Park, Carter Presidential Library, Martin Luther King Center, CNN Center and World of Coca-Cola.

We want your news

Please send your news and photos to:

Community Editor
Pat Marcantonio
The Times-News
P.O. Box 940
Twin Falls, Idaho
83436
733-0931 Ext. 288

or 802-Cash contact:

Theresa Rogan
232 E. Main
Twin Falls, Idaho 83438
677-8730.

Deadlines

For the Sunday page: noon Tuesday

For the Thursday page: noon Wednesday

For the Friday page: noon Friday

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COMICS

B.C. By Johnny Hart

1. "HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING!"

2. "HERE'S SOMETHING INTERESTING!"

3. "A TICKET FOR PASSAGE ON A LARGE VESSEL ASSURED IN QUITS."

4. "THAT'S STRANGE, WHAT'S THAT TAB ON THE BOTTOM?"

5. "...LOOKS LIKE A 'RAIN DATE'."

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

1. "IT WAS A PRETTY GOOD DREAM WE DROVE EVERYTHING BUT THE PINATA."

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

1. "WEL, THE WORLDS OLDEST PERSON DIED AT THE AGE OF 110."

2. "I HOPE I'M NEVER THE WORLDS OLDEST PERSON."

3. "WHY NOT?"

4. "BECAUSE EVERY TIME YOU HEAR ABOUT THEM, THEY'RE ALWAYS DYING."

Davey By Guy & Rod

1. "SAY 'WHEN' OR JUST THINK IT REALLY HARD... I'M ALSO KIND OF A PSYCHIC."

Dilbert By Scott Adams

1. "UH-OH WHY AM I STILL HERE? WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?"

2. "I VIOLATED THE THIRD WALL AND NOW I CAN'T GET OUTI."

3. "DOGBERT! IS THAT REALLY YOU???"

4. "NO, I'M TOTU. WE MUST FOLLOW THE YELLOW STICKY-NOTE ROAD."

Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau

1. "TEMPERATURE: 71° DATE: UNOFFICIAL UNOFFICIAL BOARD!"

2. "PRACTICALLY - IT'S AN OPEN SCHOOL. TRIM THE TREE LAST TRY! THERE'S NO TOY ON THE TRUNK!"

3. "THE WEB SITE IS REALLY GREAT. YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF GOOD STUFF ON IT."

4. "GOOD STUFF? DON'T!"

5. "WELL, THAT'S NOT IN MY CLASS!"

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troske

1. "Ludmilla! I'm totally confused about this new Medicare program!"

2. "I just can't figure out which prescription-drug benefit program to sign up for."

3. "Elder-park staff is all your service, komrade elder."

4. "Have you looked for me at medicare.gov?"

5. "What's that?"

6. "That is Medicare website on the Internet!"

7. "What's the inner net?"

8. "This is Ludmilla. I need emergency tech backup in the library 'til the 'net goes'."

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

1. "WELL, THAT'S FINALLY OUT OF ME! HOW WAS NEW YEARS EVE, LIZ?"

2. "GOOD. GOOD COFFEE."

3. "YES, SIR. I REMEMBER COMING HOME AT CHRISTMAS, GETTING TOGETHER WITH ALL MY OLD BUDDIES AND REALLY ENJOYING ONE ONN!"

4. "WELL, THAT'S ALL RIGHT - LAUGHING, DANCING, WHATEVER GREAT TIMES THOSE WERE!"

5. "I KNOW BETTER NOW."

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

1. "POST OFFICE SPECIAL DELIVERY U.S. MAIL"

2. "NO, YOU'RE NOT! THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS 'THE ALPHA MAIL!'"

Luann By Greg Evans

1. "SHERRIEF! DID I DO THAT HERE?"

2. "BECAUSE WE LOVE HER AND SHE LOVES US."

3. "LOOK HOW MUCH HEALTHIER SHE IS SINCE I FEED HER IN THE DUNN! SHE'S SO HAPPY HERE!"

4. "I'M TERRIBLE! I'M A HORNY BOBBY!"

5. "WHY?"

6. "WE'RE ALL HAPPY, DADDY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAMILY. I'M MEAD OF YOURSELF."

7. "I'M DOT FOR DOT!"

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

1. "SEEING 'BRACKBACK MOUNTAIN' MADE ME REALIZE THAT ALL THESE YEARS I'VE BEEN LIVING A LIE..."

