

Twin Falls County's Mormon population is booming.

SEE RELIGION, B7

Zabransky brings back Bronco bowl beliefs.

THE UPS AND THE DOWNS SEE MONEY, A8

Good Morning

High: 31 Low: 18

Morning fog, partly cloudy and breezy. Details: B12

Times-News

SATURDAY December 30, 2006 50 cents

MagicValley.com

Saddam Hussein executed

By Christopher Torchia and Qasim Abdul-Zahra Associated Press writers

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Saddam Hussein, the shotgun-waving dictator who ruled Iraq with a remorseless brutality for a quarter-century and was driven from power by a U.S.-led war that left his country in shambles, was taken to the gallows and executed Saturday, Iraqi state-run television reported.

It was a grim end for the 69-year-old leader who had vexed three U.S. presidents. Despite his ousting, Washington, his allies and the new Iraqi leaders remain mired in a fight to quell a

stubborn insurgency by Saddam loyalists and a vicious sectarian conflict.

Also hanged were Saddam's half-brother Barzan Ibrahim and Awad Hamed al-Bandar, the former chief justice of the Revolutionary Court. State-run Iraqiya television news announcer said "criminal Saddam was hanged to death and the execution started with criminal Saddam then Barzan then Awad al-Bandar."

Mariam al-Rayes, a legal expert and a former member of the Shiite bloc in parliament, told Iraqiya television that the execution "was filmed

Please see SADDAM, Page A3

The life of Iraq's most notorious dictator. See page A6

Soldiers, families offer mixed verdict on execution. See page A6

Death a hazard for dictators. See page A7

Iraqi-Americans celebrate. See page A7



Saddam Hussein sits in court during his trial for genocide against Kurds in Baghdad. State-run Arab media reported that Saddam Hussein was executed early Saturday.

New laws raise minimum wage, target global warming

By Robert Tanner Associated Press writer

For hundreds of thousands of minimum-wage workers around the country, the new year brings a raise. Musicians worried about copycats get some protection in Illinois. And California takes steps to reduce the power-plant pollution that is believed to contribute to global warming.

Jan. 1 brings new laws in many states, offering both a glimpse of what is on the voters' minds and a preview of some of the issues Washington might take up. Many states take action long before Congress does.

Utah smoking ban takes effect Monday. See page A11

Seven states — Arizona, California, Delaware, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina and Pennsylvania — are raising their minimum wage. The federal minimum is \$5.15 an hour. The new wages go as high as \$7.50 an hour.

"We've made Massachusetts the best state to live in for struggling working families," said Carl Nilsson, an activist for poor people, citing the higher minimum wage and an earlier state law that requires health care insurance for all.

In Illinois, copycat musical groups who misrepresent themselves as the original artists will face fines of up to \$50,000. The new law requires live acts to make it clear in their advertising that they are a salute or a tribute to the real thing.

"From now on when the public goes to a rock 'n' roll show in the area, they can be sure the artist is the original, and not some rip-off band," said Mary Wilson of The Supremes. Supporters are pushing for similar laws in every state.

Frustrated by what some see as inaction in Washington,

Please see LAWS, Page A3

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Fund for Glenn takes off



Sean Forney of Darwin Construction wraps up a day of framing Thursday at the new home of Idaho State Police Trooper Chris Glenn in Kimberly.

Donations come in from across the state

By Jared S. Hopkins Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — At least \$11,000 has been raised to help the family of recently shot Idaho State Patrol Trooper Chris Glenn.

An account set up at Wells Fargo bank in Glenn's name continues to meet the goal of allowing for donations across the state, said Cpl. Fred Rice, a trooper who also heads the Idaho State Police Association.

Rice, a 25-year veteran who is coordi-

ing the bank's efforts, said the money raised will be used strictly to support Glenn and his family and help them make the needed adjustments, including mortgage payments.

See it online

To see Trooper Glenn's house under construction, visit www.magicvalley.com



"Their lifestyle has totally changed," Rice said. "Their lives as they knew them no longer exist."

Glenn, 34, was shot in the neck Dec. 24, of Twin Falls. Doctors said Thursday that Glenn, who suffered damage to his trachea, esophagus and spine, is likely to be paralyzed from the chest down.

Additionally, Idaho State Patrol spokesman Rick Ohnsman said almost \$10,000 was raised that might not

Please see TROOPER, Page A3

Poll: We love our TV — but not what the spouse is watching

By Jocelyn Novick Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — As you sink into your couch to watch a favorite TV show this holiday weekend, take comfort in the knowledge that you're not alone. Nationally speaking, at least.

Unity within your own home is another matter entirely.

A majority of Americans got hooked on a TV show this year, an AP-ACOL News poll shows. But some say they watch their favorite shows alone: Their spouse or partner

is into much different fare. Is it nature, or nature? All Betty Cave knows is that while she's into those attractive young doctors on "Grey's Anatomy," with their interweaving social and professional lives, her husband likes "Star Trek," "Bartlestar Galactica" and some other things that I've never heard of."

She often watches her shows, which she TiVo's, at 5 a.m.

The same goes for films. Cave, 43, a real estate agent in Myrtle Beach, S.C.,

Please see TV, Page A3



Sunday in the Times-News



CONTEMPLATING CREP

How 100,000 acres of dry land may help solve Idaho's water crisis.

PAGE ONE



KICKING NOSTALGIA

The tricks to letting go of those good old days.

FAMILY LIFE



STATEHOUSE BUSINESS

Local chamber discusses 2007 legislative goals.

MONEY



TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Today Tonight Sunday



Areas of a.m. fog, otherwise partly cloudy High 31 Low 18 35 / 18

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Morning fog possible, then partly cloudy and breezy. Highs in the lower 30s.

Tonight: Becoming mostly cloudy with continued breezy conditions. Lows in the upper teens.

Tomorrow: Areas of a.m. fog possible, otherwise mostly cloudy and mostly dry. Highs in the middle 30s.

Complete weather report: See page B12

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

William Ingo's "Bus Stop," presented by the Company of Fools, 8 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Halley, \$25 reserved seats and \$18 for senior citizens and students, (208) 578-9122.

EXHIBITS

"The Circle" by Amber Scoon, former College of Southern Idaho art instructor, 1 to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrett Center for Arts and Science, 6511 campus, Twin Falls, no cost, 732-6655. "Discontinuity," contemporary abstract paintings of local artist Ben Brown in the Galleria Pequena and new works by member artists in the Full Moon Gallery, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Main Street Plaza, 132 Main Ave. S., downtown Twin Falls, no cost, 734-ARTS.

FAMILY

Anderson Camp's annual drive-through Christmas Nativity Pageant, featuring full-sized figures painted by local artist Gary Stone amid trees lit with over 20,000 Christmas lights, 6 to 10 p.m., Anderson Camp, located at exit 187 of Interstate 84 in Eden, free admission (donation box), 825-9800.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium, "Far Out Space Places" at 2 p.m. and 4 p.m., "The Christmas Star" at 7 p.m. and "Stargazing" at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families (children under age 4 not admitted), 732-6655.

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@magivalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

OPINION MINI EDITORIAL

Filmore and Pole Line: An accident in waiting

The 45-mph speed limit for eastbound traffic at the intersection of Filmore Street and Pole Line Road seems like a major accident waiting to happen. Too bad the Pole Line construction project could not have been done with such haste.

— Kent Asza, Twin Falls

Want to submit a Mini Editorial for publication on this page? Send it by e-mail to mini@magivalley.com. Submissions must include the writer's name, address and daytime telephone number. Mini Editorials can be up to 50 words in length. They will be subjected to the same verification process as letters to the editor. Writers may publish both one Mini Editorial and one letter per month.

WEB POLL What are the top 10 local stories of 2006?

We want your help ranking the stories below. Go to Magivalley.com and vote.

- Bond issue for new high school passes in Twin Falls
- Violent crimes/meth-related murders in Twin Falls
- Bruce Newcomb retires as House speaker
- Water wars: district court decision by Judge Wood; impending state Supreme Court decision
- Idaho State Police officer shot near Twin Falls
- Record number of housing starts recorded in Twin Falls; housing boom continues
- Environmental health: West Nile, Creutzfeldt-Jacob cases
- The ongoing saga of creating a statewide system of community colleges in Idaho and what it could mean for the College of Southern Idaho
- Sempra bails out of Jerome project
- Plea deal for Jim Nice
- Twin Falls County sells Magic Valley Regional Medical Center
- Twin Falls native W. Mark Feil identified as Deep Throat, the Watergate-era source of reporters Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein
- Swensen's makes way for new store
- Jayco plans to expand in Twin Falls

MAGIC VALLEY



Mormon population booming in Magic Valley

TWIN FALLS — In 1982, the Kimberly Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints had about 1,800 members. It has roughly 3,600 now, and the stake is building a new church for three wards — the Mormon term for congregations — on Hankins Road.

SEE PAGE B7



Woman campaigns for a special playground

TWIN FALLS — Four years ago, Ame Lincich's son was born with cerebral palsy. Now she is the driving force behind an effort to win a \$300,000 grant for a special-needs playground.

SEE PAGE A4

Wendell gives back annexed land

WENDELL — More than a year ago, the city of Wendell passed an ordinance annexing roughly 300 acres along the east and south boundaries of town. Wednesday it gave some of it back.

SEE PAGE A4

Woman questioned in ranch hand's death

ELKO — Ongoing Elko justice of the Peace Molly Leddy will decide whether an Elko woman — who had a \$300,000 life insurance policy on her former ranch hand and is accused of killing him in 2003 — will face trial for murder.

SEE PAGE A4



Internet tractor transaction goes sour

PAUL — Wayne Maughan thought moving a used tractor via the Internet sounded like a good idea until he received a bogus \$28,000 check for it a couple of weeks ago.

SEE PAGE A4

Snowmobile trail closed for season

FAIRFIELD — Guided back-country skiing will resume at Soldier Mountain Ski Area north of Fairfield and as a result, approximately 1,500 acres west of the ski area will be closed to snowmobilers beginning Tuesday.

SEE PAGE A4

OBITUARY

J.Wayne Hoops

SEE PAGE A5

YOUR MORNING

BRIEFING

IDAHO/WEST



Idaho Star Wars fan to march Rose Parade

IDAHO FALLS — A battle call by George Lucas is not something taken lightly by lifelong "Star Wars" fans.

So when 35-year-old Bernard Finnigan of Idaho Falls got his, he jumped at the chance to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade next Monday as one of two X-wing pilots. He and 222 other costumed fans will march the 5 1/2-mile parade route flanked by two floats depicting the worlds of Naboo and Endor, which are central to the "Star Wars" story.

SEE PAGE A5

Group rejects gift from pinup promotion

MOSCOW — A northern Idaho group that fights domestic violence is rejecting a donation of less than \$100 raised by a local radio station through sales of a calendar depicting women in lingerie.

"It's kind of a pinup calendar," said Grant Stanlich, a prevention educator with Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, which works against domestic abuse. "We oppose all forms of sexism and racism."

SEE PAGE A5

New factory expected to open in January

MOUNTAIN HOME — A new factory expected to employ hundreds of workers and provide a major boost to Mountain Home's economy is scheduled to open in January.

The Marathon Cheese packaging plant expects to receive its first shipment of cheese in the second week of January, and will begin packaging the following week.

The company will employ less than 100 people initially, but expects to increase the number to around 600 over the next three years.

SEE PAGE A5

Utah smoking ban takes effect Monday

SALT LAKE CITY — The days of smoking and drinking in Utah's country clubs, fraternal lodges and private fine-dining restaurants are nearly over.

Beginning Monday, state law will prohibit smoking in those settings.

Taverns and bars that serve liquor will have until 2009 to become smoke-free.

SEE PAGE A11

NATION/WORLD



Snow storm socks Denver, again

DENVER — Denver's second big snowstorm of the holidays grounded scores of flights Friday during one of the busiest travel periods of the year and blanketed streets that never got plowed the last time.

At Denver International, the nation's fifth-busiest airport, the major airlines canceled 15 percent to 20 percent of their flights Friday — nearly 300 departures — to ease congestion.

SEE PAGE B12

Bushes take shelter during tornado alert

CRAWFORD — President Bush and first lady Laura Bush were moved to an armored vehicle on their ranch Friday when a tornado warning was issued in central Texas. The White House said.

The vehicle was driven to a tornado shelter on the ranch at 1:30 p.m. CST, and the president, Mrs. Bush and their two Scottish terriers, Barney and Miss Beazley, sat inside until the weather cleared, deputy White House press secretary Scott Stanzel said.

SEE PAGE B12



Tributes for Ford begin in hometown

PALM DESERT — Born by eight U.S. servicemen in crisp dress uniforms, Gerald R. Ford's flag-draped casket was carried past his widow into their hometown church Friday for a public viewing that marked the start of six days of mourning for the former president.

SEE PAGE B12

Americans finding way back to religion

In a longitudinal study that has followed nearly 200 people born in the 1920s at Northern California, college researchers found that "religiousness" enhances the quality of life in the second half of life.

The California study also found that highly religious people were least afraid of death. Ironically, it's an attitude they share with non-believers.

SEE PAGE B7

SPORTS



Firth hands Buhl first loss of season

BUHL — Down 11 points to visiting Firth, the Buhl High School boys basketball team knew a special effort would be needed if it was to keep its undefeated streak alive. Friday night, the Indians didn't have it in them.

Buhl picked up the intensity in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough to make up for three periods of backluster defense as Firth handed the 6-1 Indians their first loss of the season, beating them 59-43 in Buhl.

SEE PAGE B1



How good will Jared Zabransky be in '07?

PHOENIX — Four years. Three as a starter. Third bowl game (0-2). Calm, collected, suave. Jared Zabransky? Absolutely.

The senior quarterback who everybody loved in 2004 and many wanted rural out of town in 2005 had himself a fine 2006.

The real question is: What about his one day in 2007?

SEE PAGE B1

Beavers edge Missouri in Sun Bowl

EL PASO, Texas — Oregon State coach Mike Riley was set to take his chances in overtime at the Sun Bowl. Then Missouri called timeout to have Joe Newton's 14-yard touchdown catch with 22.1 seconds to go reviewed, believing he may have bobbled the ball. During that break, Riley decided to go for the win.

Yvenson Bernard barely pushed into the end zone on the giving 2-point conversion run, giving the Zed-ranked Beavers a 49-38 victory over the Tigers on Friday.

SEE PAGE B1

Zito talks about move to San Francisco

SAN FRANCISCO — True to form, Barry Zito had a little fun when quizzed about how he might adjust his style now that he's has the richest contract for a pitcher in baseball history.

"I'm just thinking of canning the curveball. Other than that, nothing major," Zito joked Friday, when his \$126 million, seven-year contract with the San Francisco Giants became official.

SEE PAGE B2

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FROM PAGE ONE

Saddam

Continued from page A1
and God willing it will be shown. There was one camera present, and a doctor was also present there.

Al-Rayes, an ally of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki, did not attend the execution. She said Al-Maliki did not attend but was represented by an aide.

The station reporter was airing national songs after the first announcement and had a tag on the screen that read "Saddam's execution marks the end of a dark period of Iraq's history."

The execution came 56 days after a court convicted Saddam and sentenced him to death for his role in the killings of 148 Shiite Muslims from a town where assassins tried to kill the dictator in 1982. Iraq's highest court rejected Saddam's appeal Monday and ordered him executed within 30 days.

A U.S. judge on Friday refused to stop Saddam's execution, rejecting a last-minute

A history of terror and torture

With the execution of Saddam Hussein, Iraq's former leader, who supervised the deaths of thousands of his own people, the history of terror and torture in Iraq comes to a grim end.



Portrait of Saddam Hussein

court challenge. Al-Maliki had rejected calls that Saddam be spared, telling families of people killed during the dictator's rule that would be an insult to the victims. "Our respect for human

SECTION OF EXECUTIVES

1987 John H. ...	1988 ...	1989 ...	1990 ...	1991 ...	1992 ...	1993 ...	1994 ...	1995 ...	1996 ...	1997 ...	1998 ...	1999 ...	2000 ...	2001 ...	2002 ...	2003 ...	2004 ...	2005 ...	2006 ...
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rights requires us to execute him, and there will be no review or delay in carrying out the sentence," al-Maliki's office quoted him as saying during a meeting before the hanging.

Laws

Continued from page A1
California passed a law that seeks to force coal-burning plants in the western U.S. to install cleaner technology if they want to sell power in the nation's most populous state. States also deal with immigration (nurses from other countries must have English language proficiency to practice in South Carolina), eminent domain (Illinois requires local governments to pay more and meet a higher legal threshold before seizing private property), and campaign finance (North

Carolina and Pennsylvania set strict rules). Alaska will provide school systems with training to help prevent bullying, while South Carolina will require districts to adopt policies barring harassment, intimidation or bullying. "We were getting too many complaints from parents that their children were being bullied and intimidated," said state Rep. Robert Walker. They were "fearing to go to school." Crime and punishment, as always, were high on the agenda. Wisconsin took steps to

guard against wrongful convictions by requiring law enforcement agencies to record all interrogations of felony suspects, with either video or audio. Alabama and West Virginia cut taxes on the poorest, and North Carolina lowered taxes on the highest earners. New York and Oklahoma dropped the so-called marriage penalty that imposed higher taxes on married couples than on single people. South Dakota and Texas raised taxes on cigarettes. Georgia increased from 13 to

29 the number of screening tests performed on newborns to detect life-threatening metabolic and genetic disorders. Massachusetts' new health care law hits a new milestone, allowing those earning up to 300 percent of the federal poverty level to buy into subsidized plans. (Those at or below the poverty level are already being signed up for virtually free health care). In Indiana, a new license plate featuring the American flag and the words "In God We Trust" will be available at no extra charge.

Novel legislation

Many states have set Jan. 1 as the start date for new laws passed the previous year. The ordinances offer clues to the priorities, concerns and quirks of state lawmakers and the citizens who elect them.

Pay day Ariz., Calif., Del., Mass., N.Y., N.C., and Pa. will raise their minimum wage as high as \$7.50 and hour	Copycats Musical groups in Illinois who misrepresent themselves as original artists will face fines up to \$50,000	Bullying School systems will install programs to prevent bullying in Alaska, and harassment and intimidation in South Carolina	Patriotic tags License plates in Indiana will be available with the American flag and words "In God We Trust" at no extra charge
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TV

Continued from page A1
and her husband go out to a movie four or five times a year. While he likes science fiction, she prefers romances like "Walk the Line," the Johnny Cash biopic. "He's off in his own little world," Cive says with a laugh, tracing the divide to the time she took him to see the 1995 tender "The Bridges of Madison County" with Clint Eastwood and Meryl Streep. "That," she says, "was the breaking point!" The poll found that 71 percent of American adults saw at least one movie in a theater this year, and the average was about five movies. Young adults went more often than older adults, and those in the West saw more movies on average — seven — than in other regions. As for TV, most Americans felt there was nothing special about the shows out this year —

yet 58 percent said they got hooked on one. For women, the top show was "Grey's Anatomy," which often tops the weekly Nielsen ratings. For men, it was "Houses," with the curmudgeonly Hugh Laurie on Fox. High on the overall list were "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" and "CSI: Miami." That doesn't surprise Joe Vesera of San Francisco, a huge CSI fan — "I've seen 'em all," he says. His wife, Monica, prefers comedies. He likes horror she doesn't. "I tried getting her to watch 'Saw,'" he says. "She wouldn't." Instead, she watches ABC's "Ugly Betty," a hit of the new season. Vesera clearly doesn't love the show. "It's OK," he says, "but to me, it seems senseless. In a way." Luckily, he has a different work schedule from his wife, so their tastes can coexist easily. That's not an issue for

Deborah Martin, 23, of Lovington, Va., and her partner, Joshua. "We like the same stuff," she says. After work, the two will often turn on "Ilerones," NBC's "New Days, or "Day Break," the Dave Diggs drama ABC has now pulled from its schedule. "We enjoy sitting down, eating together and watching," she says. Most respondents interviewed said the differing tastes don't disturb the flow of the household — it's just a matter of trading off. For Cave, the South Carolina real estate agent, it's also a matter of being generous. "I pay more attention to his movies than he does to mine," she says. The telephone poll of 1,000 adults was conducted Dec. 12-14 by Ipsos, an international polling firm. The margin of sampling error was plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Trooper

Continued from page A1

include the funds at Wells Fargo, but he was unsure because help is coming in from throughout Idaho and out of state as well.

"There's just so many different places, from individual checks people are writing to various churches," Olmsman said.

While medical costs are covered by the state because the incident occurred in the line of duty, other expenses are not. Rice said one example will be a special handcar-accessible vehicle that could cost between \$50,000 and \$60,000.

"Obviously, Chris is in this for the long haul and it will not go away overnight, nor will the expenses go away overnight," Olmsman said.

The incident came as a new home was being built in Kimberly for the Glens. Now, volunteers have promised to assist with the construction, which has been amended to

include special accommodations, like the widening of doorways for a possible wheelchair. The home, which currently is being framed, is expected to be finished in March.

"If enough people pitch in, it'll be a good thing," said Sean Forney, a subcontractor. "It takes a community."

The contractor leading the construction, Mike Caraway has said he will donate some materials. Rice said.

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JUMP COMPANY is having auditions

for its winter show, "HOW TO EAT LIKE A CHILD And Other Lessons in Not Being a Grown-up."

The auditions will be held on January 5th from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, and on January 6th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the First Presbyterian Church in Twin Falls.

Come prepared with a song to sing and a short recitation. If you would like to be a part of this fun and exciting musical production, call 423-6109, between the hours of 7:00 pm and 9:00 pm on January 2nd or January 3rd, to set up an audition time.

Please check our website: www.jumpcompany.org for updates and new information.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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Where: **450 Falls Avenue, Suite 202, in Twin Falls (In the Eagle Point building across from CSI)**

For more information, please call 933-0040.

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Wendell reverses annexation

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

WENDELL — More than a year ago the city of Wendell passed an ordinance annexing roughly 300 acres along the east and south boundaries of town.

During Wednesday's special meeting, the council unanimously voted to allow some property to be de-annexed back into Gooding County.

"About 5 percent of property owners decided to opt out of the annexation," said Wendell City Clerk Carol Bonnett. "All of the property owners on the south side of the freeway opted out but some might have stayed in had there been a plan to get them onto city services."

Resident Mike Matix had about 10 acres affected by the annexation but decided to opt out.

"I have no issue with the city trying to grow," he said, "but they need to do so in a controlled manner. If they wanted to annex us in, there should have been some guarantee by the city for services but there wasn't any plan on how and when that would happen."

At the time of the annexation, some property owners claimed they were never properly informed of the plan and thus were unable to state their concerns prior to the ordinance's December passage.

"I had I gone through property in the first place, we probably wouldn't have had to de-annex anything," said Mayor Rex Strickland. "But I don't think it was done properly."

Former Mayor Paul Isaacson still thinks that the city was merely looking to the future and trying to prepare for it when it first passed in December 2005.

The process was so that we could work with a bigger area that is going to need infrastructure. The only way to put it in is if they are already within city limits," Isaacson said. "Our thinking was that if the property was already annexed, we would be in better standing to get grants to help pay for the implementation of services."

At the time, no plan or timeline was given to annexed property owners of when they could expect to be hooked up to city services.

Even though Wendell would like to see the property annexed back into city limits, it won't happen anytime soon.

"It won't be in the near future and I can't say when the issue will be resolved," Strickland said. "I guess it depends on the individuals affected to decide."

Wendell council special meeting

The Wendell City Council will hold a special meeting to discuss the renaming of streets at 6 p.m., Thursday in the council chambers at City Hall. Following will be the council's regular meeting at 7 p.m. Wendell City Hall is located at 375 1st Avenue East, Wendell. For more information call 536-5161.

Snowpack Levels

Watershed	% of Avg	% of 20-year average
Salmon	101%	38%
Bog Wood	99%	38%
Little Wood	86%	32%
Bog Lost	83%	31%
Little Lost	85%	34%
Henry's Fork/Factor	87%	34%
Upper Snake Basin	84%	34%
Oakley	119%	43%
Salmon Falls	99%	36%

* A comparison of basin snowpack, on this day, with a 20-year average.
** An indicator of basin snowpack. The higher the number, the more snow which peaks in spring.

Hoping for a new frontier



Four-year-old Aiden Linch works with his physical therapist, Jeremiah Yates, Friday afternoon at Primary Therapy Sources in Twin Falls.

Essayists make play for special-needs recreation

By Nate Poppino
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — Four years ago, Anne Linch discovered a part of Twin Falls she never knew existed.

"That was the date her son, Aiden, was born with cerebral palsy. Taking care of him opened her mind to what it's like growing up as a child with special needs."

"Before I had my son, I guess I considered myself handicapped-phobic," Linch said. "Now that I live in that life, I don't see that I was ignorant as much as it was just never around."

Now, Linch wants to share her revelation with all of Twin Falls. She is the driving force behind an effort to win a \$300,000 grant for a special-needs playground in Frontier Field, something she says would help both disabled and "typical" children to understand each other as they play together.



On the Net

To take a virtual tour of a Boundless playground, visit <http://www.boundlessplaygrounds.org>.

"We expect our children as they grow up to understand disabilities," Linch said. "If disabled kids can't go play in the same area... then they're never together to become normal together."

"The grant is the prize in an essay contest run by the National Center for Boundless Playgrounds and Playschool, a division of Hasbro. The center builds playgrounds that incorporate rubberized mats, wheelchair ramps and other accessibility measures. The grant total is in sharp contrast with the typical Twin Falls budget for a playground: \$25,000."

Linch's main problem was finding 7,300 square feet for the playground. That's when she went to Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Director

Dennis Bowyer. "We thought Frontier was a good location," Bowyer said. "We have the room and it's centrally located."

With space secured, Linch began heavily promoting the essay contest. She said she knows of four essays that were entered by the Dec. 7 deadline and heard people say they may have submitted one or two more.

Now, Linch and Bowyer are just waiting to hear if they won. Finalists will be contacted on Jan. 17, Linch said, and the grand prize winner will be selected on April 15.

The idea of a playground is gaining support across town. Jan Yngst, a pediatric physical therapist at Primary Therapy Source who focuses on children with disabilities,

said such a playground would provide a safe place for children to explore and might even help the therapeutic process — though she wouldn't make it part of her program.

Ron Heath, an associate pastor at Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, welcomed the idea as well. Heath's 20-year-old son Willy has atrophy of the brain — that organ was starved of oxygen at birth — and has profound mental disabilities. But he still wants to play, Heath said.

"It gives kids a freedom they don't enjoy," Heath said. "As a parent, as an aide or just as a person who loves kids, it's a tremendous place to just have your heart be totally impacted."

Even if the grant doesn't go through, Linch said she'll keep pushing for a playground to be built — even if the city only buys one piece of equipment a year.

1,500 acres reserved for skiing this season

Times-News

FAIRFIELD — Guided backcountry skiing will resume at Soldier Mountain Ski Area north of Fairfield and as a result, about 1,500 acres west of the ski area will be closed to snowmobiles beginning Tuesday.

Why? Soldier Mountain Enterprises has issued a temporary special-use permit for the 2006-07 ski season to allow for outfit and guide skiers in the backcountry adjacent to Soldier Mountain Ski Area.

This area has been closed for the past several winters for the guided, snow-cat skiing operations offered by Soldier Mountain Enterprises.

This closure will remain in effect until the end of April, or earlier if snow-cat skiing operations cease. A 100-foot wide corridor is marked and signed through the eastern end of the closure area to provide access through the closure area to the South Fork of Soldier Creek, a popular snowmobiling area.

Copies of the closure order, with maps, are displayed at the Fairfield Ranger District office on Highway 20 in Fairfield and at the Sawtooth Forest Headquarters in Twin Falls.



About 1,500 acres west of Soldier Mountain Ski Area will be closed to snowmobiles beginning Tuesday.

Murder mystery: No 'smoking gun' in Elko woman's court hearing

By Marianne Kobak
For the Times-News

ELKO — Outgoing Elko Justice of the Peace Molly Leddy will decide whether an Elko woman — who had a \$300,000 life insurance policy on her former ranch hand and is accused of killing him in 2003 — will face trial for murder.

Linda Marie Fields, 46, was arrested Nov. 27, Elko County, Nev., and Salt Lake County, Utah, sheriff's deputies believe Fields killed Jeromir "Jerry" Palensky, 61, about five miles east of Elko and then dumped the body in the Jordan River in

Salt Lake County. Salt Lake County sheriff's detective Brent Adamson testified Wednesday in Fields' preliminary hearing that the body was found Jan. 14, 2004, floating in the river. Palensky had been struck several times on the back of the head, Adamson said. Adamson said Palensky was floating nose-down in the river and his body was mostly submerged. A wallet was found in the man's pocket and Palensky's Nevada driver's license and Elko County sheriff's ex-felon card were inside.

During the autopsy, the body's fingerprints were unable to be taken so the hands were severed and sent to the state crime lab, Adamson said. Palensky was wearing a watch, and it was stopped at 4:30, with the date on the watch struck between 19 and 20, Adamson said.

He said Palensky's last residence was on the Adobe Hills Ranch, where he worked for Linda and Vern Fields. Elko District Attorney Gary Woodbury asked Adamson what Linda Fields told him about Palensky.

"She spoke about Mr. Palensky being an immigrant from the Czech Republic and had been in prison,"

Adamson said. Fields also told the detective Palensky was not in his trailer when her husband checked on Dec. 20, 2003, and she and her husband hadn't seen Palensky since. Adamson testified when he visited Fields in Elko she gave him documents explaining she had power of attorney for Palensky. Adamson said Fields told him the power of attorney was set up before Palensky went to prison so she could have control of his accounts and take care of his finances.

The life insurance policy was brought to Adamson's attention by Palensky's credit union.

Palensky had been living in Elko County for eight years. Before living in Elko, Palensky lived in central Utah and was incarcerated in Carson City for two years. Palensky immigrated to the United States in 1969 from Czechoslovakia. Fields is battling the CUNA Mutual Insurance Society in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City over who gets the benefits to the life insurance taken out on Palensky, according to The Salt Lake Tribune.

Palensky's siblings in the Czech Republic also have come forward to claim the insurance money.

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Paul farmer thwarts bogus tractor buy

By Renee Weils
For the Times-News

"PAUL — Wayne Maughan thought moving a used tractor via the Internet sounded like a good idea until he received a bogus \$28,000 check for it a couple of weeks ago.

Maughan said he listed the tractor with <http://www.tractorhouse.com> after having it reconditioned at a local tractor dealership. Within days, he received an e-mail from a Paul Crouch confirming his desire to buy the tractor.

He told Maughan a cashier's check would be forthcoming, with instructions for shipping and handling of the tractor. But when the check came, there was some confusion.

"He sent me \$26,000 and told me to keep \$20,000 and forward \$8,000 back for the shipping," Maughan said. "It didn't add up so I e-mailed

him, about the error. I shortly received another e-mail telling me to send the incorrect check back and another would be cut for the right amount."

The next check Maughan received was for \$28,000, but he was still troubled by being asked to send the shipping money back. So he went to his local bank to have the check verified. The check was bogus.

"If I had put that in my account and written an \$8,000 check back to them, it'd have been out the money," Maughan said. "A couple other things kind of sent up red flags while I was writing back and forth. He had said at one time that he was leaving on vacation soon and wanted to expedite the sales transaction as soon as possible. Red flag."

Maughan said that while he did not intend to ever send any money without thoroughly checking out the

credentials, he wrote the buyer in a friendly manner saying he'd like to have him call so he could tell him more about the tractor. No call came.

"When I went to the bank, officials there told me they often see this kind of fraud," Maughan said. "Some people get downright upset that the bank will not honor the checks and give them 'their' money, even when the clerks explain that the checks are fraudulent."

Maughan said another thing that troubled him was that when he called the people at <http://www.tractorhouse.com> to tell them what had happened, they told him they had seen that kind of thing before, thanked him for his call, but didn't seem overly concerned.

"I just hope people are learning to be very cautious when they are doing any kind of money transaction," Maughan said.



