

## AFTER THE FEAST

This fitness class may help you get back in shape.

IMAGE, D1

## BOWLED OVER

E. Carolina beats BSU on last-second field goal.

SPORTS, B1

## FOR THE BIRDS

Local birders flock to Hagerman for count.

MAGIC VALLEY, A4

Good Morning

High: 35  
Low: 23

Good chance of snow.  
Details: B4

# Times-News

MONDAY  
September 24, 2007  
75 cents



Robert Young, right, listens skeptically as Secret Santa talks to him at the Grayhound bus depot in Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 11. Secret Santa gave \$200 to Young, who is 50 and homeless.

## Secret Santa continues giveaway of \$100 bills

By Maria Sodekum Fisher  
Associated Press writer

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Susan Dahl had spent four months homeless in Colorado and just been on a harrowing 10-hour bus trip through sleet and snow. Hungry and broke, all she wanted to do was get back to family in Minnesota.

That's when a tall man in a red coat and red hat sat next to her at the downtown bus station, talked to her quietly and then slipped her \$100 on that recent December afternoon.

The man was doing the work of Larry Stewart, Kansas City's original Secret Santa who anonymously wandered city streets doling out \$100 bills to anyone who looked like they needed it. Stewart died of cancer at age 58 earlier this year, but his legacy lives on.

"He said 'Here's a \$100 bill... and this is in memory of Larry Stewart,'" said Dahl, 56.

During about a quarter century, Stewart quietly gave out more than \$1.3 million to people in laundromats, diners, bus stations, shelters and thrift stores, saying it was his way of giving back at Christmas for all the wealth and generosity he had received in his lifetime.

For years, Stewart did not want his name known or want thanks or applause, but last December he acknowledged who he was and used his last few months while battling cancer to pass his message of kindness toward others. He even trained some friends in the ways of Secret Santa.

This Christmas, a friend who told Stewart in the hospital that he would carry on for him is out on the streets, handing out \$100 bills, each one stamped with "Larry Stewart, Secret Santa."

Between Kansas City and several other cities this Christmas, the new Secret Santa will give away \$75,000 of his own money, mostly in \$100 bills.

"I didn't want to be a Secret Santa," said the man, a business consultant who lives in the Kansas City area. "I wanted to give away money. But last year, he said 'I had to hand it out myself. So I did, and I got hooked.'"

\*Please see SANTA, Page A3

## KEEPING THE LIGHTS SHINING



Volunteer Kathy Kruse replaces Christmas lights on trees in Twin Falls City Park. More than 100 lights burn out or are stolen from the trees each week.

## Volunteers have their hands full replacing bulbs stolen from park display

By Matt Christiansen  
Times-News writer

Look closely, and you may see a little less twinkle in the City Park's Christmas lights display at the end of each week.

Someone, he suspects, is sneaking into the Twin Falls park under cover of darkness and unscrewing the old-style bulbs, either to smash them or to replace missing lights on home displays.

It's just plain bizarre, says Dave Klesig, a College of Southern Idaho horticulture professor, who leads a volunteer group of CSI students who replace missing bulbs at the park on Sunday mornings.

Someone, he suspects, is hard up for lights. The first week in December, the group replaced more than 300 bulbs. But they didn't find many smashed lights, which leads Klesig to believe someone is using the bulbs.

"We hate to say it, but we think a good number of those want to replace bulbs at people's homes," Klesig said.

Please see LIGHTS, Page A3



Dave Klesig, a College of Southern Idaho horticulture professor, replaces Christmas lights on a tree Sunday morning in Twin Falls City Park. The CSI Horticulture Club volunteers every Sunday morning to replace burned out and stolen light bulbs.

"There was just a massive effort — all on behalf of this little boy who desperately needed people to actually take some action and not just feel sorry for him,"

— Capt. Scott Southworth



Scott Southworth, right, is seen with his adopted son, Ala'a, in July at their home in Mauston, Wis. Southworth first met Ala'a, who has cerebral palsy, at the Mother Teresa orphanage in Baghdad in 2003 while he was serving in Iraq.

## U.S. soldier adopts Iraqi orphan despite plenty of obstacles

By Carrie Antlinger  
Associated Press writer

MAUSTON, Wis. — Capt. Scott Southworth knew he'd face violence, political strife and blistering heat when he was deployed to one of Baghdad's most dangerous places.

But he didn't expect Ala'a Edeeen. Ala'a was 9 years old, strong of will but weak of body — he suffered from cerebral palsy and weighed just 55 pounds. He lived among about 20 kids with physical or mental disabilities at the Mother Teresa orphanage, under the care of nuns who preserved this small oasis in a dangerous place.

On Sept. 6, 2003, halfway through his 13-month deployment, Southworth and his military police unit paid a visit to the orphanage. They played and chatted with the children; Southworth was talking with one little girl when Ala'a dragged his body to the soldier's side.

Black haired and brown eyed, Ala'a spoke to the 31-year-old American in the limited English he had learned from the sisters. He recalled the bombs that struck government buildings across the Tigris River.

"Bomb-Bling! Bomb-Bling!" Ala'a said, raising and lowering his fist.

"I'm here now. You're fine," the captain said.

Over the next 10 months, the unit returned to the orphanage again and again. The soldiers would race kids in their wheelchairs, sit them in hammocks and help the sisters feed them.

To Southworth, Ala'a was like a little brother. But Ala'a — who had longed for a soldier to rescue him — secretly began referring to Southworth as "Baba," Arabic for "Daddy."

Then, another Christmas, a sister told Southworth that Ala'a was getting too big. He would have to move to a government-run facility within a year.

"Best case scenario was that he would stare at a blank wall for the rest of his life," Southworth said.

To this day, he recalls the moment when he resolved that that would not happen.

"I'll adopt him," he said.

...

Before Southworth left for Iraq, he was chief of staff for a state representative. He was single, worked long days and squeezed in his service as a national guardsman — military service was a family tradition. His great-great-grandfather served in the Civil War, his grandfather in World War II.

Please see ORPHAN, Page A3

## Deluged with calls for Santa, man decides to play the part

By Steve Chawkins  
Los Angeles Times

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — When the wrong numbers started flooding in last year, John Dickson didn't just hang up.

Instead, he said "Ho ho ho" and solemnly heard requests for laptops and light sabers from children seeking Santa Claus.

Dickson, who runs a Web site promoting Santa Barbara attractions, can be reached at 1-800-SANTABARBARA (726-8222). On a phone pad, that

"Doing this is more important than my job. Santa Claus is really a big deal — a gigantic deal — for these children."

— John Dickson, who normally runs a Web site promoting Santa Barbara attractions

number varies a mere one digit from 1-800-SANTABARBARA (726-8222), which enterprising boys and girls had been dialing — and misdialing — like crazy to reach the jolly old fat man of their dreams.

This year, Dickson, a 44-

year-old Santa Barbara native, prepared for the onslaught. In fact, he encouraged it, rounding up about 100 volunteers and alerting the media that Kris Kringle and his emissaries would be taking calls from the world's children.

"Doing this is more important than my job," Dickson said. "Santa Claus is really a big deal — a gigantic deal — for these children."

Since he kicked off the effort a week ago, thousands of kids have checked in, eager for an audience with Santa. After a national TV news spot, more than 1,500 messages cascaded into Dickson's voicemail in just an hour.

In a tinsel-bedecked downtown space donated by Montecito Bank and Trust, Dickson and rotating shifts of half a dozen volunteers have

been fielding calls from 8 a.m. to as late as 8 p.m. (The line runs until 5 p.m. today.) On a recent afternoon, the action in what is ordinarily the bank's conference room was nonstop.

"Ho ho ho!" Dickson boomed hoarsely into the phone for the umpteenth time. "What's your name? Oh, yes, of course I remember you, Caitlin!"

What Caitlin and so many others wanted were unsurprising things: a doll named

Please see CALLS, Page A3

At Your Service	C8	Comics	D2-3	Idaho/West	A5	Movies	A5, A7	Opinion	A6-7
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Classifieds	C2-8	Horoscope	D2	Magic Valley	A4	Obituaries	A5	Weather	B4

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS Today Tonight Tuesday
Snowy level weather expected
High 35 Low -23 31/20

MINI-CASSIA
Today: Slushy and snowy with showers, and likely to cause some travel disruptions. High: near 30
Tonight: A heavy, wet snow shower activity coming in an end. Low: 10-15.
Tomorrow: A heavy, wet generally snow free Christmas Day. High: upper 20s

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT
Charles Dickens "A Christmas Carol - The Musical" a co-production of the NoStage Theatre and Laughing Stock Theater Company, 3 p.m., NoStage Theatre, 120 S. Main St., Ketchum, \$25 for adults, unserved seats; \$15 for children (ages 14 and under), unserved seats; and \$50 for reserved seating in center front rows, 726-4857.

ON THE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
THURSDAY
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
Bellevue City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 115 E. Poplar, 788-2128.
FRIDAY
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
Cassia County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 1459 Overland, Burley, 878-7302.

COMING THIS WEEK

Songs and shivers
Feel the charm and chill of a horse-drawn caroling party.
TUESDAY IN COUNTRY ROADS

Taste of fame
Publishing company helps Idaho cooks share culinary wisdom.
WEDNESDAY IN FOOD & HOME

Drink in the New Year
Champagne is traditional, but you might try an original cocktail instead.
THURSDAY IN TNT

Hint: It's not the gifts
What does this season of rebirth and resolutions mean to the Magic Valley faithful?
SATURDAY IN RELIGION

snowpack level
Watershed % of Avg. 8 season peak\*\*
Salmon 97% 33%
Big Wood 91% 23%
Little Wood 81% 27%
Big Lost 68% 20%
Little Lost 70% 28%
Henry Fork/Teton 83% 25%
Upper Snake Basin 80% 28%

MORNING BRIEFING
Christmas brings several closures around valley

Many offices and facilities will be closed for Christmas. Here's a rundown of what will be open or closed today and Tuesday.
• State offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
• Federal offices will be closed today and Tuesday.
• Post offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
• Banks will be open today, but many will close early; closed Tuesday.
• The College of Southern Idaho will be closed today and Tuesday.
• Twin Falls Public Library will be closed today and Tuesday.
• YMCA/Twin Falls City Pool will be open until 1 p.m. today; closed Tuesday.
• Magic Valley Mall will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. today; closed Tuesday.
• Trash collection will follow the regular schedule today; trash will not be picked up Tuesday.

