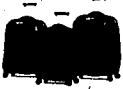


LOCAL HOSPITAL TOPS 'DOOR-TO-BALLOON' LIST, A9

A LESSON ON PACKING TO TRAVEL, G1

EFFICIENT, SAFE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, B1



SEE FAMILY LIFE, E1



Grappling preview

Minico leads the way in Magic Valley.

SEE SPORTS, C1

Good Morning

High: 25
Low: 12
FOGGY
Morning fog, then some partial clearing. Details: C8

Times-News

December 3, 2006

\$1.50

MagicValley.com

Deadlines for holiday shipping are approaching

By Ann Sawyer
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Thanksgiving's hardly over, and the Postal Service is already advising people there's little time to get those holiday season packages in the mail, particularly to members of the military stationed in Iraq or Afghanistan.

To get it there before

Christmas:

Monday: For troops in Iraq and Afghanistan
Dec. 13: For domestic deliveries using parcel post.
Dec. 18: For domestic deliveries using first class.
Dec. 22 or 23: For domestic deliveries using Express mail
Dec. 22 and Dec. 23: For domestic deliveries using parcel post in Dec. 13. For parcels sent first class, the deadline is Dec. 18. Customers should ship Priority Mail by Dec. 20 and switch to Express Mail by Dec. 22 and Dec. 23.

"I would encourage people to mail earlier. That way that gives you a chance for somebody to send you a card back," said Pat Donahoe, deputy postmaster general and chief operating officer. "But if you get them in on those days, we'll get them delivered."

The Postal Service expects to deliver 20 billion letters, packages and cards between Thanksgiving and Christmas, similar to last year's shipping season.

On average, workers will process 670 million items per day. Mailings are projected to reach 900 million on the peak mailing day, Dec. 22. The busiest delivery day is expected to come two days later.

Unusual number of deaths kill Pfizer's new cholesterol drug

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Pfizer Inc. said Saturday it has cut off all clinical trials and development for a cholesterol drug that was supposed to be the best of its pipeline because of an unexpected number of deaths and cardiovascular problems in patients who took it.

The world's largest drug-maker said it was told Saturday that an independent team monitoring a study for torcetrapib, a drug that raises levels of good cholesterol, recommended that the work end because of "an imbalance of mortality and cardiovascular events."

Pfizer said it is asking all clinical investigators conducting trials to warn patients to stop taking the drug immediately.

"It's going to decide who stays in business and who doesn't."
— Lynn Tomlinaga, director of the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators

Watershed case



Dave Humphrey, a ditch rider with Twin Falls Canal Co., adjusts a gate that delivers water from the Low Line Canal into K-Combe last year. The canal company is one of the parties involved in Friday's hearing before the state Supreme Court.

Supreme Court to hear arguments Friday on pivotal water-rights case

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — For decades, groundwater and surface-water users have played a delicate game of give and take.

Now the game is tug of war. On Friday, the Idaho Supreme Court will hear an expedited case that will likely decide the future of Idaho

Idaho Dairymen's Association finalizing deal with coalition of senior water-right holders.

See page A4

water law. At stake is how Idaho's most precious resource is distributed — for irrigation, industry and consumption.

Ramifications from this case are far reaching: If you use water in this state, this decision will affect you.

"This case couldn't be more important," said Lynn Tomlinaga, director of the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators. "It's going to decide who stays in business and who doesn't."

Please see WATER, Page A3

Important dates in Idaho water history

- 2006** The Idaho Supreme Court hears a case on the constitutionality of conjunctive management.
- 2003** Legislature passes a law that states that even if a water-right holder doesn't use all the water in a right, he is still entitled to that water. Also this year, salmon advocates sue after demanding more water from federal reservoirs be released to help salmon.
- 1995** Legislature approves a plan that allows groundwater users to jointly manage groundwater pumping. This established the precedent of junior users leasing or paying surface-water users.
- 1993** The Idaho Department of Water Resources orders a moratorium on new wells.
- 1987** Snake River Basin Adjudication established to reconcile water-right disputes.
- 1985** Idaho Power Co. and the state reach a compromise in the Swan Falls Agreement that sets minimum water flows in rivers the company uses for hydroelectricity.
- 1965** The Idaho Water Resource board is created.
- 1947** The first groundwater pump is built.
- 1913** The Foster Decree determines water rights and expands state watermaster authority.
- 1905** With construction on Milner Dam under way, I.B. Perrine starts the Twin Falls Land and Water Co.
- 1902** Reclamation Act grants federal aid for irrigation projects.
- 1894** U.S. Congress passes the Carey Act that gives federal land to anyone willing to develop it. The Magic Valley is born.

Deported man a stranger in his homeland

By Olga R. Rodriguez
Associated Press writer

CUAUHTEMOC, Mexico — Humberto Fernandez keeps his clothes in plastic bags and boxes, trying to convince himself that his two-year stay in this town of cattle ranchers and apple farmers is temporary.

Deported from the United States 39 years after he entered it illegally, Fernandez's hopes of a quick return to his wife and son in Utah were crushed when the U.S. Supreme Court in 1967 upheld his deportation and barred him from seeking legal U.S. residence.

He is now clinging to the chance of a consular waiver, which would allow him back in as a special case. Hees, are of the hardship to his American family, 500 miles away in Ogden.

In Cuauhtemoc, his broken Spanish and Americanized ways have made him an outsider.

"That's my country," Fernandez said of the United States. "That's where I spent most of my life. I don't want to be here. I want to be with my family."

For people on either side of the immigration debate, Fernandez could be used as a poster child for the system's failings. Although he is culturally American, the U.S. government has deported him three times. And yet he managed to build a full life in the United States without ever being a legal resident.

Now, as the U.S. tightens immigration laws, there are many like Fernandez who, after a lifetime in the United States, are being sent back to countries they don't know.

Deportations have been increasing as the United States cracks down on immigrants caught in raids or arrested for crimes or other offenses. Over the past decade, Central America has been flooded with deported gang members, many of whom went to the United States as infants and don't speak Spanish.

In the 12 months leading to Sept. 30, 186,600 illegal migrants were deported, nearly four times more than in 1995, the year before a new law mandating the expulsion of illegal migrants who have returned illegally after being deported.

Fernandez, 54, was born in Cuauhtemoc but says he ran away from home at age 13 to escape poverty and an abusive father who beat him. Two years later, he crossed illegally into the U.S. by claiming he was a U.S. citizen.

He lived in California, Arizona, New Mexico, Wyoming and Colorado. He was deported once for driving illegal immigrants from Arizona to Idaho for a smuggler in the 1970s, again for failing to mention his previous deportation when applying for residency in Wyoming, and finally after he drove with a broken taillight and had no papers to show police.

He was never charged for driving the illegal immigrants, and other than immigration violations and minor traffic infractions, has no criminal record.

He returned illegally to the United States in 1981 and after years of leading a nomadic life settled in Ogden, where he met his American wife, Rita Fernandez. They raised a boy, now 17.

Please see DEPORTED, Page A4



Humberto Fernandez, 54, walks with his nephew Aug. 15 in Cuauhtemoc City, Mexico.

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TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Today	Tonight	Monday
Foggy	Foggy	Foggy
Morning fog, then some partial clearing.	Mostly clear early, the getting foggy	Morning fog, then cloudy
High 25	Low 12	26 / 19

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Continued cold with pockets of fog, then partly cloudy. Highs up to 20s.
 Tonight: Partly cloudy and cold. Lows upper single digits.
 Tomorrow: Mostly dry with chilly conditions lingering for another day. Highs low 30s.

Complete weather report: See page C8

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center dance, with music by the Melody Masters, 2 to 5 p.m., at the center, 530 Shoshone St. W. \$4, 734-5084.
Handa's "Messiah," College of Southern Idaho Chamber Choir and Magic Valley Chamber Orchestra in concert, 3 p.m., Fine Arts Auditorium, C.S.I., Twin Falls, free admission (\$5 donation suggested), 732-6766.
Celebrate the Holiday Season, entertainment by local performers sponsored by the Twin Falls Kiwanis Club and the Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department, 5 p.m., City Park, Twin Falls, no cost, 733-3974.
Caritas Chorale Annual Holiday Concert, 5:30 p.m., Thomas Episcopal Church on Sun Valley Road, Sun Valley, 578-9648.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Family Day at St. Luke's Magic Valley Health Foundation's Festival of Trees, with a variety of performers and fun, general admission 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., former Anderson Lumber Building, 860 Eastland Drive, Twin Falls, no cost for families with today's Times-News coupon or \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors (age 60 and over) and \$1 for children age 12 and under, 737-2480.
"Magic Mud," the College of Southern Idaho Art Department's annual fundraiser including the decorative and functional works of students and professional potters, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the C.S.I. Student Union Building, C.S.I., Twin Falls, 732-6655.

CHURCH EVENTS

Spaghetti dinner, provided by Wendell United Methodist Church, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the church, 175 E. Main, Wendell, free-will offering, 543-6980.
Liberty Ministries, Traditional Southern Gospel Quartet, 7 p.m., Calvary Chapel of Buhl, 1004 Burley Avenue, Buhl, no admission fee, (love offering taken), 543-9959.

FAMILY

Ageless Senior Citizens Center Monthly Sunday Dinner, featuring baked ham, noon to 2 p.m., at the center, 310 N. Main, Kimberly, suggested donation of \$6 for adults and \$3 for children under age 12, 423-4338.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 546, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0546. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

COMING TOMORROW

Survivor

Heart attack patient credits speedy care, mini miracles.

MONDAY IN IMAGE



SHOOTER'S GALLERY



After finishing an assignment outside of Buhl, reporter Matt Christensen and I headed east on a back road toward Twin Falls. As we topped a small hill, we both laughed at the sight of a farm dog calmly surveying the land, but a large hystack. To a farmer, the sight probably is a common one, but I thought, and Matt agreed, that the shot was too good to pass up. This photo was taken with a Canon EOS-1D Mark II N at f4, 1/1600 second with a 200 mm lens.

— Meagan Thompson, Times-News photographer

MAGIC VALLEY



Bingo bash a game of chance, a culture

TWIN FALLS — At the Moose Lodge in Twin Falls, where dozens of bingo maniacs meet Wednesday and Sunday nights for three-hour bingo binges, there isn't anyone asking what a dohber is. These people know how to bingo. Since 1994, when the state ordered the private club to open bingo games to the public, as many as 100 people a night show up to kill a few hours with cheap entertainment and — if luck is on their side — win a little money.



Model railroaders bring cheer to many

FILER — People traveled Saturday from miles around to attend the Magic Valley Model Railroaders' group's 19th annual Christmas open house at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds. Walking through the back doors of the photography building, visitors watched the HO- and N-scale model train move around long tracks complete with mountains, caves, bridges and towns all lit up — much of it made by hand.



Christmas lights can be energy-efficient

TWIN FALLS — In the movie "Christmas Vacation," Clark W. Griswold, played by Chevy Chase, blacks out his neighborhood and racks up a monster electric bill after plugging in several thousand old-fashioned lights. This Christmas, Idaho Power Co. says utility customers can save money, conserve energy and stay safer by using Light Emitting Diode (LED) Christmas lights instead of incandescent ones.

OBITUARIES

- Marion L. Allen, 68
- Helma Carlton Bedke, 91
- Ruth E. Evans, 78
- Michael L. Leonnetti, 55
- Elaine Gooch Jenkins, 84

SEE PAGE B2

IDAHO LOTTERY

Wildland Saturday, Dec. 2
 17 34 42 45 50 P#3: 11
 Power Play #1: 3

Wildland Saturday, Dec. 2
 4 11 14 20 27
 Wild Card: Ovens of Hearts

Dec. 2 1 8 8 1
 Dec. 1 8 8 1
 No. 30 8 4 0

SEE PAGE B2

IDAHO/WEST



Some fear effects of West's energy boom

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — Elizabeth "Chris" Mohaldi sits on a couch in her home, explaining why she and her husband packed up and left "their little piece of heaven" in western Colorado.

"I was dying and I thought it was my hour," Chris Mohaldi says in a halting, strangely accented voice. Steve Mohaldi jumps in to translate for his wife: "She was imagining that the house was killing her."

U of I studies ways to cut energy bills

MOSCOW — Officials at the University of Idaho have approved expanding a Seattle company's analysis of ways the campus can become more energy efficient.

The decision last week means the university can consider larger projects like adding another water chiller tank, bringing more buildings onto the main heating and cooling system and adding a second wood boiler.

Former Idaho ballet director dies in prison

BOISE — A former Ballet Idaho artistic director convicted of killing his wife has died of cancer in prison.

The family of Yevgeniy "Ben" Kuzmichev, 67, had petitioned for his early release under an Idaho statute that can set free terminally ill prisoners before the end of their sentences. But the request was denied, and Kuzmichev died in the Idaho State Correctional Institution's infirmary last month.

Hunters rescued after one night in snow

MOSCOW — Three hunters who spent Thursday night in the woods after becoming lost tracking a wounded deer were rescued as they prepared to spend a second night huddled in a snow cave.

Dustin Pierson, 26, and his cousins — 16-year-old Skyler Pierson and 13-year-old Caden Pierson, who are brothers, were taken to Grifman Medical Center in Moscow.

County worried about nuclear waste trains

ELKO, Nev. — Before the U.S. Department of Energy decides whether to transport spent nuclear fuel through Elko County, the Elko County Commission wants to say a few words about it.

NATION/WORLD

Seasonal gesture at Arlington grows

WASHINGTON — Every year for more than a decade, at the height of the Season of Remembrance, thousands would pack up a truckload of his Christmas wreaths and head down from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery. Without fanfare, he and a dozen or so volunteer teens would lay red-bowed wreaths on a few thousand headstones of fallen Americans.

Tax bill delay impact millions of people

WASHINGTON — Millions of entrepreneurs, teachers and parents with kids in college have a financial stake in whether Congress in the dying hours of Republican rule revives tax breaks that expired 11 months ago.

If Congress fails to act, teachers no longer will be able to deduct up to \$250 for the books and supplies they pay for out of their own pocket.

Researchers find clue to Stradivarius sound

Scientists say they have moved a step closer to unravelling the mystery behind the distinct sound of Stradivarius violins.

SPARTANS



Spartans aim to grab state wrestling title

TWIN FALLS — Class 4A state wrestling champion Wes Cooper; Class 4A state wrestling champion Kiri Anderson; Class 4A state wrestling champion Kevin Kilroy; Class 4A state wrestling champion Kevin Kilroy; Class 4A state wrestling champion Kevin Kilroy.

With three of its four 2006 state champions gone, what can be expected from the Minnetonka Spartans wrestling program in 2007?

Ward does it again for Twin Falls boys

TWIN FALLS — If Friday and Saturday's winning lottery numbers are the same, it's simply a pleasant rerun. Otherwise, the Twin Falls Bruins' boys' basketball team's 47-45 win over the visiting Nampa Bulldogs is an early mark of a young team playing well above expectations.

Endless days of Christmas television

It's all in the numbers now.

"25 Days of Christmas," "24-hour Merrydren," "20 Merriest Christmas Videos," "Studio 60" and "Adam-12."

So those last two are titles of series whose holiday episodes air this week. You get the point. The tube hosts so much Christmas-time merriment, it has to be collected, categorized and counted down.

Fidel Castro fails to show at parade

HAVANA — Fidel Castro was a no-show Saturday at a major military parade that doubled as his 80th birthday celebration, raising questions about whether the ailing leader will ever return to power as his public absence begins taking on a tone of permanence.

UCLA spoils Trojans BCS title game plans

PASADENA, Calif. — Southern California's dejected players trudged off the Rose Bowl field, oblivious to the celebration going on around them.

Their national championship hopes had just ended with the biggest upset of the season.

Oklahoma wins Big 12 title game

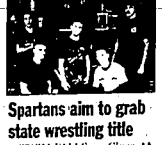
KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Oklahoma's ground game got the eighth-ranked Sooners to the Big 12 title game. The Sooners went to the air to reach the Bowl Championship Series.

Paul Thompson threw two touchdown passes leading Oklahoma to a 21-7 victory over No. 19 Nebraska Saturday night.

Times-News

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YOUR MORNING BRIEFING



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Water

Continued from page A1
 The case arises after 5th District Court Judge Barry Wood decided on June 2 that the Idaho Department of Water Resources' rules for applying conjunctive management are unconstitutional.
 Conjunctive management is a system of legal guidelines the IDWR director follows to administer water between groundwater and surface water-right holders. It gives the IDWR Director a governor-appointed position, a liberal amount of discretion when it comes to deciding who gets water.
 The district ruling came in response to a lawsuit filed by a coalition of surface water users — including the Twin Falls Canal Co., the Burley Irrigation District and the Mindoko Irrigation District — challenging the constitutionality of conjunctive management.

Here's the back story:
 In spring 2005, IDWR Director Karl Dreher responded to a call for water from senior-right surface users who wanted junior users curtailed. Dreher allocated some water for the call but not as much as was asked for. In response, senior users filed suit in district court.
 Senior users cited prior appropriation — a doctrine that says the holders of older water rights should get water before junior-right holders.
 Essentially, Wood's ruling upheld the prior-appropriation doctrine and rendered conjunctive management obsolete but not for the reasons the surface-water coalition attorneys asserted. Wood ruled that conjunctive management is unconstitutional because the system lacks tenets and procedures he viewed as constitutionally mandated.

Who gets hurt?
 "Anybody who calls the courts," Wood said in August. "There's going to be harm to somebody."
 He's right.

Without conjunctive management, senior users would be forced to shut down junior groundwater users — nearly 7,000 wells and 1.2 million acres of irrigated land — and water supplies for several municipalities and the thousands of citizens who use water every day. That, groundwater users say, would cripple Idaho's agricultural economy and have devastating effects on towns across southern Idaho.

Tominaga, a groundwater supporter, said that if junior users don't have guaranteed access to water, banks won't finance their operations.

He also said curtailment doesn't always mean more water for surface users. Because groundwater moves much slower than surface water, the effects of curtailment sometimes aren't seen for years.

Doesn't matter, say surface-water users. They say they're being harmed under the current system — they want water they're entitled to under prior appropriation, and they worry the system is moving away from that doctrine.

"I think the state of Idaho is asking the court to depart from administering by prior appropriation," said Tom Arkoosh, an attorney who will argue the case. "And first and foremost, the aquifer needs to be administered through prior appropriation."

How do water rights work?
 In his 127-page decision, Wood quoted numerous times the water-rights debate of the

Meet the players

The Supreme Court decision that will decide the constitutionality of conjunctive management — rules that tell Idaho Department of Water Resources Director Karl Dreher how to jointly manage groundwater and surface-water right holders — will affect nearly every water user in Idaho.
 Here are the five major players in the issue and what they have at stake:

1. Groundwater users

Those who pump water rather than use surface water will be affected more than any other interested group. If the court upholds an earlier court decision declaring conjunctive management unconstitutional, thousands of wells could be shut down.

2. Surface-water users

Irrigators who rely on canals and springs for water largely support the prior-appropriations doctrine that states that water-right holders with older rights get their water before junior water-right holders. Surface-water users want the earlier court's decision to stand so that junior-water users, who are largely groundwater pumpers, will be curtailed and surface users can have their full water rights fulfilled.

3. Municipalities

Many Magic Valley cities — including Wendell, Gooding, Jerome and Shoshone — rely on groundwater. Although these cities will likely weather a curtailment, Jerome rarely reaches 50 percent of its total water capacity, ag-related businesses in those communities tight ship. The cities mostly fear economic fallout.

4. Environmental groups

Environmentalists are worried about two things: the aquifer and salmon. The court's upcoming decision will likely affect how, and if, the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer is recharged. Most environmentalists oppose injection-well recharge because of water-quality concerns. Another concern is salmon. The outcome of this case may affect how much water is diverted to rivers to aid spawning fish.

5. Spring users

Water users who rely on springs — water that bubbles to the surface from the aquifer — are mostly senior, surface-right holders in the aquiclulture business. For the most part, they advocate the prior-appropriations doctrine and blame groundwater users for depleting the aquifer.

Liquid dictionary

A dictionary of Idaho water words
ADJUDICATION: A proceeding in court that determines water rights.
AQUIFER: Underground water that moves through permeable rock. Call: When a senior water user demands junior users stop using water so he can get his legally entitled share.
CONJUNCTIVE MANAGEMENT: A system of guidelines to manage groundwater and surface-water rights jointly.
CURTAILMENT: When a water user's rights are withheld to supply water to a more senior user.
FUTILE CALL: A call that shuts down a junior user, even though that curtailment may not result in more water for a senior user.
GROUNDWATER: Water, usually pumped, from the aquifer.
Junior user: Someone who holds a junior water right. Junior water rights are not as old as senior water rights.
RECHARGE: Act of returning water to the aquifer.
Spring: Groundwater that flows from the aquifer to the surface.
SURFACE WATER: Water flowing through rivers, streams, lakes, canals and springs.
SENIOR USER: Someone who holds a senior water right. Senior water rights are older and, in most cases, more valuable than junior water rights.
WATER RIGHTS: A legal authority to divert water.

1889 constitutional convention when Idaho's legal framers, he implied, sought a system of permanence and stability.

That system operated relatively efficiently until the 1940s, when farmers realized they could irrigate rights-free by pumping water from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer. Pumps continued to irrigate without water rights until 1951. The new groundwater rights were administered separately from surface rights until the 1990s, when scientists determined that groundwater and surface water are connected.

That's when the state began using conjunctive management. Senior water-right holders could make a water call requiring the IDWR director to shut down, or curtail, groundwater users so that senior holders could get their water in times of drought.

Pumpers who could not afford to stop pumping could pay senior-right holders for the lost water or lease water from other users.

Under conjunctive management, senior holders had to ensure injury — that crops suffer — for a water call to work.

But that's hard to do. Making things more complex is a 2003 law that states if

a water-right holder shifts management techniques that require less water — like many farmers did when they switched from flood irrigation to sprinklers in the 1970s — the user still retains the larger water right.

In recent years, water users have worked (mostly) together to distribute a resource of which there is simply not enough. Recent "data" show a declining water level in the aquifer and Idaho experienced its worst drought in nearly 100 years from 1999 until 2005. Some experts say the drought isn't yet over.

Progress derailed?

The Supreme Court case calls into question the future of recently proposed deals and programs meant to prevent the legal battle the sides now find themselves in. A Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program that pays groundwater pumpers for tilling their land is in danger unless more farmers sign up. CREP requires farmers to prove access to water before joining the program, and if the Supreme Court upholds the Wood decision and groundwater pumpers are curtailed, they won't be able to prove access and the program might fail.

Ripples from the decision also may affect an aquifer-recharge plan now being assembled by the IDWR board. The plan is slated for presentation to the 2007 Legislature, but the Supreme Court decision will likely affect how, and if, the Legislature executes the board's recommendations.

Also proposed are plans to recharge the aquifer through injection wells and by running extra water through canals so it can seep into the aquifer; plans to line canals in the Thousand Springs area to increase efficiency for spring-water users; and plans to transfer some groundwater rights to senior rights.

But, at least for now, the fate of these plans — and the fate of Idaho water law as users now know it — hangs in the balance. With virtually no one willing to predict how the court will decide, Idahoans can only tread water until the court decides just who will sink and who will swim.
 Those close to the case expect a decision within two months.

Times-News staff writer Matt Christensen can be reached at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@lee.net.

The ad in today's TV Weekly contained an error.

Teton Wireless
 733-0500
 www.tetonwireless.com

Installation for any service is **ONLY 99¢** with a donation to the Salvation Army Angel Tree valued at \$10 or more.

99¢ INSTALLATION for Any Service

Urgent Care for the Whole Family!

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Ripples from the decision also may affect an aquifer-recharge plan now being assembled by the IDWR board. The plan is slated for presentation to the 2007 Legislature, but the Supreme Court decision will likely affect how, and if, the Legislature executes the board's recommendations.

Also proposed are plans to recharge the aquifer through injection wells and by running extra water through canals so it can seep into the aquifer; plans to line canals in the Thousand Springs area to increase efficiency for spring-water users; and plans to transfer some groundwater rights to senior rights.

But, at least for now, the fate of these plans — and the fate of Idaho water law as users now know it — hangs in the balance. With virtually no one willing to predict how the court will decide, Idahoans can only tread water until the court decides just who will sink and who will swim.
 Those close to the case expect a decision within two months.

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FROM PAGE ONE

Dairy industry hopes agreement ensures water access

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Magic Valley dairymen can breathe easier.

The Idaho Dairymen's Association is finalizing a deal with a coalition of senior water-right holders that may allow half the state's dairy operators to stay in business if water supplies run low.

The deal comes just days before the Idaho Supreme Court will hear a case that some say may result in well closures across Magic Valley and economic disaster.

"We've been working with the Surface Water Coalition for over a year now," said Bob Naerhout, executive director of the IDA. "And now we're really close to finalizing the deal."

For the agreement to be binding, it needs the approval of almost all members of the Idaho Water Resources Board. Naerhout said he wasn't sure when he'll present the proposal to Dreher, but there's no rush to get it approved before the Supreme Court case because the agreement is flexible enough to protect dairymen whatever the outcome.

Users who need water for domestic, commercial, municipal or industrial (DCMI) purposes expend less than 3 percent of the water that comes from the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer — an underground network of waterways that stretches from Ashton to King Hill. But if the court upholds a 5th District ruling that declares conjunctive management unconstitutional, the economic fallout could cripple Magic Valley industry.

Now particularly vulnerable is Magic Valley's food-processing industry that, generally, holds junior water rights.

Industry representatives are

working with senior water-right holders to mitigate the situation, said state Sen. Chuck Colner. R-Twin Falls, who also sits on the board of the Twin Falls Canal Co., a group of largely senior, surface water-right holders.

The industry hopes to strike a deal that would allow them access to water regardless of the court's ruling. That could

mean buying senior rights or leasing water from senior water-right holders.

The dairy deal incorporates both. Municipalities rent in as much danger as other DCMI's because many of them, including the city of Jerome, rarely come close to using their full water supplies, even on peak water usage days.

Conjunctive management, a system of legal guidelines Dreher relies on to manage junior and senior water rights jointly, was ruled unconstitutional June 2 by 5th District Court Judge Barry Wood.

If that decision is upheld, Dreher said he'd be forced to shut down nearly 700 wells that irrigate 1.2 million acres and supply water to dairies, munic-

ipalities, factories and processing plants.

The Supreme Court hears arguments on the conjunctive

management case Friday, and those close to the case expect a decision in the next two months.

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Deported

Continued from page A3

"There I clung to life, to a beautiful life," said Humberto Fernandez, holding back tears.

He bought a small two-bedroom house, and in 2003, after working as a truck driver for a metal salvage company, he had saved enough to buy his own semi.

Two months later, he was arrested at the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services in Salt Lake City as he applied for a green card based on his marriage. Officials detained him because he had been deported before, and after a year in a Utah jail, Fernandez was sent to Mexico on Sept. 9, 2004.

Pro bono lawyers took his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court, arguing that the 1996 law mandating deportations for people caught re-entering the U.S. illegally didn't apply because he entered more than a decade before the law was passed.

The court disagreed, ruling in June that the illegal Immigration and Naturalization Service Act revealed Fernandez's right to appeal the final deportation order. The ruling affects thousands of illegal migrants who were deported and left behind U.S.-born children or wives. They have lost most legal means of seeing their families again north of the border.

"We had hoped the law would change, not only for my husband, but for so many families who have been torn apart," Rita Fernandez said by telephone.

When Humberto Fernandez left Cauatemoc, the streets were unpaved and Indian men from nearby villages came to buy supplies wearing nothing but loin-cloths. He returned to a city of 150,000 where horses share the road with pickup trucks.

A sister he had seen only twice in 40 years took him in. "I received him full of joy, with open arms," Carmen Fernandez said. "The truth is, I really didn't know him."

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County worried about nuke waste transport on Yucca Mountain route

By John Seab
LEO Newspapers

ELKO — Before the U.S. Department of Energy decides whether to transport spent nuclear fuel through Elko County, the Elko County Commission wants to say a few words about it.

The department recently expanded the scope of an environmental impact statement to consider an alternate transportation route to the Yucca Mountain nuclear repository. If constructed, the Mina Rail Corridor would run about 240 miles between Hawthorne and Yucca Mountain in Nye County. The line would connect to the Union Pacific Railroad near Hazen.

Department of Energy spokesman Allen Benson stressed that the department's report will address the rail corridor options, but not the existing rail corridors that would connect to them. However, the Mina route may necessitate that nuclear waste be shipped over existing rail lines through Elko County, and the Elko County Commission will discuss this possibility Wednesday.

The Mina route would require most shipments of nuclear waste to enter Nevada near West Wendover on the Union Pacific mainline. Intertech Services Corp. Executive Director Mike Baughman said in a memo to the Humboldt River Basin Water Authority. Accessing the Mina route from the Union Pacific mainline at Hazen would require nuclear waste be shipped along rail lines that run near West Wendover, Wells,

Elko, Carlin, Battle Mountain, Winnemucca, Reno and Sparks — among other areas, he wrote. The Department of Energy is also considering constructing a Caliente Rail Corridor that runs about 320 miles from near Caliente west to Yucca Mountain. Whatever route is eventually chosen, Benson said the nuclear material will be safely contained in heavily fortified casks certified by the Nuclear Regulatory

Commission. He said the likelihood of one of these casks being penetrated is "very, very small." "We are confident we can protect the public health and safety and that is our first priority," Benson said.

The department already held eight public meetings to discuss the rail corridor. However, none were in Northeastern Nevada. Benson said the department may hold additional public hearings once the draft EIS is

finished. He said he doesn't know whether there will be any hearings in Elko County.

The department is continuing to accept public comments for the EIS until Dec. 12. Benson said the department will continue to take comments afterwards for the "maximum extent possible."

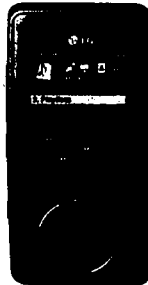
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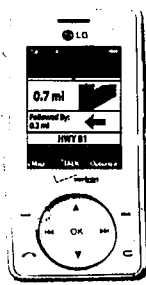
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Montana gets \$72 million for wind power projects

By Clair Johnson
LEO Newspapers

BILLINGS, Mont. — Montana will receive \$72 million in financing for 34 new wind power projects planned mostly by small cities and counties in northeastern and southeastern parts of the state, Sen. Max Baucus announced Friday afternoon. "This is very good news," the Montana Democrat said at a news conference in Billings.

Even Baucus seemed surprised with the level of funding, which came through a federal program he crafted, Clean Renewable Energy Bonds (CREBS). The bonding program passed Congress as part of the 2005 Energy Bill. "I am just astounded and so wonderfully surprised, seventy-two million, that's a lot for our state," he said.

CREBS will allow governmental and tax-exempt entities, such as cities and rural electric cooperatives, to finance alternative energy projects at zero interest. The program set aside \$800 million in tax credit bonds to fund \$10 billion-worth of energy projects across the country.

Montana received \$72 million, or 9 percent of the total, for projects that will generate up to 65 megawatts of electricity. (One megawatt will power about 350 homes.)

Thirty-two of the wind-energy projects are for municipalities and counties; two are for projects proposed by electric cooperatives. The largest recipient is the Billings-based Green Electricity Buying Cooperative, which secured \$31.7 million in financing authority for two wind farms. One will be located north of Billings off Popplea Road; the other will be on the Towe Farms in McCone County. Each project will produce up to 10 megawatts.

Russ Doty, acting executive director of Green Electricity, said, "We want everybody to get a piece of the clean energy boom." The projects call for installing up to 10 2.1-megawatt turbines.

Another large recipient is the Billings-based Southern Montana Electric Cooperative, which received \$12 million in bonding authority for a 6-megawatt project near Great Falls.

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'Collateral damage'

Residents fear murky effects of energy boom

By Judith Kohler
Associated Press writer

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. — Elizabeth "Chris" Mohabdis sits on a couch—in her home—explaining why she and her husband packed up and left "their little piece of heaven" in western Colorado.

"I was dying and I thought it was me, but," Chris Mohabdis says in a halting, strangely accented voice, Steve Mohabdis jumps in to translate for his wife: "She was imagining that the house was killing her."

Chris Mohabdis, 59, but looks at least 70. In the last decade, she has had two tumors removed from her pluriptery gland and endured excruciating pain. The once lively blonde is rail-thin and frail and holds her hands out for balance when she walks.

The Mohabdis believe she suffers from foreign agent syndrome, a rare malady that can result from a stroke or brain injury, though she hasn't been officially diagnosed with it. The Mohabdis believe her neurological system was damaged by drinking water that may have been contaminated by drilling fluids from wells around their former home about 60 miles to the east in Rifle.

State regulators say tests on the couple's well water found no evidence of contamination. The Mohabdis are convinced that something happened, and they are suing several companies that worked on three wells near their home.

Other residents near the epicenter of the flockies' energy boom are starting to worry about their health, too, and who exactly is looking out for them. The federal government leaves much of the regulation up to state officials — and in Colorado, some residents fear

there isn't nearly enough oversight to keep them safe.

Most of the regulation of Colorado's oil and gas industry falls to the Oil and Gas Conservation Commission; a state agency charged with promoting energy development. The commission has agreements with the state health department to enforce clean-water and hazardous-waste laws, though it has no health experts on staff.

The Oil and Gas Accountability Project in Durango, and other groups recently asked the commission and the health department to require detailed disclosure of all chemicals used in oil and gas production, and to require that the effects of the chemicals be monitored.

The health department said it doesn't have "the resources, capabilities or authority" to demand the information. The commission, meanwhile, said it believes it has that authority but "is not aware of a need for those requirements."

Yet complaints — from foul odors to bloody noses to fatigue and pain — are increasing in homes around gas wells in Colorado, New Mexico, Alabama and Alberta, Canada, said Lisa Sumi, research director for the accountability project.

"There are little clusters of people getting sick," Sumi said.

Karen and Tim Trulove weren't alarmed when an occasional well was punched in the rolling hills around their 40-acre plot near Silt. But the wells have gotten closer, with one now only 200 yards from their house.

"The noise, the dust, the bright lights in our windows all night long — we lived with that for over three years," Karen Trulove said.

Two years ago, Trulove said, she began getting headaches, nausea, fatigue and dizziness. Last spring, she said, she let her dog out and was hit by "this blast of fumes" from the well behind their house. The next day she was sick.

"My life is just over compared to what it used to be," said Trulove, 51, who used to work in real estate, ran her own framing shop and rode the horses she and her husband raise. "The people who are doing this, the drillers, the companies, are doing the law when it comes to drilling for natural gas."

The federal government has exempted oil and gas exploration and production from some clean-water and hazardous-waste laws. Among the exemptions is hydraulic fracturing, which injects water, sand and chemicals underground to break down barriers and help release oil or gas for extraction.

Wes Wilson, an engineer in the Denver office of the Environmental Protection Agency, has publicly disputed a study by the agency that said hydraulic fracturing in coalbed methane gas wells doesn't endanger drinking water. He contends there is a distinct lack of oversight by the government on potential health issues involving oil and gas.

"Congress gave us broad enough authority to investigate public health concerns. The fact that we're not is appalling," said Wilson, with EPA for 34 years.

Ken Wonsosten, general counsel for the Colorado Oil and Gas Association trade group, said federal law gives the public access to information about chemicals the industry uses. He said industry supports monitoring and analysis of the chemicals, but added that he's not aware of oil and gas workers experiencing the problems



Karen Trulove, is pictured on her Silt, Colo., ranch May 29 wearing the respirator she says she wears for hours when fumes from a nearby natural gas storage and pumping station drift over her property.

described by area residents. Bruce Balzel, staff attorney for the accountability project, said disclosure is required only when large volumes are involved, not individual wells, and companies often claim the information is proprietary.

Brian Macke, the oil and gas commission director, noted that the state fined EnCana Oil & Gas (USA) \$371,200 in 2004 after gas leaked into a creek south of Silt and was traced to one of the company's wells. Some of the money is funding a two-year study of whether gas operations are causing health problems.

"We have a very extensive program for regulating oil and gas," Macke said. "We've very much expanded our requirements for protecting public health, safety and welfare."

The agency's policy is to respond within 24 hours to health complaints, Macke said. In the Mohabdis' case, he said, staff members talked to the couple and have sampled their well several times since 1997. They have never found evi-

dence of chemicals of gas.

Air quality monitoring by Garfield County, where the Mohabdis used to live, hasn't turned up toxins at hazardous levels. Jim Rada, head of the county's environmental health program, said spills or high winds can result in periodic spikes, but so far, readings have been well below levels considered dangerous.

Still, Rada said he doesn't dismiss the health complaints. He said he is frustrated medical experts can't provide more definitive answers.

"I don't think there's been enough research done to show or prove that chronic exposure or sporadic exposure to low levels of those compounds doesn't cause illness. We don't have that information," Rada said.

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State announces infusion of money for Montanans living with AIDS

By Jennifer McKee
Leo Newspapers

HELENA — In commemoration of World AIDS Day, Lt. Gov. Ron Bortinger — on Friday announced an effort to spend more than \$500,000 in state and private dollars the next three years to pay for AIDS medicines for sick Montanans who currently receive no help.

"Our values demand that we do not judge them, but that we help them," Bortinger said of the nearly 440 Montanans living with AIDS and roughly 150 more who have the disease, but do not know it.

Some \$220,000 of the total will come from the Flowers Heritage Foundation, a California group started by pharmacist Sylvester Flowers, who began his career by opening pharmacies in poorer neighborhoods.

The Foundation is for one year and will buy AIDS medicines of a "waiting list" to receive help paying for their medications, said Eric Flowers, son of the Foundation's founder.

"The Foundation announced this fall it would begin paying for AIDS medications for the 300 people nationwide who receive no help. Montana was the first state to apply for the

private money. "Our mission is to serve the underserved and take care of the most fragile among us," Flowers said.

Tom Lokar, a member of the Flowers Heritage Foundation board, said it's important for people with HIV/AIDS to have open access to medicine. For one thing, newer drugs can keep the disease in check, allowing patients to live longer, healthier lives. But AIDS medicines are also important for public health, too, he said. AIDS is a rapidly-mutating virus. People who don't have enough money to pay for all their AIDS drugs may try to ration them, allowing the virus to "outsmart" the drugs, which renders medicine less effective.

The other \$300,000 is included in Gov. Brian Schweitzer's proposed two-year budget for

the year beginning in July of 2007. It includes \$150,000 for each year. AIDS medications cost, on average, \$750 a month, Flowers said.

Montana, like all other states, gets money from the federal government to pay for all AIDS medications of people living below 350 percent of the federal poverty line, said Judy Nielsen, the HIV program coordinator at Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services. About two-thirds of the 440 Montanans living with HIV/AIDS qualify for the help. The state also provides some money, about \$42,000 a year.

The Flowers Heritage Foundation money will cover the 22 people on Montana's waiting list immediately. Nielsen said, and the extra money should cover them after the one-year grant expires.

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Heart attacks: The faster the treatment, the better

Local hospital tops list for 'door-to-balloon' time

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When it comes to unblocking a heart artery with angioplasty, turns out Twin Falls is a good place to be.

In fact, it was the best place to be in the first two quarters of 2006, according to recent studies by the American College of Cardiology. St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center ranked number one out of more than 500 hospitals surveyed for its "door-to-balloon" time. Simply put, that's the time it takes between a patient reaching the hospital's doors to having a heart artery unblocked with angioplasty, a procedure in which an expandable balloon is passed to the blockage and inflated, compressing the plaque and stretching the artery open.

Patients with clogged arteries got them unclogged faster at their local hospital than patients did at more than 500 other hospitals across the U.S., including some prestigious big-city hospitals.

The study looked at the percentages of patients who had angioplasty procedures performed in less than 90 minutes after arriving at the hospital doors. The national average for the first quarter of 2006 — January through March — was 52.7 percent. The national average for the second quarter of 2006 — April through June — was 55.7 percent.

At St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional, 100 percent of heart patients who came through the hospital's doors had their arteries unblocked in less than 90 minutes. Even Dr. Daniel Brown, one of two local interventional cardiologists, was amazed to see the hospital top the list two quarters in a row.

When he saw the first quarter's results, he said, "Gee, we got lucky." What did Brown think when he saw the second quarter results? "You scratch your head and say, 'Wow we're really doing something right here,'" he said.

Doing something right, indeed. In fact, the average door-to-balloon time at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional is 55 minutes. And that's important, because when it comes to heart attacks, time is muscle. The longer a patient waits to have his artery unblocked, the more of the heart muscle that dies.



The success of St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's interventional cardiology program is a team effort. Counter-clockwise from front are Dr. Daniel Brown, Dr. Dennis Enomoto, Dr. Reed Harris, Dr. David Kemp, technicians Robert Weir and Chris Robbins, supervisor Roger Brewer, registered nurses Emily Stone, Karen Fiscus and Lisa Fairbaird and technician Viki Brewer.

About angioplasty

Angioplasty is a therapy used to widen narrowed coronary arteries. A doctor inserts a thin, flexible plastic tube called a guiding catheter into the narrowed part of the artery. Next, a thin wire is threaded across the blockage. Over this wire, a thin, expandable balloon is passed to the blockage and inflated, compressing the plaque and stretching the artery open. Contemporary stents are being used more and more to prevent re-narrowing of the coronary arteries. This procedure uses a wire mesh tube — or stent — to pop open an artery that has been cleared in an angioplasty. The stent is collapsed to a small diameter and put over a balloon catheter. It's then moved into the area of the blockage. When the tiny balloon is inflated, the stent expands, locks in place and forms a scaffold that holds the artery open.

Source: American Heart Association

A team effort

Having the fastest door-to-balloon team in the nation wasn't Dr. Brown's accomplishment alone. He shares the credit with a number of people, including paramedics, nurses, medical technicians, patient care coordinators and emergency room and intensive care unit staff.

"I'm really proud of the team we have here," Brown said. "People should be knocking down our doors." When a Life Flight helicopter carrying a heart attack patient lands at the hospital, the team is there to meet them at the helipad.

When it comes speedy intervention, rural hospitals like St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional do have some advantages over hospitals in large metropolitan areas, Brown said. Not having to fight big city traffic, the interventional cardiology treatment team can be at the hospital within 15 minutes.

Need one heart attack victim's story of survival in Monday's Image section of the Times-News.

The team has performed about 800 angioplasties since the hospital opened its interventional cardiology unit in September 2003, Brown said. It now does 200 to 250 angioplasties emergency and elective procedures a year. But angioplasty isn't for everybody. Local patients with a high risk of complications who could potentially need emergency surgery are flown to Boise. And while it was used to be thought it was always good to open blocked arteries following a heart attack, a recent study funded by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute showed people who had balloon angioplasty to open an artery took 28 days after their



heart attacks fared no better than those given standard medicines to prevent a second attack. In fact, angioplasties in those cases could potentially do more harm, the study concluded.

Angioplasty and rural hospitals

It was long thought that rural hospitals without open heart surgical teams standing nearby shouldn't tinker with hearts. Local cardiologists beg to differ. Brown, along with cardiologists Stanley Mogelson, Reed Harris, David Kemp and Critical Care Services Director Marlys Massey

Second interventional cardiologist on board at hospital

By Sandy Miller
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Dr. Daniel Brown can finally take a breather once in awhile now that a second interventional cardiologist has come on board at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Dr. Dennis Enomoto came to the hospital last summer from Seattle, Wash. Enomoto went to medical school at St. Louis University and did his residency at the University of Arizona School of Medicine and a cardiac fellowship at the University of Washington. He and his wife, Hannah Leah, a construction contractor have four children now grown and out of the nest.

When a doctor friend in

Boise told him there might be an opening for an interventional cardiologist in Twin Falls, he decided to see what St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional had to offer. He liked what he saw.

"There's an appreciation of doctors here," Enomoto said. "There's cooperation between physicians and between the facility and physicians."

Still, Enomoto said he wouldn't sign his name on the dotted line until there was a promise that St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional would build a new facility.

When he found out a new hospital was indeed on the drawing board, he signed on.

Enomoto said people are sometimes puzzled about why he'd trade a practice in Seattle for a practice in rural Idaho. One reason, he said, is that there's more to life than work. In Seattle, he was splitting his time between two hospitals and a clinic, and he spent a lot of time stuck in traffic.

"It adds hours to your day and it comes out of the quality time in your life," Enomoto said. "You have to have a certain amount of balance in your life."

Times-News Business Editor Sandy Miller can be reached at 735-3264 or by e-mail at smiller@emagicvalley.com.



Enomoto

Minimum wage hike would boost 4 percent of workers wages

Advocates say it won't go far

By Ellen Simon
Associated Press Writer

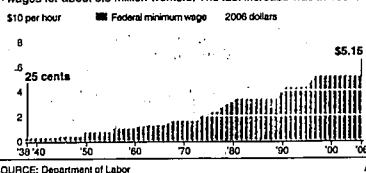
Two months into her minimum wage job at Target Corp., Tara Dennis realized she and her three children would be better off if she was unemployed and on food stamps. So she quit.

"As a single mom, minimum wage isn't going to get me ahead. It's not even going to get me caught up," said Dennis, who lives in Missoula, Mont.

A proposed hike that would bring the federal minimum wage to \$7.25 would give workers like Dennis their first raise since the federal minimum increased to \$5.15 in 1997. But some low-income workers and their advocates say the wage increase won't affect many workers and is not a way out of poverty for minimum wage workers. Since the last hike,

Minimum wage on Democrats' agenda

Raising the national minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 would improve wages for about 6.5 million workers. The last increase was in 1997.



wages for most of the lowest-paid workers have risen above the federal minimum wage, while prices for necessities such as housing and transportation have risen faster.

"We should be aware that this is an extremely moderate proposal," said Jared Bernstein, senior economist of the Economic Policy Institute.

The minimum wage hike, which Democrats have put at the top of their agenda when the next

Congress convenes in January, would affect 1.9 million hourly workers who make minimum wage and workers who get tips, who can make less than minimum wage. It would raise wages for an estimated 6.5 million workers or 4 percent of the work force — janitors, waitstaff, security guards, cashiers and store clerks — according to the Economic Policy Institute.

Please see BOOST, Page A11



Tara Dennis makes lunch for her sons Peyton Butcher, 2, left, and Gavin Butcher, 1, right, in Missoula, Mont., Thursday. Two months into her minimum wage job at Target Corp., Dennis realized she and her family would be better off if she was unemployed and on food stamps.

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CAREER MOVES

TWIN FALLS — John V. Evans Sr., president of D. L. Evans Bank and former governor of Idaho, announced the promotion of Tina Myers to cash manager/development/business development officer for D. L. Evans Bank with an office in the Twin Falls Financial Center located at 906 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Myers has worked for D. L. Evans Bank since 2001 and previously held the positions of benefit specialist and Magic Valley Premier Club coordinator. She is a graduate of Minico High School and has lived in the Twin Falls area for the past 20 years. She is married with one daughter and is an active member of the Twin Falls community.



MILESTONES

RIBBON CUT ON NEW HOME



Habitat for Humanity held a ribbon cutting for the Daniel Pamparau family at 325 Walnut, Twin Falls. The dedication for the home was funded by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, Habitat for Humanity International, Habitat for Humanity of the Magic Valley Inc. and local Thrivent chapters. The home was built by Habitat, Thrivent and Lutheran volunteers and by the Daniel Pamparau family and friends. For more information, call Joseph Young, Thrivent Northern Rocky Region at 734-3393 or Linda Fleming, Habitat for Humanity of the Magic Valley Inc. at 734-8349 or 731-3044. Shown cutting the ribbon is Daniel Pamparau and his family.

NEW COMPANY IN BURLEY



Primary Residential Mortgage, at 1432 Overland Ave. in Burley, is a new business in Mini-Casita. The business is owned and operated by Gale Croft, Carole Hughes and Sandra Croft. Business hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday or by appointment. They offer all types of mortgage lending including conventional, sub-prime and FHA-V-Rural Development loans. For more information, call 679-4663. Pictured from left are Kae Cameroo, Gale Croft, Ward Macfield, Carole Hughes, Ty Osterhout, Sandra Croft, Michelle Campbell and Matt Flygare.

A class on class for college students

Employers now expect graduates to know the rules of etiquette

By Haash Cho
The Baltimore Sun

Shake a job recruiter's or client's hand with a firm grip and maintain eye contact. Write e-mail like a business correspondence and not as a text message to friends. Wait until the host begins eating before picking up a fork. These tips sound like lessons out of charm school, but college students across the country are signing up for etiquette instruction with more frequency because a growing number of schools are providing the training to better prepare their graduates for the workplace. Employers now expect graduates to be equipped with technical know-how, the rules of doing business and proper etiquette right out of school, according to college career advisers and etiquette consultants. That's partly because companies have less time and resources to train young hires

on the finer points of protocol compared with past generations, business and education leaders say. Globalization also has fueled the need for students to be more aware of cultural nuances and international etiquette. And increasingly, younger workers have become accustomed to casual manners, and informally, partly fueled by their everyday use of technology. "The workplace is now 24/7, and students are presumed to arrive at their first day on the job with advance knowledge of how everything is going to work, including what I call the unwritten rules of communication, such as baselines on etiquette," said DeDe Bartlett, a former executive at two Fortune 500 companies who lectures on career issues to college students. On top of workshops in resume writing and interview techniques, colleges are adding etiquette training because the job market demands it more now than in the past. "That's part of our job to prepare them even though it's not the book stuff," said Laleh Malek, director of professional experience at Towson University's College of Business and Economics. "We are moving with those changes."



Katie Farrell, 4, checks out the merchandise at Kitson in Los Angeles, where she might someday join the trendy shopping set. Of children a bit older, owner Fraser Ross says, 'They're 100 percent more brand-conscious today than they used to be.'