Paul area farmer Wayne Maughan reads over the bogus check he received recently for the Alfa Chalmers tractor he thought he sold to a party in England over the Internet.

PACKING BABY PACKS



Ber Ramsey and students in Mike Brinkerhoff's leadership class at Burley Junior High School put together baby packs for the Mici-Cassia Reading Foundation. The packs contain literature on the importance of reading to children, a story book and a cup.

Idaho Star Wars fan to march in Tournament of Roses Parade

By Erik Nielsen
Idaho Falls Post Register

IDAHO FALLS — A battle call by George Lucas is not something taken lightly by lifelong "Star Wars" fans.

So when 35-year-old Bernard Finnigan of Idaho Falls got his, he jumped at the chance to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade next Monday as one of two X-wing pilots. He and 222 other costumed fans will march the 5 1/2-mile parade route flanked by two floats depicting the worlds of Naboo and Endor, which are central to the "Star Wars" story.

The display is part of Lucasfilm's plans to ring in 2007, which marks the 30th anniversary of when the first "Star Wars" film was released.

Finnigan is excited but also feeling some pressure. While the 200 stormtroopers will be marching in unison, he will be one of the few characters interacting with the crowd. "You have to know how to work a crowd," he said. Earlier this year, Lucasfilm put the word out through the ranks of the 501st Legion, a worldwide group of Imperial costuming enthusiasts, that it was looking for marchers. Applicants sent in video footage of themselves marching in stormtrooper uniforms as part of their tryouts. Out of 700 entries, 200 stormtroopers were selected.

Lucasfilm spokesman John Singh also said they put out the call for people to represent characters such as Luke Skywalker and Princess Leia, as well as an X-wing pilot.



Star Wars enthusiast Bernard Finnigan poses for a photo of his Idaho Falls home Dec. 19. Finnigan, dressed as an X-wing pilot, and more than 200 other costumed "Star Wars" fans, are to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade

Singh said they were selected based on resemblance to the characters, quality of costumes and experience in parades. Those participating represent 36 states and 22 countries.

"It is definitely a great opportunity to be selected as one of the characters," Singh said.

Finnigan is a member and state captain of a worldwide group called the Rebel Legion that specializes in making "good guy" costumes from the films and attending various

events. He put together his first X-wing costume four years ago because there were already plenty of Jedi.

"I wanted to push myself," he said.

That, Finnigan believes, along with his experience with parades, probably helped him land the gig with Lucasfilm, which is paying his way to Pasadena, Calif., where the Tournament of Roses is held.

He has appeared in costume in the Idaho Falls Fourth of July parade for several years

as well as parades in Preston, Shelley and Ogden, Utah.

"I've done parades in 90 degree weather in Idaho Falls and 0 degree weather in Ogden," he said. "I've done it all."

Finnigan leaves for California on Wednesday. He will take part in a dress rehearsal to get ready for the big New Year's Day event.

Finnigan, who is surprised by his good fortune, looks forward to meeting fellow fans.

"I'm just excited to meet everyone," he said.

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@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

J. Wayne Hoopes

KIMBERLY — J. Wayne Hoopes passed peacefully in his sleep on Dec. 28, 2006, in Kimberly, Idaho.



Wayne was born Nov. 12, 1918, in Fairview, Wyo., to Julian Hoopes and Sarah Lortilla Alfred. On Aug. 1, 1941, Wayne married his lifelong sweetheart, Bonnie Calton. Together they had seven children.

Wayne's life highlights include being part of the supervisor team building the B-17 Flying Fortress that helped win World War II; he operated a family poultry farm raising more than a million laying hens; he built many quality homes and rebuilt automobiles and, in later life, he enjoyed working as a maintenance engineer at Cactus Petes Casino in Jackpot, Nev. Wayne was a wonderful coach for his children and provided the opportunity to work and save for higher education while never

missing a daddy-daughter date and never passing up a stranded vehicle without offering assistance.

Wayne is survived by his sweetheart, Bonnie; their seven children, Jerry and D-Ann Hoopes, Cheryl and Jay Powell, Judy and Floyd Charles, Michael and Sharon Hoopes, Carol Bentley, Carla Hoopes and Blaine Hoopes; 56 grandchildren and great-grandchildren; his sisters, Eda Lee and Wilma Westover; and his brother, Vaughn Hoopes (wife Janalee).

A celebration of Wayne's life will be Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007, at 10 a.m. in the Sitting Room of Bridgeview Estates, 1828 Bridgeview Blvd. in Twin Falls, Idaho, with Bishop Michael Fowers of the Kimberly LDS 2nd Ward conducting.

A viewing will follow at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, and interment will be at Sunset Memorial Park, 2295 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

The family would like to extend their appreciation to the staff of Mountain View Care Center and Bridgeview Estates for their loving care.

DEATH NOTICES

Janet Child

BURLEY — Ida Janet Rock Child, 84, of Burley, died Thursday, Dec. 28, 2006, at her home.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2007, at the Pella LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Church, 160 W. 400 S. in Burley, with Bishop Bret L. Robins officiating. Burial will be in the Pleasant View Cemetery.

Friends may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 2, 2007, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and from 10 until 10:40 a.m. Wednesday at the church. A complete obituary will

appear in Sunday's newspaper.

Jesse Coates

HAZELTON — Jesse Coates, 19, of Hazelton, died in December 2006.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Lewis Myers

FILER — Lewis Myers, 83, of Filer, died Thursday, Dec. 28, 2006, at his home in Filer.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

SERVICES

Dale Howard Petersen of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Rupert LDS Stake Center, 324 E. 18th St.; burial at 2:30 p.m. today at the Hailey Cemetery. Friends may call from 10 to 10:40 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Clifford Byron Hancock of Jerome, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the First Christian Church, 229 E. Ave. B in Jerome (Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome).

Jesus "Jessie" Aurello Martinez of Burley, funeral at 4:30 p.m. today at the Hansen

Mortuary Burley Chapel, 321 E. Main St.; friends may call one hour before the funeral at the mortuary.

Charles Edward Henley Jr., of Twin Falls and formerly of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Hovee-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at the mortuary. Burial will be in Tanglewood, N.C.

Dale "Doc" Stukenholtz of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Thursday at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

AROUND THE STATE

MOSCOW
Anti-domestic violence group rejects donation

A northern Idaho group that fights domestic violence is rejecting a donation of less than \$100 raised by a local radio station through sales of a calendar depicting women in lingerie.

"It's kind of a pinup calendar," said Grant Stanciliff, a prevention educator with Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, which works against domestic abuse. "We oppose all forms of sexism and lingerie."

Local radio station KRAO had offered the group proceeds from the sale of five calendars autographed by hosts of the nationally syndicated "Lex and Terry Morning Radio Network."

Stanciliff, who hasn't seen the calendar, says many of the show's segments, such as "Drunk Bitch Friday" and "Happy Birthday Bitch" are out of step with his group's mission.

KRAO program director Johnny Mann says he was disappointed that the group declined the money, and that the calendar photos were "tasteful."

The calendars were auctioned on the online auction site eBay, raising nearly \$100.

Idaho profs plan to expand bioethics class

Three University of Idaho professors, concerned about what they say is lagging knowledge about rapid advances in such things as genetic engineering, plan to expand bioethics classes so that students can obtain enough credits to get a minor degree in the study.

"The issues we're facing are increasingly complex," biology professor Larry Forney told the Moscow-Pullman Daily News. "As an electorate or society, we need to be better equipped to make informed choices."

Forney and fellow instructors James Foster and Jason Johnston-Yellin are expanding offerings so that the university will be able to create a bioethics minor as early as the 2007 fall semester.

For five years, the university has been offering freshman courses in bioethics dealing with such topics as stem cell research, medical privacy and euthanasia.

"Most people don't have any idea what genetic testing means because they don't know what a gene is," Forney said. "It bothers me as a scientist to hear people talking about things that you're pretty sure you have no idea about."

Of the eight required courses for the minor, seven are already offered by the biology

and philosophy departments. A new class will be called Professional Ethics or Philosophy 361. The class will deal with engineering ethics or natural resource and environmental ethics.

BOISE

State to buy isotope production equipment

Idaho will spend \$2 million to bring isotope production equipment to the Idaho National Laboratory, Gov. Jim Risch announced Friday.

Risch hopes the equipment, bought with a long-term loan from the lab's economic development fund, will help draw medical and research businesses to Idaho, said his spokesman, Brad Hoaglan.

Isolyt Medical, a cancer-treatment manufacturer based in Richland, Wash., has expressed interest in relocating to Idaho and could be encouraged to make the move with local access to cesium-131 isotopes, Hoaglan said. The company has a contract to produce radioactive isotopes at a reactor in Russia.

Medical isotopes often have a short half-life — sometimes just weeks or even days — and must be used by a patient quickly, said Kathleen Trever, state coordinator for oversight of the lab.

"It's a very expensive and

intensive process, and there's only certain locations that can do this kind of thing," Hoaglan said. "Overall, the governor and others have felt that this is a very good investment, whether it's isolyt or any other company that wants to use it."

BOISE

MOUNTAIN HOME
New factory expected to open in January

A new factory expected to employ hundreds of workers and provide a major boost to Mountain Home's economy is scheduled to open in January.

The Mammoth Cheese packaging plant expects to receive its first shipment of cheese in the second week of January, and will begin packaging the following week.

The company will employ less than 100 people initially, but expects to increase the number to around 600 over the next three years.

The city's economic development director, Ron Swearingen, said Mountain Home has become an increasingly popular destination for business in the past two years.

A new strip mall is nearing completion and the city will be home to the state's largest auto dealership when Mountain Home Auto Ranch finishes its expansion this summer.

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SADDAM HUSSEIN 1937-2006

A ruthless dictator who lost touch with his people

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press writer

Within days of taking power, Saddam Hussein summoned about 400 top officials and announced he had uncovered a plot against the ruling party. The conspirators, he said, were in that very room.

As the 42-year-old Saddam coolly puffed on a cigar, names of the supposed plotters were read out. As each name was called, secret police led them away. Twenty-two people were executed. To make sure Iraqis got the word, Saddam videotaped the entire proceeding and distributed copies across the country.

The plot claim was a lie. But in a few terrifying minutes on July 22, 1979, Saddam eliminated his potential rivals, consolidating the power he wielded until the Americans and their allies drove him from office a generation later.

Saddam, who was hanged Saturday at age 69, ruled Iraq with singular ruthlessness. No one was safe. His two sons-in-law were killed on Saddam's orders after they defected to Jordan but returned in 1996 after receiving guarantees of safety.

Such brutality kept him in power through war with Iran, defeat in Kuwait, rebellions by northern Kurds and southern Shiite Muslims, international sanctions, plots and conspiracies.

In the end, however, brutality was his undoing. Trusting few except kin, Saddam surrounded himself with sycophants, selected for loyalty rather than intellect and ability.

And when he was forced out in April 2003, he left a country

impoverished — despite vast oil wealth — and riving with long-suppressed ethnic and sectarian hatred.

He ended up dragged from a hole by American soldiers in December 2001, bearded, disheveled and with his arms in the air.

Image and illusion were important tools for Saddam.

He sought to build an image as an all-wise, all-powerful champion of the Arab nation. His model was the great 12th-century warrior Saladin. He promoted the illusion of a powerful Iraq — with the world's fourth largest army and weapons of terrible destruction.

Yet it was all hollow. His army crumbled when confronted by the Americans and their allies in Kuwait in 1991.

And in 2003, his capital fell to a single U.S. brigade task force.

Saddam's weapons of mass destruction proved a bluff to keep the Iraqis, the Syrians, the Israelis and the Americans — at bay.

He squandered vast sums on opulent palaces — a universe from the harsh poverty into which he was born on April 28, 1937, in the village of Oujja near Tikrit. His father died or disappeared before he was born. His stepfather treated Saddam harshly.

The young Saddam ran away as a boy and lived with his maternal uncle, Khayrallah Talhah, a stridently anti-British, anti-Semitic man whose daughter, Sajida, would become Saddam's wife.

Under the influence, Saddam joined the Baath Party, a radical, secular Arab nationalist organization, at age 20. A year later, he fled to Egypt after



Iraqi President Saddam Hussein waves to the people of Saddam City in Baghdad during his visit in this file photo from April 21, 1998.

taking part in an attempt to assassinate the country's ruler, Gen. Abdul-Karim Qassim, and was sentenced to death in absentia.

Saddam returned four years later after Qassim was overthrown by the Baath. But the Baath leadership was itself ousted within eight months and Saddam was imprisoned. He escaped in 1967 and took charge of the underground Baath party's secret internal security organization.

He swore he would never tolerate the internal dissent that he blamed for the party losing power.

In July 1968, Baath returned to power under the leadership of Gen. Ahmed Hassan al-Bakr, his cousin, as his deputy. Saddam

systematically purged key party figures, deported thousands of Shiites of Iranian origin, supervised the state takeover of Iraq's oil industry, land reform and modernization.

Al-Bakr decided in 1979 to seek unity with neighboring Syria, whose president would become al-Bakr's deputy, and Saddam would be marginalized. Saddam forced his cousin to resign — and then purged his rivals. Hundreds in the party and army were executed.

Saddam then turned his attention to the country's Shiite majority, whose clerical leaders had long opposed his secular policies. Saddam's fears of a Shiite challenge rose after Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini seized power in Shiite-dominated Iran in 1979.

On Sept. 22, 1980, Iraqi troops crossed the Iranian border, launching a war that would last eight years, cost hundreds of thousands of lives on both sides, and devastate Saddam's plans to transform Iraq into a developed, prosperous country.

After the Iraqis counterattacked, Saddam turned to the United States, France and Britain for weapons, which those countries gladly sold him to prevent an outright Iranian victory. They turned a blind eye when Saddam ruthlessly struck against Iraqi Kurds, who lived in the border area and were dealing secretly with the Iraqis.

An estimated 5,000 Kurds died in a chemical weapons attack on the town of Halabja in March 1988. The United States suggested at the time that the

Iraqis might have been responsible.

Only two years after making peace with Iraq, Saddam invaded Kuwait, whose rulers had refused to forgive Iraq's war debt and opposed increases in oil prices that Iraq desperately needed to recover from the conflict with Iran.

The United Nations imposed economic sanctions on Iraq and a U.S.-led coalition attacked. On Iraq radio on Jan. 17, 1991, Saddam predicted "the mother of all battles."

But the Iraqis were driven out of Kuwait. The 1991 war triggered uprisings among Iraq's Shiites, brutally crushed by Saddam, and the Kurds, who carved out a self-ruled area under U.S. and British air cover.

In April 1990, Saddam hinted that he had secret super-weapons and declared: "By God, we will make the fire eat up half of Israel." During the Gulf War he fired Scud missiles into Israel, and during the Palestinian uprising a decade later he paid cash grants to families of suicide bombers.

The U.N. sanctions remained in effect until his regime collapsed in 2003, devastating Iraq's economy and impoverishing a people who had been among the most prosperous in the Middle East.

The Sept. 11 terror attack on the U.S. focused attention on Saddam as a sponsor of terrorism. His refusal to meet U.N. demands for full disclosure of his illegal weapons program provided a justification for war.

An American-led force invaded on March 20, 2003. Within three weeks, Iraq's army had collapsed.

Saddam was captured the following December.

Soldiers and military families offer mixed verdict on meaning of execution

By Adam Carlin
Associated Press writer

It's been three Decembers since Saddam Hussein's capture gave soldiers and their families brief hope that a grim and grating war might soon end.

With the execution of the former Iraqi dictator apparently imminent, those hopes have been tempered. If peace is not at hand, some say, then perhaps Saddam's demise will at least provide some peace of mind.

"I want this evil man off the face of this earth," said Nancy Hollinsaid, of Malden, Ill., whose son, Army Staff Sgt. Lincoln Hollinsaid, was killed in a grenade attack early in the war. "I want peace to come soon."

But Hollinsaid, who has followed Saddam's trial, has a more personal wish — that the execution will "do some good for my heart."

In the battle for Iraq, perhaps no victory was as satisfying as the capture of the man the military called High Value Target No. 1.

When troops from the Army's 4th Infantry Division cornered the former dictator — holed up beneath a farmer's courtyard outside Tikrit on Dec. 13, 2003 — it seemed clear evidence of significant progress.

Some soldiers and their families say that his execution still holds out hope that the U.S. can win the war. But in interviews late Friday, they offered mixed assessments of what it will mean.

Capt. Hiram Lewis, who served with the West Virginia National Guard's 111th Engineer Group in Iraq, said it's

important that the sentence came from an Iraqi court, rather than from the U.S.

"This wasn't American justice. This was the Iraqi people," he said. "It's a culmination of a long, drawn-out battle that unfortunately has cost a lot of American lives."

Other veterans of the war also expressed satisfaction.

"It is what we are over there for — helping to support and stabilize. It is a very big step and an example of the successes," said Brian Schiller, a Marine Gunnery Sgt. from Chicago who returned in October from a second seven-month tour in Iraq.

But Schiller, who also served six months in the Persian Gulf War, said Hussein's death does not necessarily bring the war closer to an end. Instead, he hopes that Hussein's death will "bring closure and be a symbolic gesture that unites different factions."

The families of those who have served — and died — in Iraq, also took note of the plan for Saddam's execution Friday. But some said the former dictator's death would not quell their grief or change their skepticism about the war.

Putting Saddam to death "accomplishes nothing," said June Bright of Los Angeles. Her son, Evan Ashcraft, an Army sergeant, was killed in Iraq on July 4, 2003.

"I don't feel that it adds to the liberation of the Iraqi people. There have been threats that American servicemen and women will be targeted by the Baathists. I think it perpetuates the killing and it doesn't bring our son back," she said.

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ROCKY BALBOA One Day • One Showing • 11:30 • 9:00 (PM) 2:00 • 4:00 • 7:30 • 9:00 (PM)		CHARLOTTE'S WEB One Day • One Showing • 11:30 • 9:00 (PM) 2:00 • 4:00 • 7:30 • 9:00 (PM)	
ERAGON One Day • One Showing • 11:30 • 9:00 (PM) 2:00 • 4:00 • 7:30 • 9:00 (PM)		NATIVITY STORY One Day • One Showing • 11:30 • 9:00 (PM) 2:00 • 4:00 • 7:30 • 9:00 (PM)	
BURLEY THEATRE THE GUARDIAN One Day • One Showing • 11:30 • 9:00 (PM) 2:00 • 4:00 • 7:30 • 9:00 (PM)			

SADDAM HUSSEIN 1937-2006

Retribution, death and exile are dictators' occupational hazards

By Robert H. Reid
Associated Press writer

Some ended up in prison, others were butchered at the hands of their own people. A lucky few lived out their days in comfortable exile or in positions of privilege in the lands they ruled.

India's independence leader Mohandas K. Gandhi said dictators "can seem invincible, but in the end they always fall."

That hasn't always proven true. Russia's Josef Stalin, North Korea's Kim Il-Sung, China's Mao Zedong, Spain's Francisco Franco and Syria's Hafez Assad all died in power. Ever Hoxha of Albania and Augusto Pinochet of Chile arranged comfortable retirements before handing over power.

The global record of bringing tyrants to justice has been mixed.

Former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic stood before an international tribunal to answer for his regime, but he died before a verdict could be rendered.

Liberia's Charles Taylor has been indicted for war crimes in neighboring Sierra Leone and awaits trial.

Panamanian strongman Manuel Noriega is serving a 40-year term in a federal prison in Miami for racketeering, drug trafficking and money-laundering after U.S. troops entered his country and arrested him in 1989.

But history's master tyrant, Adolf Hitler, escaped retribution by committing suicide in Berlin before Soviet troops could capture him in 1945.

Pol Pot, whose Khmer Rouge regime was responsible for the deaths of up to 2 million Cambodians, died in the jungle in 1998 as remnants of his vanquished movement were preparing to hand him over to an international court.

For dictators, great power entails great risk. The price for years spent firmly in the saddle can be high.

For nearly 25 years, Nicolae Ceausescu wielded vast powers as the Communist boss of Romania, even defying the Kremlin, which tolerated him because of his firm hold over his people. Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, were executed by a firing squad on Christmas Day 1989 after revolutionaries toppled his regime.

That seemed like a merciful end compared with that of

Samuel Doe, the shy, soft-spoken master sergeant who overthrew Liberian President William Tubert in 1980.

Power and corruption soon got the best of him and after 10

years of dictatorial rule, Doe was himself overthrown — brutally, mutilated and tortured to death.

More fortunate are those who can call on a foreign

leader for a safe haven once their regime is on the rocks.

Idi Amin, who as president of Uganda ordered the massacre of thousands of his countrymen and impoverished his

people, managed to get away to Libya after neighboring Tanzania overthrew his regime in 1979. Amin later settled in Saudi Arabia, where he died in 2003.



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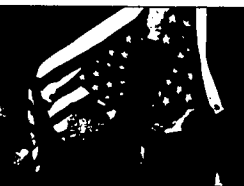
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Hussain Al-Geswan of Detroit, Mich., raises an American flag as he celebrates in Dearborn, Mich., after hearing Hussein's execution on Friday.

Iraqi-Americans gather to celebrate execution

By Kristin Longley
Associated Press writer

DEARBORN, Mich. — Dozens of Iraqi-Americans gathered late Friday at a Detroit-area mosque to celebrate reports that Saddam Hussein had been executed, cheering and crying as drivers honked horns in jubilation.

Dave Alwatan wore an Iraqi flag around his shoulders and flashed a peace sign to everyone he passed at the Karbala Islamic Educational Center in this suburb of Detroit, a city that has one of the nation's largest concentrations of people with roots in the Middle East.

"Peace," he said, grinning and laughing. "Now there will be peace for my family."

Alwatan, 32, said Saddam's forces tortured and killed relatives that were left behind when Alwatan left Iraq in 1991.

A crowd of more than 150 men gathered in anticipation of the former Iraqi dictator's execution, singing and dancing and chanting "Now there's peace. Saddam is dead" in English and Arabic.

The center's director, Imam Husham Al-Husainy, said members prayed for Saddam's death. Outside, traffic slowed as people drove in circles around the mosque, honking horns.

"This is our celebration of the death of Saddam," Al-Husainy said while standing on top of a car following reports by Iraqi state-run television that Saddam had been

hanged. "The gift of our New Year is the murder of Saddam Hussein."

Meanwhile, some local Arab-American leaders warned that Saddam's execution would increase violence in Iraq.

Osama Sibiani, publisher of The Arab American News and chairman of several Arab-American groups, said the former dictator's death sentence was one more casualty in a war that has killed thousands. He said it will not end the power struggle among Iraqi religious groups.

"The execution might bring some amusement and accomplishment to the Bush administration, but it will not help the Iraqi people," Sibiani said. "The problem we're facing in Iraq is going to multiply."

Rauf Naqshbendi, 53, an Iraqi Kurd who moved to the U.S. in 1977, said he was pleased that Hussein was being executed, but lamented the loss of family members who he said were gassed by the dictator's henchman in 1988.

"Psychologically, the execution is good news, and people will feel that justice has been served," said Naqshbendi, who lives a few miles south of San Francisco. "But the reality is that it's not going to bring back my family members who he killed."

The Detroit area's Iraqi community includes a group of Chaldean Christians, many of whom fled their homeland during Saddam's rule.

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Market Watch

Dec. 29, 2006

Dow Jones Industrial	-38.37	12,463.15
Nasdaq composite	-10.28	2,415.29
Standard & Poor's 500	-6.43	1,419.30
Russell 2000	-8.82	787.66

Stocks of local interest

Company	close	change
Con Agri	27	↑ .01
Dell Inc.	25.09	↓ .15
Idacorp	38.65	↑ .80
Lithia Motors	28.76	▲ .55
Micron	13.96	↑ .06
Supervalu	35.75	↓ .45

Commodities

Commodity	close	change
Feb. Oil	61.05	↓ .52
(Light sweet crude by barrel)		
Live cattle	90.42	▲ .75
Jan. gold	635.20	↓ 1.1

For more, see page A9

Fewer Idahoans file for bankruptcy protection after changes to law

The Associated Press

BOISE — The number of people filing for bankruptcy in Idaho in 2006 fell by 75 percent compared to each of the two previous years, court documents show.

By Dec. 12 of this year, 2,820 bankruptcies were filed in the state, according to the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Idaho. In each of the previous two years, 12,000 bankruptcies were filed.

The decrease is the result of the 2005 federal Bankruptcy Abuse and Consumer Protection Act, bankruptcy experts say. The law requires debtors to get credit counseling before filing for bankruptcy and take a course in financial management during the bankruptcy.

Also, those with above-average incomes can be required to repay some of their debts for up to five years.

In some instances, the new law doesn't protect property from being sold to repay debts, and protects less income to repay debt.

"They (Congress) definitely don't care if they wanted to keep people from filing," Tom Marawski, a statistician with the Bankruptcy Court in Boise, told the Idaho Statesman.

But the lower bankruptcy numbers in 2006 could mean higher numbers next year, said Boise bankruptcy attorney Joe Meier. He said the reasons behind bankruptcies remain, including divorce, uninsured medical costs, job loss, business failures and too much easy credit.

"None of those factors has really changed," Meier said. "So, I think the numbers in '07 will start to climb above what we've seen in '06."

Boise lawyer Jake Peterson agreed, saying that "unscrupulous collection agencies" had launched disinformation campaigns, another reason bankruptcy numbers could be down this year.

"There have been people calling thinking they couldn't file because eliminating credit card debt was no longer allowed," Peterson said.

Mary Lou Webb, president of the Idaho Collectors Association, on Friday declined to comment to The Associated Press about collection agency policies.

Credit card debt cannot be eliminated as easily as before the new law went into effect, but it can sometimes be taken care of under a five-year repayment plan. But that's not commonly known.

The ups and downs of 2006



Clerks and traders celebrate the close of business on the final trading day of the year in the S&P 500 trading pit on the floor of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange Friday in Chicago.

Wall Street closes lower in last day of a record year

By Joe Bel Bruno
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Wall Street slipped lower Friday, closing out a year that will be remembered for the stock market's great comeback — a year-end rally that pushed the Dow Jones industrials past 12,000 for the first time.

By all accounts, 2006 ended up a very good year for stocks as bullish investors bounced back from a slumping housing market and the Federal Reserve's two-year campaign of interest rate hikes. The markets approached record levels in the spring, pulled back sharply in the summer, but found a clear direction in the fall to send the major indexes to multi-year highs.

Blue chips were the standouts of 2006. The Dow Jones Industrial average, the index of 30 of the nation's biggest companies, hit record levels dozens of times since achieving its first close above 12,000 on Oct. 19. It traded as high as 12,529.87 before dipping to its close for the year.

This was the best year for the stock market since 2003, when Wall Street staged a massive recovery from levels sidestepped by a bear market. But 2006 will really be remembered for the market's soaring to heights not seen since the height of the dot-com era — this time, however, Wall Street advanced cautiously, not recklessly.

The rally was fed by investors' growing belief that the economy has withstood well the Fed's rate hikes and the impact of record high oil prices. And some analysts expect the advance to continue.

"The stock market is correct in its judgment that we are probably only in the fifth or sixth inning of the game, and that this (economic) expansion may even go into extra innings," said Stuart Schweitzer, global markets strategist for JP Morgan Asset & Wealth Management. "This was a barn-burner of a year, and I expect reasonably solid results over the course of 2007."

The major indexes posted healthy gains for the year, with the Dow Jones Industrials rising

Another strong year for mutual funds in 2006

All but two of the more than 80 fund sectors tracked by Lipper Inc. were in the black at the end of 2006. Latin American funds and Chinese equity funds were among the laggards with the smallest gains of more than 40 percent.

Fund type	2006 return	2005 return	2004 return	2003 return
Domestic Equity	13.72%	22.64%	21.86%	21.81%
International Equity	18.34%	17.40%	15.61%	15.61%
Bond	8.01%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Money Market	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Commodity	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Real Estate	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Energy	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Healthcare	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Technology	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Small-Cap Value	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%
Large-Cap Growth	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%

16.29 percent, the S&P 500 added 13.62 percent, and the Nasdaq up 9.62 percent. That's the best showing since 2003, when the Dow closed up 25.3 percent, the Nasdaq rose 50 percent, and the S&P 500 gained 26.4 percent — but those gains were the beginning of the market's recovery from the trough of three straight losing years.

It wasn't just the stock markets that made significant gains in 2006.

than for short-term Treasury bills. Junk bonds were in such demand that their yields were on parity with those of investment-grade bonds.

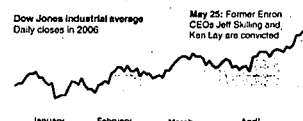
Bonds slipped further in Friday's session, with the yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury rising to 4.71 percent from 4.69 percent on Thursday. The yield stood at 4.37 percent on the first day of trading this year, but was over 5 percent just a few months ago.

Plunging oil prices also fed the stock market's 2006 rally. Crude reached all-time highs in the summer when it briefly surpassed \$70 a barrel due to the resilience of consumer demand and expectations of a bad hurricane season. But energy prices soon plummeted back to 2005 levels by the fall when traders saw that refiners in the Gulf of Mexico were untouched by hurricanes, and realized global crude inventories remained ample.

That retreat gave momentum to the stock market's rally, and enabled investors to tolerate upward bids in the price of crude and gasoline.

Dow surges past 12,000 in 2006

Scandals, convictions and a drop in house prices did not stop the Dow Jones industrials from passing the 12,000 mark for the first time in history. The second-highest man in the world, Warren Buffett, said he'd give over \$36 billion to the foundation run by the richest man in the world, Bill Gates.



Dow Jones Industrial average Daily closes in 2006



Dow Jones Industrial average Daily closes in 2006

Striking Goodyear workers approve a new contract

By M.R. Kropp
Associated Press writer

AKRON, Ohio — The union representing about 14,000 striking Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co. workers approved a new contract that includes plans to close a Texas tire factory and creates a \$1 billion health care fund for retirees, the United Steelworkers said early Friday.

USW union members from 12 plants in 10 states, including about 1,400 laid off and inactive workers, voted Thursday night on the three-year agreement reached last week.

The contract was approved

by all locals and by the overall membership by a two-to-one margin, the union said.

The world's third largest tire-maker and the union reached the deal after both sides resumed talks in Pittsburgh last week. The strike began Oct. 5.

Striking workers were expected to return to work beginning Tuesday, the union said. Workers at four Goodyear plants in Ontario, Canada, where about 400 union members are striking at four plants, planned to vote Thursday and Friday on a separate proposal.

The contract with U.S. workers would allow the tire-maker to close a plant in Tyler, Texas,

after a one-year transition period in which the 1,100 workers will have the opportunity to take advantage of retirement buyouts.

"It's a blittersweet outcome," said Kevin Johnson, a union contract coordinator.

One key issue during the nearly 3-month-old strike had been over a company proposed health care fund for retirees.

Goodyear ultimately agreed to put \$1 billion into the fund for retired union workers' medical benefits, which was higher than the company's previous \$660 million offer but less than the union's call for roughly double that amount.



Officials from the United Steelworkers Local 746L prepare for a meeting Thursday in a high school gym in Tyler, Texas.

MONEY

MUTUAL FUNDS

COMMODITIES REPORT

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of mutual fund performance data including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and various fund categories like American Funds, Fidelity, and others.

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities like oil, gold, and wheat.

CHEESE

POTATOES

LIVESTOCK

METALS/MONEY

BEANS

GRAINS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of New York Stock Exchange market summary including major indices like S&P 500, Dow Jones, and NASDAQ.

MARKET SUMMARY

NYSE

AMEX

NASDAQ

GAINERS

LOSERS

DIARY

INDEXES

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market summary including various stock indices and market data.

CHEESE

POTATOES

LIVESTOCK

METALS/MONEY

BEANS

GRAINS

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange market summary including various stock indices and market data.

Postal employees deliver dedication during holidays

CHEERS to the mail carrier who was spotted still delivering mail at 7 p.m. on Dec. 23, using a flashlight to guide the way. It's hard to beat that kind of customer service unless you were the mail carrier we saw delivering a package on Christmas morning. It's easy to criticize postal employees, but it's hard to top that kind of commitment and dedication during the holidays.