AROUND THE WORLD

TEXAS

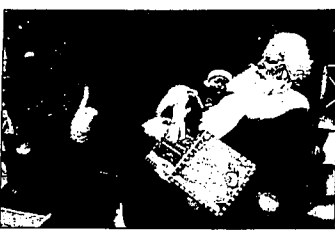
Huckabee makes no apologies for religious tone of campaign ad

SAN ANTONIO — Republican presidential candidate Mike Huckabee made no apologies Sunday for the religious tone of a recent holiday campaign commercial and said it is important to look for Jesus at this time of year.
"You can find Santa at every mall. You can find discounts in every store," Huckabee said from the pulpit of Cornerstone Church. "But if you mention the name of Jesus, as I found out recently, it upsets the whole world. Forgive me, but I thought that was the point of the whole day."

Huckabee was referring to the ad airing in Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina that shows him in a red sweater in front of a Christmas tree as he asks, "Are you about worn out by all the new television commercials you've been seeing, mostly about politics? Well, I don't blame you. At this time of year sometimes it's time to pull aside from all of that and just remember that what really matters is the celebration of the birth of Christ and being with our family and friends."

"And I hope that you and your friends will have a magnificent Christmas season. And on behalf of all of us, God Bless and Merry Christmas. I'm Mike Huckabee and I approved this message," he says in the spot.
Independent groups have criticized the ad, saying Huckabee went too far mixing politics and religion.

SNOOZING WITH SANTA



Anthony Tarsicio, 20 days old, sleeps in the arms of Santa at Westfield Shoppingtown Mall, Sunday in Canton, Ohio. Anthony's mother says she brought the infant to be photographed with Santa and said the only thing they wanted was for her husband, Anthony's father, to come home from Iraq where he is serving in the U.S. Army. It was Santa that suggested the sleeping pose.

CHINA

Thieves butcher, behead Siberian tiger at zoo

BEIJING — Police were searching for the culprits behind the beheading and skinning of a rare Siberian tiger at a zoo in central China, state media reported Sunday.
The female tiger was found with its head, legs and skin missing Thursday morning at the Three Gorges Forest Wild Animal World in Yichang city in Hubei province, Xinhua News Agency.
It said the locks of the tiger's cage were broken and that police found four homemade anesthetic rings near the cage.
"It is highly possible that the killer or killers broke into the room, anesthetized the tiger, opened the cage and then dragged the animal out of the room and butchered it," Xinhua quoted one unnamed official as saying.
Tiger skins are sold on the black market in China, and tiger parts are used in traditional medicines.

CHINA

Nicholas Cage's 'National Treasure' has \$45 million debut

LOS ANGELES — Nicolas Cage followed his secret treasure map to another frontier at movie theaters. Cage's "National Treasure: Book of Secrets," the Disney sequel to its 2004 hit, opened as the weekend's No. 1 movie with \$45.5 million as Hollywood continued a holiday spree at the box office, according to studio estimates Sunday.
Will Copley, applying his role as a history buff on the hunt for a vanished fortune, the "National Treasure" sequel outdid the original, which debuted with \$35.1 million on its way to a \$173 million total.
The previous weekend's top flick, Will Smith's "I Am Legend," slipped to second place with \$34.2 million, the Warner Bros. hit, which is the 10-day total to \$137.5 million.
— compiled from wire reports

OREGON

Residents get tax rebate cash just in time for Christmas

PORTLAND — Just in time for Christmas, Oregon taxpayers have gotten some extra spending money from an unlikely Santa Claus: their state government.
Checks have arrived in mailboxes all over the state, thanks to an only-in-Oregon law that requires rebates to taxpayers on income tax collections and projections by more than 2 percent.
All told, the state has doled out \$1.1 billion in rebates.
Most people got about \$600, but checks sent to the wealthiest residents, including Nike co-founder Phil Knight, averaged nearly \$800,000.
"It is pretty well spent,"

ENGLAND

Queen opens her own YouTube channel to send Christmas message

LONDON — Britain's 81-year-old Queen Elizabeth II, considered an icon of tradition, launched her own special Royal Channel on YouTube Sunday.
The queen will use the popular video-sharing Web site to send out her 50th annual televised Christmas message, which she first delivered live to the nation and its colonies on Dec. 25, 1957.
Buckingham Palace also began posting archive and other royals on the channel Sunday with plans to add new clips regularly.
YouTube, which allows anyone to upload and share video clips, was founded in 2005 and bought by Google last year.
"The queen always keeps abreast with new ways of communicating with people," Buckingham Palace said in a statement. "The Christmas message was podcast last year."

IDAHO

Baby gibbon reunited with parents at Zoo Boise

BOISE — Despite being rejected by her mother as an infant, Li Bao is back home for the holidays.
The baby gibbon is back in the ape exhibit at Zoo Boise, where she has been warmly received by her first-time mother, who abandoned her last spring, and her father.
"I just don't think this could have gone any better," Debbie Wiggins, the zoo's veterinarian, told the Idaho Statesman.
Wiggins was one of four foster parents who cared for Li Bao after the newborn was

THAILAND

Pro-Thaksin party wins; more instability feared

BANGKOK — Loyalists of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra won nearly half the seats in Thailand's parliamentary elections Sunday in a striking

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# Santa

Continued from page A1

This new Secret Santa talks about Larry Stewart to just about everyone he encounters. "I have you ever heard of a man named Larry Stewart?" he asks before handing out \$100 or more.

Depending on who he's talking to, the new Secret Santa might say Stewart was a man who believed in making people happy by giving them money they didn't have to ask for, apply for or wait in line for. "There was this fellow named

Larry Stewart," he tells a man in the bus station. "I was an old friend of mine. He was called Secret Santa, and every year he would find a few people who might need a little money and he would ask that you pass on the kindness."

People respond differently to the gesture. Some cry. Some scream. A rare few even say, "No thanks."

Others take the money and offer their own gifts, like Robert Young, who was homeless and had only 20

cents in his pocket. When Secret Santa gave him \$200, Young, 50, took out an old notebook and ripped out a song he had written.

"It's yours now," he told Secret Santa, who thanked Young, and carefully tucked the pages into his pocket.

The new Secret Santa has a Web site, [www.secretsanta.world.net](http://www.secretsanta.world.net), and is trying to recruit Secret Santas across the country. "Larry's dream was for a Secret Santa in every city," Kansas City's Santa said,

# Lights

Continued from page A1

In more recent weeks, the group has replaced between 120 and 140 bulbs a week — just a fraction of the 5,750 bulbs on nearly 20 trees. About half are missing each time, and the other half are burned out.

This is the first year the CSI volunteer group is on bulb detail. In previous years, the city's Parks and Recreation Department hired part-time employees to mend lights. In

those years, too, about the same number of lights went missing, said Dennis Boyer, the city's Parks and Rec director.

"Some of the trees we try not to string lights up below 6 feet anymore," Boyer said.

The city could switch from the old-style bulbs to energy efficient LED lights next year, which could save the city money, Boyer said. The city spends about \$4,000 each Christmas season on elec-

tricity for the light display. LED lights could also be trickier to m-m-c-w.

"I've looked at the newer lights and wondered, Can people steal these things?" Kiesig laughed.

The city lights the bulbs from 6:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 4:30 p.m. until 11 p.m. each holiday season.

Matt Christensen may be reached 735-3243 or [matt.christensen@twf.net](mailto:matt.christensen@twf.net).

# Calls

Continued from page A1

Baby Alive and a real pony and anything Hannah Montana and video games — especially Guitar Hero — and, if it wouldn't be too much trouble, a Nintendo Wii.

But more than that, the children wanted a word with The Man himself, or at least one of his many stand-ins.

"Santa's not real!" one boy shouted to his family after talking to one of the women female volunteers. "But

Mrs. Santa is!"

Some calls have been poignant.

"What one little boy wanted was for his parents to get back together," said Neftali Rubio, a student at Santa Barbara City College. "I told them that would be difficult for Santa to do — but we'd see."

Occasionally, an adult calls. Some check out the call center before putting their kids on, but a few give Santa their

own Christmas lists. One woman who may have been dipping into the eggnog asked for "a new cellphone and Shaquille O'Neal under the tree."

Before they first donned their Santa caps and started answering phones, volunteers were told to steer clear of big promises. They also were instructed to have the kids ask a parent if it was OK for Santa to deliver the presents they requested.

# Orphan

Continued from page A1

his father in Vietnam.

The family had lived in the tiny central Wisconsin city of New Lisbon for 150 years. Scott was raised as an evangelical Christian; he attended law school with a goal of public service, running unsuccessfully for state Assembly at the age of 25.

There were so many reasons why he couldn't bring a handicapped Iraqi boy into his world.

He had no wife or home; he knew nothing of raising a disabled child; he had little money and planned to run for district attorney in his home county.

Just as important, Iraqi law prohibits foreigners from adopting Iraqi children.

Southworth prayed and talked with family and friends.

His mother, who had cared for many disabled children, explained the difficulty. She also told him to take one step at a time and let God work.

Southworth's decision was cemented in spring 2004, while he and his comrades watched the CBS's film, "The Passion of the Christ." Jesus Christ's sacrifice moved him. He imagined meeting Christ and Ala' in heaven, where Ala' asked: "Baba, why didn't you ever come back to get me?"

"Everything that I came up with as a response I felt ashamed. I wouldn't want to stand in the presence of Jesus and Ala' and say those things to him."

And so, in his last weeks in Iraq, Southworth got approval from Iraq's Minister of Labor to take Ala' to the United States for medical care.

...

His parents had filed signatures so he wouldn't miss the cutoff to run for district attorney. He knocked on doors, telling people he wanted to be tough on criminals who committed injustices against children.

He never mentioned his intention to adopt Ala'. He won office — securing a job and an income.

Everything seemed to be in place. But when Southworth contacted an immigration attorney, he was told it would be nearly impossible to bring Ala' to the United States.

Undaunted, Southworth and the attorney started the paperwork to bring Ala' over on humanitarian parole.

used for urgent reasons or significant public benefit.

A local doctor, a cerebral palsy expert, a Minneapolis hospital, all said they would provide Ala' a free care. Other letters of support came from a minister, the school district, the lieutenant governor, a congressman, chaplain, a sister at the orphanage and an Iraqi doctor.

"We crossed political boundaries. We crossed religious boundaries. There was just a massive effort — all on behalf of this little boy who desperately needed people to actually take some action and not just feel sorry for him," Southworth says.

He mailed the packet on Dec. 16, 2004, to the Department of Homeland Security.

On New Year's Eve, his cell phone rang. It was Ala'.

"What are you doing?" Scott asked him.

"I was praying," Ala' responded.

"Well, what were you praying for?"

"I prayed that you would come to take me to America," Ala' said.

Southworth almost dropped the phone. Ala' knew nothing of his efforts, and he couldn't tell him yet for fear that the boy might inadvertently tell the wrong person, upending the delicate process.

By mid-January, Home-

land Security called Southworth's attorney to say it had approved humanitarian parole. Within three hours, Southworth had plane tickets.