Luxury labels are all the rage for tweens, teenagers this Christmas

By Alana Semuels
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — Dressed in pink Ugg boots, Seven jeans and a matching pink sweater and cap, Elizabeth Cohen looks the epitome of hip as she winds her way through the holiday crowds at a shopping center here. Cohen is a discerning consumer — she names Prada and Dolce & Gabbana as her favorite brands. She's also 10 years old. "I ask her, 'What do you need these for?'" said her mother, Jane Cohen of the Bel-Air district of Los Angeles, who shops mostly at vintage stores and garage sales. But the 10-year-old is hardly unusual. Elizabeth and other "tweens" — children who are 8 to 12 years old — are expected to demand luxury goods this winter. The season shopfest is under way, and for tweens and teenagers, the search is on for expensive accessories, belts, purses and shoes such as those seen in fashion shows and magazines. "There's a huge uptick in teens shopping at traditional luxury brands," said Jim Taylor, vice chairman of the Harrison Group, a marketing firm that recently conducted a survey of tweens' preferences. "Having a Garci'scar's part of being a kid today." But even on the affluent west side of Los Angeles, these youths rarely have closets of luxury goods. Many, including Elizabeth Cohen, also shop at



Upscale items with kid appeal are among the wares at Kitson in Los Angeles.

Target or Gap, looking for bargains they can mix and match with luxury accessories. "It's not only the rich communities — it's anywhere that kids have an income," said Kurt Barnard, president of Barnard's Retail Consulting Group in New York. "A lot more kids earn money than used to, and they feel they have the right to spend their money as they see fit." Taylor said tweens buy these brands with allowance money or wages earned from part-time jobs. This can lead to a fair amount of spending on brands once known only to the rich and famous. "They're 100 percent more brand-conscious today than they used to be," said Fraser

Ross, owner of the upscale store Kitson. "A 12-year-old will know what Louis Vuitton is." Kitson is known as a high-end west side celebrity haunt. A year ago, Ross added Kitson Kids, but tweens still prefer items at his main store, such as \$190 Seven for All Mankind jeans and \$650 Isabella Fiore handbags. Many customers, he said, see celebrities wearing brands and buy the same ones. "I call them ABC girls — Armani, Blahnik, Chanel," Ross said. "They wear everything branded." Nor is the interest just among girls. Kitson opened a men's store in September. He included clothes in small sizes

for boys — often propelled to the store by their girlfriends, Ross said. The interest in these brands isn't just for the wealthy, said Kim Cilliberto. She owns Titti Bella, an e-retailer selling upscale baby and children's clothing, such as embroidered pants by Nolita Pocket, an Italian brand, for \$176.95. Cilliberto's sales have more than doubled in the last year, and her customer base spreads across the U.S. Some of her clients buy the expensive items for a special occasion, but others splurge on fancy baby and children's gear for everyday wear. "Both parents and their kids are more label-conscious," Cilliberto said. "Parents start when kids are babies, and by the time kids are older, they recognize the brands." Part of this interest comes from baby boomers who have grown up in affluence, said Marshall Cohen, chief analyst at the NPD Group. In part, parents "want to show their status through their kids," he said. Cohen expects that this holiday season the interest in brands will lead to the "one-for-you, one-for-me" phenomenon, in which a mother buying a Coach bag for her 8-year-old daughter will also buy one for herself — a boon for luxury retailers. Designer apparel represents about 9 percent of teenage clothing purchases, Cohen said, far greater than the percentage just a few years ago.

Store wars: Let the race to rock-bottom prices begin

By Yan Q. Mai
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Panasonic 42-inch plasma high-definition television sold for an average of \$1,762 at Circuit City in September. By October, it was \$1,687. And the day after Thanksgiving, the price hit a temporary low of \$1,199. Of course, Best Buy was offering the same TV for \$959 that day. Not to be outdone, Circuit City bounced back with an announcement this week that it would beat every competitor's price on TVs. Let the race to rock bottom begin. "Once one retailer starts lowering prices, the other retailers have to respond," said Richard Weinhart, an analyst with BMO Capital Markets. "There's kind of been a downward spiral." The Christmas shopping season accounts for about 20 percent of all sales for retailers, and success or failure during these two months can have long-term effects. When Wal-Mart began cutting prices on toys three years ago, it dethroned Toys R Us and ended up controlling the market. This year, consumer electronics dominate the landscape, thanks to new video game consoles, PlayStation 3 by Sony and Nintendo's Wii, and the rollout of more affordable flat-screen televisions. "In electronics, there aren't too many

categories that have very poor growth prognoses," said Stephen Baker, vice president of industry analysis for consumer research firm NPD Group. Sales of high-priced electronics helped drive an average spending increase of nearly 19 percent during the official kickoff to the holiday season last weekend, even though fewer shoppers turned out than last year, according to the National Retail Federation. But the fight for shoppers actually began much earlier. On Nov. 3, Wal-Mart announced it would cut prices on 100 key consumer electronics items through the end of the year. The hefty discounts were the type normally reserved for the day after Thanksgiving — video game Madden 2007 was slashed from \$19 to \$37.88, and a Kodak digital camera was cut from \$298.77 to \$249.64. And that 42-inch Panasonic HDTV? It was one of Wal-Mart's signature deals. The behemoth retailer led the pack by lowering its price by \$500, to \$1,294. "The flat-screen TV is a big trend that will go beyond the holiday season," said John Fleming, Wal-Mart's chief marketing officer. The move signaled Wal-Mart's aggressive stance this Christmas and caught its competitors off guard. About two weeks later, prices on the Panasonic television at Best Buy and Circuit City were still several hundred dollars higher than at Wal-Mart. But the early discounts also

gave them time to plot a comeback. By Thanksgiving, speculation abounded that Best Buy would trump Wal-Mart's price on the day after Thanksgiving when retailers normally unveil temporary blockbuster discounts. In the television commercials aired during the ever-present football game that week, Best Buy made its move: It cut the price on the Panasonic to \$999. Circuit City came in second at \$1,199, and Wal-Mart fell to third. "The price on these products has come down to the point where retailers are willing to try to drive some traffic with those products," Baker said. Of course, such prices can last only so long. On Wednesday, the television sold for \$1,439 on Best Buy's Web site — the same price as at Circuit City — putting Wal-Mart back in front for the lowest price. Manufacturers have helped drive down prices of flat-screen TVs by producing sets more cheaply and in greater numbers. Suppliers, who are also battling for market share among cutting-edge customers, have lowered their costs to compete with cheaper, second-tier brands. All told, industry experts say, retailers are not making much — if any — money off TV sales. Instead, they are counting on customers buying accessories, warranties and service plans for their expensive new gadgets.

Age-related discounts becoming more common

From air travel to outdoor activities to shopping, many companies giving perks to older Americans

By Martha M. Hamilton
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Forget cheap movies and early-bird meals at Applebee's.

When it comes to age-related discounts, you can't beat Panama.

To attract more investment, the central American nation has eased immigration laws and set up a discount bonanza for expatriate pensioners that includes 20 percent off professional services such as those provided by lawyers, architects and physical therapists; no property tax for 20 years; no income tax on income earned outside Panama; and a 50 percent discount on real estate closing costs.

And that's only the beginning. The list of discounts goes on and on, including price breaks on telephone service,

surgery and domestic airfare on limited-time waiver of duties on imported household goods up to \$10,000.

All it takes to qualify is pension income of \$500 or more per month — at any age and from any source. Although the law creating the discounts has been around since 1987, Panama only began to promote the discounts about two years ago, said Rafael Donado, commercial attache at the Panamanian Embassy. "It's booming at this point — and the most attractive program worldwide," he said. And Panama's legal tender is the dollar, making relocation even more painless, he said.

Well, we can't all move to Panama, although it does sound tempting.

But many of us can qualify for other age-related discounts, both inside and abroad, that help pre-retirement and retirement income go further. From being able to get in the short line for car inspections in the District of Columbia to cheaper rates for vacationing in a castle in Spain, they're worth checking out.

One of the most obvious places to start is with AARP, which provides a package of discounts for members. Although many age-related discounts are reserved for folks who are in their 60s, AARP membership begins at 50, and the \$12.50 annual membership fee buys discounts of up to 30 percent on car rental rates from Hertz and Avis and on eye exams and eyegear from companies including LensCrafters and Pearle Vision and many other goods and services. This and holiday season the group is launching a Web site pooling discounts on more than 500 brand-name products.

Airlines used to be a good deal for older travelers, offering a 10 percent discount, but most of them have cut those programs — along with peanuts, jobs and other expenses. Southwest Airlines still offers savings for travelers older than 65, however. And several non-U.S. airlines, such as SAS, Lufthansa and Virgin, still offer discounts, said Joan Rattner Hellman, author of "Unbelievably Good Deals and Great Adventures That You

It's a deal

Here are some places to go for discounts:

- **SeniorDiscounts.com** is a Web site that compiles discounts offered by many vendors.
- **Amtrak** travelers 62 and older receive a discount of 15 percent on the applicable adult fare on most Amtrak trains, although it doesn't apply to sleeper accommodations, the Auto Train, weekday Acela Express or Mailliner service.
- **Banana Republic** offers discounts of 10 percent to shoppers 62 and older.
- **Marriott International** Hotels offer discounts of 15 percent to clients 62 and older on standard room rates. *Source: The Washington Post*

Absolutely Can't Get Unless You're Over 50" (McGraw Hill). "As far as everything else goes, there are more and more discounts out there," for lodging, meals and rental cars, she

said. But don't assume the discount is the best deal. Check travel Web sites, including Cheapfare.com and Travelocity.com, that offer bargains, and you may find an even bigger break. There are some particularly nice bargains for lodging outside the United States, although you have to book them well in advance, said Hellman. For instance, if at least one member of your party is 60, you can get 40 percent off a stay (except for Friday and Saturday nights) at the beautiful Pousada de Castelo in Obidos perched on a hilltop surrounded by centuries-old walls. And Spirit has breaks on its government-owned inns, many of which are converted castles or convents.

There are also many good deals on outdoor activities. The National Park Service has offered its Golden Age Passport for 41 years. A one-time fee of \$10 buys lifetime of free admission to national parks, including Shenandoah National Park, which charges \$15 per car from March through November, and Yellowstone National Park, which charges \$25 per car. And you can waive your pass to

admit a whole carload of visitors of any age.

Hellman says that many retirees ski more than before because they can ski midweek when the slopes are less crowded. Many ski resorts offer half-off tickets in half for skiers older than 60 or 65, she said, and some allow even older skiers to ski for free. At Wisp Resort in McHenry, Md., extended day passes are available for half off for skiers older than 62, and skiers who are 70 or older ski for free.

It's also worth checking to see if river outfitters offer special age-related breaks. For instance, a six-day trip on the Salmon River in Idaho offered by Warren River Expeditions costs \$190 less if you're 50 or older.

And those movie tickets? If river outfitters offer special age-related breaks. For instance, a six-day trip on the Salmon River in Idaho offered by Warren River Expeditions costs \$190 less if you're 50 or older. And those movie tickets? If river outfitters offer special age-related breaks. For instance, a six-day trip on the Salmon River in Idaho offered by Warren River Expeditions costs \$190 less if you're 50 or older. And those movie tickets? If river outfitters offer special age-related breaks. For instance, a six-day trip on the Salmon River in Idaho offered by Warren River Expeditions costs \$190 less if you're 50 or older.

Wages

Continued from page A9

Adjusting for inflation, the minimum wage of \$5.15 is at its lowest level since 1985. By 2009, a \$7.25 minimum wage would have the spending power of \$6.75 today, Bernstein calculated using Congressional Budget Office projections.

A wage increase to \$7.25 would help, but "it wouldn't put anybody in the clear," said Cara Prince, 41, of Louisville, Kentucky. She has been working for a temporary agency for two years, doing factory, warehouse and restaurant work at \$6 an hour.

"There's a whole lot I can't do," because of the low pay, she said. "By the time they take taxes out, there's nothing left. Just \$23 a day."

But the proposed increase "is not a solution to poverty," said Marc Fellows, a scholar at the Brookings Institute. "This is, for the most part, a symbolic effort," he said.

Twenty-eight states and the District of Columbia will have 2007 minimum wages above the Federal level. The highest minimum wage in the nation is Washington state's \$7.63 an hour, which is set to increase to \$7.94 on Jan. 1. A minimum wage worker in the state working full time would make \$16,515 a year before taxes. The federal poverty threshold for a family of three is \$16,600.

The real-life math of the minimum wage is even more complex, Dennis, who is 23 and has

three children, said she lost her food stamps when she went to work. Her family lives in subsidized housing, and when her income increased, her rent did too. Plus, she got a bill for previous months at the higher rate. Then there were the day care costs.

"I got to the point where if I wasn't working there, I could be with my kids and pay my bills," said Dennis, who lives in Missouri, Mont.

Montana was among states that passed minimum wage increases in the November election, along with Arizona, Colorado, Missouri, Nevada and Ohio.

Herman (Mack) McCowan, 61, of Cleveland, was active in the Ohio office of Let Justice Roll, an organization that advocated for a higher minimum wage. In Ohio, the minimum wage increased from \$5.15 to \$6.85 and will now be indexed to inflation.

"At \$5.15 an hour, you can't really extend yourself, you only exist," he said. McCowan worked for four years as a day laborer, making \$5.15 an hour, before landing a \$6 an-hour job at a community center.

With the roughly \$80 a week a full-time worker would have under the federal wage hike, "You're able to afford a telephone, able to pay your light bill on time, able to pay your rent," he said.

If there are two people at home "it will allow you to put a little more food on the table, sustain yourself a little bit bet-



Herman (Mack) McCowan on the balcony of his apartment overlooking the University Circle area of Cleveland Thursday. McCowan was active in the Ohio office of Let Justice Roll, an organization that advocated for a higher minimum wage. In Ohio, the minimum wage increased from \$5.15 to \$6.85 and will now be indexed to inflation. McCowan worked for four years as a day laborer, making \$5.15 an hour, before landing a \$6 an-hour job at a community center.

ter than before," McCowan said. "You will be able to relieve a lot of the stress."

Signaling wages for unskilled workers coupled with increased housing costs have put more working people at risk of being homeless. For instance, about 29 percent of homeless adults in Louisville, Kentucky homeless shelters are working, according to the Louisville Coalition for the Homeless.

One-quarter of hourly workers who make minimum wage are teenagers, but about half are older than 25, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For some workers, a job near minimum wage is their only option. Paula Berrios, 66, helps support her daughter and grandchildren in El Salvador working as a janitor for \$7.18 an hour. Berrios, who lives in Alexandria, Virginia, does not speak English.

"I'm desperate," she said, speaking through a translator. "That's all I can get."

At the current minimum wage, households where everyone who works makes minimum wage would need more than three full-time workers to pay market rent in a two-bedroom apartment in New York, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, California, Colorado and Nevada, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

A jump to \$7.25 would make a two-bedroom apartment

affordable to families with two minimum wage earners in all but 19 states, said Danilo Pelletiere, research director at the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

"If you're a single mom or dad with a kid, who can't sleep in one room, you're still out of luck," he said. But for families with more than one full-time minimum wage earner, an increase could cut the number of jobs they would need to work, he said.

In some areas, especially where the cost of living is high, pay for low-skill jobs has already surpassed \$7.25 an hour.

"Eight dollars an hour is a starting wage for a dishwasher," said Paul Turley, owner of Turley's Restaurant in Boulder, Colorado. "The minimum wage in Colorado is really a non-issue."

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MONEY

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Share Class, and various performance metrics.

Financial snapshot Friday, Dec. 1, 2006. Interest rates: Average rate paid on bank money-market accounts (Bank Rate Monitor) 0.84%, 0.84%, 0.73%. 91-day Treasury Bill Yield 5.03%, 5.05%, 3.99%. 10-year Treasury Note 4.44%, 4.55%, 4.52%.

The Dow this week. The daily high, low and close for the week ending Dec. 1. Includes a bar chart showing daily price movement and key indices: Nasdaq 2,413.21, S&P 500 1,396.71, Russell 2000 781.17, AMEX 2,066.09, NYSE 8,949.06.

Table of mutual fund performance data for various funds, including names like Frank Lane Fund, Frank Lane Fund II, and Frank Lane Fund III.

Table of mutual fund performance data for various funds, including names like Fidelity, Vanguard, and others.

Large advertisement for 'SHIRT' featuring the slogan 'YOUR GIFTS at Copy Pro & T-Shirt Pro'. Includes contact information: 661 Blue Lakes Blvd. N ~ Twin Falls, ID 83301 ~ (208)735-9793 ~ Fax (208)735-9795 ~ copyjob@msn.com. Also lists services: Full Service Copy Center, Transfers, Mugs, More, and shipping options: UPS, FedEx, US Mail.

Luxury stores play key role as shopping season begins

Los Angeles Times

Department stores and luxury retailers helped drive industry sales last month as the holiday shopping season shifted into high gear, even as some big players stalled.

Guess Inc., Limited Brands and the parent company of

Macy's saw sales swell in November, while Gap, Abercrombie & Fitch and Wal-Mart disappointed.

As a whole, retail stores open for a year or more advanced only a 2.1 percent last month, down from 4.8 percent in November 2005, according to the International Council of

Shopping Center's tally of 54 chains nationwide. But, excluding a sales decrease from Wal-Mart, sales rose 4 percent, up from last November.

"The majority are posting stronger numbers than last year," said analyst Jharone Martis, of data tracker

Thomson Financial. "We feel pretty confident that the strong momentum will carry into the month of December."

Certainly many shoppers didn't hold back. Nordstrom Inc. logged a 5.4 percent increase while Saks Inc. jumped to 7.2 percent.

Federated Department

Stores, parent of the Macy's and Bloomingdale's chains, logged a 6.5 percent increase in November, well above the 4.8 percent that analysts anticipated. Federated reported strong sales of youth apparel, housewares and accessories, including handbags, shoes and cosmetics.

Celebrate "Avoid the Kitchen Week" at Swensen's

It's the week after Thanksgiving, when the mere thought of roasting, basting, baking, or broiling anything can cause even the most enthusiastic holiday chef to crawl under the kitchen table, curl up into fetal position, and weep like a small child. To help you recover from this unfortunate condition, Swensen's Markets are offering remarkable prices on all kinds of easy-to-

cook and easy-to-eat meals, including Bar S franks. Just pop them into the microwave for a few seconds, throw them on a bun, and enjoy. No dishes. No messes. No worries. So stop by Swensen's this week, stock up on your favorite low-maintenance foods, and give yourself a well-deserved post-Thanksgiving break from the kitchen.

Bar-S BOLOGNA (2 varieties) or MEAT FRANKS (3 varieties) 99¢ 1 Lb. Pkgs.	Large Navel ORANGES Fresh & Juicy! 3 LBS / \$14 38 Lb. Box.....\$9.99	Red Baron PIZZA 21-23.8 oz. \$10	Folgers COFFEE 34.5 oz. \$4.99	Western Family BUTTER 1 Lb. Cubes 2 / \$3
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Swensen's Quality MEATS...

Boneless Baron of BEEF ROAST \$219 Lb.	Boneless Beef SHOULDER STEAK \$239 Lb.	Boneless Beef ROUND STEAK \$229 Lb.	New York STEAK \$499 Lb.	Beef Cube STEAK \$349 Lb.
Boneless Pork Center-Cut LOIN CHOPS \$229 Lb.	Beef SHORT RIBS \$179 Lb.	Boneless Beef STEW MEAT \$299 Lb.	Falls Brand Country-Style BREAKFAST SAUSAGE \$189 10 Lb. Bag.....\$17.90	Falls Brand Pork SPARE RIBS \$159 Lb.

Swensen's Select PRODUCE...

Red Ripe TOMATOES 99¢ Lb.	RADISHES OR GREEN ONIONS 3 Ea. / \$1
Red Leaf, Romaine, Green Leaf, Iceberg LETTUCE 79¢ Ea.	Large, Crispy CELERY 99¢ Ea.
Delicious GRAPEFRUIT 3 Ea. / \$1	POMEGRANATES 99¢ Ea.
Juicy LIMES 8 Ea. / \$1	Extra-Fancy APPLES Fuji, Cameo, Granny Smith, & Braeburn 89¢ Lb.
TANGERINES 99¢ Lb.	

From Swensen's FREEZERS/COOLERS...

Better Buy SHOESTRING POTATOES 20 oz. 4 / \$1	Banquet POT PIES 7 oz. 59¢	Western Family SOUR CREAM 16 oz. \$119	Pillsbury GRAND BISCUITS 16 oz. 2 / \$3
Hawaiian's Own JUICES 12 oz. Frozen Canister 88¢	Banquet FROZEN DINNER 9-11 oz. 10 / \$10	Western Family ICE CREAM Asslt. 1/2 Gal. 2 / \$4	Western Family SHERBET Asslt. 1/2 Gal. 2 / \$3

Come in and check out the hundreds of additional in-store specials!

COKE PRODUCTS 12 pk. 3 / \$12	PEPSI PRODUCTS 2 Liter Pkg. 4 / \$5	7-UP PRODUCTS 12 pk. 2 / \$7	Western Family SNACK CRACKERS 18 oz. 2 / \$3	Nabisco WHEAT THINS 10 oz. Pkg. 2 / \$5
Kraft Handi-Snack PUDDING 4-pk. 88¢	DORITOS Asslt. 13 oz. 2 / \$4	Golden Grain RICE OR PASTA RONI 5 / \$5	Geisha PINEAPPLE BIG 20 oz. Can 88¢	Western Family APPLE JUICE & CIDER 1 Gal. \$1.88
Kellogg POP TARTS Asslt. 14 oz. \$1.88	Post HONEY BUNCHES OF OATS 16 oz. 5 / \$10	Western Family SUGAR Brown or Powdered 32 oz. 5 / \$5	25-Lbs. SUGAR \$10.99	Western Family PAPER TOWELS 8-Roll Advantage Pk. \$9.88
Dawn DISH SOAP 25 oz. 2 / \$5	Puffs FACIAL TISSUE 132 ct. \$1.89	Purina DOG CHOW 37.5 Lb. Bag \$15.99	Frisksies CAT FOOD Bonus Size 37.5 Lb. Bag \$11.97	COME SEE OUR SELECTION OF CHRISTMAS CANDY!



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EDITORIAL

Growing pains require a look into impact fees

Twin Falls City Councilman David Johnson said a mouthful when he described growth as a two-edged sword. "The good news is we're growing and the bad news is we're growing."

Count us among those who think the news is more good than bad. Growth is a twin virtue alongside prosperity, and it far beats the alternative of a town on the downside.

But if we want the good times to continue, we have to pay for it. Twin Falls City Council members are studying whether impact fees should be part of the growth equation. Odds are many Twin Falls taxpayers would say most definitely yes.

Impact fees are paid by developers to help provide for the widening infrastructure. While property taxes usually cover that growth, they don't always cover all costs. So city leaders have to weigh options. Do we implement the impact fees to the conservation of builders and real estate agents, or do we raise taxes or pass bonds on the existing residents?

City Council members say the impact fees are worth a look, and we would have to agree. The council voted unanimously for a \$7,500 study to determine whether the fees are the most feasible growth revenue plan. If the study reaps promising data, the council could approve the second phase of the study to calculate actual fee structure. The study should be complete in the next few months.

Twin Falls won't be breaking new trends here. Impact fees are already common in Boise, Coeur d'Alene, Meridian, Caldwell, Nampa, Post Falls, Rexburg and Ketchum, according to the Association of Idaho Cities. Ken Harward, executive director of the organization, says the main principle is "new growth is paying its portion rather than having to be picked up by the existing taxpayers."

Idaho law allows impact fees to be used for any facility or service, including water, sewer, roads, parks, law enforcement, or recreational services. But many of the cities that use impact fees started with parks and law enforcement only, and have considered expanding their use from there.

Mayor Lance Clow said if Twin Falls does begin using impact fees, it would be on a limited scale.

"We already do certain things right now," Clow said. "We require builders to build sewer connections and roads, they have to do all their own infrastructure. If there's a road on the outside that's under city standards, they have to bring it under those standards. "Look at it as using a menu approach to what is good and fair."

State laws also limit the impact fees application, so that cities will only use the fees to meet existing levels of service and for new capital improvements, and not for operations or expenses.

Harward added that impact fees involve a thorough process of community planning. An advisory committee must be formed to guide the use of the impact fee, and it must include representatives from the development industry "so that they have a voice in the process," Harward said.

That type of long-term community planning can only help Twin Falls in the long run. While the city should take its time to study the impact fee issue before implementing it, its usage could be beneficial for all parties involved. That includes developers trying to make the city a more attractive place for new residents to call home.

Our view: Twin Falls officials took a well-reasoned side to studying impact fees. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

False hope for Iraq's new reality

Now that the "realists" have ridden into town gleefully consigning the Bush doctrine to the ash heap of history, everyone has discovered the notion of interest, as if it were some new idea thought up by James Baker and the Iraq Study Group.

Who do people think we've been doing for the last five years? True, the president's rhetoric has a tendency to go soaringly Wilsonian, e.g., the banishing tyranny stuff in his second inaugural address. But our policies of democratization in Iraq and Afghanistan and Lebanon have been deeply rooted in the most concrete of American interests.

If we really had been in the grip of "idealism," we'd be deep in Chad and Burma and Darfur. We are not. We are instead trying to sustain fragile democracies in three strategically important countries — Afghanistan, Iraq and Lebanon — that form the geographic parentheses around the principal threat to Western interests in the region, the Syria-Iran axis.

We are trying to bring democracy to Iraq in particular because a pro-Western government enjoying legitimacy and popular support would have been the most enduring means of securing our interests there. Depositing Saddam & Sons was essential, because they posed a permanent strategic threat to the region and to U.S. interests.

But their successor — the popularly elected Maliki government — has failed. The cause of that failure is rooted in Iraq's political culture that makes it almost impossible for anyone to acquire the political leadership to act with a sense of national consciousness.

We should nonetheless make a last effort to change the composition of the government and assemble a new one composed of those — Kurds, moderate Sunnis, secular Shiites and some of the religious Shiites — who might be capable of reaching a



CHARLES KRAUTHAMMER

grand political settlement. Everyone now says that the key to stopping the fighting in Iraq is political — again, as if this were another great discovery. It's been clear for at least a year that a military solution to the insurgency was out of our reach. The military price would have been prohibitive and the victory ephemeral without a political compromise. And that kind of compromise — vesting the Sunnis with proportionate political and financial (i.e. oil) power — is something the Shiites, at least those now comprising the Maliki government, seem incapable of doing.

The U.S. should be giving Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki a clear ultimatum: if he does not come up with a political solution in two months or cede power to a new coalition that will, the U.S. will abandon the Green Zone, retire to its bases, move much of its personnel to Kurdistan where we are welcome and safe, and let the civil war take its course. Let the current Green Zone-protected Iraqi politicians who take their cue from Moqtada al-Sadr face the insurgency alone. That might concentrate their minds on either making a generous offer to the Sunnis or stepping aside for a new coalition that would.

The key to progress is political change within Iraq. The newest fashion, however, is to go "regional," engaging Iran and Syria in order to have them pull our chestnuts out of the fire. This idea rests on the notion that both Iran and Syria have an interest in stability in Iraq.

Very hardheaded realist that it is, interest, stability, regional powers. But stringing them together to suggest that Iran and Syria share our interests in stability is the height of fantasy. In fact, Iran and Syria have an overriding interest in chaos in Iraq — which is precisely why they have been abetting the insurgency and fanning civil war.

Perhaps in some long-term future they will want a stable Iraq as a tame client state of the Syria-Iran axis. For now, they want chaos. What in God's name will a negotiation with them yield? At best, they might give us a few months to withdraw. But why do we need their help to do that? We can do our withdrawing well without them. And in return for non-help in a non-solution that is essentially a surrender, Syria would demand to be given a free hand once again in Lebanon — just as when the U.S. needed help in Iraq before the Gulf War, then Secretary of State James Baker gave Lebanon over to Syria as a quid pro quo.

And Iran will demand a free hand with its nuclear weapons project, which will turn it into the regional superpower dominating the Gulf Arabs and their oil.

If that would save Iraq for us, there might at least be an argument for such a swap. But just to cover an American retreat? This is sacrificing one interest without even securing another. It's enough to give realism a bad name.

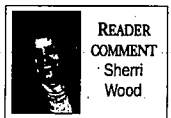
Charles Krauthammer's e-mail address is letters@charleskrauthammer.com.

Initiative helped build education support

On behalf of the more than 12,000 members of the Idaho Education Association, I want to express my deep appreciation to every voter who voted on Proposition 1. Of all the candidates and measures on the ballot, Proposition 1 attracted the second largest number of voters, second only to the gubernatorial race. We believe this high level of interest in school funding indicates Idahoans have a strong commitment to public education.

It is both heartening and humbling to know that thousands upon thousands of Idaho voters have just expressed their concern for public education and the work to which we have devoted our professional lives. Thank you for that affirmation.

We know many of the voters who did not support Proposition 1 believe public schools need more funding. They disagreed with some aspect of the initiative, but



READER COMMENT Sherri Wood

nonetheless they are strong proponents of public education.

Proposition 1 enjoyed widespread support throughout the state, from individuals to businesses, from community leaders to numerous organizations. Based on our conversations with individual Idahoans and the show of support Proposition 1 enjoyed, we are convinced there is nearly unanimous agreement that schools need more money.

Idaho voters have repeatedly told pollsters education ought to be a top priority in this state. The support Proposition 1 received should make it clear to Idaho policy makers their

constituents are deeply concerned about school funding. None of us should ignore the votes and voices of the 204,489 Idahoans who supported Proposition 1 at the ballot box. More importantly, we cannot ignore the educational future of our children. When public schools do not receive adequate and stable funding, it is our students, the next generation of Idaho citizens, who lose.

When all was said and done on Election Day, the very real problem that Proposition 1 attempted to address — our schools are inadequately funded — still exists. Idaho's schools are still 45th among the 50 states in the amount we spend to educate our children. And our classrooms are still the eighth most crowded in the nation.

These statistics have faces — the 260,000 students in our public schools. Each student deserves the very best education possible — and that means providing adequate and stable

funding for all of Idaho's public schools. There are still not enough textbooks for students, computers are still outdated, schools are still in disrepair, parents still have to supply paper for copy machines, and students still have to pay to take certain courses. For our students' sake and for the sake of Idaho's future, we must find a way to provide adequate and stable funding for our schools.

The IEA invites parents, business leaders and all citizens to join public school educators in developing an even better way to help make our students and our schools more successful by finding a solution to the problems of inadequate funding and the loss of educational opportunities for so many Idaho children. As Garrison Keillor once said, "Nothing you do for children is ever wasted."

Sherri Wood is the president of the Idaho Education Association.

Times-News

Brad Hurd . . . Publisher Chris Steinbach . . . Editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, Chris Steinbach, Steve Crump, Traci Billas, Bill Bitzenberg and David Cooper.

LETTERS

Idahoans possess the ability to shape future

There are no words to fully express how humble and grateful I feel for the support we received and the warmth we felt from people throughout Idaho during the campaign for governor.

No matter which candidate you supported, it was encouraging and encouraging for us to see so many good people dedicating themselves to advancing the public understanding of our potential as a state and as leaders.

Now that the election is behind us, the real work begins. Yet we want to take just a moment now and ask you to

reflect on what we already have accomplished together.

We have set the tone and the direction for Idaho's future. It involves public servants and private citizens working together for the greater good of our state.

It involves a greater understanding of the responsibilities as well as the opportunities afforded by citizenship and the duty each of us has to showing civic virtue by advancing the frontiers of freedom.

We are indeed blessed by having the trust of Idaho's people. Now we must justify that trust. Like any other kind of public service, holding elected office is not about advancing a personal or partisan agenda. It

is about helping and empowering the individuals and families of our great state to be the architects of their own destiny.

That is the task before us. That is the only mandate we should ever claim. And the fruits of our labors will be as Idaho as great as the people who call our state home.

Once again, thank you for all you have done to shape the future. We will do our best to live up to your highest expectations for Idaho and for the office of governor.

CL "BUTCH" AND LORI OTTE

Boise (Editor's note: Lori and Butch Otte are the first lady and governor-elect for Idaho.)

Editorial to lift liquor ban seriously flawed

I am writing to address the position taken by the Times-News editorial board in the Nov. 29 editorial, "Time for TEF to lift Sunday liquor ban."

I believe the logic you used in making your case is deeply flawed.

Your primary point seems to be "because the neighboring cities and counties have opted out of the liquor ban, Twin Falls County should do the same." Just because someone else is doing something is never a good reason (by itself) that you should do it.

Is that the kind of logic you teach your kids? With that same

logic, we should also pave the way for the Turf Club to offer prostitution and gambling — after all, they are both have been legalized by our neighbors to the south.

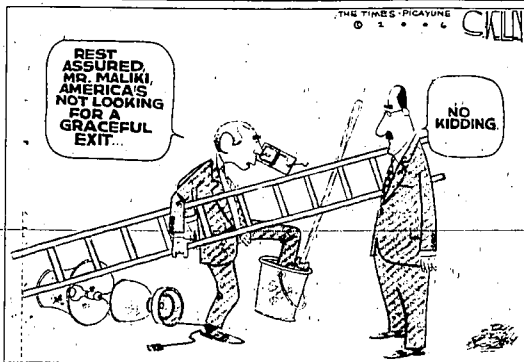
2. In support of your position, you also claim that fewer than 12 business owners had signed a petition wanting the change. Are the interests and beliefs of the "fewer than a dozen" more important to listen to than the voices of the entire county who have rejected the change "on a couple occasions"?

3. You also state changing the law would increase alcohol consumption. Why would those business owners want to support it if it won't increase con-

sumption and hence their profitability?

Alcohol is the leading cause of deaths on our highways. Alcohol was involved in 39 percent of all crash fatalities in 2005. It is still the second leading cause of cancer. It is also a major contributor to spending and child abuse and many other negative impacts on society.

Are there any members of the editorial board that will save gas money if the change is implemented? Have you spoken with law enforcement people who see firsthand the impact of alcohol to see what they think of your proposal? GLEN LEVITT Twin Falls



Turning on the puppet

The pictures show a handsome blond kid, Nick Rapava's family and friends described him as a tough guy with a selfless streak. He'd wanted to be a Marine since high school, and his dress uniform had a parade of medals for heroism in Afghanistan and Iraq, including a Purple Heart. He was on his third overseas deployment, and planned to go to college when he finished this stint in the spring.



MAUREEN DOWD

Iraq is its only hope against growing Iranian dominance across the capital."

ABC Nightly News went even further Tuesday night, reporting that the Pentagon is "writing off" Anbar and will send the 30,000 Marines stationed there to Baghdad. "If we are not going to do a better job doing what we are doing out there," a military official told Jonathan Karl, "what's the point of having them out there?"

Bush is still playing games, trying to link the need to stay in Iraq with al-Qaida. "No question it's tough," Bush said at a news conference. "There's a lot of sectarian violence taking place, fomented, in my opinion, because of the attacks by Al Qaida, causing people to seek reprisal."

Never mind that W. dropped the ball on Osama, and that his own commanders have estimated that al-Qaida forces represent only a fraction of the foe in Iraq. al-Qaida wasn't even in Iraq until the Bush invasion. The administration still won't admit the obvious, that our soldiers are stuck in the middle of a civil war and that it's going to take more than Dick Cheney powwowing with the Saudis to get us out of it. Stephen Hadley, the national security adviser, gingerly talks of a "new phase" in the conflict.

But reality does break through at moments. As Bush and Hadley head to Jordan to try to tell Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki not to go all wobbly, a stunning secret memo from Hadley has surfaced, expressing severe skepticism about whether our latest puppet can cut it. Michael Gordon reveals in Wednesday's Times that in a

classified assessment, Hadley wrote that the Iraqi leader, who is getting pushed around by Muqtada al-Sadr, was having trouble figuring out how to be strong.

"The memo suggests that if al-Maliki fails to carry out a series of specified steps," he writes. "It may ultimately be necessary to press him to reconfirm his parliamentary bloc, a step the United States could support by providing 'monetary support to moderate groups,' and by sending thousands of additional American troops into Baghdad to make up for what the document suggests is current shortage of Iraqi forces."

Just what the election said Americans want: More kids at risk in Baghdad. (W's kids, of course, are running their own risks, parrying their way through Argentina.) Hadley bluntly mused about al-Maliki: "His intentions seem good when he talks with Americans, and sensitive reporting suggests he is trying to stand up to the Shia hierarchy and force positive change. But the reality on the streets of Baghdad suggests al-Maliki is either ignorant of what is going on, misrepresenting his intentions, or that his capabilities are not yet sufficient to turn his good intentions into action."

It's bad enough to say that about the Iraqi puppet, but what about when the same is true of the American president?

Maureen Dowd's e-mail is liberties@nytimes.com.

Abuse victim can find a safer family situation

Regarding the Robin Mower domestic battery:

I would like to respond to the article in the paper on Oct. 16 on this case. I was also a victim of domestic battery years ago. When women call 911 and then want the charges dropped, it makes it hard on those who want help.

Back when I was being abused by my ex-husband, domestic abuse was not treated as serious as it is now, and there was no stalking law. Most times, law enforcement didn't take it seriously because the majority of women would just drop the charges.

Because of that, I had a hard time getting anyone to take my situation seriously. I wanted him gone and out of my life. I had spent seven years in hell and I was done.

I was stalked for two years after my divorce, and the police only could do so much. In fact, the authorities are there to use your protection. Don't get lulled into fantasy land and don't cry your eyes out.

This is dangerous ground you are treading.

No one deserves to be beat, humiliated and controlled. Regardless whether it is boyfriend-girlfriend, husband-wife.

My ex also had issues with depression and was on medication and drank. But there is no excuse for abuse. Real men walk away.

After divorcing, my ex also abused his next wife and the next wife after that. So the pattern continued.

There are decent men out there. I have been married to one for 14 years.

FRANKIE KREPS
Jerome

LETTERS

Sex offender limits may go too far

Isn't this issue on sex offenders going a bit overboard? Being the empathetic person that I am, meaning the ability to put myself in someone else's skin to evaluate an issue, I can see that to declare them the enemy simply means to declare yourself, by default, the enemy.

If so, then you have given them power they wouldn't normally possess. Example: Say your kid gets run over in the street and is dying. If a sex offender witnesses this accident, by your actions against them, haven't you relieved him or her of the moral duty to call 911 and get aid? Say your house catches on fire; haven't you relieved him or her of the moral duty to assist you in anyway—and the list can go on ad infinitum.

Generally, every individual, during their lifetime, has an opportunity to save at least

one life; I've already gone well over that, but if the 1:1 ratio is even somewhat true, then it wouldn't be inconceivable to recognize with 138 registered sex offenders in Twin Falls County, the community has already condemned to death or serious injury 138 other persons, all innocent, within this community. Remember, it's not a crime to be impervious to your suffering.

True, my position here is more rhetorical than anything because I know some of these "evil" persons would help you and your child anyway. But Americans have become such a bunch of two-faced, self-righteous freaks, you don't deserve it. Plus, sooner or later, sex offenders will realize they can vote in Idaho. What a voting block!

You botched it with the homosexuals and they became a significant political power, and you're going to botch it here for the same two reasons—arrogance and stupidity.

MARK SCHUCKERT
Twin Falls

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IRAQ

Troops who threw themselves on grenades could get the Medal of Honor posthumously

By Thomas Watkins
Associated Press writer

GARDEN GROVE, Calif. — Army Officer 2nd Lt. Michael Mansoor had just an instant to react when a hand grenade was tossed into his rooftop hideout in Iraq.

"He was thinking, 'I could run for it or I could throw it,'" said George Mansoor, the Navy SEAL's father. "Instead, he fell on it."

Michael Mansoor, a 25-year-old Southern Californian who liked fast cars and snowboarding, was part of a sniper security team that day in Ramadi with three other SEALs and eight Iraqi soldiers, according to a Navy account. An insurgent fighter threw the grenade, which struck Mansoor in the chest before falling in front of him, the account read.

Mansoor is among a small number of fighting men in Iraq who died after making the in-a-heartbeat decision to throw themselves on a grenade to save others.

One was awarded a posthumous Medal of Honor, the nation's highest military award. Mansoor and another are being considered for the decoration.

Since the Civil War, 3,461 men and one woman have received the medal, awarded for bravery above and beyond the call of duty. Before the war in Iraq, the award was last bestowed for bravery during the 1993 battle of Mogadishu in Somalia.

President Bush said Nov. 10 that Marine Cpl. Jason Dunham of Seic, N.Y., would receive the Medal of Honor, becoming the second person to be decorated with the award for service in Iraq and the first Marine since the Vietnam War. The only other recipient from the Iraq war is Army Sgt. 1st

Class Paul Ray Smith, 33, a man from the Tampa, Fla., area who died in battle at the Baghdad airport in April 2003.

In April 2004, Dunham, a 22-year-old corporal, received a report that a Marine convoy had been ambushed, according to a Marine Corps account. Dunham led his men to the site near Husaybah, halting a convoy of departing cars. An insurgent in one of the vehicles grabbed him by the throat when he went to search the car, and the two fought, the account read.

A grenade was dropped, and Dunham covered the explosive with his Kevlar helmet, which along with his chest plate absorbed some of the blast. He died of head wounds a few days later.

"He always took care of people," said Dunham's father, Daniel. "I don't believe it was

instruct. You have a choice." Dunham's father said he was "very honored that my son did the right thing and saved people's lives," but added: "They say there's no greater thing. Well, there is a greater thing, and that would be to have my son back."

At the same time, the fallen Marine's father said he understood his son's heroics: "When you are in a war situation, that guy beside you is your brother or sister. And I think that most of us would give up our lives for our family."

Another Marine, Sgt. Rafael Peralta, 25, of San Diego, is being considered for the honor.

Peralta was shot several times in the face and body during a house-to-house search in Fallujah, according to a Marine Corps statement. As he lay dying on the floor of a home, he grabbed a grenade

that had been lobbed in by an insurgent. The blast killed him.

"If he wouldn't have scooped up the grenade, the other three of us in the room that day would have been killed," said former Cpl. Robert Reynolds, who was in Peralta's squad. Reynolds said Peralta sacrificed himself because "he wanted to make sure we all went home."

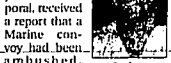
That kind of sacrifice is more likely in close-knit units, said Joseph A. Blake, a Fairborn, Ohio, sociologist who researched the act of soldiers throwing themselves on grenades.

"A combat situation has not a whole lot to do with patriotism or the folks back home," Blake said. "They are fighting for their buddies. They don't want to let their buddies down."

Since World War I, there has been an increasing tendency to award the Medal of Honor for saving comrades rather than for "war-winning" acts of aggression, Blake said. "What has been happening is a shift

away from gung-ho aggressive things to aiding and supporting one's comrades," he said. "As for Mansoor, we just knew that if Mike was put in a situation like he was, he wouldn't hesitate." His mother, Sally Mansoor, said from her home in Garden Grove, outside L.A.

One SEAL lieutenant, who asked not to be identified by name for security reasons, watched Mansoor shield him and others from exploding hot metal Sept. 29 when the grenade blew up their sniper position in Ramadi. In Anbar province.



Dunham



Peralta

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THE WEEK IN IRAQ
Bombings strike bus market

Three parked cars blow up nearly simultaneously at a food market in the predominantly Shiite area of the al-Sadiyah district of central Baghdad. At least 51 people were killed.



- Sun.** - Fighting between Iraqi forces and Sunni Arab insurgents raged in Baquba, killing 17 robots.
- Mon.** - Mortar rounds hit an oil processing facility near Kirkuk.
- Tue.** - U.S. troops fought with suspected insurgents in Ramadi, killing a man and five females.
- Wed.** - Cabinet ministers and legislators loyal to Muqtada al-Sadr boycotted Parliament, protesting the summit with President Bush.
- Thu.** - The Vice President and Deputy Prime Minister both Sunni, criticized the policies of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.
- Fri.** - U.S. and Iraqi forces launched six raids in several locations, detaining 28 insurgents.
- Sat.** - The U.S. military announced a U.S. soldier was killed Friday while fighting in Anbar province.

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Water Debate Has Stirred Inaccurate Myths... Here's Another... And The Facts

Spring water flows in the Thousand Springs area in 1902 were less than they are today.

Spring water flow measurement did not occur until 1950 when the USGS started measuring some of the springs.

- The Thousand Springs region of the Snake River got its name in the period 1811-1849 when Idaho was first being explored by white men.
- In October 1843 Second Lieutenant John C. Fremont, of the U.S. Corps of Topographical Engineers sent to map the Oregon Trail, states the area had "numbless streams and springs coming over the edge of black cliffs and out of their faces." The Oregon Trail passed through the Thousand Springs.
- In 1851, the P.V. Crawford diary states "water pours out of a thousand springs."
- Early pictures of the "thousand springs" indeed show "numbless" springs all occurring prior to significant irrigation in the Magic Valley or eastern Idaho.
- It wasn't until after 1894 with passage of the Carey Act that significant flood irrigation occurred in Idaho.

Almost all spring flows have declined since the 1960's and springs which were flowing in the early to late 1800's and as late as 1980 are now dry. The logical reason is that water is being taken out by ground water pumping operations above the outlets and over the entire aquifer, and the amount of aquifer recharge (natural and incidental) has declined over time. There is wide belief that the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer water supply is over-appropriated.

CLEAR SPRINGS FOODS

Late 19th or early 20th century photograph courtesy of Twin Falls Public Library, Photograph Number 1383-B.

www.clearsprings.com

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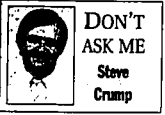


INSIDE: Holiday gesture at Arlington cemetery gains national support, B4

INSIDE: Obituaries, B2 | Idaho, B3 | Nation, B4-5 | Entertainment, B6 | World, B7

Let's hear it for the Fighting Iris

Uh-oh. A couple of weeks ago we were all congratulating the Twin Falls School Board on its decision to name the mascot of Twin Falls' new high school the Riverhawks.



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump



The Riverhawk iris

Seemed an unassailable choice. The riverhawk — a fanciful raptor that soars over the Snake River Canyon — is an appealing enough image, and there's no such critter whose bad habits would reflect poorly on Canyonridge High.

But it turns out there is a riverhawk. Alert reader Brian Thom of Twin Falls sent me an article he found in an online newspaper in Ossining, N.Y. Ossining, a suburb of New York City, changed its high school mascot from the Chiefs to the Riverhawks four years ago.

Now there's a move afoot to switch it back.

Among other objections to the new nickname, some citizens of Ossining discovered that the riverhawk is a flower: a purple-blue bearded iris.

"The Riverhawk hasn't really caught on with Ossining students," Ossining.com reported in an August 2005 article. "Some residents last week said it was the fault of educators and parents for not 'selling' the new mascot to the students."

According to Arcana Gardens and Greenhouse, a Vermont-based online retailer of organic perennial bulbs, the riverhawk — technically, the iris *x germanica* — stands up to 38 inches tall and is upright and ruffled, with silvery-lavender standards topped deep-black-and-blue lower petals.

That oughta be enough to intimidate the Bruins.

The riverhawk's flowery origins came up during a debate on the campus of Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Okla., this fall. Under pressure from the

Please see **CRUMP**, Page D2

Light the way: Energy-efficient Christmas lights are safer, cheaper

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Clark W. Griswold is kicking himself. Apparently, nobody told him about Light Emitting Diode (LED) Christmas lights.

In the movie "Christmas Vacation," Clark, played by Chevy Chase, blacks out his neighborhood and racks up a monster electric bill after plugging in several thousand old-fashioned lights.

This Christmas, Idaho Power Co. says utility customers can save money, conserve energy and stay safer by using LED lights instead of incandescent ones.

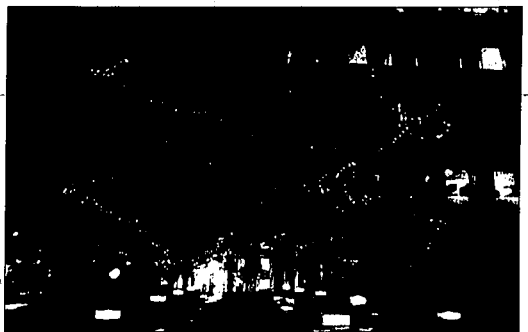
"They may cost a little bit more, but they last a lot longer," said Anne Alenskis, a

spokeswoman with the power company. "And if one bulb breaks, the whole string won't go out."

Yes, Griswold is kicking. LED lights don't work like conventional lights, explains Annie Black, a program specialist at Idaho Power. The stream of light is actually colored in an LED light — not just the glass that makes up the bulb. That makes the lights wrinkle, she said.

LED lights never heat up, making them safer than conventional lights. They also last longer — up to 100,000 hours.

Black said that many stores sell out of LED lights quickly. She said to check hardware and box stores, but be sure your package of lights says "LED" and not just "energy effi-



Idaho Power Co. has decorated its Boise office with energy-efficient LED lights and is encouraging Idahoans to do the same.

cient." There's a difference, Idaho Power Co. offers these tips for hanging lights this year, whether they're LED or not:

- Use lights with the Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) safety symbol.
- Use ground fault circuit

- interrupter outlets to protect against electric shock.
- For outdoor lights, use extension cords rated for outdoor use, and cover outdoor plugs with water-resistant plastic and electrical tape.
- Watch out for power lines

and other hazards when you use a ladder.

Times-News staff writer Matt Christensen covers natural resources. Contact him at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@lee.net.

Holiday on the rail



Karl Corbin, president of Magic Valley Model Railroaders, watches over one of his model trains Saturday afternoon during the group's 19th annual Christmas open house at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Filer.