HEERS to Robin Mower. We'll tread lightly since Mower is also a victim of her husband's alleged criminal behavior. But we've not forgotten how she persuaded court officials to release her husband, Adam Mower, after he had been charged with attempting to strangle her. And we

were sorry to see how little remorse she seemed to express in a story Friday about the shooting of Idaho State Patrol Trooper Chris Glenn, whom her husband has been accused of shooting.

In our book, Glenn, who is paralyzed from the chest down, and his family are the real victims. It's too bad Adam Mower wasn't left in jail where he belonged.

HEERS to Albertsons for doing the right thing when it comes to abandoned buildings the company owns in Twin Falls.

The company this week said it will tear down the five buildings — a church, an office building, a restaurant and two boarded up homes — behind its Addison Avenue store near



Elm Street. City officials had asked the company to either invest in the property or take care of the buildings, which the city viewed as a fire and safety hazard.

An Albertsons official said the demolition, which is expected to begin in January, will require a significant investment from the company. But don't feel too sorry for the company. A vacant piece of property

with access to Blue Lakes Boulevard ought to be worth enough for Albertsons to recoup its investment.

HEERS to Idaho state government and its excessively flawed "paid leave" system.

A number of state agencies have egg on their face after news reports showed 1,291 state employees received paid administrative leave since June. The Spokesman Review reported all but 60 received less than 40 hours of paid leave. Those others have binged at the trough.

One Commerce and Labor employee got more than 12 weeks of paid leave. Three corrections workers, and one in juvenile corrections, received six weeks. Then there's former state Ag

Department Deputy Director Mike Everett, who has gotten his full \$87,000 a year salary since being replaced on June 8. Gov. Jim Risch said Everett's was "an individual case" based on medical reasons.

We like Rep. Maxine Bell's response much better, though. "I thought he was gone, period," the Jerome Republican said. "If that's the way the system is set, it's a disappointment to me."

No kidding. Paid leave was intended for short-term needs — such as time off for a funeral or to cover shifts in a department during a probe or task reorganization.

But it's not supposed to be for severance packages. Sounds to us like a major area for reform for the state.

Deep apologies for a flubbed year

In the annual spirit of compulsive resolutions, summations and resolutions, let me just say, I'm sorry.

For everything. The Crusades, destruction of the Mayan temples, the Spanish Inquisition, really sorry for that, the Bay of Pigs and, not least, typing the word "possum" when I really meant "possum."

But, you know this was coming. I was sexually abused by a Catholic priest as a teenager and I'm an alcoholic.

I am also a gay columnist. OK, I wasn't and I'm not. My? Note of the above.

Never abused by a priest, never an alcoholic (well, not much of one) and not gay. But any one — or a combination of the above — seems sufficient these days to explain behavior unbecoming a civilized human being. Not gayness precisely, but living as a heterosexual gay in which case anything one does is pardonable because one has had to live a lie, which is not one's fault.

A quick review of the year's *mea culpa* parade reveals a trend we won't want to drag into the new year. Indeed, there seems to be some new contagion in the air, a virus whose cause is feared to revert to their primal selves.

Celebrities, such as two starlets who left home without their panties, seem especially vulnerable to the germ. Britney Spears found herself sans bloomers as she exited a car that also contained Paris Hilton, who, come to think of it, may be the original carrier of the bug that has infected so many.

Spears, the divorcing mother of two, apologized on her Web site, saying, "It's been so long since I've been out on the town with friends."

It's also been two years since I've celebrated my birthday.

Well, why didn't you just say so in the first place? Of course you didn't wear underwear!

Lindsay Lohan sinfully flashed a crowd of pretens when she forgot to wear panties to the Kids' Choice Awards. She has begun wearing Alcohols.

Anonymous.

Then came Miss USA Tara Conner, who almost lost her tiara for underage drinking. After she made a tearful public apology, paganist co-owner Donald Trump decided to forgive Conner, who agreed to enter rehab and undergo



KATHLEEN PARKER

drug testing.

Katie Rees, Miss Nevada USA, didn't fare so well. She lost her crown for a photo collection that showed her baring breast and thigh, and mock-kissing other women where the sun doesn't shine — unless you're Spears or Lohan.

Other infected notables include actor-director Mel Gibson and comedian Michael Richards, aka Kramer on "Seinfeld."

Gibson, who got pulled over for DUI, expressed dissatisfaction with his circumstances by ranting to the Jewish deputy sheriff that Jews are to blame for all the wars throughout history. The star later admitted to fighting alcoholism, and entered rehab.

Richards, meanwhile, went into a racist rage when hecklers took his comedy skit. He took his apology to David Letterman's "Late Show" where he promised to get to the bottom of the rage that caused him to "talk trash" and the United States to take war to another nation. Yes, he did.

Finally, in the *coup de culpa*, U.S. Simpson wrote a book that no one published and no one read, confessing how he might have killed his ex-wife, Nicole Simpson, and her friend, Ron Goldman, if he had done it.

Public outrage led to Simpson's book being canceled before its release, and his publisher, Judith Regan of HarperCollins, was fired.

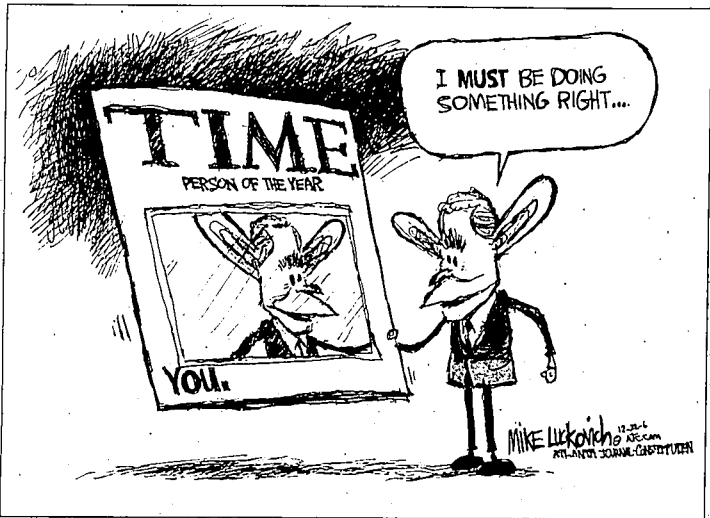
Regan did not apologize for her lousy idea, though she did announce that she was a victim of domestic abuse and that she was moving to Ireland.

Simpson, thus far, has offered no apology. For anything. Ever.

And that, as they say, is a wrap on a year that would give Celine Dion a drink, but not to drink and drive. Be grateful it's over, be careful as you celebrate, and don't forget to wear your underwear.

Ever.

Kathleen Parker's e-mail address is kparker@kparker.com



The power of worship for society

Each year, government spends billions of dollars trying to address a host of social problems. Crime is but one example of the high costs of social breakdown. The Department of Justice estimates that federal, state and local governments spent \$167 billion on police protection, judicial, legal and correctional activities in one year alone. Victims' medical expenses, lost earnings and assistance programs cost an estimated \$105 billion more.

Congress and state legislatures spend countless hours investigating social problems and debating possible solutions. Political "solutions" almost always boil down to the redistribution of money to target whatever the social ailment. This approach has met with limited success at best. Sometimes, it has exacerbated a problem.

Meanwhile, a powerful resource is quietly and far more effectively contributing to the common good in myriad ways: religious practice.

The research shows that regular attendance at religious services — across all denominations — is linked to healthy, stable family life, strong marriages, and well-behaved children. Regular religious worship also is tied to reduced incidence of domestic abuse, crime, substance abuse, addiction and various other dis-

PAT FAGAN

eases. And the benefits of religion are intergenerational. Grandparents and parents tend to pass these positive traits down to succeeding generations.

Religious practice benefits not only individuals but also communities. Religiously active men and women are often more sensitive to others, more likely to be productive members of their communities, more likely to serve and far more likely to give to those in need.

In fact, a series of studies found religious individuals were 40 percent more likely than their secular counterparts to give money to charities and more than twice as likely to volunteer. Individuals who gave to charitable organizations were, not surprisingly, much more likely to give informally to their family and friends, too.

A strong religious background also helps immigrants assimilate to their new home-

land. In research on the role of the ethnic church in the social adjustment of Vietnamese adolescents, regular religious attendance was found to increase the likelihood that youth would attend after-school classes, as well as the

likelihood they would retain their ethnic culture. This helped these immigrants get better grades, avoid substance abuse and focus on going to college.

Religious observers are also healthier people. A review of 250 epidemiological health resource studies found a reduced risk of colitis, different types of cancer and untimely death among people with higher levels of religious commitment. In short, greater longevity is consistently and significantly related to higher levels of religious practice and involvement, regardless of gender, race, education or health history.

Finally, regular religious observance significantly reduces self-destructive behavior. As an example, black youth living in impoverished urban neighborhoods who attended religious services at least weekly were half as likely to use illicit drugs as those who never attended, a study found.

Perhaps best of all, studies indicate that religion is especially helpful to the poor, compensating a way that policy never has for their socioeconomic disadvantages. All in all, religion is simply one of the most valuable resources this country has.

As with other resources, government policy should be directed to cultivating the envi-

ronment in which individuals can freely benefit from religious practice, avoiding heavy-handed regulations that would hinder the fruits of the spirit and curb the good works that are so beneficial to society. Neither man nor government can coerce faith. But government can and must protect the practice of religion, public and private.

The Founding Fathers understood the societal value of religion. "Religion and morality are indispensable supports," George Washington announced in his farewell address to the nation. But they also understood religion's values could never be forced on people. Our Bill of Rights guarantees freedom of religion, and it protects us from an established, government-supported church, one that would undoubtedly drain many of the benefits from religious practice.

Government must protect and uphold freedom of worship, then stand aside and let religion do what it does best — help and comfort the needy. This approach can produce tremendous benefits, not only in the lives of believers but in our national life as well.

Pat Fagan is a research fellow in family and cultural issues at The Heritage Foundation.

LETTER

Luna a bull in the public school chas

What is Tom Luna doing? Tom Luna, recently elected state superintendent of public instruction, has just completed a mass firing of key people in Idaho's Department of Education. Among the firings are the bureau chiefs of Educational Improvement,

Certification/Professional Standards and Technology Services, along with coordinators of Health Education, Mathematics, English/Language Arts, Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment. Civil Rights, Vocational Education, Professional Standards, Safe and Drug Free Schools, and Special Education. The list goes on

and on. Tom Luna has never worked in the public school system. Now, before he actually begins his tenure, he has almost completely dismantled the Department of Education. Does he have any idea of the expense required to operate Idaho's schools? I taught for 30 years in the Twin Falls public school system, mostly as Robert Stuart

Junior High's health teacher. Though retired four years, I am still very concerned about Idaho's school system and the firing of educators of the highest quality; for example, Barbara Eisenbarth, health coordinator. Eisenbarth is a rare and gifted educator whom I worked with many years. My association with her improved my teaching in so many ways. I

had the opportunity to become part of the Comprehensive Health Education Cadre she created which presented many workshops throughout Idaho on a yearly basis. This work made health classes more meaningful and exciting for hundreds of teachers and thousands of students. Eisenbarth has been nationally recognized for the impact this

Cadre has had in health education. Future workshops have now been canceled. Patrons of education, I encourage you stay abreast of the situation at the Department of Education. Demand an explanation of the structure Luna plans for education in Idaho. **MARY (FERRELL) SCHMIDT** Twin Falls

THANK YOU LETTERS

Doctors made huge difference in recovery

I broke my left arm in three places last May. Terrible pain. Excellent surgeon, Dr. David Christensen.

I must thank Dr. Dean Mayes for the excellent physical therapy he's given me and continues to do. He is very thorough, very patient and is concerned about your pain. He has a booming business and the Magic Valley is lucky to have such a caring doctor. His staff, too, is helpful, friendly and well trained.

Dr. Mayes has helped me so much, and I really do appreciate it.

XENIA WILLIAMS
Jerome

Pets found loving homes thanks to neighbors

We recently lost our brother, Jim, and gained an obligation to the lives he left — his animals, Keeper and Tucker. We knew Keeper, the "Newfy" mix, would adapt to our home, but cats are different. We worried that moving Tucker 120 miles away to fit with our male cat might result in disaster.

This letter is our way of thanking everyone who took time to listen and help me spread word until a terrific home was found. Special thanks to my Boise friend, her Twin Falls sister and the family who loves yellow cats (grandmother, mother and son). I could tell the moment you came to gather your new pet he was in good hands.

I will fondly imagine Tucker napping in the sunshine, exploring the countryside and sleeping warm at night. May he bring you much love and many blessings.

CAROL HACKNEY
Boise

Living center resident party a success thanks to help

The Shoshone Rehabilitation and Living Center would like to give a big thanks to 4 Bros Dairy, Green Cut Sprinklers & Landscaping, Sweet's Septic Tank Service, Stockhans Mobile Butchering and Meat Cutting, Edwards Mexican Restaurant, Magic Valley Locator, Sawtooth Dental, Governors Mansion, Mountain Video, Monaca Mexican Store, John Evers for all of their donations for our residents' Christmas party.

People like you are the ones who make a difference in our residents' life.

Again, thank you for all of your help.

TIFFNI RUBALCAVA
Shoshone

Story on 'coach' was a touching tribute article

Thank you so much for writing and printing such a wonderful tribute article about my husband.

band. "Coach" LaVere Gooch. It was a very good and well-written article. Thank you very much.

ERMA LEE GOOCH
Jerome

Returned folder was an answered prayer

After shopping one afternoon, I stopped at the Dollar Store on my way home. Arriving home, I found the folder I keep my credit cards, health cards, driver's license — those things that mean so much — was missing.

Being too late to do anything that night, I prayed off and on all night. "Lord please let someone honest find it." About 9 p.m., there was a knock on my door. Betsy Banks and her family had found it and knew I would be frantic. They had checked in the store, notified the police and left a note on my door, which I hadn't found. They even came back.

I don't think many people would go to all that trouble for a stranger. There are angels around us. Those people gave me a special gift.

Thank you again.
ELAINE LAMUN
Burley

Emergency brought out the best from T.F. neighbors

We would like to add to why we are lucky to live in Twin Falls.

On Dec. 22, we woke up to a lot of snow but had an appointment at the hospital that morning. Betsy Banks and her family, on returning home on Addison going east, all our gears locked up. Terrible noise, no four-wheel, no drive, etc.

Before a "tender tender" happened, we switched to emergency lights and, in a matter of seconds, four guys from Norco came running to help us. They pushed the car off the road and towed it to the back, all the time making us feel comfortable with our predicament. They helped us call AAA. Everyone couldn't do enough! Especially Matt.

The tow truck arrived and brought us home. Since we are "seniors," their kindness was much appreciated!

How blessed we are to live in Twin Falls.

Thanks a million, guys!
Happy New Year!
NORM AND PAT CARROLL
Twin Falls

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Utah smoking ban takes effect Monday

By Brock Vergakis
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — The days of smoking and drinking in Utah's country clubs, fraternal lodges and private fine-dining restaurants are nearly over.

Beginning Monday, state law will prohibit smoking in those settings.

" taverns and bars that serve liquor will have until 2009 to become smoke-free.

The new law is intended to protect the health of employees and customers and restricts a nationwide trend restricting where smokers can light up.

The law will affect 51 businesses on Monday, according to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control. The penalty for violating the smoking ban is \$100 for the first offense and up to \$500 for each subsequent offense.

Reminders from the Utah Department of Health began arriving at clubs this week.

Some, like the Salt Lake Country Club, are already smoke-free.

"It's been at least four years

"The law is the law. The way I look at it, in America, if you see a stop sign, you stop for it. I understand the complaints, but California has this law and New York does. A lot of places are doing it."

—Lynn Hachmeister, bartender

that we have been that way. We didn't make our change because of the inevitable law changes, we just wanted a smoke-free environment for our members and our employees," said Amedee Moran, the club's general manager.

But at some watering holes, the ban will be a big change.

At the Elk's Club where Lynn Hachmeister is a bartender, a few folks have grumbled, but not Hachmeister, who is herself a smoker.

"I kind of think it's a good thing for me," said Hachmeister, who said not having smoke around could improve her health. "It might deter business, but you have pretty loyal patrons."

The fear of losing business

was the biggest objection cited by bars and some lawmakers during the 2006 legislative session.

They contended that if people couldn't smoke at a bar, they'd just stay home. Utah already bans smoking in restaurants and most public buildings.

In states such as New York, where smoking bans have been implemented, business has increased, according to numerous studies. But hospitality workers here often counter that Utah's unique situation of being a state

where the majority of the population is Mormon — a faith that prohibits smoking and drinking — means the customer base it has to draw from is smaller.

At 10.5 percent, Utah already has the lowest smoking rate in the country among adults, and cigarette sales continue to decline.

But Hachmeister said she's not concerned.

"The law is the law. The way I look at it, in America, if you see a stop sign, you stop for it. I understand the complaints, but California has this law and New York does. A lot of places are doing it," she said.

A section of the law that bans smoking at private elementary and secondary schools as well as at unlicensed day-care providers took effect earlier this year.

About 10 Utah cities have also established a ban on outdoor public smoking.

Federal wildlife agency will re-establish relationship with tribes on bison range

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal wildlife managers have reversed their decision to cut off tribal involvement in management of the National Bison Range.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service abruptly canceled an interim plan that had allowed the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes a role in managing the range, which is located on a tribal plot in northwestern Montana. The department said Friday that it will re-establish that relationship in January, under certain conditions.

The agreement was announced by Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dale Hall and Associate Deputy Interior Secretary Jim Cason. The three said they have agreed to draft a five-year range operations plan and retain an ombudsman to work at the range to resolve any problems with range management.

The Interior Department statement also said that a tribal proposal seeking full man-

agement of the 13,000-acre bison range would be "suspended at this time."

"That proposal came just months after release of a performance report that indicated some of the work for which the tribes were responsible was not done.

The joint management plan has been controversial from the start. Environmentalists worried tribal management could lead to reduced stewardship. And earlier this year, employees at the range complained of mistreatment.

The Salish-Kootenai maintain that they should manage the land to which they have historical ties, and that they are best prepared to tell visitors about the bison and American Indians.





JEROME 4

Charlotte's Web (PC) In Stereo Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 12:45-3:00 • 5:15-7:30 • 9:45

Rocky Balboa (PC) In Stereo Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 9:30 • 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 9:45

Happy Feet (PG) In Stereo Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 12:15 • 2:30 • 4:45 • 10:15 • 12:15

Night at the Museum (PG) In Digital Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 1:00 • 3:30 • 4:00 • 7:00 • 7:15 • 9:30 • 9:55

Twin 12

Apocalypse (R) Daily 6:45 • 9:30

Santa Clause: Escape Clause (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 2:15 • 7:30

James Bond 007: Casino Royale (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:00 • 3:15 • 7:45

Charlotte's Web (PC) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 7:30 • 9:45

The Nativity Story (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 7:30 • 9:45

Night in the Museum (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 1:00 • 3:30 • 4:00 • 7:00 • 7:15 • 9:30 • 9:55

Deck the Halls (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 3:00 • 9:45

Deja Vu (R) Daily 6:45 • 9:30

Eragon (PG) Digital Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 2:30 • 5:30 • 8:30

Happy Feet (PG) Digital Surround Sound Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 3:30 • 7:15 • 9:45

The Queen (PG-13) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 7:30 • 9:45

We Are Marshall (PG) Fr.-Tues 1:00 • 4:00 • 6:45 • 9:30

Malinee Discount Movies Flicks (PG) Open Season (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:15 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 7:30 • 9:15 ALL SEATS ONLY \$1.00

ODYSSEY 6

The Pursuit of Happiness (R) Fr.-Tues 1:00 • 4:00 • 5:00 • 8:30

Rocky Balboa (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 2:30 • 5:30 • 7:00 • 9:15

Black Diamond (R) Daily 7:45

Unaccompanied Minors (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15

Stranger Than Fiction (R) Daily 7:30 • 9:45

Flushed Away (PG) Fr.-Tues 12:30 • 2:45 • 5:00

Good Shepherd (R) Fr.-Tues 12:15 • 3:30 • 7:45

Black Christmas (R) Fr.-Tues 12:45 • 3:00 • 5:15 • 7:30 • 9:45

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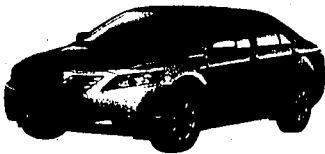
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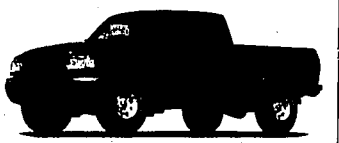
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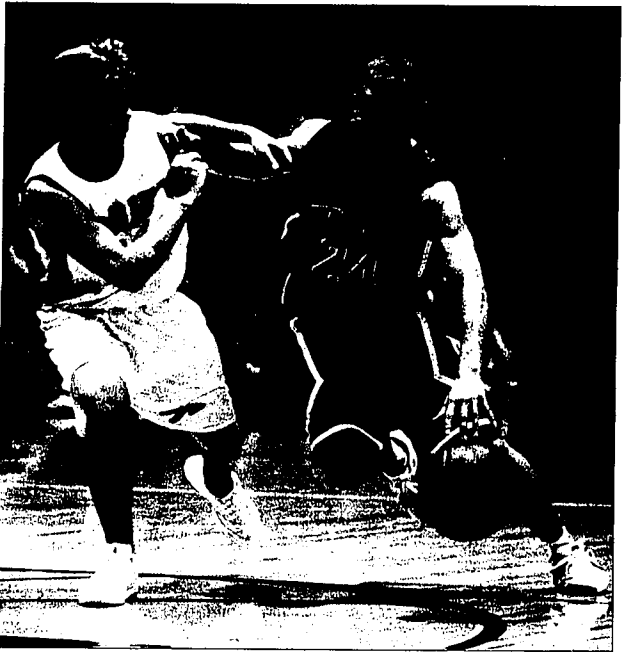
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INSIDE: Oklahoma offense will be tough for Boise State to handle, B4



INSIDE: NBA, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | College bowls, B4 | Religion, B7-9 | Comics, B10-11 | Weather, B12

Firth tops sleepy Buhl



Buhl's Patrick Osterkamp guards Firth's Matt Ivie as he advances down the court during the third quarter of Friday's game in Buhl.

Cougars hand Indians first loss of season

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

BUHL — Down 11 points to visiting Firth, the Buhl High School boys basketball team knew a special effort would be needed if it was to keep its undefeated streak alive. Friday night, the Indians didn't have it in them.

Buhl picked up the intensity in the fourth quarter, but it wasn't enough to make up for three periods of lackluster defense as Firth handed the 5-1 Indians their first loss of the season, beating them 59-43 in Buhl. The

Cougars outrebounded Buhl 40-27 and dictated the pace of the contest after opening up a 35-20 lead 4:23 into the third quarter with a 10-2 run out of the halftime break.

"We weren't real active on the defensive end tonight," Indians head coach Ryan Bowman said. "At the end of the game, we were a lot more active, but I told the kids we have to have that intensity all game. We've got to learn from this and get better."

Aside from Firth's run out of the break that equated into a 22-12 scoring advantage in the third quarter, Friday's game was a back-and-forth affair that saw a cold-shooting

Indians squad scrap for each basket in an attempt to make up for what was a porous defense early in the game. Firth's Colter Reeves got the 6-2 Cougars going with 11 first-half points en route to 13. When Reeves was sidelined with three personal fouls early in the third quarter, Matt Ivie took over, scoring eight in the period on his way to a game-high 19. Ivie also added seven rebounds and three assists, while small forward Zach Orme contributed eight points, nine rebounds and three assists.

"We've seen one film on them, so

Please see **BUHL**, Page B2

Prescott, Tigers tame Middleton at home

By Diane Phibbs
Times-News writer

JEROME — Jerome and Middleton came out in the first quarter a little rusty from the Christmas break but Jerome senior David Prescott's shouting coach was sharp as he scored a game-high 29 points including four 3-pointers and was 11-for-13 at the charity strip as the host Tigers defeated the visiting Vikings 70-56 on Friday.

"We started out slow," said Jerome coach Marty Espinoza. "But on the flip side, we came around and did what we had to. The kids played great and our teamwork is improving. It was a good effort all around. We stepped it up and are beginning to feel more confident."

The first quarter ended with Jerome shooting 4-of-14 and Middleton was 4-for-12. The Tigers fielded a 13-8 lead after the first quarter and led 35-25 at

the break. Jerome was in command after three quarters.

The Tigers out-rebounded the Vikings 41-30 and had four less turnovers, 18-14. The Vikings ended the game at 42 percent shooting and the Tigers were at 41 percent.

Prescott dishd out a pair of assists and only had one turnover in 29 minutes of play. Sophomore Logan Parker followed with 20 points and Jason Stokes added nine points and pulled down seven

boards. Justin Stokes had a game-high eight rebounds for Jerome the Tigers (5-4, 1-0 Great Basin Conference West). Jerome plays DeLo on Jan. 6.

Jerome	70	Middleton	56
Points	21	24	30
Rebounds	32	28	30
Shots Made/Attempted	12/22	11/22	11/22
Three Pointers	4/11	3/11	3/11
Free Throws	10/12	10/12	10/12
Turnovers	18	14	14
Steals	2	2	2
Fouls	12	12	12

Zabransky brings Broncos back to BCS bowl beliefs

By Dustin Lapray
Times-News correspondent

PHOENIX — Four years. Three as a starter. Third bowl game (0-2). Calm, collected, suave? Jared Zabransky? Absolutely.

The senior quarterback who everybody loved in 2002 and many wanted run out of town in 2005 had himself a fine 2006.

The real question is: What about his one day in 2007?

That's what we're here to find out. We are here to discover whether or not the ghosts of that Georgia debacle to open the 2005 campaign will return to haunt the talented QB.

The things Zabransky brings to the field are priceless. He picks up third downs, with his legs and right arm. He can make plays out of the pocket and put scares into defenses.

It's very important to get outside the pocket and create things with your feet and I am very fortunate being able to do that," Zabransky said.

Zabransky rushed for 334 yards this season, fourth on the team. He also lost 185 yards scrambling.

The dynamic of the running quarterback is nothing new to college football, but it has recently become a requirement for a truly successful offense. For Zabransky, the quarterback world is one of variation. He said he can do everything he needs to succeed at the position.

"I think I need to create lots of problems with the defense when I get outside the pocket because they have to choose whether they need to come off the receiver and try to get me or stay on them and let me run," Zabransky said. "At the same time I feel very comfortable in the pocket and I will throw 130 times from there if I have to."

Zabransky's mobility has certainly drawn the ire of the Oklahoma coaching staff.

"He gets to moving and he does get pressure and does go to moving around, he has great

Times-News correspondent
Dustin Lapray analyzes the Oklahoma offense

SEE PAGE B4

feel in the pocket." Oklahoma co-defensive coordinator Bobby Jack Wright said. "He knows how to slide with it and he is a run-to-throw passer. They got some big plays on their opponents when he does start moving the pocket or start scrambling out of there when he gets a little pressure."

The thing that keeps the BSU quarterback a constant threat is that ability not only to run, but to let loose the deep ball on the run.

On the season Zabransky went 172-for-259 passing for 2,325 yards and 20 touchdowns. He only threw seven interceptions. His 66.4 completion percentage and 161.89 rating are among the best in BSU history.

"He's kind of been in every situation," BSU wideout Legedua Nance said. "So when it comes up or there's a turnover or we're backed up on the 5-yard line, he tells everybody in the huddle 'we can do, this is what we do.' He's just calm, cracks jokes between plays."

Nance is one of Z's favorite targets. He led the team with 34 receptions and hauled-in a team-high six touchdowns.

Drisan James was second on the team with 33 receptions and two scores and Jerarj Rabb also had 33 catches.

Derek Schouman, Vinny Perretta and Jeremy Child each also caught double-digit balls for the Broncos in 2006.

"They have a big, fast receiving corps," Oklahoma defensive back Reggie Smith said. "All of them are consistent, so you can't really look at one more than the other, you gotta be on them all, you gotta stay locked on."

Please see **BRONCOS**, Page B2

Beavers' late TD, conversion edges Missouri in Sun Bowl

The Associated Press

EL PASO, Texas — Oregon State coach Mike Riley was set to take his chances in overtime at the Sun Bowl.

Then Missouri called time-out to have Joe Newton's 14-yard touchdown catch with 22.1 seconds to go, refuting believing he may have lobbed the ball. During that break, Riley decided to go for the win.

Iverson Bernard barely pushed into the end zone on the gutsy 2-point conversion run, giving the 24th-ranked Beavers a 39-38 victory over the Tigers on Friday.

"Like in a card game at the end, we were all-in," Riley said. "We put all of our chips on the table. These guys made it happen."

The Beavers (10-4) trailed by 14 points with 12:08 to go before rallying for their eighth

victory in nine games. Bernard's 7-yard reception had cut the gap to seven with 6:02 to go and Riley said the senior running back lobbed the hardest to go for two at the end.

"I was telling him, 'Let's go for it,'" Bernard said. "I definitely wanted to do it."

Tony Temple had 194 yards, four short of the Sun Bowl record, on 20 carries with two touchdowns and Chase Daniel threw two touchdown passes for Missouri (8-5). The Tigers lost four of their last five after a 6-0 start, dropping the finale despite 561 yards of total offense.

Temple missed setting a Sun Bowl record for rushing, 197 yards by Charles Alexander of LSU in 1977, after losing 4 yards on his final carry. "A lot of positive things," coach Gary Pinkel said.



Oregon State's Iverson Bernard (26) runs into the pile as teammates Kyle DeVan (75) and Roy Schuenkel (57) open a hole on a 2-point conversion that gave Oregon State a 39-38 win over Missouri in the Sun Bowl football game in El Paso, Texas, Friday.

"Obviously, the locker room is a tough place to be right now. It is no surprise to Daniel that Oregon State decided to go for broke. He was on the phone with quarterbacks coach Dave Vost talking strategy for what Missouri might do

if the Beavers scored.

"It's bowl season, what do you have to lose?" said Daniel, who averaged 20 yards per completion, going 16-for-29 for 330 yards. "I just had a feeling they were going to go for two."

Matt Moore threw four touchdown passes and ran for a fifth for Oregon State, which helped produce the second-highest-scoring game in the Sun Bowl's 73-year history. He was 5-for-7 for 55 yards on the winning drive, set up after Sammie Stroughter's 38-yard punt return to the Oregon State 46.

Kentucky 28, Clemson 20

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Andre Woodson conjured up memories of Tim Couch and made Kentucky a bowl winner for the first time in 22 years.

Woodson threw for three touchdowns and 239 yards as the Wildcats surprised Clemson 28-20 in the Music City Bowl on Friday.

The junior completed 20 of 28 passes to finish his breakout season with 31 touchdowns — more than five times his total from last year. He joins Couch, the former No. 1 NFL draft pick, as the only Wildcats to top the 30-touchdown mark in a season.

"If he keeps doing this, he's going to play at the next level well. He's playing it very well," Woodson's coach Rich Brooks said.

Behind Woodson, the game's Most Valuable Player, the Wildcats (8-5) racked up their highest point total in bowl history. They won their sixth bowl game overall and first since

Please see **BOWLS**, Page B2

SPORTS

Zito: Leaving Oakland but staying in Bay Area with Giants in his gut

San Francisco (AP) — To no man's surprise, Barry Zito had a little fun when quizzed about how he might alter his style now that he has the richest contract for a pitcher in baseball history.

"I'm just thinking of changing the curveball. Other than that, nothing major," Zito joked Friday, when his first, seven-year contract with the San Francisco Giants became official.

He's keeping his nasty curveball, along with the No. 75 he's been wearing. "I'd say this is the most important signing we've had since we first signed Barry Bonds back in late 1992," owner Peter Magowan said Friday.