He hardly slept as he worked the phones to make arrangements, calling the American embassy, hotels and the orphanage. His Iraqi translator agreed to risk his life to get Ala' to the embassy to obtain documentation. Like a dream, all the pieces fell into place.

Southworth returned to Iraq for the first time since a deployment that left him emotionally, physically and spiritually exhausted.

His unit had trained Iraqi police from snmp to sundown; he saw the devastation wrought by two car bombings, and counted dead bodies. Mortar and rocket attacks were routine. Some 20 in his unit were wounded, and one died. He knew that nothing could be taken for granted in Baghdad.

So when he saw Ala' at the airport for the first time since leaving Iraq, he was relieved.

"He was in my custody then. I could hug him. I could hold him. I could protect him."

"And forever started."

They made it to Wisconsin late Jan. 20, 2005. The next morning, Ala' awoke to his first sight of snow.

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## Mush!

First dogsled races in over 70 years in Fairfield come to an end



TOP: And they're off! A pair of sled dogs wear booties to protect their paws during a 20-mile race Saturday morning outside of Fairfield. ABOVE: Kylee Price, 17, of Snow Drest Racing Team from Milville, Utah, guides her dogs Saturday morning at the start of a sled dog race in Fairfield. Price was one of 17 teams to participate in the race that had to be moved from Main Street to a mountain where there was more snow. Despite the time setback and below-zero temperatures, participants seemed excited about the new racing grounds that could become a winter sporting fixture for the community.

By Amy Ballard  
Times-News correspondent

**FAIRFIELD** — The first dogsled race in Fairfield since the 1930s finished Sunday, with smiles on the faces of participants, organizers, and perhaps a few dogs. During the Depression, local youths raced their dogs down Main Street for a new sweater or a pair of gloves. This year, youngsters raced for cash — and an opportunity to get out on the snow early in the dog-race season. Kylee Price, a 17-year-old Milville, Utah, native, took second in the six-dog race, just barely. Her team's time for the 16-mile course was 3 hours, 11 minutes

and 10 seconds, just 20 seconds behind first-time racer Wendy Arrota of Condon, Mont. "Some people think of dogs just as workers," Price said after the awards ceremony Sunday, when she received a check for \$100 plus other gifts donated by area businesses. "I love my dogs, I think of them more as pets," said Price, who has raced for eight years. Originally scheduled to take off from downtown, the races were moved Saturday morning to the base of Wells Summit, 15 miles north in the snowier Sawtooth foothills. Exposed snowdrifts on the trail could spell disaster for a team, said Dennis Stitt, race marshal and event organizer.

### At Magicvalley.com

See a photo gallery of the races.

Participants on 17 teams braved temperatures of 7 degrees below zero the first morning compared with a balmy 15 degrees Saturday afternoon. "The dogs were slacking a little the first race," said 12-year-old Kelsey Brozovich, the only entrant in the junior/beginner event. "But the second time, they did pretty good." Her team ran the first 2-mile race in 42 minutes and the second race in 26 minutes. "Today was a great day," Stitt said after the awards ceremony.

"Everything came together. We leave on a great, strong note." Some locals, he said, even talked of forming a dog sledding club. "The community really got together and supported this event," he said. "Without them we couldn't have done it." City and county groups, Camas County Schools, the Camas Chamber of Commerce, individual members and the Idaho National Guard partnered with Stitt to host the event, and local businesses and artisans donated prizes. Profits from the races, which Stitt estimates will exceed \$100, will go to Camas County Schools, whose mascot is the Musher.

## Company quiet on stalled stocks

By Sven Berg  
For the Times-News

As of the close of trading on the London Stock Exchange Friday, Renova Energy, a London-based company with plans to build an ethanol plant near Heyburn, had not made any new announcements regarding the status of its stock, which it stopped trading early last week. Renova was suspended the morning of Dec. 17, "pending clarification of its financial position," according to a statement the company released the same day. The statement indicated cost overruns at the ethanol plant being built in Heyburn led to the suspension. Later on Monday, ADI Systems, the company hired to build the plant's digesters, stopped work at the plant, citing concerns that Renova wouldn't be able to pay the money it owes the company. ADI President Graham Brown said if Renova resolves its financial issues, ADI crews will return to work.

Renova planned to make capital expenditures of \$40 million — roughly the estimated cost of building the Heyburn plant — in the current fiscal year, which ends March 31, 2008, according to a financial outlook report prepared by its broker, Brewin Dolphin. Renova's own report, released Sept. 30, states the company increased the amount of credit available to it by \$40 million — \$22.2 million of which had already been borrowed.

The remaining \$17.8 million of credit was insufficient to cover the cost of completing the Heyburn plant. Renova Senior Vice President Jim Glancey said, leading Renova to seek additional financing from its consortium of lenders headed by the New York City branch of Standard Bank.

Renova has worked with lenders in recent days to ensure operations at the company's existing facilities continue uninterrupted, Glancey said. A time frame for a permanent resolution has yet to be worked out. "I don't really expect anything firm to come out until after the first of the year," he said. "To me it sounds positive, but I can't tell you anything definitive."

A representative of Standard Bank could not be reached for comment after office hours on Friday.

Despite Renova's estimated \$38 million decrease of cash on hand through the end of March 2008, Brewin Dolphin predicts a bright future for the company. "Given the widespread political support it is likely to maintain, the recent encouraging momentum which has been generated with regard to the mandated use of renewable fuels," the broker's report says.

## Fatal hit-and-run closes Blue Lakes

Times-News

Police say they are searching for the driver of a dark vehicle who killed one person in a hit-and-run incident Sunday evening on Blue Lakes Boulevard South near Park Avenue.

Police declined to immediately release details, including the victim's name, but said they're searching for a dark vehicle that likely has front-end damage. It is unclear what type of vehicle was involved, though police said more details could be released after troopers finish gathering evidence at the scene.

Police closed portions of Blue Lakes Boulevard South shortly before 7 p.m., and the road remained blocked by emergency vehicles for several hours. Authorities ask that anyone with information call Idaho State Police: 736-3060.

## Police on lookout for impaired drivers during holidays

By John E. Swayze  
Times-News correspondent

The holidays are a time for celebration. But through New Year's Day, Idaho law enforcement agencies will be reminding motorists not to drink and drive this season. "We're hitting this pretty hard, and I think it helps," said Traffic Division Staff Sgt. Dennis Pullin of the Twin Falls Police Department. "We'll have our regular units out and four or five of our off-duty officers as well."

### INSIDE:

Statistics on people killed or injured in MV by impaired drivers. See page A5

"We certainly don't want to ruin anyone's holiday, but we're going to enforce DUI laws and keep a safety message out there," he said.

Idaho law makes it illegal to drive with a

blood alcohol content of .08 or higher. First time offenders who fail a breathalyzer test will be arrested and lose their driver's license for 90 days. Drivers who refuse to take the test can have their license suspended for up to one year.

According to statistics provided by the Idaho Transportation Department, 110 people died in alcohol-related traffic accidents statewide in 2006, 20 of them in the Magic Valley.

Please see **IMPAIRED DRIVING**, Page A5

## Sunday event for the birds, literally

Bird watchers take part in annual Christmas Bird Count

By Blair Koch  
Times-News correspondent

**HAGERMAN** — Perhaps the only bird on your mind around Christmas is a partridge in a pear tree. Or a turkey stuffed with rice, roasted and served for dinner, perhaps. But for the Magic Valley's

Prairie Falcon Audubon Society, Christmas time is all about the birds — as many as they can find. It's time for the annual Christmas Bird Count, began in 1900 by ornithologist Frank Chapman as an alternative to the once-popular Christmas Bird Shoot. Now, 108 years later, CBCs take place across the nation and involve thousands of Audubon members, bird watching hobbyists and novice volunteers. The birders use their data each year to gauge bird populations and

### Looking for an outdoor hobby?

For more information on the Magic Valley's Prairie Falcon Audubon Society: Sarah Harris at 734-2645 or sharris@csai.edu.

track trends. On Sunday near Hagerman, a bandful of local birders rose early and braved snow-killed roads. They grabbed binoculars, cameras and spotting scopes,

donned waterproof outdoor gear and met in Hagerman for their Christmas count.

Earlier this month similar events took place in Bull Craters of the Moon National Monument and Twin Falls. Counts are scheduled during the first week of January for areas near Jarbidge, Nev., and Sun Valley.

"I've always been an outdoorsy type of person and love to watch birds. This is just something I love and it's a good excuse to get outside."

Please see **BIRDS**, Page A5



Arizona State University student Carlee Ross searches the surface of Ostar Lake with a spotting scope Sunday in Hagerman during an annual Christmas Bird Count. Colleen Moulton, non-game biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, estimated that 2,000 ducks rested on the lake during the count.

### Thurman Leon Jackson

Thurman Leon Jackson, 88, passed away at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center on Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007.

Thurman was born in Stone County, Mo., on July 1, 1919, to Brady and Mary (Haton) Jackson. He came to Idaho at the age of 16 with his four brothers in 1936.

Thurman and his older brother Vernon owned the Overland Dairy.

Thurman married Lou Ella Cobb on Nov. 18, 1939. During World War II, Thurman proudly served in the Marine Corps. He was stationed at Ikaia, Hawaii, where he was postmaster. In the 1950s, he and his father owned and operated "The White House," a restaurant and cafe on Main Avenue South in Twin Falls.

In the 1960s he owned and operated, along with his father, Brady, the Twin Falls Cigar Store. People who worked at the store were Troy Laundry, Sears, Glen Jenkins Garage, and many others will remember carrying a good meal there. In 1980, Thurman and Lou Ella moved to Shoshone, where they lived for nine years. Later, they moved to Jerome, where Thurman had a mail contract route and ranched

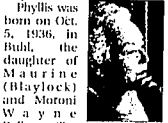


and farmed. In 1990, he sold their farm to the Beuker's fishing, gardening, jigsaw puzzles, playing cards and watching the squirrels and birds.

He is survived by his wife, Lou Ella; daughters, Marjorie Jackson, of Sacramento, Calif., Kathy Partridge (Fred) of Jerome; two granddaughters Lisa Campbell Waller (Darin) of Seeley Lake, Mont., and Emily Brooks (Mark) of Sacramento, Calif.; three great-grandsons Jacob, Caleb, and Brandon Campbell. Also surviving are several nieces and cousins. Thurman was preceded in death by his parents, four brothers Vernon, Ollis, Dallas and Eugene. Private family services will be held with a celebration of life to be held at a later date. Arrangements have been entrusted to White Mortuary "Chapel by the Park."

### Phyllis Kaye Fuller Colonna

Phyllis Kaye Fuller Colonna passed away peacefully in her sleep Dec. 21, 2007, at the Bronson Lodge, home of her daughter, Jeannette Colonna. She was 71 years old.