2. "DECEIVING MY WIFE, MY FRIENDS, EVEN MYSELF."

3. "ALL THIS TIME... I'VE BEEN A CLOSET... HONTHOUSE!"

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

1. "Dear Confession Rice, I'm a big fan of the 'Cute Bears'... Please don't stop! My favorite bear is 'Harmony Bear.' I suggest you send him to the Middle East to solve the Arab/Israeli problem."

2. "DUDE, WHY DO YOU WRITE THESE MORNING LETTERS? DO YOU REALLY THINK GODDAMNED 'HARMONY BEARS' CAN SEND A 'YARD BEAR' TO BUREKHAN AND HELP MAGICALLY SOLVE THE WORLD'S MOST UNTRACTABLE DRAMATIC CRISIS?..."

3. "YAY!!"

Pickles By Brian Crane

1. "MY NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION IS TO TRY TO BE AS MAD AS MY DOG."

2. "DOGS FIND JOY IN SUCH SIMPLE THINGS."

3. "AS LONG AS HE CAN FIND A SUNNY SPOT ON THE FLOOR AND LIE THERE FOR A FEW HOURS, HE'S HAPPY."

4. "UNFORTUNATELY, THE CAT USUALLY FINDS IT FIRST."

Rose is Rose By Pat Brady

1. "I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SEND A NOTICE HOME TO YOUR PARENTS!"

2. "NO PLAYING IN THE SNOW UNTIL THE LAST BELL RINGS!"

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

1. "HOW WAS SCHOOL, JEREMY?"

2. "IT WAS FUN! IT WAS EXCITING! IT WAS BETTER THAN CAMP!"

3. "COULD I GET JUST ONE GARDEN-HOSE REPRISANCE FROM YOU???"

4. "SORRY, IT COMES WITH HIS PACKAGE. NO LA CHUTE."

Non Sequitur By Wiley

1. "MY FAVORITE TIME OF THE DAY NOW IS RUSH HOUR."

2. "WELCOME TO RETIREMENT VILLAGE HOME OF THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SPICED BAMB!"

Strange Brew By John Deering

1. "NEW MAKE DOES IT! TRICK REMEDIATION PUTS TO BREAK DOWN!"

Leo, watch for contrasts

IF JAN. 3 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY, in the coming year you will win the most appreciation by being friendly and innovative. You will gain confidence in your ability to adeptly find out what you need to know and use it to your advantage. April is your month to be blessed by the answer to many of your prayers when restrictions lift and favors are easily granted. Keep a low profile during July — postpone vacations or significant purchases. Your popularity is at a high point in October when new friends can be brought into your life and significant changes are possible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Sit up straight. Where others are concerned you may have to prove your worth or toe the line. This means put your best foot forward and remain formal in business settings.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Act like a professional. Diplomatic handling of intricate matters or minor surprises can get you somewhere. Earn the respect of those in high places by being methodical and precise.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The business playing field can undergo dramatic changes. Stodgy conditions can be replaced by an anything-goes atmosphere. Keep your finger on the pulse of your reputation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): The more things change, the more they stay the same — or others can quickly lose interest in something fresh and innovative.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Watch for contrasts. Moods can shift suddenly and attention spans can vary. Excitement can be found in dull routine — or others can quickly lose interest in something fresh and innovative.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Count your pennies. Purchases made now may reflect a taste for the unusual or an uncontrollable impulse to buy a one-of-a-kind item. What you buy might not hold up to scrutiny.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Healthy self-interest can keep you on the bleeding edge of success. Don't feel guilty. When you receive a gracious offer it is perfectly acceptable to consider your own best interests.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Adding a touch of warmth and respectfulness to your image will keep the dogs of criticism at bay. It may be important to be consistently dependable when the all cards are dealt.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Put social interchanges on the back burner and concentrate on implementing little economies. A minor change in your spending habits may be just what the doctor ordered.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): It is acceptable to babble to the orthodox and sometimes wise to be a bit cynical. However, if you are going to keep relationships from slipping err on the side of generosity.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Pay your own way. Someone might decide to go Dutch, rather than picking up the tab. Apply energies to work and in the inbox rather than crowing about what already went out.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Some things are vague and can't be perceived accurately in black and white terms. It is only when the basic rules become second nature that you can risk experimenting in the gray areas.

HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

Resisting peer pressure saves teens from 'games' that kill



DEAR ABBY
Jeannie Phillips

up and nearly fainted, but no one bothered to call an ambulance or take her to the hospital. Talking with people, I'm hearing that this game is not uncommon. I'm still shaken about how close I came to losing my daughter. Please, Abby, warn kids that these games are life-threatening, that burying a child or caring for one who is brain-damaged for life is a big deal. You are not alone. I'm sure you can help.

—STANNEE WILSON, ESCONDIDO, CALIF.

DEAR MOTHER: I'm spreading the word in the hope that it will cause some of the risk-takers to wake up and realize that no one is invincible. However, strongly as I might stress that message, the following letter that arrived in the same batch as yours may be even more compelling. My advice to you is to do whatever you must to get your daughter away from the immature and irresponsible crowd she's hanging around with. Read on.

car while "body-surfing" on the roof of the vehicle. The police think the teenager had been playing on the roof of the car when he fell and struck his head on the pavement and a guard rail. The driver told police that his friend had seen "car-surfing" on an MTV show called "Jackass."

What a senseless waste of a life! That boy had his whole life ahead of him. People should be educated in the tragedies of what we're perhaps a fraction of such as this one could have been averted.

—STEVE IN COCKEWEAVE

DEAR STEVE: My deepest sympathy goes to that boy's family. I'm sure that when he decided to repeat a stunt he saw on television, he had no clue it would cause his own death and his family a lifetime of heart-break.

After reading your letter, I spoke with Roberto Pectel, Ph.D., vice chancellor for research at UCLA, who kindly explained that the law of physics you mentioned is the Law of Inertia. It means that unless you are secured to a moving object (i.e., a car), you will continue moving forward at the same speed the car was going if the driver slams on the brakes! That's why it's so important that passengers wear seat belts.

I only hope that any teen who sees this and is tempted to car-surf will think again.

DEAR ABBY: I turned 21 on the 11th of last month, and my friends wanted me to celebrate with "21 shots" of liquor. But after reading your columns about the 21 deadly birthday shots, I told them that was a tradition I wouldn't be trying.

Thank you for addressing this issue and printing the letters from my parents. I decided that the life is more important than impressing my friends. Your article was a sign from God to me. My thanks also to all the concerned parents who wrote to you.

—TARA IN CLINTON, MISS.

DEAR TARA: The column beyond words that the plessem helped you to make that wise decision. The many young adults cave in to peer pressure and put their lives at risk when a "shot" of common sense would prevent it. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The other night, my 19-year-old daughter, "Erin," told me about a "game" some teens are playing for liquor. She didn't seem to realize it could get her killed.

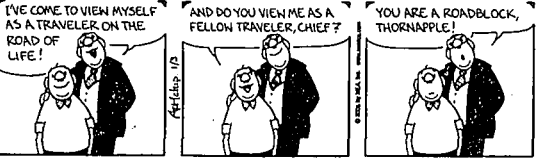
Abby, Erin jumped on the hood of a friend's truck and he took off as fast as he could. He was unaware that she didn't have her grip. When she slammed on the brakes, she went flying and landed on her back. She hit her head, scraped her back, backside and elbows, then hit her head again. She got



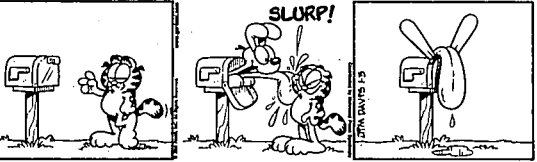
Blonde By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois By Chance Browne



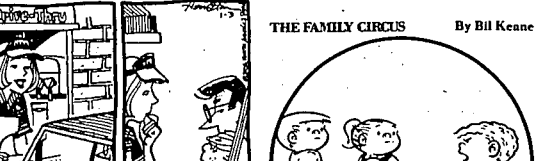
Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bill Keane



Tootsie Roll was a treat for soldiers



RINDOM KINDS OF FACTINESS
Jack Mingo
Erin Barrett

In 1947, was a rice cooker. It unfortunately tended to short out, occasionally starting fires and shocking users — part of its history the company likely wouldn't mind forgetting.

Men in early Medieval Europe didn't really wear ties, they wore leggings made of leather or linen. They also wore looper pants, called "bree," where our term "breeches" comes from.