Bowls

beating Wisconsin in the 1994 Hall of Fame Bowl. Kentucky made its first bowl appearance since 1999 in front of a huge contingency of Wildcats fans, many of whom made the 200-mile trip from Lexington to the Commonwealth Stadium.

"I told some of the guys down on the sideline on defense, I said, 'Look guys, look around you,' said senior defensive end Durrell White. "We didn't do nothing but make Commonwealth worth here to Nashville."

Clemson (9-5) took the loss in its 10th bowl game since 1995. The Tigers' record in their season in defeat in three years. Despite beating Wake Forest and Georgia Tech, the teams that played for the Atlantic Coast Conference title, Clemson went into a tailspin down the stretch, losing four of five.

While Kentucky's offensive fireworks weren't impressive, a defense that came into the game ranked second-to-last nationally made the difference.

South Carolina 44, Houston 36

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Steve Spurrier's offense was hum-

Broncos

Those receivers do a great job following the ball on the run. The Broncos' tight variations in their routes which allow them to adjust on the fly.

"The receivers do the best job following the ball on the run. The Broncos' tight variations in their routes which allow them to adjust on the fly. "We know exactly where to go to get open. (Z) knows where they're going to end up. They do a great job when you pressure them. And we're a pretty big pressure team; we'll be bringing pressure all night."

decision for how it sits in my gut here," Zito said. "There's really no adjustment period... I think it was primarily the honesty and my instincts were telling me I was getting some smart guys who were firing up front. There weren't a lot of games being played, no mind games. This is my first run at this."

The fact he didn't have to travel far in free agency was attractive, too — just across the Bay Bridge to the city where he lived for most of his first seven big league seasons with the Giants.

Zito said that if he'd been weighing identical offers from the Giants, New York Mets, Texas and Seattle, he still likely would have chosen San Francisco, based primarily on his comfort level with the area. The Mets, thought for some time to be the leader in the chase for Zito, wouldn't budge on a one-year offer.

Zito has some serious job security. "It's a lot of years," he said. "I'm just so thankful that there's such a commitment here — that if they want to go out on a limb and trust my work ethic, I guarantee I'll do all the things to stay healthy. That kind of commitment is not something that a lot of places do."

His deal includes an \$18 million option for 2014 with a \$7 million buyout that could increase the value of his deal to \$127 million. The option would become guaranteed if Zito pitches 200 innings in 2013, 400 combined over 2012 and 2013 or 600 combined from 2011-13. He also has a full no-trade clause.

The contract ties for the sixth largest overall, matching the \$126-million, seven-year extension agreed to this month by Toronto and center fielder Vernon Wells. The Giants were looking for someone to fill the void left when ace Jason Schmidt departed earlier this month for the rival Los Angeles Dodgers.

This was a definite want and need on the part of our

able to keep Purdue's offense, the NCAA's 10th best at 425 yards per game, in check by blanketing its speedy wide receivers, and keeping the ball away from the blockers.

Texas Tech 44, Minnesota 41, OT

TEMPE, Ariz. — After spotting Minnesota a 31-point lead, Texas Tech rallied for a stunning 44-41 overtime victory over the Sooners.

"I still believe our defense can play a lot better," Spurrier said. "We got out of position in the first half. But to hold Houston to eight points was a very good defensive effort in the second half."

Lindsey, who intercepted a pass and recovered a fumble that set up 13 points, said they knew they had to turn up the pressure or endure Spurrier's wrath.

Maryland 24, Purdue 7

ORLANDO, Fla. — Sam Hollenbach passed for 223 yards and two touchdowns and Lance Ball rushed for 98 yards as Maryland beat Purdue 24-7 in the Champs Sports Bowl on Friday night.

The Terrapins (9-4) were

"We've done a great job throwing the football this year and that comes from being able to run the offense and having a solid defense," Zabranski said. "When we're balanced like we have been, it's very tough on the defense. They're just going to try to carry that balance."

That balance was good enough to bring the Broncos to Arizona and the BCS. It was good enough for 12-0. What will be decided in New Year's Day is whether or not they are good enough to snag that trophy and claim a perfect season.

ballclub," general manager Eric Sabers said. "On a whole, everybody in the organization, including the players, are beside themselves for what this means for the organization."

Zito is determined to become a better hitter considering his at-bats will be far greater in the National League. He has one hit in 29 career at-bats and plans to take any advice he can from Bonds, who agreed to a \$16 million, one-year contract to return to the Giants for a 15th season.

The 29-year-old Bonds is 22 home runs from passing home run king Hank Aaron's all-time record of 755. Zito expects the two Barrys to exceed it.

"I play with Barry Bonds. It's something I think every guy would want to do," said Zito, flattered to be talked about in the same breath as the seven-time NL MVP. "It gave me chills actually. It's great to be mentioned in the same sentence as Barry Bonds. It's to watch Barry growing up."

Zito insisted all the money won't affect him and he will remain focused on his job: getting batters out and staying ready every fifth day. He said that "when you try to become a real superhuman cartoon character, it's not that's when things go wrong."

The 28-year-old Zito, a three-time All-Star, was a 16-game winner in 2006 and helped lead the AL West to reach their first AL championship series since 1992. Oakland GM Billy Beane knew he had little chance at re-signing Zito, who will be a rotation ace featuring Matt Cain, Noah Luongo and Matt Morris. The No. 5 spot is still to be determined.

"I think it's a great addition to our staff. Barry is an upper-echelon pitcher who is going to go out every fifth day. He's very reliable and durable and gives you a chance to win every time out. It's a ton of money, but that's what they're paying. I think it's great."

Wizards 112, Magic 111

WASHINGTON — Caron Butler made the go-ahead basket, a 16-footer from the baseline with 46 seconds remaining. Gilbert Arenas scored 14 of his 36 points in the fourth quarter as Washington took sole possession of the Southeast Division lead.

Washington has won a season-high five straight and has made up a six-game deficit to the Magic since the start of December. The Wizards have scored 106 or more points in 13 straight games, more than compensating for the fact that they're last in the league in scoring defense. They haven't been in first place this late since the 1978-79 season.

Dwight Howard, Keyon Dooling and Hedo Turkoglu scored 20 points apiece for the Magic, who have lost four straight and seven of nine.

Buhl

Continued from page B1. We knew what they try to do. Fifth head coach Scott Adams said he was confident in the strengths and stopping their weaknesses. We just wanted to work to win every quarter."

Fifth accomplished that feat, and the second quarter. The Indians were led by a 14-point night by Brad Twiss, who scored 12 before the break. Senior forward Will Cherry finished apiece for 11 points, 10 rebounds and three assists, but the rest of the Buhl offense struggled. Regular contributor Austin Laing was held to three points, all in the fourth quarter. While it was a short week of practice for the Indians, Bowman didn't point to the holiday break as a

Lions girls topple Mushers

FAIRFIELD — The Lighthouse Christian Lions girls basketball team defeated the Canas County Mushers 38-28 in nonconference play on Friday.

Neither team shot well from the field, as 32 points came from free-throw shooting. The Lions were led by Taylor Kirkdorfer with 12 points while Kandrae Boggs had eight for the Mushers.

Canas County (4-10, 0-6 Magic Valley Northwest) and The Community School in conference action on Saturday, Jan. 6. The Southside Lions

travel to Hansen on Friday, Jan. 5. Lighthouse Christian, 33-13, Canas County 28-28. Lighthouse Christian 33-13, Canas County 28-28. Lighthouse Christian 33-13, Canas County 28-28.

Boys basketball Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42.

Bobcats clip Lakers in 3OT despite Kobe's 58

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Kobe Bryant scored 58 points, but committed two key errors in the third quarter as the Charlotte Bobcats ousted the Los Angeles Lakers 133-124 on Friday night.

After fouling Derek Anderson on a 3-point attempt with 1:14 left, Bryant missed a long jumper and fouled on a charging call on the next possession to end his night. He hit 22 of 45 shots and his performance trailed only his 81-point game last January in Toronto and a 62-point effort last December in Dallas.

Emeka Okafor had 22 points and a career-high 25 rebounds. Gerald Wallace scored 28 points and Matt Carroll added a career-high 27 for the Bobcats, who played their first triple-overtime game in franchise history.

Raymond Fells added 22 points and 15 assists in 57 minutes for the Bobcats, who snapped a three-game losing streak.

Nets 91, Heat 81

MIAMI — New Jersey scored 21 consecutive points in the third quarter to beat the short-handed Heat who were without Dwyane Wade.

Wade was sidelined with a sore wrist he injured in a loss Wednesday. The Heat were without Shaquille O'Neal, who has missed the past 23 games with a knee injury, and reserve forward James Posey, who served a one-game suspension for a flagrant foul.

Washington has won a season-high five straight and has made up a six-game deficit to the Magic since the start of December. The Wizards have scored 106 or more points in 13 straight games, more than compensating for the fact that they're last in the league in scoring defense. They haven't been in first place this late since the 1978-79 season.

Continued from page B1. We knew what they try to do. Fifth head coach Scott Adams said he was confident in the strengths and stopping their weaknesses. We just wanted to work to win every quarter."

Cavaliers 109, Bucks 99

CLEVELAND — LeBron James scored 32 points in his final game as a 21-year-old. Donyell Marshall scored a season-high 28 and Cleveland snapped Milwaukee's six-game winning streak.

Larry Hughes emerged from a shooting slump with 26 points for the Cavaliers, who blew most of a 21-point lead in the second half before hanging on to win their seventh in a row at home against Milwaukee.

Marshall made seven 3-pointers, including three in the final 8:11, as Cleveland improved to 13-3 at home. Michael Redd led Milwaukee with 24 points. Mo Williams had 21 and Hiten Patterson 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Bucks, who battled back and pulled within 93-89 on Williams' free throw with 4:15 left.

Pacers 93, Pistons 92

AKRON, Ohio — Darrell Armstrong made a free throw with 49 seconds left to give Indiana the victory over Detroit.

The Pistons also lost Channing Fryllus to a strained right knee in the final minutes of the game. His status for Sunday's game against Phoenix is unknown.

Jermaine O'Neal missed Indiana's previous game with flu-like symptoms, but returned with 25 points and 13 rebounds. Al Harrington added 16 points for Indiana, while Jamaal Tinsley had 14 points and nine assists.

Bulls 107, Raptors 97

TORONTO — Luol Deng scored 25 points and Ben Gordon added 22 to lead Chicago to its 15th straight victory over Toronto.

Deng had 19 points in the second half for the Bulls, who shot a season-high 59 percent. Chicago has its 15th straight victory since Dec. 6, 2002, when it ended a 16-game losing streak to the Raptors.

Timberwolves 101, SuperSonics 82

MINNEAPOLIS — Ricky Davis scored 24 points and Mark Blount added 18 to lead

Mountain Home Tigers on Friday. Casey Murray led the Tiger with 13 points, but the other two shots were missed in the final minutes.

The 2-6 Wildcats host Deo for a Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference game on Friday, Jan. 5.

Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42.

Boys basketball Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42. Mountain Home 60, Filer 42.

Suns 108, Knicks 86

PHOENIX — Steve Nash and Itala Bell scored 20 points apiece, and Phoenix coasted past New York in the opener of a five-game road trip for the Knicks.

Six players reached double figures for the Suns in their 20th win of the season, but just their second in the past four games. Phoenix is a 101-99 loser at Dallas on Thursday night, blew open a 21-point lead in the first quarter and the Knicks never got it to single digits after 16 minutes.

Leandro Barbosa scored 16, Shawn Marion 14, Kurt Thomas 12 and Amaré Stoudemire 11 for the Suns.

Rockets 94, Hawks 88

HOUSTON — Tracy McGrady showed no signs of his recent back problems, scoring 31 points in Houston's rout of Atlanta.

Tracy McGrady added 17 points, 13 rebounds and five assists, and Dikembe Mutombo grabbed a season-high 14 rebounds as the Rockets won for the ninth time in three games since Yao Ming broke a bone under his right knee. Yao is out at least six weeks.

Houston was playing his third game since the previous series with back spasms. It took over the game with an 18-point second quarter, then tied in the third quarter, but apparently minor thumb injury.

Hornets 99, Nuggets 89

OKLAHOMA CITY — If Allen Iverson was tired, he wasn't saying so after struggling in the Denver Nuggets' loss to the New Orleans Hornets.

Iverson scored 21 points but was just 6-of-22 from the field, including an airball in the quarter minus that helped the Hornets rally for a 99-89 victory Friday night.

The Nuggets didn't arrive at their hotel until 5 a.m. after escaping a smogstorm in Denver following their victory over Seattle on Thursday night. After leading 81-76, Denver scored just eight points in the final 9 1/2 minutes.

Timex Sports writer Eric Larsen can be reached at 1-800-668-3883, Ext. 220, or clarsen@magicalcity.com.

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Break it down



Oklahoma linebacker Zach Lattimer, center, busts out with a few dance moves during the team's warm-up in Scottsdale, Ariz., Thursday, Oklahoma will face Boise State in the Fiesta Bowl.

BSU defense face juggernaut in OU

By Destin Lapray
Times-News correspondent

PHOENIX — The Oklahoma Sooners offense is a juggernaut. It is big, strong, fast and absolutely loaded with stud and stellar offensive players.

The Sooners welcome the return of Adrian Peterson this week for the Fiesta Bowl. Peterson was touted in the preseason as the lead Heisman Trophy contender, but suffered a broken collar bone and missed the final six games of the regular season.

But he is back, and he carries with him 3,968 career rushing yards at Oklahoma. He is 150 yards shy of tying Billy Sims' school record of 4,110.

"That's a great accomplishment for him; it shows how great he is," Boise State Broncos linebacker Colt Brooks said. "It's definitely a goal of ours to make him fall a little bit short of that. Nothing against him, but we want to make sure that doesn't happen."

Although this game is highlighted by Peterson, his team did very well without him. Junior Allen Patrick picked up the slack when Peterson went down with 700 yards on 159 carries and four touchdowns.

"(Peterson's) a real rare player," BSU defensive coordinator Justin Wilcox said. "What you do thematically is not different, but him, the things that he can do obviously can change the game. This is a so-called backup" they have in there, he's an NFL back.

Peterson rushed for 935 yards this year on 168 carries, scoring 10 touchdowns and averaging 5.5 yards per carry. He will be greatly assisted by red-shirt freshman Brody Eldridge, who stands 6-foot-5 and weighs 248 pounds at fullback. The Sooners will also run some 3-tight-end sets.

Many have said recently that the Oklahoma offensive line is just too big and too strong for the Broncos to defend. No one can argue the talent of the Sooners offensive line, but to say that the Broncos are going to be dominated is pure speculation.

Boise State vs. Oklahoma

Tostitos Fiesta Bowl

When: 6:30 p.m., Monday, Jan. 1
TV: Fox; Radio: 670 AM KBOI

Check out that Sooner front:
LT — Chris McSener 6-6, 280
LG — George Robinson 6-5, 330
C — Jon Conner 6-2, 285
RG — Brandon Walker 6-3, 306
RT — Trent Williams 6-5, 321

The Sooners line is tall and large. They are great run blockers, with incredible reach, paving the way for Oklahoma backs who totaled 2,306 rushing yards. The unit only gave up 14 sacks all season.

The undersized Broncos defensive line will certainly have its hands full.

"They definitely are a lot bigger than us," Brooks said. "The main thing I think it will come down to is just filling in our gaps. They have a lot of power. Their offensive line is great. They're agile and strong, so I think being gap sound in the running game is going to be key."

It is vital for the Broncos to work as a team to handle the Sooner attack. Although Peterson is a stud, the Broncos play team defense. They rally to the ball and must maintain their gap responsibilities.

"It's 11-on-11, the same game they have been playing and that's the way we talk to them and the way you have to approach it," Wilcox said. "Don't go out there and be Superman. You don't have to play the best game of your life, you just have to do your job and we gotta make plays when we have a chance to make them."

Most folks around the country see the Sooners as a running team, but since Peterson went down, OU quarterback Paul Thompson really came into his own. The senior QB was a starting wide receiver going into the team's final week of the preseason. Thompson replaced RBert Bomar, who was cut from the team after

violating NCAA compensation regulations over the summer.

Thompson's favorite target is sophomore Malcolm Kelly. Kelly led the team in 2006 with 62 receptions for 993 yards and 10 touchdowns. In total, Thompson threw 20 scores in the 2006 campaign with a pass efficiency of 144.78.

"They'll be the best receivers we've seen," Wilcox said. "It's going to come down to fundamentals, not 'gutting.' But playing their keys and understanding where their helps at and there going to be some times where we're going to be one-on-one, where we're going to have to compete and go to make the play not be scared to make a play."

The Broncos corners will often be placed in vulnerable situations in the secondary, while the front seven or eight try to stop the running game. This could open the play-action passing game and set the 6-2, 217-pound Kelly free.

To stop the Sooners, well, the Broncos aren't selling. They have kept their game plan secret all week. They will surely throw in some new formations and try to confuse the Oklahoma offense, but for the most part they will do what has put them in this game.

"We're going to do what we do, and what we think will work," Wilcox said. "We're not going to re-invent the wheel. In three weeks and put in some offense we haven't run before."

One thing the Broncos can do is remain focused, play hard and keep the Sooners from breaking any huge plays. The Sooners will score in this game. They will pick up first downs and they will put pressure on BSU. If the Broncos can limit big plays (like they have all year) and put the pressure on OU, they have much better a chance at success.

"I think that good defense doesn't play perfect every snap," Wilcox said. "What they do is run to the ball and cover up for each other, so that if somebody does make a mistake it's not so glaring."

Limiting the mistakes is what is key. No team has ever played a perfect football game, but the Broncos are going to have to come close.

Virginia Tech, Georgia to match similar strengths

ATLANTA (AP) — Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer had a ready response when asked if Chick-fil-A Bowl opponent Georgia could match him of another team.

Virginia Tech, was Beamer's response.



The Hokies allowed a total of 29 points while winning their last six games. They shut out two of their last three opponents.

Georgia coach Mark Richt says he also saw similarities between the teams. The Bulldogs and No. 14 Hokies boast similar strengths and even share some of the same concerns, heading into Saturday's game.

"Hopefully we'll win by one point," Richt said Friday before adding "Hopefully we'll score one point."

The only teams to score more than 13 points against Virginia Tech were the only teams to beat the Hokies — Georgia Tech (38-27) and Boston College (22-3) in back-to-back midseason games.

Georgia suffered a more prolonged midseason slump, losing four of five games to drop to 6-4. The Bulldogs saved their season with consecutive upsets of No. 5 Auburn and No. 16 Georgia Tech.

Georgia's streak of four straight seasons with 10 or more top 25 rankings has ended, but the Bulldogs could move back into the top 25 by taking a third straight win over a ranked opponent.

Virginia Tech (10-2) leads the nation with its averages of 221 yards and 9.3 points allowed per game. Georgia (10-4) is ninth in total defense, giving up 264 yards per game, and 22nd in scoring defense, allowing an average of 17.1 points.

"I think both of us are playing our very best here at the end of the year, and as coaches that's what you want to do," Beamer said.

Alamo a short drive for Texas, but a long way from Rose Bowl

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Remember the Rose Bowl?

For Texas, that's a long drive, but more fun than thinking about the Alamo Bowl.



Plus, Brown likes to note that top-ranked Ohio State and No. 3 Michigan are both in Austin.

After Vince Young's heroics won two Rose Bowls and a national championship the last season, the Longhorns (9-3) stumble into the Alamo City on a two-game losing streak to play sinking Iowa (6-6 Saturday).

Before they got back into the national title chase, Texas and Iowa both started the season 5-1 with their only losses to Ohio State. Then things started unravel.

San Antonio is only an hour drive from the Longhorns' campus. But while the reality of the Biverwalk is fun, it feels light years away from the showers of conflict and the sparkling crystal trophy they won last season in California.

Iowa stumbled first, and it was a doozy.

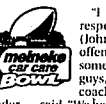
The Hawkeyes lost five of their last six games and a team that was once a contender for the Big 10 title instead finished near the bottom. Another loss Saturday sends Iowa to its first losing season since 2001.

A victory would give Texas its sixth straight 10-win season. And it would send the seniors who won the program's first national title in more than 30 years out on a high note.

Iowa got more bad news Friday when coach Kirk Ferentz announced that senior-middle linebacker Mike Klinkenberg, one of the team's finest leaders, will likely miss the game because of a foot injury.

Undersized Navy says fans could be difference against BC

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Navy coach Paul Johnson is concerned about the size of Boston College's lineman. He isn't worried about his support.



"I have tremendous respect for what (Johnson) does," he said. "I'll have something for our big guys." BC interim coach Frank Spaziani said, "We're ready."

Being in a hostile environment is nothing new to the Eagles, who played Boise State on its home field in a bowl game last season and faced North Carolina in Charlotte two years ago.

Boston College won both, part of a six-game bowl winning streak that ties it with Utah for the longest in the nation.

"It seems like every bowl game we go to we're the away team," said quarterback Matt Ryan, who was MVP of last year's ACC Computers Bowl and leads the Atlantic Coast Conference with 2,700 yards passing this season.

But preparation for this bowl has been unlike any other. BC hasn't completely recovered from coach Tom O'Brien's decision early this month to leave for ACC rival North Carolina State.

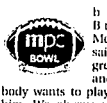
Toul acknowledges it was tough to focus during the search for a new coach. But Green Bay Packers assistant left Jagodzinski was quickly hired to replace O'Brien, and Spaziani, the defensive coordinator, was named interim coach for the bowl game.

Spaziani has tried to keep BC on a similar schedule and things have gone smoothly — with a few hiccup.

Hurricanes determined to send Coker out a winner at MPC

BOISE (AP) — For the past month, Miami coach Larry Coker has tried to remove himself from the story line surrounding the MPC Computers Bowl, continually insisting the focus shouldn't be on his finale with the Hurricanes.

"It's never been about me," Coker said.



Florida International prompted some critics to call for the dismantling of the entire football program, and constant speculation over Coker's status.

When this game ends, defensive coordinator Randy Shannon — a former hire — takes over as coach.

"Every player on this team, Coach Coker was the head coach when they were recruited to the University of Miami," quarterback Kirby Freeman said. "That's special to him for a lot of reasons and we need to send him out on a good note."

To do that, they'll need to figure out a way to solve one of the nation's best offenses — or else run the risk of finishing with Miami's first losing record since the probation days of 1997.

"We certainly understand that we are doing so well in this game," Nevada coach Chris Ault said. "There's no question about that. We know that role. We've been there before, and we certainly understand the type of team Miami is."

Much like Nevada ranks among the best in Division I-A offensively, the Hurricanes are one of the nation's top defenses, a unit allowing only 252.1 yards per game, fifth-best in the country.

When talking about the future for the Hurricanes, Coker uses words like "we" and "us," even though he's in the final days at the school. Once the charter flight lands in South Florida early Monday, Coker's time at Miami officially ends.

His players respectfully disagree. The Hurricanes (6-6) say they have many reasons for wanting to beat Nevada (6-4) Sunday, including finishing with a winning record to salvage something from a trying season that went horribly wrong, both on and off the field.

But above all that is this: They want to send Coker out a winner.

"Everybody wants to win for Coach Coker," defensive

backer Brian Faha, who was shot and killed outside his apartment, an on-field melee against

linebacker

Woods to skip PGA Tour's season opener

KAPALUA, Hawaii (AP) — The PGA Tour's "new era in golf" will begin with an old question.

Where's Tiger?
Tiger Woods decided Friday not to play next week in the season-opening Mercedes-Benz Championship, the second straight elite tournament he has skipped. The Mercedes is only for PGA Tour winners from the previous year; Woods also sat out the season-ending Tour Championship in November in the first round. And it takes some of the size out of the tour's launch of its new FedExCup competition, which it has dubbed a "new era in golf" in print and TV advertising campaigns over the last month.

Woods, who went skiing in Colorado with his family after winning the World Challenge on Dec. 17, said he did not have time to get his game ready and wanted to spend more time on vacation.

He ended last year winning six consecutive PGA Tour events, a streak that will remain on hold until Jan. 25 at the Buick Invitational in San Diego, where Woods is the two-time defending champion. He said on his Web site that the extra three weeks off "will give me much-needed extra time with my wife."

I considered playing in next week's Mercedes-Benz Championship, the official launch of the new FedExCup, but I just haven't been able to prepare, Woods said. "I usually spend at least one week working on my game before a tournament, and have been unable to do that this year."

It was the second straight year Woods did not play the winners-only tournament. He missed last year to spend time with his father, whose health was rapidly deteriorating from cancer. Earl Woods died May 3. The only other time Woods did not go to Kapalua was in 2003, when he was recovering from knee surgery.

"Hopefully, everyone will understand," Woods said. "Obviously, this was a tough decision because Gary and I have a lot of time at Kapalua Resort always do such a great job with the event."

Planos, the vice president of operations at Kapalua and tournament host, looked for bright spots on a day of gathering clouds off the west coast of Maui.

"Obviously, we're disappointed, but we've got a championship to run next week," he said. "Players and weather are risks in this business that I wish I had better control of."

Woods' absence, however, is a setback to PGA Tour officials trying to build momentum for its new FedExCup competition.

The tour revamped its schedule for the first time points race that starts at Mercedes-Benz Championship and concludes with four "playoff" tournaments at the end of the season, with the winner getting \$10 million in deferred compensation.

The season starts Thursday without two of the most popular players in golf — Woods and Tiger. Masters champion Phil Mickelson, who has not played at Kapalua since 2001, Ernie Els and Retief Goosen did not win on the

PGA Tour last year, meaning the field at Kapalua will have only one major champion from '06 (Geoff Ogilvy) and only eight of the top 20 players in the world.

"We understand that when Tiger chooses not to play, fans and sponsors are disappointed," PGA Tour spokesman Bob Coates said. "It's important to remain focused that the Mercedes-Benz Championship still has a great field and there are lots of great story lines, including Stuart Appleby going for his fourth win in a row."

As for the FedExCup, Kapalua is the first of 35 tournaments to earn points that will qualify for the final four tournaments. Coates said someone will earn 4,500 points next week and that person will win the first FedExCup points leader.

Woods will not have played on the PGA Tour for nearly four months when he returns at the Buick Invitational. His last tour event was the American Express Championship outside London, where he won by eight shots for his eighth victory of the year.

Woods has said his winning streak only applies to PGA Tour events. He lost in the first round of the HSBC World Match Play Championship in England two weeks before the American Express, and he was runner-up in two Asian tournaments in November.

He has never played more than 21 official PGA Tour events a year, and hit a career-low 15 this year, mainly because of his father's death. Woods has picked up more off-course interests in recent years, such as scuba diving, tennis and skiing, and he got married in 2004.

In an interview last month, he said he wasn't sure how the FedExCup would affect his schedule, but indicated he might play seven of the last nine weeks, including the Presidents Cup.

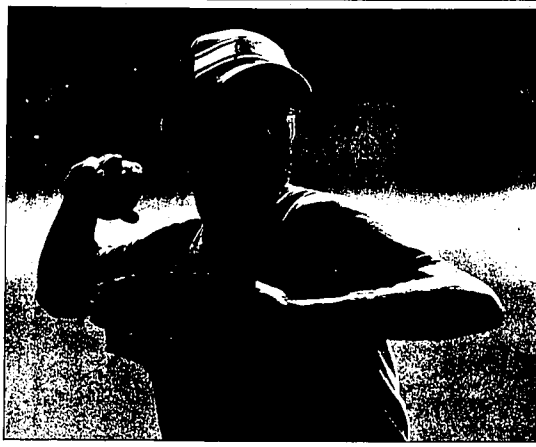
His decision not to play at Kapalua also is a blow to The Golf Channel, which will be televising the first two rounds of every PGA Tour event this season and his executive, the majors, and will provide four-day coverage of the first three tournaments, starting with the Mercedes-Benz Championship.

TV ratings typically double whenever Woods is in contention, but the cable outlet probably won't get another chance this season to televise Woods on the weekend.

Most of its four-day coverage is for tournaments after the FedExCup ends. The Golf Channel, which reaches about 90 million homes, ran a full-page ad Friday in USA Today with a photo of Woods rising over Appleby, the three-time defending champion at Kapalua, and Vijay Singh.

"As we've said all along, it's going to take a good part of the year to see how the FedExCup and playing schedule will fit into one another," Coates said. "That's a little bit of a work in progress. But the key point is this is a season-long emphasis on competition. The tour is in one particular week, it's one year."

"I think we're going to have a great launch, regardless."



Rabi I Ruck, 43, throws to first base during tryouts for the Israel Baseball League, Friday in Miami. Six teams, made up of 20 players each, will compete in the Israel Baseball League. After a brief spring training session, they will compete in 50 games from June to August at municipal stadiums.

Israeli baseball league scouts U.S. ballplayers, Jews and gentiles alike

MIAMI (AP) — Ivan Gluck is a utility man who can pitch and play first base, third and the outfield. But at 67, the Holocaust survivor would settle for being a water boy in Israel's fledgling baseball league.

"I'm not looking for stardom," he said. "I just want to make the team."
The enthusiastic but unseasoned Gluck was one of 65 hopefuls at Friday's tryout for the Israel Baseball League, which is welcoming Jews and gentiles alike in hopes of exporting America's pastime to Israel and turning the violent, torn Jewish state — a country with only one full-size diamond — into the next great baseball power.

"Hopefully, the region will be stable so we can play ball in the summertime," said player development director Dan Duquette, a former general manager for the Boston Red Sox

and Montreal Expos. "But you know, baseball could very well be a unifying force for the country. And wouldn't that be something if it was?"

The league has attracted castoffs from major league teams, former college and high school players who never got a shot at the pros, and ordinary fans with a dream.
Rabbi Yankov Green, 26, did not get the chance to play in his college years, and got cut again during Friday's tryouts, but he was grateful just for the opportunity.

"I never thought I was going to play on this kind of level or get a chance to play on this kind of level," he said.

Duquette has spent the past few months scouting players in Israel and Massachusetts and plans to hold additional tryouts before the six-team league opens its season on June 24. The teams will be the Bet

Shemesh Blue Sox, Netanyahu Tigers, Petach Tikva Pioneers, Jerusalem/Gezer Lions, Haifa/Nahariya Stingrays and Tel Aviv Lightning.

"This is what Israelis need. Israelis need family time, time away from the stress," said operations director Martin Berger, a Miami lawyer.

Officials also said they hope to compete in the 2009 World Baseball Classic with Jewish major and minor league players such as Jason Marquis of the Chicago Cubs and Boston's Kevin Youkilis.

Berger said the league will also bring equipment to Israel, build baseball fields, improve the few smaller diamonds and offer youth training.

"Baseball, to us, is the great American game and there's so many Americans in Israel and there's so many great supporters of Israel in America," Berger said. "It's just a logical thing to do."

Jordan, wife get divorce after 17 years

CHICAGO (AP) — Michael Jordan and his wife, Juanita, divorced Friday after 17 years of marriage.

"Michael and Juanita Jordan mutually and amicably decided to end their 17 year marriage," the couple said in a statement issued through their lawyers. "A judgment for dissolution of their marriage was entered today. There will be no further statements."

Michael Jordan's lawyer, Frederick I. Spurling, declined comment.
But in court documents filed Friday with the Lake County Circuit Court, the couple said "irreconcilable differences have caused an irretrievable breakdown of the marriage." The couple said attempts to reconcile their marriage had failed and future ones "would be impractical and not in the best interests of the family."

Juanita Jordan previously filed for divorce in January 2002, but withdrew her petition a month later when the couple announced they were attempting a reconciliation.

The couple met at a Chicago restaurant during his second season with the Bulls and were married Sept. 2, 1989, in Las Vegas. They have three children: Jeffrey, 18, Marcus, 16, and Jasmine, 14.

Michael Jordan, 43, lives in Chicago. Juanita Jordan, 47, lives in Highland Park, Ill.

The Jordans, who have lived separately since February, will share custody of their children, according to court documents.

The co-petitioners acknowledged that although their marriage is ending, they desire to resolve all of the issues surrounding the dissolution of marriage in the most amicable, expeditious and private fashion possible, for the benefit of themselves and their children," the documents read.