Bringing cheer in a traditional hobby

By Jani Whited
Times-News correspondent

FILER — Karl Corbin calls it an 18-year evolution. That's how long it has taken the Magic Valley Model Railroaders to set up and add to a miniature railroad display at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds.

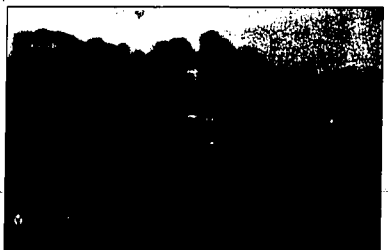
People traveled Saturday from miles around to the group's 19th annual Christmas open house.

"It's a nice event and a nice way to kick off the Christmas season," said Corbin, president of the group.

Walking through the back doors of the photography building, visitors watched the HO- and N-scale model trains move around long tracks complete with mountains, caves, bridges and towns all lit up — much of it made by hand.

Sandra Topholm of Twin Falls brought her grandchild's Ashlee Bezzley, 4 and Logan Glander, 6, to the show.

Please see **TRANS**, Page D3



A model train makes its way around a track Saturday afternoon during the Christmas open house for the Magic Valley Railroaders at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds.

Airline consultant to discuss Denver service

Times-News

KETCHUM — A group of community leaders is working with a consultant from Colorado to bring daily flights from Denver to the Wood River Valley.

Kent Myers, president and managing partner of Airplanners LLC in Avon, Colo., will meet with valley residents during a series of meetings on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. The meetings will be held at:

- 2 p.m. Monday, Sun Valley Inn.
- 5:30 p.m. Monday, Ketchum City Council meeting.
- 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Blaine County Commission meeting.
- Noon Tuesday, Ketchum/Sun Valley Rotary Club at Rico's Restaurant in Ketchum.
- 8 a.m. Wednesday, Halley Chamber of Commerce board, Community Campus in Halley.
- Noon Wednesday, Wood River Lodging Association meeting at BW Tyrolton Lodge.

The Blaine County Air Transportation Advisory Group, a committee of the Sun Valley/Ketchum Convention and Visitors Bureau, has been working to secure the flights to Denver in 2007. The goal, according to group members, is for year-round service, or at least seasonal summer and winter service.

Previous studies and air-passenger data analysis are very positive about the potential demand for such service, according to the group.

Please see **AIRLINE**, Page D2

Snowpack Levels

Watershed	% of Avg.	% season peak**
Selmon	83%	18%
Big Wood	81%	17%
Little Wood	79%	15%
Big Lost	73%	15%
Little Lost	77%	18%
Horys Fork/Teton	76%	17%
Upper Snake Basin	78%	18%
Oakley	114%	20%
Selmon Falls	93%	18%

As of Dec. 2

* A comparison of basin snowpack on Dec. 2 with a 30-year average.

** An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in spring.

Theater seeks \$2.5 million to save, refurbish facility

By Karen Besick
For the Times-News

SUN VALLEY — You can't blame Kathy Wylie if she starts dreaming of "It's a Wonderful Life."

The nextStage Theatre would take the place of earnest do-gooder George Bailey in Wylie's dream, as she tries to imagine what the Wood River Valley would be

like without the Main Street theater.

The board of the non-profit Sun Valley Performing Arts/nextStage Theatre has until March 31, to come up with \$1.5 million to buy the theater from the Mott Family Foundation. More than a third of the money has been raised in cash and pledges, Board Chairman William Lowe said.

In addition to the money

needed to buy the theater, the board wants to raise another \$1 million to develop an unused part of the building into a performance and educational space.

Want to help? This deductible donations can be made to: The nextStage Theatre Capital Campaign at P.O. Box 3082, Sun Valley, ID 83353. For information, call Kathy Wylie or Prue Hemmings at 726-9124.

Lowe and Wylie, the theater's managing director, will lead the first-ever capital campaign for the non-profit

theater organization. They plan to kick up the awareness of the campaign during performances of a musical version of "A Christmas Carol" in late December when the town swells with second-homeowners and frequent visitors to the Sun Valley area.

And they plan to solicit help through mailings.

Please see **THEATER**, Page D2

OBITUARIES

Marion L. Allen

TWIN FALLS — Marion L. Allen, 69, of Twin Falls, passed away Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center after a short battle with cancer.

Marion was born Aug. 9, 1938, in the little town of Axa, Mo. He was the oldest of three children born to Clyde and Leora Allen. At the age of 13, he moved with his family to Twin Falls, where he graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1956. He then married his best friend and soulmate, Fern Tattersall of Eden, Idaho, on Sept. 12, 1957. They were blessed with three wonderful children, Duane, Justin & Dan in 1961 and Angie in 1969. Marion farmed until 1979, when he started working at Amalgamated Sugar in Twin Falls, and retired from there in 2000.

He was truly happiest when he was spending time with his family, his horses and having his friends nearby.

Surviving Marion is his loving wife, Fern; sons, Fred and Dan (Cindy); daughter, Angie

(Guy) Standice; six grandchildren, Courtney, Dusty Ryan, Quentin, Aaron and Austin; his mother, Conner; his mother-in-law, Leora; and sister, Shirley (Richard) McCrete. He is preceded in death by his grandparents, Tom and Pearl Allen, and Charles and Ethel Jones; his father, Clyde Allen; and brother, J.C. Allen.

Funeral services for Marion will be Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 2 p.m. at the Twin Falls First Christian Church. Interment will follow at Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery. Friends may call Monday, Dec. 4, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

In lieu of flowers, the family would like contributions to be made to St. Luke's Mountain State Cancer Institute & Cancer Center at 656 Addison Ave., W. Twin Falls, ID 83401, or the charitable organization of your choice.

The family would like to express their gratitude and appreciation to the staff on the Second North of St. Luke's MYRMC. They were all a true blessing for their wonderful care and comfort shown to Marion over his last few days on this earth.

Thelma Carlton Bedke

PAUL — Thelma Carlton Bedke, a 91-year-old resident of Paul, died Thursday, Nov. 30, 2006, at Highland Estates in Paul.

Thelma was born Jan. 3, 1915, in Beloit, Mich. She was the daughter of William Henry and Jennie Sherwin Owen. She was the middle child born to Henry and Jennie. She received her education in Mitchell County, and married Floyd Edward Carlton on Nov. 27, 1935. To this union were born two children, a daughter, Delores, and a son, Gary (deceased).

In October of 1953, the Carlton family moved to Idaho, where she was employed at Ferry Morris Seed Company. Thelma and Ed moved to Heyburn, in 1965, where she was employed with Ore-Ida Foods for 10 years.

Thelma was a member of the Paul United Methodist Church and Chapter 77 of the Eastern Star having been a 50-year member. Thelma was a past president of the Mini-Cassia Co-Belles. Thelma was a people person, being loving and caring to many. Her friends and family would like to express their most important part of her life.

Her husband, Ed Carlton, passed away on June 8, 1974, and her son, Gary Carlton, on Aug. 23, 1979. On Aug. 27, 1992, Thelma was in the Eden area, Herschel Bedke in Oakley, and they made their home in the

Basin, east of Oakley. Herschel and Thelma made several trips with family and friends, enjoying traveling to see sights and visit relatives. Herschel passed away on March 16, 1979.

Thelma is survived by her daughter, Delores Brownerton of Paul; two granddaughters; Kamala Brownerton of Twin Falls and Brandee (Kenny) Grissman of Rupert; three great-granddaughters, Elvis Martinez of Paul, Alexis Stanton of Rupert and Greddy Grissman of Rupert; one sister, Janet (Loe) Birdsall of Jewell, Kan.; and her stepchildren, Ernest (Marilyn) Bedke of Lutz, Fla., Larry (Merla) Bedke of Salt Lake City, Utah, Leon (Ruth) Bedke of Burley, Robert (Carol) Bedke of Oakley, Ronald "Buz" Bedke of Burley and Joyce Haines of Chevrolet, Wn.

In addition to her husbands and son she was preceded in death by her parents, three sisters, two brothers and a son-in-law, Joe Brownerton. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, at the Paul United Methodist Church, 127 W. Clark St., with Pastor Elaine Steele officiating. Burial will be in Glen Dale Cemetery. Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Monday at Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley, 1350 E. 16th St., and one hour prior to the service on Tuesday at the church.

The family suggests that memorials be directed to the Paul United Methodist Church Stained-Glass Memorial Fund or to the Mini-Cassia Shelter for Women and Children in care of Rasmussen Funeral Home.

Ruth E. Evans

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magvalley.com. Death notices are a different service and can be placed until 6 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magvalley.com and click on "obituaries."

moved to Hagerman. Elden passed away in 1988. Ruth is survived by two sons, James Earl Beach of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Tom (Shauna) Evans of Sandy, Utah; one daughter, Janet Richardson, also of Sandy, Utah; four grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; four brothers; five sisters; and her stepmother, Letta Sheffield. She was preceded in death by her parents, husband, two brothers and one sister.

Graveside services will be at 3 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, at the Malad City Cemetery, where you may call at the Horsley Funeral Home, 132 W. 300 N. in Malad, from 2 to 2:45 p.m. prior to the service.

Michael L. Leonetti

TWIN FALLS — Michael L. Leonetti, 55, of Twin Falls, Idaho, departed this world Thursday, Dec. 1, 2006, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Mike was born Feb. 9, 1951, in Glen Dale, Calif., where he grew up through his high school years. He was very athletic and played many sports, including football, track and wrestling. He then became state wrestling champion, which earned him a scholarship toward college. He later moved to Idaho to attend college and continued playing sports. He learned to appreciate the beauty of Idaho and became an avid skier, rock climber and tennis player. He maintained close relationships with his friends and classmates throughout his life.

Mike married Tina Puder in 1984, and they were blessed with one daughter, Toni. He was a very proud and loving father that loved his family unconditionally. His work later returned him to California. Mike loved working in construction, he was talented far beyond this field and very proud on his achievements.

Mike was happiest when he returned to his favorite home of Idaho, where he could be close to his family, friends, and beloved mountains. He was a son, a brother, a father, an uncle and a grandfather. He is survived by his only daughter, Toni of Twin Falls; his sister, Laura and husband Craig of Halley; his brother, Mark and wife Sandy of Star; his father, John of Oregon; his former spouse, Tina of Twin Falls; nieces, Jamie, Krista, Megan; and nephews, Michael, Nicholas and Lucas. His mother, Barbara, preceded him in death in 2000.

A celebration of Mike's life will be held at 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at Tribes Interiors, 203 Fifth Ave. S. Twin Falls. All are invited to attend. Cremation is being done under the care of Payne Mortuary in Burley.

DEATH NOTICES

Opal J. Carpenter

SHOSHONE — Opal Joy Carpenter, 77, of Shoshone died Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, at the Gooding County Memorial Hospital. The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 6, at the First Baptist Church in Shoshone. Burial will follow at the Shoshone Cemetery. A visitation for family and friends will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 5, at Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

Stanley R. Hartman

HAGERMAN — Stanley Richard Hartman, 60, of Hagerman, died Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, at his home. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

George W. Clark

BOISE — George W. "Bill" Clark, 76, of Boise and formerly of Three Creek, Twin Falls and Jerome, died Thursday, Dec. 14, 2006, at the Idaho Healthcare Hospital in Boise. A celebration of his life will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 7, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2465 Addison Ave. in Twin Falls. Burial will be in the off-facility. Burial will follow at

Sunset Memorial Park with Masonic rites by the Filter/Hollister Masonic Lodge 55. Friends may call from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral chapel. A complete obituary will appear in Monday's Times-News.

Ruth A. Sterling

TWIN FALLS — Ruth Ann Sterling, 78, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 1, 2006, at Rosetta Assisted Living Center in Twin Falls. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Leo Watkins

OAKLEY — Leo Watkins, 81, of Oakley, died Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Evelyn M. Laudert

WENDLELL — Evelyn Mae Laudert, 85, of Wendlell, died Saturday, Dec. 2, 2006, at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray Funeral Chapel in Gooding.

SERVICES

Ron Ball of Mount Vernon, Wash., and formerly of Wendell and Twin Falls, funeral at 2 p.m. today at Kern Funeral Home in Mount Vernon, Wash.

Susie Marie Anthon Baugher of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Declo LDS Stake Center, 213 W. Main St. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen

Funeral Home, 1350 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 to 10:40 a.m. Monday at the church.

Minerva E. Valerio of Rupert, funeral Mass at noon Monday at the St. Nicholas Catholic Church, 802 F St. in Rupert; vigil service and viewing from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

Airline

Continued from page B1
Members of the group say they are bringing Myers to the community to learn more about the benefits of increased air service, and how the Wood River Valley communities in that regard to other Western ski-resort communities.

Alpiners LLC is an air-service consulting and marketing firm specializing in developing air service to small communities. Alpiner's principles have managed or consulted with every resort airport in Colorado except Aspen. Some of the communities are Mammoth Lakes Calif.; Monterey, Calif.; Vail, Colo.; Roswell, N.M.; and LaJolla, Texas. Myers founded Alpiner's in 1998, after spending the previous nine years in senior management at Vail Resort Inc. in Vail, Colo. While at Vail he directed and managed the redevelopment of the Eagle County airport using \$26 million FAA funds to accommodate non-stop 757 air service from 11 major cities utilizing five different airlines.

Theater

Continued from page B1
"I've got the feeling that they people who live here sort of feel as if the town's being brought out from under us. We feel like we're losing our hold on the town and that we're losing the public places. We want to save what we've got left, and we need to have a place that groups can gather," Wylie said.

Converted from a rundown

Crump

Continued from page B1
NCAA. NSU dropped its racially insensitive "Redmen" mascot and considered a range of options that included the War Eagles, Thunderhawks, Thunderbirds and Riverwolves (Riverwolves?). In the end, in campuswide voting, Riverwolves prevailed with 32 percent of the vote.

There are no plans to change NSU's green-and-

Jeep dealership in 1992, the nextStage has become the theatrical home for many local community groups, such as Laughing Stock Theatre, St. Thomas Playhouse and Off Center Stage. It also has become a permanent venue for the productions and classes of the Sun Valley Performing Arts/NeStage Theatre, which produces the Sun Valley

white color scheme (yes, the Redmen are green and white) to a more accurate silver-lavender-black-and-blue when the RiverHawks take the field at the beginning of the 2007-08 academic year. Canyonridge High hasn't chosen its colors yet, but I'd like to see it dressed up like a leopard iris. Iris experts to whom I spoke emphasized that the river-

Shakespeare Festival and offers children's workshops and classes, among other things.

"So many people tell me, 'I'm not into the arts, but I want the theater to remain for everything else,'" Wylie said.

"And it really has become a community center — a wonderful place to gather with neighbors and friends."

hawk doesn't occur naturally — like many other contemporary iris varieties — is the product of extensive genetic engineering. Also, nobody at the World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise has so far managed to whip up a feathered riverhawk. Times-News columnist Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223.

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Trains

Continued from page B1

Logan had one word for it: "Cool."
The HO models take up the larger part of the building and feature a replica of the Allison Mills feedlot made by Gary DeWick.

The N-scale models were in the back part of the display. The N stands for nine millimeters, which is the distance between the inside edges of the rails.
That scale is one of Corbin's

personal favorites. He said he works on the N-scale model about 30 hours per week.
"You can do so much in such a small space," he said.
From the sight and sounds of happy attendees, this year's show looked to be a success.
"We just want to get the interest up and maybe some people will come that want to join us," Corbin said.

Talitha Morrison, 12, of Hansen said she thought the

open house was pretty neat. "I like seeing how many engines
Railroaders
The Magic Valley Model Railroad Group runs trains every Saturday in the back part of the photography building at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds.
For information, call Karl Corbin at 444-2151.

can pull box cars," she said. "I'd like to have one in my basement."
Hearing the interest that young people express is music to Corbin's ears. "This takes patience," he said. "One thing I've learned is that so many of the hobbies nowadays are so instantaneous that kids don't learn patience."

Jami Whitton can be reached at jwhitton@cablnews.net.

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AROUND THE STATE



Zeb Lanham, of Sereet, Idaho, rides 'Smokeless' during the second go-round of the National Finals Rodeo at the Thomas & Mack Center in Las Vegas on Friday, Dec. 1, 2006. Lanham won the second round of bull riding.

Former ballet director Kuzmichev dies in prison

BOISE — A former Ballet Idaho artistic director convicted of killing his wife has died of cancer in prison.
The family of Veniamin "Ben" Kuzmichev, 67, had petitioned for his early release under an Idaho statute that can set free terminally ill prisoners before the end of their sentences. But the request was denied, and Kuzmichev died in the Idaho State Correctional Institution's infirmary last month.

Kuzmichev was convicted of second-degree murder in 1997 for the strangling death of his 61-year-old wife Wanda two years earlier. The couple had only been married three months when Wanda was reported missing. She was discovered near Bogus Basin Road on the north end of Boise with a plastic grocery bag tied around her head and a garbage bag wrapped around her feet.
"Wanda Kuzmichev's son, Joe Coe, said Kuzmichev's death in prison provides closure for the family.
"Mother never got the choice of where she got to die, and I think it was important that he didn't have the opportunity to die in peace," he said.

Hunters rescued after one night in snow

MOSCOW — Three hunters who spent Thursday night in the woods after becoming lost tracking a wounded deer were rescued as they prepared to spend a second night huddled in a snow cave.
Dustin Pierson, 26, and his cousins, 16-year-old Skyler Pierson and 13-year-old Calen Pierson, who are brothers, were taken to Gritman Medical Center in Moscow. A spokesman on Saturday told The Associated Press the three were treated and released.
The three were found Friday in the Moose Creek area near the town of Bovill in northern Idaho.

University of Idaho studies ways to spend less on energy costs

MOSCOW (AP) — Officials at the University of Idaho have approved expanding a Seattle company's analysis of ways the campus can become more energy efficient.

The decision last week means the university can consider larger projects like adding another water chiller tank, bringing more buildings onto the main heating and cooling system and adding a second wood boiler.

The school hired Seattle-based McKinstry Essention six months ago to find more ways to improve how the school uses energy. For the previous five years, Richard Nagy, the school's conservation resource manager, had made changes that have saved the school up to \$350,000 annually.

"I see this as a very urgent and timely effort to become more sustainable," said Rose Keller, director of the university's student-led Sustainability Center.

Once McKinstry Essention concludes its audit in the spring, it will present options for the administration to consider. If the administration chooses to continue, construction could begin in June.

Nagy said that some of the

possible options could take up to two years to complete, but could save up to \$800,000 annually.

According to the contract, McKinstry Essention is guaranteeing the amount of savings the school can expect by following its recommendations. Those savings will be used by the university to get a loan to pay for the upgrades to the campus.

Keller said that, eventually, the money the university saves on energy costs could help students.

"The university itself becomes financially sustainable and it can use that money saved or gained to recycle it into more funds which will have a broader reach to students," said Keller, 21.

She also said the school can serve as a role model for others with its energy efficiency.

"Since the University of Idaho is influential even in the state of Idaho, we have a much better chance to expand our influence and our projects and policies to go beyond Moscow, to serve the greater region," she said.

"I was sitting in my truck and this big cheer came out from the command post, and that's when I knew it was good news," said Brent Pierson, Dustin Pierson's father.

The medical center declined to release any information about injuries the three might have suffered. But Jennifer McFarland of the Latah County Sheriff's Office said that they were treated for hypothermia.

McFarland said that Skyler Pierson shot and wounded a deer, and that the three hunters found and dressed the deer but then discovered they had crossed their tracks while chasing it.

— The Associated Press

Dr. Craig Holman
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NATION

Seasonal gesture at Arlington gains support

By Marc Fisher
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Every year for more than a decade, at the height of the season Morrill Worcester would pack up a truckload of his Christmas wreaths and head down from Maine to Arlington National Cemetery. Without fanfare, he and a dozen, or so volunteers would lay red-bowed wreaths on a few thousand headstones of fallen Americans.

There was no publicity. No crowds gathered. The gesture was one man's private duty, born of a trip to Washington he won as a 12-year-old paperboy. Of all the monuments and memorials he saw, it was the visit to Arlington that stuck with the boy — the majesty and mystery, the sadness and the pride, the sight of all those neat rows of government-issue, white headstones.

Years later, after he had started his Christmas products business, at the crunch point of one season Worcester asked some men who were building his new factory to locate some wreaths and lay them for him. They went a bit overboard: When Worcester heard that he was now the proud owner of 4,000 wreaths that couldn't possibly be sold by Christmas, he called a friend who owned a trucking company, he contacted his senator in Washington and, two weeks before Christmas 1992, Worcester was at Arlington, laying wreaths.

It seemed like the right thing to do. So each year he continued the ritual, honoring those who had died so that he and other Americans might live as they saw fit.

Then, a few months ago, the e-mails started. Maybe you got one: A heart-wrenching yet elegant image of Worcester's wreaths, each adorned with a simple red ribbon, resting in front of seemingly endless rows of identical gravestones on a snowy day at Arlington. Beneath the photo, a few lines of poetry:

"Rest easy, sleep well my brothers."



Know the line has held, your job is done.

Rest easy, sleep well...

And then just a paragraph about Worcester's annual pilgrimage.

The e-mail became an Internet phenomenon, forwarded so many times that the professional skeptics who spend their time checking out urban legends at Snopes.com mounted an investigation. Sure enough, this was the real deal.

On Dec. 10, Worcester left Columbia Falls, Maine to lead the trailer full of wreaths down the coast. This time, it won't be just the trucker and Worcester and his wife, Karen. This time, there'll be an escort of a couple hundred Patriot Guard Riders, a national group of motorcycleists who take it upon themselves to display their respect for fallen service members. This time, Worcester and friends won't barrel down the interstate, they're taking the slow road, Route 1, so that more cyclists — perhaps thousands more — might join the caravan.

This time, the laying of the wreaths won't be a private affair. Instead of the 10 or 12 volunteers who had been rounded up in past years by Wayne Hanson, a retired federal law enforcement officer who lives in Springfield, Va., there will be at least 500 people ready to help lay the wreaths Dec. 14 — and maybe many more.

There will be a bustard of school kids from Skowhegan, Maine, a Civil Air Patrol unit from up that way and all man-

ner of Washington-area volunteers, too.

They're still calling, every day. "It's the e-mail that did this," says Hartson, 62, an Army veteran of the Vietnam War. He got involved with the wreaths in 1993, when Worcester sought help from the Maine State Society, a Falls Church, Va.-based group of transplants. "I had a man call from Iraq, a civilian contractor who got his company to give him I&B so he could come back and lay a wreath."

Even as his personal ritual morphs into something much larger, Worcester, 56, wants to ensure that its original purpose remains. "It's just my way to say thank you," he says. "I've got a lot to be thankful for."

Worcester has always returned the checks that people send him. The wreath-laying is his personal statement: "This is the least we can do."

Everyone connected with the wreaths project takes pains to note that this has nothing to do with politics, nothing to do with anyone's opinion about Iraq or terrorism. "It's just a way to pay respect," Hanson says. "When I came home from Vietnam, well, it wasn't the best time to be in the military, or to be coming home. But this — it brings tears to my eyes to see 5,000 wreaths

Amidst the snow of last December Anna Marshall of Skowhegan, Maine, joined a handful of volunteers placing wreaths on headstones at Arlington National Cemetery. An estimated 500 volunteers are expected to help lay wreaths this year at Arlington as part of an annual holiday commemoration organized by Maine businessman Morrill Worcester.

PHOTO BY AP/WIDEWORLD

laid out across those white, government headstones. You can't think about anything but that ultimate sacrifice these people made to give us our freedom."

"It's just my way to say thank you. I've got a lot to be thankful for."

— Morrill Worcester

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NATION

Millions affected by congressional dalliance on income tax proposals

WASHINGTON (AP) — Millions of entrepreneurs, teachers and parents with kids in college have a financial stake in where Congress, in the dying hours of Republican rule, revives tax breaks that expired 11 months ago.

If Congress fails to act, teachers no longer will be able to deduct up to \$250 for the books and supplies they pay for out of their own pocket.

Residents of Alaska, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Texas, Washington and Wyoming — each without an income tax — will miss out on an average \$1,500 deduction for state and local sales taxes.

Lawmakers have tried all year to renew the diverse mix of targeted tax breaks. Ironically, it is their popularity that has stalled passage.

The breaks, which expired last Jan. 1, enjoy wide support in both parties. Precisely because of this, lawmakers have sought to add them as a "sweetener" to contentious legislation in hopes of getting that legislation through.

Before the election, Republicans tried unsuccessfully to link the tax cuts to a bill that would reduce the estate tax, which most Democrats find unacceptable, and raise the federal minimum wage, which many Republicans dislike.

Lawmakers will make one more shot when they return this week to wrap up their work for the year. Yet they may not have the time or will to agree on a compromise.

Aides in both the House and the Senate said it was possible, with prospects best if the tax bill is not combined with other measures as Congress rushes to get out of town.

Negotiators say they have agreed that the proposal will never two years, retroactive to 2006 and through 2007.

Businesses could be big losers if Congress fails to renew the research and development tax credit, which offers a 20 percent credit for new activities. One estimate puts the value of the credit to businesses at \$1.65 billion.

"There are some expenditures by the U.S. government that should really be called investments," William Archey, head of the American Electronics Association, said recently. "The R&D tax credit is unequivocally an investment."

Also important, said Philip Beram, chief tax counsel with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, are provisions that allow employers to claim a tax credit of up to \$3,500 for the first year of a worker who received public welfare for an extended time. Businesses also benefit from a provision allowing people from the seven states without income taxes to deduct state and local sales taxes.

and fees deduction, for items that as of now are no longer in tax law.

The tax agency included a cautionary note to taxpayers in its forms that the legislation was pending at the time of printing, and would have to provide special instructions later if the legislation becomes law.

Waiting for the new Congress to act next year could cause further complications. Many taxpayers, anticipating refunds, file their returns in February, and this group would have to file amended returns if the tax breaks are not on the books by then.

Delay, said Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, "will cause hardship, tax compliance problems and confusion for the millions of taxpayers who claim these widely applicable tax benefits."

The Internal Revenue Service said that on 2004 returns, 11.1 million taxpayers in those states claimed \$17.3 billion in deductions from state and local sales taxes.

Also in 2004, an estimated 4.7 million families claimed \$10.7 billion in deductions for college tuition and fees. In the legislation that Congress failed to pass before the November election, taxpayers could claim above-the-line deductions of up to \$4,000, depending on their income, for higher education expenses.

In 2004, the full deduction was available to a taxpayer earning up to \$85,000, or \$130,000 for a couple filing jointly. A person earning up to \$80,000, or \$160,000 for a couple, could claim up to \$2,000.

Meanwhile, 3.4 million teachers took advantage of the \$250 deduction for personal costs incurred to purchase supplies for their classrooms.

Congressional dalliance has assured that, even if the tax bill advances this year, there will be inconveniences for taxpayers.

The IRS, when it sent its basic forms and instructions for the 2006 filing season to the main vendor in early November, was unable to include lines, such as tuition

Researchers link chemical treatment to distinct Stradivarius violin sound

By Denise Celisne
Los Angeles Times

Scientists say they have moved a step closer to unraveling the mystery behind the distinct sound of Stradivarius violins.

By treating wood chips from centuries-old violin to laboratory analysis, a team led by Texas A&M University chemist Joseph Nagyvar discovered evidence that the wood had been chemically treated.

The team reported in the journal Nature this week that lignin and hemicellulose — substances naturally found in wood — were degraded in the violin sample. Soaking the wood in a solution of chemical salts would cause such damage, scientists said.

"It goes well beyond normal aging — beyond oven boiling the wood for a day and baking it in the oven," Nagyvar said.

Antonio Stradivari, who died in 1737, crafted his famous violins in Cremona, near Milan in present-day Italy. About 600 of his instruments remain today, and some have fetched more than \$1 million at auction.

The secret of the violins' prized sound has long captivated musicians and scientists. Some researchers have focused on the varnish, suggesting it stiffened the wood. Others have pondered the choice of wood — unusually dense alpine spruce on the top plate and maple on the back plate and sides.

Nagyvar believes chemical treatments hold the answer. Intended to destroy pesky wood worms, the chemicals had the added result of producing a drier, lighter wood with a cleaner sound, he said.

But Georg Bissinger, a physicist at East Carolina University who has used laser scanners and computers to model how Stradivarius violins emit sound, said the latest research fell short of cracking the mystical mystery.

Factors influencing a violin's sound are complex and include its shape and age, and how well it has been maintained, among other things.

In this context, "chemistry is not a silver bullet," he said.

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and fees deduction, for items that as of now are no longer in tax law.

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1:00 P.M.	Hannah & Meg Wormsbaker & Weston Bennett Vocalist	2:30 P.M.	LDS 2nd Ward College Choir
1:30 P.M.	Hot Country Fiddlers Featuring Lena & Grazi Stukenholtz accompanied by Bill Butler	3:00 P.M.	Rylio Baker Vocal Soloist
		3:30 P.M.	Maria Garrett Vocal Soloist
		4:00 P.M.	Lilly Hackenbruch & Aurelia Mustata Romanian Vocalists

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ENTERTAINMENT

The endless days of Christmas television

By Diane Werks
Newsday

It's all in the numbers now. "25 Days of Christmas," "24-hour Merrython," "20 Merriest Christmas Videos," "Studio 60" and "Adam-12." So those last two are titles of series whose holiday episodes air this week. You get the point. The tube hosts so much

Christmastime merriment, it has to be collected, categorized and counted down.

Have yourself a lengthy little Christmas — "Ugly Betty" aired a Christmas photo shoot episode way back on Oct. 19. You missed it? ABC aired a different holiday outing on Thursday. Still weren't ready? Catch up at abc.com or iTunes. We aren't even counting those alternative TV delivery outlets

— online, podcasts, on-demand — and we're still overwhelmed by the sheer volume of tube titles unreeling around Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and the politically handy winter solstice. So many shows, so little time. Unless you start airing 'em before Halloween.

And they say Christmas is being deleted from the season? When we started tracking yuletube airings some 15 years ago, we could fit the Christmas-show listings on one newspaper page. They've long since stretched to a length only Newsday.com can accommodate. Today, we're wondering if there's enough room in cyberspace to catalog all the series episodes: TV-movies, music specials, cartoons for both kids and adults, even documentaries ("Christmas in Yellow-

stone" on PBS' "Nature"), reality shows (Discovery's holiday "MythBusters") and talk-fests (Jerry Springer loves yule, too).

The holiday sure provides a handy programming peg for cable channels fighting for attention among hundreds of competitors.

ABC Family started its annual "25 Days of Christmas" stunt Friday, showcasing something seasonal every night in prime time. That includes vintage Rankin-Bass animation, Christmas sitcoms and holiday films to go along with two new TV-movies — "Santa Baby" (Sunday) with Jenny McCarthy as the fat man's executive daughter and "Christmas Do-Over" (Dec. 16) with Jay Mohr as a holiday screw-up reliving his wrongs till he rights them.

Hallmark Channel has holiday films nightly at 9 p.m., including new ones Saturday ("What I Did for Love") and Dec. 16 ("Love's Abiding Joy"). Lifetime airs Christmas TV movies nightly at 9 p.m. Eight new productions include "A Christmas Wedding" (Dec. 11) with Sarah Paulson ("Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip") and Eric Mabius ("Ugly Betty").

Nick at Nite's All-Nite Holiday Party runs Thursday and Dec. 24 with classic sitcom celebrations — "Full House," "Fresh Prince," "Roseanne," "Designing Women."

Kids' holiday festivals appear on Nickelodeon (Dec. 16 and 24-25), Disney (Dec. 24-25) and Starz Kids & Family (Dec. 24-25).

Happy viewing!

Each year, we look forward to our favorite holiday specials. Networks are more than happy to oblige, and many viewers feel the same way the folks who show the repeats —

Let it show, let it show, let it show

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
9 p.m. Jack Frost Hallmark 9 p.m. A Dad for Christmas Lifetime	9 p.m. Under the Mistletoe Lifetime	8 p.m. Santa Claus is Coming to Town ABC 9 p.m. Once Upon a Christmas ABC Family	8 p.m. Twice Upon a Christmas ABC Family 9 p.m. White House Christmas HGTV	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	9 a.m. Rankin Bass holiday classics ABC Family 10 a.m. Charlie's Web CBS 8 p.m. Holiday: The Christmas That Almost Wasn't ABC 8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ABC 8 p.m. Elf CBS It's a Wonderful Life NBC Christmas Do-Over ABC Family 7 p.m. The Sound of Music ABC 8 p.m. Elfies at Christmastime ABC Family 9 p.m. Meet the Santas Hallmark
2 p.m. Barcooged ABC Family 4 p.m. Chasing Christmas ABC Family 8 p.m. Snow ABC Family 9 p.m. Santa Baby ABC Family 9 p.m. Christmas on Chestnut Street Lifetime	9 p.m. A Dad for Christmas Lifetime	8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas (re-aired) ABC	8 p.m. Mommy Klasing Santa Claus ABC Family 10 p.m. Christmas in Washington TNT	10 p.m. A. Holiday Celebration PBS	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	9 a.m. Rankin Bass holiday classics ABC Family 10 a.m. Charlie's Web CBS 8 p.m. Holiday: The Christmas That Almost Wasn't ABC 8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ABC 8 p.m. Elf CBS It's a Wonderful Life NBC Christmas Do-Over ABC Family 7 p.m. The Sound of Music ABC 8 p.m. Elfies at Christmastime ABC Family 9 p.m. Meet the Santas Hallmark
8 p.m. The Santa Clause 2 ABC 9 p.m. The Road to Christmas Lifetime	9 p.m. All She Wants for Christmas Lifetime	8 p.m. I Want a Dog for Christmas, Charlie Brown! ABC	8 p.m. Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir PBS 9 p.m. Christmas Out of the Box National Geographic	10 p.m. Christmas at Belmont PBS	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	9 a.m. Rankin Bass holiday classics ABC Family 10 a.m. Charlie's Web CBS 8 p.m. Holiday: The Christmas That Almost Wasn't ABC 8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ABC 8 p.m. Elf CBS It's a Wonderful Life NBC Christmas Do-Over ABC Family 7 p.m. The Sound of Music ABC 8 p.m. Elfies at Christmastime ABC Family 9 p.m. Meet the Santas Hallmark
8 p.m. Elfies at the Plaza ABC Family Christmas in Yellowstone PBS 9 p.m. A Very Married Christmas CBS Holiday Wishes Lifetime 10 p.m. A SL Olaf Christmas in Norway PBS	9 p.m. All She Wants for Christmas Lifetime	8 p.m. I Want a Dog for Christmas, Charlie Brown! ABC	8 p.m. Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir PBS 9 p.m. Christmas Out of the Box National Geographic	10 p.m. Christmas at Belmont PBS	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	9 a.m. Rankin Bass holiday classics ABC Family 10 a.m. Charlie's Web CBS 8 p.m. Holiday: The Christmas That Almost Wasn't ABC 8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ABC 8 p.m. Elf CBS It's a Wonderful Life NBC Christmas Do-Over ABC Family 7 p.m. The Sound of Music ABC 8 p.m. Elfies at Christmastime ABC Family 9 p.m. Meet the Santas Hallmark
8 p.m. Elfies at the Plaza ABC Family Christmas in Yellowstone PBS 9 p.m. A Very Married Christmas CBS Holiday Wishes Lifetime 10 p.m. A SL Olaf Christmas in Norway PBS	9 p.m. All She Wants for Christmas Lifetime	8 p.m. I Want a Dog for Christmas, Charlie Brown! ABC	8 p.m. Christmas with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir PBS 9 p.m. Christmas Out of the Box National Geographic	10 p.m. Christmas at Belmont PBS	8 p.m. Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer CBS 8 p.m. Polar Express ABC Family 9 p.m. Frosty the Snowman CBS 9:30 p.m. Frosty Returns CBS	9 a.m. Rankin Bass holiday classics ABC Family 10 a.m. Charlie's Web CBS 8 p.m. Holiday: The Christmas That Almost Wasn't ABC 8 p.m. Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ABC 8 p.m. Elf CBS It's a Wonderful Life NBC Christmas Do-Over ABC Family 7 p.m. The Sound of Music ABC 8 p.m. Elfies at Christmastime ABC Family 9 p.m. Meet the Santas Hallmark

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ITCHING FEET

Question: My teenage son plays sports and has recently had a lot of itching and burning between his toes. We've tried the over-the-counter sprays and powders, but it's not working. What should we do?

Answer: He most likely has developed an aggressive fungal infection of the skin, also called Athlete's Foot. The fungal organisms thrive in warm, moist, and dark places. The inside of a sweaty shoe is perfect for them. Most people develop redness, itching, or burning between the toes or on the bottoms of their feet. Occasionally small blisters will form. If the over-the-counter treatments aren't working, he may need stronger prescription antifungal medication, or something to control excessive sweating. Rotating his shoes frequently, and spraying them with a disinfectant or antifungal powder may also be helpful. If you'd like to write to me with questions, please send correspondence to PO Box 2925, Twin Falls, ID 83303.



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Chavez promises he'll outdo himself in new term as president

By Natalie Ohlso Pearson
Associated Press writer

SABANETA, Venezuela — Hugo Chavez has called George Bush the devil, allied himself with Iran and inserted himself into election races all over Latin America. He has poured Venezuela's oil wealth into uplifting the poor, and rivals Fidel Castro as a defiant voice of the left.

Now, as he seeks another presidential term in an election Sunday, he is telling Venezuelans this is only the beginning of his effort to remake Venezuela as a socialist oil power.

Chavez predicts a "hurricane" victory that will secure a mandate for zero compromise on policies that inspire both adulation and despair. Having survived a coup, a recall referendum, a general strike and clashes with the Roman Catholic Church, business community and opposition media, he has entrenched his power and sharpened left-right divides beyond the borders.

His main challenger, tough-talking state governor Manuel Rosales, trailed far behind in an AP-Ipsos poll last month, but nonetheless has galvanized a fractured opposition movement of millions desperately hoping he can unseat Chavez.

"This is our last chance. This is the last time we can stop him from ruling this country," says

UPCOMING ELECTIONS

A look at presidential candidates for Venezuela's Dec. 3 elections:

Party: Fifth Republic Movement (Leftist)
Experience: Served a two-year prison sentence for his leading role in a botched 1992 coup attempt; served in military until 1994, elected president, 1999
Platform: Vowed to govern until 2021 or longer; says his oil-funded programs for the poor have made major strides and makes pledges of deepening socialist revolution



Hugo Chavez for his leading role in a botched 1992 coup attempt; served in military until 1994, elected president, 1999

Party: A New Time (Centrist)
Experience: Santa Barbara Counselor, 1979; Zulia state legislator, 1983; Maracaibo mayor, 1996; Zulia's governor, 2000 and 2004
Platform: Calls election a choice between democracy and an increasingly authoritarian system; would fight poverty with a state-issued social debt card to distribute one-fifth of country's oil income



Manuel Rosales

Margarita Nunez, a 23-year-old university student in Caracas who firmly believes that Chavez seeks to preside over a one-man communist system like his Cuban mentor, Fidel Castro.

"If he wins, I have to find a way to leave, go somewhere," she said.

Fidel Castro fails to show at military parade

By Anita Snow
Associated Press writer

HAVANA — Fidel Castro was a no-show Saturday at a major military parade that doubled as his 80th birthday celebration, raising questions about whether the ailing leader will ever return to power as his public absence begins taking on a tone of permanence.

Many Cubans had hoped for at least a glimpse of Castro before dozens of olive-camouflaged tanks rumbled through the Plaza of the Revolution and jet fighters soared above the capital to mark the 50th anniversary of the formation of Cuba's Revolutionary Armed Forces.

Castro has not been seen in public since July 26, before he underwent secretive intestinal surgery and temporarily ceded power to his younger brother, Raul. He delayed his 80th birthday celebration from Aug. 13 to this week in order to give himself time to recover.

The military event culmi-

nated five days of events to celebrate Castro's birthday — none of which he attended.

Instead, it was Raul Castro, the island's defense minister, who stood at the mahogany lectern reviewing the troops during Saturday's parade.

The parade's most obvious purpose was to warn the U.S. against taking advantage of Fidel Castro's illness to attack the island. In the last 15 years the Cuban military has taken on a purely defensive role, and is trained to repel invaders.

In a speech that lacked his brother's rhetorical flourish, Raul Castro reached out to the U.S. government, which has a decades-old trade and travel embargo against the communist-run island. He did not explain the absence of his brother.

"We take this opportunity to once again state that we are willing to resolve at the negotiating table the long-standing dispute between the United States and Cuba," said Raul Castro.

Hezbollah loyalists pitch tents in Beirut streets to push for Lebanese government's ouster

By Zeina Karim
Associated Press writer

BEIRUT, Lebanon — Thousands of Hezbollah supporters set up camp in the heart of Beirut on Saturday, starting an open-ended sit-in with a carnival atmosphere intended to pressure the U.S.-backed government of Faud Saniara into resigning.

The political crisis, which has disrupted life in the capital's commercial district and raised fears of violence between the country's pro- and anti-Syria forces, showed no sign of easing.

Held up in his office only about 50 yards from some of the protesters, Saniara made clear he had no intention of stepping down and urged Hezbollah to abandon its protest.

Thousands of Hezbollah loyalists chanted noisily around hundreds of white tents pitched in central Beirut, saying they would stay until Saniara's government fell. Shouts of "Saniara out!" occasionally rose from the protesters.

Hezbollah's support among

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GUNS: Winchester Model 1890 22 - Remington Model 721 270 - Savage Model 307 12 ga shotgun
Gauge Model 110C 12 ga rifle, Mossberg Model 702 12 ga pump action shotgun
- Musser Farm full military rifle Ithaca Model 37 20ga shotgun - Western Model 1059A 210 - 344 22
Dragon 44, Colt Police Positive 38 special - Davis Model 1980 38 Cal. pistol - Luger Model 1893 18
cal pistol, Bullseye, reloading equipment, Gun cabinet and more. TOOLS: True Vela saw blowie, 1
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INSIDE: UCLA ended USC's national championship dreams Saturday with a 13-9 upset win, C5



INSIDE: Local roundup, C2 | NBA & College basketball, C4 | NFL, C6 | YourSports, C7 | Weather, C8

PREP WRESTLING PREVIEW



After placing at the Class 4A state tournament last season and helping Minico to a team title, Spartans, from left, David Burgara, Josh Clapier, Andrew Uhl, Nathan Crane and Brady Cooper hope to bring home some more championship hardware this season.

Defensive stance

Spartans aim for repeat state title

By Brad Guira
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Class 4A state wrestling champion Wes Cooper. Gone. Class 4A state wrestling champion Kirt Anderson. Gone. Class 4A state wrestling champion Kevin Kilroy. Gone.

With three of its four 2006 state champions gone, what can be expected from the Minico Spartans wrestling program in 2007?

Probably not too much of a dropoff. The fourth state champ from 2006, sophomore David Burgara, will compete in the 125-pound weight class. Burgara won his title at 112 pounds with a 5-2 decision over fellow Spartan wrestler Nate Crane. Crane is a junior and will again compete at 112.

The entire Spartan roster will be hard-pressed to not defend the state team title as nearly every wrestler either placed at state or was a state qualifier.

The rest of the Great Basin Conference, both East and West Divisions, will have to be in top shape to come close to knocking the king off the



New coaches

School	Former	Current
Raft River	Randy Spaeth	Chris Rogers
Wood River	Logan Brower	Tyson Young

top of the mountain. Jerome graduated Eric Powell, who placed fourth in 2006, but returns three state qualifiers in Mike Cummins, James Swenson and Justin Ralison. Also, newcomer Cory Cummins was a state qualifier in Utah. Most of Jerome's starting lineup will consist of underclassmen.

The Burley Bobcats return six state qualifiers, including 135-pound fifth-place finisher Jerod Hammond. The Bobcats will be top-heavy at the junior and senior levels this season.

Class 5A

The Twin Falls Bruins program returns six state qualifiers this season. Sophomore Tyler Iline will again wrestle in the 125-pound weight class, while Chance Requa moves from 140 to 145. Junior Grayson Stone returns at 152, junior Brent Martinez at 171, sophomore Kevin Iruad at 189 and senior Chris Marquez at 215.

Minico Spartans

Last year's state district second place, state champion

Head coach: Brad Cooper, 24th year
Returning state qualifiers: Andrew Uhl, sr., 100 pounds (state second); Nate Crane, jr., 112 (state second); Josh Stallings, sr., 112; David Burgara, so., 125 (state champ); Teagan Bingham, so., 130; Jake Hruza, so., 135; Josh Clapier, sr., 145 (state second); Coby Anderson, sr., 152; John Smith, sr., 152; Case Finch, sr., 160; Erney Cooper, jr., 169 (state fourth); Brett Jones, sr., 215; Terrance Taylor, sr., 215; Leah Ramirez, jr., 275.
Returning wrestlers: Matt Greenfield, sr., 119 pounds; Landon Barnes, so., 140; Ricardo Chavez, jr., 171.
Newcomers: Josh Draper, 152 pounds.

The Bruins took 13th in team points at state last year. Both Martinez and Requa were pinned in the consolation finals (third place and fifth place, respectively) at the state tournament.

Class 3A

The Kimberly Bulldogs should be a force to reckon with yet again in the Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference. Kimberly returns eight state

Please see WRESTLING, Page C2

Answering life's great questions

At least the ones about CSI hoops

I don't believe in day planners. In fact, I'll go so far as saying that a man should not use a day planner. Not as long as random, unused scraps of paper can be written on and affixed to refrigerators, computers, cubicle walls, and the backs of my rivals.



EAGLE EYES

Eric Larsen

If, however, I was the type of man who felt the intricate details of my life should naturally be bound together and encased in rich, burgundy, aromatic leather, I would take the little black pen with the gold clip out of my planner's leather loop and use it to circle just one date — Friday, Dec. 8, 2006.

And not only because that's the day the Christmas cards need to go out. Friday, Dec. 8, is the day the media hype machine (the black Dell computer type on) has marked as the day that all the answers are coming. Friday night, the No. 6 College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team hits the road for the first time this season, packing its B-O record and aspirations of greatness north to Coeur d'Alene for the season's Scenic West Athletic Conference opener in the friendly confines of North Idaho College.

Friday is supposed to be the first major test for the Golden Eagles. It's supposed to be a defining night for a team that has thus far made opponents look more like the Washington Generals than bona fide NJCAA competition. If there's any night that will cough up all the answers about the Golden Eagles' heart, determination, and willingness to stand tall against quality competition and the venom spewed from partisan road rooters already angry because they're cheering the underdog, this is it.

Of course, it's a long wait until Friday and if there's any one truth about sports and life in general, it's that answers never come as easy as hoped for. Questions in the other hand, come easy, come often, and come in bunches. And after eight convincing CSI wins, the questions about just how good this team is swirl around Twin Falls. Since I'm the (ahem) expert, I figured I'd try and

Please see LARSEN, Page C4

Ward does it again for Twin Falls boys

Late putback lifts 2-0 Bruins to 47-45 win

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — If Friday and Saturday's winning lottery numbers are the same, it's simply a pleasant return. Otherwise, the Twin Falls Bruins boys basketball team's 47-45 win over the visiting Nampa Bulldogs is an early mark of a young team playing well above expectations.

"Nobody expected us to be 2-0, so this is a really good start for us," Bruins senior Bryan Ward said.

Less than a day removed from hitting the game-winning shot in Friday's 63-62 win over Skyview, Ward was the hero again Saturday at Baum Gymnasium. With the game tied at 45 and only 17.3 seconds on the clock, the Bruins cleared out for Ward at the top of

the key. A few dribbles into the key and an errant lay-up later, and it looked like overtime was in the cards as the ball bounced harmlessly off front iron with five seconds left. However, Ward followed his shot and made sure leather met net to give the Bruins the win.

"We've got our best athlete on the floor and decided to go 1-on-1, and he's a horse underneath," said Bruins head coach Matt Harr said of Ward. "Once he got the rebound, I figured he was going to score."

The dramatic finish was a fitting end to a quality game of fundamental, half-court, man-to-man basketball. In a battle of wills between two patient teams, the Bruins claimed victory by committing only six turnovers in the

game — zero before halftime — while forcing Nampa into 12 turnovers.

"That's the biggest surprise right now, because in our practices, we've had a ton of turnovers," Harr said. "When I'm in the locker room, that's what I'm most proud of. How we take care of the ball."

Ward, who said he'd never hit a game-winning shot before this weekend, finished with a 16-point, 13-rebound double-double for the Bruins, despite lining up against 6-foot-9 Nampa post Trevor Morris. Ward and the Bruins frustrated the NCAA Division-I prospect into fouling out with 7 minutes, 40 seconds left in the fourth with only three points to his credit, to go along with seven rebounds and four

blocks. Despite the size disadvantage, Ward outworked Morris as the Bruins generally dominated the low-post game.

"I know he (Ward) had a tough football season and he's playing with a little chip on his shoulder, I think," Harr said. "I think we've all waited to see that. He's a good athlete, he's a great kid, and you want to see that fire underneath him. He's definitely showed it the last two nights and I think he'll show it every night from here on out."

Bulldogs senior point guard punts the game with a high 25 points and found an open Blake Warden with 30 seconds left to tie the game at 45 and set up Ward's heroics. That clutch shot came after two equally important free throws from Twin Falls' Ryan Simmons, who finished with eight points. Kyle Ivie finished

Please see BRUNS, Page C2



Twin Falls junior post Bryant Ward breaks through two defenders as he drives to the hoop Saturday afternoon for the game-winning basket in the Bruins win over Nampa High School in Twin Falls.