Volius was the inspiration for Guido Lanfranc's method of checking for skull fractures in the 15th century. The good sur-

geon would have the patient bite down on catgut while he examined, a good, clear note indicated that the skull was intact.

A small design company in New York came up with the original MTV logo — a big M with "TV" spray-painted across it. The logo was a million-dollar image; unfortunately, the company got paid just \$1,000.

During its first decade, the Mir space station mission dropped more than 200 items into space, dramatically increasing the amount of space junk in orbit. Most were trash bags.

Just six species have moved out of the United States and animals; 243 animals are still on it.

Erin Barrett and Jack Mingo can be reached at factormir@mingo-barrett.com.

Centenarian attends Packers game



Leanne Margaret McKenney, 103, looks at a pair of Green Bay Packers tickets on Dec. 29 in her De Pere, Wis., apartment at Renaissance Assisted Living.

GREEN BAY, Wis. — At 103 years old, Leanne Margaret McKenney couldn't see or hear much over the crowd's roars at her first Packers game — but she had a lot to say about it.

"I will never forget this. It was a humdrum, the great-grandmother said after the Sunday game. "I don't know when I have enjoyed anything as much as I enjoyed this."

McKenney had said she never got to a Packers game when she was younger because her husband wasn't "too keen about football" and she never had the opportunity, even though her family moved to the Green Bay area in 1947.

But she keeps a picture of legendary Green Bay Packers quarterback Bart Starr in her apartment and wears Packers garb as she watches every game.

McKenney received the luxury box tickets from the owners of Renaissance Assisted Living in De Pere, where she has lived for five years.

Her occupational therapist accompanied her to assist with steps at the stadium because McKenney is recovering from a fractured hip.

On Sunday, Brett Favre threw his first touchdown pass in five games, giving the Packers a 23-17 victory over the Seattle Seahawks.

"It was fabulous, and then to have a win," she said, "that was almost more than I could bear."

Odd's & Ends

weld. Officer Patrick Daugherty said.

Roshelsen was unable to get up because of ministrokes that occasionally starting fires and shocking users. He also wasn't wearing his medical-alert necklace and couldn't reach a cord above his pillow that alerts paramedics that he needs help.

Roshelsen said he got the cat three years ago and tried to train him to call 911, unsure if the training ever stuck.

The phone in the living room is always on the floor, and there are 12 small buttons — including a speed dial for 911.

"It's my hero," Roshelsen said.

Man plays on sympathy to get new wheelchair

CANTON, Ohio — A man lied about having his wheelchair stolen so he could get a sympathetic public into giving him a new one, authorities said.

Virgil Stewart, 52, faces a felony charge of falsifying a police report.

Stewart, who is missing part

of his right leg, told police that his attackers sought money, threw him into a fire hydrant and ran off with his wheelchair.

A car dealership and a nursing home each give him a new wheelchair after the story was reported in the local media.

Authorities, though, say the Dec. 19 assault never happened.

Police said Stewart's probation officer confronted him about the story after getting a tip that, before reporting the assault, Stewart had asked staff at a post office if he could leave his wheelchair at home.

Stewart, who is on probation for cocaine possession, confessed, claiming that his old wheelchair was "kind of broken down and he didn't like the wheels," said Joe Dubina, a regional administrator for the Ohio Adult Parole Authority.

The two wheelchairs have been returned to their donors.

Stewart appeared Friday in Canton Municipal Court and a judge freed him on a \$2,500 bond and set a preliminary hearing for Jan. 10.

"It's a shame," Dubina said. "He took advantage of people's kindness during the holidays."

— compiled from wire reports

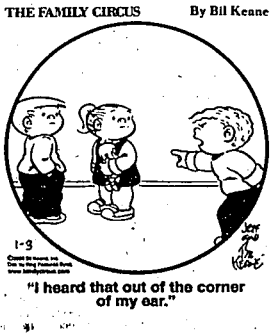
Cat apparently dials 911, saves police for owner

COLUMBUS, Ohio — A man who fell out of his wheelchair says his cat apparently called 911 for help.

Police received a 911 call from Gary Roshelsen's apartment Thursday, but there was no one on the line. When they called back and got no answer, they decided to check things out.

In the apartment they found Tummy the cat lying by a telephone on the living room floor.