Jordan, a part-owner of the Charlotte Hornets, led the Bulls to six NBA titles and was a five-time league MVP.

Old ball coming back, but what's next for NBA?

The Associated Press

New Year's celebrations might be louder than usual in NBA locker rooms Sunday.

When the curtain closes on 2006, so does the brief run of the league's new basketball. The new year brings the return of the old ball, the leather one players said never should have been replaced.

"Hallelujah," Minnesota's Kevin Garnett said.

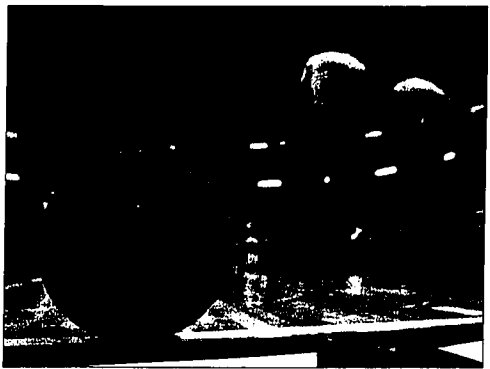
Players criticized the performance of the microfiber composite ball from the moment training camps opened. The NBA stood by the product, but players' complaints that it cut their skin followed by the filing of an unfair labor practice charge forced commissioner David Stern to put the new balls back on the rack.

"It worked. I didn't think it would," Cleveland's LeBron James said. "I can't wait!"
But before James and his pals pat themselves on the back too much, here's something they should keep in mind: There's no guarantee their beloved leather ball is the one that will be tossed up to open the 2007-08 season.

"Not necessarily. It really depends on what the best product is for the game," said Dan Touhey, vice president of marketing for Spalding. "We certainly feel based upon what every other league in the country is using and every other high school and college that the composite balls are here to stay, and they have reached pretty close to the highest level of competition."
The stats show the ball had no real negative impact in the NBA. Scoring is up about 2 1/2 points per game from a similar point last season, and field goal and free throw percentages also have risen.

Although Stern said that things are now "open to what we start the season with," he also said he wouldn't set any "artificial deadlines."
As much as players welcome the current change, the transition might not be as smooth as they expect. Besides the difference in the grip, leather takes time to break in, so the balls they handle next week might feel a bit different from what they remember.

"I haven't seen the old ball for a long time. I mean, I haven't played with it since the summer and last season," said Wally Szczerbiak, whose Boston Celtics are the



One of the NBA's new synthetic balls sits on the court during a timeout at the Chicago Bulls-Indiana Pacers basketball game in Chicago on Dec. 11. The league will scrap its microfiber composite ball and bring back the old leather one beginning Jan. 1.

only team scheduled to play Dec. 31 and Jan. 1.

"So hopefully, they'll get it in our hands, and we're just going to have to adjust. It's something they want to do, so we're going to have to get a good warmup in before that game Jan. 1. It's a transition, no matter what you do, because it's a different feel. I think everyone's adjusted to this new ball. It certainly has, and it's definitely going to be an adjustment period back."

While the players and coaches worry about that, the NBA and Spalding are meeting to find the ball of the future. But this time they'll have the players' help.

Stern was criticized for changing the ball without first running it by the players. This time, the league already has reached out to players — Garnett among them — to see if they want to be part of the discussion.

What the NBA might find is that quite a few players prefer the new ball. International players are used to composite

balls, which also are used at the amateur levels in the United States and will remain in play in the NBA's Development League. Some rookies may never have used leather, so they might agree with Spalding and the league that synthetic is an improvement.

When the new balls are taken out of play, teams are being asked to hang onto about two dozen in case they're needed for more testing. If another switch is in the plans, that decision must be made sometime early in 2007.

"The ultimate timing will be dictated by product development and the players," Stern said.

Touhey said Spalding would need about four months to get all the new balls tested to make sure they were within specifications and shipped out to the teams.

Stern remains confident longtime partner Spalding will find something, leather or otherwise, that's acceptable to the players. And there should be no complaints, because the players will help determine the next ball.



Green Bay Packers quarterback Brett Favre looks to pass the ball after falling down during a Sept. 10 game in Green Bay, Wis.

Potential finale feels like 'just another game'

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — It might indeed be his final game, and he might have a shot at the playoffs.

But for Brett Favre, the Green Bay Packers' regular-season finale in Chicago on Sunday night feels like any other game.

Making his only public comments this week, Favre said he will need time and space away from football before he can divine some sort of meaning from the game — or decide what he will do next year.

"I don't know what that's like, because I've never gotten away from it," Favre said. "I don't know what that feels like. And so to me it's just another game. It may be the last. But to me, it's just another game."

After recovering from the worst season of his career to lead the Packers (7-8) home from last year's 4-12 finish, Favre realizes most people see no reason why he shouldn't come back next season.

Even his own family. "They've been a little quieter this year, but I'm sure they want me to play for the most part," Favre said. "From the outside looking in, even from the family standpoint, it's easy to say, 'Go back and play.'"

Because as with most people, you really see the three hours of enjoyment or whatever — the game. You don't really see all the other stuff.

"(Wife) Deanna does. But everyone else is kind of like, 'What are we going to do on Sunday?' I'm like, 'What do you do during the rest of the week?' Yeah, when we lose, you're ticked off, but you don't have to deal with it like I do."

Despite the improved record, Favre said the Packers still have "a long way to go, and I don't have that much time."

Only the Oakland Raiders' offense has been worse than the Packers in the red zone this season.

"We're not playing great," Favre said. "I'm just being honest. I'm not telling you anything you don't know. We can't score a touchdown, we've won a couple of games. Go figure."

Favre isn't happy with the way he has played. "I expect to be more productive, regardless, and I'm not for whatever reason," he said. "I could point to a lot of those, but the bottom line is, I'm not as productive."

Although he's only eight touchdowns passes shy of breaking Dan Marino's NFL career record of 42, Favre doesn't feel he has anything left to prove.

"In some ways, I feel like, 'Yeah, why not give it another shot?' In other ways, most days, I've done a lot in this game, have had a lot of success

individually and as a team that there's nothing left really out there for me," Favre said. "And I know sometimes people say, 'Come back and go out on top,' or all that stuff. But what if you don't?"

Long snapper fob Davis, an 11-year veteran who has been with the Packers since 1997, said retirement decisions are more complicated than they seem to outsiders.

"Obviously, Brett has a lot more success and accolades than I do, but at times it does get a little tiring," Davis said. "Your mind plays tricks on you, like, 'You know what? Maybe it's time for me to turn the page.' So I'm sure he's had those battles with himself. He hasn't told me that, but at his age and my age, I would think you think about that."

Favre decides he wants to come back, he's probably going to have to do something about that sore left ankle.

Ic's still considering having arthroscopic surgery in the offseason on the ankle, which has a buildup of bone spurs that was bothering him even before training camp. Favre had surgery on the same ankle after a similar problem in 1995.

Favre says he is reluctant to have surgery because he has gotten used to the pain and the limited range of motion. The pain, he says, is worse in practice because in games, you just "bark it up and go."

"I don't want to sound like John Wayne," Favre said. "It's not, 'Favre's walking around with knives sticking in his foot.' It's painful at times, but there's a lot of people who go through similar things."

Given his past struggles with addiction to prescription painkillers, can he even take medicine to dull the pain?

"I guess I could, if it really came down to it," Favre said. "But that wouldn't help in this case. Because when I wake up in the morning, it takes me, I don't know, a while just to move around and all that stuff. But once I get going during the day, it's tolerable. And to take them during the game, which I never did before, that wouldn't be worth it."

But Favre said the offensive struggles and painful practices haven't prevented him from having fun this year. He just has to decide whether it will still be worth it next year.

"I'm glad I came back. I really am," Favre said. "And I've said this: If I'm out there next year, throwing a touchdown pass and running down the field — Man, it looks like he's having a blast — I know I will do that. And I will do that until they drag me off the field. But there's so much more to it than that."

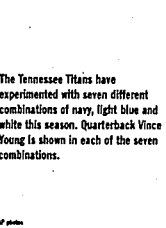
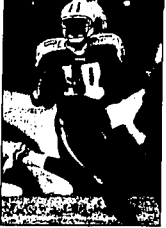
based on the strength of schedule tiebreaker.

"I'd like to win a game," coach Art Shell said. "I'm not worried about later on. I want to win. I want to win the game on Sunday. Period. That's it. That's where I am."

The only time the Raiders had the No. 1 overall pick came in the 1962 AFL draft, when they selected quarterback Roman Gabriel, who chose to play with the NFL's Los Angeles Rams.

Oakland has had the No. 2 pick twice, trading up to get defensive lineman Darrell Russell in 1997, and taking offensive tackle Robert Gallery in 2004.

Titans prove looking good translates into playing well



The Tennessee Titans have experimented with seven different combinations of navy, light blue and white this season. Quarterback Vince Young is shown in each of the seven combinations.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Linebacker David Thornton prefers the light blue jersey and pants because they remind him of his alma mater, the North Carolina Tar Heels.

Tennessee teammate Hengl Olson likes the slimming effect of dark navy on his waistline — he's an offensive lineman.

The Tennessee Titans may lead the NFL in one unofficial category this season — uniform changes. They believe looking good helps them play well, and they have experimented with seven combinations of jersey and pants, searching for just the right ensemble for game day.

"You play how you look and how you feel, so when we're looking good ... guys are bouncing around a little bit more, ready to play" receiver Bobby Wade said.

It's hard to argue with the results. After a 0-5 start, the Titans won their first game of the season Oct. 15 at Washington when they first wore the navy jersey and pants. From there, the team won seven of its next nine games and takes a six-game winning streak and a chance at the playoffs into its regular-season finale against the visiting New England Patriots.

It's important to present yourself in a way that some-

what helps you play with some confidence," Thornton said.

Safety Chris Hope said defensive backs particularly hate the league's strict dress code governing details such as how to wear their socks and what type of wrist bands are acceptable. It takes a player out of his comfort zone, Hope said.

"It's all about the style and that swagger that you have. Everybody likes to look good, and the football uniform doesn't change that," Hope said.

The NFL's only uniform requirement involves jerseys — home, road and a throwback or alternate. The home team has first choice over what color jersey to wear, which is why Washington often wears white at home and the Jaguars have donned all black in Jacksonville this season.

The Titans have an alternate jersey that is a light blue, a shade or so darker than the Columbia blue of the old Houston Oilers, with navy blue across the shoulders.

But there's no standard for pants and that's where the Titans have mixed and matched.

They wore the navy blue jersey with white pants against the New York Jets and

Dallas Cowboys at home, then used the white road jersey with navy pants at Indianapolis.

Coach Jeff Fisher, a former player, didn't mind when some of his Titans asked about switching up the uniform. He even let them have a football fashion show to figure out different jerseys with pants.

"They have fun doing it. The thing about it, the decisions are just about unanimous," Fisher said. "They're not 50-50 with half the team wants this, the other half wants that. They like the change. We've just excited that we've been given the opportunity to have different options."

Thirteen-year veteran Kevin Mawae has never seen so many color combinations, but he likes what he sees.

"If you look good, you feel good. If you feel good, you play good. I firmly believe in that and I always have," he said. "Anytime you put on new duds, you look good, and you go out and you play good."

Against Houston, the Titans paired the alternate jersey with the navy pants. The Titans' look first appeared on Dec. 3 against Indianapolis, and the Titans' winning streak when Nov. 19 at Philadelphia started they wore the white jersey with light blue pants.

The only look that received negative reviews? The white jersey-white pants combo, and that's likely superstition because it's what the Titans wore in a 37-7 loss at Jacksonville on Nov. 12.

"We probably won't wear that again," Wade said. "If we do, it could have a reverse effect. If we do, I think guys will be more geared to keep that uniform in the ensemble."

Pairing darker colored jerseys and pants has been a big hit with the Titans, especially the hefty offensive linemen.

"We prefer all solid colors, no matter what, so there's no waist lines," Olson said. "It gives it that stream-line effect. I would say dark-on-dark is probably one of our favorites."

Reebok still has the Titans in the lower third of the NFL for merchandise sales. But rookie Vince Young's No. 10 has been among the top 10 in the league and top three among rookies, and his sales have jumped 38 percent since the beginning of November.

Olson thinks the Titans will test even more looks. "We've been successful doing that. I'm sure we'll keep mixing and matching and trying to figure out what that best combination is," he said.

Fisher's 12th season might be his best coaching job yet

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee coach Jeff Fisher sounded like a broken record most of this season.

His young Titans liked each other and loved working hard. He enjoyed coaching them, and yes, he thought they could surprise people. After a 0-5 start, Fisher sounded like an optimist trying to hide his team's flaws.

After a six-game winning streak, the Titans are 8-7 and the NFL's second-hottest team behind San Diego. Make the playoffs, and they'll become the first team to do so after a 0-5 start.

"It's done a great job," New England coach Bill Belichick said.

Turnarounds are nothing new for Fisher. His 2002 Titans started 1-4 before winning 10 of 11 to reach the AFC championship, where they lost to Oakland.

That was a veteran group led by Steve McNair and Eddie Murray. This is a rebuilding franchise that won nine combined games in the last two seasons with 37 players in their third NFL season or less. The offense, led by rookie quarterback Vince Young, features six starters in their first or second season.

"We've got a philosophy here that we stick to and we

believe in, and it's worked in the past," Fisher said. "We just stayed the course, and it worked out."

That's why owner Bud Adams wants to extend Fisher's contract at season's end.

Receiver Drew Bennett said Fisher has remained the same through his six seasons, never changing his coaching demeanor or manner in the record or time of the season.

"It's very impressive," he said. "I've talked to other guys on other teams who talk about coming back when you lose a tough one [right and early]. Coach Fisher doesn't do that. I think Coach Fisher recognizes really what players want, what they need and at the same time, what they need to do better."

Center Kevin Mawae has yet to see Fisher frustrated or overly excited, even after rallying to a 24-21 win against the New York Giants after being down 21-0 in the final 10 minutes.

"The locker room is a reflection of the head coach," he said. "That speaks well for Jeff the way we've stuck in after an 0-5 start to come out to a position we're in now. It's a testament to guys in the locker room, but it's a testament to how the coach has held things together," Mawae said.

Fisher also administered a dose of discipline to a team that has had its share of drama this season.

After going 4-12 in 2005, Fisher announced a zero-tolerance policy. He enforced it in the preseason by benching rookie LenDale White for spitting on a teammate in practice and defensive tackle Randy Starks after an argument with his then-fiancee for a game each.

He threatened not to welcome back defensive tackle Albert Haynesworth from his five-game NFL suspension for stomping on the unprotected head of Dallas center Andre Gurode, and made anger management counseling a key to the tackle's return.

Fisher then suspended cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones for one game after he was charged with misdemeanor assault for spitting on a woman at a nightclub.

But during the 0-5 start, Fisher made only two key roster moves. He replaced Chris Brown with Travis Henry as his starting running back and started Young in the fourth game.

And he kept pointing out how his Titans continued to improve. Running the ball was Fisher's approach when he had George, the team's all-

time leading rusher, and that approach has helped the Titans most in this streak. They are averaging 163.5 yards rushing, third in the NFL, in the past 12 games.

Fisher, co-chairman of the league's competition committee, also isn't afraid to gamble. That's what linebacker David Thornton, one of the six veteran free agents signed this off-season, liked most when he left the Rams.

"A lot of coaches probably wouldn't make some of the decisions he makes," Thornton said.

The coach has worked Jones into a variety of offensive plays to get a key playmaker on the field, and he tricked Colts coach Tony Dungy into using his last timeout by threatening to punt before letting Bob Brzonas attempt a 60-yard field goal that beat Indy 20-17 on Dec. 3.

Fisher personally rates this season pretty high overall.

"The nucleus on this team is going to be the nucleus of this team for years to come. We'll be able to look back and say we've pulled through some tough times," he said. "If we ever starting tough times again in the future, we'll be able to refer to it and hopefully pull ourselves through it again."

Raiders in running for top pick?

ALAMEDA, Calif. (AP) — As bad as this season has been, the Oakland Raiders' chances at getting the No. 1 pick in April's draft are slim even if they lose their season finale against the New York Jets.

The Raiders (2-13) go into Sunday's game tied with the Detroit Lions for the worst record in the NFL. With no other team in the league with fewer than four wins, Oakland and Detroit are assured of having the top two picks in the draft.

Both teams face playoff contenders on the road this week with the Lions traveling to Dallas, giving Detroit the inside track at the top pick

Make some noise this New Year's Eve

When I think about New Year's Eve, I think about pots and pans.

Not for cooking. For banging and clanging and raising a ruckus.

It was a tradition at our house, as much a part of our annual New Year's Eve celebration as the non-alcoholic "champagne" we drank to toast the New Year (in plastic champagne glasses, of course) and watching on TV while that big ball came down over Times Square in New York. Dick Clark would count down the last seconds of the old year, we would all shout "Happy New Year" at the appropriate moment. Mom would make her way around the room kissing everybody, and then we would go outside and pound on pots and pans and make all kinds of noise.



VALUESPEAK
Joseph Walker

To be honest, I never cared for non-alcoholic champagne — my taste always ran more toward Dr. Pepper. The magic of the big ball coming down on Times Square evaporated as soon as I figured out it had actually happened two hours earlier and we were just seeing it on taped delay. Mom's kisses were — well — Mom's kisses. But going outside in the middle of the night to pound on pots and pans and make noise — now, that was something. Pot-pounding was generally frowned upon, even in the middle of the day. And doing it outside for all the world to hear — well, it simply wasn't done.

Except on New Year's Eve. And that made New Year's Eve special, although I wasn't exactly sure why.

"I don't get it," I said to Mom one New Year's Day. "We don't go outside and pound on pots and pans on Christmas Eve or Thanksgiving. We don't do it on Easter or on birthdays. The only time we do anything like it is when we set off fireworks on the Fourth of July, and I know why we do that. But I don't know why we pound on pots and pans on New Year's Eve."

Mom gave me that why-didn't-I-stop-after-seven-children look. As a parent myself, I finally understood where that look comes from: not having any idea of the answer to the question. But as anyone who ever played cards with her knows, Mom was a master bluffer.

"It's an ancient — Indian — tradition," she said, forgetting for a moment that early Native Americans probably didn't have many pots or pans upon which to bang. "They believed that every year has its own spirit and, if you wanted the year to be good, you needed to frighten it into submission from the beginning. So every New Year, the Indians would gather to make all of the noise they could in order to frighten away evil spirits and motivate good spirits to action."

That seemed at least as reasonable to me as flying reindeer, or a rabbit that lays colored chicken eggs.

"So when we're out there banging on pots and pans, we're actually chasing away evil spirits?" I asked, sucking it all in like the huge, pre-adolescent sponge that I was.

"Well, yes," she said. "But mostly, we're trying to let the new year know who's in charge."

And that isn't such a bad idea, when you stop and think about it. New years can be a little scary, filled as they are with hidden traps and unknown obstacles. Maybe if we set our anxiety aside and enter the new year boldly, aggressively, noisily, we'll convince ourselves that there's nothing to fear. And that we're in charge — at least for ourselves.

So don't go gently into 2007. Pound on some pans. Bang on a bucket. Raise a ruckus. The way I see it, even if we don't scare away evil spirits, at least we'll let 2007 know who's the boss.

And who knows? Maybe we'll remind ourselves, as well.

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



Construction workers use heavy machinery Friday afternoon at the site of the new Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints temple being built on Eastland Drive in Twin Falls.

Faith in numbers

Twin Falls County's Mormon population booming

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — In 1992, the Kimberly Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints had about 1,900 members. It has roughly 3,600 now, and the stake is building a new church for three wards — the Mormon term for congregations — on Hankins Road.

"We're getting growth in all kinds of ways," said Kent Allen, a Kimberly dentist who is the stake president.

"That's the case, I think, with wards all over Twin Falls, and not just LDS congregations." As the new Mormon temple goes up on Eastland Boulevard, the LDS population of Twin Falls County is up by all accounts burgeoning. Membership numbers are hard to come by even from church sources, but Grant Maughan, LDS spokesman in Twin Falls — says there are 30 wards in Twin Falls County, each with 300-400 members.

Typically, a stake serves between 2,500 and 3,000 members and provides a place for Sunday worship and weekday activities. Currently, there are three stakes in the Twin Falls area — the Twin Falls Stake, the Twin Falls West Stake and the Kimberly Stake. In addition, there are stakes in Filer, Jerome, Wendell and Carey, plus seven in the Mini-Cassia area.

"I'd say (we've grown) at least 10 percent (in the past few years)," Maughan said.



An architect's drawing of the new Kimberly Stake meeting house, located on Hankins Road in Twin Falls, scheduled to open in 2007.

Magic Valley LDS

County	Population	Percent LDS in 2000 Census	Estimated current LDS population
Twin Falls	69,419	19.6	13,606
Cassia	21,324	51.0	10,875
Blaine	19,014	34.6	6,579
Elko	45,570	13.0	5,924
Jerome	19,838	21.2	4,163
Gooding	14,461	20.4	2,950
Elmore	26,834	6.9	1,876
Blaine	21,166	9.3	1,968
Lincoln	4,545	27.4	1,245
Camas	1,050	Incomplete	data

Current LDS county population estimates extrapolated by using the percentage of Mormon population in each county in the 2000 Census and applying it to estimated 2005 population. Data from Census Bureau and the Association of Religion Data Archives.

"Some areas, like the Twin Falls West Stake with all that development around North Pointe, are just phenomenal."

The best membership numbers are six years old, from the 2000 Census. According to a study done by the Glenmary Research Center in 2002, the Mormon population in Twin Falls County grew 9 percent between 1990 and 2000, from 10,918 to 12,113.

But it's possible to extrapolate more current estimates on the basis of the percentage of church membership in Twin Falls County in the 2000 Census, when 19.6 percent of the county's population was Mormon.

If the same percentage holds today, there were 13,606 Saints living in Twin Falls County in 2005.

That makes Twin Falls the eighth-most Mormon

"We're getting growth in all kinds of ways."

— Kent Allen, Kimberly Stake president

county in Idaho, behind Bonneville (48,976), Ada (48,428), Bannock (36,200), Bingham (25,150), Madison (24,559), Canyon (21,914) and Jefferson (16,202).

The centerpiece of Mormon growth locally is the temple being built on Twin Falls' north end. Scheduled for completion sometime next year, the church says it will serve about 50,000 LDS in seven south-central Idaho counties and Nevada's Elko County. It will be the fourth LDS temple in Idaho and the second — the other is in Boise — built in a county where Mormons don't make up a majority of the population.

The temple site will also include a new stake center. Meanwhile in the Kimberly Stake, the pews are full.

"Our facilities get pretty heavy use," Allen said of the new meeting house. "We'll welcome the additional space."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at scrump@magicvalley.com.

Later in their lives, Americans finding their way back to religion

St. Petersburg Times

Ann Bulmanskis is a "radical Catholic," someone born into the Catholic faith, although she admits there was a time in her 20s when she "floated away from it." She returned because she wanted a church wedding. Now at 57, she is an active churchgoer in Gulfport, Fla.

Baised as an Episcopal, Patti Rondolino was entrenched in her church at a young age. At 18, she left the Episcopal church.

When she married and had children, she went to her husband's Methodist church. But she left the Methodist church when she divorced. Now at 53, she is a member of the non-denominational Unity Church of St. Petersburg, Fla.

The experiences of these two

women are typical, says David Wulff, professor of psychology at Wheaton College in Norton, Mass. "There's a plunge in religiosity in the 20s, and by their 30s, people start coming back, many because they have children."

"When I was a teenager I was invincible," Bulmanskis recalls. "But the older you get, you realize you're not immortal."

In a longitudinal study that has followed nearly 200 people born in the 1920s in Northern California, college researchers found that "religiosity" enhances the quality of life in the second half of life.

Following an organized religion, say Paul Wink, professor of psychology at Wellesley College, and Michele Dillon, professor of sociology at the University of New Hampshire, provides a buffer against depression for

someone in poor health or facing other adversity.

Rabbi Stephen Moch of Congregation B'nei Emunah in Tarpon Springs, Fla., says he has been struck over the years by the fact that people return to their faith as they age. Often this is in response to a life-changing event, such as a death, although Moch cautions that such events can send people in the other direction.

"Some people, rather than turning to God at such times, become angry at and deny or question him," Moch said.

The California study, however, found that highly religious people were least afraid of death. Ironically, it's an attitude they share with nonbelievers.

"There's no evidence that atheists suddenly panic (at the thought of their mortality) and become religious," says

psychology professor Wulff. According to the study, those who were moderately religious were most afraid of death.

The study showed that religious people also were happier, healthier and more engaged in life, Dillon said.

The Rev. Manuel Sykes, pastor of Bethel Community Baptist Church in St. Petersburg, has also noted a drop in attendance in young adulthood. But by their mid 30s, these same people are seeking grounding, something to fill a pervasive emptiness and the sense that there's more to life than material success.

If they were raised in a home that valued faith, they often return to church, confirming the hypothesis that a person's early experience with church can predict their later involvement.

RELIGION

Homeless can enjoy New Year's meal

TWIN FALLS — A New Year's meal for the homeless will be served at 11:30 a.m. today at the First United Methodist Church.

Church organist Sarah Benton will perform a piano solo. Alfred Burt's "Carol Medley," during the 11 a.m. worship Sunday. The rejoice service begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Wesley Chapel.

The After School program sponsored by the Hispanic Ministries under the direction of the Rev. Noel and Dana White will resume from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

Standup comic 'Nazareth' will perform in Burley

BURLEY — "Nazareth" will perform at 7 p.m. Saturday at the King Fine Arts Center Little Theater. Also on the program is the FBI (First Baptist Improv team) from the Pocatello First Baptist Church.

Nazareth is a standup comic working the Christian circuit. His credits include touring with the Temptations and the Righteous Brothers, performing at comedy clubs, colleges, churches, prisons and corporate banquets and for governors, congressmen, the U.S. armed forces and death-row inmates.

He calls his comedy perspective "Proud to be an

Church news

American," and says his comedy, drawn from his background, is 100 percent clean. He was born in Israel, lived in Kuwait and arrived in the United States legally in 1984.

"Because I've lived in many countries, I've really tried to convey what a privilege it is to live in the United States and what a privilege it is to be a Christian in this country," Nazareth says of his act.

The event is sponsored by Christian Center Assembly of God (678-5460), First Baptist Church of Burley (878-7613), Burley Four-square Church (678-8119) and Grace Community Church of Rupert (436-3790).

Admission is \$10 each or five for \$40. Tickets may be obtained at the door or by calling one of the sponsors.

Monday school slated at Buhl Presbyterian Church

BUHL — Sunday school for all ages begins at 10 a.m. Sunday at the Buhl First Presbyterian Church.

Worship at 11 a.m. will feature Blake Walsh, lay pastor, speaking on 1 Samuel 2:18-20; Psalms 148; Colossians 3:12-17 and Luke 2:41-52. A Christmas joy offering will be received.

The Women's Group will meet for Bible study at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday in the fellowship hall. Study will be on Genesis 5. All women

are welcome.

Elder Mark Koffer will speak on 'Signs' Sunday

TWIN FALLS — Elder Mark Koffer will speak on "Signs" during worship at 10 a.m. Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church, 209 Fifth Ave. N.

John Bonnett will read the scriptures, Psalms 121 and John 3:1-17. Special Music will be a "Tuba Christmas."

Refreshments will be served after worship in the fellowship hall.

Everyone is welcome. For more information, call 733-7023.

'Positive Reinforcement' topic of Sunday sermon

HOLLISTER — Elder Charles Upton of Twin Falls will speak on "Positive Reinforcement" at 11 a.m. Sunday at the Hollister Community Presbyterian Church. Scripture reading will be Isaiah 42:1-4 and Luke 5:17-26.

Refreshments will be served after worship.

Visitors are welcome.

Gooding church hosts free weight-loss class

GOODING — The Gooding First Christian Church is hosting a free Prism Weight Loss Program introduction class for both men and women at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the Church, 334 Fourth Ave. W.

For more information, call 934-8508.

Centering prayer will be Wednesday in T.F.

TWIN FALLS — Centering Prayer will be held at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Ascension Episcopal Church, 371 Eastland Drive N.

January's topic, "Simplicity," answers the question of why it is simplicity so hard — because we live so far fragmented and live so far from their true center. As they learn to "rest in God" through Centering Prayer, a "simple life" is given space to emerge.

A Centering Prayer practice session is included.

Admission is free. Anyone with an interest in Centering Prayer is invited. For more information, call Jamie Kelley at 733-9499 or Joyce Ballard at 734-8881.

Gospel quartet Liberty will perform in Paul

PAUL — Liberty, a southern gospel quartet, will perform in concert at 7 p.m. Friday at the Paul Baptist Church, 25 N. Fourth St. E.

Admission is free, but freewill offerings will be accepted.

The public is invited.

The Times-News welcomes news of church events. Send information to Ellen Thomson, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or Tena Tegen, South Idaho Press office, 230 E. Main St., Burley, ID 83318. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday for publication on the Saturday religion page.

MISSIONARIES

Elder Harold Quast and Sister Sharon Quast have been called to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Ohio Cincinnati Mission.

The Quasts live in Burley and are in the View 1st Ward. They will leave for their mission Monday.

Elder Morgan J. Stanger has returned from serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Minnesota Minneapolis Mission.

Stanger is the son of Marilyn and Morgan Stanger of Hansen and is in the Hansen Ward, and graduated from Hansen High School in 2004 and will attend Brigham Young University-Idaho to study agriculture systems.

Elder Curtis L. Giles has returned from serving a mis-

Elder Benjamin Jacob "BJ" Peterson has returned from serving a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in the Ohio Cincinnati Mission.

Peterson is the son of Guy and Trina Peterson of Kimberly and formerly of Twin Falls and the Twin Falls 14th Ward.

The Times-News welcomes news of missionaries. Send information to Ellen Thomson, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or Tena Tegen, South Idaho Press office, 230 E. Main St., Burley, ID 83318. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday for publication on the Saturday religion page.

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RELIGION LETTER

If we allow Jesus to guide, he will give us real joy

I was talking with a gentleman the other day about how good the Lord is, and he laughed. This broke my heart because he was laughing at God. This man, like so many others, is "... ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God" (Romans 10:3).

The good news is that God is good! We need not fear giving our lives completely to him, nor hesitate to trust in him alone for our salvation.

So often the path we choose for our lives is an uphill battle, but if we allow Jesus to guide, he will give us a real joy and peace which goes beyond our

understanding. Jesus died on the cross and rose again so we could have eternity with him. If we choose to live our lives without him, we will stand before God in judgment one day — and face an eternity in hell. Do you want real peace? You will find it only in Jesus Christ. Please take him as your savior today. KRISTEN KECK Jerome

The Times-News welcomes letters on religious topics of 200 words or less from readers. Letters should include the writer's signature, mailing address and telephone number. Letters considered libelous, obscene or in bad taste will be rejected, and The Times-News reserves the right to edit all letters.

Uncounted missionaries could again cost Utah representation

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — When Congress convenes next month, it could give Utah the fourth congressional seat that state leaders feel it deserves after the federal government's failure to count 200 overseas Mormon missionaries as Utah residents in the 2000 Census.

The seat went instead to North Carolina, which was able to elect a 13th U.S. representative with an advantage over Utah of only 856 people.

Even if Congress fails to give Utah a fourth seat in 2007, rapid growth in the past five years virtually assures Utah a new seat after the 2010 Census is completed.

But come 2020, history could repeat itself. A recent state analysis obtained by the AP shows Utah will likely find itself battling — this time for a fifth seat — with Virginia in 2020, when a failure to count overseas Mormon missionaries as Utah residents could once again determine who wins additional representation.

Using state population estimates and census projections, in 2020, Utah would receive the 43th House seat — its fifth — under a complex apportionment formula. Oregon would be awarded the 43rd seat, Virginia just misses out.

But Utah's seat would be far from secure. If Oregon's population is 2 percent and Virginia's is 4 percent greater than projected, the analysis shows Virginia takes Utah's spot.