SPORTS

Twiss scores 29 as Buhl takes season opener

BUHL — Brad Twiss came off the bench to score 29 points as Buhl won its season opener, topping Mountain Home 76-56 Saturday.

Twiss played a great game. Buhl coach Brent Hanson said of Twiss, "Our bench play was huge. We had 44 points from guys of the bench."

Austin Laing and Tyler Cooper both chipped in nine points for the Indians. Mountain Home went 4-for-17 at the charity stripe, while Buhl finished 15-of-19. Buhl hosts Jerome Friday.

Dietrich Invitational Glenns Ferry 69, Dietrich 40

DIETRICH — Senior Chase Bitterman scored 22 points and had nine rebounds as the Pilots won the 2006 Dietrich Invitational tournament with a 69-40 win over the host Blue Devils on Saturday.

Glenns Ferry 69, Dietrich 40
12-18 35-50 27-31
Glenns Ferry 69, Dietrich 40
12-18 35-50 27-31

Minico 74, Skyview 69

RUPERT — Minico won the battle of the boards and the game as the Spartans defeated Skyview 74-69.

"We played real well," said Minico coach Craig H. Bunn. Senior Minico forward Chris Tierney registered a double-double with 25 points and 12 rebounds for the Spartans (1-1). Bill Carey followed with 17 points and eight rebounds.

Bliss Tournament Bliss 49, Rockland 32

BLISS — The host Bliss Blazers captured third place during Saturday's final round of the 2006 Bliss Invitational with a 49-32 win over visiting Rockland. Mike Faulkner led Bliss with a game-high 21 points.

Bliss 49, Rockland 32
12-18 35-50 27-31
Bliss 49, Rockland 32
12-18 35-50 27-31

Hansen 48, North Gem 27

JANECROFT — Good man-to-man defense helped the visiting Huskies beat the North Gem Cowboys 48-27.

"It was a very physical game," said Hansen coach Mike Pfeiffer. Devon Jenks had 14 points and Hlyrum Stanger 12 to lead the Huskies (2-0), who host Shoshone Tuesday.

Glenns Ferry 59, Nampa Chr 43

GLENN'S FERRY — Alisha Crane scored 28 points to lead Glenns Ferry to a 59-43 win over Nampa Christian.

Glenns Ferry (5-3) hosts Liberty Charter on Wednesday.

Challis 66, Carey 59

CAREY — Challis beat Carey 66-59 to win the 2006 Carey Invitational tournament.

Challis 66, Carey 59 Championship Game
12-18 35-50 27-31
Challis 66, Carey 59 Championship Game
12-18 35-50 27-31

Girls basketball Richfield 46, Burte County 45

RICHFIELD — The top ranked AI Richfield Tigers halted the second ranked and defending 2A state champion Burte County Pirates 28-game win streak with a 46-45 home win Saturday as freshman Teenie Kent hit a 3-pointer with 13 seconds remaining.

"It was a very intense game, both in tempo and fast breaking," said Richfield coach Steve Kent. "They jumped out to a early 9-0 lead but we were able to recover."

Richfield (6-0) was led by Teenie Kent with 16 points.

Minico 58, Idaho Falls 52

MINICO — Danny Hernandez and Brecka Fetzer scored 13 points apiece to lead the Spartans to 58-52 win over Idaho Falls.

Keisha Lloyd, who missed last season with a knee injury, hurt her knee and left the game in the second period. Fetzer and fellow freshman Kendra Bailey each nailed three 3-pointers.

Minico coach Clint Stramann also praised his post players. Minico (4-2) plays at Twin Falls Tuesday night.

Searle, Burley get win in SLC

By Ryan Howe For the Times-Herald

SALT LAKE CITY — As one of the NBA's best shooters, Ray Allen of the Seattle Sonics, watched from behind the Burley Bobcats' bench.

Searle coach of the Bobcats to a shooting clinic of his own Saturday. Searle came off the bench to score 17 points and spark the Bobcats to a 76-64 win over Preston at the EnergySolutions Arena, home of the Utah Jazz.

"It's kind of surreal," Searle said. "You always watch NBA players on TV and it's cool to think you're out there on that floor playing."

The Bobcats' court general, Colton Moon had 22 points.

Burley 76, Preston 64
8-15 27-40 18-21
Burley 76, Preston 64
8-15 27-40 18-21

Murtough 35, Camas County 33

MURTAUGH — The Murtaugh Red Devils picked up their first win of the season, turning a 16-5 fourth-quarter spurt into a 35-33 home victory over the visiting Camas County Mustangs.

Michele Roseborough scored a game-high 12 points. Character, a freshman added 11, and Ashley Bridges finished with 10 for the 1-5 Red Devils.

Paige Davis scored nine to lead the Mustangs.

Murtough 35, Camas County 33
8-15 27-40 18-21
Murtough 35, Camas County 33
8-15 27-40 18-21

Carey Tournament Carey 50, Lighthouse Chr 32

CAREY — The Carey Panthers took their third place with Saturday's 50-32 victory over the Lighthouse Christian Lions.

Allison Shaffer led the way with a 23-point, 15-rebound double-double, while freshman Jessica Parks added 13 points and seven rebounds.

The Lions were led by Ambur Ulrich's 15 points.

In other action, Mackay beat Challis 53-49 on the tournament's title.

Wood River 31, Buhl 11

IDAHO — The Wood River defense held Buhl to only 11 points as the Wolverines took a 31-11 nonconference win over the Indians in Hatley.

Lauren Morgensthal scored a game-high 13 for the 3-3 Wolverines, while Casey Vegwert added six.

Wood River 31, Buhl 11
12-18 35-50 27-31
Wood River 31, Buhl 11
12-18 35-50 27-31

2006 Magic Valley Prep Wrestling Capsules

Class 5A Region Four-Five-Six Twin Falls Bruins
Last year's finish: n/a
Head coach: Said Dabestani
Returning state qualifiers: Tyler King, 125 pounds; Chance Regua, 145; Grayson Stone, 152; Brent Martinez, 174; Kevin Hurst, 189; Chris Marquez, 215/275.
Newcomers: Joe Hamilton, 103 pounds; Donavan Jones, 103/112; Danny Hernandez, 103; Filamon Miranda, 112; James Cox, 112; Will Keener, 119; Tyler Hast, 110; Keaton Freeman, 130; Josh Jones, 135; Anthony Hanson, 135; Zee Sletten, 140; Tommy Keeter, 140; Braden Casperson, 140; Jake Smith, 145; Brent Bradford, 145; Shane McMichael, 152; Sean Rivers, 152; Zac Tojo Austin, 160; Anthony Garcia, 160; Justin Elmer, 189; Steven Fields, 189; Brandon Green, 189; Eli Willdon, 215; Tyler Allies, 275.

Idaho falls to Top 10

MOSCOW (AP) — Steve Barnes scored 19 points and Tate Sorensen had 16 to lead Southern Utah Idaho 72-50 for his third straight victory on Saturday night. Sweeney Cooper added 14 points for the Thunderbirds (6-2). Keoni Watson led Idaho with 13 points. The Vandals (1-6) had lost five in a row. The Thunderbirds, who led almost all of the way, led 31-26 at the half. A 16-0 run in the second half pushed Southern Utah ahead 65-41 with 5:23 on the clock. Idaho committed a season-high 24 turnovers and forced just 11 Thunderbird turnovers. It was the Thunderbirds' first win in Moscow in five trips.

Class 4A Great Basin Conference West Burley Bobcats

Last year's finish: n/a
Head coach: Clint Milliron
Returning state qualifiers: Casey Simmons, sr., 285 pounds; Kory Otman, sr., 171/189; Craig Helms, sr., 171; Jerod Hammond, jr., 140 (state fifth at 135); Nathan Broadhead, jr., 130/135; Corbin Brooks, jr., 189.

Class 3A Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference Buhl Indians

Last year's finish: n/a
Head coach: Dennis Qualls
Winners: Cabrin Dancy, 112 pounds; Gregg Lemmons, jr., 112; Tyler Gill, so., 119; Cade Baugh, so., 125; Vaughn Sobokja, jr., 135; Blake Finney, jr., 140; Chase Spate, sr., 145; Benjamin Condon, jr., 145; Ryan Snuck, jr., 152; Kuran Kelly, so., 152; Vincent Orr, jr., 171; Landon Equilior, jr., 189; Gary Hopkins,

Class 2A/1A Canyon Conference Glenns Ferry Pilots

Last year's finish: district champion, state 12th place
Head coach: Troy Palmer, 16th
Returning state qualifiers: Chris Moody, sr., 119 pounds (district second); Tucker Mulberry, sr., 125 pounds (district second); Nick Mulberry, sr., 125 (district first); Tucker Lierman, sr., 135 (district first); Jaime Wilcox, sr., 140 (district second); Tyler Stukenholtz, sr., 160 (district second); Eli Taylor, jr., 171 (district second); Joe Hanson, sr., 171 (district first); Newcomers: Kaitlin Kenney, jr., 103 pounds; Braxton Altman, jr., 125; Sebastian Boyer, so., 112; Adam Perry, so., 112; n/a; n/a, sr., 140.

Oakley Hornets/Raft River Trojans

Last year's finish: n/a
Head coach: Brian Ayers
Wrestlers: James Sizemore, so., 119 pounds; Jorge Timco, jr., 135; Skylar Kuntz, jr., 135; James Beames, sr., 140; Lev Waters, sr., 145; Adriel Apter, sr., 145; Jeremy Cullinan, jr., 155; Derek Murphy, jr., 160; Ryan Henry, sr., 189; Jake Barnes, sr., 215; Troy Rogers, sr., 215; Bryon Zay, sr., 275.

Valley Vikings

Last year's finish: n/a
Head coach: Brian Ayers
Wrestlers: James Sizemore, so., 119 pounds; Jorge Timco, jr., 135; Skylar Kuntz, jr., 135; James Beames, sr., 140; Lev Waters, sr., 145; Adriel Apter, sr., 145; Jeremy Cullinan, jr., 155; Derek Murphy, jr., 160; Ryan Henry, sr., 189; Jake Barnes, sr., 215; Troy Rogers, sr., 215; Bryon Zay, sr., 275.

Wendell Trojans

Last year's finish: conference

Wrestling

Looking for No. 4. Filler will have a squad of younger grapplers, as only one senior, Matt Marshall, is listed on the roster. Marshall along with three others are returning state qualifiers. The Wildcatters numbers aren't terribly vast, so they'll mix in out on a few weight classes. In Goading, the upper weight divisions look to be the strongest. Junior Blair Gerratt, Junior Ross Koyle and senior Cody Poole all placed fifth or

Class 2A/1A

The Valley Vikings return four state qualifiers for the 2006-07 wrestling season, including conference champs James Sizemore (who's moved from 103 pounds to 119) and Ryan Henry (from 171 to 189). Also returning are Jarvis Beames, who moves from 125

Wendell Trojans

Last year's finish: conference

GO BRONCOS! GO WITH GLOBAL! Celebrate New Year's with the Broncos. Tostitos Fiesta Bowl. Global Travel. Boise State.

SPORTS

Utah's Sloan approaching 1,000th win



Utah Jazz head coach Jerry Sloan argues with referee David Jones during the third quarter against the San Antonio Spurs Wednesday in Salt Lake City. Sloan is approaching his 1,000th win as an NBA coach.

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Jerry Sloan doesn't like it much when somebody makes a fuss about him.

He has the longest tenure of any head coach in major pro sports, the fifth-highest total in NBA history and is on the verge of another milestone.

Sloan is about to get his 1,000th victory as an NBA coach, yet takes little credit for any of them.

"That's not why I'm coaching and that's not what I play," grumbles Sloan, who had 917 victories leading into this weekend.

Sloan says his longevity comes from a combination of luck, good players and good assistants. Others can call 1,000 a milestone. He will just think of it as another win, even though only four other coaches have reached that total.

Sloan needed 16 victories for his 1,000th entering this season, and got 12 in Utah's first 13 games. If the Jazz can put a string like

that together in the playoffs, even the cantankerous Sloan will be happy. Until then, he's going to push his players the way he has through his first 18 seasons as Utah's coach.

"To me that's what it's all about — trying to be good so you can be every day. I know that's kind of corny, but that's all I know," Sloan said.

It's about as complex as Utah's pick-and-roll. Sloan just expects his players to work — hard — and his standard of what constitutes "work" is usually a higher than most.

Based on a farm in southern Illinois and the youngest of 10 children, Sloan never has lost his country mind-set.

"I think that's part of my job. Some players don't like that," Sloan said. "I think in order for them to get better, they need to be reminded that they need to work hard. They're getting paid a lot of money to be in this business."

Sloan, who had to stop wearing his John

Deere cap at practice when the NBA adopted a new dress code last season, has taken the jazz to Michael Jordan and the Chicago Bulls.

The Jazz haven't reached the finals since, but Sloan is coaching much the same as he always has.

"It's intense," forward Matt Harpring said. "Even when we win, he's saying, 'They may, we can still get better. Let's get to the best we can be.' That's why he's liked here so long — because he gets players better."

Sloan has adjusted slightly to having a younger team than he's used to. But he hasn't softened much. Jazz owner Larry Miller said the secret is to have more understanding and patience from the coach.

"There's an element of him letting them see the compassionate side of him," Miller said.

Oden has solid debut as Ohio St. tops Valpo

COLUMBUS, Ohio — The wait was worth it for No. 3 Ohio State men's basketball guard DeJuan Oden.

In his first competition in seven months, the 7-foot freshman, touted by some as the best U.S.-born man in a generation, had 14 points, 10 rebounds and five blocks to lead the Buckeyes' past Valparaiso 74-50 on Saturday.

Oden had not played summer ball or with the Buckeyes since undergoing surgery June 16 to repair a torn ligament in his right wrist.

DeJuan Cook scored 20 points and Ron Lewis had 10 for Ohio State (7-1).

Samuel Hampana had 18 points for Valparaiso (3-4).

DePaul 64, No. 5 Kansas 57

ROSEMONT, Ill. — Sammy Mejia hit game-tying and go-ahead 3-pointers in the final 3 minutes and DePaul rallied from a 14-point second-half deficit to pull off an upset.

No. 6 Alabama 78, Tennessee SE, 60

MUSCAGOUSA, Ala. — Jermece Davidson had 22 points and Ronald Steele's return provided a spark for Alabama.

Steele finished with 12 points and five assists.

No. 7 North Carolina 75, Kentucky 63

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Wayne Ellington had 17 points and fellow freshman Brandon Wright added 16 to lead North Carolina to the win in the match-up of college basketball's wildest schools.

Bryan Terry also scored 16 points and capped the tiebreaker's decisive run with a pair of 3-pointers.

No. 9 Texas A&M 74, Pacific 62

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Joseph Jones had 24 points and Antwan Kavanianski scored 23 to lead Texas A&M to the win.

No. 10 LSU 74, Tulane 67

NEW ORLEANS — Glen Davis had 20 points and 13 rebounds and

Garrett Temple added 18 points to help LSU overcome a slow start against Tulane.

No. 11 Duke 61, No. 18 Georgetown 52

DURHAM, N.C. — Greg Paulus scored 13 points and Jon Scheyer had nine — all 22 in the second half — to help Duke extend their non-conference home winning streak to 46 games.

No. 12 Wisconsin 79, Fla. International 63

MADISON, Wis. — Kamron Taylor scored 16 points to lift Wisconsin to the win.

No. 14 Memphis 77, Manhattan 59

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Robert Dozier had 19 points and nine rebounds and Chris Donaghe-Roberts finished with 14 points for Memphis.

No. 17 Wichita State 64, No. 15 Syracuse 61

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Kyle Wilson scored 17 points. Sean O'Griffi added 16, and Wichita State survived a big Syracuse rally.

No. 16 Arizona 84, Illinois 72

PHOENIX — Chase Budinger scored 22 points and Arizona rallied from a 16-point deficit to get the win.

Marcus Williams added 20 points for the Wildcats (5-1).

No. 19 Butler 70, Cleveland St. 45

INDIANAPOLIS — Mike Green scored 16 points and A.J. Graves added 14 for Butler.

No. 22 Gonzaga 87, Texas 77

PHOENIX — Derek Blaino made seven 3-pointers en route to 27 points, and No. 22 Gonzaga won the opening game of the Basketball Hall of Fame Challenge.

Baylor, 7-0-14 on 3s, fell two short of the school record of nine set twice by Dan Dickau. Jeremy Pargo added 18 points.

—The Associated Press

Okur's trey lifts Jazz past Sonics

SALT LAKE CITY — Mehmet Okur hit a 3-pointer with 1.6 seconds left to help the Utah Jazz hold off the Seattle SuperSonics 109-107 on Saturday night.

Ray Allen scored 20 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter, including a driving shot by Andre Kirilenko for a layup with seven seconds left that gave Seattle a 107-106 lead.

But that left too much time for the Jazz. Without calling a timeout, Deron Williams rushed the ball up the court and found Okur open in the right corner for a 3-pointer with 1.6 seconds left.

Allen had one last chance but missed a hurried 27-foot shot as time expired.

Carlos Boozer, who led Utah with 24 points, rebounded Williams' missed jumper and laid it in to put Utah ahead 106-105 with 11.5 seconds left.

Allen entered the fourth quarter shooting 2-of-10 from the field, but made 6-of-8 shots, including three 3-pointers to erase Utah's 14-point lead in the final period.

Paul Millsap had 16 points and 10 rebounds and Okur had 12 points for the Jazz, who have now won 31 straight games when leading as they enter the fourth quarter, the longest active string in the NBA.

Following a 12-1 start, Utah (14-4) had dropped three of its last four.

Heat 98, Grizzlies 87

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — James Posey hit a 3-pointer from 26 feet at the buzzer to give Miami a win over Atlanta.

Travis Murrain controlled a jump ball with 1.8 seconds left and called timeout to set up the final play. Jason Williams threw the ball to Posey on the left baseline and he launched a shot over the outstretched arms of Mike Miller for the game-winner.

Dwyane Wade led the Heat with 23 points, including 12 in the fourth. Antoine Walker scored 18 points, while Williams added 13 points and 14 assists.

Miller had 22 to lead Memphis, while Rudy Gay added 20, including a pair of free throws in the final 22 seconds to give Memphis a 97-95 lead and set the stage for the last-second shot.

Nets 112, 76ers 107

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Vince Carter scored a season-high 41 points and Jason Kidd had 13 assists to lead the Nets over Philadelphia.

Kidd also had nine points and nine rebounds to just miss his 78th career triple-double which would have tied him for third place overall with Tim



Seattle SuperSonics guard Ray Allen, right, drives around Utah Jazz guard Derek Fisher, left, during the first half Saturday in Salt Lake City.

Chamberlain. Richard Jefferson added 24 points and Nenad Krstic had 20 as the Nets won their second straight after a six-game losing streak.

Allen Iverson scored 37 points and rookie Rodney Carney added a career-high 20 in his first NBA start as Philadelphia lost its sixth straight road game. Chris Webber returned to the 76ers lineup after missing six games with a back problem and had 15 points and 12 rebounds.

Spurs 100, Kings 98

SAN ANTONIO — Bruce Bowen scored a season-high 23 points to lead San Antonio past Sacramento Kings.

Bowen hit six 3-pointers as the Spurs went 11-22 from behind the arc. Tim Duncan added 10 points and 11 rebounds and Tony Parker scored 11 of his 20 points in the first half.

Kevin Martin led the Kings with 30 points and John Salmons added a season-high 20.

All five of the Kings' starters scored in the double digits, with Shamar Abdur-Rahim and Mike Bibby each adding 11 and Kenny Thomas contributing 10.

Raptors 103, Knicks 100

NEW YORK — T.J. Ford had 20 points and 10 assists, and turned back the Knicks on a number of occasions down the stretch as the Raptors held on for a victory.

Chris Bosh had 26 points and 13 rebounds for Toronto, which won for

the fourth time in five games. But it was the play for first down that stretch that allowed the Raptors to survive an inspired finish from Eddy Curry and improve to 2-0 on the road.

Curry had 27 points, 11 in the final 4:39, but couldn't prevent the Knicks from their fourth straight home loss.

Rockets 81, Cavaliers 63

HOUSTON — Yao Ming scored 24 points and Houston overcame a concussion on Tracy McCreedy to beat cold-shooting Cleveland.

McCreedy took an inadvertent elbow from Dikembe Mutombo in the first quarter and did not return. Luckily for Houston, the Cavaliers nearly set team records for offensive rebounding.

Lebron James scored 21, but was 7-for-22 from the field. Cleveland shot 28 percent (22-for-78) as a team, firing with its all-time worst shooting performance (23.8 percent), set in 1970.

The Cavaliers' point total was just four points ahead of their all-time low for a game (59).

Bulls 112, Wizards 94

CHICAGO — Ben Gordon scored 28 points and Ariles Noyonati added 24 to lead Chicago to a victory over Washington, which set a franchise record with their eighth straight road win to start the season.

The two led the charge as the Bulls outscored Washington 33-19 in the second quarter and won their fourth straight game.

Gordon hit 10-of-21 shots and Laol Beng add 18 points and nine rebounds. Kirk Hinrich had 10 points and nine assists.

Caron Butler had 21 points and 10 rebounds for the Wizards.

Nuggets 121, Pacers 101

DENVER — Carmelo Anthony scored a season-high 30 points and J.R. Smith hit five 3-pointers in the Nuggets' win over the Pacers.

Anthony and Smith were finished with 19 points, entering the game as the league's leading scoring duo, averaging a combined 48.6 points.

This was Anthony's sixth straight game of 30 or more points. It's the second time this season he's scored 30 or more in six contests in a row, tying a franchise record he shares with former Nuggets star and current Toronto assistant coach Alvin English.

Anthony and Smith were finished with 15 points, entering the game as the league's leading scoring duo, averaging a combined 48.6 points.

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Larsen

Continued from page C1

answer five of those questions a little early.

Q: So, is North Idaho going to give CSI a game?

A: You can't keep winning 30 games in a game. Yes, NIC has been good, but which would the best SWAC programs over the past couple years, but at 5-2 against an early season schedule that includes wins over such powerhouses as Grand Michigan and College of Edinboro, Alberta, Canada (and), and a loss to Hightline Community College (Vash) of the NWAAC, the Cardinals don't impress with their performance thus far.

NIC does feature some solid players in sophomores Scott Stockwell and Brian Morris. However, at 6-foot-6, Morris is the tallest Cardinals player, which means there is any combination of Brandon Stone, Kevin Ford, Oscar Bui and Art Parakhouski, and matchup problems abound.

Speaking of which, CSI has the Human Matchup Problem in freshman Juan Parrillo, a spring-loaded 6-foot-7 guard that plays like a lockdown defense, even on opposing point guards.

Too many mismatches, too much

depth. Prediction? CSI 109-83 on Friday with the Golden Eagle widening that margin against an exhausted NIC squad Saturday.

Q: It's not NIC, who will hang with CSI?

A: Until Jan. 12-13 when the Golden Eagles host Salt Lake Community College, in between are four very winnable games against Mesa College (Ariz.), Phoenix College, and Colorado Northwestern Community College. The 7-1 Bruins boast a NCAA Preseason All-American in sophomore post Gary Wilkinson, and SWAC mainstay captain Norm Parrish has a solid game including sophomore Nikolas Bodie to accompany Wilkinson. The three-week gauntlet in January that pits CSI against SLLC, Snow College, and the College of Eastern Utah could be the most important stretch of the Golden Eagles' regular season.

Q: CSI has already broken four records this season. What record will fall next?

A: More than likely, none until the end of the season. CSI is on pace to easily score the most points for a season and finish with the highest scoring average in program history,

but better competition could make that race to top the Golden Eagle teams of the late 1980s closer than it looks to be now. Of course, CSI will hope to break the program's season win streak total of 30 games (1976-77), and ideally extend it to around 50.

Not all of that will equate to an NCAA championship.

As for any individual records, don't count on it. Any number of this year's CSI players are capable of putting up amazing individual stats. But the reason they won't is because

Barret Perry has put together a team in every sense of the word. Six players average double figures in points. Twelve average more than seven. On a team so deep, so balanced, no player averages over 20. Carlos Willey's 24.3 minutes per game. As such, though I've heard many a voice wish for it, it's unlikely that anyone will wipe Ricky Clemens out of the record book with his single-game high of 51 points.

The only real chance would come if early foul trouble keeps some Golden Eagles guards out of a game and Perry turns loose sophomore shooting guard Devin Davis on the explosive sophomore transfer from the University of Texas. El Paso pumped in 22 points in just 11 min-

utes during CSI's 141-88 win over Hermeketa Community College (Ore.). That's two points per minute. In fact, Davis is averaging 1.1 point per minute played this year. Only actor Colin Farrell scores faster and more often.

So it's a possibility, but not one I'd hold my breath on. Perry and his squad know that individual accolades follow team success, but team success doesn't always follow individual greatness. (See: Bryant, Kobe, Wilkins, Dominique).

Q: Is this the best CSI team of all time?

A: There's the million-dollar question. I've heard time and again this year. The answer is no. At least not yet.

Not as long as the record books read that Boyd Grant's 1975-76 team went 31-1 and won the NJCAA title, and that in 1986-87, CSI went 38-1 and won a national title under Fred Tenkle's direction. The only criteria that matters in determining the best Golden Eagles team of all time is whether or not it won a championship. Does this team have that potential? Very much so. But eight consecutive wins, no matter how convincing, do not equate to greatness.

Q: Finally, let's switch over to the women. What does Randy Rogers' team need to make it back to nationals?

A: About 10 more points and five fewer turnovers per game. The 7-1 CSI women are as good, if not better than last year's squad, but they can't afford to have a halfhearted teaming.

Moore to continue to provide 41 percent of the offense through a long season. No other CSI player averages more than 7.1 points per game. If Rogers' CSI team is going to establish itself as a national contender, it will likely need two more players to average nine to 10 points per game.

Rogers' defense-oriented approach has kept CSI on the winning end of the turnover battle, and this year is no different. However, CSI is also averaging 20.0 turnovers per game in the early season. If the Golden Eagles can cut that number down to around 15 per game, the extra possessions will likely turn narrow losses into

clutch wins as the SWAC season draws on.

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Oklahoma wins Big 12 title game

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Oklahoma's ground game — the eighth-ranked Sooners to the Big 12 title game, the Sooners went to the air to reach the Bowl Championship Series.

Paul Thompson threw two touchdown passes to Malcolm Kelly and led the longest scoring drive in Big 12 championship history, leading Oklahoma to a 21-7 victory over No. 19 Nebraska on Saturday night.

Kelly's 142 yards receiving on 10 catches broke the previous title game record of 140 yards, set by Kansas' States Darnell McDonald in 1998.

The Sooners (11-2), who forced five turnovers — another championship game record — won their fourth Big 12 title and earned a berth in the Fiesta Bowl on New Year's Day. Strong defensive backs had two of Oklahoma's takeaways, including a

fumble recovery that set up the Sooners' first score.

The Cornhuskers (9-4), who were in the conference championship game for the first time since 1999, will play in the Cotton Bowl, also on Jan. 1.

Backed up at his own 11 in the third quarter, with Oklahoma clinging to a 11-7 lead, and Nebraska building momentum with every defensive stop, Thompson was 6-for-8 for 95 yards on an 11-play, 99-yard drive. It ended with his 3-yard pass to Kelly that made it 21-7.

The Sooners also picked up the fastest score in Big 12 title game history when Allen Patrick scored on a 2-yard run just 48 seconds in.

On the game's first play from scrimmage, Marcus Walker stripped the ball from Nebraska's wide receiver Mattie Purify after a short gain. Smith scooped up

the ball near the sideline and returned it to the 2.

The play had to be reviewed, but it plays clearly showed that the ball was out of Purify's hands before the receiver fell out of bounds at his own 13.

Later in the first quarter, Thompson hit Kelly for a 66-yard touchdown that put the Sooners up 14-0. Kelly caught the ball in stride at the Nebraska 20, eluded a diving tackle attempt by cornerback Courtney Grisky, and sprinted in untouched to complete the Sooners' second one-play scoring drive.

Nebraska cut it to 14-7 in the second quarter, when Andrew Shanley's interception set up Zac Taylor's 14-yard TD pass to Hunter Faulkner.

Defenders' touchdown catch was his fourth of the year — out of five total receptions.



Florida tops Arkansas for SEC title

Gators hoping to pass Wolverines in BCS standings

ATLANTA — Halfway through the Southeastern Conference title game, Florida knew it had a shot at playing for an even bigger championship.

The Gators may just get it, thanks to freshman Percy Harvin and an opportunistic special teams.

Harvin scored two touchdowns and No. 4 Florida put up two more scores off a blocked punt and a botched return, leading the Gators to a wild 39-28 victory over eighth-ranked Arkansas for their first SEC crown since 2000 on Saturday night.

Now, Florida has its eye on another prize, No. 2 Southern California, which had the inside track to face top-ranked Ohio State in the BCS championship game, likely to come with a 13-9 loss to UCLA.

The Gators (12-1) are hoping their win over Arkansas was impressive enough to vault them past third-ranked Michigan in the BCS standings. The media, coaches and computers will answer that question Sunday.

When everything is settled — and no matter what happens, there will be plenty of griping — Florida either heads to the desert to face Ohio State in the Jan. 8 BCS championship game or settles for a spot in the Sugar Bowl as the SEC champion.

For those who complained that Florida didn't play an exciting brand of football, relying a little too heavily on its defense, there was a little something for everyone in this one, starting with big plays, glitz and plenty of razzle-dazzle.

Harvin, who was chosen MVP, caught a 37-yard touchdown pass and broke off a 67-yard run to the end zone. Florida scored its first touchdown after Jarrell Fayson broke up the middle to block a punt, then went ahead for good when Wondy Pierre-Louis fell on a fumbled punt in the end zone late in the third quarter.



Members of the Florida Gators congratulate teammate Jarrell Fayson (13) after he blocked an Arkansas punt in the second quarter during the Southeastern Conference Championship football game at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta, Saturday.

passes for 149 yards and two scores, and Anthony Allen added two touchdowns on the ground as Louisville took control early.

Louisville's school-record 11th regular season win, however, might not be enough to secure the Cardinals a spot in the lucrative BCS. The Cardinals need No. 15 West Virginia to beat No. 15 Rutgers on Saturday night to win the conference tie outright and a likely berth in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3.

If the Scarlet Knights beat the Mountaineers, they would win the Big East conference of their 20-25 win over the Cardinals on Nov. 9, leaving Louisville hoping for one of the four all-large berths into the BCS.

Connecticut finished the season 4-4 overall.

change to tie the game or take the lead, but was forced to punt. Wake Forest picked up a first down and ran out the clock.

No. 21 California 26, Stanford 17

BERKELEY, Calif. — Nate Longshore passed for 217 yards and California survived a bitter wind and stubborn Stanford in the 109th Big Game.

Justin Forsett had 67 of his 75 yards rushing in the fourth quarter as the Golden Bears (9-3, 7-2 Pac-10) barely did enough to beat the Cardinal (11-1, 1-8) for the fifth straight year in a lackluster performance by both of the Bay Area archrivals.

Tom Schneider kicked four field goals and DeSean Jackson caught seven passes for 127 yards for Cal, which hasn't lost a Big Game since coach Jeff Tedford's arrival in 2002. The Bears had lost seven straight to the Cardinal before the Tedford era.

College Scores

FAR WEST	
California 26, Stanford 17	
Montana 20, S. Illinois 3	
New Mexico St. 50, Louisiana Tech 23	
San Diego St. 17, Colorado St. 6	
San Jose St. 24, Fresno St. 14	
Idaho St. 27, North Alabama 19	
Idaho 13, Southern Cal 9	
SOUTHWEST	
TCU 38, Air Force 14	
MIDWEST	
Grand Valley St. 30, Iowa Dakota 29	
South Falls 25, Missouri Valley 14	
St. Francis, Ind. 49, St. Xavier 20	
Youngstown St. 28, Illinois St. 21	
SOUTH	
Alcorn St. 21, Grambling St. 14	
Appalachian St. 38, Montana St. 17	
Delta St. 27, North Alabama 19	
Florida 38, Arkansas 28	
Louisiana-Monroe 39, Louisiana-Lafayette 20	
Louisville 48, Connecticut 17	
Troy 26, Fla. International 13	
Wake Forest 9, Georgia Tech 6	
SOUTH	
Bloomsburg 24, Shepherd 21	
Massachusetts 24	
New Hampshire 17	
Towson 26, Seton Hall 17	
San Diego 27, Monmouth, N.J. 7	
Wesley 34, Mary Hamilton Baylor 20	
West Virginia 41, Rutgers 39, 30F	

Starting with the third overtime, teams are required to go for 2-point conversions following touchdowns. Brown hit Brandon Myles across the middle for the go-ahead score on a 13-yard pass to wide receiver Troy 26, their fourth straight win with a 2-point pass for a 41-33 lead.

Rutgers' Day Rice then scored from 2 yards out. On the 2-point try, Rice scrambled to his right and threw a forward pass but Vaughn Rivers broke up the pass and several thousand fans in the sellout crowd ran onto the field in celebration.

Rutgers' goal to winning the BCS tie conference title, but could have to settle for the Texas Bowl.

Navy 26, Army 14

PHILADELPHIA — The Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is staying docked with Navy.

While Army and Navy played a mostly competitive game in this increasingly lopsided rivalry, the result was all the same and the Midshipmen are again the class of the service academies.

Jason Tomlinson and Bergele Campbell each rushed for touchdowns to lead Navy to a 26-14 win over Army on Saturday in the 107th meeting of one of the most storied rivalries in college sports.

— The Associated Press

UCLA's Christian Taylor, left, and John Hale, right, jump into the stands to celebrate with fans after their 13-9 win over No. 2 Southern California Saturday in Pasadena, Calif.

UCLA upsets USC

Bruins spoil Trojans BCS title game plans

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Southern California's dejected players trudged off the Rose Bowl field, oblivious to the celebration going on around them.

Their national championship hopes had just ended with the biggest upset of the season.

UCLA knocked No. 2 USC out of the Bowl Championship Series title game with a stunning 13-9 victory over its 138-year rival Saturday. The Bruins did it with a vastly improved defense and a quarterback starting on three days' notice.

"Give credit to UCLA. They made it a difficult day," said USC coach Pete Carroll, whose team lost for just the fourth time in its last 59 games. "They kept us from doing what we wanted to do. We had no rhythm. We did not anticipate this happening."

Neither did most fans of either team. The Trojans hammered the Bruins 69-19 last season to lock up a second straight appearance in the BCS title game, and by such a one-sided score, to make it their in a row.

It wasn't to be, even though USC came in averaging 52.3 points a game.

Besides having their national championship hopes crushed, the Trojans (10-2, 7-2 Pac-10) had their NCAA-record streak of 63 games in which they had scored 20 or more points snapped.

And a lot of the credit goes to UCLA's first-year defensive coordinator, Bob Wade. Wade, a former Washington Redskins assistant. It was his schemes the Trojans were unable to solve.

"I didn't believe it until the clock hit zero," UCLA coach Karl Durrell said. "All we wanted to do was stay close and get a chance to win. I know how important this win is for the Bruin family. I know that it's been a long time."

Since 1998, to be exact, the Trojans had beaten the Bruins seven straight times. Before that, UCLA beat USC eight times in a row.

The Bruins only sacked USC quarterback John David Brown twice, but they had him on the run throughout and forced him to throw several balls away. And they held Trojan star Dwayne Jarrett to four catches for 60 yards.

"We gave them a lot of different looks," Walker said. "If we confused 'Bony, that would take care of Jarrett."

The strategy worked to perfection.

"Their offensive line was not wide-eyed," UCLA defensive end Bruce Davis said. "People said we're small. That's all right. We were big enough to knock Bony on the ground."

Jarrett said his timing was affected by the Bruins' pass rush.

"They did a great job of switching up their defensive schemes and bringing pressure," he said.

3 Minutes after the game, and with a crowd of 90,266 still roaring, UCLA's Junior Taylor, Chris Markey and Dennis Kees jumped the handsaw, grabbed cheerleaders' megaphones and led the delirious fans in cheering for the upstart Bruins.

Patrick Cowan passed for 113 yards and ran for another 55 as UCLA paved the way for a Michigan-Ohio State rematch or an Ohio State-Florida matchup for the national championship Jan. 8 in Glendale, Ariz.

No. 16 Wake Forest 9, No. 23 Georgia Tech 6

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Riley Skinner completed two long passes in his homecoming, just enough to give Wake Forest its first Atlantic Coast Conference championship in 36 years and send the Demon Deacons to their biggest bowl game.

Skinner threw for 201 yards. Sam Swank kicked three short field goals and Wake Forest beat Georgia Tech in the ACC title game on a snowy Saturday.

The Demon Deacons (11-2) won their second league title and first since 1970, adding another chapter to an improbable season under sixth-year coach Jim Groh. Skinner, who grew up in Jacksonville, will be going to the Orange Bowl on Jan. 2 — the program's biggest bowl game since the 1946 Gator Bowl.

Georgia Tech (9-4) had the game with a sore ankle.

No. 6 Louisville 48, Connecticut 17

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Brian Brohm threw for 341 yards and four touchdowns and the Cardinals (11-1, 6-1) clinched at least a share of the Big East title.

Harry Douglas caught five

No. 15 West Virginia 41, No. 13 Rutgers 39, 30T

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — Jarrett Brown threw a 22-yard touchdown pass in the third overtime and West Virginia knocked down Mike Teel's 2-point conversion pass to preserve a 41-39 win over Rutgers on Saturday night, denying the Scarlet Knights their first BCS berth and allowing Louisville to gain the automatic bid.

Brown ran for one touchdown and threw for another in his first career start to help No. 15 West Virginia (10-2, 5-2 Big East) cap its second straight 10-win season. Brown started for Pat White, who missed the game with a sore ankle.

Montana advances to I-AA semis with win over So. Illinois

MISSOULA, Mont. — Montana held Southern Illinois to 129 yards in total offense and allowed the Salukis past midfield just once Saturday in a 20-3 NCAA Division I-AA quarterfinal victory.

"It was a pretty dominating effort by our defense, no doubt," said Montana coach Bobby Whittick, whose team has allowed just three field goals in the playoffs.

The No. 10 Salukis (9-4) had averaged 393 yards in total offense and nearly 38 points per game this season.

"For us to hold them to 129 yards was spectacular," Hunk said.

No. 2 Montana (12-1) won its 12th consecutive game as it advances to the I-AA semifinals for the eighth time in school history. The Grizzlies are 5-2 in the semifinals, including a 5-0 record in home semifinals games.

Montana will meet No. 3 Massachusetts (12-1), a 24-17 winner over No. 9 New Hampshire on Saturday.

The Grizzlies will learn Sunday if the game will be played at 5:30 p.m. MDT on Friday or at 2 p.m. Saturday. Either way, it will be just the second game played under the lights at Washington Grizzly Stadium.

Joel Swigger completed 17-of-24 passes for 230 yards and two touchdowns to Craig Chambers while Dan Carpenter kicked two field goals and ran for a first down on a fake punt to lead the Griz Saturday.

Arcee Whitlock, the fourth-leading rusher in the country, and Walter Payton Award finalist, was held to 80 yards on 21 carries — 60 below his season average — and his second-worst rushing performance this year.

"Nobody has stopped him all year, including Indiana State and Youngstown State," Hunk said of Whitlock, who was held to 66 yards in a 27-24 loss to Western Kentucky in October. Whitlock averaged 193 yards and 3.5 touchdowns per game in November.

"He's as good as advertised, we were just able to contain him," said Tyler Joyce, who had nine tackles.

Montana's offense drove the field easily in the first half, scoring on a 402-yard field goal by Carpenter with 4:02 left in the first quarter.

Montana's next drive covered 69 yards in 14 plays, capped by a 3-yard touchdown pass from Swigger to Chambers, who had scored on the field goal in the front corner of the end zone.

"He made another great throw this week," said Chambers, who 3 night

two TD passes in Montana's 31-6 win over McNeese State in the first round of the playoffs.

The Griz went up 13-0 on a 38-yard field goal by Carpenter with 1:32 left in the half.

Southern Illinois didn't get a first down until the 13:47 mark in the second quarter and had just 27 yards in total offense at halftime.

Frankly, they had a six-play first quarter," Hunk said. "The didn't have a chance to test us with all their formations."

Appalachian State 38, Montana State 17

BOONE, N.C. — Kevin Richardson rushed for 131 yards and four touchdowns and defending national champion Appalachian State beat Montana

State 38-17 on Saturday to reach the semifinals of the NCAA Division I-AA playoffs.

Quarterback Armani Edwards ran for 105 yards and a score — the second straight week — and Richardson had seven over 100 yards rushing — and Omar Byrom had 15 sacks and a forced fumble to help the top-seeded Mountaineers win their 12th straight game.

Appalachian State, which has won 26 straight at home, will play at home next week against the Youngstown State-Illinois State winner.

Appalachian State, which has won 26 straight at home, will play at home next week against the Youngstown State-Illinois State winner.

Aton Mason rushed for 72 yards and two scores for Montana State.

— The Associated Press

SPORTS

Big games on tap in Week 13 of NFL season

The Cincinnati Bengals defense came up big in Thursday's 13-7 win over the Baltimore Ravens...



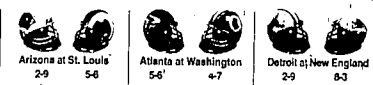
DAVID GOLDBERG

Going in opposite directions

Six weeks ago, the New York Giants seemed the way to the NFC East title. Now Dallas will look to take a commanding two-game division lead...

NFL WEEK 13

(All times EST)



Arizona at St. Louis 2-9 5-6 The Rams had lost five in a row before squeaking by the 49ers last week...

Atlanta at Washington 5-6 Justin Campbell got the first win as an NFL quarterback last week for the Redskins...

Detroit at New England 2-9 I don't think there are any teams that you can just show up and roll the helmets out there...

Indianapolis at Tennessee 10-1 4-7 An Indy win clinches the AFC South (another foreign conclusion)...

Kansas City at Cleveland 5-6 The Chiefs are having a nice shape for a team that few people expect to get to five wins...

Minnesota at Chicago 5-6 9-2 Despite their loss in Foursburg last week, the Bears will clinch the NFC North with a win...

San Diego at Buffalo 9-2 5-6 This game — more specifically the weather — might be a problem for the Chargers...

San Francisco at New Orleans 5-6 The 49ers are having a nice season for a team that few people expect to get to five wins...

Houston at Oakland 3-8 2-9 The Raiders scared the Chargers in San Diego last week, then lived off the coordinator Tom Walsh...

Dallas at N.Y. Giants 7-4 6-5 The Giants blew a 21-0 lead to Titans last week in the last 10 minutes and lost 24-21 in a historic meltdown...

Tampa Bay at Pittsburgh 3-8 4-7 Pittsburgh's 27-0 loss in Baltimore last week ended as talk of a title playoff run...

Seattle at Denver 7-4 7-4 Jay Cutler makes his debut as Denver's quarterback, replacing Jake Plummer...

San Francisco at New Orleans 5-6 The 49ers are having a nice season for a team that few people expect to get to five wins...

Houston at Oakland 3-8 2-9 The Raiders scared the Chargers in San Diego last week, then lived off the coordinator Tom Walsh...

Jacksonville at Miami 6-5 5-6 The Dolphins started 1-0 and have won four straight, in part because Jason Taylor has become an offensive force...

Arizona (plus 6½) at St. Louis The Rams can beat weak teams.

San Diego (minus 6) at Buffalo The Chargers had some trouble with the Raiders.

Carolina at Philadelphia 6-5 5-6 The Panthers problems are a struggling running game, leading to more forced passes by Jake Delhomme...

PANTHERS, 24-20 San Francisco (plus 7) at New Orleans The 49ers have gotten better. Not in the Superdome.

Tampa Bay (plus 7½) at Pittsburgh The Steelers have SOME pride left in the Superdome.

Atlanta (plus 2) at Washington Jason Campbell's arrival turned into a win last week because the Redskins finally decided to play defense.

Kansas City (minus 5) at Cleveland Herm Edwards' teams usually close well.

New York Jets (minus 2) at Green Bay The Jets are a middling team. Like everyone else.

Detroit (plus 13) at New England The Lions HAVE to clean out the front office. Don't they?

Houston (plus 3) at Oakland The Raiders have been competitive since Aaron Brooks returned.

San Diego (minus 6) at Buffalo The Chargers had some trouble with the Raiders.

Carolina (minus 3) at Philadelphia (minus 3) Look for ESPN to use its lengthy booth time for its McNabb-To debate.

Quiet Baker a pleasure for Panthers

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Jason Baker can't escape the comparisons to the man he replaced in Carolina.

"Everywhere I go, they are like, 'Do you know...' " Baker said.

The answer is no. Baker has never talked to Todd Sauerbrun and the two punters have completely opposite personalities — exactly what the Panthers wanted.

"This is a great blessing to have an opportunity to do this," Baker said. "So why would I go out and do something stupid where I am going to disappoint my family and all of these people who gave me this job?"

But despite making three Pro Bowls, Sauerbrun treated headaches for the Panthers off the field. He got into verbal fights with players from other teams.

Sauerbrun, who was also named in the Panthers' starting lineup, was traded after the 2004 season to Denver for Baker and a seventh-round draft choice.

"Two years ago in May it was on the ticker that so and so was traded for Baker. That's my association," Baker said when he was asked again if he ever met Sauerbrun.

"Baker, who I had also played with in San Francisco, Philadelphia, Kansas City — and Indianapolis, broke Sauerbrun's team record with a 38.8 net average last season.

Broncos roll out rookie QB for Sunday's game with Seahawks

DENVER (AP) — The comparison slipped out. "A young Brett Favre," Denver Broncos receiver Jason Walker said of rookie quarterback Jay Cutler.

But Seattle coach Mike Holmgren cautioned against making such parallels with Cutler, the 14th overall pick in last April's draft, throwing a single pass in a regular-season game.

"I'd be reluctant to compare any young player to Brett Favre at this point," Holmgren said.

It doesn't matter. Cutler's already being measured against Hall of Famer John Elway. That goes with being the quarterback in the Mile High City. Elway has more clout in Denver than the governor.

Cutler doesn't seem to mind — yet. Then again, Jake Plummer once felt the same way. The pressure of living under Elway's immense shadow proved too intense for Plummer, who lost his starting job Monday. He once flipped off fans and ripped a gossip columnist for comments she made about his personal life.

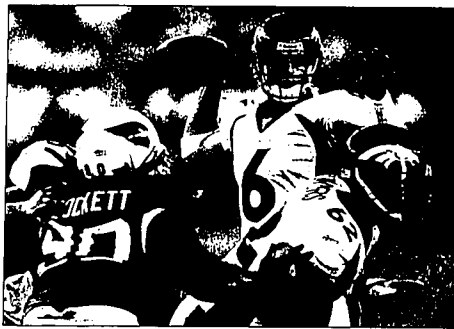
"He's not going to live up to. We have a lot of football to play before I even get into his category."

Walker is hoping Cutler can become an Elway/Favre reincarnate. Walker, who has caught 51 passes for 854 yards. is one of the best deep threats in the game and now has someone who can get him the football deep.

"He has the ability to put it out there," Walker said.

Holmgren knows all about grooming quarterbacks. He helped Favre come of age in Green Bay and coached Joe Montana and Steve Young in San Francisco. Holmgren said the biggest challenge is not the physical or mental aspects, but the outside influences.

"I've been fortunate to be around some of the greatest quarterbacks ever," Holmgren said. "Not only do they play the game physically, and make the throws and do the right thing, study



Denver Broncos quarterback Jay Cutler, background right, looks for an open receiver with protection from teammate Chris Myers, right, against the rush of Seattle Seahawks' Desmond Dockel, during the first quarter of a preseason game Aug. 31 at Cardinals Stadium in Glendale, Ariz. The rookie quarterback Sunday night when Denver hosts Seattle.

and prepare mentally, but then they handle the man. Being the man that everyone's counting on, the weight's on your shoulders. (Cutler) is a talented young guy. It's a tremendous challenge."

But one Denver thinks he's ready for. "There are always growing pains, obviously with any quarterback as he starts out," Denver coach Mike Shanahan said. "I really believe that this guy gives us the best chance to win."

Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselbeck couldn't imagine having to go in for Favre in the 11th game of his rookie season with Green Bay in 1999.

"I couldn't, but obviously I wasn't as good as Cutler," said Hasselbeck, who has a broken finger on his non-throwing hand that has him listed as probable for Sunday night. "He's a guy who was drafted in the first round. The Broncos obviously feel like he's worthy of trading up to get and ready to play. No one felt that way about me when I was coming out of (Boston College). I wasn't invited to the combine."

Will bitter about that? "I'm trying to let it go," Hasselbeck said with a laugh. "I'm using it as a positive."

Hasselbeck had an advantage over Cutler by getting to watch Favre for a few years from the sideline. He didn't start until he was traded to Seattle in 2001.

Hasselbeck said the most difficult part was realizing his time was no longer his. "It's a lot more commitments," he said.

"They (the public relations staff) had me doing every single interview, the marketing department wanted to use you to sell season tickets. Your family and friends, they think they're helping by calling you and wishing you good luck. You feel obligated to call back and talk on the phone. Unnecessary stress."

The Seahawks' defense won't feel sorry for the rookie. Cutler expects to see plenty of pressure. "They really fly around, they like to blitz a little bit and they can drop back and play coverage, too," Cutler said. "I have a lot to worry about. I am kind of worried about everything."

Players overcome injuries, own issues

NEW YORK (AP) — There were plenty who figured Keller Winslow's career was over before it really began.