Phyllis was born on Oct. 5, 1936, in Bull, the daughter of M a u r i n e (Blaylock) and Frank W y n n e Fuller. She spent much of her happy childhood on the Wendell farm of her grandparents, Josephine and Frank Blaylock. When her mother remarried in 1943, she developed a deep love and respect for her stepfather, Dave Phillips, and his extended family. After completing high school in Bull, she attended Brigham Young University. She left school to work as a special researcher for the Geological Society in Salt Lake City, then with Hill Air Force Base near Ogden, Utah. She served two terms of duty as a civilian attached to the Air Force in Chateaufort, France, and Weisbaden, Germany. In 1965, Phyllis met and later married Jean-Philippe Colonna, a career diplomat with the French Government. In 1972, following the same year their daughter Jeannette was born, her husband accepted a tour of duty as one of three men who govern the French South Pacific, and Phyllis spent her next six years on the island of New Caledonia. After divorce

ing in 1975, Phyllis went to work for Brigham Young University Press as an editor of scholarly books, and completed the coursework for a degree in psychology. She did some freelance writing and collaborated on the development of innovative curriculum for an adult school. In 1985, she moved to New York City and worked there until 1991 as the quadrilingual (English, French, German, and Spanish) executive assistant to the French CEO of SOPEXA. A life-long member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Phyllis devoted much of the remaining years of her life to genealogy and family history work for her own family and others.

She is survived by her daughter Jeannette Colonna of Brownsville, Ind.; her mother, Marjorie Butler of Wendell; and six brothers and sisters, Mike Phillips of Wendell, Eileen Adams of Jerome, Elaine Padeken of Brown Lake, Gary Phillips of Wendell, Anne Hardman of West Jordan, Utah, and Eric Phillips of Wendell. Her passing is also mourned by her dog Boob and two cats, the Dada Latte and Tasha.

Funeral services will be held 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, at the Bull Fair St. L.D.S. Church. Visiting times will be 9 to 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, at the Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 9th Ave. N., Bull, and 10 until 10:50 a.m. prior to the funeral service at the church. There will be a brief prayer meeting for family members immediately prior to the services.

### Alice Jane Hoogland

Alice Jane Hoogland "Alice," age 84, died of cancer Sunday, Dec. 23, at her home in Bull.



Alice was born April 25, 1923, to Aric and Rie Hedelede in Rotterdam, Netherlands. During World War II, she endured five years of Nazi occupation in Holland. On February 11, 1948, she married Jacob. Hoogland "Jap" and left her job at a local grocery store to become a full time homemaker. Jap and Alice immigrated to the United States in October 1961 with their five children, settling initially in Artesia, Calif., where Jap secured a job milking cows. One year later the family moved to Bakersfield, Calif., to operate their first dairy and add one more daughter to their family.

In July 1971, Jap and Alice bought a home and 40 acres in Bull, moving with their three youngest children. They owned and operated a dairy there until Jap's retirement in 1983, when they moved into the town of Bull.

Alice was a wonderful homemaker, raising and caring for her children. She had a host of hobbies, including sewing, knitting, cross-stitching and baking wonderful Dutch pastries and cookies. Her favorite pastime was playing cards with her friends. Her volunteer work as a "pink lady" at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center from 1983 through 2007 brought her a great deal of joy and satisfaction. In her final weeks, she spoke often and with great fondness of various volunteers that befriended her over the years and the staff of the Cancer Center, whose she volunteered the last few

years. But as I write this, I think of all who know her well would agree her greatest joy in life came with being Grandma... even the grandchildren, who would visit too much after insisting she still be the still could sleep with Grandma.

Alice was preceded in death by her husband, Jap Hoogland; son John Hoogland and brother, Adrian Hedelede.

She is survived by one son, Harry Hoogland, of Bull; four daughters, Maria Bell of Beaverton, Ore., Betty Molnar of Carlbad, Calif., Ellen Bencken and Jackie Cox of Boise; one brother, Cor Leece, of the Netherlands; and two grandsons, Janice Meynert, Sjaan Bestenbur of the Netherlands, Rep Vanderlaak of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada; ten grandchildren Mike, John, Derek, Case, Lauren, Jani, Danielle, Drake, Dakotah, Courtney and Tyler and three great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, at the Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631 Grandview Drive N., with the Rev. Brian Vriesman officiating. Burial will follow services at Bull's West End Cemetery. A viewing for family and friends will be 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, at Farmer Funeral Chapel 130 S. Idaho in Bull.

Alice's family would like to express a special appreciation to Pam and the rest of the wonderful nurses and staff at Hagerman Hospice and Hospice. You provided Mom and us with the care, support and resources to care for her these past seven weeks with the grace and dignity with which she lived her entire life, and for this we are grateful. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Idaho Home Health and Hospice or the American Cancer Society.

### Lawrence Eugene 'Gene' Dudley

Lawrence Eugene "Gene" Dudley, 78, a resident of Jerome, died Dec. 20, 2007, at Twin Falls Care Center.

Gene was born May 25, 1929, in Wendell. The son of Hay and Blanche Dudley. He was raised and educated in Wendell and then served in the U.S. Army in Korea until his discharge in 1956.

He married Lorraine DeChant on March 15, 1953, in Elko, Nev. He attended Twin Falls Business College and then they moved to Olympia, Wash., with their children Larry and Rose. Upon retirement from the U.S. Army, they moved to Mesa, Ariz., where Lorraine passed away Dec. 23, 1989.

In January 1991, Gene moved back to Wendell and attended his class reunion. There he restarted his friendship with an old friend, Barbara Taylor Harley. They were married Sept. 28, 1991, in Elko, Nev. They later were remarried at St. Anthony's Catholic Church in Wendell. Along with Barbara, Gene inherited three children, Tom, Marci and Brian, and a dog.

Gene had a very strong faith in God and always tried

to set the best example for his family. His combined family was his greatest pleasure in life and he was always there for them with a helping hand and kind heart. He was anxiously awaiting the arrival of his next great-granddaughter in April.

He is survived by his wife of 16 years, Barbara; one son, Larry of Olympia, Wash., and one step-son, Tom (Ronna) Harley of Wendell; one daughter, Rose Newton of Jerome, and two step-daughters, Marci (Juan) Iniguez and Brenda (Jim) Durfee of Jerome. He is also survived by three sisters, Marie Ulbin of Boise, Clara Robinson of Wendell and Betty Rodd of Wendover, Nev.; seven grandchildren, four great-grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews. Gene was preceded in death by his parents, wife Lorraine, six brothers, one sister, his son-in-law and one great-grandson.

Funeral Services will be held at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 28, 2007, at Demary Wendell Chapel with Deacon John McKinley officiating. Burial will follow at the Wendell Cemetery. There will be no public viewing.

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.

### DEATH NOTICES

#### Harold V. Jensen

CHAMFORD, Neb. — Harold V. Jensen, 83, of Crawford, Neb., died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007, at his home. Arrangements are pending.

#### Nancy Brennan

JEROME — Nancy Brennan, 70, of Jerome, died Dec. 23, 2007 in Jerome. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

#### David B. Gallegos

BURLEY — David B. Gallegos, a 59-year-old Burley resident, died Dec. 23, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Services are pending and will be announced by Hansen Payne Mortuary.

#### Donald L. Overlin

Donald L. Overlin, age 80, of Twin Falls, died Sunday morning, Dec. 23, 2007, at his home. Funeral arrangements will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls.

#### Rose Anderson

GOODING — Rose Anderson, 84, a resident of Gooding, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2007, at her home in Gooding. Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demary's Gooding Chapel.

#### Laren Melvin Rosa

PAUL — Laren Melvin Rosa, a 67-year-old resident of Paul, died Saturday, Dec. 22, 2007, at his home. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 28, at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 609 N. 11 Street, with Pastor John Crawford officiating. Burial will be in the Paul Cemetery.

### SERVICES

Edith Louise Woodall Stacey of Twin Falls, open house for family and friends from noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday at 5448 Hwy. 663 Alturas Drive N. in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:40 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Wayne Ellis of Bull, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Bull; visitation from 1 to 5 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral chapel.

James "Jim" Alfred Goller of Garden Valley and Boise and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 2 p.m. Thursday at Summers Funeral Home, Boise Chapel, 1205 W. Barnack St. in Boise; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home.

Wanda May Whipkey of Hagerman, service at 11 a.m. Thursday at the First Methodist Church in Gooding; visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Demary's Gooding Chapel.

Jennie Marie Egbert of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at the Springdale LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Church, 559 E. 200 S. in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Hagerman Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Friday at the church.

David Arthur Cramer of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Star LDS 1st and 2nd Ward Church, 100 S. 200 W. in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Hagerman Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley.

Fred J. Walmsley of Hagerman, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Living Waters Presbyterian Church in Wendell.

### Impaired driving

Continued from page 44  
"Saving lives on our roads is a top priority, and we need everyone's help," said Kevin Bucher, with the Idaho Transportation Department. "Don't let your year end in an arrest or even worse, death." If you have had too much to drink, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration suggests several things you can do to keep you and other drivers safe over the holidays:

- Choose a designated driver before going to a party.
- Call a taxi or friend who can drive you home.
- Take the keys of impaired drivers; help them find alternative transportation and always wear your seat belt.
- People are slowly becoming more aware of drunken driving hazards, said Idaho State Police Sgt. Doug Melchior.
- With our overlapping double patrols, times seem

to be pretty even right now," he said.

"I do see that people are tending to use designated drivers and cab services more, and hopefully, that'll be maintained over the holidays."

Drunken drivers can be reported to the ISP; 800-233-1212.

John E. Swartz may be reached at 326-7212 or swartz@aol.com.

### Reason to worry

Persons killed or injured in Magic Valley by impaired driving accidents in 2006

Killed	Injured
Blaine County	2
Camas County	0
Cassia County	2
Gooding County	2
Jerome County	3
Lincoln County	0
Minidoka County	2
Twin Falls County	5

Source: Idaho Transportation Department

### Birds

Continued from page 44  
said Sarah Harris, Prairie Falcon president. "Every year we get about 15 to 20 volunteers to tag down to Hagerman and count the number of birds and species within a 15 mile radius of the Hagerman Post Office." The area includes the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area, wetlands and long stretches of the Snake River. "It's like fishing for the big one. We compete with Nampa in finding the most species, and Hagerman wins a lot of the time," Harris said. "Last year the group identified 100 species. We have expected this year's count to again give competing areas a

run for their money. The Hagerman count was especially thrilling to Carlos Lopez of Arizona, at the University Student in Tempe, Ariz., who is visiting the area for the holidays. In binding lung, a "lifer" declares seeing a new species for the first time. Ross was hoping Idaho's different terrain might add another lifer to his list of 417 bird species.