"I know it sounds kind of



"I heard that out of the corner of my ear."

NOW AVAILABLE IN UNITED STATES Product used in Japan for 71 years relieves pain in 10 minutes without taking dangerous drugs Cuts pain relief costs up to 90%

Relieves pain from arthritis, back, carpal tunnel, joint pain, sprains, strains and more

By John Whitbread, Media Services
A product that relieves pain in 10 minutes without taking dangerous drugs has been used safely in Japan for 71 years. It is now available in the United States.

This product is a patch that contains ingredients that not only relieve pain quickly, but, also help remove toxins from the damaged area.

It can cut your pain relief costs up to 90% less than taking pain relief drugs.

This product is being offered in the United States by Biotech Research under its brand name of PainNOT™ Patches.

PainNOT™ Patches relieve pain from arthritis, back, carpal tunnel, joint pain, sprains, strains, sports injuries and more. It relieves pain for 8 hours for each patch application.

PainNOT™ Patches are super easy and convenient to use. They do not have the mess, odors, and stain problems of pain relief creams. The patch contains the ingredients in layers of fiber. When applied to the skin, the ingredients then penetrate deeply through the skin to the source of the pain and muscle, joints and bones. The patches come in a variety of sizes.

Therefore, you can put the PainNOT™ Patches on large areas such as your back, or on small areas such as fingers and toes. The patch is also thin and lightweight unlike the big bulky pain relief wraps that are on the market.

For more details on the PainNOT™ Patches here is my educational interview with John Whitbread, Chief of Staff, Product Development for BioTech Research.

Q. How did this pain relief method used in the PainNOT™ Patch originate?

A. Its origin is in ancient Oriental medicine. It is now well known to science that there many remedies from Oriental medicine are now proving to be very effective in clinical studies.

This particular Oriental pain relief method was brought to market commercially by a Japanese pharmaceutical company in 1934. But they took it a step further. They took the ingredients that brought the pain relief from the Oriental medicine remedies and put them in a remarkable patch. This patch has the ingredients in very advanced forms of fiber. When the patch is applied, the ingredients are released over a long period of time through the skin deeply into the muscles, bones and joints to the source of the pain.

There are many benefits to a pain relief remedy that goes directly to the source of the pain.

Q. What are the benefits derived by going directly to the source of the pain?

A. First of all, the pain relief is faster. You don't have to wait for the digestive process to get results. Pain relief with these patches start in 10 minutes.

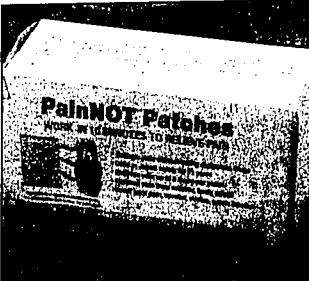
Going directly to the pain source also has this major health benefit. You are not putting pain relief substances all through your body in places where they are not needed, but, rather you concentrate the substances at the point of the pain.

Also, you are not putting pain relief substances through the liver, which is one of the main causes of side effects of ingestible pain relief remedies.

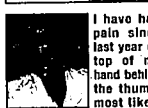
Not only is the PainNOT™ Patch safe to use, but, it also helps the body carry toxins away from the damaged area causing the pain.

Q. So there are no side effects such as all the problems with the many pain relief drugs causing heart attacks and strokes?

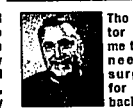
A. No, there are not. This product has one of the longest records of real life safety measurement. It has been used safely for 71 years.



Simply peel patch from backing and apply.



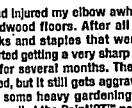
I have had pain since last year on top of my hand behind the thumb, most likely caused from golf plus bone inflammation or arthritis. It gets worse whenever I play golf. Up until now, I've only used Naproxen. PainNOT Patch has worked great for me. I wear the PainNOT patch when I play golf, and it stays on very well, especially as my skin gets warmer. I really love using them. Shirley Pruett



The doctor told me that I needed surgery for my back but I did not want to go through that. Now when I feel pain in my back I use the PainNOT Patch. In 10 minutes I start experiencing movement in my back again and even the next day my back feels wonderful. Your product is incredible and I'm glad that I used the PainNOT Patch. Mike Blubaugh