First there was the broken leg that ended his rookie season. Then came the horrific motorcycle accident that nearly killed the 23-year-old, leaving him with a torn-up right knee and internal injuries.

"People were asking me (about retiring)," Winslow said. "I would laugh. I thought, 'Hell no.'"

Winslow can laugh again these days. Though still not 100 percent, the Cleveland Browns tight end is having the kind of year that would stand out even if he wasn't coming back from a catastrophic injury.

He's not the only one. Browns teammate Braylon Edwards, Oakland defensive end Warren Sapp, Denver wide receiver Jason Walker, New Orleans running back Deuce McAllister, and a slew of quarterbacks are among the players back at the top of their games after overcoming injuries or their own inadequacies.

"I feel blessed to have an opportunity to play this game, especially after what I've been through the past two years," said New York Jets quarterback Chad Pennington, who has thrown for almost 2,200 yards and has an 80.5 quarterback rating after tearing his rotor cuff twice in as many seasons.

"I look at every opportunity as a unique opportunity to take advantage of, and I don't take it for granted anymore."

With a Hall of Fame pedigree and the stats at Miami to match, Winslow was considered a can't-miss prospect when the Browns traded for him in the 2004 draft. He started his first NFL game and led the Browns with four catches, including one that set up a touchdown.

But his rookie year was done before the second game ended after he broke his ankle trying to recover an outside kick. While recuperating in May 2005, he crashed his own motorcycle into a parking lot curb while doing stunts, and flipped over the handlebars. Besides tearing the anterior cruciate ligament in his knee, Winslow had lacerations to his kidney and liver.

Requiring the knee to undergo seven surgeries. When a staph infection set in, he lost 30 pounds.

"I think some other people would have retired," Winslow said. "What I had to go through. It's just all about how bad you want to get back and how fast. And it's not just on the field. It's being with the guys off the field, being back with the team. Feeling like you belong to something."

It helped that Edwards was right beside him in the training room, doing his own rehab. Edwards, the third overall pick in 2005, tore up his right knee last December.

The two would try to beat each other at everything from who could bend his own farthest to who got to the Browns' facility first each morning.

"We might not have said it," Winslow said, "but there was a little competition."

Originally expected to be out at least nine months, Edwards was back in less than seven. He started the season opener, and has 43 catches for 641 yards and 10 touchdowns.

"It was just an attitude," Edwards said. "I just wanted to get back before everybody thought I could. I think that stuck out in my head, that I wanted to start at the beginning of the season."

Winslow's return has been equally remarkable.



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TIMES-NEWS • SPORTS EDITOR MIKE CHRISTENSEN: 735-3239

Your Scores and Stats

BOWLING

SUNSET BOWL BUHL SUNSET SENIORS
MEN'S SERIES: Wehman Caldwell 606, Chad Hill 597, Ed Davis 541, Ed Hanna 540.
MEN'S GAMES: Ed Davis 216, Wehman-Caldwell 211, Christie Hill 211, Ron Fugate 190.
LADIES SERIES: Lena Harby 505, Phyllis Galen 433, Elda Huff 366, Dixie Schroeder 353.
LADIES GAMES: Lena Harby 188, Phyllis Galen 177, Camille Zach 135, Elda Huff 135.
LUCKY STRIKERS
SERIES: Darla McCallister 550, Lois Tomlinson 535, Dorothy Moon 461, Beverly Rodig 461, Camille Hewison 461.
GAMES: Lois Tomlinson 204, Darla McCallister 200, Dorothy Moon 170, Beverly Rodig 166.
PINBUSTERS
SERIES: Ed Davis 681, Roger Shady 636, Bob Norris 621, Keith Simmons 621.
GAMES: Ed Davis 257, Bob Bahm 240, Bob Norris 236, Wayne Oglesbee 232.
MASON TROPHY
SERIES: Nancy Bright 512, Connie Bernier 476, Verna Kodesh 454, Carol Rucker 424.
GAMES: Nancy Bright 191, Connie Bernier 171, Verna Kodesh 167, Lynnette Butler 152.
SPARE PAIRS
MEN'S SERIES: Bob Fields 655, Dirk McCallister 627, Roger Shady 597, Curt Quantance 593.
MEN'S GAMES: Bob Fields 246, Dirk McCallister 243, Charlie Hill 237, Roger Shady 225.
LADIES SERIES: Darla McCallister 559, Debbie Franklin 525, Jeei Quantance 524, Dorothy Moon 497.
LADIES GAMES: Jeei Quantance 227, Darla McCallister 223, Debbie Franklin 209, Peg Lemmons 198.
STARLITE
MEN'S SERIES: Dirk McCallister 640, Todd Dickenson 624, Drew Foster 620, Dustin McCallister 593.
MEN'S GAMES: Todd Dickenson 242, Dirk McCallister 228, Matt Olson 221, Paul Povalowski 215.
LADIES SERIES: Lisa Dickenson 561, Teresa Boehm 517, Randi Hernandez 505, Darla

McCallister 505.
LADIES GAMES: Lisa Dickenson 197, Mandi Olson 193, Darla McCallister 188, Teresa Boehm 185.
MONDAY YABA
MEN'S SERIES: Jordan Hicks 549, Darren Butler 402, Brooks Ruffing 327.
BOYS' GAMES: Jordan Hicks 206, Darren Butler 147, Brooks Ruffing 129.
GIRLS' SERIES: Ashley Wilson 432.
GIRLS' GAMES: Ashley Wilson 167.
BOWLADROME TWIN FALLS N.F. SUPER DOWLERS (2 GAME SERIES)
MEN'S SERIES: Dennis Seckel 503, Ryan Lucht 437, Paul Donat Sr. 428, Mike Trammell 361.
MEN'S GAMES: Dennis Seckel 263, Max Donat Sr. 236, Ryan Lucht 219, Daniel Shepherd, 206.
LADIES SERIES: Ann Shepherd 483, Mary Thral 405, Karen Adamson 301.
LADIES GAMES: Ann Shepherd 263, Mary Thral 113.
BOYS' SERIES: Paul Donat Jr. 420, Luke Siltonis 333, Kenny Trammell 302, Matthew Thral 165.
BOYS' GAMES: Kenny Trammell 206, Luke Siltonis 193, Paul Donat Jr. 192, Matthew Thral 165.
GIRLS' SERIES: Samantha Canary 254, Kassy Donat 225, Tiffany Grayer 224.
GIRLS' GAMES: Samantha Canary 142, Tiffany Grayer 119, Kassy Donat 113.
SUN, EARLY MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Dale Black 673, Bob Leazer 631, Cobey Magee 625, Mike Leazer 607.
MEN'S GAMES: Dale Black 256, Mike Leazer 248, Bob Leazer 244, Shane Rackham 230.
LADIES SERIES: Kim Leazer 561, Al Leazer 537, Tara Kelly 489, Jerry Green 484.
LADIES GAMES: Al Leazer 204, Kim Leazer 189, Sony Precece 181, Tara Kelly 181, Sharon LeMester 181.
MON, MAJORS
BOYS' SERIES: Zach Black 551, Nicholas Parsons 528, Tyler Black 498, Anthony Vest 492.
BOYS' GAMES: Zach Black 219, Cody McKnight 211, Nicholas

Parsons 190.
GIRLS' SERIES: Danielle Allen 148, Ashlee Nowak 380.
GIRLS' GAMES: Danielle Allen 149, Ashlee Nowak 124.
MON, FOLLIES
MEN'S SERIES: Glenn Bessire 558, Fred Fender, 557, Mike mahler 534, Rick Morrow 530.
MEN'S GAMES: Glenn Bessire 215, Fred Fender 200, Rick Morrow 195, Mike Mahler 193.
LADIES SERIES: Kay Puschel 569, Georgia Randall 556, Rita Bates 511, RaeNae Reece 502.
LADIES GAMES: Kay Puschel 197, RaeNae Reece 191, Georgia Randall 190, Rita Bates 180.
SH-BOOM
MEN'S SERIES: Tom Smith 659, Dale Black 605, Lee Crump 579, Byron D. Hager 573.
MEN'S GAMES: Tom Smith 249, Byron A. Hager 234, Darrell Reynolds 213, Byron D. Hager 208.
LADIES SERIES: Ann Shepherd 503, Gretchen Black 490, Tiffany Hager 474, Ilene Hoisington 473.
LADIES GAMES: Ann Shepherd 213, Cathy Becker 197, Gretchen Black 195, Barbara Reynolds 183.
MID MORN. MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Gerald Liles 614, Blaine Ross 581, Myron Schroeder 580, Eddie Chappell 571.
MEN'S GAMES: Jerry Seabolt 256, Kirk Armstrong 224, Eddie Chappell 218, Blaine Ross 218.
LADIES SERIES: Pat Glass 484, Marie Stewart 481, Char DeRoche 480, Joan Lees 462.
LADIES GAMES: Marie Stewart 179, Jeanne Miller 175, Pat Glass 168, Char DeRoche 163.
TUES. A.M. TROIS
SERIES: Gall Cedarlung 530, Susan McCann 524, Linda Olson 507, Jessi Biggers 462.
GAMES: Gall Cedarlung 212, Susan McCann 204, Mary Ann Bruno 193, Carolyn Beaver 177.
LATECOMERS
SERIES: Lisa Allen 564, Linda Vining 528, Kristy Rodriguez 507, Jessi Biggers 462.
GAMES: Lisa Allen 224, Jessie Biggers 191, Linda Vining 184, Kristy Rodriguez 177.
CITY MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Rod Sorenson

655, Mike Watchford 602, Ryan Shull 579, Mike Starr 508.
MEN'S GAMES: Rod Sorenson 255, Mike Watchford 221, Ryan Shull 200, Ryan Shull 199.
LADIES SERIES: Julie Waters 547, Crystal Shull 531, Gayle Harrell 442, Stephanie Shull 425.
LADIES GAMES: Julie Waters 216, Crystal Shull 199, Gayle Harrell 167, Cammie Blake 163.
MEN'S CONSOLIDATED
SERIES: Cobey Magee 697, Ken Hodges 671, Denry O'Brien 659, Rick Morrow 654.
GAMES: Ed Davis 259, Cory Moore 259, Cobey Magee 256, Dale Black 247.
M.V. SENIORS
MEN'S SERIES: Rich Farnsworth 597, Myron Schroeder 556, Max Danos 534.
MEN'S GAMES: Ken Hodges 233, Rich Farnsworth 225, Max Danos 223, Myron Schroeder 214.
LADIES SERIES: Shirley Kunsman 515, Belva Coval 475, Sandy Schroeder 467, Linda Cline 467.
LADIES GAMES: Shirley Kunsman 208, Sandy Schroeder 194, Dottie Haggard 181, Belva Coval 161.
MOOSE
SERIES: Craig Brock 662, Chad Keper 660, Cobey magee 651, Todd Fiscus 638.
GAMES: Todd Fiscus 268, Craig Brock 263, Chad Keper 252, Darryll Brax 246.
MAGIC BOWL TWIN FALLS SUNDAY ROLLERS
MEN'S SERIES: Keith Kelly 680, RD Adema 637, Stan Vissor 611, Gary Friley 586.
MEN'S GAMES: RD Adema 254, Keith Kelly 243, Stan Vissor 237, Marc Owens 212.
LADIES SERIES: Melissa Straub 519, Amanda Adema 490, Sherry Anderson 471, Marvina Bartlett 445.
LADIES GAMES: Melissa Straub 211, Carol Thompson 179, Marvina Bartlett 173, Amanda Adema 168.
COMMERCIAL
SERIES: Cobey Magee 680, Todd Fiscus 672, Danny Brady 658, Ryan Worden 654.

GAMES: Ron Romero Jr. 777, Cobey Magee 258, Bret Fuller 256, Greg Hancock 247.
MASON
SERIES: Glenda Barrulla 608, Gloria Harder 544, Virginia Mulkey 486, Jean Stokesberry 485.
GAMES: Glenda Barrulla 240, Virginia Mulkey 192, Gloria Harder 190, Jean Stokesberry 183.
PIONEER
SERIES: Brenda Altin 575, Gall Cederlung 571, Ame Linch 570, Amanda Hershey 559.
GAMES: Gall Cedarlung 225, Brenda Altin 207, Cassie Larson 206, Amanda Hershey 202.
VALLEY
SERIES: Ron Dawson 566, R.D. Acema 624, Ray Turpin 618, Blayne Thompson 613.
GAMES: Tim Soran Sr. 244, Tom Smith 242, Ray Turpin 241, Ellen Foreman 236.
OLY FRI. MIXED
MEN'S SERIES: Brad Eslinger 647, Gerald Liles 624, Blayne Thompson 620, Blaine Ross 606.
MEN'S GAMES: Brad Eslinger 237, Blaine Ross 237, Gerald Liles 223, Steve Hart 215.
SAT. YABA
BOYS' SERIES: Patrick Correll 691, Zack Black 585, Kyle Mason 568, Duane Reich 542.
BOYS' GAMES: Patrick Correll 245, Zack Black 227, Kyle Mason 220, Duane Reich 194.
GIRLS' SERIES: Cecelia Milloy 389, Krista Eggleston 488, Leah Wasko 471, Kayla Mandis 443.
GIRLS' GAMES: Cecelia Milloy 221, Krista Eggleston 176, Leah Wasko 172, Kayla Mandis 167.
NAKED RIVER BOWL BURLEY LOONEY KIDS
SERIES: Fred Fowler 512, Steven Fowler 370, Jacob Hall 116, Francis Fowler 405, Megan Hall 186, Zole Ignac 172.
GAMES: Fred Fowler 193, Steven Fowler 136, Jacob Hall 151, Francis Fowler 150, Zole Ignac 171, Megan Hall 179.
PINEHEADS
SERIES: Quentin Roberts 307, Scott McEvoy 46, Klara Hieb 384, Chancy Knopp 371, Bethany Adams 344.

GAMES: Quentin Roberts 115, Scott McEvoy 31, Klara Hieb 146, Bethany Adams 138, Chancy Knopp 137.
TUESDAY TEENS
SERIES: John Hamilton 545, Todd Renz 528, Coey Krust 520, Bridget-Albertson 483, Anna Rose 478, Caitlin Schaefer 399.
GAMES: Dale Amen 209, John Hamilton 207, Andrew Morgan 185, Bridget-Albertson 203, Anna Rose 172, Caitlin Schaefer 154.
ODDBALL
SERIES: Jachelle Lowe 556, Stephanie Lund 528, Judy McLaws 506, Glenda Meacham 489.
GAMES: Jachelle Lowe 225, Stephanie Lund 225, Judy McLaws 204, Terri Albert 199.
MONDAY MARAUDERS
SERIES: Brenda Schenk 588, Lon Parish 571, Jerry Smith 570, Kristie Johnston 451.
GAMES: Derry Smith 217, Lon Parish 205, Brenda Schenk 202, Kristie Johnston 181.
LADIES CLASSIC TROIS
SERIES: Kym Davis 524, Amy Schenk 488, Clarice Leslie 464, Stacy Hieb 460.
GAMES: Kym Davis 188, Amy Schenk 181, Donna Oliver 177, Clarice Leslie 173.
MEN'S CLASSIC TROIS (4 GAME SERIES)
SERIES: Justin Studer 835, Brad Holm 826, Rusty Holm 818, Wally Studer 794.
GAMES: Rusty Holm 236, Justin Studer 229, Devon Rucker 225, Brad Holm 223.
TUESDAY MIXED
SERIES: Wally Studer 667, Gene Smith 663, Garry Poslyurny 621, Theresa Knowlton 511, Alicia Bywater 481, Judy Dennis 443.
GAMES: Wally Studer 245, Jordan Parish 242, Gene Smith 237, Theresa Knowlton 199, Alicia Bywater 186, Pattie Cook 170.
EARLY BIRDS
SERIES: Dee Malar 627, Duane Smith 604, Dusy Penrod 587, Norma Carter 493, Savannah Schultz 481, Nita Haler 474.
GAMES: Dee Malar 297, Jeff Colner 236, Dusy Penrod 223, Savannah Schultz 197, Norma Carter 184, Nita Haler 179.

Bobby Latham III honored at NASCAR banquet in Las Vegas

By Linda Brittain
Times-News correspondent

Las Vegas, Nev. — Bobby Latham III was among those honored at the NASCAR Dodge Weekly Series banquet November 11 as drivers, crew members, family, friends and track operators — including Magic Valley Speedway promoter Steve For — gathered to recognize short-track heroes representing the series' 61 NASCAR-sanctioned tracks located across the country.

Nearly 600 guests gathered at the Mandalay Bay Hotel Resort with televisions Dick Berggren and NASCAR star Jimmy Spencer co-hosting the 25th anniversary event held in the South Pacific Ballroom.

Latham finished twelfth in the Division III standings for the 2006 season. En route to capturing the Pepsi Premier division title at Magic Valley Speedway, Latham won four main events along with landing eight top five finishes in just his first full season of racing.

Latham was joined by several personal guests who supported his efforts throughout the season and the group was able to experi-

ence the NASCAR champions banquet along with the Magic Valley Speedway feature division driver.

To go along with the trophy presented to him on stage at the event, Latham will collect a total of \$8,500 from Dodge, Powerade and a host of other sponsors of the short-track series. He will also receive a full racing helmet for his accomplishments this season.

NASCAR chairman and CEO Brian France was also on hand to help celebrate the milestone event in short-track racing history, presenting Phillip Morris of Ruckersville, Va., with a championship ring during the awards ceremony. Morris will receive \$75,000 for capturing the national title, among other prizes.

To top off the evening, NASCAR vice president Jim Hunter announced that Whelen Engineering will become the new title sponsor beginning in 2007 and the series will be renamed the NASCAR Whelen All-American Series. Whelen, a manufacturer of automotive, aviation, industrial and public engineering lighting and warning systems, is headquartered in Connecticut.

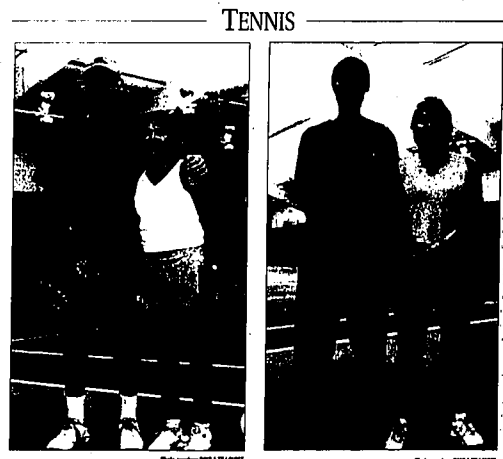
Let us know
E-mail
YourSports information to
sports@magicvalley.com.

Hailey woman making return

Hailey resident Cameron Randolph, coach of the Wood River Dolphins swim team, is setting her sights on reclaiming her title as the top women's off-road triathlon athlete in the world.

Randolph competed in October at the Nissan X-Terra World Championships on Maui in Hawaii and placed 10th in the women's professional class.

Read more about the 35-year-old's return to athletics on page C8



Brian Olmstead, left, and Jamie LaMure won the 7.5 division at the Magic Valley Tennis Association's annual fall mixed tournament in November.

Kenny Struchen, left, and Lori Clark won the 6.5 division at the Magic Valley Tennis Association's annual fall mixed tournament in November.

Clark, Struchen; Olmstead, LaMure win titles at MVTA mixed tourney

TWIN FALLS — Lori Clark and Kenny Struchen bested Darren Kyle and Becci Tupper in the 6.5 division championship match of the Magic Valley Tennis Association's annual fall mixed tournament last month, winning 7-5, 1-6, 6-3. Clark and Struchen reached the finals by beating Kurt Heiner and Daniella Bocsi 6-3, 7-6, Kyle and Tupper advanced to the finals with a 6-4, 6-1 win over Dan Green and Kristen Keller.

Green and Keller won the consolation match, beating Heiner and Pool 4-6, 6-1, 7-5.

In the 7.5 division, Jamie LaMure and Brian Olmstead beat Dar and Tom Wagner 7-5, 6-2.

The mixed tournament is one where the doubles team must consist of a man and woman whose combined player ranking is a 6.5 or a 7.5. Tennis players are ranked by the USA so that players of equal levels will compete with other players at the same level.

Anyone interested in playing tennis, whether just starting out or returning to the game — or those simply seeking a little competition — are welcome to join the MVTA. Send an e-mail to mvsports@magicvalley.com or to area supervisor Connie Naughtan at cjnaughtan_2@hotmail.com.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cold fog with fog in the valleys. Summer and summer-like with elevation. Highs, middle 20s
 Tonight: Mostly clear, early, patchy fog developing in the valleys.
 Low: teens
 Tomorrow: Morning fog burning off to partial sunshine. Highs, 30s

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Continued cold with pockets of fog, then partly cloudy. Highs, upper 20s
 Tonight: Partly cloudy and cold. Lows, upper single digits
 Tomorrow: Mostly dry with chilly conditions lingering for another day. Highs, low 30s

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Higher elevations will see temperatures well below the ice box faster than most valley areas in the days to come. Dry weather and fair skies are expected well into the coming week.



TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
FOGGY Morning fog, then some partial clearing	FOGGY Mostly clear early, the getting foggy	Morning fog, then cloudy	Rebounding temperatures	Seasonal and mostly dry	A mix of sun and clouds
High 25	Low 12	26 / 19	38 / 20	40 / 21	38 / 21

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature

Yesterday's Low: 18	Month to Date: 0.0°	Year to Date: 7.7%
Record High: 81 in 1995	Year to Date: 1.07°	Year to Date: 6%

Precipitation

Month to Date: 0.00"

Humidity

Yesterday's Maximum: 71%

Barometric Pressure

Yesterday's: 30.50 in.

Sunrise and Sunset

Sunrise: 7:51 AM
Sunset: 6:05 PM

Moons and Moonset

Monday: 4:31 PM
Tuesday: 7:44 AM

U.V. INDEX

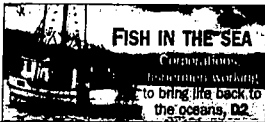
Low Moderate High

MOON PHASES

Dec 12	Dec 20	Dec 27
Full Moon	New Moon	Full Moon

REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow	Tuesday
Boise	28-35	26-34	28-36
Idaho Falls	25-32	23-30	25-33
Mountain Home	20-28	18-25	20-28
Rupert	20-28	18-25	20-28
Twin Falls	20-28	18-25	20-28
Walden	20-28	18-25	20-28
Blackfoot	20-28	18-25	20-28
Arco	20-28	18-25	20-28
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Rupert man remembered for his love of kids, sports

By Tressa Tegan
For the Times-News

RUPERT — Raymond Louis "Louie" Caldwell lived two lives, one before his accident and one after, but throughout both he loved sports and he loved children.

He died Oct. 30 at the age of 59.

Louie was born Aug. 29, 1947, in Rupert, the youngest son of Ace and Nedra Caldwell. He attended schools in Rupert and graduated from Minico High School, where he participated in numerous sports. He then attended Idaho State University, where he earned his bachelor of arts degree in education.

He returned to Rupert to teach at East Minico Junior High School. He also coached several sports at the school. He also enjoyed teaching swimming lessons during the summer.

After only one year of teaching, Louie was in a car accident that would change his life.

His neck was broken and doctors said he only had a

"He never complained and he always laughed. No matter what happened, he always laughed."

— brother Jack Caldwell

10 percent chance of even making it to the hospital in Salt Lake City.

He survived the trip, but doctors in Utah were not optimistic, either. They told his family there was only a small chance that he would live, and if he did, there wouldn't be much quality of life and that he had most likely suffered brain damage.

He remained in the hospital unable to speak or move for more than two months.

The doctors were saying yet again that there was very little hope.

"He heard the doctors saying that and he was mad," his brother Jack Caldwell said. That night, he removed the



Louie Caldwell loved children and spent many years teaching swimming lessons in both Burley and Rupert.

wires and tubes himself. He was going to prove them wrong."

Though he had lost his speech and many of his motor skills, his mind was fully intact

and his spirit was stronger than ever. His strength and athletic ability, in addition to pure determination, would be the key to overcoming the odds.

When he had gained enough strength and function, he returned to ISU and completed his master's degree in counseling.

"He believed God saved him, and he was on a mission to teach youth and help other people who were injured," Caldwell said.

Louie began to search out people who had been injured or disabled to encourage them to heal and recover.

He taught, homebound school, worked as a substitute teacher and a counselor for troubled young people. He also returned to teaching swimming lessons and worked as a lifeguard part time.

"The accident hadn't hindered his life, just altered it slightly.

a Life
remembered

Raymond Louis "Louie" Caldwell

Born: Aug. 29, 1947
Died: Oct. 30, 2006
Survivors: His brother Jack (Sharon) Caldwell of Idaho Falls.

"It was just a challenge to him," Caldwell said. "He never complained and he always laughed. No matter what happened, he always laughed."

Louie stayed active, jogging regularly, even when his legs were not their strongest. He rode his bike back and forth between Burley and Rupert.

He would work out at Parke View Care Center and encouraged the residents to exercise. He always looked for ways to help others and never wanted pity or sympathy no matter the situation.

Caldwell said, "Every day was hard for him. He had to work hard to do simple things the rest of us take for granted, but he always gave 100 percent. What can I say? He's my brother. He was a good brother."



Louie Caldwell loved sports and played as well as coached many teams from Little League to high school.

WESTERN NATURAL RESOURCES

Rocky Mountain wilderness on hold until 2007

By Jennifer Talheim
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Time is running out for proposed legislation protecting much of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Congress has just days left in a nine-day session and Colorado's senators say passage this year is unrealistic.

Legislation to officially designate about 94 percent of the park as wilderness was first proposed in 1984, and Rep. Mark Udall, D-Colo., has introduced the bill every year since he took office in 1999.

He and Sen. Ken Salazar, D-

Colo., thought they were finally poised to pass it this year after winning support from several communities surrounding the park. But progress was scuttled when Colorado Republicans Sen. Wayne Allard and Rep. Marilyn Musgrave introduced their own bill at the last minute.

Now, with Congress set to wrap up work by the end of next week, Colorado's lawmakers say they still have not negotiated a compromise.

"We're going to continue to try," Salazar spokesman Drew Nannis said. "But I think realistically it will be next year."

Allard is committed to working on it next year, spokeswoman Laura Condelicut said.

"It's unlikely anything would go forward in the remaining days," she said.

One of the sticking points between the Republicans and the Democrats was whether to give liability protection to a company that operates the Grand River Ditch through the park.

Water Supply and Storage Co. has the rights to the ditch, one of Colorado's oldest trans-mountain canals.

Allard and Musgrave's bill would waive liability for

future accidents that occur under normal maintenance. But Salazar and others have questioned whether the bill would also absolve the company of potential liability for damage to the park caused by a 2003 accident.

The government sued the Fort Collins water company earlier this year for damage caused when the ditch overflowed, scouring a mountain-side and forcing the temporary closure of trails and campsites.

Both sides had pledged to work with the ditch company, but they still have not resolved the problem.

BEHIND THE BARN DOORS

What's inside your farm buildings?
TUESDAY IN COUNTRY: ROAD'S

18th Annual Performance of
The Nutcracker
The King Fine Arts Center

Performance Schedule
Friday, Dec. 8 • 7:30 pm
Saturday, Dec. 9 • 2:00 pm Matinee

Featuring Guest Artists
Traci Finch as "The Sugarplum Fairy"
Roman Avramenko as "The Cavalier"

General Seating	\$10.00
Senior Citizens	\$8.00
Reserved Seating	\$13.00 & \$15.00

Seating of 100 seats. Tickets for \$10.00 and \$15.00. Tickets are available at the box office.

BLM recommends approval of gas field in Wyoming

By Ben Heary
Associated Press writer

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — The U.S. Bureau of Land Management proposes allowing drilling of 2,000 natural gas wells in Carbon County in a development that the agency's own project manager says will have "pretty intensive effects" on wildlife and the look of the land.

The BLM on Friday released a final environmental study for the Atlantic Rim Natural Gas Field Development Project. The agency proposes to grant a request from Anadarko Petroleum and other smaller operators to develop 2,000 gas wells on some 270,000 acres of federal, state and private land south of Rawlins.

The proposed development calls for allowing one gas well per 80 acres. Drilling could start as soon as next spring, the BLM says, and continue in the area for as long as 50 years.

The BLM states that the proposed development would likely create nearly 1,500 jobs during peak production and have a total economic impact of about \$6.4 billion for the state.

However, the BLM's analysis

also states that the project will displace wildlife and that impacts to scenery, noise, dust and human activity would all reduce the area's desirability as a place to camp.

A coalition of environmental groups early this year blasted the draft environmental study of the project. The

groups said the study suffered from a "crippling flaw," in that the BLM had not yet specified where the wells, pipelines, roads and power lines would be sited.

The BLM proposes to allow drilling of up to eight wells per 640-acre section of land, or one well every 80 acres.

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Monty is retiring after 24 years in the grain business.
We appreciate the time and talents he has devoted to this industry.
Refreshments will be served.

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Festival of Trees

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A special note of thanks to all those who so generously supported the 29th Annual Festival of Trees.
Cassia Health Care Foundation, Inc. and Cassia Regional Medical Center Volunteers

NATION

Not enough fish in the sea

By Kenneth R. Weiss
Los Angeles Times

TAKU RIVER, Alaska — Fish counters in green rain slickers patrol a narrow channel of glacier-fed river, keeping tabs on the thousands of salmon that migrate upstream to spawn. Elsewhere along the coast, observation teams stosh through waterways in waders, carrying rifles to ward off aggressive bears. Others monitor from low-flying planes, or take inventory of fish wells and atop counting towers placed strategically throughout the wilds of Alaska as part of an elaborate surveillance of returning fish.

At the first hint of a decline in salmon numbers, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game is quick to shut down coastal fishing grounds and order fishermen to pull in their nets and lines.

State officials do this without protest from fishermen.

"We don't want to catch fish (just) this year, but in future years, too," said Juneau fisherman by Shotton, who remembers when the collapse of Alaska's salmon fisheries from overfishing was declared a national disaster about 50 years ago.

Threatened with the loss of one of its top industries, Alaska began limiting the number of boats and fishermen, restricting the size of their catches, and giving fishermen a stake in the long-term viability of salmon and other fish.

Only the rest of the world had learned from Alaska's response to the crisis. Today, records show that 90 percent of the big fish — tuna, swordfish — are gone from the oceans. If the depletions continue unabated, a group of scientists recently predicted, major seafood stocks will collapse by 2048.

Alaska's policy shifts are large an exception. By and still, ocean fishing, especially in international waters, remains a free-for-all with too many boats chasing too few fish.

Only about 6 percent of the global fish catch is certified as "sustainable," meaning that fish are not pulled from the ocean faster than they can reproduce and are not caught in ways that destroy other sea life or undersea habitat. Much of that sustainable seafood comes from Alaska.

Although other regions and nations have been reluctant to rein in their fishing fleets, help has emerged from an unexpected quarter.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. has pledged within three to five years to sell nothing but wild-caught seafood that meets standards for sustainability set out by the nonprofit Marine Stewardship Council. Founded in 1997, the council grants a blue and white label to fish that stand up to independent certification.

McDonald's is nudging its suppliers to come up with sustainably caught fish for its Filet-O-Fish sandwiches. Darden Restaurants, parent of Red Lobster, is taking similar steps, as is the Compass Group, America's largest food-service provider to corporate and university cafeterias.

In turn, commercial fisheries are seeking certification for flounder caught off Japan, herring in the North Sea, Chilean hake and albacore off California.

"This is supply-chain pressure of the best kind," said Rupert Howes, chief executive of the London-based Marine Stewardship Council. "The Wal-Mart commitment is actually catalyzing commitments from other retailers around the world."

Yet there could be more risks for precarious fish stocks as megaprojects enter the seafood market, creating increasing demand for the top types of fish the sustainable-seafood movement is trying to save.

"That's what fundamentally underlines the market-based approach," said Daniel Pauly, a fisheries scientist at the University of British Columbia. "You create more customers for fish and invariably increase the pressure on the stocks."

Pauly and other critics say it's too late for the market alone to



Kirk Hardcastle packs Alaska salmon on ice after offloading his catch, Alaskan fishermen and the state work together to close coastal fishing grounds whenever salmon numbers show signs of declining.



The fishing vessel **Hope** off the coast of Juneau, Alaska's salmon catchers are setting records; fishermen say voluntary restrictions are the reason.

protect fish when the world's population is growing and two-thirds of the world's commercial stocks already are being fished at or beyond their capacity.

The only solution to overfishing, they say, is for governments to muster the political will to restrict catches and take other measures to slow the plunder of the sea's diminishing bounty.

Much is at stake. Overfishing jeopardizes the dietary essentials of the billion people who rely on fish as their primary source of nontestable protein, and it threatens the health of the oceans themselves.

Fish and other marine animals help maintain the ocean's equilibrium by eating algae and keeping microbes in check. Overfishing breaks the spread of these primitive organisms, which smother coral reefs and create "dead zones" in coastal

waters that starve most sea life of oxygen.

Despite plummeting fish stocks, overfishing is accelerating around the globe, encouraged in part by \$30 billion in annual subsidies for fishing boats, fuel and other assistance.

Subsidies and government inaction undermine efforts to give a rest to areas of the ocean so fish have a chance to replenish their populations.

S. Robson "Toby" Walton, son of Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton, was on a scuba-diving trip at Capricorn Island off Costa Rica when a leading conservationist persuaded him to join the sustainability movement.

Peter Sellgmann, co-founder of Conservation International, had arranged the dive trip. After diving with schooling sharks and boating amid spinner dolphins, Sellgmann told Walton that even a billionaire's generos-

ity wasn't enough to prevent the impoverishment of the oceans.

"I was very clear with Rob," Sellgmann said. "I said, 'I respect that you are dealing with philanthropy and your personal interest. We need to have a discussion with Wal-Mart. It is important for us to discuss with the world's largest retailer the issue of supply chain and the impact it has positively and negatively on the resources of the world.'"

Kellie McElhinney, a business professor at the University of California, Berkeley, who studies corporate social responsibility, said a reform movement often gains stature when big companies decide to join.

"It ain't a church if you don't invite the sinners," she said.

For reforms to last, she said, corporations must see them as part of a business opportunity, such as gaining market share, customer loyalty or securing long-term supplies — as is the case with McDonald's.

"Any time I hear a CEO saying, 'I'm doing it because it's the right thing to do,' I get nervous," McElhinney said. "It has to be part of the business strategy."

Making ocean-friendly choices

Los Angeles Times

You can help support healthier oceans by making small changes in what you buy and eat, and how you live.

Ask questions: Ask questions when buying fish at a store or in a restaurant. Where is it from? How is it caught? Customers' questions will force markets to get the answers.

Get educated: Get educated about seafood choices. The Monterey Bay Aquarium and other nonprofit groups offer helpful pocket guides to avoid overfished species and destructive fishing practices. Web sites for specific www.seafoodwatch.org www.blueocean.org/seafood www.oceanlive.com

Shop for sustainability: Look for the blue and white label from the Marine Stewardship Council for fish certified as sustainably caught.

Eat lower on the food chain: Eat more oysters, scallops, crabs and squid, and less swordfish, grouper, tuna and shark. Shellfish and other species low on the food chain reproduce much faster than slow-growing big fish.

Avoid buying seabirds: Many of these animals are hunted for their shells, accelerating their decline.

Support protected areas: Support the creation of marine protected areas. Protected areas ban fishing and allow depleted species to recover.

Target abundant species: If you go ocean fishing, target species that are abundant, and avoid those that are overfished or poorly managed, even if it's legal to catch them.

Hang on to fishing gear: Don't toss fishing gear, including snarled lines. Discarded line and other gear can trap birds, turtles and marine mammals and cause them to drown.

Sources: Monterey Bay Aquarium; Seafood Choices Alliance; "50 Ways to Save the Ocean" by David Helwig; Environmental Defense; Marine Stewardship Council

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			2

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18

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 D-15.

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200 Employment

MAINTENANCE
Filer School District is taking applications for a full-time Maintenance position. The applicant should have experience in the following area: plumbing, minor electrical, carpentry, welding and all building maintenance. There is a 60 working day probation period. Upon completion, you are entitled to the following benefits: health insurance, vacation, 110 days per year, and sick days (one per month). Starting pay is \$9.90/hr DOE. Open unit filled. To apply contact Sandra Roberts, Filer School District 4413, 700 B Stevens Ave, Filer, ID 83328 or 208-326-5981

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Monitoring program. **Waddell & Reed** 208-738-6563
If you want that special job, answer to test them in the classrooms. They'll be home soon. 733-9331

200 Employment

GENERAL
Program Coordinator
RT from home for qualified person to run multi, light maintenance and warehouse work. Some lunch & regular lifting of 50 lbs. or more. Applications available at: 1531 Hwy 20, Haydenburg 208-679-7777 or 1-888-995-2138

200 Employment

GENERAL
Warehouse & Mill Position. Looking for qualified person to run multi, light maintenance and warehouse work. Some lunch & regular lifting of 50 lbs. or more. Applications available at: 1531 Hwy 20, Haydenburg 208-679-7777 or 1-888-995-2138

SUN VALLEY
SUN VALLEY RESORT!!!
COME JOIN OUR TEAM!!!
Lift Maintenance Technicians wanted. Experience preferred, will train those with Mechanical aptitude. Salary DOE. Ski pass, Tool allowance, paid vacation, 401k.
208-622-2061 or
svpersonnel@sunvalley.com

St Luke's Magic Valley
Regional Medical Center
A St. Luke's Health System Facility
Now Hiring for EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Full-time, days. Excellent benefits and compensation package. At least two years as a professional level work experience preferred. The successful candidate must be able to drive a diverse work environment dealing with administrators, physicians, staff and the public.
We offer competitive salaries & an excellent benefits package for any position 20+ hours per week.
St Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
P.O. Box 402, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409
(208) 737-3178 or FAX (208) 737-1744
hr@stluke.com <http://www.stluke.com> <http://www.mvmc.com>

TWIN FALLS Care Center
Twin Falls Care Center is hiring for the following positions:
COOK:
Prefer someone with experience in institutional cooking but will train the right person. Must be able to work in a fast paced kitchen and willing to do hard work. Must have good time management.
PM DISHWASHER:
Prefer someone with experience in dish washing in a fast paced kitchen. Must be able to work weekends, and holidays. Must be dependable and a hard worker.

Please fill out application at **Twin Falls Care Center** 674 Eastland Dr Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

St Luke's Magic Valley
Regional Medical Center
Now Hiring FOR

MEDICAL Bridgeline

NOW HIRING:
Life Care Centers of America, the nation's largest privately owned skilled care provider, has a full-time opportunity for the following:
CNA
\$500 sign on Bonus!
Day Shift 6:00 am to 2:00 pm
Evenings 2:00 pm to 10:00 pm
Night Shift 10:00 pm-6:00 am
Full and part time positions available

RN or LPN
Full time
6:00 pm - 6:00 am
Contact **Teresa McMahon**

DISHWASHER
Part time days, evenings, and weekends
Contact **Kathy Schroeder**

Floor Tech
Full-time Must have at least 5 years experience
Contact **Angie Silva**

BridgeView offers:
•Competitive Above Average pay
•Two Week Paid Vacation
•Sick and Holiday Pay
•Paid Comp Days for Good Attendance
•401k Retirement Plan
•Health, Dental and Optical Insurance
•College Tuition Assistance (Scholarship)

Please call 208-736-3933 or send resume to 1828 BridgeView Blvd. Twin Falls, ID 83301 EOE Fax 208-736-3941

Cactus Petes
Northernmost Nevada's Four Diamond Award Winning Resort and Casino

TIME FOR A CHANGE?
We are Looking for a Friendly, Happy, Outgoing Person Who Loves Working with the Public.
Front Desk Supervisor
The Front Desk supervisor will be responsible for the day to day operation of the front desk have excellent guest service skills and be adept at managing people. The Front Desk Supervisor will be primarily a representative of the hotel to our guests and a coach and mentor for our team members.
Come join a great team!!
\$27,144 to Start
Bonus Eligible plus Personal Comp Privileges
Experience Rating Possible
Full Time Employment
Housing Available

Full Benefits Package
To include Medical, Dental, Vision, and 401k

To apply go to www.ameristar.com
and look for the careers link

For more information and other positions available
Call Eric
775-755-6912
EOE/Drug Free Workplace

NURSING
• REGISTERED NURSES - Med, Surg, ER, ICU, Diagnostics Imaging, MICU, OR, Neuroscience, ED and Cancer Care (Also open for Advanced Specialty Nurses and for Travel Nurses)
• NIAA LEADERS - (NIAA) National Institute for Advanced Education
• CLINICAL EDUCATION SPECIALIST - Advance practice, and PhD. In Demand
• CRITICAL CARE NURSES - ICU, ER, OR, ICU, CCU, CCU, CCU, CCU, CCU
• CNA - Part-time and full-time positions

ADMINISTRATIVE/PROFESSIONAL
• HEALTH CARE SOCIAL WORKERS - Full-time and part-time positions. Health Insurance, dental, vision, 401k
• CHIEF TECHNICIAN/SOFT TEAM LEADER, DIAGNOSTIC IMAGING - Must be a KIBIT accredited school graduate in radiology, physics or equivalent and a minimum 3 years related experience with a specialty background
• BUSINESS/OPERATIONS COORDINATOR - Full-time, Advanced certificate or BA (BS) Degree in Business Administration or related field with minimum 3 years related experience
• CODING TEAM LEADER - Must have an RHIT equivalent and a minimum 3 years coding experience
• MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST - Bachelor degree preferred or minimum 3 years experience
• Chief training, equipment purchasing or the Medical Equipment


PHYSICIANS SERVICES
• OFFICE NURSE - Part-time first position available, CA, NY in ID required
• CLINICAL ASSISTANT MANAGER - Full-time position, day, CA, NY, TX required with previous direct care experience. Hospital experience preferred

St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
P.O. Box 402, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409 (208) 737-3178 Fax (208) 737-1744
www.mvmc.com
For a complete listing of open positions, or to complete an application, visit our website
www.mvmc.com
We offer competitive salaries in an excellent benefits package for any position 20+ hours per week. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply. Resumes must be accompanied by an application. In-state residents may contact us for an application. Please call 737-2996. Drug free workplace EOE

ST. BENEDICT'S Family Medical Center
709 N Lincoln Ave Jerome, Idaho 83338 (208)-324-4301 Fax (208) 324-3878

St. Benedict's is a mission-driven health care organization providing patient-centered care. We are looking for caring professionals who want to work for a top quality health care provider.

- RN Surgery, (P/T)
30 minute response time required. Possible full-time.
- RN Acute Care, (F/T)
- RN Home Health, (F/T)
- CNA Acute Care & LTCU
- LPN with Charge Course, (P/T)
Coder- Jerome Family Clinic, (F/T)
CCS-P or CPC, previous experience desired
- Dietary Aide (FT)
Variable shifts per schedule, 20 hours per week
- Chief Financial Officer
Member of management team responsible for providing leadership in fiscal function and performance. Previous healthcare experience required with CAH facility preference. Bachelor's Degree, preference to Accounting degree (CPA).
- Financial Counselor
Experience in self-pay accounts/collections. Knowledge of medical assistance programs and other payment plans. Spanish bilingual preferred. Full-time position.
- Hospital Insurance Biller
Billing for all payer types by direct data entry and electronic claims submission. Previous experience and knowledge of Medicare regulations required. Min 20 hrs/week.

STAND OUT from the crowd!

You'll find it In the Classifieds
The Times-News Classifieds
733-0931 ext. 2 or 800-658-3883
132 Fairfield Street W. • Twin Falls, ID

COMPETITIVE WAGES & BENEFITS
Apply In person or send resume via:
sbfmcresume@sbfmc.com or
FAX (208)324-3878

Do-It-Yourself Ideas



Santa Claus Display

Here's your old St. Nick himself, ready to greet the neighborhood and spread good cheer throughout the season. This do-it-yourself yard display is sure to become a favorite, especially with the little ones.

The whole family can help put Santa together over a single weekend. Simply glue the figure onto extra ply wood with waterproof glue, cut it out, sand the edges, paint the edges and back, attach a stake or stand and set it up to the yard, on the roof or wherever you like. Santa Claus stands almost 6 feet tall.

Santa Claus Display (No. 189) ... \$14.95
Mrs. Claus Display (No. 335) ... \$13.95
 Catalog (pictures hundreds of projects) ... \$2.00
 (Please add \$3.00 s&h (except catalog-only orders))

To order, circle item(s). Please be sure to clip & send w/ check to include your name, address and the name of this newspaper. Allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

Or call (800) 82-U-BILD
 Money Back Guarantee

200 Employment

MEDICAL
 Clinical Assistant (VIC Program) for South Central District Health
 *Part-time position in Burley. For questions, call Tammy Walters at 678-6503
 *Full-time bilingual (speak, read, write English/Spanish) in Gooding. Some local travel req., vehicle provided. For questions, call Helen Hopkins at 934-4477.
 \$9.04/hour. Week days, excellent benefits. Apply online at www.dhs.idaho.gov by Dec 13.
 EOE/AA, Veteran's prof

200 Employment

DRIVER
 Now hiring Bus Drivers Paid Training Western States Bus Call 208-733-9303

MEDICAL
 Rosetta Assisted Living in Burley is seeking a qualified Administrator to manage and operate an elderly care facility. Applicant may also provide consulting services. LPN's & RN's are encouraged to apply. Previous experience preferred. E-mail resume and references to shill@rosettahomes.com or fax 208-857-5445

200 Employment

MISCELLANEOUS
 *Forklift/Code storage
 *Mechanic-Diesel
 *Machine Operator
 *Welder-skillless
 *Electrical Carpenter
 *Farm Manager
 *Call Program Mgr. HVAC
 *PT Scale House
 *Ski Resort
 *CDL A, ID & UT
 *CNC Operator
 735 Overland Ave Burley, ID Call 678-4040

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Experienced 10 Wheel truck driver. Call 208-324-7148

LABORERS
 Needed for masonry work for the Gallegos Corporation in the Ketchum/Holley/Sun Valley area. Wage DOE. Interested candidates call 208-728-1702.

200 Employment

GENERAL
 Lot Tech/Car Washer Full-time with benefits. Call 734-4481

LAW ENFORCEMENT
 Juvenile Probation Officer. Application and job description available at 614 7th St., Rupert, ID, Merit-Casita Juvenile Probation Office. Closes 12/08/06.

200 Employment

MECHANIC
 Equipment Mechanic Reno-Fishoe Airport, Authority, Reno, NV. Salary range: \$17.99-\$28.98 hour, exc. benefits, 100% Airport-Authority paid retirement contribution. For req application please visit www.renoairport.com or call 775-328-6450 EOE

200 Employment

INSTALLERS
 Needed for home and business pre-wire, security install & support. Starting wage DOE. Will train. Fax resume to 732-0600

MECHANIC
 Looking for Mechanic w/farm machinery knowledge. Salary DOE. References. Call 208-423-4232 or fax resumes to 208-423-4386

200 Employment

TWIN FALLS Care Center

Come join our team! We are a home like atmosphere wanting to change the concept of care centers in our area. Come experience a culture change with us.

We need good, dependable CNA's, RN's & LPN's to join our residence.

We offer excellent benefits including health, dental, & vision insurance, -also a great 401(k) plan, and CNA classes in house. Apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 874 Essiland Dr, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

200 Employment

SALES

ROB GREEN Produce Distributor
 Rob Green Auto Group is now hiring for the following position:

Sales Position

Excellent opportunity for growth.

"We're Better and We will prove it"

Call Jeff Malmstrom 731-3927 or Dan Beard 731-2121 or 735-7900

Middlebrook AUTO MALL

JOIN OUR GROUP NOW!

Are you an experienced professional looking for the right company to help you build your career? We are a leading car dealer seeking a few good people to join our fast-growing team. We offer training and development to help you reach your goals, both professional and financial.

LET'S TALK!

- ✓ Up to 30% Commission
- ✓ Up to \$2500 Monthly Bonus
- ✓ Paid Vacation
- ✓ Guaranteed Monthly Salary

ARE YOU READY?

If you are a people person, self-motivated, success-driven and looking for a career versus just another job.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!

CALL TIFFANEE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
208-736-2480

LINCOLN MERCURY HONDA

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Now Hiring Class A & B CDL drivers. Call 208-886-7192.

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 DOO & Canio Truck drivers. CDL Req. New equipment. Team and local Drivers Call 208-733-2979

247 Pro Solutions is now hiring!

All Shifts Available! Per diem and contract.

RNS UP TO \$30/HR LPN'S UP TO \$24/HR CNA'S UP TO \$15/HR

Min 1 year exp.

Contact Karen today! 1-866-518-0479 or katro@247ProSolutions.com

247 PRO SOLUTIONS

MEDICAL
 Elite Manor Immediate Openings in Halley

Charge Nurse:
 LPN or RN Full or part-time Sign on bonus CNA's: Full or part-time. Must be certified.

Competitive Salaries and benefits. Positive culture. Equal Opportunity Employer.

Well worth the drive to Halley. Accommodations available for inclement weather. Call Margaret 208-786-7180 Ext 22

MEDICAL NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY \$150 a Sign On Bonus

Direct Care ST to start Individuals w/ign language start at a higher wage DOE

Great Benefits-Must have drivers license & car insurance. Assist persons w/developmental disabilities to achieve greater independence. Apply at Inclusion South, Inc. 1411 Falls Ave. #205 Located in the Locust Grove Business Park Twin Falls, ID 83301

PROFESSIONAL - ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

The City of Kimberly is seeking a Zoning Administrator. Applications are available at the City Clerk's office. There is a six months probation period. The zoning administrator performs a variety of supervisory, administrative, technical and professional work in the current and long range planning programs of the City related to the development and implementation of land use, related municipal ordinances and policies. The zoning administrator works under the supervision of the Mayor and under the general guidance of the director of the City Council. The City is a rapidly growing municipality and needs an energetic team member. Experience in community planning and zoning is preferred. Salary is DOE. The City has an excellent benefits package, including medical, retirement, holidays and vacation. Applications can be printed from our website @ www.cityofkimberly.org



FUR YOUR INFORMATION...