"I want to add the Tundra Swan to my life list, but I haven't thought I've seen one, yet. The day is already a success

because it is just beautiful here."

Besides the count being a hobby, the yearly outing is critical in monitoring trends, said Colleen Moulton, a nongame biologist with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The counts can help figure out how the birds are doing, and this is the only winter survey done nationwide," Moulton said. "They can give us data to use in studying the birds that are found here."

The Hagerman counters will tally their results this week.

Contact Blair Koch at 316-2607 or koch@blairkoch@gmail.com.

### Sounds Good!

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2nd Floor, Room 201 (Across from CSI)

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Keep trying each moment to be the best you can I came here before you to help set your place

You don't have to be perfect all of the time He forgives you the slip If you continue the climb

To my family and friends I'm please be thankful today I'm still close beside you in a new special way

I love you all dearly now don't shed a tear 'cause I'm spending my Christmas with Jesus this year

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Century Stadium 5 will be closed Christmas Eve and reopen Christmas Night

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CLOSED CHRISTMAS EVE AND CHRISTMAS DAY

TIMES-NEWS • OPINION EDITOR STEVE CRUMP; 735-3223

EDITORIAL

# No Santa Claus? That's humbug

*Editor's note: More than a century ago, young Virginia O'Hanlon sent the editor of The New York Sun a question that still perplexes parents: "Is there a Santa Claus?" Her letter was turned over to Francis P. Church, and his eloquent reply was published that Christmas of 1897. As is our custom, the Times-News is pleased to reprint Church's wisdom on yet another Christmas Eve.*

"Dear editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus. Papa says 'If you see it in the Sun, it's so!' Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

—Virginia O'Hanlon, 115 W. 95th St.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except (what) they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect, an ant in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

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

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable the existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight.

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

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can make us inside the curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and joy beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else so real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, may 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

## Times-News

Brad Hurd . . . publisher Steve Crump . . . Opinion editor

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump, Traci Bliss and Bill Blitzenburg.

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### DeMolay invites young men to join for 2008

The Twin Falls Chapter of DeMolay is a great organization club and is actively taking applications for membership for 2008.

DeMolay has been in Twin Falls since 1954. We are an international service organization for young men 12 to 21 years of age.

If you are searching for a way to have fun, make new friends, and learn leadership skills and decision-making skills, you owe it to yourself to check out this organization.

We open doors for young men by developing their civic awareness, personal responsibility and leadership skills so vitally needed in society today. We combine this serious mission with a fun approach that builds friendship among members in more than 1,000 chapters worldwide.

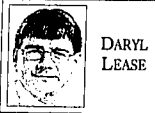
DeMolay is a membership club that meets two to three times a month and decides on activities and programs. They can decide on sport activities, dances and social events. We also do civic activities and fundraising projects; adult advisers are always there to help, but the members make the decisions and plan the activities on their own.

DeMolay is not a religious organization. Your own beliefs are respected and encouraged. The only requirements for membership are that you be 12 to 21 and have good character. If you are interested or want more information, you can contact 539-3559 or 737-9224, e-mail idemolay@yahoo.com or go online at www.demolay.org.

JEFF ABRAM  
Twin Falls  
(Editor's note: Jeff Abram is chairman of the Twin Falls chapter of DeMolay.)

# A tough Monday at the North Pole

Early one morning at the North Pole... "Ho, ho, ho! Merry Christmas, everyone!" "My, my, why such a glum face, my little friend?" "We've got trouble, sir. Big trouble."



DARYL LEASE

"Oh, I'm sure it's nothing a little magic can't solve! What seems to be the matter?" "Well, let's start with the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The workshop is crawling with inspectors." "So see, I see. It's rather odd they'd show up here, given all the problems with toys made in China this year."

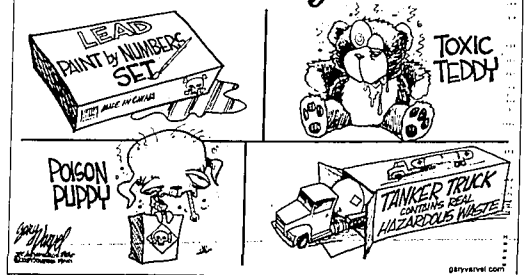
"They landed here by mistake, sir. They saw our workshop from the air, and they just started parachuting in." "Parachuting?" "Yes. It seems commando-style inspections are part of the agency's new get-tough image. I'm afraid some of their chutes veered off course."

"Let me guess: The chutes were made in China?" "You got it. Manufacturer's defect. But the good news is that the snow didn't break their fall. I sent the reindeer out on a search-and-rescue mission."

"Oh, my. But didn't I read somewhere that the safety committee has only one full-time toy inspector? Who are all these other people?" "Seasonal hires. And they're clinging to us like cheap tin sets. We can't throw out one of them stepping on us."

"I'm so sorry to hear that." "And you should see what happens when one of us

## A PARENTAL GUIDE TO: Christmas Toys to AVOID



do have a tight schedule to keep.

"We were doing OK, until the debunkers showed up." "The debunkers?"

"Yes, sir. They're rather rude, sir. Downright accusatory. They kept asking the elves whether they've ever really seen a polar bear stranded on an ice cap—or drowning."

"My, my. How did the elves handle that?" "At first, not so well. A lot of them were upset by the graphic images and started crying."

"How dreadful. But then things settled down, I hope."

"I'm afraid not. The elves started hitting the debunkers with hammers and stomping their toes. We've had a few reports of kneecap bites."

"I,sk, tk, tk. But things have quieted down, yes?"

"Not really. Eventually the elves got so tired of being stepped on and questioned and accused that they chased a whole bunch of climatologists, debunkers and toy inspectors outside and into the snows."

"And?"

"That's when I split the reindeer search-and-rescue

team into two."

"I see. I'm so sorry, my little friend. I had no idea."

"I'm not done yet, sir."

"There's more?"

"Yep. Right about the time the chase started, a convoy of presidential candidates and media types showed up. Clinton, Romney, Obama, Huckabee. The whole crew."

"At the North Pole? Why?"

"Apparently their GPS devices were made in China. They thought they were in Iowa or New Hampshire."

"Oh, my."

"So now they're running around trying to find a drowning polar bear so they can get their picture taken saving one."

"Hmhmhm." "And that's when I split the reindeer search-and-rescue team into three."

"Looks like it's going to be a long night, my friend."

"I'll get the egg nog, Santa."

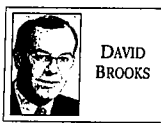
"And I'll get the flask."

"Make sure it was made in China, sir. Lead, you know."

Strauss (Fls.) Imitib-Tribune columnist Daryl Lease may be reached at daryl.lease@heraldtribune.com.

# Would Clinton or Obama make a better president?

Hilary Clinton has been a much better senator than Barack Obama. She has been a serious, substantive lawmaker who has worked effectively across party lines. Obama has some accomplishments under his belt, but many of his colleagues believe that he has not bothered to master the intricacies of legislation or the nuance of Senate rules. He talks about independence, but he has never quite bucked liberal orthodoxy or party discipline.



DAVID BROOKS

Clinton was running against Obama for Senate, it would be easy to choose between them.

But they are running for president, and the president requires a different set of qualities. Presidents are buffeted by sycophancy, criticism and betrayal. They must improve amidst a thousand fluid crises. They're isolated and also exposed, puffed up on the outside and hollowed out within. With the presidency, character and self-knowledge matter more than ever before. There are reasons to think that, among Democrats, Obama is the best prepared for this madness.

Many of the best presidents in U.S. history had their character forged before they entered politics and carried to it a degree of self-possession and tranquility that was unimpaired by the Sturm und Drang of White House life.

Obama is an inner-directed man in a profession filled with insecure outer-directed ones. He was forged by the process of discovering his

own identity from the scattered facts of his childhood, a process that is described in finely observed detail in "Dreams From My Father."

Once he completed that process, he has been astonishingly consistent.

Like most of the rival campaigns, I've been poring over press clippings from Obama's past, looking for inconsistencies and flip-flops. There are virtually none. The unty speech he gives on the stump today is essentially the same speech that he gave at the Democratic convention in 2004. It is the same sort of speech he gave to Illinois legislators and Harvard Law students in the decades before that. He has a core, and was able to maintain his equipoise, for example, even as his campaign stagnated through the summer and fall.

Moreover, he has a worldview that is decidedly political positions. Some Americans (Republican or Democrat) believe that the country's future can only be shaped through a remembrance of war between the children of light and the children of darkness. Though neither Tom DeLay nor Nancy Pelosi were able to deliver much to their own believers, these warriors believe that what's

With the presidency, character and self-knowledge matter more than even experience.

needed is more partisanship, more toughness and eventually a request for their side.

But Obama does not ratchet up hostilities; he restrains them. He does not lash out at perceived enemies, but is aloof from them. In the course of his struggle to discover who he is, Obama clearly learned from the strain of pessimistic optimism that stretches back from Martin Luther King Jr. to Abraham Lincoln. This is a worldview that detests anger as a motivating force, that distrusts easy dichotomies between the parties of good and evil, believing instead that the crucial dichotomy runs between the good and bad within each individual.

Obama did not respond to his father's loss or his racial predicament with anger and rage, but as questions for investigation, conversation and synthesis. He approaches politics the same way. In her outstanding New Yorker profile, Larissa MacFarquhar notes that Obama does not perceive politics as a series of battles but as a series of systemic problems to be addressed. He pursues liberal ends in gradualist, temperamentally conservative ways.

Obama also has powers of observation that may militate

against his own inexperience and the isolating pressures of the White House. In his famous essay, "Political Judgment," Isaiah Berlin writes that wise leaders don't think abstractly. They use powers of close observation to integrate the vast, confusing amalgam of data that constitute their own particular situation — their own and no other.

Obama demonstrated those powers in "Dreams From My Father" and still reveals glimpses of the ability to step outside his own ego and look at reality in an unblinking, honest way. He still retains the capacity, also rare in presidents, of being able to sympathize with and grasp the motivations of his rivals. Even in his political memoir, "The Audacity of Hope," he astutely observes that candidates are driven less by the desire for victory than by the raw fear of loss and humiliation.

What Bill Clinton said on "The Charlie Rose Show" is right: picking Obama is a fine dice. Sometimes he seems more concerned with process than results. But Democrats, there's a roll of the dice either way. The presidency is a bacterium. If it is to open wounds in the people, it must first infect them, and the resulting scandals infect the presidency and the country. The person with the fewest wounds is usually the best in the White House, and is best for the country.

David Brooks is a columnist for the New York Times.