Statistically, it's a dead heat. "We're talking two-tenths of a percent, four-tenths of a percent. That's decimal dust," said Robert Spindle, the state's chief demographer.

State leaders remain bitter about losing out on the fourth seat after the 2000 Census, and they've been working on a plan to get it without waiting for another census.

They've endorsed a proposal that would take the extraordinary step of permanently expanding the 435-member House to 437 members next year. Utah would get its fourth seat while the District of Columbia would get its first, voting member.

Moving forward after 'Left Behind'

Christian authors begin series of novels based on New Testament

Los Angeles Times

Evangelical Christian authors Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins are publishing superstars famous for their alter-the-rapture "Left Behind" thrillers, which have sold more than 62 million copies and inspired three low-budget movies, a video game, a lawsuit and charges of anti-Semitism. Now, the pair have begun "The Jesus Chronicles," a series of four novels based on the New Testament.

This time, they're likely to rile biblical purists, even as they aim for "Da Vinci Code" fans hungry for less strident approaches to the mysteries of the Bible.

Though the books aren't built on premises as controversial as those underlying their previous series, in which Jews and others who don't convert die in a bloody battle, LaHaye and Jenkins say their message is the same. The end is coming. Be ready. Know the Bible.

"John's Story: The Last Jewitness (Book One of the Jesus Chronicles)" follows the last living apostle as he records the miracles of Jesus and later, after months of solitary labor in the marble mines, writes the psychedelic Book of Revelation. Here, John is 89, leading Christians in secret, spreading Jesus' teachings by word-of-mouth. Then Certinus, a new celebrity preacher, hits the Roman Empire, and his Gnostic sermons gather huge crowds. So along with two silekicks, everything's acolyte Polycarp and torturing martyr Ignatius, John sets out to write his Gospel.

Jenkins lives in the evangelical stronghold of Colorado Springs, Colo.; LaHaye and his



Authors Tim LaHaye, left, and Jerry B. Jenkins depict Jesus' life through the eyes of a disciple in 'John's Story.'

wife, Beverly, founder of Concerned Women for America, live in Rancho Mirage, Calif. Last week, midway through a weekend media tour, LaHaye and his younger, gray-haired co-author, Jenkins shared a sofa in their Los Angeles hotel suite and wearily defended their mission. They don't hate Jews, or for that matter, anyone whose faith differs from theirs, they said. They don't, as some have said, expect to clear land or convert Jews in Israel to prepare for their Messiah's return.

"We are, however, afraid for nonbelievers." The "Da Vinci Code," for example, shouldn't be given "an exalted position above Scripture," noted LaHaye, because the archeological evidence points to Jesus'

divinity. And, he added, more signs of an imminent rapture are evident now "than ever in the history of the world."

"That theme 'left behind' is a warning we want to give everybody in our world," said LaHaye, who at 80 still has a youthful head of dark brown hair and a blinding white smile. "You need to come to grips on who Jesus is so that you can decide to accept him or, if you choose to reject him, that's your choice. At least you should come to that decision or you're going to be left behind in a biblical sense. Our new book is not about prophecy, but we're still motivated by the same thing: recognizing the identity of Jesus."

"John's Story" is the first big title to be released through

Putnam Praise, a new Christian program of G.P. Putnam's Sons, and the publisher is capitalizing on the book's potential mass appeal, releasing it in time for the Christmas season, with an initial print run of 277,500 copies. Two weeks after its Nov. 21 publication, the book was already in its second printing. And it's being marketed as a bestseller with several full-page ads in USA Today, a public relations blitz of Christian radio stations, a mailing of more than 10,000 book samplers to "prophecy" conferences and a Christmas appearance on "Good Morning America."

"We were even on NPR in New York," Jenkins said, with a half-smile.

fraud policies, conduct annual audits of parishes and establish a uniform budgeting process that uses standardized software.

Study finds embezzlement a problem in many Catholic dioceses

VILLANOVA, Pa. (AP) — An overwhelming majority of respondents in a study of financial controls in U.S. Roman Catholic dioceses reported cases of embezzlement in the last five years. Eighty-five percent of the respondents in the study, who took part in the review told Villanova University researchers that internal thefts had been uncovered in their dioceses.

The report, written by Villanova professors Charles Zech and Robert West and supported by a grant from the Louisville Institute, did not include an estimate of the

money lost. But 11 percent of respondents said that embezzlements in the last five years exceeded \$500,000, while 29 percent reported cases of less than \$50,000.

In nearly all of the cases, police reports were filed, the survey found.

Zech and West undertook the study in response to the clergy sex abuse crisis, which

brought pressure on bishops to disclose how much they had paid in abuse-related costs and to be more open with parishioners in general about diocesan finances.

Forty-five percent of the more than 170 U.S. dioceses responded to questions for the report, which was released Dec. 13. The authors recommended dioceses establish

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In Rupert, a prayer for veterans

The Moving Wall comes to Mini-Cassia

Editor's note: Earlier this year, The Moving Wall — a transportable version of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial — visited Rupert. The Rev. Jerry Steele, pastor of the Rupert United Methodist Church, offered the following prayer, which is interspersed with the veterans' stories.

By Coreen Hart
Times-News correspondent

"As we stand in the presence of the memories of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, thank you, oh God, for the men and women of our armed forces. Protect them as they protect us. Defend them as they defend us. Encourage and strengthen their spirit, soul and body in the execution of their duties and responsibilities.

"May integrity and uprightness protect me, because my hope is in you." (Psalm 25:21)

Kathy Peterson, 58, Idaho Falls, served eight years in the U.S. Air Force in Thailand, followed by 12 years in the Navy. She is the granddaughter of Norman and Lillie Herrett, for whom the Herrett Center for Arts and Science on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls is named. The Herretts also founded Herrett Jewelers in Twin Falls. She now teaches wood-carving classes and rides a motorcycle on long road trips, selling a pin that she designed as a fundraiser for a new Disabled American Veterans

club. "My mother supported my going into the military," she said. "And when I came home it was really great. But I've only recently got started talking about some of the things that went on that caused me a few problems, because I didn't want to know how bad it was for me, dealing with our own guys That's the hurtful part. That you weren't even safe in your own quarters or your own base."

"I was the first enlisted female at U-Tapao Air Base in Thailand. It was a B-52 (bomber) base. I was a graphic specialist and artist."

"I was actually safer on the streets — city streets in Thailand, night or day — than I was on the base. It was a battle. The women on that base fought two battles, and one was with our side. You build a wall to protect yourself, and when that wall begins to fall, you're like why am I so upset because this (little thing) happened to me?"

Peterson says she suffers from the effects of exposure to chemicals and from debilitating migraine



The Disabled American Veterans commander for Idaho, Douglas R. Stewart, vividly remembers leading the first guy who came to rescue him the day he was injured in Vietnam.

"I can't keep a marriage together. But I go to church every Sunday. People tell me to give up my cigars. They should just keep their mouths shut. I have gotten real good at keeping things separate. I have never missed a day of work."

— Helmut Scheffner, Rupert

headaches. She is divorced.

"I know a lot of veterans who live out in the desert, homeless, where they can see what's coming. Or they live up in the mountains like little hermits, you know?" she said. "They keep away from people."

"May they be mentally and physically strong when required to face the challenges of combat. Undergird them with your Holy Spirit and might when they are called upon to endure the hardships of battle."

"Praise be to the Lord my rock, who trains my hands for war, my fingers for battle. He is my loving God and my fortress, my stronghold and my deliverer, my shield in whom I

take refuge, who subdues peoples under me." (Psalm 144:1-2)

"We thank you as well, oh Lord, for our veterans for their willingness to risk all so that our nation might dwell in peace and safety. May they find the honor and recognition they truly deserve. And especially let the names on this Vietnam Memorial Wall always be remembered for having served with honor and glory when our country called them to duty. We pray that you will heal the physical, spiritual and psychological wounds some of our veterans have suffered."

Linda Stewart, 57, of Idaho Falls is married to Douglas R. Stewart, who

About The Moving Wall

Vietnam veteran John Devitt of Stockton, Calif., attended the 1992 dedication ceremonies of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. where he vowed to make a transportable version of the wall so people who couldn't afford to travel to the nation's capital would be able to see and touch the names of friends or loved ones who died in the Vietnam War.

Using his own money, Devitt founded Vietnam Combat Veterans, Ltd. With the help of friends he built a half-size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, named The Moving Wall, was built and first put on display in Tyler, Texas, in 1984.

The Moving Wall has visited hundreds of small towns and cities, staying five or six days at each site. In 1987 Vietnam Combat Veterans built a second structure of The Moving Wall. A third structure was added in 1989. By 2006, there had been more than 2,000 hometown visits of The Moving Wall.

is commander of Idaho's Disabled American Veterans organization.

"I don't talk about it all that much," Linda Stewart said. "I been with him almost 20 years and he don't talk about it all that much. He's not a real open-type person. That's common among Vietnam veterans."

"It was never the same when he came back. He was doing ordination on an (aircraft) carrier about 1 in the morning. The jet was fixing to take off, and he wasn't quite finished underneath the jet. A CO2 (carbon dioxide) cylinder was under the plane where the landing gear would have run over it. If the jet had dove over that it probably would have exploded. But he dove underneath to get it out. The jet pilot decided to take off at that time," she said.

Her husband remembers that dark morning. "I was doing maintenance on the Sidewinder missile system on the plane. What I was doing was changing them nitrogen bottles in the cooling system for the missiles, because they are a heat-seeking missile. I felt the plane start to move, and my first instinct was, 'Where did I put that nitrogen bottle?'"

"It was laying crosswise of where the landing gear was, so I had to move it out of the way. The plane rolled across my foot and up my leg to the knee, and then they backed it off. I'm conscious. I'm standing on that leg the whole time. Didn't break any bones. Just made a big grease spot on the flight deck from all the muscle and skin tissue. That jet weighed 47,500 pounds. Twenty-

three and three-quarter tons." Stewart was flown to Danang Hospital in South Vietnam and then to the United States, where his leg was first removed — and then his foot was the knee after gangrene set in. Since his recovery he has ridden his Harley-Davidson motorcycle all over the United States. He is now travels extensively on behalf of the DAV.

"Bring a lasting peace to those who mourn the loss of comrades. Help them find your love and mercy so they may cope with the actions they may have had to take while they served their country. Make them realize that the rules of engagement in war do not always follow the laws of our faith."

Helmut Scheffner, 56, Rupert, is a truck driver. A Master's High School graduate, he served in Vietnam from 1968 to 1973 as a gunner on Navy gunboats up and down the Saigon River.

"We picked up the injured and died that the Marines brought to the river," Scheffner said. "Nine out of 10 were dead. They were in bags. My first reaction? I couldn't believe it. They had them in these bags, zipped up. That's how I knew they were dead. The Marines just went in and got them and I shot the gun over their heads to catch snipers."

"I don't think I've ever been the same. For the first five years after, I wanted to kill everybody. The anger I can't keep a marriage together. But I go to church every Sunday. People tell me to give up my cigars. They should just keep their mouths shut. I have gotten real good at keeping things separate. I have never missed a day of work."

Scheffner is grateful that he has never been wounded. But he wipes away tears every few minutes when forced to remember those days. "What price is on a wounded spirit?"

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven; a time to be born and a time to die, a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 and 8)

"We thank you for the presence of all who have gathered here this day; our government leaders, our military leaders, our community as we all offer prayers, honor, and appreciation for the sacrifices the men and women of our armed forces have given. May this be a time of remembrance, a time of healing, and a time to honor their lives and service. In your most holy and loving name, God of peace and justice and deliverance. Amen."

Times-News correspondent Coreen Hart can be reached at 436-1186 or by email at jinnrechen@safetlink.net.

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COMICS

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



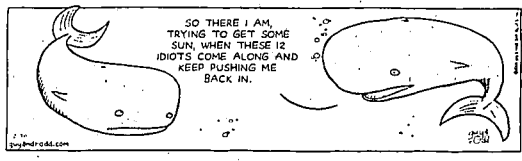
Baldo

By Hector O. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos



Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



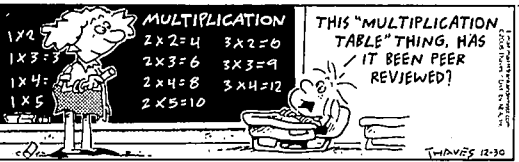
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Luan

By Greg Evans



Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Kiss, but don't tell, Sagittarius

IF DEC. 30 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: The "look of love" might be in your eyes as this New Year unfolds. If you are single it could be time for an important commitment; if you are married the time might be ripe for a second honeymoon. January is a fabulous time for you to reach your career aspirations as well as satiate your romantic desires. March may bring ample opportunities to improve your life on numerous levels, so be fearless and take advantage of all offers or advice that comes your way.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Celebrate the weekend with old acquaintances. Physical attractions may fade quickly, but true commitment and honesty gets stronger over time. Old flames might show up at the same party.

TAUROS (April 20-May 20): Maintain your dignity and self-respect. There is no reason to over-indulge. New Year's parties have a reputation as "amateur night" when people who shouldn't have one drink too many do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The tried and true deserves your attention. Stay in touch with old friends and participate in family holiday traditions. Put

HOROSCOPE

Jeraline Saunders

the year into perspective by looking into the past to know the future.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Discretion endears you to others. It takes more than mere chemical attraction to make a relationship work. Someone might contact you with confidential or sensitive information.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your lionlike love nature roars. Take pride in your ability to keep a promise. Any New Year's Eve resolution is very likely to be kept. Keep a very special romance hidden behind closed doors.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Accept your lot in life. Perhaps you have some extra responsibilities this evening or have drawn the short straw and must act as the designated driver. Drinkiced tea with impunity.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): When the clock strikes 12, be in the right person's arms. Whisper succulent sweet nothings and instead of a New Year's resolution you might get a New

Year's wish come true.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get everyone's ducks in a row. You and your mate must share dreams for the future as well as the same bedroom. This is an ideal time to discuss joint resolutions for the year ahead.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Kiss, but don't tell. In certain parts of Scotland, midnight is a time to exchange gifts, but in the modern world, a kiss will do. Make an early resolution to be more thrifty and economical.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Give the gift that keeps on giving. If you give your heart away, someone special might treasure it forever. If you give your cash away, you only end up with empty pockets.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make holiday traditions a priority. That "Auld Lunge Syne" feeling is definitely in the air, so old friends and lovers are delighted when you get in touch to wish them a Happy New Year.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Ring out the old and ring in the new. Surround yourself with old friends or business acquaintances. Pay homage to time honored traditions; have the champagne chilled and be ready to pop the cork.

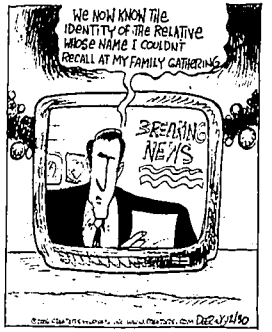
Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



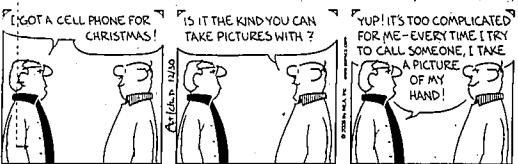
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



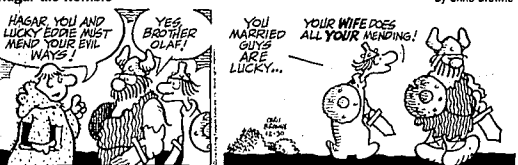
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



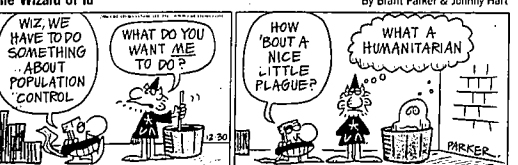
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Brother-in-law's attitude is bad for family business



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR ABBY: Our family owns a bar in a resort community. I run it, along with my mom and two of my sisters. Added to that mix is one of my brothers-in-law, "Jeff." Jeff is the problem.

Jeff manages the bar some nights, and he is becoming increasingly difficult to work with. He does a good job of managing in most areas. However, he is impossible to talk to. At the ripe old age of 26, he has become a know-it-all. If he thinks he's being criticized, he becomes combative, bossy or defensive. He is also very sensitive, and frankly, very immature.

I understand that Jeff loves our business and is dedicated to his job, but the problem is the way he takes over. He also likes to hold his position over employees, and his refusal to listen to what others have to say is making an impossible situation. If he weren't a part of the family, he would not be working here in his current capacity.

I have tried explaining that he must choose his words more carefully, and that he needs to listen and be a part of the team rather than always "the boss," but nothing gets through. I'm reluctant to upset the natural balance of our family or hurt Jeff or my sister, but something must be done. We're losing good employees and customers because of his attitude. What can I do?

—TRYING TO SAVE THE BUSINESS
DEAR TRYING: You have failed to recognize that "the business" is an entirely separ-

rate entity from "the family," and must be treated as such. What you might tolerate from a family member is not always acceptable in business. Because, I assume, your family's livelihood depends upon the business, you have a duty to nurture it and, if necessary, prune away anything that might threaten it.

My advice is to call a meeting of your "shareholders" and stage an intervention with your brother-in-law. Make it plain that there must be an immediate adjustment effective retroactively, or, much as you care about him, he will have to find other employment. Then act accordingly. Business is business.

DEAR ABBY: What do you do when your partner is verbally abusive? When he gets mad at me, he calls me a racially insulting name, and I'm not even black. I'm Hispanic.

I wasn't raised to talk to anyone like that, and it really bothers me that my partner feels that way about them and me. What am I supposed to do?

—LISA IN LOS ANGELES
DEAR LISA: Your partner is not only a verbal abuser, it appears he is also a bigot. What you are "supposed to do"

is dump him, because the person you have described cannot control his mouth and never learned how to express his emotions on an adult level. He will make your life miserable if you continue to allow it.

DEAR ABBY: I am a cleaning lady. My customers are like family to me. If I ever found drugs, cigarettes or alcohol in a minor's bedroom, I would inform the parents. Recently, however, I found used condoms and a homemade "used" sex toy.

I do not know what to do. The boys are approximately 8 and 12. The older one was involved with pornography both on the cable TV and on the internet. His parents handled it with therapy and locks on the TV and computer. Do I turn a blind eye and mind my own business? Even with drugs and alcohol, should I look the other way? Any advice would be helpful.

—CLEANING LADY IN N.Y.

DEAR CLEANING LADY: For a 12-year-old boy to have sexual urges is not unusual. However, because the boy was sexualized early and has a younger brother, it would be a good idea to mention what you found to their father and let him handle it from there. As for drugs and alcohol, possession of both by a minor is illegal and the parents should definitely be informed if the child is abusing either.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY MUSLIM READERS: A happy Eld Al Adnan to you all.

Babies, brown don't go together

A researcher discovered that babies are attracted to blue, red, purple and orange. They don't like brown all that much.

This day in history: Advertised as "absolutely fireproof," the Triquils Theater in Chicago burned out to be somewhat less than advertised. On Dec. 30, 1903, a fire broke out during a popular performance of a musical, "Mr. Bluebird Jr. Of the 10 people present, 602 died in the blaze, making it the most deadly single-building fire in U.S. history.

During the Franco-Prussian war of 1870-71, Prussian soldiers all received smallpox vaccines. The French Army didn't. As a result, the French Army lost 23,400 soldiers to smallpox. The Prussian Army lost only 287.



Random Kinds of Factness by Erin Barrett & Jack Mingo

New beekeepers typically buy honeybees in two- or three-pound boxes. Honeybees don't weigh much — a three-pound box contains 12,000 to 15,000 of the little bugs.

The research is in: If you're trying to skip a flat stone, tilt the spinning stone upward 20 degrees in relation to the surface of the water.

Probably the longest sentence ever handed down in a U.S. court of law was given to Charles Robinson of Oklahoma City. After being

convicted of rape, he was sentenced to 30,000 years in prison.

Lincoln Logs were invented by John Lloyd Wright, son of architect Frank Lloyd Wright. He got the idea from an anti-gravity construction method.

Panama hats are not from Panama. They originally came from Peru. The got their name because Panama became a major distribution area for them.

The little plastic icon Barbie dolls do not have a last name, and it isn't "Doll." It's Roberts. "He's the best physician," wrote Ben Franklin, "who knows the worthlessness of most medicines." Consumers in the western states buy more one-ply toilet paper than in the eastern states.

Offer of gift card helps nab man suspected of making fake 911 calls

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Knoxville Fire Department investigators used a ruse of their own to nab a man suspected of making a series of bogus emergency calls on his cell phone.

After receiving a false report of a gas leak on Dec. 14, firefighters compared notes. They confirmed 15 fake 911 calls over a two-month period, including four house fires, six car crashes and various other medical emergencies. All came from the same cell phone.

So they called the number and left a message saying the phone's owner had won a gift card from a major retailer. Fire Capt. Brent Seymour said.

Within an hour, Seymour received a call back from a man identifying himself as the phone's owner. "He willingly gave his name and address," Seymour said. "I told him I would be sending that gift card."

But that wasn't quick enough to suit the man. He wanted the gift card in time for Christmas. So the investigators set up a meeting for that evening. Seymour said he waited only a few minutes in a business parking lot before suspect Jason Wade Harris arrived on foot, identified himself as the gift card recipient and was arrested. Seymour said Harris' first

Odds and ends

words were, "You can't prove it." But General Sessions Judge Charles Cerny found the evidence strong enough Wednesday to send 15 felony counts of making fake reports against Harris to a Knox County grand jury.

Harris, 29, told authorities he thought he was doing taxpayers a favor by drawing otherwise lazy firefighters out of their cozy fire halls, according to court papers.

'Objects of Desire' room prime spot for proposal

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — When J.D. Fuller decided to exhibit his love for Lucy Baxter Nichols, he chose the Museum of Arts and Sciences.

The 22-year-old college student placed an engagement ring and a card on a pedestal in the "Objects of Desire" exhibit room.

When Nichols, 21, toured the exhibit, she spotted the ring. She then spotted Fuller coming out of a nearby room and screamed with joy, racing toward him and jumping into his arms.

Fuller got on his knees and asked Nichols to marry her.

"Yes," she answered. Fuller traveled from Cincinnati, Ohio, to Daytona Beach on Wednesday to fulfill the elaborate plan. "I guess I love her that much," he told the Daytona Beach News-Journal. "I didn't want to do it normal. I wanted to go to great lengths to show her my love."

Lost carjacking suspect turns himself into police

BORCA RATON, Fla. — A carjacking suspect called 911 and turned himself in to police after he crashed a stolen sport utility vehicle twice and got lost while fleeing the crime scene, authorities said.

Claude King, 31, called police from a Palm Springs pay phone and confessed to stealing the SUV on Tuesday night. The Palm Beach Post reported. "Um, I committed a crime," he told the police dispatcher. "I stole a vehicle."

He asked for officers to respond, but he hung up. When the dispatcher asked where the vehicle was, King didn't have an answer.

"I couldn't even tell you," he said. "I don't even know where I'm at."

Boca Raton police found King waiting on a curb.

— The Associated Press

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Morning fog possible, then partly cloudy and breezy. Highs in the lower 30s.
Tonight: Becoming mostly cloudy with continued brozy conditions. Lows in the upper teens.
Tomorrow: Areas of a m. fog possible, otherwise mostly cloudy and m. dry. Highs in the middle 30s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

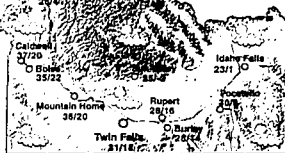
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IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Valley fog is possible early today and again late tonight and only Sunday. Conditions for today look to be mostly dry but scattered mountain snow showers are possible tonight and Sunday.

BOISE River bottom and low lying fog is likely this morning and possibly again on Sunday morning. Otherwise, today will be partly to mostly sunny with partly to mostly cloudy streaks on Sunday.

NORTHERN UTAH Conditions will be partly to mostly cloudy and generally dry this morning and Sunday. Fog is possible and brisk winds are likely in areas.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 42 at Lowell, Low: -10 at Stanley.
Weather key: Heavy snow, Snow, Partly cloudy, B, Breeze, Fog, M, Mostly cloudy, D, Dry, Clear, S, Snow showers, W, Windy.

GREGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
'To the full mind all nature is led. To the ill-mind mind the whole world burns and sparkles with light.'

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and high/low temperatures.

ALPHANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes various weather metrics.

MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for Jan 3, Jan 11, Jan 19, Jan 25.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various regional cities.

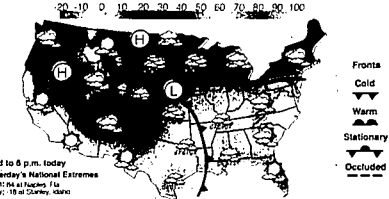
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various national cities.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various world cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various Canadian cities.

Hundreds of flights canceled as snow socks Denver, again

By Chase Squires Associated Press writer
DENVER — Denver's second big snowstorm of the holidays grounded scores of flights Friday during one of the busiest travel periods of the year and blanketed streets that never got plowed the last time.

Nebraska, western Kansas and the Texas and Oklahoma panhandles.
Tornado watches were issued for parts of Texas and Oklahoma on Friday evening as the leading edge of the storm approached. A tornado killed one person when it struck a home in west Texas, authorities said.

A weather slowdown at Denver has relatively little national ripple effect on airlines other than United and Frontier, which account for 60 percent of Denver's traffic, said David Gustaveter of the Air Transport Association, an industry group.

The New Year's weekend was extended by a day Friday as government offices and businesses closed in Denver and other Colorado cities.



A man sleeps on the floor at Denver International Airport early Friday where he spent the night after a second snow storm hit the Denver area delaying and canceling some flights.

But officials were optimistic they would avoid a rerun of the pre-Christmas blizzard that unloaded 2 feet of snow and shut down the vaunted "fall weather" airport for two days, stranding 4,700 passengers and snarling holiday travel around the country.

The latest storm hit the state Thursday morning, and the snow was expected to be spread out over two to three days, making it easier for plows to keep up. A foot or more of snow was forecast in Denver through Saturday.

Colorado Gov. Bill Owens again declared a state of emergency, putting the National Guard on standby. During the previous storm, troops rescued motorists and delivered diapers, blankets and baby formula to stranded travelers at the airport.

A 200-mile stretch of Interstate 70, the main east-west highway through the state, was closed from Denver to Colby, Kan. Greyhound canceled all bus trips out of Denver.

Colorado Gov. Bill Owens again declared a state of emergency, putting the National Guard on standby. During the previous storm, troops rescued motorists and delivered diapers, blankets and baby formula to stranded travelers at the airport.

AROUND THE NATION

TEXAS

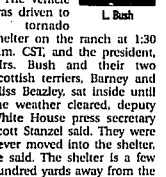
First couple take shelter during tornado alert
CRAWFORD — President Bush and first lady Laura Bush were moved to an armored vehicle on their ranch Friday when a 3 1/2 x 1/4 mile wide warning was issued in central Texas, the White House said.

CALIFORNIA

National mourning for Ford starts in hometown
PALM DESERT — Borne by eight U.S. servicemen in crisp dress uniforms, Gerald R. Ford's flag-draped casket was carried past his widow into their hometown church Friday for a public viewing that marked the start of six days of mourning for the former president.

PENNSYLVANIA

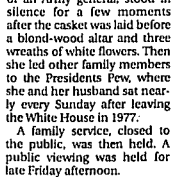
Extension cord likely sparked fatal fire
ALLENTOWN — An extension cord overloaded with Christmas decorations may have sparked a fire that swept through four downtown rows Friday, killing five people and injuring several others, officials said.



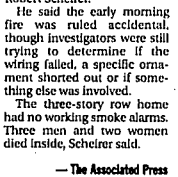
L. Bush



B. Ford



Mrs. Ford



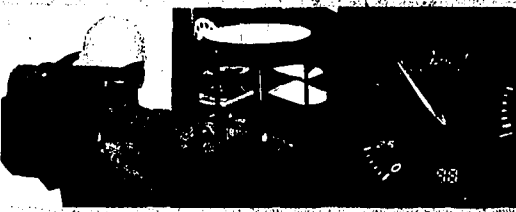
Firefighter

Advertisement for 'The Snow Center' featuring a woman and a child, with text about snow removal services and contact information.

Tires LES SCHWAB

Times-News
magicvalley.com

Classifieds



We care about quality. The Times-News strives for your ad to be error free. Please review your ad the first day it runs and call us with any questions.

Get it Sold!
208-733-0931 ext. 2
Phone Hours: M-F 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
Or to place an ad in person
Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am to 5:30 pm
132 Fairfield St. Twin Falls
or place your ad online at
www.magicvalley.com

Jobs Homes Rentals Ag Stuff Wheels

- 200 Employment**
218 Newspaper Carriers
301 Business Opportunities
306 Financial Services

- 501 Open Houses**
502 Homes for Sale
512 Farms/Ranches
513 Acreages and Lots
517 Condominiums
518 Mobile Homes

- 801 Furnished Homes**
802 Unfurnished Homes
803 Furnished Apartments
804 Unfurnished Apartments
805 Rooms for Rent
808 Mobile Homes
818 Rentals to Share

- 701 Livestock**
702 Dairy Supplies
703 Horses & Tack
704 Pets & Supplies
705 Farm Equipment
706 Farm Supplies
707 Irrigation
708 Seed & Fertilizer
709 Hay/Grain Feed
710 Produce
712 Miscellaneous
713 Farm Rentals
714 Pasture Wanted
715 Farm Auctions
716 Ag Services

- 050 Legal Notices**
101 Lost & Found
113 Child Care
802 Appliances
803 Bazaars/Crafts
805 Electronics
812 Auctions
822 Wanted to Buy
828 Garage Sales

- 801 ATVS**
902 Motorcycles
903 Watercraft
904 Campers/Shells
905 RVs
908 Snow Vehicles
907 Travel Trailers
1006 Trucks
1007 Truck Parts
1008 SUVs
1009 Van & Buses
1010 Automobiles



Visit us online anytime 24/7 at www.magicvalley.com



NEWSPAPER PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT TWIN FALLS, ID
KEZZ-FM, KLIX, KLIX-FM

On December 12, 2006, an application was tendered for filing with the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., for transfer of control of Clear Channel Communications, Inc., the corporate parent of Citicasters Licensee, L.P., the licensee of KEZZ-FM 95.7 MHz, KLIX AM1310 KHz, KLIX-FM 96.5 MHz, in Twin Falls, ID, from its current shareholders to Stockholders of BT Triple Crown Mergers Co., Inc. The general partner of Citicasters Licensee, L.P. is CITI GP, LLC and its limited partner is Citicasters FCC Holdings, Inc., both of which are wholly owned subsidiaries of Citicasters Co., which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Jacor Communications Company, which is wholly owned by Clear Channel Communications, Inc., a publicly-traded company. The officers and directors of one or more of these entities are: L. Lowry Mays, Randall Mays, Mark Mays, Alan Feld, B.J. McCombs, Theodor Strauss, John Williams, Phyllis Higgins, J.C. Watts, Perry Lewis, John Zachry, John Hogan, Bob Cohen, Don Perry, Paul Meyer, Andrew Levin, Leo Dolinger, Herbert W. Hill, Jr., David Wilson, Kathryn Mays Johnson, Jessica Marvontano, Bill Hamersley, Randy Palmer, John Tippit, Brian Coleman, Charles Dan, III, Stephanie Rosales, Joe Shannon, Dirk Eller, Paul Peterson, May Sich, Ace Horan, Chris Harrington, Scott Bick, Hamlet Newsum Jr., Richard Weil, William Koll, Jerome Kersting, Jeff Littlejohn, Tom Owens, Charlie Rahilly, Mike DeCuir, Rick Mangum, Matt Hupfeld, Tam Schurr, Susan Kans, Steve Davis, David Crowl, Brandy Newman, Kristine Eppes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government changes all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records and public meetings.