Boog and Elliot know that reading the paper every day is the best way to stay informed about the happenings in Timberline. You can bet that if a tree falls in their forest, they're going to hear about it. So, pick up a newspaper - it's the best way to stay informed of what's going on in your community, too.

Times-News

It all starts with newspapers.

THIS MESSAGE IS BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

www.newsvooyager.org

200 Employment

Affac

Affac, A Fortune 200 Company is opening new offices in all corners of Idaho and hiring new Sales Associates/Account Managers. No previous or account management experience is required, as we provide a thorough training program.

Compensation includes:

- \$30,500-\$75,000 commissions
- Cash Bonus & Stock Bonuses
- Residual Commissions
- Cash Awards

To Learn more about this exciting career opportunity, contact Joe Tyrrell, State Recruiting Coordinator at 208-426-0020

200 Employment

Inside Advertising Sales

We have an excellent Inside Advertising Sales part-time position opportunity available with the South Idaho Press. You will love this job if you enjoy:

- Working with a variety of accounts, helping them promote and build their business
- Making recommendations and suggestions to their advertising programs
- Building relationships with current and new customers
- Working in a team environment
- Good organizational skills and attention to detail
- Fast-paced, fun environment
- Managing multiple projects and working with deadlines
- Selling and making commission!

We are looking for someone with an outgoing personality, positive, success oriented attitude and a team player. Experience preferred but is not necessary. If you want to work for one of the top newspaper organizations in the country and work in a friendly, fun filled department, mail your resume and cover letter to:

Kim Patterson - Advertising Director
South Idaho Press
230 East Main, Burley, Idaho 83318

South Idaho Press
The Paper You Come Home To
A Leo Enterprises Company Newspaper

200 Employment

MECHANIC

Mechanic needed. Weges DOE up to \$25/hr. Heavy equipment. Diesel equipment. Hyd is helpful.

Send resume to P.O. Box 1431 Twin Falls, ID 83303 or fax 208-733-0804

NEWSPAPER

Need Extra Holiday Cash? Consider the benefits of a Times-News delivery route. You can earn extra income early in the morning and still have your days and evenings free. We offer bonuses and rewards for excellence in customer service and a sign on bonus on some routes.

To see if routes are available in your area call 208-733-3344 today or visit us online www.magicalvalley.com

200 Employment

LITHIA

America's Car & Truck Store

Lithia, America's Car and Truck Store, has immediate openings for Sales Professionals in our Twin Falls stores. If you thrive on challenge, possess high energy, and are committed to hard work, call now for details.

Are you enthusiastic? Do you care about people? Are you competitive? Do you want career advancement opportunities?

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

WE PROVIDE TRAINING and \$2500 Monthly Guarantee for the first 6 months of employment.

Call Jan in personnel at 208-733-3033 or apply online at www.lithia.com

All applicants must be at least 18, possess a valid drivers license and be drug free. EOE

200 Employment

GENERAL

New Novices, Fashion practical Need Actors, Extras, Models. No exp. Not a school. 209-433-9511

MEDICAL

Searching for quality Review RN. Need skilled nursing experience to coordinate quality measures at 3 Nursing Home in Magic Valley. Call Mary Tan at 208-251-2573

OPERATOR

Ag-Bag Bagger Operator needed. Experience & refs REQUIRED. 208-886-7192

PRODUCTION

Painters/retailers needed for production plant. \$7.50 to start. Mon-Fri, full-time, 7:30-9pm. Apply at 1022 Shoshone Bl #3, Twin Falls

200 Employment

RECEPTIONIST

Part-time, Mon-Fri for busy family practice. Weges DOE. Call Bess 536-9900 or send resume Associates In Family Practice PO Box 5900, Wendell, ID 83356

RESTAURANT

Cook Needed. Experienced. Apply in person 1228 S Lincoln Jerome

RESTAURANT

Server needed. Lunch & dinner shifts Apply in person at Prussia's Thai Cuisine 428 2nd Ave East

SALES

Merchandise - Full-time opening in Twin Falls. Distribution of bakery product. Good Pay & benefits. Valid drivers license with good record. High school diploma or equiv. 21 or older. Apply at IBC 548 Washington Twin Falls, WY 83403 (E-EOEM/FM/V)

200 Employment

PROFESSIONAL

Buhl School District is accepting applications for a Psychoeducational Rehabilitation Specialist. Application materials are available at the District Office 920 Main, Buhl or by calling 543-8438. For more information regarding this position, call Suzanne Wilkin at 208-543-8260. EOE and Affirmative Workplace.

PROFESSIONAL

The American Road Cross of Greater Idaho is looking for a Health and Safety Director for the local office. Person must be motivated, organized and outgoing. Position will require computer and presentation skills, knowledge of the community and an interest in Red Cross. Contact Whitney Beem for more info at 1-800-853-2870 x 302

200 Employment

TECHNICIAN

Field Technician Full-time, install and services cable one products. Must be able to operate power & hand tools safely. Work in all seasons and regularly scheduled weekends. Must possess a valid drivers license of which the state individual is employed. Must be a team player, self motivated, good communication, technical and public relation skills. No phone calls please. Contact Todd Garcia Technical Operations Manager via e-mail at todd.garcia@cablenet.com or call 208-733-6296 or apply in person at 281 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, ID.

TECHNICIAN - Wanted:

Full-Time Satellite Technician \$500 Sign-On Bonus for experienced technician. Possible \$500-\$700/week. Will train. Conduction of electronics and phone experience preferred but not required. Must have own truck and valid drivers license. Must be able to handle light to medium travel daily. Medical benefits, vacation and free satellite service after 90 days. EOE

Please call: 208-481-6800 or 208-251-8234 ext 100 connect EOE

200 Employment

SECURITY

Spectra Manufacturing is accepting applications for Part-time Security Guard. Supplemental Prior security background a plus. Alternating weekends plus some occasional week day hours. Must be team oriented. Applications available at Spears Mfg Plant, Security Office 2162 S Lincoln, Jerome Idaho. 208-324-8101 EOE

TECHNICIAN

Field Technician Full-time, install and services cable one products. Must be able to operate power & hand tools safely. Work in all seasons and regularly scheduled weekends. Must possess a valid drivers license of which the state individual is employed. Must be a team player, self motivated, good communication, technical and public relation skills. No phone calls please. Contact Todd Garcia Technical Operations Manager via e-mail at todd.garcia@cablenet.com or call 208-733-6296 or apply in person at 281 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, ID.

200 Employment

WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY DRIVER

Must be able to lift 100+ lbs and have valid drivers license. Pre-employment drug screen required. Apply in person at 702 Main Ave., Twin Falls

WELDERS

2 Wre Field Welders in Wendell shop for production welding. 32/hr. Call Ron 208-336-6659.

WELDERS

Kodiak Northwest is hiring exp. Welders for full-time positions. No certification necessary, but completion is required. Practical welding test will be given. Full-time inside work & benefits package. 208-433-4248

200 Employment

RESTAURANT

Servers, Hosts & Line Cook needed for all shifts. The Garden Cafe 2211 Addison Ave E.

TRAVEL

Travel Agent needed. Full-time position in a pleasant fast paced office. Must have good phone & computer skills. Travel school or experience a plus. Will train the right person. Send resume to: PO Box 1286 Burley, ID 83318

200 Employment

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the Times-News Classifieds. Call The Times-News to place your ad 208-733-6296 ext. 2

WAREHOUSE/DELIVERY DRIVER

Must be able to lift 100+ lbs and have valid drivers license. Pre-employment drug screen required. Apply in person at 702 Main Ave., Twin Falls

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Kodiak Northwest is hiring exp. Welders for full-time positions. No certification necessary, but completion is required. Practical welding test will be given. Full-time inside work & benefits package. 208-433-4248

200 Business

Public Service Message

Federal Information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career Connection, America Connection, 478-757-3000

218 Times-News Carriers

South Idaho Press

Currently looking for experienced, hard working, widowed attendees; full-time labor position. Competitive pay and benefits. Driver license/drug screening required. EOE by choice.

To apply call: 208-731-5417 or 208-731-5417 ext. 208-733-6296 for Brett Dixon.

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South Idaho Press

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To apply call: 208-731-5417 or 208-731-5417 ext. 208-733-6296 for Brett Dixon.

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 am, 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...

TWIN FALLS Capri Dr. Chloe Dr. Falls Ave. E.	TWIN FALLS Alturas Dr. Dorlan Dr. Heyburn Ave. E.	TWIN FALLS Blitterroot Dr. Dora Dr. N. Palmsmead Dr.	TWIN FALLS Mountain View Dr. Rancho Vista Dr. Sunrise Blvd. N.
TWIN FALLS Brookfield Ct. Galena Ct. Sagecrest Ct.	TWIN FALLS Ironwood Dr. Alderwood Dr. Palmbrush Dr.	TWIN FALLS Blitterroot Dr. Elm St. N. Targhee Dr.	TWIN FALLS Filer Ave. W. Bracken St. N. Bolton Dr.
TWIN FALLS Carrigan Ln. Eastgate Dr. Sagebrush Dr.	TWIN FALLS Washington St. Heyburn Ave. W. Shoup Ave. W.	TWIN FALLS Blitterbrush Dr. Sagebrush Dr. Trotter Dr.	TWIN FALLS Twin Parks Dr. Park Meadows Cr. Parkway Dr.
TWIN FALLS 11th Ave. E. Addison Ave. E. Maple Ave.	TWIN FALLS Bozrah Dr. Wiseman Dr. Dubois Dr.	TWIN FALLS Boxwood Ct. Whispering Pine. Cedar Park Cr.	WENDELL Motor Route & Town Route
TWIN FALLS 6th St. Adell St. Idaho Ave. (Sign on Bonus)	TWIN FALLS Davis St. Ramsey Dr. North St. (Sign on Bonus)	TWIN FALLS 1st Ave. East 2nd Ave. East Link Apartments	JEROME S. Lincoln Ave. W. Ave. G. W. Ave. J. (Sign on Bonus)
BURLEY Conant, Miller Ave. Oakley, Normal Ave. W. 22nd St. - W. 27th St.	BURLEY Subdivisions across from CSI campus	RUPERT Southside of Oneida. 1st St. S. - 9th St. S. East 6th St. - East 7th St.	HAZELTON Motor Route 3 hrs - \$900-\$1100 EDEN/HAZELTON

Call now for more information about routes available in your area!

Jerome, Hailey, Shoshone, Gooding & Wendell: **Kathy Harmon 735-3348**
Jerome, Filer, Buhl, Castelford: **Kathy Harmon 735-3348**
Twin Falls: **Kristyn Casary 735-3346**
Burley, Hazelton, Rupert, Heyburn, Oakley & Krimber: **Brad Fowler 735-3302**

CLEAR TALK, Idaho's Local PCS Carrier has the Following Positions Available:

Full & Part Time Retail Sales Associates (Twin Falls Retail Store)

Applicants should excel at:

- Customer service
- Communication
- Organization

Bilingual, Spanish/English a plus. Competitive wage based on experience. Commissions and Perks!

Qualified Individuals Fax résumé Attn: Goye Price to: 208-735-5277 or apply online at www.cleartalk.net

DELIVER A BUNDLE AND MAKE ONE, TOO!

Make \$350-\$800 every 2 weeks!

Bundle Hauler need for in-town Twin Falls and Burley areas

The Times-News is now accepting applications for reliable, independent contractors to distribute the newspaper to our new dealers, carriers & vending machines.

Dependable truck or van, valid driver's license and insurance needed.

To apply: Fill out an application at the Times-News office, 132 Fairfield St. West, Twin Falls; email resume to: apacham@magicalvalley.com or call 735-3252.

MAKE MONEY NOW!

218 Times-News Carriers

South Idaho Press

Currently looking for experienced, hard working, widowed attendees; full-time labor position. Competitive pay and benefits. Driver license/drug screening required. EOE by choice.

To apply call: 208-731-5417 or 208-731-5417 ext. 208-733-6296 for Brett Dixon.

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magic valley realty

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Office: (208) 734-1991 • Toll Free (800) 658-3882

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Great building facility with acreage on Highway 30, one mile west of Blvd. 22+ acres with great location on Hwy Highway 30. 2002/1412, 2007/300. Call Archie 731-2049

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Desert Bn model by Wolverine Homes in Horshorn Passage subdivision. Features 3 bed/2 baths. Large bonus room. fireplace and more! #9827401. Now \$29,900! Call Kathleen 200-0214

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Main St. Prime is for sale. Two buildings & business or buy lease & lease building back. Great location. Great location. Call Archie 731-2049

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SPECTACULAR VIEW!
4000 sq. ft. home on 3 acres. 5 bedrooms, 4 baths, possible 6th bedroom or office. 2 family rooms, plenty of storage. Full water garage. Room for more! #9827183, \$448,900. Call Susan 731-1355

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PRICE REDUCED!
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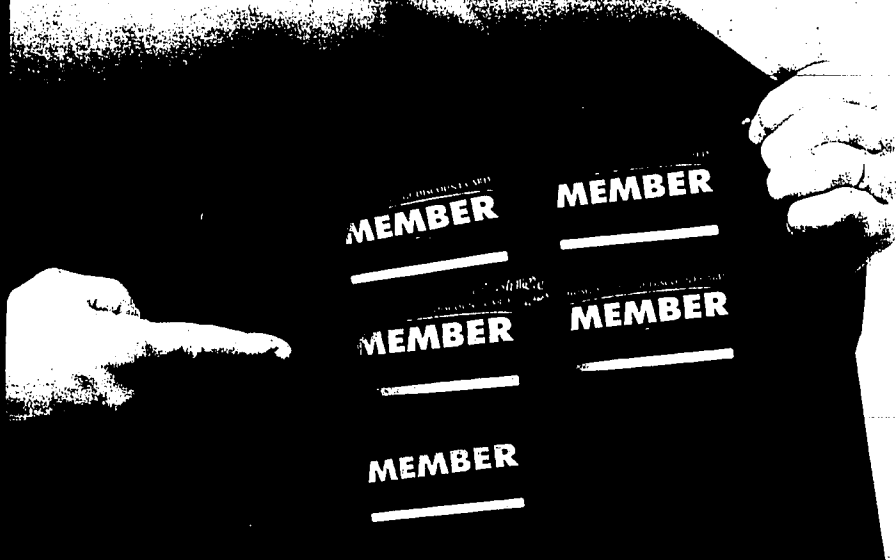
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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm nice lg newly remodeled. 1 bath, carpet, appls, W/D hookup \$600. 208-731-8260

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. 2 bath, very clean, W/D, appls. No smoking/pets. \$395 month + dep. \$200 off first months rent with 1 year lease. 724-1193.

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Move in Special! 1 month rent off new! Newer 2 & 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 1 carport. Corner of 4th & Madison Starting at \$595 a month + deposit. Call 208-736-2938

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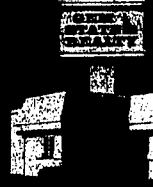
MLS #82276743 - \$429,900
Charming! This beautiful custom home built by AEM homes is packed with luxury features. Home boasts 3,950 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms and 3.5 baths. Travertine tile & granite fireplace create a warm yet elegant atmosphere. Beautiful custom cabinets are complemented by granite. Too many upgrades to list! Realtor Contact: Call Kim at 404-1659.

MLS # 82276712 - \$172,500
Charming! This home has it all. Features over 3,000 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Ample storage throughout, RV parking in back. Sawtooth School District. This home is immaculate and ready to move into! Excellent value. Call Beth at 320-0919.

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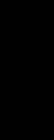
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PC#642
\$23,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28461
2 bedrooms, 1.5 baths Quiet country
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939



PC#772
\$11,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW274177
3 bedrooms, 2 baths Move-in ready with lot!
Fire-upter
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PC#798 Pktd MLS#SPW28209
Business view of river from 3 acres
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kathieschradler@gemstaterealty.com



PC#792
\$65,000 Jerome MLS#SPW27306
1 acre building lot with water 2100 available
info-by-site
Ellie Pratt 308-4629 or 737-3938



PC#793
\$79,900 Jerome MLS#SPW25715
2 bedrooms, 1 bath Single garage Large
Great area
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939



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3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths Affordable starter
home with extended lot garage
Sun-Centals 628-2377 P.O. Latham 628-9751

PC#792
\$80,000 Pktd MLS#SPW27724
3 bedrooms, 1 bath Priced well with the prop-
erty! Country setting
Kelly 737-3939 Sun 737-3915 Elm 253-2524

PC#792
\$89,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW271579
2 bedrooms, 2 baths One manufactured
home on 1/4 acre spacious
Country Club 628-3381 Sun Central 288-3977

PC#792
\$90,000 Jerome MLS#SPW272439
Great restaurant location in the
heart of Jerome
Alex Camalindo 528-5758 Sun-Rose 737-3934

PC#792
\$99,500 Pktd MLS#SPW27983
3 bedrooms, 1.75 baths Located in town in
Shades of Spring town
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$109,900 Jerome MLS#SPW28043
3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths Home on 5 acres Sells
a ranch!
Alex Camalindo 528-5758 Sun-Rose 737-3934

PC#792
\$125,000 Ketchikan MLS#SPW282923/282928
\$125,000 Each in beautiful wooded lot,
views nature out your front door
Suey Shabazz 308-1811

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\$129,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28043
3 bedrooms, 2 baths May need updates
Sprinkler Electronic RV space
Nehalem 528-6708 or 737-3936

PC#792
\$139,900 Ketchikan MLS#SPW277289
3 bedrooms, 1 bath Vintage home with
spacious living room
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939/628-2525

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\$144,900 Hamilton MLS#SPW29918
7.55 acres with 1000 sq ft barn & more
Alex Camalindo 528-5758
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PC#792
\$149,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW283230
3 bedrooms, 2 baths "Cottontail" by
Whetstone Homes! Level 1373 sq ft.
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$149,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW283238
3 bedrooms, 2 baths "Woodlot" by
Whetstone Homes! Level 1390 sq ft.
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939 Sun 628-2524

PC#792
\$154,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW283237
3 bedrooms, 2 baths "Cottontail" by
Whetstone Homes! Level 1323 sq ft.
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939 Sun 628-2524

PC#792
\$159,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW282940
3 bedrooms, 1 bath Vintage home with
Whetstone Homes
Alex 737-3977 Web 737-3939 Mobile 628-4273

PC#792
\$190,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28141
4 bedrooms, 2 baths The "Magic" by
Whetstone Homes
Web 737-3939 Sun 628-4685 Elm 628-6719

PC#792
\$214,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28551
4 bedrooms, 2 baths
Separate living, dining & kitchen areas
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$299,000 Ketchikan MLS#SPW28542
3 bedrooms, 2 baths Well maintained prop-
erty with all the extras
Amy 737-6670

PC#792
\$299,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW284265
3 bedrooms, 3 baths Outstanding backdrop-
ing with lot of privacy
Dorothy Galt 504-9798 Sun 444 711-2381

PC#792
\$299,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28474
3 bedrooms, 3 baths Spacious day/night
Large yard/Unfinished basement
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$299,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW27714
4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths Gorgeous corner
home in great neighborhood
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$299,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW287951
6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Quality custom family
home on beautiful lot
Dorothy Galt 504-9798 or 737-3943

PC#792
\$306,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28700
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths The "Tiffany Place" by
Whetstone Homes
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939 Sun 628-4685

PC#792
\$318,000 Jerome MLS#SPW274917
3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Lot of sq. footage in a
country setting
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939

PC#792
\$339,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW286215
6 bedrooms, 2.5 baths Country living at its
best 2 homes on 2 acres!
Alex Camalindo 528-5758
Sun-Rose 498-1520

PC#792
\$379,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28742
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Beautiful spacious
home on 1 acre
Alex Camalindo 528-5758 Sun-Rose 737-3934

PC#792
\$399,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW29275
6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Quality custom family
home on beautiful lot
Dorothy Galt 504-9798 or 737-3943

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\$399,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28818
3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1/4 acre! New roof,
carport, pine-floored back yard
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3 bedrooms, 1 bath Spacious day/night
front-Gothic/wood Kaibab Rapids
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\$899,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW284686
Great development property on canyon rim
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3 bedrooms, 2 baths 77 acre furnished
Arap & bear 40 acres with CAPD permit
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4 bedrooms, 2 baths The "Serra" by
Whetstone Homes! 1600 sq ft
Web 737-3939 Sun 737-3977 Lady 628-4684

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\$399,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28700
3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths The "Tiffany Place" by
Whetstone Homes
TheGemTwinFalls.com View Home 737-3939 Sun 628-4685

PC#792
\$399,900 Jerome MLS#SPW274917
3 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Lot of sq. footage in a
country setting
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PC#792
\$399,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW286215
6 bedrooms, 2.5 baths Country living at its
best 2 homes on 2 acres!
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Sun-Rose 498-1520

PC#792
\$379,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28742
4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Beautiful spacious
home on 1 acre
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PC#792
\$399,900 Twin Falls MLS#SPW29275
6 bedrooms, 3.5 baths Quality custom family
home on beautiful lot
Dorothy Galt 504-9798 or 737-3943

PC#792
\$399,000 Twin Falls MLS#SPW28818
3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1/4 acre! New roof,
carport, pine-floored back yard
Country Club 628-3381 Sun Central 288-3977

PC#792
\$479,000 Pktd MLS#SPW272377
3 bedrooms, 1 bath Spacious day/night
front-Gothic/wood Kaibab Rapids
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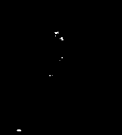
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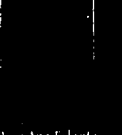
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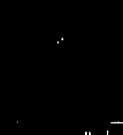
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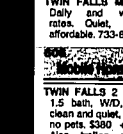
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15008
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47
48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122 123 124 125 126 127 128 129 130 131 132 133 134 135 136 137 138 139 140 141 142 143 144 145 146 147 148 149 150 151 152 153 154 155 156 157 158 159 160 161 162 163 164 165 166 167 168 169 170 171 172 173 174 175 176 177 178 179 180 181 182 183 184 185 186 187 188 189 190 191 192 193 194 195 196 197 198 199 200 201 202 203 204 205 206 207 208 209 210 211 212 213 214 215 216 217 218 219 220 221 222 223 224 225 226 227 228 229 230 231 232 233 234 235 236 237 238 239 240 241 242 243 244 245 246 247 248 249 250 251 252 253 254 255 256 257 258 259 260 261 262 263 264 265 266 267 268 269 270 271 272 273 274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281 282 283 284 285 286 287 288 289 290 291 292 293 294 295 296 297 298 299 300 301 302 303 304 305 306 307 308 309 310 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2249 2250 2251 2252 2253 2254 2255 2256 2257 2258 2259 2260 2261 2262 2263 2264 2265 2266 2267 2268 2269 2270 2271 2272 2273 2274 2275 2276 2277 2278 2279 2280 2281 2282 2283 2284 2285 2286 2287 2288 2289 2290 2291 2292 2293 2294 2295 2296 2297 2298 2299 2300 2301 2302 2303 2304 2305 2306 2307 2308 2309 2310 2311 2312 2313 2314 2315 2316 2317 2318 2319 2320 2321 2322 2323 2324 2325 2326 2327 2328 2329 2330 2331 2332 2333 2334 2335 2336 2337 2338 2339 2340 2341 2342 2343 2344 2345 2346 2347 2348 2349 2350 2351 2352 2353 2354 2355 2356 2357 2358 2359 2360 2361 2362 2363 2364 2365 2366 2367 2368 2369 2370 2371 2372 2373 2374 2375 2376 2377 2378 2379 2380 2381 2382 2383 2384 2385 2386 2387 2388 2389 2390 2391 2392 2393 2394 2395 2396 2397 2398 2399 2400 2401 2402 2403 2404 2405 2406 2407 2408 2409 2410 2411 2412 2413 2414 2415 2416 2417 2418 2419 2420 2421 2422 2423 2424 2425 2426 2427 2428 2429 2430 2431 2432 2433 2434 2435 2436 2437 2438 2439 2440 2441 2442 2443 2444 2445 2446 2447 2448 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JUMBLE
Answer :
 POCKET TONGUE COSTLY
 JOVIAL EMBARK POORLY
 Why the chefs couldn't make a good soup —
TOO MANY KOOKS

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

Suldoku Answers:

7	3	9	6	2	1	8	5	4
8	6	1	7	5	4	2	9	3
2	4	5	9	3	8	6	7	1
6	7	2	5	4	9	3	1	8
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1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	1006 Trucks	
CHEVY '04 Colorado, 4 dr, ext cab, 16K miles, CD, AC, aux cond, beautiful truck. Must sell \$11,900 208-733-2994 or 371-2029	DODGE '04 Ram, custom 150, 318, 4 speed CD, \$1500 Call, 208-734-3515	DODGE '97 1/2 ton, 4x4, ext. cab, leather seats, bed liner, aux excellent condition. 68K miles. \$11,000. Call 208-643-5823	TRUCKS WANTED! Sell your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY! Buying all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1248.	DODGE '98 Ram 1500 SLT, ext cab, 4x4, 62K miles, loaded, \$10,000 or best offer. Call 208-212-0309	FORD '01 F-250 Lariat 4x4, crew cab diesel short box. Excellent shape. \$16,955. Harma Auto. Call 208-829-5000	FORD '03 F-250 Lariat, 6' bed, 2 sets tires, 44K miles, ext warranty, loaded. \$28,000! offer 468-0854	FORD '04 F-150, crew cab, grey, 69K miles, 6' lift, 35" Toyo mounts, 1st take, exhaust, chp, rear air bags, sound system. \$21,500! offer. 208-731-1588	FORD '91 F-150, 1/2 ton, 4x4, new paint, 20,000 miles on 300, 6 cyl, motor. \$3,295. Call 208-431-5102.
CHEVY '04 1/2 ton 4x4, AT, 160,000 miles, condition. \$4,395. Call 208-788-2588 or 208-720-0227	FORD '03 F-150 Super Cab, white, cloth, 45K miles, custom wheels, Silver Gray. \$17,888 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.	FORD '00 Powerstroke F-250 extra cab, AT, short bed XLT. Only \$13,999 324-0069 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.	FORD '02 F-150 Ext cab 4x4, excellent condition, nice matching shell, \$15,900 ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE 275 S. Idaho St. Wendell 208-536-1900	FORD '02 Ranger 4x4, extra cab, 4.0 V6, 5 speed, 50,000 miles, very sharp, yellow sport, \$13,950. 324-0069 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.	FORD '03 F-150 Super Crew, 4x4, 6 CD, 65K miles, very nice, \$19,500 ASSIST AUTO BROKERAGE 275 S. Idaho St. Wendell 208-536-1900	FORD '97 F-250 short bed, quad door, 4x4, XLT, 5.4 motor, very clean. \$5,350. 324-0069 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID.	FORD '99 F-150, super cab, long bed, V8, 5.4L, auto, 4WD. \$9,998 MIDDLEKAUFF 208-738-2480	FORD '99 F-250 Power stroke diesel, Super duty, super cab, black two-toned, tinted, chipped, bed liner, new transmission and cover tires, 148K miles. Sweet truck! \$13,500. Call 208-731-0193 or 208-731-0693

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NEW 2006 Chevrolet Malibu Max LT Pkg. V-6, Auto, Loaded! \$16,995 MSRP \$20,790 SALE PRICE!	NEW 2006 Dodge 4x4 1500 Reg Cab Equipped, Silver 6104DT MSRP \$29,590 SALE PRICE!
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'04 Suzuki 4x4 Sidekick \$1,995	'02 Chevrolet 1/2 ton 4x4 Ext Cab \$4,995	'03 Mercedes Benz 190 E \$5,995	'99 GMC 1 ton 4x4 Crew Cab \$6,995	'98 Ford 4x4 Explorer 4 Dr \$7,995	'01 Chevrolet 4x4 Daily Crew Cab \$9,995
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NEW 2006 Buick AWD Rainier CXL Pkg. Leather, Fully Loaded! Silver 6318B MSRP \$35,710 SALE PRICE!	'02 Ford 4x4 Explorer 2 Door \$9,995	'02 Chevrolet Silverado 1/2 ton Ext Cab \$11,995	'99 GMC 4x4 Yukon Denali 4 Door \$11,995	'02 Isuzu 4x4 Trooper 4 Dr \$12,995	'03 Chevrolet 4x4 Silverado 4 Dr \$12,995	'04 Chevrolet 4x4 Silverado \$13,995
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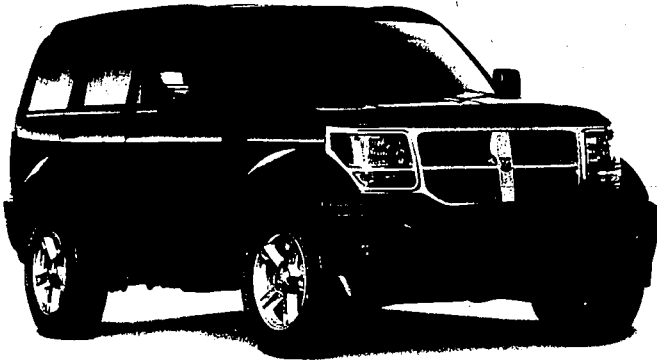
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BINGO

bash



Mary Tucker runs the concession stand Nov. 22 while Loretta Mattice, left, and Elma Petty concentrate on a game of bingo at the Moose Lodge in Twin Falls. Photos by Stephen W. Johnson/Times-News

A chance to give

Assisted living center residents make Christmas wishes

Times-News

The *Times-News*' Christmas wish lists for residents of assisted living centers, back by popular demand, include everything from Mars bars to bird seed. Each resident is identified by gender and a number. In years past, generous people of Magic Valley have opened their hearts to give holiday gifts to these special citizens, and the opportunity presents itself again with these requests.

Deliver gifts directly to the assisted living centers, not to the newspaper office.

Sunbridge Alzheimer's Care Center

These are Christmas wishes of residents of the Sunbridge Alzheimer's Care Center at 840 Fiber Ave. W. in Twin Falls.

Male #1: handkerchiefs, horse calendar and slippers size 11.

Male #2: large white undershirts, Hershey chocolate bars and slippers size 10.

Male #3: baseball cap, Sietson spray cologne and chocolate bars.

Male #4: horse calendar, red handkerchiefs and socks size 10.

Male #5: winter hat with ear flaps, large flannel shirt and Hershey bars.

Female #6: red lipstick and nail polish, beaded necklace and perfume.

Female #7: Kronen, bead necklace, flavored tea bags and lipstick.

Female #8: slippers size 9, large white handkerchiefs and nail polish and 2007 calendar.

Female #9: slippers size 10, bead necklace and spray perfume.

Female #10: hard candy, bead necklace, spray perfume and 2007 calendar.

Female #11: pink lipstick and nail polish, beaded necklace and spray perfume.

Female #12: beaded necklace, pink lipstick and polish, non-skid slipper socks size 10.

Female #13: slippers size 9, umbrella size XL and 2007 calendar.

Female #14: beaded necklace, lotion, body powder and red nail polish.

Male #15: winter hat, work gloves and size M undershirts.

Please see **BINGO**, Page E3

We'll tell Santa what you want

The *Times-News* is delivering messages straight to Santa. We'll tell our readers — they include your nearest and dearest, after all — what you want to see under your Christmas tree.

E-mail your Christmas wish list to psm@magicvalley.com, and we'll post it on our Web site. To see our other readers' lists, log on to www.magicvalley.com and look for the "Magic Valley's Christmas lists" link.

Include all your wishes in your e-mail, whether or not they're things that can be put in a box with a bow. But be warned: Your wish list won't be posted unless you include your first and last names, your age and the town you live in.

Game of chance requires bit of luck

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Bingo connoisseur Liz Johnson comes ready to play.

She always sports her uniform: a sweat shirt bearing the 10 commandments of bingo. She always brings her bingo bag: a small bucket lined with a denim pouch that carries her lucky dobbies. And she always plays to win.

For those not up to speed on bingo lingo, dobbies are the giant paint pens bingo enthusiasts use to mark their cards.

At the Moose Lodge in Twin Falls, where dozens of bingo maniacs meet Wednesday and Sunday nights for three-hour bingo binges, there isn't anyone asking what a dobber is.

These people know how to bingo. Most of the 50 or so people playing the Wednesday before Thanksgiving were regulars. Since 1994, when the state ordered the private club to open bingo games to the public, as many as 100 people a night show up to kill a few hours with cheap entertainment — if luck is on their side — win a little money.

"I'd guess you call them fanatics," said Loren Rictor, Moose Lodge bingo coordinator and famed number caller. "They've got to get their bingo fix. This is relatively cheap entertainment. It's a numbers game — basically legalized gambling in the state of Idaho."

He's right. For a few bucks a card (most players use three or four cards at a time) there's a chance to win \$1,000 if you can get bingo in less than 50 numbers. That rarely happens. Instead, most winners take about \$20 per win, depending on how many people

See it online
View more bingo photos in a multimedia slide show at www.magicvalley.com.

bought into the game.

But with that much money on the line, players pay close attention to every number called during the 15 games each night. When the games begin at the Moose Lodge, talking ceases. All you can hear, in fact, is the soft whirl of tumbling bingo balls inside a machine the size of a desk.

Whoosh! A ball pops through a tube.

"G-41," says Loren, who's called bingo games at the lodge so long, he can't remember when he started.

Loren has the perfect number-caller voice. Clear, soothing, without emotion but not boring.

"B-9."

As each ball pops out of the tube, Loren drops it into a corresponding hole in the machine's top. The machine keeps track of the numbers called, and when someone shouts bingo, Loren simply inputs that person's card number into the machine. A computer inside tells him whether the card is a winner.

That's when the players let out a collective groan. No congratulations for the winner — most folks seem upset it wasn't them. Maybe next time.

It's that hope that fills the seats, said Kathy Thon, who plays twice a week at the lodge with her mother-in-law, Jeannette Thon.

But these two aren't your typical players. They sit at a table alone near the front — their lucky spot.

"I'd guess you call them fanatics. They've got to get their bingo fix. This is relatively cheap entertainment. It's a numbers game — basically legalized gambling in the state of Idaho."

— Loren Rictor, Moose Lodge bingo coordinator

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44
45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75											



Bingo night organizer Loren Rictor calls out numbers as players mark them off.

Please see **BINGO**, Page E3

FAMILY LIFE

SENIOR CALENDAR

Twin Falls Senior Center

530 Shoshone St. W.

Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3.50 for seniors. Cost is \$5 for people under 60, and \$2.50 for children under 12.
Pool room open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.
Lounge room available for television, puzzles and reading.
Bargain Center open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Menu:
Monday: Sloppy Joe, fried potatoes, green salad, fruit bowl, cookie
Tuesday: Enchilada, refried beans, mixed vegetables, Mexican salad, dessert
Wednesday: Baked potato bar, salad, cream puffs
Thursday: Creamed chicken with noodles, vegetables, Jell-O salad, bread, cake
Friday: Caked steak with onions, potatoes and gravy, Jell-O with fruit, vegetables, bread, tapaca pudding

Activities:
Monday: Dance
Monday: Monday bridge, 1 p.m.
Quilting
Medicare D
Tuesday: Ticket Tuesday
Blood Pressure
Exercise class
Wednesday: Medicare D
Elks Card Club
Thursday: Pinochle
Exercise class
Friday: Blood pressure
Quilting
Lunch bingo
Medicare D
Saturday: Super bingo, 1 to 3:30 p.m.

West End Senior Citizens Inc.

1010 Main St., Buhl

Menu:
Tuesday: Roast beef dinner, 1 p.m.
Monday: Soup and sandwiches
Tuesday: Sweet and sour over rice, California bread, salad, fruit, fortune cookie, ice cream
Wednesday: Taco salad, chips, fruit, dessert
Thursday: Chicken pot pie, biscuits, salad, fruit, dessert

Activities:
Today: Buffet, 1 p.m.; \$4 for seniors, \$5 for people under 60 and \$3 for children 12 and under
Monday: Silver Sneakers exercise program, 10 a.m.
Cards and dominoes, 6 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Silver Sneakers exercise program, 10 a.m.
Thursday: Bingo, 1 to 3 p.m.
Saturday: Chili feed
Night parade

Filer Senior Haven

222 Main St.

Dinners served at noon. Suggested donation: \$3.50 for seniors. Home-delivered meals available each mealtime.

Menu:
Tuesday: Sloppy Joe, cauliflower with cheese, three-bean salad, apricots, cookies
Wednesday: Smorgasbord
Thursday: Roast beef, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, applesauce, green salad, cake

Activities:
Monday: Bingo, 7 to 9 p.m.
Tuesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Bingo, noon
Cards, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Puzzles, 11:30 a.m.
Cards and games, 1 p.m.
Thursday: Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.
Spoken, noon
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Jerome Senior Center

212 First Ave. E.

All dinners served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3.50.

Menu:
Monday: Chicken Alfredo over noodles, mixed vegetables, fruit, cookies
Tuesday: Chili, Jell-O with fruit, biscuits, rice crispy treats
Wednesday: Beef stroganoff over noodles, creamed corn, tossed salad, fruit, pie
Thursday: French dip sandwiches, potato peas, fruit medley, fruit cocktail, cake
Friday: Hot pork sandwich,

country mixed vegetables, green salad, pineapple upside-down cake

Activities:
Monday: Silver Sneakers fitness class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Bridge
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 6:45 p.m.
Wednesday: Silver Sneakers fitness class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Bridge
Pinochle
Thursday: Cooking with Ada
Friday: Silver Sneakers fitness class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Gem State Fiddlers

Ageless Senior Citizens Inc.

310 Main St. N., Kimberly

Milk, coffee, juice and tea served.
Menu:
Full-service salad bar, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday
Wednesday and Friday: Take-out available; \$4 for seniors 60 and above, \$5 for people under 60, \$2.50 for children under 12.
Monday: Cook's choice
Wednesday: Hamburger enchiladas with cheese, vegetables, mixed fruit, cookie
Friday: Meatloaf, baked potatoes, peas, apple crisp

Gooding County Senior Citizens

308 Senior Ave.

All dinners are at noon. Suggested donation \$3 for seniors.

Menu:
Monday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, mixed vegetables, tossed salad, garlic bread, pudding
Tuesday: Hot turkey sandwich, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, carrot-missin salad, Jell-O, pumpkin cake
Wednesday: Swedish meatballs, potatoes, peas, marinated cabbage, roll, cookies
Thursday: Baked chicken, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, apple-date salad, roll, Texas sheet cake

Activities:
Monday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 12:30 p.m.
Wild One, 6 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m. and 1 p.m.
Hand and foot, 6 p.m.
Bingo, 6:30 a.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Shuffleboard, 6 p.m.
Thursday: Quilt social, 9 a.m.
Pool, 9:30 a.m.
Pinochle, 7 p.m.
Friday: Bridge and duplicate bridge, 1 p.m.
Bowling, 1:30 p.m.
Saturday: Rebecca pinochle, 7 p.m.

Hagerman Senior Center

140 E. Lake

Open 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays; lunch is served at noon. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors; \$4 for other adults; and \$2 for children under 12. Thrift shop open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Menu:
Monday: Beef stroganoff over noodles, vegetables, salad, fruit, bread, dessert
Wednesday: Roast chicken, potatoes and gravy, vegetables, salad, fruit rolls, birthday cake
Friday: Fish fillets, potato wedges, vegetables, salad, fruit, bread, dessert

Silver and Gold Senior Center

Eden

Suggested donation for seniors is \$3. All meals include salad, dessert, fruit, milk and coffee. Tuesdays are cookie and

bread bake days, and Wednesdays are cinnamon roll and maple bar bake days.

Menu:
Tuesday: Chili, coleslaw, fruit, apple vegetables
Thursday: Meatballs, mashed potatoes and gravy, peas, salad, fruit
Activities:
Wednesday: Bingo, 7 p.m.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Golden Years Senior Citizens Inc.

219 N. Rail St. W., Shoshone

Menu:
Friday: Juice, milk and coffee served daily
Tuesday: Liver and onions, mashed potatoes and gravy, buttered peas and carrots, pear salad, dinner rolls, apple brown Betty
Wednesday: Steak fajitas, french fries, carrot and cucumber sticks, butterscotch pie
Friday: Baked ham, scalloped potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, homemade bread, banana pudding

Richfield Senior Center

Friday, Exercise, 9 a.m.
Coffee, 9:30 a.m.
Quilting, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Scrapbooking, 10 a.m., 2 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise, 9 a.m.
Friday: Pinochle, 1 p.m.

Menu:
Monday: Chicken strips, rice, plaid, broccoli, green salad, homemade bread, applesauce, cookies
Thursday: Ham and cheese sandwich, potato soup, peach pie

Blaine County Senior Center

721 Third Ave. S., Hailey

Menu:
Tuesday: Fish burger with lettuce, tomato and tartar sauce, french fries, broccoli cauliflower mix; grapes; angel food cake with lemon sauce
Wednesday: Spaghetti with meat sauce, chesny garlic potatoes, tossed green salad, carrot zimmers, brownie
Thursday: (Carey) oven-fried chicken with gravy, biscuits, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, coleslaw, apple pie
Friday: Oven-fried chicken with gravy, biscuits, mashed potatoes, buttered corn, coleslaw, apple pie

Activities:
Monday: Shopping in Twin Falls, 8:30 a.m.
Book Club at Iconoclast, 10 a.m.
Tuesday: Caregivers meeting, 10:30 a.m.
Blood pressure, 11:30 a.m.
Medication management, 12:30 p.m.
Exercise, 1:15 p.m.
Wednesday: Foot clinic, 10 a.m.
Poetry group, 12:30 p.m.
Fruit, 5:30 p.m.
Caregivers group, 5:30 p.m.
Thursday: Exercise at American Legion Hall (Ketchum), 1:30 p.m.
Friday: Hearing aid counseling, 10:30 a.m. to noon
Bible games, 1 p.m.
Saturday: Winter wonderland with Santa, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Camas Senior Center

127 E. Willow, Fairfield

Noon meals are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. The center is open from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. on meal days. Suggested donation for the meal is \$4 for ages 10-59; \$3 for 60 and above; and \$2 for under 10.

Menu:
Tuesday: Taco salad, salsa and chips, fruit, dessert, ice cream
Wednesday: Potato bar, fruit, salad, chili, bread, dessert
Friday: Fried chicken, mashed potatoes, fruit, salad, bread, fruit crisp

Activities:
Quilting, pool, table games, puzzles, TV, exercise and visiting available 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast

Mirabella County Senior Citizens Center

702 11th St., Rupert

Meals are served at noon and hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. Juice and assorted beverages are served every day with meals. Gift shop hours are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Menu:
Monday: Meatloaf, potatoes and gravy, vegetables, roll, salad
Tuesday: Hot dogs, fries, corn, salad, pudding
Wednesday: Pork roast, vegetables, salad, chocolate cake
Thursday: Chef salad, Texas toast, cottage cheese, cookies
Friday: Smorgasbord

Activities:
Monday: Pool, 1 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.
Tuesday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Sidewalk seniors on the bike trail, 10 a.m.
Strength training with Institute on Aging, 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday: Pool, 1 p.m.
Pinochle, 1 to 4 p.m.
Thursday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Friday: Pool, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
This ad, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; call 436-9107 for appointment
Sidewalk seniors on the bike trail, 10 a.m.
SHIBA and Medicare assistance, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; call George Schwindman at 436-9107 or Kitty Andrews at 878-0727 for appointments.
Strength training with Institute on Aging, 10:30 to 10:45 a.m.
Saturday: Pancake breakfast, 7 a.m.; pancakes, eggs, biscuits and gravy, french toast, breakfast burritos, bacon, sausage, ham. Adults: \$4.50; children under 10, \$3.50; family of five, \$20

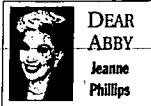
Golden Heritage Senior Center

2421 Overland Ave., Burley

Menu:
Monday: Sweet and sour chicken nuggets, rice, mixed vegetables, fruit medley, min. brownie
Tuesday: Wieners, sauerkraut, vegetables, fruit, brownie
Wednesday: Roast beef, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, rice custard
Thursday: Sit-fry, egg rolls, Oriental vegetables, mango Jell-O, Hawaiian cake
Friday: Chicken Alfredo, noodles, vegetables, roll, fruit cup, strawberry-rhubarb crisp

Activities:
Monday: Pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Eyeglass check
Exercise
Tuesday: Pool
Wood carving, 8:30 a.m.
Radio show, 9:06 a.m.
Exercise
Community bingo, 7 p.m.
Wednesday: Pool
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Exercise
Thursday: Pool
Exercise
Community pinochle, 6 p.m.
Woodcarving, 6 p.m.
Friday: Pool
Exercise
Pinochle, 1 p.m.
Bingo, 1 p.m.

Woman offended by dates who can't stop playing the field



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: I'm an attractive, single, 30-year-old woman who has some hang-ups and problems dating — like anyone. But my most annoying and recurring problem is this:

For some reason, the men I date have the need to point out other attractive women to me. Sometimes it's a passing, "There was an attractive girl there, and she said..." And sometimes it's "She's hot" about a woman on television, and the list goes on. I once heard a saying, "One should never speak of one beautiful woman in the presence of another," and it bothers me a lot when they do this. I don't do that to the men I date, as I find it disrespectful.

Am I silly for feeling this way? And if not, how can I tell them politely to stop?

—WANTS TO BE RESPECTED IN OHIO
DEAR WANTS TO BE RESPECTED: I used to feel the same way you do — threatened if someone I was with mentioned that someone else was attractive. When I realized that once I was out of their mouths, it was usually out of their heads, an relaxed and didn't let it get to me.

However, because you have mentioned to these men that it bothers you and they persist in trying to give you a dose of their own medicine, if a bunk appears on screen, elbow them and say, "Oooh, isn't he hot?" or "Doesn't he have the cutest little tush!" Then watch their reaction. Perhaps if they find themselves on the receiving end, they'll learn empathy. I can't guarantee it will work, but it's worth a try.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I moved into our new apartment about two months ago. Our only "unrated box" is the bedroom wall, and we hear a lot more than we care to.

I haven't met my new neighbors yet, so what's the best way to handle this? Should we try to just ignore it? Should I leave an anonymous note? Or should we knock on their door, introduce ourselves and kindly ask them to be more discreet?

—TRYING TO SHUT MY EARS, GRAND ISLAND, N.Y.
DEAR TRYING TO SHUT MY EARS: There are several ways to handle it. But it should not be done anonymously.

1. Write your neighbors a short note, explaining that you are the new neighbors and feel you are learning more about them than is appropriate, and asking them to lower the volume for the temperature.
2. Clip this column, and include it with a short note saying that although many renters share this problem, it also applies to them.
3. Tape-record them and leave them a copy — explaining that you are the new next-door neighbors.

DEAR ABBY: I am a freshman in college. I just bought my Christmas cards, but I need to know a little bit about proper etiquette in sending them out. My concern is regarding my friends who still live with their parents. Would it be inappropriate to address the card only to my friends? Would it be better to address the card to my friend and then write a short message inside along the lines of, "Wishing you and your family a happy holiday? I'm confused and want to do the right thing."

—LAUREN LEXINGTON, KY.
DEAR LAUREN: It's certainly proper to address the Christmas cards to your friends only. However, I think the idea of including the rest of the family in the greeting is thoughtful and sweet. It would offend no one, and that, by definition, is good manners.

The bus numbers

The Washington Post
42: Of children hurt in school bus accidents, the percentage whose injuries were caused by a collision of a school bus and another vehicle.
24: Percentage whose injuries occurred while getting on or off a bus or approaching a bus.
52: Percentage under age 10 who suffered head injuries from a study on school bus-related injuries treated in U.S. emergency departments from 2001 to 2003. The study appeared in the *Journal Pediatrics*.

FULL NEST
The fleeting joys of family reunions.
NEXT WEEK IN FAMILY LIFE

SINUSITIS or COLD?

Because the symptoms of sinusitis sometimes mimic those of colds, you may not realize that you need to see a Sinus Specialist. If you suspect that you have sinusitis, review these signs and symptoms. If you suffer from three or more symptoms, Sinus Center-Idaho can help!

SYMPTOM	SINUSITIS	COLD
Facial pressure/pain	Yes	Sometimes
Duration of illness	Over 10-14 days	Under 10 days
Nasal Discharge	Thick, yellow green	Thin whitish or thin
Fever	Sometimes	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes
Pain in upper teeth	Sometimes	No
Bad Breath	Sometimes	No
Coughing	Sometimes	Yes
Nasal Congestion	Yes	Yes
Sneezing	No	Yes

Sinus Center
Idaho
Idaho's first sinus care clinic
John A. Boyajian, MD

TWIN FALLS • 191 Addison Ave. • 732-0700

Bingo

Continued from page E1

Sometimes they chat during the game, which almost no one else does. The women are here to have fun, and if they win money, well, all the better.

Another game begins, and from the back of the A-frame meeting hall, the players look more like churchgoers than gamblers.

"O-G3." Heads lower as everyone scans their cards looking for O-G3. The pitter-patter of a few doblers marking the number, and all the heads pop back up.

"N-15." Scene repeats. A large light board behind Loren lets players know when a number has been called, and several TV monitors display the most recently called numbers.

Bingo isn't a hard game to play—the only skill involved is finding the number on the card.