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# When it comes to eloquence, nobody matches Obama

**B**arack Obama has become a one-trick pony. But what a trick it is!

The stump speech he has developed in the closing stages of the pre-Christmas campaign is a thing of beauty, a 40-minute oration delivered without notes that is powering his gains in the town exercises on Jan. 3 and the first primary here in New Hampshire five days later.

Hillary Clinton has nothing to match it. John Edwards has periodic bursts of eloquence. But Obama has reached the point of being able to deliver the speech on demand, and to reach audiences with assured effect.

It has become his security blanket.

The speech was introduced at the Jefferson-Jackson dinner in Des Moines more than a month



DAVID BRODER

ago, when Obama was still struggling for leverage against Clinton and Edwards in Iowa. It drew rave reviews from that big audience and from *Des Moines Register* columnist David Yepsen, and Obama knew he had a winner.

He gave it again to the Democratic National Committee at its candidate forum in northern Virginia and won accolades. So he gave it four more times, when he toured with Oprah Winfrey through Des Moines, Cedar Rapids, Manchester and Columbia, S.C., thrilling

about 60,000 people at the small venues.

He has now delivered it in small towns all over Iowa and, here in New Hampshire, he did it six more times in two days last week.

It is a helluva speech. Like some Beethoven symphonies, it starts on a rather calm and even light-hearted note. He hits an early applause line by reminding audiences that next year, "George Bush's name will not be on the ballot," Democrats cheer the prospective departure of the man they despise.

And then Obama jokes, "Neither will my cousin, Dick Cheney. What an embarrassment to discover he was part of the family!"

He segues to a standard riff about the importance of the coming election, aptly connecting it into a pointed attack on Hillary Clinton,

although he does not name her. Given the stakes, he says, it is not enough just to change parties or presidents in this election. "We have to change politics. The same old games won't be triangulating another winning vote do?"

Then Obama pays his respect to Edwards-style populism, raggad on a Washington where health care and energy legislation have been stymied for years by corporate lobbyists, — none of whom, he promises, will get the time of day from an Obama administration.

Then he touches the egregiousness of various Democratic constituencies, promising labor to raise the minimum wage each and every year; promising teachers generous salaries; and promising college students new help in paying tuition. And finally, comes the per-

oration, quoting Martin Luther King Jr. on the "force of non-violence," in explaining why he can patiently wait his turn to run for president. It's a bit of reach because he wants to draw another contrast with Hillary. Unlike others, he says, he is not planned to run for president and he does not regard the presidency as his entitlement.

The closing anecdote is based on an incident at a rally in Greenville, S.C., where, on a miserable morning with a meager crowd, a single black woman in the audience first revived Obama's spirit by shouting out encouragement, and then got everyone chanting, responsibly, "I need you!"

Ready to go?

As he tells the familiar story, Obama segues from a conversational tone to a

shout and explains that the chant has now become his trademark and slogan. So he tells his listeners, "I've got one thing to ask you. Are you **FIBER UP?**"

Are you **READY TO GO? FIBER UP! READY TO GO?** And then, as the shouting becomes almost too loud to hear, he adds the five words that capsize his whole message and sends the voters scrambling back into their winter coats and streaming out the door: "Let's go change the world," Obama says. And it sounds as if he means it.

In every audience I have seen, there is a jolt of pure electric energy at those closing words. Hats stain some cheeks — and some people look a little understruck.

Washington Post columnist David Broder can be reached at [david@broder.washingtonpost.com](mailto:david@broder.washingtonpost.com)

## Important gun-rights case headed for Supreme Court

**R**obert A. Levy, a libertarian lawyer who has never won a gun case, helped create and single-handedly financed the case that may finally resolve the meaning of the Second Amendment.

In November, the Supreme Court agreed to hear the case, District of Columbia v. Heller.

Persuading the court to take its first look at the scope of the right to bear arms in almost 70 years is the culmination of a meticulous litigation strategy that was consciously modeled on the civil rights era and strenuously opposed by the gun lobby.

"This is far bigger than I won't say than ever imagined," Levy said over coffee in a conference room at the Catholic Law School in New York. "But it is as big as it can get."

Levy, 66, said he and two other lawyers began their challenge of Washington's ban on handgun ownership, one of the strictest gun laws in the nation, by interviewing



ADAM LIPTAK

dozens of potential plaintiffs in Washington.

The appeals court knocked five plaintiffs out of the case in March, saying they had no standing to sue because they had never tried to register a gun.

The remaining plaintiff, Dick Anthony Heller, a security officer, was turned down by Washington police when he tried to register a pistol he had bought while living elsewhere.

Along with carefully selecting the plaintiffs, the lawyers working with Levy shaped their case in a second way, consciously keeping their distance from some groups that support gun rights, like the National Rifle Association.

Levy and his colleagues, Alan Gora and Clark M.nelly III, said they were inspired by the work of Hugo Black, who marshalled the litigation campaign against racially segregated schools.

"I didn't want to be going to the court with a radical case," Levy said. "All we are asking is to let law-abiding residents of the District of Columbia possess functional firearms to defend themselves where they live and sleep."

Levy, who said he is "not particularly interested in guns," pursued the case to vindicate his libertarian principles.

"Free markets," he said, ticking off his basic beliefs, "Private property. Individual rights. The right of all, strictly limited government in accordance with the constitutional structure the framers established."

Adam Liptak is a columnist for the New York Times

## QUOTE

"Unlike an Earth impact, we're not afraid, but we're excited."

— Steve Chesley, an astronomer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, on a newly discovered asteroid that has a 1-in-75 chance of slamming into Mars

"Stop holding this mess — whatever it is — against this man. Even Jesus forgives."

— Rock 'n' roll pioneer Little Richard speaking at the funeral of the Turner, whose musical legacy was tarnished by his image as the drug-addicted, abusive former husband of Tina Turner

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## Financial Lesson of the Week

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### Which Mutual Funds are Right for You?

About 96 million people own mutual funds, according to the Investment Company Institute, a trade organization for the mutual fund industry. So the chances are pretty good that you may already own some funds — but with more than 10,000 of them on the market, how can you know you're picking the right ones?

Of course, just by owning mutual funds, you get at least two key advantages. First, you get professional management, which means that a highly trained investment expert will be choosing the securities that go into your mutual funds. And second, mutual funds offer a degree of diversification because each fund owns a variety of stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments. Keep in mind, though, that diversification can't guarantee a profit or protect against a loss.

However, even though all mutual funds offer you these two benefits, you can't just buy a bunch of funds, willy-nilly, and assume you're making the right moves. Many people think that if one growth-oriented mutual fund gives them a chance to have their money grow, then several growth funds will enable them to make really big profits. But many growth stocks look alike. So, if you bought several of these funds, you might wind up with a lot of similar stocks in slightly different packages. And if one of your funds is adversely affected by market circumstances, the others could be similarly hit, so you might end up losing the benefit of diversification.

How can you avoid buying a bunch of nearly identical growth funds? Ask your financial advisor for the prospectuses or annual reports of all the funds you're considering. These documents typically list their funds' individual holdings and the percentages of different types of assets. If you see too much overlap between a fund you're considering and one you already own, consider looking elsewhere for better opportunities. A mutual fund's prospectus also includes the fund's investment objectives, risks, charges, expenses and other important information, so be sure to read the prospectus carefully before investing or sending money.

**Types of Funds** Thus far, we've mostly discussed growth funds. To create a diversified mutual fund portfolio, though, you'll need to consider other types of funds, such as the following:

- **Growth-and-income funds** — As the name suggests, growth-and-income funds strive to achieve a mix of capital growth and current income. These types of funds invest in dividend-paying stocks and some bonds.
- **Bond funds** — You can find mutual funds that focus on corporate, Treasury or municipal bonds. While all these funds seek to provide income, they differ in risk level and tax consequences.
- **International funds** — International funds invest in stocks in non-U.S. companies. Although such funds have the potential to achieve large gains, they are frequently volatile, as they are subject to currency fluctuation and political and economic risks.
- **Sector funds** — "Sector" funds primarily invest in the stocks of a particular industry or segment of the economy, such as technology, health care or financial services. Sector funds are, by design, less diversified than other types of mutual funds; consequently, they are generally more risky.

Your financial advisor can help you find the right mix of mutual funds for your individual risk tolerance, long-term goals and time horizon. So, pick your funds carefully. Today's decisions can have a big impact on your financial future.

## nie Newspaper in Education

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Stranger's Christmas gift leaves man hopeful

On Monday, Dec. 18, my son and I were at Rudy's looking around for a Christmas gift for my wife. As my son (one of seven children) and I walked by, he noticed a popcorn popper on the top shelf and asked if we could buy it. I had to decline his request.

As we gazed at the shelves, a woman standing behind us inquired about what type of cooking we did. "Buy two of everything — do you bake or fry?" My response to her is summed up in that with seven children, you do what you can with what you have.

We parted ways, and shortly before we went to leave the store, the lady walked up and handed my son a wrapped gift for him and his siblings. I thanked her gratefully, telling her that it was not necessary. Her slight reply was, "I wanted to do it — Merry Christmas."

Thank you, ma'am, for the gracious gift! We haven't opened the gift yet, but I'm guessing we'll be able to enjoy popcorn for many years to come. God bless you and your family!

JACE BUTLER  
Twin Falls

### Enjoy seasonal mystery; hasten an end to wars

For six years now we have helplessly watched our lives and world unravel into fragmented parts. Always, we hope for better selves and a friendlier world in which to live out our daily lives, accepting the ups and downs of that life.

Faith in peace on Earth gives way to dependence on reason, which reason becomes just another vanity. At such times, I hold close

the love of family and friends, past and present. I remember we are stuff of the universe and laugh at the silliness of atoms and molecules out of which we are made warring with one another.

Well, all will vanish back into the vastness from which we came. In the meantime, I try to do the best I can as a person and trust others will do the same whether I agree with them or not. It's all a mystery wrapped in vanity upon vanity until the universe expands for billions of years and will grow dark and cold.

My plea is for each and every one of us to enjoy the seasonal mystery and hasten the end of wars and wars and wars.

GRANT LIPTAK  
Hagerman

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# Boy finds holiday happiness riding shotgun on garbage truck

By Elaine Jarvik  
Deseret Morning News

**SALT LAKE CITY** — Perhaps, for you, a garbage truck is just a noisy, smelly vehicle. But that's probably because you haven't noticed how appealing a garbage truck can be, with its elegant choreography of forklifts and its satisfying clanking of metal on metal.

For Zachery Harrison, garbage trucks are almost as cool as trains. Maybe even cooler.

So when he had a chance Wednesday to ride shotgun in the cab of a real garbage truck, he was as his mom says "over the moon." He'll probably talk about this day till he's 70, she says.