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to:
LEGAL ADVERTISING
The Times-News
PO Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho
83303-0548
email to
legal@magicvalley.com

Deadline for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS ARCHITECTURAL GENERAL SERVICES

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Filer School District No. 413 for "Request for Qualification for Architectural Services". The successful Architectural firm will provide services for facilities analysis and projects that may include, but are not necessarily limited to: new school facilities, remodels and additions, general site improvements and evaluation, and estimating of future needs. Written proposals in response to this RFQ will be accepted at the Filer School District No. 413, Administrative Offices, 700-B Stevens Avenue, Filer, Idaho 83328 until 3:00 p.m. (MST), January 22, 2007. Submittals must be sealed and identified on the outside as "Architectural Services" and include one (1) original and six (6) copies of the proposal. The original must be marked "original" and be dated and signed by a duly authorized partner or corporate officer. Proposals must address all items that are included in the RFQ packets which are available from John Graham, Superintendent at the above address, Phone: 208-326-5981; Email: jgraham@flier.k12.id.us and FAX: 208-326-3350. The Board of Trustees for School District No. 413 reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive all informality. Kermit Lear, Clerk of the Board

PUBLISH: December 23 and December 30, 2006
OPEN: January 22, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m. (MST)

- CROSS**
1 Works one's way up
6 Accumulated
15 Portable shelter
16 Garbage hauler's fee
17 Love of Theseus
18 Language like Provencal
19 Baton Rouge sch.
20 GOP rival
21 Hoods' guns
22 Delinquency
25 Extol
27 Good judgment
28 Jail
29 Humdrumless
31 Had a meal
33 Ancient country on the Aegean
34 Slow-witted
37 Eye maliciously
39 Noisy insect
41 USNA grad
42 Post-op, prog.
46 Entwined
47 Empathic
49 Hoop pile rug
50 Spin doctor
54 Supersonic sound
55 Story
56 Cat's au
57 Air-leak sound
58 Clean air org.
60 Circus tumbler
62 Mordant events
66 Of adolescence
67 Semiotic chief
68 Catalog customer
69 Gaffer's assistant

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12/30/06

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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- 6 Invalidates
7 AAA proposal
8 Gave one's consent
9 Lady's address
10 Gallery display
11 Overlook
12 Beauty parlor
13 Holy smokes!
14 Compact
20 in a proper manner
22 Soup soup
23 Unfilmmier
24 Bamboo stems
26 Internet letters
27 Escargot
30 Book before Nah.
32 "Mack the Knife" singer
34 Russian villa
35 Perfect
36 Bellamy of "The Iron Horse"
48 More long-stemmed
40 Rhythm instrument
43 Pol rodent
44 Oh, wool!
45 Lighter maker
48 Curd product
50 "The Republic" writer
51 Indy entry
52 Stuck in the mud
53 Make up (for)
57 Wise person
59 Special-interest grps.
61 Tavern
62 Cry noisily
63 Male swan
64 "Do Ya" rockers
65 Uter

Home Name New Look More Listings

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New Search Engine Agent Profiles Featured Homes Open Houses "What's My Home Worth?" Mortgage Calculator
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110 HOMEHEALTH CARE

Lost and Found
 FOUND - Wirehead car. Call to identify car and location lost. 208-733-0406
 FOUND car, affectionate black, missing part of one ear. Near Anderson Lumber. Call 733-7374
 FOUND Mt Pin in the report area. Please call to describe. 208-290-1919
 LOST female black Lab 6 years old. Pink collar with tag "Ami". South of Twin Falls by Franklin Building Supply. Reward. Call 208-200-0769 or 731-8003

200 Employment

COOK part-time mornings in Buhl for retired couple. Hospital or institutional days preferred. Hours noon, 9:00-5:00. Call 208-731-3187.
Child Care Services
 Licensed Child Care day and swing shift. Meals & snacks, ICCP 208-735-4193

115 Community Events

ART WORKSHOP
 Beginners-Advanced Starting January 27th. Understanding Light, Form & Color! With Marla J. Smith the Artist's Atelier. Please call 825-4119 for details

200 Employment

ART advertising is subject to the newspaper's standard of acceptance. The Times-News reserves the right to edit, abbreviate, decline or properly classify any ad. Receipt of copy via remote entry (fax, email, etc.) does not constitute final acceptance by this newspaper. The advertiser, not the newspaper, assumes full responsibility for the truthful content of their advertiser message.

Deadline for Classified: Fri. Noon for Sat. Fri. 2pm for Sun. Mon. & Tues.

Editorial: Cassidy Friedman 735-3241
 Circulation: 733-9231, ext. 1

All of us at the Times-News wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

108 Professional Services

Bankruptcy Chapter 7
 Guaranteed lowest price for attorney representation. We are a debt relief agency. Free Consultation Call 1-866-688-2399.

BUY IT! SELL IT!

A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FIND EVERY NEED

BUY IT! SELL IT!

BEAUTY

Beauty Demonstrators need in Twin Falls to promote beauty & skin care products: Fridays & Saturdays. Now through 2007. \$17/hr. E-mail getal@arcenorelflowise.com

Classified Private Party Ads

Requires pre-approval prior to publication. Major credit/debit cards, and cash accepted. Check processing over the phone.

733-0931
 The Times-News

CLERICAL

File/ Mail Clerk, PT, Mon-Fri, 3pm-5pm. Subject to preemployment drug test. Apply at Gem State Paper & Supply, Co. 1001 Highland Ave E, Twin Falls, ID 83301

200 Employment

CLERICAL
 PT general office, clerical phone skills and general knowledge of bookkeeping. Computer experience helpful. Send resume to: Box 93332 c/o Times-News PO Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303

200 Employment

DISPATCHER
 Night Dispatcher for long haul trucking company. Dispatching exp. preferred. Must have good computer and telephone skills. Full-time position. Insurance, 401K, paid vacation. For resumes & wage requirements to 208-778-5001
 Attn: Robert Brice Idaho Milk Transport Inc. Burley, ID

200 Employment

DRIVER
 Delivery Driver for gas & diesel wanted in Gooding area. Class A & B Licenses required. Call 208-934-4151.

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 CDI-A Truck Drivers. 45 states, walking floors 11 western states. 32 cents/mile. Per diem. Annual pay increases. PTO. Medical insurance. 208-731-0234

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Class A Hazmat. Hazmat training & experience required. Excellent Benefits. Drug Free Workplace Applications at 1330 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8pm-Mon-Fri.

GENERAL DISC VERY

Need money for the holidays? Immediate Positions Available!

*No Sales Involved
 *Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour
 *All Paid Training!
 *Flexible Scheduling - Pick the Days You Want to Work!
 *Shift Start Times Coordinate with School Schedules!
 *Bonuses offered on a monthly basis!
 *Fun, Positive work environment
 Great for first time job or career!

208-734-8050 or 1-866-253-5480
 www.transylvaniamusic.com

DISPATCH

Operations/Dispatcher Sunfire Express, Inc. Twin Falls, ID
 Exciting career opportunity for a operations person in a fast paced Truck Load Motor Freight environment. Successful candidates will have a minimum of 2 years experience in the field of transportation logistics and exhibit professionalism and possess exceptional leadership and decision making skills. Computer experience is a must. We offer comprehensive and outstanding benefits. For consideration send resume to Sunfire Express Inc. Human Resources PO Box D Twin Falls, ID 83301. NO PHONE CALLS.

MEDICAL

Home Health & Hospice
 Come grow with us...

Due to our high volume of clientele, Idaho Home Health & Hospice is now accepting applications for a Full-time DME Support Clerk, a Part-time RN, LPN & CNA. IH&H offers a GREAT benefits package after 90 days, continuing education and GREAT incentive programs to all staff. Come be a part of a caring environment! Apply at 826 Eastland Drive or call 208-734-4061 for questions. EOE

NEWSPAPER

CIRCULATION
 The Times-News is seeking a District Sales Manager in our Twin Falls Circulation Department. This is an excellent opportunity for an energetic and ambitious professional to bring their skills and ideas to a growing organization. This entry-level management position includes responsibilities in managing youth and adult carriers, sales promotions, collections and customer service. The successful candidate must have a valid driver's license and good driving record along with good time management skills. Must be dependable and be able to work alternating weekends.

The Times-News offers an excellent benefits package which includes medical, dental, vision, life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employee stock purchase plan, paid holidays and vacation. Check out our website at www.magicvalley.com.

To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to: Times-News Attn: Triha Mitchell P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, ID 83303 E-mail: tmmitchell@gmagicvalley.com

200 Employment

DRIVER
 Now hiring Bus Drivers Paid Training Western States Bus Call 208-733-9003

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Rich Thompson Trucking Inc. WANTS YOU, DRIVER!!!
 NW OTR: Plant to plant Home Wrecking Local routes, home daily also avail. 0% Quarterly Safety Bonus
 O \$1000 Sign-on Bonus For Qualified, Paid Haulers
 Guaranteed Pay Increases, Full Benefit Package Avail. P/T/F/T
 Welcome, Class A, CDI, W/T/N Eng. Come see us @ 23 West 100 South in Jerome or call (208) 324-3511

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Class A Hazmat. Hazmat training & experience required. Excellent Benefits. Drug Free Workplace Applications at 1330 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8pm-Mon-Fri.

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200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Class A Hazmat. Hazmat training & experience required. Excellent Benefits. Drug Free Workplace Applications at 1330 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8pm-Mon-Fri.

200 Employment

DRIVER
 Now hiring Bus Drivers Paid Training Western States Bus Call 208-733-9003

200 Employment

DRIVERS
 Rich Thompson Trucking Inc. WANTS YOU, DRIVER!!!
 NW OTR: Plant to plant Home Wrecking Local routes, home daily also avail. 0% Quarterly Safety Bonus
 O \$1000 Sign-on Bonus For Qualified, Paid Haulers
 Guaranteed Pay Increases, Full Benefit Package Avail. P/T/F/T
 Welcome, Class A, CDI, W/T/N Eng. Come see us @ 23 West 100 South in Jerome or call (208) 324-3511

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 Class A Hazmat. Hazmat training & experience required. Excellent Benefits. Drug Free Workplace Applications at 1330 Addison Ave W, Twin Falls 8pm-Mon-Fri.

JUMBLE

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

ORFOL
 WARC
 OWWIN
 DAPOAG

Answer here: THE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME
 by Henri Arnold and Mike Argilston

You should see the inside
 What a beauty
 EITHER WAY, IT CAN BE AMAZING.

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

Yesterday's Jumbles: BRAND IGLOO NIBBLE HEALTH
 Answer: What Dad had when he finally fixed the faulty fixture - A "LIGHT" DINNER



3.9% APR on Select New Hondas*

AMAZING SAVINGS

2007 HONDA ACCORD LX

Automatic AM/FM CD Keyless Entry Stock #117326 Model #CM5457E

Was \$21,919 Save \$1,931

or \$239 mo.

16 month lease 26¢ per mile & 2¢/mi. for 2007 models annually \$2.63 per lease vehicle

PILOT EX 4X4

V-6, 152, Power windows, locks, doors, 4x4 Cruise, 8 Passengers, Alloy, Air, Backup Monitor, Model #FHM312W

Was \$31,939 Save \$2,680

\$29,259

RIDGELINE RTS

Automatic, 4x4 6 disc CD, Alloy wheels, Dual Climate control, Cruise, ABS, Air conditioning, Stock #21787, Model #RTM167W

Was \$31,668 Save \$3,680

\$27,988

CRV LX 4X4

Automatic transmission, Keyless entry, AM/FM CD, Stock #177847, Model #CM427E7W

Was \$22,794 Save \$1,306

\$21,488

ELEMENT EX FWD

Automatic transmission, Keyless entry, 201 Radio, Power windows locks, Stock #20515, Model #FHM167W

Was \$21,374 Save \$3,386

\$17,988

SAVE THOUSANDS

THE #1 HONDA CERTIFIED DEALER IN THE MAGIC VALLEY

2006 HONDA CIVIC EX

NOW \$16,986

SO TO CHOOSE!

2006 HONDA CIVIC EX, 2006 HONDA CRV EX, 2006 HONDA ACCORD LX, 2006 HONDA RIDGELINE, 2006 HONDA ELEMENT EX, 2006 HONDA PILOT EX, 2006 HONDA CR-V EX, 2006 HONDA ACCORD LX, 2006 HONDA RIDGELINE, 2006 HONDA ELEMENT EX, 2006 HONDA PILOT EX

MIDDLELEKOFF HONDA

Years Supporting and Honoring

208.733.7700 www.middleleekoffhonda.com

DELIVER A BUNDLE AND MAKE ONE, TOO!

Make \$350.00 every 2 weeks!

Bundle Hauler needed for in-town Burley & Twin Falls areas

The Times-News is now accepting applications for reliable, independent contractors to distribute the newspaper to our news dealers, carriers & vending machines.

Dependable truck w/hell, or a van needed. Valid driver's license and insurance required.

To apply: Fill out an application at the Times-News office, 132 Fairfield St. West, Twin Falls; or email resume to: apcacham@gmagicvalley.com; or call 733-3252.

MAKE MONEY NOW!

Times-News magicvalley.com

su .do ku

© Puzzles by Pappocom

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

HARD #24

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 todays puzzle on page C-16.

200 Employment

DRIVERS
CDL Class A
good pay.
Call 208-735-7300

MAINTENANCE
person for
Hazon Heating
Authority, FT. Contest
Box #218-625-5823

MANUFACTURING
Sears Mfg Co.
is accepting
applications for the
following FT positions:
•Packaging
•Production
•Material Handler
•Warehouse
•Production
•Machinist

\$9-\$12/hour
(depending on position)
Compl. benefits,
employee health,
dental, life insurance,
vacation, paid holi-
days, & 401k plan.
Applications available
at:
Sears Mfg
Plant
2152 S. Lincoln
Jerome, Idaho
83401
Equal Opportunity Employer

MARKETER
Get paid to wave.
Must be outgoing &
energetic.
No experience
necessary.
Call 866-871-1040.

MECHANIC
DeWitt Diesel
Diesel Mechanic for
heavy equipment and
construction.
Must have own tools.
Excellent pay and
benefits available.
Call 208-280-3492

MEDICAL
TWIN FALLS
CNA Center
Come join our
team. You are a
norma like
atmosphere waiting
to change the
concept of care
centers in our area.
Career advancement
a culture change
with us.

GENERAL
Developmental
Therapy in Shoshone/
Richfield, 25-30
hr/week, \$8.00/hr.
During the school year.
Must have high
school diploma.
Friday 316-2014

HVAC
Radiant
Heating & HVAC
Technicians
Service Technicians
needed in Sun Valley
area. Tools provided,
bonuses, 4 day
work week.
Hite-Dudley LLC
Ryan, 471-6536

JANITORIAL
National Janitorial
company has
immediate part-time
day positions open in
the Twin Falls area.
Starting wage
\$7-\$8.50/hour DOE.
Please call 420-4899.

JOIN OUR GROUP NOW!
We are a leading car dealer seeking a few good
people to join our fast-growing team. We offer
training and development, excellent compensation,
your goals, both professional and financial.

LET'S TALK!
✓ Up to 3% 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
208-735-2480

SALES
Advertising Sales Representative /
Real Estate Specialist
The Times-News is seeking an
enthusiastic, self-motivated and goal-
driven individual to join our advertising
sales team. This individual will develop
and sell advertising campaigns to
existing clients and potential advertisers,
service advertiser accounts, write ad copy
and prepare sales presentations.
Experience in real estate sales is a plus.

The successful applicant should possess
excellent verbal and written communi-
cation skills, effective time management
and organizational skills. The ability to
multi-task and work with deadlines in a
fast-paced environment are essential.
Sales experience or a bachelor's degree
is preferred; must possess a valid
driver's license, reliable transportation
and good driving record.

We offer an excellent benefits package
which includes medical, dental, vision,
life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employ-
ee stock purchase plan, paid holidays
and vacation. To learn more about the
Times-News and its parent company,
check out our website at
www.magicalvalley.com or www.lee.net

To apply, please send a cover letter
and resume to:
Times-News,
Attn: Human Resources,
Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403
or email mary.karren@lee.net

200 Employment

MECHANIC
Experienced and energetic,
Under limited
supervision perform
skilled mechanical
repair and preventive
maintenance work on
automotive, small
engine and diesel
heavy equipment.
Ability to keep
accurate records of
equipment repairs
and service of all
equipment in fleet.
Pay DOE. Benefits.
Halley Murray
208-735-1181

See classifieds
Use the Classifieds
to assist you in your home
repairs 733-0931.

200 Employment

MECHANIC
Experienced in
construction heavy
equipment.
5 years diesel
engine & hydraulics
preferred. Benefits
and paid vacation.
Send resume to
Inte-Weat
Equipment Sales
PO Box 2862
Twin Falls, ID
83303 or call
208-733-3003
800-201-9549
208-734-1747 fax

Be Seen. Be Heard.
Use the Classifieds
733-0931 ext.2.

200 Employment

MECHANIC
Twin Falls
Mechanic needed
to do repairs on potato
loading equipment,
experience in
electrical and
hydraulics needed.
Experience and own
tools required. CDL a
plus. Bonifits.
Include medical,
401(k) and vacation.
Please call
733-6657 or 731-2495

MEDICAL
Full-time CNA
needed
Osano Plaza
208-420-5599
Drug-Free Workplace

200 Employment

MEDICAL
NO EXPERIENCE
NECESSARY
\$150 \$
Sign On Bonus
Direct care \$7 to start
Individuals w/ sign
language start at a
higher wage DOE.
Great Benefits-Must
have drivers license &
car insurance. Assist
persons with develop-
mental disabilities to
achieve greater inde-
pendence. Apply at
Inclusion South, Inc.
1411 Falls Ave. #205
Located in the Locust
Drove Business
Park Twin Falls, ID
83301

RESTAURANT
Now hiring Cooks &
Wait Staff for days &
evenings Apply In
person
Addison Plaza Hut

200 Employment

PROFESSIONAL
Developmental
Specialist.
Energetic, organized
individual with a
bachelors degree in
human service field
Wago DOE.
Send resume to
PO Box 1862
Twin Falls, ID 83303

200 Employment

DRIVERS
CDL-A Truck Drivers.
Van/Reefers
45 states, working
100% in western
states. 32 cent/mile.
Per diem. Annual
pay increases.
Paid vacation.
Medical insurance.
208-731-0224

DRIVERS
For Western and
upper Midwest runs
2 years OTR exp.
tanker endorsement
req. Food grade
products. Earn up to
38 cpm with base rate
and bonuses DOE
800-987-2171.
Idaho Milk Transport,
Inc. Burley, ID.

200 Employment

DRIVERS
TOP GUN
TRUCK DRIVING ACADEMY
Class "A" CDL
Instruction
735-6656

DRIVERS
Class A CDL.
Based, Northwest.
Willing to run 8400 mi.
a month? Want to
make \$42,000+ a year,
receive company paid
401k, holidays,
vacation, and be home
most weekends.
Insurance, benefits and
sign on bonus
TCT, Boise, ID
800-835-5233

200 Employment

DRIVERS
Immediate
Opening!!
Class B Driver.
Excellent Benefits
Available!
Drug Free Workplace
Applications at
J & C Custom
1330 Addison Ave
W, Twin Falls
8am-5pm Mon-Fri

HVAC
Radiant
Heating & HVAC
Technicians
Service Technicians
needed in Sun Valley
area. Tools provided,
bonuses, 4 day
work week.
Hite-Dudley LLC
Ryan, 471-6536

JANITORIAL
National Janitorial
company has
immediate part-time
day positions open in
the Twin Falls area.
Starting wage
\$7-\$8.50/hour DOE.
Please call 420-4899.

JOIN OUR GROUP NOW!
We are a leading car dealer seeking a few good
people to join our fast-growing team. We offer
training and development, excellent compensation,
your goals, both professional and financial.

LET'S TALK!
✓ Up to 3% Commission
✓ Up to \$2500 Monthly Bonus
✓ Paid Vacation
✓ Guaranteed Monthly Salary

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If you are a people person, self-motivated,
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another job.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP!
CALL TIFFANEE FOR AN APPOINTMENT
208-735-2480

SALES
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enthusiastic, self-motivated and goal-
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Experience in real estate sales is a plus.

The successful applicant should possess
excellent verbal and written communi-
cation skills, effective time management
and organizational skills. The ability to
multi-task and work with deadlines in a
fast-paced environment are essential.
Sales experience or a bachelor's degree
is preferred; must possess a valid
driver's license, reliable transportation
and good driving record.

We offer an excellent benefits package
which includes medical, dental, vision,
life insurance, 401(k) retirement, employ-
ee stock purchase plan, paid holidays
and vacation. To learn more about the
Times-News and its parent company,
check out our website at
www.magicalvalley.com or www.lee.net

To apply, please send a cover letter
and resume to:
Times-News,
Attn: Human Resources,
Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403
or email mary.karren@lee.net

PROFESSIONAL
Filer School District is taking applications
for a Psychosocial Rehabilitation
(PSR) provider (7hrs/day-Hollister
enrollment) to work in the school
setting with children with emotional
disturbances. The PSR's aim is to help
students with emotional disabilities.
over those with long-term serious mental
illnesses, to readjust to school and
community life. The position requires at
least a bachelor's degree in a
behavioral science, education, or
medicine and must have at least 21
semester credit hours in human service
fields such as psychology, social work,
special education, counseling, and
psychosocial rehabilitation.
Pay is commensurate with experience.
The closing date will be open until filled.
To apply contact:
Sandra Roberts, Filer School District
700 B Stevens Ave, Filer, Idaho 83328
or by calling 208-326-5981

TECHNICIANS
WE NEED TECHNICIANS!
YEAR ROUND EMPLOYMENT!
No Experience? No Problem!
Must have own Truck or Cargo Van.
Piece Rate Wages \$25 and Up per Job!
Get paid for the work you do!
Great Benefits
Paid Training and Certification
EO/DFW Free
Fax to 208-461-2108
Attn: Chris or email
nmanager@starwestsatellite.net
For Details Call 866-317-9399

STAR WEST SATELLITE

Graphics
The Wood River Journal is looking for a
talented and experienced
Graphic Designer
with photography skills to join our design
team.
This multi-faceted full time position will
begin in January and carry the responsi-
bility of page layout and design,
advertising design and photojournalism.
Candidates must have experience with
print media in a fast-paced environment
and have excellent proofreading and
grammatical skills. Proficiency in Quark,
Photoshop and Illustrator is a must.
Candidate must have excellent customer
service skills and be able to work
amicably in a small office alongside other
employees.

The Journal offers paid vacations without
"blackout" periods, 401K, health in-
surance after 30 days, stock options,
profit sharing and a pleasant work envi-
ronment. Salary is commensurate with
experience.
Send resume, references, three exam-
ples of design work, and cover letter to
publisher@woodriverjournal.com,
Fax 208-788-0083 or
mailto:
507 South Main Street,
Halley, ID 83333.
The Journal is a drug-free workplace
and applicants must pass a drug test
prior to hiring.
EOE

YEAR END EVENT
LAST CHANCE!

2006 NISSAN TITAN CREW CAB
MSRP \$77,075
ROB'S DISCOUNT \$7,500
FACTORY REBATE \$2,250 OR 3.1% FOR 60mo. OAC
HOLIDAY CASH \$500
\$72,325

2006 NISSAN XTERRA S 4X4
MSRP \$28,745
ROB'S DISCOUNT \$1,769
FACTORY REBATE \$1000
NMAC CUSTOMER CASH (LIMITED BY FINANCING WITH NMAC) \$300
\$25,476

2006 NISSAN PATHFINDER S 4X4
MSRP \$28,555
ROB'S DISCOUNT \$1,777
FACTORY REBATE \$500 OR 5.1% FOR 60mo. OAC
\$26,308

2006 NISSAN ALTIMA 2.5
MSRP \$23,135
ROB'S DISCOUNT \$1,198
FACTORY REBATE \$2,000 OR 2.1% FOR 60mo. OAC
ENG. DISC. REBATE \$1,000
\$18,939

2006 NISSAN TITAN KING CAB LE
MSRP \$31,215
ROB'S DISCOUNT \$2,720
FACTORY REBATE \$2,750 OR 2.1% FOR 60mo. OAC
HOLIDAY CASH \$500
\$25,345

NATIONAL YEAR END SALES EVENT

ROB GREEN 735-7900
1080 Blue Lakes Blvd. N
www.GreenAutoGroup.com

New Name • New Look • New Features • More Listings

Magic Valley HomeSeller

magicvalley.com

- New Search Engine
- Agent Profiles
- Featured Homes
- Open Houses
- "What's My Home Worth?"
- Mortgage Calculator

Click the Magic Valley HomeSeller button on our homepage magicvalley.com.

502 Homes For Sale

AMSTERDAM Historic Hotel and General Store with 27 acres. Currently residential with 6 bedrooms. Close to Jackpot. \$238,000

NELSON REALTY LLC

734-3930

BUHL Family Outgrowing Budget? Come see this 2300 sq-ft, 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with cozy fireplace, gas heat, pantry and garden 5900. Close to post office, grocery store and bank. \$120,000

NELSON REALTY LLC

734-3930

CHOICE ACRES

TWIN FALLS Beautiful, spacious, well-maintained 3 bdrm, 3 bath home on 2.99 acres. Close to schools south of Twin \$349,000

FILER Nice, remodeled 4 bdrm, 2 bath country home North of Curry Crossing, 3.25 acres. \$285,000

BURLY-OAKLEY Remodeled 5 bdrm, 2 bath brick home, 5370 sq ft, formal dining, great room, 3 acres. \$300,000



733-0404

www.rjrealtymag.com

DIETRICH Public Auction. House on 3+ acres in Dietrich city limits. January 3rd 6 pm at Dietrich \$25,000. Minimum \$25,000. 544-2158 or 334-4400

FILER 4 acres, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath house, out buildings, water shares and orchard. \$199,000. Call 209-293-5274 or view Listing 207268580@realestatebyowner.com

HANSEN cute 3 bedroom 2 bath, remodeled inside. Walking distance to great schools. \$91,260. Call 308-6436 or 404-8509

JEROME Great Value! 3 bedroom home on 1/3 acre for just \$123,000.

NELSON REALTY LLC

734-3930

KIMBERLY \$499,000 Spectacular home in premier NE location. Call Carolyn Cutler 420-3381 for more information. Call 208-273-1126 PC #7671

GEM

STATE REALTY, INC. 208-734-0400

Times-News will be closed Mon. Dec. 25th for Christmas and Mon. Jan. 1st for New Years.

Deadline for Classified: Fri. Noon for Sat. Fri. 9pm for Sun. Mon. & Tues.

Editorial: Cassidy Friedman 207-393-0311, ext. 1

All of us at the Times-News

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

502 Homes For Sale

KIMBERLY Newly Remodeled! 1,280 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, garage, Large fenced back yard. Ready to move in now! \$139,900. Call 208-734-3198 or 208-420-1321

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath, complete remodel ready 1007. Approx 1000 sq ft + full basement. Great great fenced yard 1900 Shoup Ave. E. (behind Smith) Won't last at \$107,950. Call Eric 731-5745

TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom 2 bath, 1,586 sq. ft. Great Location, great fenced yard. \$164,500 make offer. Call Suzie Richardson Canyonwide Realty 208-420-3765 or susie@realestate.com

TWIN FALLS brick house, 2 bdrm possibly 3, 2 bath, 1719 sq ft, 1500 Larkspur Dr. (myweb.cablonet.net/overacres) \$23-4224

TWIN FALLS For Sale By Owner! One of a kind Upgrades, ready to move in, 3 bdrms, 2 1/2 baths. Near schools & shopping. Charming & well built. \$259,900. 2087 Stadium Blvd. 208-735-9933

TWIN FALLS Free MLS Search www.twinfallshome.com Free list of for sale homes www.magicvalleyhome.com What's your home value? www.magicvalleyhome.com

TWIN FALLS No money down homes www.twinfallshome.com

502 Homes For Sale

TWIN FALLS New Home! No Money Down! Call Starting Under - \$130,000 \$782/mo 6.0% APR 30 yrs Landscaping incl. Choose your plan & colors. Free info www.TwinFallz.com or 1-888-603-6339 ID#103

TWIN FALLS North

Points 1412 Annie Dr. E. Now 2200 sq ft. 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 2 story 2 car garage, gas heat, fireplace, AC, stove, dishwasher, microwave, oak cabinets, laminate floor, open floor plan, 475 sq ft front porch, and rear rock veneer. \$265,000 by appointment. 208-308-4920

TWIN FALLS Remodeled 3 bdrm, 1 bath, garage, 1,166 sq. ft. on main level with basement. Large fenced lot with 1/4 parking. \$119,000.

TWIN FALLS New home to be completed March, in Rock Creek Trail Estates, 1,536 sq. ft., Buy now - you pick colors, flooring and upgrades. \$179,900. Call 208-731-1415

WENDELL 3 bedroom 2 bath home 1,500 sq. ft., fenced yard, by elementary school. \$105,000. Call 208-670-3077

Be Seen. Be Heard. Use the Classifieds 733-0931 ext. 2

502 Homes For Sale

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. *Annual status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodian, pregnant women and people securing custody of a child under 18. This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complete an equal housing opportunity form call HUD toll-free telephone number at 800-367-8277. The Toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 800-927-6275.

512 Farms/Ranches/Dairies

Idaho Water Company We buy water rights that don't qualify for CREP. 410-4-038

Why keep it when you don't need it? Sell those unwanted items in the Classifieds today. 733-0931

519 Acreage and Lots

BUHL \$59,900 Fantastic view from your private 5 acre parcel with views of Snake River. Call Kathi Schroeder 731-9819 or go to kathischroeder@gmail.com M.S. #398245209 PC#5971

GEM

STATE REALTY, INC. 208-731-0400

MAGIC VALLEY AREA Are you ready to help BUILD your OWN home? Would you like to learn new skills and get to know your neighbors in the process? If so, *Mercy Housing Idaho* may be for you! Funded by USDA-RD and IHFA

For more information please call toll free 208-737-1470 or 1-866-335-2087

Call 539-4003

COME SEE US AT OUR 6-DAY OPEN HOUSE! Tuesday, Dec. 26 through Sunday, Dec. 31 from 14 pm.

Call 539-4003

Call 539-4003

Call 539-4003

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Call 539-4003

513 Acreage and Lots

BUHL 9 or 5 acres. \$120,000 or \$65,000. View and location. Call 208-543-4238

515 Commercial Property

WHO can help YOU sell your property? Classifieds Can! 733-0931 ext. 2 www.magicvalley.com

518 Mobile Homes

CASH NOW For 3 & 2 bedroom mobile. Call 212-6554.

KIMBERLY E-Z down, E-2 payments, beautiful 3 and 2 bedrooms. Call 208-410-2392. Shopping this Classifieds will save you time and money. 733-0931

JEROME/TWIN FALLS

New commercial buildings ready for occupancy May 2007. Located in the hub of Magic Valley's new 250 acre Crossroads Point Business Center. Junction of US 93 & Hwy 84. Shop/office, light industrial, commercial & retail. Lease or buy. Call as soon as possible so we may customize these buildings to suit your business needs. Fee free to call for more information or free turn-key estimates 208-404-4345 dragconstruction.com/crossroads.htm

NEW ON MARKET!

OPEN HOUSE

Saturday December 30 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

Call 982-7569

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Southern Idaho Home Style

Featuring the finest builders

Coming in the January 28th edition of the Times-News

• Landscaping • Decorating • Roofing • Flooring • Financing • Real Estate • Electrical • Plumbing • Title • Heating/AC • Furniture • and so much more

Be part of the winter edition! Advertising deadline is January 8th. Contact your ad representative or **Chris Garcia at 735-3225**. cgarcia@magicvalley.com

Southern Idaho Home Style

EXTENDED DEADLINE!