Beyond that, it's random. Still, that's not what a few hard-core players will tell you. A handful of regulars win



Bingo player Jeanette Thon marks off numbers during bingo night at the Moose Lodge. Thon plays twice a week with her daughter-in-law.

more often than you might figure. Those are the ones with luck on their side. Once are the players like Liz, whose sweat shirt and lucky doblers provide what she believes is an advantage.

It seems the bingo gods prefer an enthusiastic player. And for those who aren't winning, no matter. It's merely the possibility of a chance to shout "bingo" that keeps the seats filled twice a week.

That, and your lucky dobler.

Contact Times-News feature reporter Matt Christensen at 735-3243 or matt.christensen@lee.net.

The mathematics of affection

If my girls go to Chinese class, they get candy. Any kind. Free choice. We go to the candy store and pick. Bribery is not a noble parenting tool, but I'm here to say it's efficient, convenient and practical. My gut I feel dissipates when we come out of class and they're singing those Chinese songs, drilling each other on the Mandarin words for moon, star and underpants. They love it. They forget how much they love it when it comes time to go again the following week. I remind them with the candy.

Someday, they'll thank me. I'll be a hero. It'll be, "Thanks, Mom, for making us learn Chinese," when they're all grown up and taking breaks from orphanages that once housed them; they'll be hearing gifts and appreciation and promises to build playground equipment. This is what I imagine. My girls giving back. We'll see.

For now, it's Skittles. Reese's Pieces. Kit Kats or possibly 3 Musketeers. We're in the car on the way to class, and they're trying to decide. We pass Sunshine Kids, the place where Anna, 7, went to preschool. "That was my first school," she announces to her younger sister, Sasha. "This is where I learned math!" "You told me before," Sasha says. "My teacher was Miss Donna," Anna says. "You never met her because you weren't born," Sasha answers.



PERSONAL FILE
Jeanne Marie Laskas

"You tell me this every week."

She does. It's getting old. There is something about this "starting place" that seems to have Anna hooked. Today she goes further, begins naming every teacher she's ever had, and then every babysitter she's ever had. Britney, Erin, Linda, Mrs. Linton, Miss Pato. Soon Anna has retrieved a pen and a notebook, and is doing the tally.

"So that means I had seven teachers," she says, "seven babysitters and two moms." Two moms? Well, now wait a second. Where did that come from? And she's just dropping this so... casually? If she means what I think she means, this is big.

"Two moms?" I ask. "You and the one whose belly I came out of," she says. Well, glory be. It's finally registered. We've had so many frank discussions over so many years about what it means to be adopted—endless times I've tried to directly place this information into my kids' brains, and it has never, before now, seemed to have even made a dent. I always expect big tears of awareness and deep talks about "real moms" vs. some other kinds of moms... and it

never happens. Instead, whenever I broach the subject, my children appear flatter-bored with it. So I don't push. That's a choice. Plenty of adoptive moms go about this differently. I know of one who has a little memorial to her kids' birth mothers in her home; every night they pray to her with thanks. There are kids' books and dolls and whole play sets you can buy to deal with the issue.

I never wanted to automatically assume it would be "an issue" for my girls. Instead, I go for the factual, simple declarative: This is how it is. Some kids are raised by their birth mothers, some by birth fathers, some by adoptive parents and so on. And my kids practically yawn at me. This is the first time either has brought it up on her own.

"So do your girls remember your birth mothers?" I ask, gently prodding, knowing full well the actual answer to this. If the records are correct, neither would have spent more than about a day with the woman who gave birth to her. Anna was found on the steps outside a hospital. Sasha was found in a cardboard box by a pharmacist. Do I demote the women who left them? Enshrine them? Do I ever tell my complicated children with the ghosts of these women be known to my children?

One of the greatest gifts you can give your kid, I think, is the gift of keeping your problems to yourself.

"I don't remember her," Anna says. "But I think she had long hair. Probably longer than Sasha's hair."

"Mine had short hair," Sasha says, wisely surrendering.

"Do you think they were nice?" I ask.

"I think mine liked to sing," Anna says.

"Yeah, mine, too!" Sasha says.

"Well, I never got to meet them," I say. "But I met some of the women in the orphanages who took care of you, and they were all nice."

"Oh, that's right," Anna says, almost exasperated by the addition problem unfolding before her. "How many of them did I have?"

"I don't know," I tell her. "I mean, there were a lot of people there."

"I'm just gonna say six," she says, and then takes a moment to come up with her grand total. "Twenty-two. I've had 22 ladies watching over me." Wow!

"Wow!" I say. "I think a lot of love for one kid," she says, mimicking the way I talk to her about such things.

"Snickers," Sasha says, out of nowhere. "I forgot about what I'm going to pick today for my candy."

Right, I forgot, too. Teachers, birth mothers, candy, all part of a well-balanced psyche.

Jeanne Marie Laskas writes her column for The Washington Post.

How the ancients discovered Earth's slow axial shift

Polaris is the North Star because it sits almost directly above the North Pole. Less well known is that it's not exactly above the pole, or that the pole is moving closer to Polaris and will reach its minimum separation about a century from now.

It's a tribute to the ancient Greeks' observational skills that they noticed this gradual shift in the heavens, but notice it they did, as early as the second century B.C. Hipparchus of Rhodes is generally credited with the discovery of the polar drift, known as precession.

Hipparchus noticed that stars along the ecliptic (the sun's apparent path among the stars) were displaced from their locations recorded a century before. Like his contemporaries, Hipparchus believed Earth to be the unmoving center of the universe, and thus attributed the shift to the ecliptic stars themselves. It wasn't until four centuries later that Ptolemy (whose geocentric model would remain unchanged until the Copernican Revolution of the 16th cen-



SKYWATCH
Chris Anderson

Sky calendar through Saturday

• Planets:
One hour before sunrise:
Saturn, SW, High
One hour after sunset:
None visible
• Moon: Full moon 5:25 p.m. Monday. Extremely close to Saturn 4 a.m. next Sunday.

tury discovered that all stars, not just those near the ecliptic, appeared to be slowly drifting. In the 17th century, Isaac Newton proved that precession is the consequence of lunar gravity slowly dragging Earth's axis in a circle every 25,000 years. The precessional cycle can be useful for historical research. For example, a

map of the constellations known to Ptolemy shows a conspicuous vacant area in the southern sky. That's not surprising, since these stars were too far south for Ptolemy to see. But the hole isn't centered on the South Celestial Pole; rather it is somewhat offset, indicating that centuries of precession had transpired between the constellations' creation and their adoption by the ancient Greeks.

The size and location of the hole point to observers

slightly closer to the equator than Greece, between the third and second millennia B.C., which suggests a Babylonian origin for most of the constellations we still use today.

Next week: Our speed in space.

Chris Anderson is production specialist and observatory manager at the Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Science at the College of Southern Idaho.

CSI Cabinetmaking and Welding Clubs

SHOW AND AUCTION

Oak table with bench and stools	Mahogany and Oak Nantucket bench	Cherry and oak computer desk and chair
Oak and cherry fireplace mantel	Mahogany coffee table inlaid with walnut	Cutting boards
Alder quilt rack	Aromatic cedar chest	Rolling pins
entertainment center	Mahogany and walnut dresser	Lots of metal wall art
Cherry and oak bookcase	Cedar toolboxes	And more!

All merchandise on display in the Herrett Center Rick Allen Community Room starting at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 8. Auction at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9. All proceeds benefit CSI Cabinetmaking and Welding clubs.

Seniors

Continued from page E1

Male #18: Burl Ives CD. Mgrs candy bar, stationary and pens.

Male #17: Stetson spray cologne, sugar-free candy and baseball cap.

Female #18: pink lipstick and polish, bead necklace and 2007 calendar.

Female #19: slippers size 9, leg warmers and lotion.

Female #20: cat 2007 calendar, bead necklace and spray perfume.

Female #21: bead necklace, red lipstick and polish and lap blanket.

Female #22: slippers size 9, chocolate bars and horse 2007 calendar.

Female #23: slippers size 10, bead necklace and red lipstick and polish.

Female #24: 12-pack Pepsi, mini Hershey bars, winter hat and gloves.

Female #25: slippers and socks size 10, spray perfume and lotion.

Female #26: purse, black licorice and spray perfume.

Male #27: had root beer candy, baseball cap and gloves.

Male #28: sketch pad, pencils and winter gloves.

Male #29: handkerchiefs, slippers size 10 and musical 2007 calendar.

Male #30: bird seed, pocket T-shirts (dark colors), winter gloves and Old Spice aftershave.

Female #31: pink lipstick and polish, bead necklace and non-skid slipper socks size 10.

Female #32: bead necklace, calendar, leg warmers and spray perfume.

Female #33: black purse and wallet, socks size 10 and bead necklace.

Female #34: socks size 10, bead necklace and calendar.

Female #35: leg warmers, bead necklace and slippers size 9.

Male #36: 12-pack diet Coke, Chips Ahoy cookies and gloves.

Male #37: socks size 10, belt size 36, sugar-free candy and wand.

Female #38: bead necklace, pink lipstick and polish and 2007 calendar.

Female #39: pink bead necklace, spray perfume and winter hat and gloves.

Female #40: large-piece puzzle, spray perfume and socks size 9.

Male #41: winter hat and gloves, undershirts size L and sugar-free candy.

Male #42: slippers size L, Stetson spray cologne and white handkerchiefs.

Female #43: leg warmers, pink lipstick and polish and bead necklace.

Female #44: red lipstick, red bead necklace, gloves and hat and 2007 house calendar.

Female #45: microwave buttered popcorn, black licorice and size M sweat suit.

Female #46: slippers and socks size 10, body powder and spray perfume.

Female #47: non-skid socks size 10, bead necklace, body powder, and pink lipstick and polish.

Female #48: pink lipstick, bead necklace, 2007 calendar and lotion.

Female #49: Reminiscence magazine, easy word search puzzles and Hershey bars.

Female #50: pink lipstick and polish, lotion, body powder and bead necklace.

Female #51: brown purse, gloves and bead necklace.

For information, call Art's Shipley at 734-8645.

Valley Vista

Seven residents at the Valley Vista in Rupert submitted Christmas wish lists:

Male #1: size 2XL shirt, size 2XL pajama pants and size 9-10 socks.

Male #2: size 4XL tall shirts, aftershave lotion and size 2XL sweat pants or pajama pants.

Male #3: size 3XL shirt, size XL jogging pants, size 40 underwear and size 9-10 socks.

Female #4: size M under-shirts, loose-fitting size 9-10 socks and size M elastic-waistband pants.

Female #5: size S socks, pretty pins, large sweat outfit and size 9 underwear.

Female #6: large size sweat suit, perfume and pretty pin.

Female #7: perfume, long necklace and size 20 elastic-waistband polyester pants.

For information, call Vicki at 436-3322.

Alpine Manor

Alpine Manor, at 1135 Imperial St. in Twin Falls, has Christmas requests from these residents:

Male #1: Box of assorted birthday cards, dress socks, gum, postage stamps, popcorn tin, Selsun Blue shampoo and writing tablet.

Male #2: Non-filtered cigarette packs, underwear size 32, chocolates, non-alcohol beer and Coke.

Female #3: Colored socks, hair clips and ties, chocolates and a size M sweat suit.

Female #4: Popcorn tin, size M nightgown and non-slip slippers.

Female #5: Socks, Hershey candy bars and Coke.

Female #6: Pantene shampoo, sugar-free candy, popcorn tin, white socks, postage stamps and almonds.

For information, call Teri at 734-1794.

Heritage and Woodstone

Assisted Living

Cathy Lynch of Heritage and Woodstone Assisted Living shared these wishes from residents:

Male #1: size L polo-type shirt and size L sweat pants.

Male #2: size XL polo-type shirt and size XXL sweat pants.

Male #3: size XXXL polo-type shirt and size XXXL sweat pants.

Female #4: size M housecoat.

Female #5: size L housecoat.

Female #6: size S sweat pants.

Female #7: size M sweat pants.

Female #8: size L sweat pants.

Female #9: size XL sweat pants.

Male #10: winter gloves size L.

Male #11: unusual puzzles.

Female #12: Christian music CDs and CD player.

Female #13: size 14 girl's pants, shirts.

Female #14: a simple, pretty necklace.

In addition, four men could use winter hats that cover the ears. If anyone would want to take on all 150 residents, there is a need for 6- to 8-ounce cups with lids for hot and cold beverages. For information, call Cathy at 733-9064.

"Real Estate Corner"

DON'T BUY TOO SMALL

by Laura Fitzgerald
Re/Max American Dream Realty

Many people "eyeball" a house for size and floor plan. Later they find there's no place for the piano, or storage is woefully inadequate. Room dimensions can be deceiving, especially as viewed unprofessionally. Measure, making a note of the placement of windows, doors, built-in features and a clear wall space between them.

Take special care to assess your storage needs. It's surprising how much accumulates in a few years. Be realistic and put your findings (old conditions, new needs) in writing. This information will be invaluable in screening out unsuitable houses. An hour or two with pencil and tape-measure can help you avoid living with a big mistake. ©

RE/MAX American Dream Realty
222 Shoshone East, Twin Falls (208) 733-5008
South Lincoln, Jerome (208) 324-0202

FAMILY LIFE

Traditions in the making:

Holidays are reshaped around life changes

By Terri Sapiezka
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — In my family, our holiday has always begun on Christmas Eve. Every year we'd go to church, gather for dinner, open the gifts from the person who'd closed our name weeks before, then head to bed. As we got older, some of us no longer spent that night at our parents' house. One by one, my three siblings married. For seven years, I stayed behind as they all left for home with their spouses. My mother, father, grandmother and I would clean up the dishes, then Mom and I would talk late into the night. I loved every exhausting minute of it.

Last Christmas Eve, I was planning a wedding and had bought my gift to my fiancé. My fiancé and I went to church and had dinner with the family, as usual. But when my siblings left for the evening, we did, too. I cried all the way home. For newlyweds and others setting up house for the first time, the holidays are a time when tradition bumps up against transition.



Chrystal Jordan, 30, and her fiancé, Sean Brown, are juggling two families and two sets of traditions this holiday season. Having to decide who and where and how is a big deal, says Jordan, pictured at home in Alexandria, Va. 'I have a whole new other family now.' Many couples and families find themselves in similar straits during the holidays.

Chrystal Jordan, 30, and her fiancé, Sean Brown, are juggling two families and two sets of traditions this holiday season. Having to decide who and where and how is a big deal, says Jordan, pictured at home in Alexandria, Va. 'I have a whole new other family now.' Many couples and families find themselves in similar straits during the holidays.

Their extended families live in the area, so the young family visits each side on Christmas and winds up spending much of the day in the car. "Family is very important to me," Katie Shaffer says. "I love tradition and having something to look forward to and to pass on now that I have my own kids. When you're married and have your own house, you're trying to make your own mark and create your own traditions."

For some couples, creating new traditions is less important than maintaining established ones. Shanni Lee, 29, and her husband, Hanson, 31, second-generation Korean Americans, incorporate their culture by eating rice and kimchi along with a standard turkey dinner on

Thanksgiving and Christmas. On New Year's Day, they eat rice-egg soup at a parent's house and watch the younger children, dressed in Korean clothing, to their elders and wish them a happy new year. The adults, in turn, toss money at them to celebrate. Lee says she and her husband plan to continue that custom in their own family. "I want my children to know about their culture," she said. "I want them to have some part of their Korean heritage in their lives."

For Rachel Connor, who is Catholic; and her husband, Eric Leff, who is Jewish, familiarizing their daughters with both religions is important. The girls light a menorah during Hanukkah and open gifts on Christmas. "Traditions remind you of when you

were a kid," says Connor, 32, "and it brings back the excitement and anticipation (of the holidays). You want your kids to have those same feelings." When reviewing the building plans for their new suburban house, Connor thought about where she would put the Christmas tree in the same way she scouted the location of the couch and the dining table.

Meanwhile, the Shaffers, who this year for the first time have no plans for Christmas Day, say they are looking forward to staying home with their daughter and letting new family customs unfold.

"If my daughter wants to wake up, open presents and spend the rest of the day in her pajamas," Katie Shaffer says, "that's just fine with me."

STORK REPORT

St. Benedict's Family Medical Center

Blani Evelyn Lopez, daughter of Adam and Christina Lopez of Jerome, was born Nov. 13, 2006.

Layne Jensen, daughter of Casey and Gina Jensen of Jerome, was born Nov. 18, 2006.

Angelina Veronica Christensen, daughter of Veronica Trevino of Kimberly, was born Nov. 20, 2006.

Bryer Grant Carrell, son of Dean Carrell and Regina Collins of Jerome, was born Nov. 22, 2006.

Emzerilda Paz, daughter of Daniel and Jennifer Paz of Jerome, was born Nov. 22, 2006.

St. Luke's Regional Medical Center, Boise

Bryanna May Ridley and Addison May Ridley, twin daughters of Casey and Jennifer Ridley of Jerome, were born Nov. 18, 2006.

St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center

Kaden Tyler James Watson, son of Heather Angel and Tyler Watson of Hialeah, was born Nov. 6, 2006.

St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center

Iziah Xander Emanuel Miller, son of Tiffany Sue Williams and David Miller of Twin Falls, was born Oct. 19, 2006.

Anthony D. Rodriguez, son of Kate Mershele Steinmetz of Bruneau, was born Nov. 3, 2006.

Abigail McKenzie D'Ambric, daughter of Scott Lynn Barr and Andrew Brandon D'Ambric of Wendell, was born Nov. 13, 2006.

Hank Nolan Darns, son of Anna and Chet Richard Darns of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 19, 2006.

Lewis James Hansen, son of Stacy Renee and Steven Dale Hansen of Rupert, was born Nov. 19, 2006.

Alden Clay Houser, son of Jennifer Robin and Lenzi Miles Price of Gooding, was born Nov. 20, 2006.

Bryton Dean Richard, son of Patricia Leigh and Scott David Richard of Kimberly, was born Nov. 20, 2006.

Christian Alexander Roges, son of Rebekkah Lynn Britz and Christopher Charles Roges of Jerome, was born Nov. 21, 2006.

Alden Clay Houser, son of Jennifer Robin and Lenzi Miles Price of Gooding, was born Nov. 21, 2006.

Owen Hugo Mills of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 21, 2006.

William Robert Cheyney, son of Shauna and Shaylon Robert Cheyney of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 22, 2006.

Kenia Penelope Quintero, daughter of Ilaneta Estela and Maria Quintero of Buhl, was born Nov. 22, 2006.

Paige Lacy Ray, daughter of Susan Jean and Randy Eugene Ray of Gooding, was born Nov. 21, 2006.

Dominielle Reddy Maxwell, son of Emma Lena Medina and Kenneth Charles Maxwell of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 21, 2006.

Adela Negrete-Salazar, daughter of Yessenia Salazar Garcia of Jerome, was born Nov. 28, 2006.

Mariah Jo Fisher, daughter of Toshyn Lyn Gudgell and Robert Joseph Fisher of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 28, 2006.

Lily Ann Barnes, daughter of Rhonda Susannah and Blake Lilly Chapman of Kimberly, was born Nov. 27, 2006.

Daryana Renee Jones, daughter of Kendra L. Koshick and Samuel Dean Jones of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 27, 2006.

Delsy Avila-Torres, daughter of Yanelis Torres and Jose Avila of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 27, 2006.

Porter Dales Whiting, son of Jeannette and William Len Whiting of Twin Falls, was born Nov. 27, 2006.

THE SOONER THE BETTER

Local heart attack victims get speedy intervention.

MONDAY IN IMAGE

The last twist in one man's macho self-image

By Jim Shea
The Hartford Courant

There are few situations that place the male ego as much potential peril as when a greater hands a man a container of some type and asks him to twist off the top.

It is a classic no-win proposition. If the male successfully completes this task, little credit is received, because lid removal is one of the few areas in which women find men to be of use.

If, however, the male fails to perform, the perception of his masculinity can experience major shrinkage.

It is, of course, best for men to avoid twist-off situations, although this is not always possible. Recently, for example, while I was waiting to dig into a plate of scones at work, I absent-mindedly reached over and picked up an accompanying jar of jelly.

The distraction caused by scones is likely at least as serious a problem as cellphones. Unlike cellphones, it is not a problem that lends itself to public outrage or legislation.

It is not something that rallies people like drunken driving. The police can use radar to determine when to pull over a driver because his or her mind has been twisted into knots by unruly kids.

Proponents of cellphone restrictions cited data gathered from the California

Highway Patrol showing that in 2005 cellphone use was blamed for seven fatalities. In six other deaths, a radio or television was in the car.

Fussy children were blamed for distracting drivers before crashes that took the lives of six people.

All these statistics undoubtedly underestimate the true scope of the problem. Few drivers admit that they caused an accident because of distraction.

How distracting are kids? In my experience, I can remember times behind the wheel when I could barely focus on driving tasks while trying to maintain some degree of order in the car.

I recall my son's eighth birthday, driving five 8-year-old boys to the bowling alley. I remember being at the Tijuana border, stuck in the inspection lines for a full hour with a crying 16-month-old daughter. I can recall driving while one kid relentlessly kicked the back of my seat, even after being told frequently to stop.

As my children grew older, I began to realize it was better to pull over and deal with discipline problems. But in hindsight, as a young parent, I was completely unprepared to know how much of a mind-bending experience unruly kids can be inside a car.

Of course, many parents say that they have taught their children good manners and respect for the driver. I thought so, too, but found out that order can break down.

Joan Claybrook, former head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and now president of the advocacy group Public Citizen, says driver distraction from all causes, including kids, is an underestimated problem.

"It is huge," Claybrook said. "Distractions drivers are a major issue. And people are distracted for many reasons."

When Claybrook was growing up, her parents had a simple rule for short trips: If you didn't behave in the car, you walked.

The most important way to

control kids is to make sure they wear seat belts, Claybrook said. "When kids have their seat belts on, they are less likely to be rowdy."

"That's better advice than I see coming from the major government safety groups. NHTSA has a School Bus Safety Program. In a section on its Web site called 'Tips for Maintaining a Good Attitude,' the agency suggests doing this before starting your car: 'Close your eyes; breathe evenly; think about the body draining from your body. Repeat.' I'm calm."

You might as well add, "Put the car in park and then jump out the door."

The California Department of Motor Vehicles does not give much better advice. In its handbook for commercial drivers, it suggests letting off "unruly passengers" at the earliest opportunity. In a section on "Prohibited Practices," the DMV advises, "Do not engage in unnecessary conversation with passengers or any other distracting activity while driving."

Driven to distraction by children in the car

By Ralph Vartabedian
Los Angeles Times

Millions of cellphones, billboards, hamburgers and untold volumes of lipstick lurk in the hands of motorists, threatening a fatal distraction.

But something else inside many cars is an equal or even greater influence on the mind of a driver, something as innocuous as a little child.

Ever since cars were invented, long before cellphones or fast-food drive-thru lanes, parents have been driving with their kids in the rear seat and have been turning around to tell them to "settle down!"

Unfortunately, it's no joke. Frankie Glass of Burbank, Calif., clearly remembers the day two years ago when the driver of an oncoming vehicle was dealing with his three kids in the car. The driver first veered out of the way of a car directly in front of Glass and then into Glass' lane, making an almost direct head-on collision with Glass' car.

The shopping trip that day ended tragically, seriously

injuring Glass' 89-year-old mother. After a week in intensive care, she died.

"You can't imagine how something in a split second can change everything in your life," Glass said. "People don't understand cars are a dangerous weapon. They kill people."

California recently enacted a new law that would impose fines on drivers who use hand-held cellphones, the result of public outrage over drivers who endlessly chat away and exhibit bad driving much of the time.

The distraction caused by children is likely at least as serious a problem as cellphones. Unlike cellphones, it is not a problem that lends itself to public outrage or legislation.

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The most important way to

FAMILY LIFE

WEDDINGS

WILKINS-DANOS

JEROME — Adair Wilkins and Dusty Danos were married Sept. 30 at Vista Verde Ranch in Clark, Colo.

The bride is the daughter of Gibbs and Katie Wilkins of Edsio Island, S.C.

The groom is the son of Dan and Kandira Danos of Jerome.

The bride graduated in 1999 from Waterboro High School and earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Francis Marion University in Florence, S.C. She is employed at Duck Duck Goose in Steamboat Springs, Colo.

The groom graduated from Gooding High School and attended the College of



Adair and Dusty Danos

Southern Idaho and the University of Idaho. He is employed as a dental hygienist at Canyon Falls Dental in Jerome and Dr. Mike Dingman's office in Twin Falls.

Emery is a 2002 graduate of Jerome High. He served in the Minnesota National Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day

CROSSEN-GROOT

TWIN FALLS — Clara Crossen, formerly of Wendell, and John Groot of Houston, British Columbia, were married Nov. 9 at the Twin Falls Reformed Church.

Pastor Brian Vriesman officiated. Witnesses were John and Debby Thompson of Kimberly.

A dinner was held with friends Nov. 9 at the Blue Lakes Country Club. A social hour was held with their church after services Nov. 12.

The wedding trip to California included a family reception at Tulare. A family celebration is planned with both sets of their children in



Clara and John Groot

early summer.

The couple will have homes in Twin Falls and Houston, B.C., where the groom is involved in the lumber industry.

BROWN-HALL

OAKLEY — Codi Marie Brown and Jeffery Karl Hall were married Aug. 31 at Centennial Park in Burley.

The bride is the daughter of Bruce and Cindy L. Brown of Paul and Cindy S. Brown of Twin Falls.

The groom is the son of Lynne and Lloyd Gale of Rupert and Rick and Amanda Hall of Wyoming.

Magistrate Judge Rick L.

Bollar officiated.

The bride was given away by her father.

A maid of honor was Addilyn Hall of Oakley, bridesmaid of Oakley was the best man.

The bride is a graduate of Minico High School. The groom is a graduate of Oakley High School and is employed as a diesel mechanic.

The couple will reside in Oakley.

TENNEY-RASMUSSEN

KIMBERLY — Fawn Alice Tenney and Nathan Rasmussen were married Dec. 1 at the Logan LDS Temple in Logan, Utah.

The bride is the daughter of Dusty W. and Susan Tenney of Kimberly.

The groom is the son of Veri Rasmussen of Ketchum and the late Alan Rasmussen.

A reception was held Dec. 2 at the Kimberly Stake Center.

The bride is a 2000 graduate of Twin Falls High School and a 2003 graduate of the College of Southern Idaho. She served in the Philippines Baccalaureate Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She attends Grand Canyon University and is



Alice and Nathan Rasmussen

employed at Dusty W. Tenney Insurance Inc. in Twin Falls.

The groom is a 1999 graduate of Carey High School and served an LDS mission in Houston. He is employed at C & R Electric in Bellevue.

The couple will reside in Shoshone.

Weekly deadline

To submit an announcement, stop by the office at 132 Fairfield St. W. in Twin Falls and fill out a form. The announcement also can be sent by e-mail to ramona@magvalley.com. If emailed, the photo needs to be sent in jpeg format as an attachment.

The deadline is 5 p.m. Tuesday for publication the following Sunday.

ENGAGEMENTS

CAPPS-EMERY

JEROME — Dennis and Sandra Capps of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Crystal Lee Capps, to Curtis Phillip Emery, son of Dean and Joan Emery of Jerome.

Capps is a 2002 graduate of Jerome High School. She attended Boise State University for two years before moving to Troy, N.Y., to attend dental hygiene school, where she graduated in May. She is employed as a dental hygienist at Canyon Falls Dental in Jerome and Dr. Mike Dingman's office in Twin Falls.

Emery is a 2002 graduate of Jerome High. He served in the Minnesota National Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day



Crystal Capps and Curtis Emery

Saints. He is employed with Special Effects Construction in Jerome.

The wedding is planned for Thursday, Dec. 7, in the Salt Lake City Temple. A reception will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, at the Sawtooth Inn Conference Center in Jerome. Dinner will be served at the reception.

COATS-SPERRY

RUPERT — David andileen Coats of Rupert announce the engagement of their daughter, Emily May Coats, to Kristoffer Ryan Sperry, son of Patti and Ronald L. Sperry Jr. of Roseburg, Ore.

Coats is a 1997 graduate of Minico High School and served a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Fortaleza, Brazil. She is a 2003 graduate of Utah State University and is earning a master's degree at USU. She is employed by the Granite School District in Salt Lake City as an elementary school teacher.

Sperry is a 2001 graduate of Roseburg High School and served an LDS mission in Concepcion, Chile. He is a



Kristoffer Sperry and Emily Coats

journalism major at Brigham Young University and is employed by Buddco Construction in Salt Lake City.

The wedding is planned for Friday, Dec. 15, in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. A reception will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 16, at the Acequia LDS Church.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE FACERS

RUPERT — Max and Jean Facer of Rupert celebrated their 60th anniversary with a family gathering Dec. 2.

They were married Nov. 29, 1946, in Ogden, Utah.

They resided in the Willard and Perry, Utah, area before moving to Rupert in 1958.

He has farmed all his life and enjoys hunting, fishing and camping. She is a homemaker and enjoys crocheting and cooking.

They have five children, Beverly (Lew) Jones of Rupert; Shirlee (Galen) Adams of Chubbuck; Julie (Max)



Max and Jean Facer

Graham of Billings, Mont.; Douglas Facer of Salt Lake City; and Cindy (Rusdy) Gillette of Gooding; 20 grandchildren; and 33 great-grandchildren.

THE HUGHESSES

WENDELL — Preston and Wendell Hughes of Wendell celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Nov. 29. He celebrated his 80th birthday Nov. 24.

Preston Hughes was born in Pittsburg, Ky., and Bertha Lewton in Bulky. They were married Nov. 29, 1946, in Elko, Nev. They lived in Boise, Heyburn and Bulky, and settled in Wendell in 1963.

He served in the U.S. Navy from 1943 to 1946. He worked

for Ambrose Distributing; Montana Express for 35 years; Dec. 21; Friends often come and go at will. Don't let a temporary breakdown in communications bar the way. Adhere to your principles even if you are challenged to bend or break them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Build a better mousetrap,

Labor drug assailed

By Sandra G. Bookman
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — For the past 30 years or so, doctors have routinely given pregnant women intravenous infusions of magnesium sulfate to halt contractions that can lead to premature labor.

Now—a prominent physician-researcher is calling on his colleagues to stop using the drug for this purpose, saying that the treatment is unproven, ineffective and potentially deadly — an artifact of an earlier era when the standard of care was based more on pronouncements than on clinical trials.

"We do a lot of 'we think' and 'maybes' and let women decide whether to take it."

— Michael Gallagher, a specialist in maternal-fetal medicine

The drug, sold commercially as Epsom salts and known as magnesium sulfate, causes side effects that range from highly unpleasant to lethal: nausea, blurred vision, headache, profound lethargy, a burning sensation and, in rare cases, life-threatening pulmonary edema, in which the lungs fill with fluid.

"Why has it persisted? Tradition," said David Grimes, vice president of biomedical affairs for the nonprofit public health group Family Health International, who co-authored the provocative commentary "Time to Quit" in the current issue of the journal *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

Magnesium sulfate for preterm labor, Grimes said, is a "North American anomaly" confined to the U.S. and Canada whose continued use is predicated on "good hopes and good wishes rather than good data." The American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology does not endorse use of the drug for this purpose, he noted.

Continued use of the drug, Grimes and other critics of the practice say, exemplifies the slow pace of change in obstetrics, where it is hard to conduct clinical trials because the stakes are regarded as so high.

Doctors seeking to use a drug to avert or prevent premature contractions that can trigger labor are better off using a calcium channel blocker such as nifedipine, which has been proven effective, Grimes said.

Grimes and Nanda estimate that about 120,000 American women receive magnesium sulfate each year for premature contractions, and they say some evidence suggests it may be associated with 1,900 to 4,800 fetal deaths annually in the U.S. The latter figure is derived from a 1998 study in *Obstetrics & Gynecology*.

But jettisoning a long-standing practice in obstetrics involves factors other than evidence, some doctors say.

"They note that the standard of care — a benchmark of evidence in malpractice cases — as well as patients' wishes and the desire to prevent a bad outcome such as a stillbirth, often contribute to continued use of the drug."

Doctors seeking to use a drug to avert or prevent premature contractions that can trigger labor are better off using a calcium channel blocker such as nifedipine, which has been proven effective, Grimes said.

"There is a current practice (to use the drug) that is the community standard," said Michael Gallagher, a specialist in maternal-fetal medicine, or high-risk pregnancy, who practices at Shady Grove Adventist and Holy Cross hospitals in Maryland. Gallagher said he regards magnesium sulfate as a viable and safe option in some cases — and not as an ineffective and potentially dangerous drug.

"Suppose we don't use it and a patient delivers a preterm labor and that more babies died when their mothers took the drug than in a control group where the mothers had not been given it."

"Suppose we don't use it and a patient delivers a preterm labor and that more babies died when their mothers took the drug than in a control group where the mothers had not been given it."

Mag sulfate is typically administered between the 26th and 34th weeks of pregnancy for about 48 hours to stall contractions long enough to permit the injection of steroids, which speed fetal lung development.

Grimes said he and Kavita Nanda wrote the commentary to promulgate the Cochrane findings among the nation's OB-GYNs. "The Cochrane review hasn't received wide visibility, so that's why we wanted to put this in a journal all OB-GYNs get."

But, Gallagher said, he and many of his colleagues are careful to present the option of using the drug with plenty of caveats.

"We do a lot of 'we think' and 'maybes' and let women decide whether to take it," he noted.

Not surprisingly, few refuse — fearing the possibility of a bad outcome, he added.

Your schemes and dreams don't mix well, Cancer

IF DEC. 3 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY. Although you are undergoing an important change of heart that might upset old habits and patterns, this new attitude is sure to release you from anything that has held you back.

You have some exciting times to look forward to between now and the end of January if you are willing to let go of ties that are no longer needed.

Your popularity rises dramatically in February and again throughout April and May. Those are good months for career changes or to meet a new love. Interest who has committed in his or her heart.

CIRCLE (July-Aug. 21): Schemes and dreams don't mix. You may be overly sensitive to slights or easily offended by callous attitudes. When somebody "tells it like it is," just let it go in one ear and out the other.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Slow and steady always wins the race. Changing course can land you in the drink during

HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

open with those who aren't. **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Friends often come and go at will. Don't let a temporary breakdown in communications bar the way. Adhere to your principles even if you are challenged to bend or break them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Build a better mousetrap,

but want to put out the bait. You probably know the old saying about the best laid plans of mice and men, so don't expect everything to go smoothly.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Play the part of the wise man. This scenario promises makes the point that you must be wise enough to know

the difference between the things you can change and the things you can't. **PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Pollyanna had a valid point. Find something good to say. Maintain an optimistic outlook even if your close companions abandon their own. Soften harsh criticism by responding with kindness.

Bridal Registry

Emily Coats & Kristoffer Sperry
December 16th

Breanna Webb & Jacob Brown
December 22nd

Lindsay Reed & Ryan Bailey
December 27th

Haley McBride & Jeremy Bates
December 30th

Lindsay Johnson & Luke Coats
January 6th

Brittany Rammell & Everett Crane
January 6th

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Kid testers rate this year's best toys

The Washington Post

So you've seen the commercials for super-cool toys that do amazing tricks. (They always look so fun in those ads, don't they?) You've looked through the toy catalogs that arrived in the mail. You might have even gone online to check out high-tech fun. But as the time draws near to write your holiday wish list, you face the nagging worry: What if the gizmo that rocks in an ad isn't all that fun in real life? What if it breaks easily or is really hard to put together?

Never fear, KidsPost is here — with our annual holiday toy test. We asked real kids to play with more than 60 of this season's top toys. The kids, in grades 2 through 6 at 10 Washington-area schools, rated each toy on a scale of 1 to 10. We also asked questions about each toy, including whether it was easy to put together, would they spend their own money to buy it, and would they still be playing with it in six months.

We've ranked the Top Toys for grades 2 and 3 and for grades 4, 5 and 6. And we have included some honorable mentions. So get reading and then you'll be ready to write your list.

TOP PICKS BY KIDS IN GRADES 2 AND 3

Pirate Treasure Hunter (Wild Planet, \$25)

Rating: 10
In this modern version of hide-and-seek, you hide the treasure chest and then search for it using an electronic pirate's map. Second-graders liked hiding the chest and that the map flashed different colors.



1 Piranha Panic (Mattel, \$24)

Rating: 9
Can you maneuver your fish from one end of the stream to the other without being eaten by piranhas? Twenty of 22 kids who tested this toy said they would still want to play with it in six months.

Radar Gun (Hot Wheels, \$30)

Rating: 9
Check out how fast toy cars, your brother or your dog, can run, using this radar gun. One third-grader can't wait to use it to see how fast kids sled down the hill in his neighborhood this winter.



2 Advanced Gamer SpongeBob SquarePants Handheld Game (Lizze, \$16)

Rating: 10
Players — with SpongeBob's help — must free Patrick, who has been kidnapped by the Flying Dutchman. There are mini-games that can be unlocked as well.

"The whole game was the best," one second-grader said.

Curious Girl Gone Shoppin' Greeting Card Kit (Action Products, \$15)

Rating: 10
Make cards in the shape of purses and decorate them. Girls loved the feathers, glitter and stickers.

Spy Video Car (Wild Planet, \$100)

Rating: 9
Imagine being able to send a remote-controlled car with a video camera into your sister's room! Testers warned that you have to be careful when setting it up, especially with the fragile antenna.



3 Blue Man Group Keyboard (Manley Toys, \$80)

Rating: 10
This funky musical instrument lets kids compose, record and mix their own music. It hooks up with MP3 players, too. Fifth-graders liked that it was LOUD, but said it

must be related to Roboplectic because it had to get out of the box.

Digi Makeover (Radica, \$50)

Rating: 9.75
Connect the keypad to the TV and see what you look like with curly hair or any of dozens of other styles, including clothing and jewelry. Fifth-grade girls loved using it with friends. "It would never get old," one wrote.

TOP PICKS BY KIDS IN GRADES 4-6

Airblade (Tyco, \$80)

Rating: 10
This radio-controlled vehicle can skim across water and land. Fourth-grade boys and girls loved the way it moved and that it could go from the driveway to the swimming pool. Rechargeable battery pack means no need to buy batteries.

Roboplectic (WowWee, \$80)

Rating: 10
Following in the footsteps of Robosapien and RoboBop, this year's robotic offering is one of the best things fifth-graders have seen in a while. "It's really scary" was listed as one of the best and worst things about this toy.

But be warned: Getting it out of the box will try your patience. Kids said.

Uno Spin (Mattel, \$16)

Rating: 10
Who doesn't love Uno? This new version of the great card game adds "Spin" cards. Players spin a wheel and in one turn can go from last place to first. The fourth-graders who played this loved the added fun of the wheel, but were bummed that a certain classmate kept winning!

Kids also liked ...

Other toys that fared well in our last, pictured here:

1. Deal or No Deal Electronic Tabletop Game (Tyco, \$30)

Rating: 9.67
Tested by sixth-graders, who liked that it was just like the TV show.

2. N.S.E.C.T. radio-controlled toys (Tyco, \$100)

Rating: 9.1
Fourth-graders liked the way the bug-like creature moved and that it shot darts. Some found the remote control confusing.

3. Croquet Central (Binney & Smith, \$20)

Rating: 8
Third-grade testers liked making the projects, especially doll clothes. But they warned that set-up took a long time.

4. Head Bangers (Furline, \$20)

Rating: 8
Second-graders loved playing football, soccer and hockey by banging the players on their heads and seeing how far they could kick or shoot. But getting this toy out of the box and setting it up took so long that it made it less fun to play, they said.



Scene It! Nickelodeon Game (Mattel, \$35)

Rating: 9.75
Just what every Jimmy Neutron-Danny Phantom-SpongeBob fan needs. Sixth-graders loved answering the challenging questions and, of course, laughing at the scenes from the shows on the DVD.

Talking with Jesse McCartney

By Rebecca Locanto, Stephanie Parrier and Lizette Simmons
Kidsday reporters, Newsday

We spoke with singer Jesse McCartney in Manhattan recently.

Question: Who was your favorite celebrity when you were a kid?

Answer: Will Smith. He was a rapper, an actor, he was funny, he was cool. I looked up to him so much. I finally got to meet him at this year's Kids' Choice Awards. A supercool guy.

Q: You grew up in New York. What was your favorite place to visit in Manhattan when you were younger?

A: Times Square, to see all the lights, especially when I was a little guy. Years later, when I was in the music group Dream Street, we shot a music video in Times Square. That's going to be, when I grow up, one of those cool memories I look back on.

Q: When you recorded "Live: The Beautiful Soul Tour," what city was your favorite?

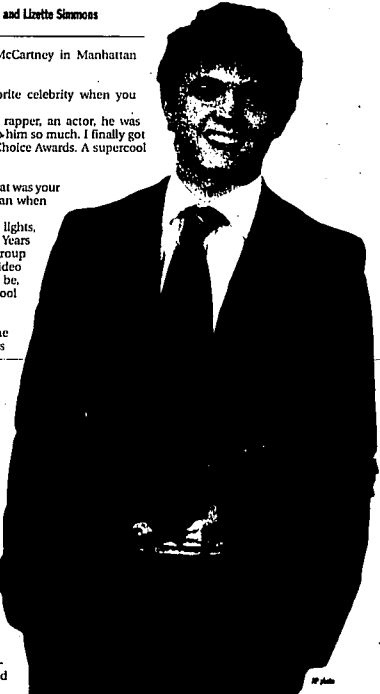
A: Chicago. I didn't know how popular my songs were there until I got to the mall where I was scheduled to perform, just me and my guitar player. Eight-and-a-half thousand people showed up. It was insane and pretty memorable. They've since stopped doing mall performances there.

Q: What is your favorite animal?

A: Growing up, it was a giraffe. I really don't know why, but I guess it's because giraffes are taller than other animals, and that was cool to me. Fans still send me giraffes.

Q: If you weren't a singer or actor, what would you want to be?

A: A baseball player. I love baseball. I grew up playing baseball, and it's one of my favorite sports.



Stuff kids buy: Guitars

By Neal Gorman
Kidsday reporter, Newsday

One of my hobbies is playing electric guitar. If you are thinking about learning how to play guitar, my recommendation for a beginner is Fender's Squier Stratocaster. It is light and easy to play. It is available in a variety of models that look cool, have a good sound and are affordable (less than \$200).

There's also a Squier Mini Stratocaster at about \$100 that's a little smaller and is recommended for young beginners.

For intermediate guitarists, I recommend an Epiphone guitar; there's a good selection of models to choose from, and prices start at about \$300.

I think some of the best guitars are by Gibson, but with prices at more than \$1,000, they are for only the advanced, serious guitar player.

Talking with Mets all-star David Wright

By Chris Daly, Courtney Weisberg
and Brian Weiss
Kidsday reporters, Newsday

We spoke with New York Mets all-star third baseman David Wright when he was in Manhattan recently.

Question: What was your favorite baseball team?

Answer: Believe it or not, growing up my favorite team was the Mets. I grew up in Norfolk, Va., which is where our Triple-A team plays. I used to like to go watch our Triple-A team play and then watch who would be brought up to the Mets.

Q: Who was your favorite baseball player growing up?

A: Cal Ripken Jr. He played for the Baltimore Orioles. I liked the way he played the game. He is really nice, and I always wanted to be in the lineup, and he was a great role model for kids.

Q: Is your manager, Willie Randolph, tough or nice?

A: He is both. If you mess up, he can be pretty tough. But he is really nice, and I love playing for him. He is energetic, and he gets along with his players, and I think that is important. He knows when to have fun and joke around, but he also knows when to be serious. You don't want to test him.

Q: When you play at home, does your family come and watch?

A: When I played in Triple-A, that was

Believe it or not, growing up

my favorite team was the

Mets. I grew up in Norfolk,

Va., which is where our

Triple-A team plays. I used to

like to go watch them play

and then watch who would

be brought up to the Mets.

home for me, and my family was able to come watch me at pretty much every game. Now, my family comes up to New York once or twice a year, and they probably see me play in Washington, D.C., a couple of times a year. They don't come up as much as they used to, but they did come up for the Yankees series.

Q: Does your family get free tickets?

A: Yes. That is one of the perks. They get free tickets. I think that is why they claim me as theirs, because they use me for my free tickets.

Q: What do you do before a game?

A: I listen to some music and stretch. I just try to relax because the game can get so tense that you can get nervous out there, so you have to try and relax.

GRAND

Re-Opening



***Poleline Road is now
officially clear of construction.***

***Come by and see what's new!
Poleline Road merchants welcome you back.***



POLELINE

POLELINE

Pole Line opens in time for Christmas season

By Julie Pease
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Let the shopping begin.

Six wide lanes of the Pole Line Road are open, and the doors to businesses along the busy thoroughfare are wide open, too.

"I bought this during the most intense part of the construction. Now, it's volia! It's just so nice," said Everybody's Business owner Deby Johnson, who purchased the store in August. "I just had an elderly couple come in who said it is so easy to get into the store. A month ago they had wanted to come in, but they were afraid because of the road construction."

Construction on the 2 miles of Pole Line that runs westward from Blue Lakes Boulevard to Grandview Drive, for all practical purposes, was completed just in time for the Christmas shopping season that began Thanksgiving weekend. The \$20-million project, which began in August 2005, is right on schedule, said Kimbol Allen, Twin Falls resident engineer for the Idaho Transportation Department.

And, business is booming better than ever, says Wilson-Bates manager Steve Hanchey. In fact, despite road construction not quite completed in November, the store had record sales during that month, he said.

Nonetheless, "what they've done out here is really going to help our business," Hanchey said. "The traffic flows so much smoother. Congestion, and safety is not a factor as far as a negative."

Drivers will encounter six lanes with separate turning lanes, Allen explained. In addition, drivers can no longer turn left when they exit from businesses. They will have to turn right and then execute U-turns where the concrete medians end if they want to head the opposite direction.



The expanded six-lane Pole Line Road is open, and the doors to businesses along the busy thoroughfare are wide open, too. Construction on the two miles of Pole Line that runs westward from Blue Lakes Boulevard to Grandview Drive was completed in time for the Christmas shopping season that began Thanksgiving weekend. The \$20-million project, which began in August 2005, is on schedule, according to the Idaho Transportation Department.

"You see this a lot in the thoroughfares around Boise," Allen said, "raised medians with landscaping that open up for U-turns." The maneuver might take some getting used to. But for Imagination Station manager Rose Pilcher, who learned to drive in California, the new road design makes sense. "I think it is actually safer," Pilcher said. "This is our busy season.

We're very relieved and thrilled the road project is finished," said Jessie Adams, one of the owners of the Imagination Station. She also complimented Western Construction, the contracting company in charge of the project.

"There was almost always access to our store," she said. "At times, it might have been a little difficult to get in, but there was only one week when

there was no access."

"The first 2 miles, or Stage One, of the Pole Line project is complete, but a second stage is scheduled to begin after the Legislature authorizes funds. Stage Two is estimated to cost \$50 million. The second stage will cover an area from Grandview Drive to the U.S. Highway 93 and U.S. Highway 30 interchange. It includes rebuilding a bridge over Rock Creek, Allen said.

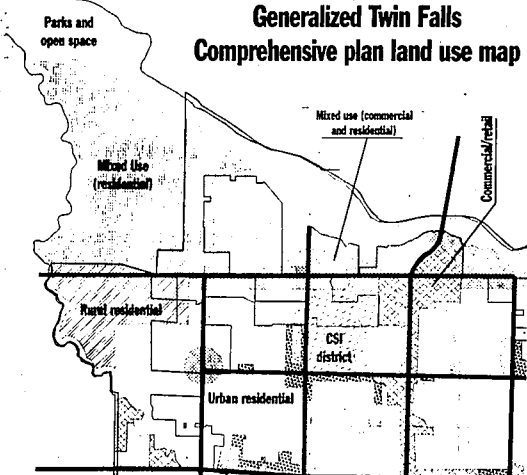
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Blue Lakes Rotary presents check to school.

TWIN FALLS — The Blue Lakes Rotary Club presented a \$5,881 check to Harrison Elementary School from the proceeds of a pancake breakfast held at the school. Each year, the club puts on a breakfast at a local elementary school made possible by food donations from area sponsors. The club members cook, and students and Rotarians sell tickets with all proceeds going back to the school. Harrison Principal Chris Gillette plans to use the funds to upgrade playground equipment. The top ticket seller was Aspen Bowles. The Blue Lakes Rotary meets at 7 a.m. Tuesdays at the Red Lion Hotel in Twin Falls. Guests are welcome.

Christmas Special

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COMMUNITY

FOUR GENERATION OF POOLLES



Four generations gathered. From left are great-grandmother Mary Poole of Rupert, mother Saranah Stuart of Glens Ferry, baby Landon Stuart of Glens Ferry and grandmother Brenda Henrick of Twin Falls.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Electron, party plans for Mary Time Club

FILER — The Mary Time Club will meet at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday for a Christmas dinner at the Dougherty Center.

Participants should bring canned food, three dozen cookies, a covered dish, table service and secret pal gift. For more information, call Rose Marie Crawford at 735-9213.

Mary Time Club met Nov. 7. New officers are: President, Connie Smith; vice president, Betty Siffer; secretary/treasurer, Marie Webb; and reporter, Rose Marie Crawford.

Christmas basket project needs donations

WENDELL — Wendell residents are seeking donations for the annual Christmas basket project.

Donations can be sent to Wendell Christmas Baskets, 750 E. Main, Wendell ID 83355 or deposited at US Bank.

Food items and unwrapped toys can be delivered to Wendell High School during school hours by Dec. 18.

Baskets will be distributed Dec. 20.