Zach is currently 15 years old chronologically but about 6 developmentally, says Heidi Harrison. He suffers from autism, mental retardation and a genetic disorder called tuberous sclerosis, affecting his heart, skin and eyes. Just recently it was discovered that tubers

are now also growing in his brain and kidneys.

Heidi and Terry Harrison get respite care through TURN Community Services, where family services coordinator Andrea Baugh recently asked Zach what he'd like for Christmas.

"Garbage truck," said Zach.

One thing led to another, and pretty soon it was all arranged: Allied Waste Services would let Zach have a first-hand garbage truck experience.

Liability issues wouldn't allow Zach to go on a real life garbage pick-up. So the next best thing was to ride along as a real life garbage man drove a truck in the Allied Waste parking lot, lifting up empty Dumpsters into the hopper, then compacting the fictional garbage in the pucker.

For Zach, these subtleties were lost in the sheer excitement of the moment. The afternoon, in fact, was kind of a twofor, because as soon as Zach climbed up into the



Zach Harrison, who is autistic and suffers from mental retardation and a genetic disorder called tuberous sclerosis, has his wish granted as he sits in a real garbage truck for Christmas with the help of Dan Mills, Wednesday at Allied Waste in Salt Lake City.

cab of the big blue truck, a freight train happened to appear on the horizon, its whistle blaring.

"A train! I hear it! It's coming! The train!" yelled Zach. He sounded the garbage truck's horn, then began

yelling some more. "There's a train!" Then more horn. Then "There goes a train! Here it comes!"

Dad! Dad!" By now Zach's bright green hard hat was lopsided on his head.

Actually, the afternoon was more of a threerfor, because it turned out that the garbage truck driver for one leg of the short journey was the Jazz Bear.

Allied Waste outfitted Zach with steel-toed boots, a bright green vest, gloves and safety goggles, all of which he was allowed to take home. The company also presented him with a toy garbage truck, complete with toy residential garbage cans and a toy industrial Dumpster. Also tickets to a Jazz game.

In one of the two real garbage trucks he got to ride — the residential variety, with the driver's side on the right — Zach got to sit on the left side of the cab, so he had the illusion that he was driving.

But he knows that he can't really drive till he's much older, says his mom. "He knows he can't drive till he's 84."

## N. Idaho county to stop taking recycled glass

**COEUR D'ALENE (AP)** — Residents in northern Idaho will no longer be able to bring used glass to the Kootenai County transfer station to be recycled when the year starts.

"It's too expensive to take," Roger Saterfiel, Kootenai County solid waste director, told the Coeur d'Alene Press. "We don't like it, and we know people are upset, but there's no market for it."

Area residents drop off about 250 tons of glass annually, the county estimates. Saterfiel said it would cost the county about \$20,000 a year to send the glass to Oregon and Canada to be recycled rather than just putting it in a landfill.

"It's expensive to move the stuff because of the transportation costs," he said.

He said the county had been putting glass in a pit near the transfer station until the Idaho Department of Environmental

ordered a stop to the practice because glass is considered solid waste.

The glass will now be taken to the Fighting Creek Landfill. The county takes in about 50,000 tons of wood, metal, plastic and paper waste a year, Saterfiel said.

"We have to make recycling pay for itself," he said. "There is a market for cans and milk jugs. The ones that lose a little bit of money are subsidized by the others that make money."

Saterfiel said that Spokane County in Washington state will take glass from northern Idaho residents that's been presorted.

Willie Lampe, president of

Bluebird Recycling in Coeur d'Alene, said the company won't take glass.

"We take it in Spokane, but I charge people for it because

we have to pay people to get rid of it," Lampe said.

He said it's cheaper to make glass than to recycle old glass.

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## Safe Kids Watch

### Kids Safety Tips

**#1 Magnets:** Today's rare-earth magnets can be very small and powerful making them popular in toys, building sets, and jewelry. As the number of products with magnets has increased, so has the number of serious injuries to children. If two or more magnets, or a magnet and another metal object are swallowed separately, they can attract to one another through intestinal walls and get trapped in place. The injury is hard to diagnose. Parents and physicians may think that the materials will pass through the child without consequence, but magnets can attract in the body and twist or pinch the intestines, causing holes, blockages, infection, and death, if not treated properly and promptly.

**#2 Recalled Products:** CPSC is very effective at getting dangerous products off store shelves, such as recalled toys, clothing, children's jewelry, tools, appliances, electronics and electrical products. But once a product gets into the home, the consumer has to be on the lookout. Consumers need to be aware of the latest safety recalls to keep dangerous recalled products away from family members.

**#3 Tip-overs:** Furniture, TVs and ranges can tip over and crush young children. TVs placed on top of furniture can tip over causing head trauma and other injuries. Items left on top of the TV, furniture, and countertops, such as toys, remote controls and treats might tempt kids to climb. Verify that furniture is stable on its own. For added security, anchor to the floor or attach to a wall. Free standing ranges and stoves should be installed with anti-tip brackets.

**#4 Windows & Coverings:** Children can strangle on window drapery and blind cords that can form a loop. Parents should use cordless blinds or keep cords and chains permanently out of the reach of children. Consumers should cut looped cords and install a safety tassel at the end of each pull cord or use a tie-down device, and install inner cord stops to prevent strangulation. The dangers of windows don't end with window coverings and pull cords. Kids love to play around windows. Do not rely on window screens. Window screens are designed to keep bugs out, not to keep kids in. Safeguard your windows: repair pull cords ending in loops and install window guards or stops today.

**#5 Pool & Spa Drains:** The suction from a pool drain can be so powerful that it can hold an adult under water, but most incidents involve children. The body can become sealed against the drain or hair can be pulled in and tangled. Every time you use a pool or spa, inspect it for entrapment hazards. Check to make sure appropriate drain covers are in place and undamaged.

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## Redskins shut down Vikings' Peterson to get important victory



By Jon Krawczynski  
Associated Press writer

MINNEAPOLIS — Be it insult, injury or even the death of one of their own, the Washington Redskins have faced just about every hardship imaginable this season. Yet after an inspired 32-21 victory over the Minnesota Vikings on Sunday night, here they stand — on the cusp of the playoffs. And Clinton Portis knows why. "Once we got on a roll up situated in heaven, it gave us all the strength in the world," Portis said. "It let guys go out and play and have fun." Sean sure would have been proud on this night. Playing the kind of hard-nosed,

harder-hitting defense that fallen teammate Sean Taylor was famous for, the Redskins shut down Adrian Peterson and set up two early touchdowns with interceptions to take control of their playoff fate with their third win in a row. Todd Collins was 22-for-29 for 254 yards and two touchdowns and Portis had 124 total yards, threw a TD pass and ran for another score for the Redskins (8-7), who can clinch the final NFC playoff spot with a win over Dallas next week. "Sean's definitely looking down on this team," offensive tackle Chris Samuels said. Peterson had nowhere to go all night, gaining just 27 yards on nine carries. Tarvaris Jackson's rebound from a disastrous start came too lit-

tle, too late for the Vikings (8-7), who could have clinched a playoff berth with a win. With homefield advantage already locked up, the Cowboys could rest many of their key players, and a Redskins playoff berth would give Webster a new definition for resilience. Taylor, the prototype free safety for the new millennium and a revered figure in the Washington locker room, died on Nov. 27 after being shot by burglars at his Florida home. His death rocked the organization from top to bottom, and the Skins suffered a crushing last-second loss to Buffalo days later — their fourth in a row — to fall to 5-7. Washington also lost a laundry

list of starters to injury this season. "You figure all that would take the life out of most teams," Redskins coach Joe Gibbs said. "I don't know if you can put it into words. It's been a real long journey." The next stop on the journey is at home against the archrival Cowboys, where the Redskins hope to continue to ride an unrelenting defense and the steady play of Collins right into the postseason. "The stage is set," cornerback Fred Smoot said. "We just have to go win that game." After Jackson took a step back in his development for the second straight week, the Vikings need help. They need to win at Denver next week and have the Redskins lose to Dallas to get in.

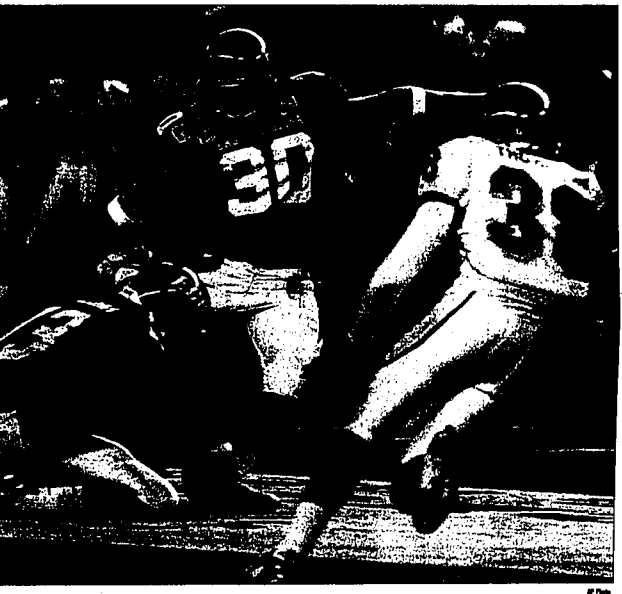
Washington Redskins wide receiver Antwan Randle El races for a first down on a pass from Todd Collins, Sunday against the Minnesota Vikings in Minneapolis, Minn.

# Stunned at the gun

### Late field goal lifts ECU over BSU

By James Song  
Associated Press writer

HONOLULU — Ben Hartman kicked a 34-yard field goal as time expired to give East Carolina a 41-38 win over No. 24 Boise State in the Hawaii Bowl on Sunday night. Chris Johnson set an NCAA bowl record with 408 all-purpose yards for the Pirates (8-5), who won their first postseason game since the 2000 GalleryFurniture.com Bowl. Johnson rushed for 223 yards, caught three passes for 32 yards and returned six kickoffs for 153 yards. But he committed a costly fumble late that almost sent it to overtime. With East Carolina trying to run out the clock near midfield, Marty Tudman scooped up Johnson's fumble and returned it 47 yards for a touchdown to tie it at 38 with 1:25 left. The Pirates took possession at their 39 with 1:16 left and drove to the Broncos 17 to set up Hartman's kick. The Pirates stormed the field in celebration and chased after Hartman, who dashed toward the locker room. The Broncos (10-3), making their sixth straight bowl appearance, almost repeated their last-minute magic from a year ago when they stunned Oklahoma in overtime in the Fiesta Bowl to finish 13-0. But this time, it was the Broncos who fell a little short without any trick plays and an ailing Ian Johnson. Johnson, who was nursing a sprained left ankle, carried the ball just once for 1 yard in the first quarter and finished with 11 yards on four carries. It was Chris Johnson who stole the show. He was named the Most Valuable Player for the Pirates. Jeremy Avery, who rushed for 68 yards and caught four passes for 43 yards was named Boise State's MVP. Taylor Tharp was 36-of-44 for 266 yards and two touchdowns with two interceptions for Boise State.