MOVE RIGHT IN! Completely remodeled 3 bedrooms 1 bath. Yard is well-kept and the home is spotless! \$119,000 9826303

YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS YARD! 3 bedrooms 2 baths, very large family room for big-size TV and growing family. \$169,200 9823261

IN BUHL great family home, terrific basement, 5 bedrooms 3 baths with extensive remodeling throughout. Plenty of room for RV, huge garage/shop. \$239,900 9826831

SUPER BACK YARD with mature trees. Brick home in NE Twin Falls, built 1981, 3 bedrooms 2 1/2 baths on main level plus bright basement. \$325,000 98262742

TRI-LEVEL WITH BASEMENT on 1 acre, 5 bedrooms 4 baths, spacious master living room, kitchen and eating bar plus formal dining, 2 wood-burning stoves and much more. \$278,900 98273191

David Palmer 733-9199, Dan Palmer 731-3060, Jim Harvitt 731-4144, James Brinkley 733-9633, John Brinkley 733-9633

Heidi Lewis 539-4870, Lark Brygg 324-1110, David Palmer 733-9633, Carolyn 733-9633, Jan Curtis 948-9027

208-734-5650

510 Cemetery Lots

SUNSET MEMORIAL PARK Cemetery lots \$600 each or all 3 for \$1600. 208-543-5723.

601 Furnished Homes

cutting edge REALTY INC. TWIN FALLS

Have a home in the much heralded Sawtooth School district, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, gas fireplace, move in allowance. Avail furn or unfurn. Call 208-735-5342.

Classified Department

Classified Sales Representatives are available from 8:00 am-5:30 pm Monday-Friday. Call our office in Twin Falls: 733-0931 ext. 2.

602 Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 1 bdrm, 817 1/2 sq. ft. No pets. \$400 month + \$500 deposit. Call 208-731-4941.

BUHL 2 bdrm, 1 bath, in-law apt, appliances, \$550 + dep. Pets neg. 113 N. 7th ave. 115/07. Call Eric 731-5745.

BUHL 2 bedroom home, no pets, references. Call 731-584 or 543-8087.

BUHL 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths, garage, appls. incl. No smoking pets. \$605 month + deposit. Call 208-543-2633.

BUHL Country home on acreage, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, appls, fenced yard. \$300 month.

TWIN FALLS SRACIOUS 3 bdrm, 3 1/2 baths, appls, garage, no pets. \$850. OLDER neighborhood, 3 bdrm, 1 1/2 baths, gas heat/water stove, patio, fenced yard.

NEW HOME 4 bed room, 2 1/2 bath, appls, garage, fenced yard. \$925 month. The Mgmt 733-0739.

BUHLCASTLEFORD 3 bdrm., 2 bath, 2.5 acres, corrals, pellet stove, air, auto sprinklers, \$850.00 per month. \$500 deposit. Call 208-543-2422 or 208-731-3624.

602 Unfurnished Homes

BUHL 2 bedroom, 1 bath, mobile home, no pets, long term. \$450 month + deposit. Call 208-543-8342.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwelling advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free telephone number at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-8275.

PICK YOUR COLORS! Best-selling plan now improved! 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths, with an additional bedroom or bonus room added to second level, nice upgrades & spacious rooms. Immediate occupancy! \$229,450. MLS#98260768. Call Ted 420-4195 for details.

FILER 1 bdrm, 5400 - \$350 dep, water & garbage paid. 700 Adair. Call 539-8256.

FILER 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large fenced yard, newly remodeled. Water in violation. \$600 mo. + \$600. 705 Union St. Pats neg. 731-5745. Info neg. 731-5745.

FILER Country living 3 bdrm, 1 bath, garden spot, lots of trees, type B pants, section B welcome. 328-8660.

GOODING 2 Bedroom, 1 Bath in Great Neighborhood. Rent is \$550.00 per month + \$450.00 Deposit. No Pets. References Required. Call 539-6413 Available Feb 1, 2007.

IRWIN REALTY of Course!

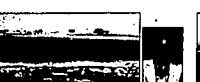
For more information on these properties, and every other listing in the Magic Valley visit www.irwinrealty.com



START YOUR NEW YEAR HERE! A great home with lots of room for those family gatherings. This is an outstanding 2-story floor plan, with 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, and over 1,700 sq. ft. of spacious living. \$185,000. MLS#98276071. Call Jan 539-0856 for details.



PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP Large lot with RV parking, covered patio and lots of mature trees. Three bedrooms, 2 baths, formal dining room and 2-car garage. A must see before purchasing your next home! \$176,500. MLS#98276230. Call Ross 731-3164 for details.



LAND READY FOR YOU! Great farm land! Pivotal on 154+ acres, 73+ acres with character and view, 44+ acres with great view of South Hills. Full water shares. MLS#98266053. Call Linda 308-7721 for details.



WANT A VIEW OR SPACE? This is the place! 10 acres with 10 TFCC water shares and close to Twin Falls. A fantastic place to build! \$150,000. MLS#98272409. Call Jeanne 539-4061 for details.



348 MARTIN STREET Large 2,738 sq. ft., fully-remodeled home on .50-acre lot, zoned R-4 with professional office, laundry, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, double garage. Double ovens, drop-in range, 3 dishwashers, sub-zero fridge, disposal, washer & dryer. \$230,000. MLS#98279909. Call Jay 336-3351 for details.



START THE NEW YEAR RIGHT! Seller will pay \$1,500 in buyer's closing costs on this beautiful, spacious newer home in a newer Jerome subdivision. Split-plan master with huge walk-in closet. Great room, extra-large fenced lot. Two-car garage with RV parking. \$157,000. MLS#98262316. Call Bobbi 731-2806 for details.



WATERFRONT PROPERTY • Secluded 36 acres • Bordered by BLM • Domestic well • Two separate parcels 16-acre parcel \$160,000 20-acre parcel \$220,000. All 36 acres \$370,000. MLS#98264445. Call Sara 539-6889 for details.



BACK ON THE MARKET! Over 50-year-old house was moved and placed on foundation on large lot in BuHL. Upgrades include a 30+ efficiency furnace, tile backplash, new roof and more! \$85,000. MLS#98256369. Call Shari 539-5845 for details.



PICK YOUR COLORS! Best-selling plan now improved! 4 bedrooms & 3 full baths, with an additional bedroom or bonus room added to second level, nice upgrades & spacious rooms. Immediate occupancy! \$229,450. MLS#98260768. Call Ted 420-4195 for details.



KIMBERLY SPECTACULAR Over 3,000 sq. ft. of living space this quality home provides 4 spacious bedrooms, 3 baths, formal dining breakfast room, great room with fireplace, bonus family room, hardwood flooring, tile and much more! Immediate occupancy. \$349,900. MLS#98250563. Call Ted 420-4195 for details.



FARMABLE ACREAGE 38+/- acres off Highway 93 with pivot. Bordered by BLM on two sides. Could make a great homestead. \$175,000. MLS#98286691. Call Shari 539-5845 for details.



TOO NEW FOR PHOTO! 38+/- acres off Highway 93 with pivot. Bordered by BLM on two sides. Could make a great homestead. \$175,000. MLS#98286691. Call Shari 539-5845 for details.



NEW 5-BEDROOM, 2.5-BATH HOME in Northern Passage Subdivision near the canyon rim. Built by Grover Construction with massive 9-ft. vaulted ceilings, Trey-Kauffer ceilings in the family room, split-floor plan, granite countertops, marble flooring & stone tile flooring. \$395,000. MLS#98273067. Call Liz 308-8841 for details.



ALL READY TO MOVE IN! New carpet, linoleum on the floor, and fresh paint. Great 3-bedroom, 2-bath mfg. home with a split-floor plan, vaulted ceilings in the living room, private bath off the master bedroom, and fully fenced backyard. \$98,500. MLS#98272386. Call Liz 308-8841 for details.



PRICE REDUCED! Very nice 3-bedroom, 2-bath, 1,620 sq. ft. manufactured home on large lot in Wendell. \$64,900. MLS#98268826. Call Donna & Shy 420-4504/420-2365.



COMMERCIAL BUY!! Approx. 5,033 sq. ft. of prime space near Addison & Eastland. Zoned C1, ample parking and room to build. 1.31 acres. See Virtual Tour at www.susanbrown.com \$488,000. MLS#98250370. Call Susan 731-7210 for details.

Twin Falls (208) 734-6500 Toll-Free (800) 658-3863 Buhl (208) 543-8510

Advertisement for Greater Valley Properties featuring various real estate listings and agent profiles. Includes photos of agents and their contact information.

<p>602 Unfurnished Homes</p> <p>JEROME 2 bdrm, 1 bath, W/D hookups, \$550 + deposit. Call 536-6517 or 208-9240</p> <p>JEROME 2 bdrm, 1 bath home avail. \$820/mo., \$400/dep. pets ok. Call Dan O' 850-1294, 528 W. Ave. E. Jerome</p> <p>JEROME 2 bdrm, 2 bath home for rent \$800 a month. Call 208-324-1278</p> <p>JEROME 3 bdrm, 2 bath, laundry hookups, garage, for 55+ older, private area. Call 208-324-9733 / 420-5659</p>	<p>602 Unfurnished Homes</p> <p>JEROME 3 bedroom, 1 bath. No pets. \$850 rent + deposit. Call 208-324-9431</p> <p>JEROME Bargain! 4 bdrm, 2 bath, \$725 mo. + dep. 208-209-1669 or 208-420-2096</p> <p>KIMBERLY small 1 bedroom with washer, \$275 month + deposit. No pets. Call 208-410-0199</p> <p>RICHFIELD 2 bedroom 1 bath, \$600 month + dep. No pets/smoking. Call 208-734-4841 or 208-308-8741</p> <p>TWIN FALLS (1) bedroom, 1040 2nd Ave. W. \$350 me. + dep. (2) bedroom 1 bath, 440 Elm St. \$550 mo. + dep. No pets. Call 208-733-9658</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm 1598 1/2 Firer Ave. East 2085 + dep. No pets, water/care provided 420-0125.</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 1389 Washington St. S 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$725 1st + last + cleaning dep. No pets 734-4101.</p>	<p>602 Unfurnished Homes</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 3 bath fenced backyard, auto sprinklers, gas hookups, no smoking, pet deposit required. \$925 mo. 208-731-6070</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Newer 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1700 sq ft, 4th floor, no smoking, pet deposit required. \$925 mo. 208-731-6070</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Newer 4 bdrm, 2 bath, 1700 sq ft, 4th floor, no smoking, pet deposit required. \$925 mo. 208-731-6070</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Newly remodeled, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced yard, no smoking/pets. \$500 month + \$800 dep. Call 208-420-9339</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Newly remodeled, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, appliances, \$600 + deposit, 198 Rampage 736-0369</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Newly remodeled, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, fenced yard, no smoking/pets. \$500 month + \$800 dep. Call 208-420-9339</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Like new duplex 3 bdrm, 2.5 bath w/garage, \$800 mo. + \$800 dep. monthly + \$500 deposit. Call 208-731-5907</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Clean 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, \$750+dep. No pets/smoking. Call 208-616-0435</p> <p>TWIN FALLS cozy 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$550 month + \$1000 dep. Call 208-733-7816</p>	<p>602 Unfurnished Homes</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Like new, quiet, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home in HW Twin Falls. Single level, 2 car garage, fenced yard, lawn care & tree RV storage provided. No smoking. \$995 mo. + \$895 dep. Free tree to call 494-4345</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Lovely 3 bdrm 2 bath home with 3 car garage, fireplace includes all appliances and washer & dryer. Fenced, sprinklers, no pets smoking \$650 month + dep. 678 North Pointe Dr. 536-7234 or 208-734-7234</p>	<p>604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex</p> <p>← Hear the quiet!</p> <p>Laurel Park Apartments 176 Maurice St. Twin Falls 734-4195.</p> <p>BUHL 1 bdrm. 55+ or disabled. Rental assistance. Located near City Park. 308-8966 Equal Opportunity Housing TTYTDD 800-377-3529</p> <p>BUHL 3 bedroom 2 bath, 2 car garage. Available January. \$600 month + \$250 deposit. No smoking/pets. Call 208-423-6449</p> <p>BUHL Immediate Move In! 2 bdrm Apts. Avail. Also 3 bdrm avail in January. Key Meadows. Call 543-2740</p>	<p>604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex</p> <p>JEROME Casa Dol Prado Apts 1 bdrm for immediate move in. Federally assisted. Please contact Cindy 208-324-0572.</p> <p>JEROME Links Apts, accepting applications. 2 bedrooms available, all apts. W/D hook-up, AC, high speed internet, cable, garages, IHA accepted. Contact Cindy 208-324-0572.</p> <p>JEROME Prostruck Apts over 62 handicapped or disabled 1 bdrm, all apts, private patio, AC, incl. IHA accepted. Contact Cindy 324-0572.</p>	<p>604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex</p> <p>FILER 2 bedroom upstairs apt. W/D hook ups, apts. No pets. \$400 mo. + \$300 dep. Call 208-326-4797</p> <p>KIMBERLY 3 bedrooms, \$695 Twin Falls Rentals 734-4334 twinfallsrentals.com</p> <p>KIMBERLY Duplex 2 bedrooms, 2 bath, ohio, laundry room, by the schools. No smoking, no pets. \$625 per month. Call Jan at 208-734-0062 or 208-731-9891.</p> <p>KIMBERLY/TWIN FALLS TAX REFUND? MOVE IN NOW! to purchase 2 bdrm, move in homes. 212-6554.</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 1, 2 & 3 Bedrooms \$500 - \$685 Twin Falls Rentals 734-4334 twinfallsrentals.com</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 2 & 3 bdrm nice lg newly remodeled, 1 bath, with 1 year lease. Fully 208-940-1157 between 12 & 8 pm.</p>	<p>604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm 2 bath Newer 4-Plex unit. All kitchen apts. No smoking. Now accepting applications for January move in. \$575 mo + dep. 387 Elm St. 420-8061</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm duplex, DW, AC, no smoking, pet. 208-733-3742.</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom units, 1 1/2 baths, all apts, fireplace/AC. No pets, no smoking. Nice location. Call 208-734-4120</p> <p>TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath apt. Morningdale school, some units incl. \$700 mo. + \$700 dep. \$100 off 1st mo. with 1 year lease. Fully 208-940-1157 between 12 & 8 pm.</p>	<p>604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex</p> <p>TWIN FALLS A newer 3 bedroom, 2 bath 4-plex by CSI. Yard hook-ups, W/D hook-ups, solid water and garbage. No pets smoking. \$505 + dep Call 510-853-6559</p> <p>TWIN FALLS By CSI, 2 bdrm, split level, appls, nice hvt, carpet, \$525 month BY Perline Elementary, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, stove, W/D hookup, fenced yard, garage, \$750 The Mgmt 733-0739</p> <p>TWIN FALLS Clean 2 bdrm, 2 bath on cul-de-sac, no pet/smoking \$625 dep. Water & sewer. Incl. Call 208-734-8973 ext 1004 to see.</p> <p>TWIN FALLS duplexes. (1) 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$775 mo. + dep. (1) 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$625 mo. + dep. (1) 4-plex, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$475 mo. + dep. No smoking/pets. 736-0929</p>
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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm 1 bath apt \$435 New 3 bdrm homes from \$850. Now 4 bdrm 2 bath homes \$950. Call 735-5342

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TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1 1/2 baths, 5700 month + dep. Call 208-420-8887

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TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom home, pet OK \$650/mo. Rent Now FREE mo. Call Greg (208)316-1802

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1 1/2 baths, 5700 month + dep. Call 208-420-8887

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, newer home, fenced backyard, no pets/smoking, credit check, 1 yr lease. \$875/mo 731-1446 or 280-2009

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, BUHL, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, no pets/smoking. JEROME 3 bdrm, 2 bath no pets/smoking. 1st month free w/ 1 yr lease 731-4521

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm 1 bath apt \$435 New 3 bdrm homes from \$850. Now 4 bdrm 2 bath homes \$950. Call 735-5342

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, large home, recently remodeled, 2 car garage, fenced yard. \$650 mo. No pets/smoking. Call Jan 734-0062 or 731-8891.

TWIN FALLS 2 bedroom home, pet OK \$650/mo. Rent Now FREE mo. Call Greg (208)316-1802

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 1 1/2 baths, 5700 month + dep. Call 208-420-8887

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, newer home, fenced backyard, no pets/smoking, credit check, 1 yr lease. \$875/mo 731-1446 or 280-2009

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, BUHL, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage, no pets/smoking. JEROME 3 bdrm, 2 bath no pets/smoking. 1st month free w/ 1 yr lease 731-4521

Times-News will be closed Mon. Dec. 29th for Christmas and Mon. Jan. 1st for New Years.

Headline for Classifieds: Fri. Noon for Sat. Fri. 2pm for Sun. Mon. & Tues.

Editorial: Cassidy Friedman 735-3241
Circulation: 733-0931, ext. 1

All of us at the Times-News wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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All of us at the Times-News wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

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Starting at Only **\$9,997** with 20G down
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Super investment! Home sits on two lots.
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GOODING
MLS# 98275980 \$58,000
728 SF cottage, 2BR 1 BA. New kitchen. REALTOR owned
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3-4 Bedroom home in Eden. New roof.
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Manufactured home on acreage. South of Kimberly.
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To Be Built
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98266207 \$129,500
Daisy II By TKO. 3 Beds, 2 Baths, 1,200 Sq. Ft.
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TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98278670 \$130,000
Brick home in excellent condition on large corner lot.
Call Steven: 404-9017

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"Marigold" by TKO. 4 beds, 2 baths, 1300 SF.
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"Sunflower" by TKO. 3 beds, 2 baths, 1300 SF.
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Back on Market!
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98267683 \$139,000
"Willow" under construction! ALMOST COMPLETE! 3BR 2 BA
Call Michael: 948-5102

To Be Built
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98280768 \$139,000
The "Willow" by TKO. 3 beds, 2 baths, 1,345 square feet.
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Super 3 BR 2 Bath. Built in 2002. Split bedroom plan.
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Rock Creek Lot
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Great 5.5 Acre lot with incredible views & privacy.
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Willow w/bonus room by TKO. 3 beds, 2 baths, 1,639 SF
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MLS# 98277644 \$155,000
Almost NEW (2002)! 3 BR 2 bath, 1,460 SF. Great area!
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Never been lived in! Beautiful & roomy. New subdivision.
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4BR 2BA home w/1664 SF. Living & family room+bonus room.
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TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98280093 \$159,500
4 Bed, 2 Bath on half acre. Priced way under appraisal.
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TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98265881 \$159,900
4 bedroom, 2 baths, large lot. Great location. W/privacy
Call Lynn: 410-2807

NOVA Drive By!
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98276270 \$159,900
Darling 3 BR 2 Bath home. Built in 2003. Tons of extras!
Call Lynn: 410-2807

COME SEE US AT
1146 Eastland Dr. N.

Julie Lane
Eastland Drive N.

TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98276451 \$160,900
Nice 4 Bed 2 bath. Covered porch and walking trail.
Call Brian: 404-3892

TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98277378 \$165,000
Better than new. James Ray Const. 3 BR, 2 BA and 1422 SF.
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Wow!
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98277126 \$174,500
Get a lot for the price in a great neighborhood.
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Brand New!
JEROME
MLS# 98277195 \$174,794
If you need to move quickly you can move in today!
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Under Construction
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MLS# 98267687 \$174,900
Syringa By TKO. 4 Beds, 2.5 Baths, 1,745 Sq. Ft.
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Price Reduced!
DIETRICH
MLS# 98265841 \$195,000
3 Beds, 2.5 Baths on 1 Acre
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Acreage
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98283909 \$199,000
Country acreage 2.50 AC. Home & out buildings.
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Price Reduced!
JEROME
MLS# 98279457 \$204,900
4BR 2.5 BA, 2364 SF. Open floor plan. REALTOR owned
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Acreage
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98278696 \$205,000
In town acreage w/water. 4 bed, 3 bath home. You'll love!
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Turn-Key Operation
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98273226 \$209,000
Dining room & drive thru. Recipes included. Make it yours!
Call Richard: 731-2474

SOLD!
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98266283 \$220,000
3 Bed, 2 Bath on Main. 1 Bed, .75 Bath up
Call Steven: 404-9017

"Back on Market!"
TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98278283 \$235,000
Remodeled home. Great location. Close to parks & schools.
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TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98267455 \$282,900
NEW duplex (2003). Great location! 3 Bed/2 Bath per unit
Call Chris: 539-1246

FILER
MLS# 98267637 \$283,000
Brand New! Lots of unique features. 5BR, 3 Baths
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Horse Property
JEROME
MLS# 98278546 \$285,000
4 bed 2 bath on 1 acre. Beautiful inside and out.
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TWIN FALLS
MLS# 98274369 \$415,000
Beautiful home on Morning Sun Dr. 6BR, 3 Baths
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Acreage
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MLS# 98265877 \$424,900
5 Bed, 3.5 Bath on 3.68 Acres
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MLS# 98265893 \$1,500,000
Great Farm-Watch this for future development!
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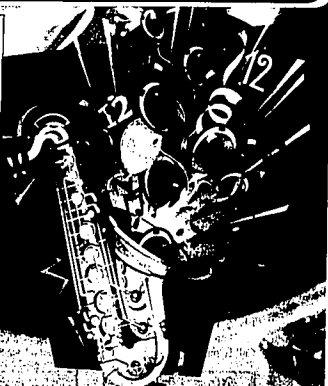
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604 Unfurnished Apts. And Duplex

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, new carpet, paint, & linoleum, carpet, storage room. No pets. By: AGE. 5550 732-5408

TWIN FALLS elegant 2 bedroom 2 bath clean home style decor, excellent condition with all appliances including DW. Located on quiet cul-de-sac close to shopping. Privately fenced with large wooden deck. No smoking. \$950 month + deposit. Available 1/1/07. For appt. to view call 208-732-9685 or 308-1815

TWIN FALLS large clean 1 bdrm with office, all units, no smoking. \$450. 734-5453

TWIN FALLS Move in Special! 1 month half off rent. 2 bdrms apartment. Corner of 4th & Madrona. Starting at \$865/mo. + dep Idaho. Housing Accepted Call 208-736-2999

TWIN FALLS New duplex. \$825 + dep. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, AC, garage. 422-8228

TWIN FALLS Newer 4 Flex 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, W/D hook ups. \$19 Lenora #4. \$550 deposit. No smoking. 420-2853

TWIN FALLS North-west newer 3 bdrms, bath, car port, all appliances, new carpet & appliances. \$575 + \$550 dep. 731-9268

TWIN FALLS Paradise Place, 2 bdrm., 2 bath, A/C, gas heat. Newer apt with all appliances. No smoking, no pets. \$575 + \$550 dep. 731-9891

TWIN FALLS Sawtooth School Dist. Spacious, over 1,800 sq. ft., 2 bdrms, sunlit bsm't. \$585 month + deposit. Whitened utilities. This also can be a 3 bdrm. with additional 400 sq. ft. home at \$665 mo. dep. No pets. 208-404-3057

TWIN FALLS studio all utilities paid, except cable. \$350 + \$250 dep. 781 Main Ave. W. #13 736-8508

TWIN FALLS studio apt. Newly remodeled. \$350 month plus paved parking lot. 2043 Kimberly Road. Please call 420-1739

TWIN FALLS The Falls Apts./Pleasant View Townhome 1 & 2 bdrms. No pets. \$395-5495 208-734-8600

TWIN FALLS very clean 2 bdrm., 2 bath, W/D, no smoking, pets. \$595 + deposit. Call 208-420-2798

WENDELL Lovely, like new, quiet 2 bdrm. 1 bath in triplex, large master bdrm., all appts. 208-726-7801

WENDELL Now accepting applicants for 2 bdrm apartments. Clean & moderate. Convenient location. Appls. furn., DW, disposal, laundry rm on premises & rent based on income. Rancho Verde Apts. Wendell 536-8244

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605 Rooms For Rent

JEROME & Twin Falls localities Room and board, 400-401, all units, laundry, housekeeping and meals. \$400. 400-401

TWIN FALLS MOTEL Daily and weekly rates. Quiet, clean, affordable. 730-8620.

606 Mobile Homes

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1.5 bath, W/D, very clean and quiet, no pets. \$380 + dep. Also trailer space \$180 + dep. 735-6477

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, water paid, \$500 month + \$250 deposit. 208-420-5194. Habba Espino 420-5494

TWIN FALLS New 2 bdrm, 1 bath, very clean, set up in park. Ready to rent. \$550 + \$500 dep. No pets. Call Keith 736-2069

TWIN FALLS new office, 1150 Eastland Dr. N. 2,360 sq. ft. Call 208-732-3232

TWIN FALLS Office/Retail/Rentals 392-6400 sq. ft. Several Locations. Hammett Management. 208-734-2839

TWIN FALLS small business space, 600 sq. ft. office with 1,000 sq. ft. shop. \$665/mo. + dep. 2243 Wright Ave. 208-736-8246

608 Commercial Property

HATLEY new storage unit. RV place. 14' high 12' wide door, 800 sq. ft. climate controlled, located airport west industrial. Halley. \$495 mo. 720-1414 or 720-0678.

Offices, Shop, Warehouse 1,150 - 122,000 sq. ft. Twin Falls Rentals 734-4334

TWIN FALLS New 800 sq. ft. office w/1600 sq. ft. warehouse \$700 month 559-7428

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TWIN FALLS Office & warehouse space for lease. 539-4907

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610 Roommates Wanted

BUHL furnished private room in large house. \$85 a week. Includes everything. No pets. 293-4750

KIMBERLY New house, 3 bdrms, 2 bath, (2) roommates needed. All utilities incl. 408-404-2258

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 1 bath house by CSI \$300 + 1/2 utilities. Avail 1/1/07-8879

TWIN FALLS Room for rent on 3 acres. Jented lot in master bedroom. Can have outside animals. By golf course. \$400 month. Call 208-420-6068

701 Livestock/Poultry

HEIFERS (27) head. 1 iron, no star marks, red or black. All bred, low birth weight. Siz New Zealand 2468 02/15/07 calving. Cows (20) head of black bulls. 4/6/07 calving. March 1st calving. Bred to black bulls. 4/6/07 calving. (19) head of black (1) black baby & 5 year olds. Bred back for March calving. Call 208-823-4433

PIGS Butcher. Complete Farrowing crates. Will deliver 208-308-2941

TWIN FALLS Idaho Migrant Council Colonia De Colores is now taking applications for 2,3, and 4 bdrm apts. For low income farm labor workers. Please inquire at 406 Gardner Ave, Twin Falls or call 734-2301 or 738-0962 Mon-Fri 9:30am - 5:30 pm So Habla Espanol The Idaho Migrant Council Inc. is an equal opportunity provider.

701 Livestock/Poultry

CONNECT WITH CUSTOMERS WHO NEED YOUR SERVICE Advertise in the Business & Service Directory 733-0931 ext. 2

703 Horse and Tack

EQUINE

Paul Struchon Trimming We can handle all your trimming needs. 30 years experience. Call 208-734-3978 or 208-358-3978

HORSE black and white paint mare, 18 yrs old, gentle for kids or beginners \$1200. Call 208-731-0103.

HORSE Palomino gelding, kid to ride to. \$500. 734-6077 or 308-4458

SADDLE Circle Y, 16 inch show saddle, orange, canton, loaded with Silver, matching breast collar, bridle, silver halter & storage bag, \$1,250. 208-358-1244

SADDLES (11) youth, 13", \$552, 2" using, 14"-16", \$500-\$1,500. (4) English, 17", \$400 each. 436-0732 or (3) 1732

FREE cat, male, neutered, dewclawed, black and white. Call 208-326-4843.

FREE dog, black and white, medium, mostly gray and white male with white socks and green eyes. Call 208-390-1058.

FREE cat, male, neutered, dewclawed, black and white. Call 208-326-4843.

FREE DOGS Save from being Destroyed! Wendell Dog Pound 208-542-2925

FREE Lab, yellow, male, 1 1/2 years old. Call 208-487-3005 or 208-208-3555.

FREE Pit Bull, female, black, excellent with kids. Free to a good home. 529-0721.

GERMAN SHEPHERDS

Puppies & Rectuses All colors available. Prons starting at \$450 Call 208-318-2032 or visit us at www.Silvermountain-shepherds.com

704 Pets And Pet Supplies

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AUSTRALIAN MCNAB pups 3 blues, 2 black, mother is Australian & McNab, dad is also. 8 wks. \$200. 731-7143. Guaranteed to work.

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AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD purebred cross with steady chocolate Lab, weeks old. 2 males & 2 females. 326-4077 / 306-4076 or email versapur@fritel.com

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BRITTANEY SPANIEL puppies. AKC, liver & white, tails and dew claws removed. Great hunters & family dogs. Both parents on site. Call 208-423-5650

BUNNIES 8 weeks old. Think 4H! \$6.00 each

CHEESAPEAKE pups, males, AKC reg. 1st shots, 9 weeks, \$200. Call 208-825-5013

CHIHAUUAHUA puppies, purebred, 11 wks. bi-colored, \$300. 208-438-0530 eves or 208-620-8584

CHIHAUUAHUA puppies, shots, dewormed, dewclaws removed, \$250-\$400 AKC reg. Wendell 599-0448

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CHIHAUUAHUA Pups, purebred, raw fed male pups \$300 ea. \$319-939, or e-mail gluk6@toughes.net

CHINESE Crested, males 6 months, 17 weeks old. \$300 ea. \$330. Great Dane male puppy, 6 weeks old. \$300. 208-310-3300.

COCKER SPANIEL Great Christmas pups, bi-colored, blue merle, AKC reg. tails docked, dewclaws removed. \$400. Call 208-940-0329

COCKER SPANIEL puppies, 2 black females \$275 each. 2 buff males \$250 each. Ready to go 438-9640

COCKER SPANIELS, 2 DARLING black male pups, 12 weeks old. Great Christmas presents. AKC registered, have 1st shots, already going to good trained, exceptional dispositions and friendly. \$300. Call 208-543-5811.

DACHSHUND pups, bundles of joy! AKC registered. \$350. Call 208-677-3624

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FREE cat, male, neutered, dewclawed, black and white. Call 208-326-4843.

FREE DOGS Save from being Destroyed! Wendell Dog Pound 208-542-2925

FREE Lab, yellow, male, 1 1/2 years old. Call 208-487-3005 or 208-208-3555.

FREE Pit Bull, female, black, excellent with kids. Free to a good home. 529-0721.

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PUGS 3 black males, 1 fawn male, 1" shots & wormed, precious. Call 208-825-5468.

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SHIH TZU puppies, AKC reg, 8 weeks old, tri-colored markings, 1" shots, vet checked. Call 208-736-3791.

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STANDARD POODLE puppies, AKC - 8 weeks old. (2) left. Cream female, chocolate male. \$500 each. Call 208-423-4247

TIOTI 4X4 tractors, 75-85hp. 4 year warranty. FREE SNOWBLOWER with purchase of Jan. 10" Now down. No payments if May 2007. 208-358-2494

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WANTED TO BUY Tractors running; repair/overhaul; misc. equipment. Call Bob Brown 208-312-3746, eves

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REBATE: \$500
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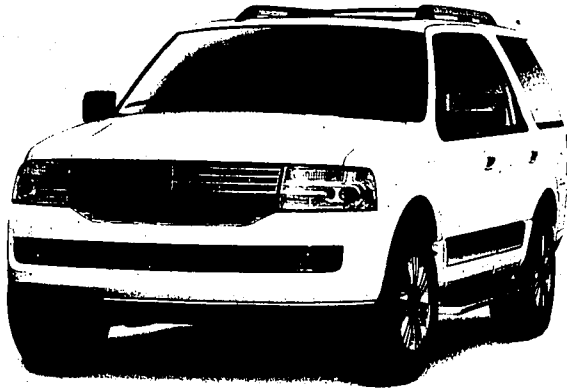
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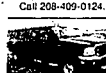


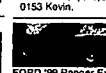
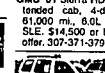
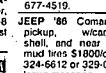
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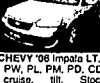
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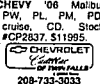
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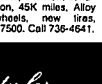
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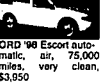


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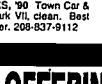
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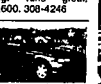
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