To turn in names of families for a basket, or to volunteer for more information, call Rebecca Ashmead or Beth Andrus at 536-2100.

Names must be turned in before Dec. 8, and include number of people, ages, sex of children, telephone number and proof of family income.

New Neighbors Club meets Tuesday

TWIN FALLS — The Magic Valley New Neighbors Club will hold a luncheon meeting at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Outback Steakhouse, 1965 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Entertainment will be from comedienne Dorothy Custer. For more information, call 731-2082.

St. Nicholas School announces holiday event

RUPERT — The St. Nicholas School Christmas program will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Middle High School Auditorium. Pre-school through fifth-grade students will perform.

Lazy J plans holiday dinner for residents

TWIN FALLS — Lazy J Homeowner's Association will hold its holiday dinner party at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday at the

clubhouse. All residents are invited. Bring table service and a side dish or dessert. Entertainment will be provided by the barbershop quartet, Give and Take.

RSPV to Delsie at 734-9600, Verma Jean at 733-5030 or Dorha at 733-5363.

The club plays bridge every Tuesday afternoon, beginning at 1 p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks. All bridge players are invited.

Rec club holds Christmas party

WEST MAGIC — The West Magic Recreation Club will have a club Christmas party at 1 p.m. Dec. 10 at the West Magic Lake Resort.

The monthly club meeting will begin at noon.

For the party, men should buy for men and women for women; minimum gift cost is \$15. The public is invited.

For more information, call 467-2734 or visit www.damfools.com.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Students named Lincoln Elementary Einsteins

TWIN FALLS — Students were named Einsteins for meeting math requirements for their grade level at Lincoln Elementary School.

Colton Biedenbach was the Einstein for the month of September.

For October, the Einsteins were Madison Dahlquist and Landon Biedenbach.

Hollister recognizes students of the month

HOLLISTER — Hollister Elementary School Students of September were Faith Slaughter (kindergarten), Myrlah Kinnison (6th), Alex Montes de Oca (third), Tucker Parrott (first), and Shelby Hansen (second).

Castleford FFA officers take first in contest

CASTLEFORD — Castleford High School FFA adviser, Roger Wells, announced that FFA chapter officers, David

Wiseman, Jessica Elser, Rachel Rodgers, Anna Lopez, Megan Durham, Miranda Bernier and Samantha Guina, took first place in the Opening Ceremonies contest — Nov. 16 at the College of Southern Idaho.

Wells also reported that Michael Wiseman finished second in the District FFA Creed Speaking Contest, and his Greenhand Team of Clayton Kline, Adam Machado, Doreen Johnson, Tanya Hill and Savannah Levech, placed fourth.

Congressional Youth Award given to student

TWIN FALLS — Kaylee Favell has earned a silver medal for the Congressional Youth Award.

This award involves 100 hours of volunteering, 50 hours of per-

sonal development, 50 hours of physical fitness and two days of exploration and expedition.

Kaylee was presented this award at the state Capitol on Nov. 11.

She is a senior at Twin Falls High School and historian for Key Club and National Honor Society. Her parents are Dan and Debbie Favell of Twin Falls.

Student is inducted into honor society

TWIN FALLS — Brandon Scott Helms was inducted Nov. 8 into the Omicron Xi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at the College of Southern Idaho.

Helms, from Shoshone, is majoring in criminal justice.

Phi Theta Kappa is an honor society serving two-year colleges. Students must rank in the top 20 percent of the class to be invited to membership and must maintain high academic standing during their enrollment in the two-year college.

SERVICE NEWS

Hansen grad completes basic USAF training

HANSEN — Air Force Airman Ruben Salazar has graduated from six weeks of basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

He is the son of Vickie Kinyon of Hansen and a 2006 graduate of Hansen High School.

Twin Falls grad finishes basic Army training

TWIN FALLS — Army Pvt. Kia L. Scruggs has graduated

from nine weeks of basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C.

His parents, Wayne and Sharon Scruggs, reside in Twin Falls.

Burley Marine graduates from San Diego base

HURLEY — Eloy Naranjo III has graduated from the Marine Corps in San Diego, Calif.

He was born and raised in the Burley area and graduated from the Cassia Education

Center in 2005 where he was chosen Mini-Cassia Student of the Year. He was active in football and wrestling at Burley High School. He attended the College of Southern Idaho before enlisting in the military.

Naranjo will return to Camp Pendleton for more training, and then go to Florida for job training.

He's the son of Roberta Barra of Boise, formerly of Burley, and Eloy Naranjo Jr. of Rupert.

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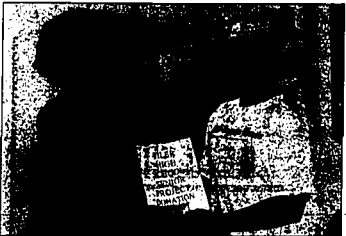
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MVHS GRADUATES



Photo courtesy of Magic Valley High School
 Magic Valley High School block 3 graduates are, from left to right, Joseph Hutchison, Kristina Perrault, Leanna Evans and Curt Weeks. Not pictured is Jake Gullies. They graduated Nov. 14 from the school in Twin Falls.

ANIMAL SHELTER GIFT



Quentin Jones greets Debbie Blackwood, director of the Twin Falls Animal Shelter, the \$480 that he raised as part of his Filer High School Senior Project. Jones had a booth at the College of Southern Idaho Harvest Festival that advertised the animals for adoption and in need of donations at the Twin Falls Animal Shelter.

Shoshone Elementary announces honor roll

SHOSHONE — Shoshone Elementary has announced its fifth quarter honor roll.

Fifth grade, all A's

Xateryn Furguson, Liliana Gomez and Zach Zech. All A's and B's

Jade Adams, Maria Elena Adaya, Edward Anguiano, Tyler Avila, Adrian Bedolla, Atmando Flores, Jasmine Gomez, Jordan Graef, Joe Hampton, Jessica Hurtado, Jade Jolley, Brittany Lee, Elizabeth Mabbitt, Sonja

Regalado, Brett Riley, Brayden Robbirds, Katherine Rubio, Sayury Sanchez, Ashley Stein, McKayla Tanner, Fatima Villagran and David Zavala.

Fourth grade, all A's

Brooke All, Alexis Chambers, Grace Decker, Giovanni Flores, Alondra Gomes-Montes, Colton Horn, Josh Hunter, Juana Juarez, Lindsey Montgomery, Sergio Regalado, Jake Schoeniger, David Stowell, Dorovan

Volunteers — Idaho Home Health and Hospice has planned extended training for volunteers this week. The training for new volunteers will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, and at 5 p.m. Thursday at Idaho Home Health and Hospice. Volunteers can help in the home by visiting with patients, relieving the caregivers or running errands. Office assistance is also welcome.

For information about the volunteer program or for a complete training schedule, call Susan or Grace at 734-4064 or stop by the office at 826 Eastland Drive in Twin Falls.

SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU

WANT TO HELP?

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

If you need a volunteer, call the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at 738-2122, ext. 320, before 4:30 p.m. Wednesday for Sunday publication. RSVP is a United Way-sponsored agency at the College of Southern Idaho. Call weekly to retain your request.

Beds/clothing/household items — The College of Southern Idaho Refugee Center is in need of twin-size beds, clothing for men and women, and household items.

To donate items, drop them off from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1526 Highland Ave. E.; the

office is closed from noon to 1 p.m. Call Teresa at 738-2166.

Lift chair — An elderly lady is in need of a large-size lift chair. Call Roberta at 544-7720.

Volunteers — Volunteers are needed to help a family

who has a loved one with a life-limiting illness. Volunteers can help by shopping, running errands, cleaning or sitting with their loved one, while the caregivers take a break. Call Flo at Hospice Visitation at 733-0121.

Drivers — The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program at the Office on Aging is looking for volunteers: age 55 and older, who are willing to drive clients to doctor appointments and go grocery shopping.

Volunteers are needed in the Burley-Rupert area. Volunteers are reimbursed mileage and covered by excess insurance. Call Kitty at 677-4872, ext. 2.

Richfield Elementary names honor students

RICHFIELD — Richfield Elementary recognized these students for perfect attendance in October:

Nathanial Connell, Parker Dale, Tabitha Davis, Torie King, Yadiria Rivas, Luke Sutter, Ashley Telford, Breck Ward, Jackie Warren, Joris Wilbanks, Michael Brownee, Ian Burr, Candie Denton, Jacob Dutcher, Jennifer Fajardo, Erica Kent, Matthew Mattoon, Gregory Maynard, Luxi Stanton, Mason Swainston, Jared Sutter, Jared Brownlee, Samantha Durand, Beau Erwin, Michael Fajardo, Jazien Fillingim, Doug

Holland, Abby Patterson, Detsy Telez, Leicia Valencia, Madison Wacht, Philip Allen, Luke Buck, Ivan Cardenas, Zak Farrworth, Crystalyn Gillard, Taylor King, Mariah Lezamis, Dakota Donevan, Ryan Swainston, Matthew Schell, Alexis Valdez, Nathan Ward, April Wood, Lino Rivas, Olivia Sutter, Machelna Brauburger, Evelyn Calderon, Tatiana Delval, Jennifer Gordon, MaKardi Hatch, Jeffrey Henson, Victor Robles, Wyatt Swainston, Bryson Twitchell, Eric Beezley, Makayla Brownlee, Dulce Cervantes, Justin Connell, Tania

Delval, Brianna Erwin, Jake Evans, Zak Wood, Sarah Brownlee, Matthew Durand, Danielle Edwards, Ricky Godin, Katherine Kennison, Paige Leguineche, Juan Linares, Lindsay Maynard, Chris Mendivil, Diana Rodriguez,

Kallee Scott and Jeri Twitchell. November Student of the Month was Manuel Sanchez. Awesome Honesty Awards went to Doug Holland, Jordan Dutcher, Vicki Southwick, Mariah Lezamis and Evelyn Calderon.

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COMMUNITY

Minidoka County 4-H hands out its awards

RUEPIT — For their service and achievement, 4-H leaders and members in Minidoka County received awards at 4-H Awards Night on Nov. 4.

The honorees were:
Outstanding Overall Leader: Josie Wolfe.
Out-standing first-year leader: Lisa Hruza, Jacoby Snidder, JoDean Foreman and Michelle Hawkes.

Five years of service: Mindy Bingham, Sue Hayes, Julie Hulet, Marlene Morris, Scott Morris, Tama Muecke and Kim Naylor. Ten years of service: Toni Brownning and Steve Hosenbrough. Fifteen years of service: Diana Wheeler and DeAnn Richins. Distinguished Service Award: Rene Beaver.

Friends of 4-H: Leonard and Betty Martin, Simplo's and Rene Beaver who accepted on behalf of Puckey's Mistake Wells Fargo/First Security Watch: Amanda Studer, Adaline Beaver award: Cheyanna Hawkes and Damon Turner.

Beginning food: Amanda Postluzny. Beginning clothing: Cheyanna Hawkes. I Dare You Leadership: Sarah Branaum, Idaho 4-H Key: Nikki Nixon.

Outstanding Black Angus breeding project: David Borden, Donna McGuire. **Horse Sportsman-ship:** Jessica Hunt and Maverik Woodward. **Most Improved 4-H Horse Member:** Alysha Call.

Horse division High point: Kam Thomas, Kylie Walker, Tristen Handy, Kelli Kindig, Jessica Hunt and Sydney Meier. Overall horse winner: Kelli Kindig.

Best of Class or Grand Champion: Jordyn Hulet, Cheyanna Hawkes, Jessica Woodward, Ashley Hulet, Amanda Studer, Damon Turner, Amanda Postluzny, Zerena Turner and Jose Henschel.

Demonstrations, public speaking and job interview: Cheyanna Hawkes, Derek Walker, Tara Cotton, Kylie Walker, Austin Walker and Felicia Roseborough.

Miscellaneous projects: Damon Turner, Garrett Ryan, Jared Studer, Amanda Studer, Brogan Schaeffer, Anthonette Turner, Tyrell Morris, Jessie Naylor, Alyssa Goffinet, Lydia Muecke, Brian Gillespie, Andrew Wheeler, Trenton Stauffer, Staci Branaum, Lauren Bingham and Haylee Muecke. Beef, dairy and goat: Andrew Wheeler, Justin Borden, Sierra Botti, Remington Sturtz, David Borden, Ainslie Gillette, Brogan Parkin, Jakobie Rogers, Brogan Schaeffer, Caleb Schaeffer, Dakota Goff, Amanda Studer, Taylor Vantassell, Alyssa Goffinet, Taylor Van Tassel and Shelby Schlund.

Dog, horse and round robin: Nate Krupf, Nathan Schneider, Holly Mayer, Kelli Kindig, Kam Thomas, Sara Campbell, Kylie Walker, Tristen Handy, Jessica Hunt and Sydney Meier.

Poultry and rabbit Cade: Nelvert, Alysha Call, Tara Cotton, Camden Chandler, Ashley Hulet, Jarod Shiner, Calvin Morris and Holly Mayer.

Sheep and swine: Nikki Nixon, Kai Garner, Sasha Gummow, Stegan Garner, BreeAnn Bingham, Jena Bingham, Thomas Slusser, Kai Garner, Hailey Forgeon, Charly Ball, Staci Branaum, Hailey Forgeon, Kylie Walker, Derek Walker, Codie Smith, Sarah Sanderson and Logan Anderson.

Agular, Whitney Amoth, Brandon Benkula, Rena Davidson, Heather Griggs, Matthew Hamilton, Scott Harris, Sara Hartwick, Tarcicio Hernandez, Trevor Hite, Francisco Jimenez, Kimberly Juko, Markus Lively, Wilfrido Lopez, Margot Loza, Blake Mabey, Michael McDonald, Racla Mink, Mark Montgomery, Jacob Morse, Kenadie Pack, Andrew Pierce, Emily Plew, Erin Quigley, Alexa Ramirez, Jordyn Ruhter, Cristina Salinas, Paige Ward and Tiffany Wuensch.

Seventh grade: Sandra Arroyo, Milquel Ayala, Skyler Barger, Dustin Clements, Amber Combe, Sierra Cooper,

Buhl Middle School names honors students

BUIHL — Buhl Middle School announced its first-quarter honor

Highest Honors: 4.00

Eighth grade: Emily Michael and Makeesa Montgomery.
Seventh grade: Clara Comer, Rebecca Frey, Camden Gillins, Britany Griffith, Sara Griggs, Kendyl Hamilton, Haley Jaynes, Tony Lopez, Daniel Nipper and Danielle Tucker.

Sixth grade: Michael Esparza, Kyra Perron and Carah Quigley.

High Honors: 3.5-3.99

Eighth grade: Jacobo Aguilar, Whitney Amoth, Brandon Benkula, Rena Davidson, Heather Griggs, Matthew Hamilton, Scott Harris, Sara Hartwick, Tarcicio Hernandez, Trevor Hite, Francisco Jimenez, Kimberly Juko, Markus Lively, Wilfrido Lopez, Margot Loza, Blake Mabey, Michael McDonald, Racla Mink, Mark Montgomery, Jacob Morse, Kenadie Pack, Andrew Pierce, Emily Plew, Erin Quigley, Alexa Ramirez, Jordyn Ruhter, Cristina Salinas, Paige Ward and Tiffany Wuensch.

Seventh grade: Sandra Arroyo, Milquel Ayala, Skyler Barger, Dustin Clements, Amber Combe, Sierra Cooper,

Chelsea Cress, Britney Harvey, Shelby Holladay, Jamie Holyoak, Melina Hopkins, Austin Hudson, Logan Hutchinson, Dylan Jacobson, Kagen Jacobson, Alexa Johnson, Jennifer Kersey, Cassiede Kippes, Gage Kluge, Derek Leavitt, Alex Lomon, Ashley Lively, Gustavo Magana, Janet Martinez, Fernanda Ortega, Maegan Pato, Morgan Pearson, Zacarias Peterson, Zehediah Peterson, Stephanie Romans, Michael Schroeder, Mark Tonge, Jason Turner, Kyle Van Patten, Caleb Vanhoover, Rodolfo Verduzco, Iyana Weaver and Avery Wilkinson.

Sixth grade: Alexis Bybee, Jasmine Gifford, Bethany Hedges, Tori Hutchinson, Antoinette Lauda, Kelsey Leonard, Kenzi Littlefair, Kyle Loppess, Ruth Loza, Marissa Mitchell, David Murdock, Taylor Oppedy, Tyce

Pearson, Daniel Peralta, Ashley Pierce, Garrett Shriver, Jennifer Skinner, Skylar Stroberg, Max Welch and Kelsey Wray.

Honors 3.00-3.49

Eighth grade: Evelyn Carrillo, Nicolas Castillo, Allen Compton, Ethan Compton, Julian Fahrenwald, Brooke Fairchild, Miguel Garza, Caleb Gerdes, Kylie Harvey, Brianna Heath, Katherine Hunter, Rikki Inchausti, Ian Lee, Christina Lewis, Hunter Littlefair, Rosa Lopez, Alexandra McClain, Brody McClain, Megan Montgomery, Brody Owen, Jose Parra, Irineo Sanchez, Megan Slem, Caleb Ussery, Gino Villareal, Danielle Walker, Kyle Wilson, Evan Vay and Amber Yelick.

Seventh grade: Francisca Aguilar, Tia Bailey, Alison Brittsan, Samantha Burns,

Nancy Carmona, Katie Donaldson, Sebastian Garza, Makayla Heffernan, Kendra Hendricks, Megan Herzinger, Ashly Johnson, Shayla Lemmons, Tyler Leonard, Carla Lizarraga, Vanessa Lizarraga, Juliana Matt, Sarah Michaels, Elizabeth Peralta, Kaitlin Phillips, William Potter, Christelda Ramirez, Shado Runyan, Sonia Salas, Julio Sarabia, Jordan Silva, Daniel Soria, Kayla Spencer, Brandon VanSickle, Bo Vandenberg, Jesse Vega and Chloé Wells.

Sixth grade: Kelly Admire, Samoa Allen, Breatina Bailey, Jose Carrillo, Tyler Cole, Catrina Compton, Jacob DeKruyf, Dalton Kuey, Melina Lashbrook, Jasmine Lizarraga, Kazley Montgomery, Brandon Moore, Andrew Olson, Paola Padilla, Michael Peckham, Ben Puentes, Miranda Slater and Edgar Velasquez.

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Full Set
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Twin.....\$299
Queen.....\$399
King.....\$599

SAVE \$300

Queen Set
\$599

King.....\$799

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Queen Matt.
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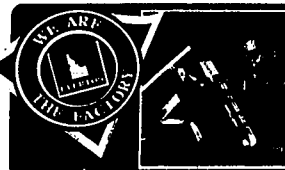
King.....\$1,099

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Centennial: The exclusive 5 zone innerspring system provides state of the art support characteristics for the body's head, neck, shoulders, back and calf areas. The Zoned 783 Mattress Innerspring coil unit provides superior strength and durability. More coils in the center of the innerspring help to prevent sagging. Rows of coils vertically help reduce "roll-together."

"Coil On Coil" Boxspring is constructed with true 13 gauge coil springs, which in turn adds life to the sleep set and reduces body pressure points. This set has a waterbed feel with the support of TRUE coils found in the mattress and box springs. The mattress is quilted with luxurious layers of quality high-density foam on BOTH sides of the mattress, which can be turned for longer and longer wear. Mis-Match models- save over \$200!

Solace-Body Climate Memory Foam: Our thermal sensitive foam reacts to your body temperature and conforms to your shape with fluid like response. The unique design provides better pressure reduction, reducing tossing and turning during sleep, which will provide a restful night's sleep. The cover is a performance fabric (Polar Tec) engineered for year round comfort. Air channels within the fabric help regulate body temperature. Mis-Match models- save over 1/2 price!



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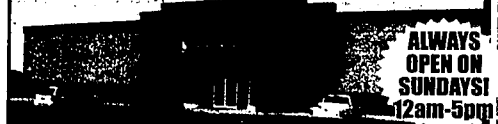
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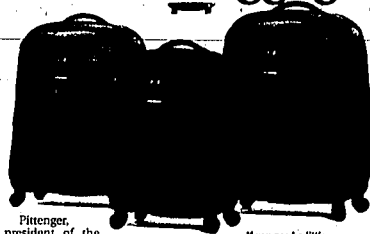
By Andrea Sachs
The Washington Post

It's the age of the incredibly shrinking carry-on. With tightened security at airports, including federal restrictions on liquids and gels, the same old luggage just doesn't work as well anymore. Carry-on bags are getting smaller, while checked bags are growing to accommodate toiletry kits and other problematic items (sorry, Jamaican rum).

"Because of the restrictions, we are seeing tote bags that are wheeled and smaller," says Frank Fine, executive director of the American Luggage Dealers Association. "People are now just carrying on the convenience items they want onboard — their valuables and maybe a quick change of clothes in case their luggage gets lost."

Adding to the packing problem are the airlines' tougher weight limits on checked baggage and overbooked flights, which put the squeeze on overhead space. In response, travel-product manufacturers have reconfigured and remodeled their lines or are simply pushing the more relevant products to the forefront.

"Travel goods will continue to get lighter and more portable, more organized," Michele Marini



Pittenger, president of the Travel Goods Association, said by e-mail. "Organization is one key area where we'll continue to see growth. Travelers take more with them, and unless their gear is organized well, it's difficult to pack and more difficult to get things done at their destinations."

If you don't want to fully overhaul your luggage rack, try a simple cosmetic change, such as adding a dash of color.

"The basic black isn't really doing it anymore," says Laura Sok, a spokeswoman for Flight 001 (212-691-1001, www.flight001.com), the hipster travel-goods company. Travelers "are looking for luggage they can pick out fast (on the luggage carousel): bright colors, floral prints, lime green."

For other luggage trends, we asked industry insiders to weigh in on what's new.

CHECKED LUGGAGE

• The bigger the better? To accommodate stuffed bags, companies are increasing the size and scope of their luggage designs. From the outside, the bags look sleek and streamlined, but inside, they can resemble a closet.

The 18-by-25-by-11-inch Hideo Wakamatsu Wave trolley (415-255-3025, www.hideostore.com; \$339) has a ribbed shell that opens up to reveal a pair of hangers and two mesh zippered panels with zippered pockets. To cram in that extra sweater, the 29-by-20-by-11-inch Samsonite X'lon Spinner (www.samsonite.com; \$400) can expand by two inches, and the super-organized will appreciate the company's 23 1/2-by-16-by-8-inch Pro-LX Collection (\$280-\$470), which comes with a toiletry kit and a stuffer (a built-in accessory for hanging and folding dress shirts, skirts and suits).

• Lighten up. With all of these add-on features, you could easily overpack. Resist. "The airlines are clamping down on the weight restrictions," says Peter Gohli, co-founder of eBags (800-820-6126, www.ebags.com), the online purveyor that sells 6 million bags a year, half of which are travel-related. "It doesn't take much to go over 50 pounds."

To slim down — and avoid the airline's extra poundage charge — manufacturers are using lighter materials in

Please see **LUGGAGE**, Page G3

How to pack a bag

The Hideo Wakamatsu Wave trolley has a ribbed shell that opens up to reveal a pair of hangers and two mesh zippered panels with zippered pockets.



For travelers with no packing discipline, Ricardo Solutions' bags come with a built-in digital scale to let them know when to put their bags on a jet.

Travel aids that you can buy or fashion for yourself

By Elissa Leibowitz Ponsa
Special to The Washington Post

Some travel specialty products available through catalogue companies and stores are packing lifesavers. Others are extraneous pieces that serve no purpose except to take up precious real estate in a suitcase. Here are some products that add packing, plus comparable budget options.

• Eagle Creek Pack-It Folders

(800-266-8246, www.containersstore.com; from \$21.99)

Follow the directions to fold a shirt or other items into a stiff plastic insert, and clothes will be packed neatly and compactly and generally without wrinkles. The mesh sides of the envelope-like folders allow inspectors to check them out without opening them.

Budget alternative: Wrap clothing in dry cleaner bags to reduce friction (a cause of wrinkles).

• Magellan's Mesh Cubes (800-962-4943, www.magellans.com; \$14.95 for a set of three)

Perfectionists can count on their bags staying mega-organized, regardless of how their luggage is treated behind the scenes. Budget alternative: If you don't want your socks fantomizing with your polo shirts, consider using zip-lock bags.

• Pack-Mate compression bags (800-349-0525, www.packinglight.net;

from \$6.95)

Stuff clothes into the bag, then vacuum or roll out the air through a one-way valve, creating a compact pouch that looks like a sealed package of bacon. Prepare for wrinkles, though. The bags are especially helpful for toiling dirty laundry.

Budget alternative: Zip-locks to the rescue again. The gallon-size bags are perfect for small clothes such as socks and T-shirts; use a straw to suck as much air out of them as possible.

• TSA locking luggage strap (800-280-4775, www.christinecolumnbus.com; \$13.50)

Not only are these combination locks government-approved, they also come in neon colors or rainbow stripes, helping you to quickly spot your bag on the airport luggage carousel.

Budget alternative: Use a cable tie purchased at a hardware store to lock a bag. If an inspector cuts it, no harm done. If it's intact when you arrive, snip it with nail clippers or scissors. (Four-inch scissors can be carried on a plane.)

• Lewis N. Clark shoe covers (800-820-6126, www.ebags.com; \$9.99 for two)

Each velvety drawstring pouch fits one men's shoe or two women's shoes. It protects shoes from scratches and protects clothing from the shoes' dirty soles after a day of sightseeing.

Budget alternative: Stuff shoes into plastic newspaper bags.

• Travelon tri-fold tie case (877-894-1950, www.travelon.com; \$17.99)

Made of nylon, this durable case secures at least three ties behind elastic straps. The case also has a small zippered compartment for tie clips or other accessories.

Budget alternative: Fashion a protective case out of two pieces of cardboard and layers of tissue

• Kleiner's disposable dress shields (800-498-7051, www.kleinershields.com; \$4.79 per dozen)

Consider using these underarm perspiration-absorbing patches if you tend to pack extra shirts because you sweat a lot. They stick to the inside of your shirt with adhesive strips and are disposable; using them could mean you don't need to bring as many tops.

Budget alternative: The only thing cheaper than these shields is hand-washing your clothes in the minuscule sink on your cruise ship.

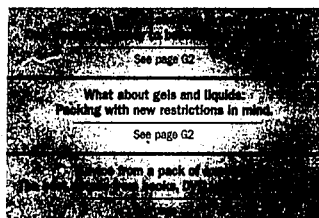
• Protravelgear.com travel jewelry case (800-720-5076, www.protravelgear.com; \$18.95)

If you must travel with lots of jewelry, this lightweight, foam-lined case has small compartments and pegs that keep jewelry safe and free of tangles. Budget alternative: Use a cardboard jewelry gift box with a cotton insert.

• Pack-It-Flat toiletry kit (800-820-6126, www.ebags.com; \$29.99)

This ultra-slim, five-compartment toiletry case measures a little more than two inches thick and comes with four leakproof bottles and a small pill jar. The bottles stay snug in mesh pockets, and a waterproof zippered compartment is ideal for a wet toothbrush.

Budget alternative: Though not guaranteed to be leakproof, travel-size products and reusable travel bottles from a drug store can be packed in resealable plastic bags (double-bag for extra protection).



What about gels and liquids? Packing with new restrictions in mind.

See page G2

Addicted to overpacking? Try this 5-step program

By Elissa Leibowitz Ponsa
Special to The Washington Post

Susan Foster recalls checking into a chichi Hong Kong hotel and spotting a group of American tourists in the lobby dragging "enough luggage for three armies." Yet for the duration of their trip, Foster says, the tourists appeared in the same outfit.

"If I were wearing the same grubby stuff every day, I wondered what was in those suitcases," says Foster, author of "Smart Packing for Today's Traveler." "Obviously they didn't pack appropriately."

Foster should know. She has packed and unpacked some 4,000 times over three decades, she said, traveling first as a book publisher and later as a companion to her globe-trotting husband, who worked in international trade.

Some people think packing means dumping half their closets into flimsy bags the night before a trip. Need encouragement to pack less? Consider that in August, when the

Transportation Security Administration changed the rules about carrying on liquids, the number of pieces of checked luggage jumped 20 percent — and the number of lost bags increased 33 percent compared with August 2005, according to a report last month by the Department of Transportation.

"The beauty of travel is that you are on vacation from all the material complexities of life," says TV travel host and guidebook writer Rick Steves, who lives out of one suitcase for more than 120 days a year. And he means one suitcase, and he always leaves room for small souvenirs.

Based on the advice of like-minded packing experts, books and Web sites, we've assembled a five-step plan for packing wisely.

1. PLAN AHEAD

Start thinking about what you'll take at the same time you buy your plane tickets, book the cruise or confirm the availability of your aunt's mountain condo.

Please see **5-STEP**, Page G3

TRAVEL

Advice from a pack of experts

By Elissa Leibowitz Poma
Special to The Washington Post

Books/DVDs

• **"The Packing Book: Secrets of the Carry-on Traveler"** by Judith Clifford (Ten Speed Press, \$12.95). This book details how to pack different bags, including standard suitcases and convertible backpacks. Its many packing lists are incredibly detailed — among them are lists for last-minute packers, cold-weather seekers and "minimalist" toddlers.

• **"Pack It Up: The Essential Guide to Organized Travel"** by Anne McElpin (Flying Cloud Publishing, \$19.95). The book includes tips for cruising and the author's "ultimate traveler's checklist." The accompanying 30-minute DVD shows numerous ways to tie a colorful scarf to dress up a neutrally toned travel outfit.

Web Sites

Onebag.com (www.onebag.com) is for the ultimate minimalist, yet even pack rats can take away ideas

from creator Doug Dymen's stellar packing suggestions, including a batch of non-liquid products.

• **The tips** section of the travel site Walkabout Travel Gear (www.walkabouttravelgear.com) includes fun-to-peruse advice from readers, including this one: "When packing for a trip, lay out all the stuff you plan to pack, including your money. Take half the stuff and twice the money."

Packing Lists

• Find 10 different packing lists each for men and women on the Web site of the specialty product company TravelSmith (www.travel-smith.com). The lists are based on destination and include "Nordic travel," "safari" and "city excursion."

• Download the "Packing Control Journal" from the Web site of the Flylady (www.flylady.net) for a 13-page, family-oriented packing survey/checklist.

• Backpackers should consult the specific must-haves at Art of Travel (www.artoftravel.com), a 25-chapter e-book written by seasoned independent traveler John Gregory.

She lugs it, she lugs it not

By K.C. Semmers
The Washington Post

Traveling as much as I do, I've learned a lot over the years. How to research and approach a destination. What Web sites have the best airfares. How to avoid sitting next to creeps on the train (a used tissue on a seat goes a long way). But the most important thing I've learned? Pack light.

And by that I mean: Pack light. I can't emphasize it enough, people. Pack light, pack light, pack light. It's become my travel mantra, my obsession, my suitcase. Packing light is the reason I was able to spend two weeks in Thailand a few years ago and take everything I needed in one carry-on, a personal best I'm still bragging about.

Why all the passion about something as mundane as packing? Because when you take the "lug" out of luggage, you change the entire nature of your trip. There are the practical benefits, of course: Limiting your baggage to one small suitcase and one personal item, you can print out your boarding pass ahead of time and go directly to the gate, avoiding long check-in lines.

When you land, simply grab your bag from the overhead bin and go, bypassing the throngs camped out at the luggage carousel. No more worries about the airline losing your luggage, either. It's always at the end of your arm. And getting around is easier: With one bag, you can walk from train station to hotel, for example, instead of having to commandeer a taxi to shuttle heavy suitcases.

Psychologically, the benefits are even greater. There's something liberating about traveling with only a carry-on: You're no longer a slave to your stuff. You don't need to spend a lot of time planning what to take when your entire wardrobe revolves around a pair of black pants and a couple of tops. Not obsessing about your appearance brings humility and perspective.

I can't emphasize it enough, people. Pack light, pack light, pack light. It's become my travel mantra, my obsession, my suitcase. Packing light is the reason I was able to spend two weeks in Thailand a few years ago and take everything I needed in one carry-on, a personal best I'm still bragging about.

That's right: You become a better person. Unencumbered, you're free to focus on what's really important: your destination and how to make the most of it.

Most people know this intrinsically, but they seem to lose focus when they pack. I've been appalled at some of the things I've seen my friends — otherwise perfectly intelligent people — throw into their bags. Hardback books! Big, clompy hiking boots! Industrial-size shampoo! What are they thinking? I've learned the hard way: You've got to be ruthless. That old traveler's tip about packing only what you think you'll need, then eliminating half of that? Believe it. Yes, you'll have to sacrifice some dignity when you end up wearing your wingtips to the beach. But you'll be liberated from the tyranny of luggage.

But with packing light comes great responsibility. Don't be that person who stuffs her rollover bag so full that it jams the aisles and requires the kindness of strangers to wrestle it into the overhead bin. If you can't lift your own carry-on into the bin, do us all a favor and check your luggage.

By the way, "carry-on" I don't mean a weekend-size tote — I'm not that much of a minimalist — but a soft-sided suitcase that will (just) fit in that little-in-your-bag-too-big box at the airport. Stick to 22-inch bags and smaller to be safe.

Ready to come over to the light side? Here are a few of my rules for the road:

• **Black is your friend.** It's stylish, doesn't show dirt, goes with everything, and you can dress it up or down. I get more mileage out of a pair of black pants than an undertaker. Add a black jacket or sweater and you've got your base: supplement with a few colorful tops and scarves and you're the picture of urban chic. (If black is too funereal for you, brown or gray or other neutrals also work well.)

• **Hold your head high.** You're never going to see those people in the plane/museum/tube station/sidewalk cafe/riverbank promenade again. They have no way of knowing you've basically been wearing the same get-up for a week.

• **Footwear must multi-task.** Invest in a good pair of walking shoes (Ecco, Mephisto, Josef Seibel, etc.) that work equally well with dressy or casual outfits. Your goal should be to take one pair of shoes per trip. If you must take two — say, your packing hiking — and/or to the opera — pack the lighter shoes and wear the boots on the plane.

• **Rethink your gel and liquid needs.** Yes, the new TSA rules are confusing and inconsistently enforced, but to speed your way through the security line, don't argue. You know you're legally allowed to take refillable three-ounce containers in your carry-on, but it's safer to buy prepackaged toiletries in the airport with a clueless screener. And whatever you do, make sure your plastic bag has the right specs (one-quart, zip-top,

pulled out of the carry-on for inspection). If your toiletries won't fit into the bag, buy what you need on the other side, or go without.

• **Bulk up.** To save suitcase space, I always wear at least four layers on the plane: camisole, T-shirt, shirt and sweater, plus a fleece or coat in season. I may look like the Michelin Man, but I'm never cold.

• **Make your clothes work for you.** A pashmina shawl can serve as a blanket or pillow on the plane. Stretchy yoga pants or leggings can double as pajama bottoms. A trench coat makes a dandy hatbox.

• **Be ruthless** (there's that word again) about reading material. Travel to me means found reading time, and it's tempting to pack a bookshelf's worth of best sellers plus a dozen or so magazines. But that means extra pounds. So limit yourself to one book (paperback). It goes without saying: per genre: one thriller, one biography, one nonfiction, etc.

You can still take the mags; but rip out all non-editorial pages. You'll be amazed how quickly you can reduce a thick Vanity Fair to pamphlet size. With guidebooks, rip out all irrelevant pages or photocopy what you need. Jetison all of the above as you go.

• **Leave a little extra room** in your bag. You'll need space for all the stuff you buy during your trip, such as clothes. Trust me: You'll be so sick of your travel outfits, you're going to need a whole new wardrobe when you get home.

What about gels and liquids?

By Andrea Sachs
The Washington Post

Since the Transportation Security Administration started restricting carry-on items in August, travelers have been befuddled over the definition of gels and liquids. If it jiggles, is it a gel? What if you can eat it with a spoon? And can you still squirt your Easy Cheese at cruising altitude?

"You can't compile a conclusive list," TSA spokeswoman Amy Kudwa says. "If you have any question about a liquid or gel that does not fit in a three-ounce container in a clear quart-size bag, then check it."

The rules keep evolving, but for now, liquids and gels are allowed through airport security if they're packed in a three-ounce or smaller container, then placed in one quart-size zip-top plastic bag. The only exceptions are baby formula and breast milk (but baby must be on board, too), prescription and over-the-counter medicines, essential liquids for disabled passengers and other medical-related gel or liquid items. If you're carrying any of these products and they exceed the three-ounce limit, pack them in a separate plastic bag and declare them to TSA officials at the checkpoint for extra inspection. Keep medications in their original packaging and include the prescription.

Now for the harder part: pudding, lip balm, presurized cheese, et al. For makup

and food, as long they fit the size parameters, go ahead and toss them in your carry-on. That includes snacks from home, such as yogurt and jelly. O. Pressurized cheese and sundries such as peanut butter, jams and soup generally are not permitted—but only because they are sold in bigger cans and jars. Also on the "no" list are half-empty containers such as rolled tubes of toothpaste (even if they squish to three ounces).

The rules apply mainly to pre-security items. Once you're in the secured area, you can buy duty-free items, drinks and odds, and toiletries — and carry them onboard like the olden days.

For more information on the TSA rules, go to www.tsa.gov.

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ASK THE EXPERT

TRAVEL

5-Step

Continued from page G1

- Write down everything you think you'll need. Don't just think a mental list — get it on paper. It'll serve as a good checklist, and if you're suddenly pressed for time, you'll have something to jog your memory.
- Before you start assembling items, check the Transportation Security Administration Web site (www.tsa.gov) to see what is and isn't permitted in checked luggage and carry-on bags.
- Think about what you're going to wear from the start. Would revealing clothing such as a bikini or deep-plunging neckline create an international incident? If you're planning a Christmas trip to Aruba now, do you need to buy any warm-weather clothes? Is your cruise strictly casual, or will you need formal wear?
- Never pack the night before or day of a trip. Do it at least a day (preferably two days) ahead. Even if you don't stuff all the contents into your luggage, at least have the items stacked and organized. Once packed, if you must dip back into your bag at the eleventh hour, do it only to weed out items you won't need.

2. PREP YOUR LUGGAGE

- If your bag doesn't arrive in one piece, your vacation may fall apart, too. Take extra precautions, both inside and out, to ensure that you both arrive in good condition.
- Don't pack so much that your suitcase looks like a marshmallow or can't close without the aid of a strap or hugger cone. If an airport inspector cannot close it properly, you risk losing possessions.
- Most pieces of luggage have two zippers on one track. When closing a bag, pull the zippers all the way around the bag to the bottom; don't leave them at the top of the bag, where they could snag on something, Steve says.
- Use near-colorful duct tape, securely tied colorful yarn or ribbons or an oversize, colorful luggage tag to make nondescript bags stand out on the luggage carousel. Or dare to be different and opt for a brightly colored bag.
- Take off removable straps. If they can't be removed, tuck them into pockets or secure them to the side of the bag with duct tape.
- Be sure your name, address and telephone number are on the bag, both on a luggage tag and on a card attached to the luggage. Include contact information at your destination.
- If you want to lock your bag, use a TSA-approved lock. TSA locks can be opened by special inspectors by using special tools provided by the lock makers. If you don't use an approved one, screeners may deliberately break your lock to search your bag. Of course, they may do this anyway with TSA-approved locks, but at least you'll decrease the odds.

3. PICK YOUR WARDROBE CAREFULLY

- A lot of people have angst over this, because they don't think about it in a constructive way. They just stress over it.

Foster said.

- Pick mix-and-match separates in neutral colors, such as black, navy and beige, wearing each item more than once. You can dress up an outfit with an easy-to-pack scarf, belt, tie or jewelry (preferably non-valuable, sentimental pieces).
- Opt for wrinkle-free fabrics, such as microfiber, nylon or a cotton/polyester blend.
- Avoid bringing thick sweaters or fleeces by packing thin layers. Judith Gilford, author of "The Packing Book," suggests merino wool; it's thin, appropriate for most cool and warm climates and reshapes itself after wrinkling.
- Don't bring three pairs of jeans or three black sweaters when one good one will suffice.
- If you must bring bulky items — heavy shoes, fluffy fleeces, ski sweaters or winter items — pack them in the plane instead of packing them.

4. KEEP TOILETRIES TO A MINIMUM

- Most travelers are surprised how many extra pounds a full array of beauty products can add to a bag.
- Bring travel-size, not full-size, items. If you can't find a travel size of what you need, check out Minimus (www.minimus.biz), which sells only travel-size products. Its inventory ranges from 21-cent Dial antibacterial soap and \$1.29 miniature deodorant to packets of light ranch dressing for 66 cents.
- Pack items in leakproof resealable bags or clear toiletry bags, which will help you find items without having to unpack everything.
- Consult experts' packing lists for medicine suggestions, so you don't end up bringing more than you'll need.

5. PACK THOUGHTFULLY

- The key here is packing every inch of usable space in a bag without overpacking. Experts say the near-colorful duct method is best — go with the one you're most comfortable with.
- Consider rolling as many of your clothes as possible. "When soldiers pack their stuff into duffels and need things to take up as little room as possible, they are taught to roll everything," explains Ramona Creech, a professional organizer who runs OnlineOrganizing.com.
- An alternative to rolling is bundling all clothing items together into one tight, pillow-like mass that takes up the entire bag. Lay all your clothing items across the entire width of the suitcase, and once all items are piled up, begin folding in the arms and legs.
- Stuff shoes with socks, rolled ties, jewelry, underwear or other small items. Make use of this seldom-considered space. If dirty shoes should be wrapped in shoe bags or plastic bags.
- Books are dead weight. Instead of packing a library's worth of guidebooks, photocopy the relevant pages or even rip them out of the book.
- Stuff shoes with socks, iPods, jewelry, prescription medication and important documents (passports, tickets) should always be carried on.

South Carolina's South of the Border: Old-fashioned Americana

By Sharily O'Bryan Smith Associated Press writer

DILLON, S.C. — What's kitschy, glitzy and promoted by 175 giant billboards for hundreds of miles along Interstate 95?

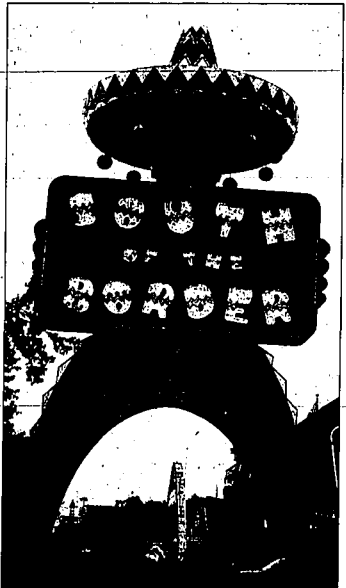
The answer is South of the Border, in Dillon, S.C., a 350-acre roadside attraction with shops, restaurants, and some really odd concrete statues, including a collection of iconic Pedro, a cartoon mascot with a Mexican theme.

It's highway Americana at its best, and if you're driving I-95, you can't miss it. But just to make sure, the billboards appear from the Virginia-North Carolina border to the South Carolina-Georgia border.

That's fewer than in the past, when 250 signs ran from Philadelphia to Daytona, Fla.

Times have also changed the nature of the signs. They've become more politically correct by eliminating most of the exaggerated Spanish and broken English puns.

South of the Border has a history as colorful as its lights at night. It actually started as a beer stand. Al Schaefer and his father were in the beer and wine business in North Carolina, but when the area went dry, they moved across the border to South Carolina to set up shop in 1949.



The South of the Border sign is a landmark in Dillon, S.C.

Legend has it that when Schaefer ordered building materials a few years later, they were delivered to "Schaefer Project South of the (North Carolina) Border." He thought that was kind of catchy and named his new enterprise South of the Border. From there it was a

- no-brainer to add Pedro and the Mexican theme.
- These days South of the Border is a \$40 million enterprise with nearly 20 shops, eateries, a motel, two gas stations, campsite, fireworks, a convention center, amusement park, a gigantic revolving Mexican sombrero, and the statues.
- In addition to the Pedro collection, there is a big gorilla, a huge golf ball, some sea captains, a few flamings and a blue rhinoceros.

- Flip-flops for hotel floors.
- A bathing suit. You never know when even a cold-weather trip will have pool or hot tub opportunities.
- A simple sarong/lungi/kampa — works as an airline blanket, cover, yoga mat, curtain or towel.
- I live/travel in Asia and always bring my own sheet to cover the bed.
- A night light so that I don't walk into a wall on the way to

If you go ...

SOUTH OF THE BORDER: Dillon, S.C., off Interstate 95; <http://www.pedroland.com> or 800-845-6011. Shopping and restaurant complex and roadside attraction with motel, gas stations, collection of concrete statues. Amusement park open Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the off-season. Restaurant, drug store and gas station open 24 hours a day.

The motel is even said to have a haunted room. As intriguing as all that is, South of the Border is not generally thought of as a destination by itself. Millions of people have stopped there for food, gas, bathroom breaks or just to air the kids out.

And millions of others have passed right by, wide-eyed and shaking their heads in wonder.

But to go there on purpose? Susanne Pelt, who is public relations director and personnel director, says it happens more often than you might think: "People from up North and people from farther South sometimes meet here in the middle for their family reunions."

Some people even have their weddings there. As a military public — or "Pedro of the peace," as you'll find Pelt figures she's tied the knot for about 500 couples.

She says one couple wanted to get married inside the towering sombrero with a Doberman Pinscher as an attendant.

"The bride said it was her baby," explained Pelt, "and it wore a pink bow on its neck."

Must-haves for the professional travelers

The Washington Post

The Washington Post Travel staffers recently shared some of the items they can't travel without. Here are a few of their favorites:

- A simple sarong/lungi/kampa — works as an airline blanket, cover, yoga mat, curtain or towel.
- I live/travel in Asia and always bring my own sheet to cover the bed.
- A night light so that I don't walk into a wall on the way to the bathroom.
- A tiny alarm clock. I hate relying on unfamiliar hotel alarm clocks.
- A Swiss Army knife — in chocky form, of course — is an essential tool.

- Half a dozen safety pins, so I can make sure the curtains will close out the light, and a small stuffed tiger to hug when I miss our cats.
- Bathrobe slippers so I can relax and be comfortable in the room.
- Earplugs! Earplugs!
- An adequate supply of Snyder's hard pretzels.
- A pair of soft, flannel, well-worn pajama bottoms.

- An alternative to rolling is bundling all clothing items together into one tight, pillow-like mass that takes up the entire bag. Lay all your clothing items across the entire width of the suitcase, and once all items are piled up, begin folding in the arms and legs.
- Stuff shoes with socks, rolled ties, jewelry, underwear or other small items. Make use of this seldom-considered space. If dirty shoes should be wrapped in shoe bags or plastic bags.
- Two packages of Handi Wipes, in different colors, usually blue and, say, yellow.
- My beanie-bag tumbler, which has a photograph wherever we go. It's become such a teller for travel that if I forget my meds, my toiletries or my iPod, I would not be nearly as upset as

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Luggage

Continued from page G1

their bags, such as laminated canvas (Samsonite Black Label, eight pounds, \$240 at Flight 001) and polypropylene shell (Frog Sr., 7.2 pounds, \$560 at Flight 001).

- Take it or leave it. Look for luggage with removable accessories, which can lighten the load. Briggs & Riley's Superlight Upright (889-662-2247, www.briggs-riley.com; \$559) has a removable garment sleeve and a snap-in waterproof pocket. For travelers with no packing discipline, Ricardo Solutions' bags come with a built-in digital scale (\$180-\$200 at PackingLight, 800-345-0252, www.packing-light.net), so you'll know when to put your bag on a diet.
- When it comes to baggage alarm, stand out in the crowd with black. Don't just think: Cobb says: "People are going looking at luggage in a fashion sense." Vogue-sters have a slew of choices: Japanese blossom print or kumogataki, lime green or hot pink (Samsonite), stripes or spots (Casauri, 877-778-4698, www.casauri.com).

CARRY-ONS

- The smaller the better? Compact carry-ons have been on the market for a while, and a few brands mimic the style of bags used by pilots and flight attendants, both proven mainstays in packing. Travelpro Crew 5, for example, designs for crew members, but passengers also can pick up some of its models, such as the 12-by-15-by-9-inch rolling tote (800-741-7471, www.travelpro.com; on sale for \$136 at www.1800luggage.com). For a less-from-the-cockpit look, Pathfinders' 16-by-13-by-8-inch Avenger Lite rolling tote (800-759-9738, www.pathfindersluggage.com; \$250), resembles a fashionable beach cooler.
- More wheels. Luggage makers are having slipping wheels on everything from laptop cases to garment bags for years. Now they've added an extra pair to some luggage: The bags can swivel 360 degrees, allowing passengers to easily maneuver through airplane aisles and crowded airports. "It's like a walker," Cobb says, "so you can just walk it down the aisle."

The more stable setup keeps heavier bags upright. Many brands are producing four-wheeled carry-ons, including Samsonite (www.samsonite.com), Atlantic Luggage (www.atlanticluggage.com) and Delsey (www.delsey.com), both pricey. Likewise, Samsonite's Spinner collection is in the \$300 range, about the same as its two-wheeled bags.

• Backpack tech. For gadget geeks, staying current is key. Turn's Powerpack (800-299-8864, www.turnl.com; \$695), a limited-edition backpack, can charge phones and PDAs with its removable solar panel. (All profits are donated to Doctors Without Borders.)

Jansport (510-614-0000) has also gone tech with its LiveWire collection. The backpacks have a keypad, iPod command center and read-point port in the shoulder strap, so travelers can listen to their music without pulling out their players. The LiveWire Dreamer (\$180 at eBags) integrates its compact player into the strap, so you can chat with Mom while hiking the Himalayas.