I had injured my elbow awhile ago when I refinished my hardwood floors. After all of the sanding and pulling tacks and staples that were embedded in the wood, I started getting a very sharp pain in my elbow which lasted for several months. The worst of it eventually subsided, but it still gets aggravated with overuse. I recently did some heavy gardening, and the pain and stiffness came back again. I applied the PainNOT patches to my elbow. It almost worked at all. That's why I was surprised when the PainNOT patch actually took the pain away! They worked so well that I almost forgot I had been in pain. I also tried the patches on my back after I was feeling some stiffness. I just love these patches - they've worked for me where other medication has failed. I also love how the medicine is applied on the patch. You can cut them to any size the they will still stick to your skin. I'm going to make sure I keep a supply of PainNOT Patches in my medicine cabinet from now on because they work so well on those aches and pains I always seem to have. Laura Paika

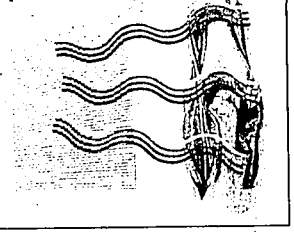


For a couple of weeks I had been experiencing a lot of tightness in my lower back. I had tried pain relievers and medicated creams and I just couldn't get relief. I tried the PainNOT Patch and it started to soothe my back almost immediately. The patch is very thin and discreet so I didn't worry about people asking me what I had on my back. Soon after applying the patch my lower back felt great. Audra Boone

Each container has both small and large patches.



Ingredients in the patches penetrate to the muscle, joints and bones for pain relief.



SPECIAL READER'S DISCOUNT COUPON

The price of a giant size box of PainNOT™ Patches which contains 60 patches (30 large patches and 30 small patches) is \$49 plus \$3.95 shipping and handling. People reading this publication get a \$20 discount plus free shipping and handling and pay only \$29 delivered if you order within 10 days. There is a strict limit of 3 boxes at the discount price - no exceptions please.

• To order by phone, call TOLL FREE 1-800-466-7688 Ext. PNP1313. Place your order by using your credit card. Orders are on duty 24 hours, 7 days.

• To order online log on to www.biotechresearch.com

• To order by mail, fill out and mail in this coupon along with a check, money order or credit card information.

This product carries a 60 day unconditional, no-risk guarantee. If you are not totally satisfied, your purchase price will be refunded. No questions asked.

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(Make check payable to BioTech Research) or charge my:

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Visit us online at www.biotechresearch.com

limiting COX-2 too much, adverse cardiovascular effects can occur, as you have seen in media reports and the recall of a number of these synthetic pain relief drugs.

Q. How do the PainNOT™ Patches work to relieve pain?

A. The ingredients cool and reduce inflammation. Then the ingredients gently warm the damaged area deep to muscles, joints and bones.

The natural response of the body to the increased temperature is to try to maintain a condition of homeostasis. This means that the body automatically tries to lower the temperature in the area. Therefore, it expands blood vessels to increase blood flow.

When the PainNOT™ Patch delivers heat to the tissues, the blood vessels actually increase in diameter via a change called vasodilation. Then oxygen and nutrients in the bloodstream are able to pass through the walls of the blood vessels more easily and carry toxins away from the damaged issue.

In addition, toxic substances causing inflammation and pain in the damaged cells can then pass back into the bloodstream more easily. The toxins are then filtered and eliminated by organs such as the kidneys, the lungs, and the digestive tract. As the damaged, inflamed areas receive the increased supply of blood, the cells are nourished and cleansed and inflammation is reduced. A person then experiences pain relief.

The heat also relaxes muscles and expands other tissue to relieve tension and pressure on nerves.

Also, the patches are made with cloth fabric which breathes. Typical patches are made of rubber which cause perspiring.

Q. How do readers get the PainNOT™ Patch?

A. They will not be in stores for an extended period. In the mean time, readers can order directly from BioTech Research.

PainNOT™ Patches come in a giant size box of 60 patches (30 large patches and 30 small patches) for \$49 plus \$3.95 shipping and handling. Readers who want to obtain PainNOT™ Patches can get a \$20 discount plus free shipping and handling if they order in the next 10 days and get the patches for only \$29 a box delivered. There is a strict limit of 3 boxes at the discount price - no exceptions please. Please see the Special Readers Discount Coupon on this page. Those ordering after 10 days from the date of this publication must pay regular price.