East Carolina's Bret Hartman kicks the winning field goal as Joseph Sloan holds the ball, against Boise State at the end of the Hawaii Bowl at Aloha Stadium on Sunday, in Honolulu. East Carolina won 41-38.

Patrick Pinkney threw for 117 yards and also rushed for 53 more for East Carolina. The Pirates appeared to have the game in hand when they took a 38-14 lead early in the third quarter on Brandon Simmons' 3-yard TD run. The Broncos, however, hung in and recited off 24 straight points. D.J. Harper's 1-yard TD plunge cut East Carolina's lead to 38-31 with 7:09 left. Most of the crowd was headed out of the stadium after Titus Young fumbled the ball, setting up the Pirates at their 39 with 1:45 left.

But East Carolina's star couldn't hang on to the ball as he struggled to add a few more yards to his record. Johnson had 181 rushing yards in the first half alone, including a 68-yard TD run that put East Carolina ahead 10-7. He also caught a screen pass from Pinkney and went 18 yards for a score to make it 24-7. Dominique Lindsay had a pair of 3-yard TD runs in the first half for East Carolina. His second touchdown gave the Pirates a 31-14 halftime lead. The usually explosive Broncos

looked rusty and unprepared in the first half. They went three-and-out on their first four possessions, followed by an interception, touchdown and fumble. Boise State, a 10½-point favorite, managed just 3 yards of offense in the first quarter while East Carolina racked up 181 behind Johnson's 106 rushing yards. "The Broncos' lone highlight in the first quarter was Austin Smith's 89-yard kickoff return for a TD. In the second quarter, Ryan Putnam caught a 3-yard pass from Tharp to cut East Carolina's lead to 10.

## Cougars tame Bengals in Pocatello

By Mark Liptak  
Times-News correspondent

POCATELLO — It had been over a quarter of a century since a team as highly ranked, and highly regarded as Washington State came to Pocatello. Two hours after the game began, the fans who came out Sunday afternoon saw what life is like in the upper echelons of college basketball. The Cougars (11-0) put a thumping on the Bengals (2-8) by the score of 75-45.

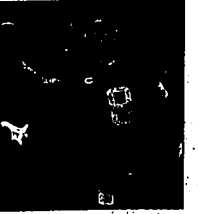
Washington State isn't as athletic or flashy as some of the other highly ranked teams ISU has played in the past two seasons — UCLA, Oregon and Texas A&M immediately come to mind — but like them, they win often, and usually convincingly.

Bengal head coach Joe O'Brien noticed as much after the game. "Like UCLA, they capitalize on every mistake. They don't see you with their talent, they're just a very, very good basketball team with good basketball players." The 7th ranked Cougars are off to the second best start in school history, they won their first 12 last season and used a suffocating defense to take control of this game early. With the score 7-5 early, they held ISU scoreless for the next 6:19 and suddenly they were 16-5. The Cougars never looked back.

Two areas are really becoming a concern for O'Brien and he addressed both points in his postgame comments. "We tried to force play today and you can't do that against this team. We wanted to use the clock, shorten the game and as it turned out, too often we'd shoot off one and you can't do that against this team. We're making more mental mistakes right now than physical ones. And right now we're a better road team than a home one. The past few days we had very good practices, then we come out flat. We just aren't playing with the same enthusiasm at home." ISU was still hanging around at halftime trailing 34-20, but WSU opened up the second half with a 10-0 run to end any chance the Bengals had of pulling off a major upset. Derrick Wood scored 20 points, Kyle Weaver had 16 and Don Foster dropped in 11 for Washington State. Matt Stucki led the Bengals with 10 points as the Cougars held ISU to 33 percent shooting.

Notes: The last time a team as highly ranked as Washington State played in Pocatello was back on Feb. 13, 1982, when Idaho, under Don Monson, ranked 6th, beat the Bengals by 27 points.

# Seahawks rout reeling Ravens, 27-6



By Gregg Bell  
Associated Press writer

SEATTLE — The Seattle Seahawks were seeking to regain some fire heading into the playoffs. Mere plumes of smoke were all that was required to beat the wretched Ravens. Matt Hasselbeck shook off two interceptions to throw two touchdown passes and Shaun Alexander had his biggest rushing day since Week 4 as the Seattle Seahawks clinched the No. 3 seed in the NFC with a methodical, 27-6 victory over Baltimore Sunday. Hasselbeck's scores gave him a career-high 27 TD throws this season. One went to Alexander, on a screen pass of 14 yards. That gave

Seattle (10-5) a 21-0 lead late in the first half. Alexander turned a season of being booed at home into holiday cheers by gaining 73 yards on 13 carries. That was after the 2005 league MVP sat on the bench in a hooded parka during Seattle's first two drives, watching backup Maurice Morris run the plays. Alexander averaged 42 yards a game in his previous eight games before this romp against the depleted Ravens' defense. Baltimore was missing Ray Lewis, Trevor Pryce and both starting cornerbacks. The Ravens (4-11), with 2005 Heisman Trophy winner Troy Smith completing 16 of 33 passes in his first NFL start, extended their franchise-record losing streak to

nine games. It took Smith's 79-yard TD pass to Derrick Mason with 4:11 left for Baltimore to avoid its first shutout since Sept. 15, 2002. Hasselbeck was 14-for-21 in the first half, with touchdown passes of 21 yards to Nate Burleson and 14 yards to Alexander. Burleson's score came after Hasselbeck audibled away from what apparently was a run by Alexander on third-and-2 and found Burleson running past Willie Gaston. Seattle's other touchdown came on linebacker Leroy Hill's 20-yard TD return of Mike Anderson's fumble. Anderson, the former lead runner for Denver substituting for McGahee, lost the ball when Darryl Pitt hit him within a pile at the end of a 3-yard run.

Seattle Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck makes a pass against the Baltimore Ravens during the first quarter of their NFL football game in Seattle.

# Patriots set NFL record with win

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The Patriots set an NFL record for their 15th win. Tom Brady and Randy Moss edged closer to two more marks.

New England still has one game left to reach an even more amazing goal: the first team to finish a regular season undefeated in 35 years.

**JAGUARS 49, RAIDERS 11**  
**JACKSONVILLE, Fla.** — Peyton Taylor's 62-yard touchdown run on Jacksonville's opening play set the tone for a rout that propelled the Jaguars into the playoffs.

Taylor finished with 111 yards as the Jaguars (11-5) routed the Raiders in seven games to clinch the No. 5 seed in the AFC playoffs.

**GIANTS 38, BILLS 21**  
**ORCHARD PARK, N.Y.** — The Giants clinched a playoff berth by overcoming a home crowd inspired by Kyle Bennett's return to the field where he was injured.

Brian Jacobs scored twice and Ahmad Bradshaw had an 88-yard TD run in sloppy conditions as the usually happy-go-lucky Giants leaned heavily on their running attack.

**TITANS 10, JETS 6**  
**NASHVILLE, Tenn.** — The Titans are back in control of their chase for their first playoff berth since 2003. Pro Bowler Kyle Van Sledright had three Tennessee six sacks and Chris Brown ran for a touchdown.

The Titans (9-6) have the edge over Cleveland in the tiebreaker for the AFC's final wild-card berth. They still must close out the season with a victory over the defending Super Bowl champs in Indianapolis.

**BENGALS 19, BROWNS 14**  
**CINCINNATI** — Peyton Anderson's consecutive interceptions set up a pair of rapid-fire touchdowns late in the first half, and he threw four in all in a loss that left the Browns scrambling for a playoff spot.

Cleveland (9-6) could have clinched with a victory over the Browns in the 16th game, but had nothing more than pride on the line and several starters out with injuries.

**EAGLES 38, SAINTS 23**  
**NEW ORLEANS** — Donovan McNabb backed up for 363 yards and three touchdowns, jeopardizing the Saints' chances for making the playoffs.

McNabb no longer showed any effects of his rehabilitation from knee surgery over the summer or an ankle sprain in midseason. His bright scramble on the third play led to a bizarre touchdown after his fumble was recovered in the end zone by Kevin Curtis.

**49ERS 21, BUCCANERS 19**  
**SAN FRANCISCO** — Shaun Hill passed for four touchdowns to remain unbeaten as an NFL starter and the 49ers' record ended out of bounds with his catch on a 2-point conversion attempt with 1:20 left for Tampa Bay (9-6).

Tom Clements' 62-yard interception return set up Frank Gore's catch with 1:11 left for the 49ers (5-10), who beat team with a winning record for the first time this year. Darrell Jackson and Vernon Davis also caught touchdowns passes for San Francisco, which also won consecutive games for the first time since the season's first two weeks.

**BEARS 35, PACKERS 7**  
**CHICAGO** — Green Bay (12-3) can forget about the No. 1 seed in the NFC, which Dallas now owns.

Brandon McManis returned an interception for a touchdown for the first time in his career, going 85 yards, and Adrian Peterson ran for 102 yards on a frigid afternoon.

Brett Favre was at his worst on a homecoming, wildly and at times snowy afternoon, and the Packers' defense ended out at the hands of their archrivals. He passed for just 9 yards in the first half and 153 overall, giving him 4,058 this season and putting him over the 4,000-yard mark for the fifth time.

**COLTS 38, REDSKINS 27**  
**INDIANAPOLIS** — Peyton Manning threw three touchdown passes, Joseph Addai and Clifton Dawson ran for TDs, and the Colts scored on six of their first eight possessions.

In what was likely to be the last significant action for Indy's starters until mid-January when the AFC's No. 2 seed will play in the divisional round of the playoffs, Manning & Co. finished with 458 yards, scored 38 unanswered points and won their sixth in a row.

**GIANTS 30, FALCONS 27**  
**CLEVELAND** — The Giants kicked a 29-yard field goal for overtime, then booted one on 31 yards on the first possession of the extra session. Packers celebrated by sliding on his knees across the grass. He refused to finish a game that would have been a game-winning 32-yarder against San Francisco earlier this season.

**LIONS 25, CHIEFS 20**  
**DETROIT** — The Lions took advantage of playing a team slumping more than them and avoided making a NFL history.

The Lions (7-8) snapped a home losing streak and stripped the most victories they've had in all of seven seasons under team president Matt Millen. Detroit also guaranteed it won't be the first team in the league to finish 6-10 after winning six of its first eight games.

Kansas City (4-11) has dropped eight straight, the franchise's worst since losing 10 in a row in 1997.

**RAIDERS 19, REDSKINS 10**  
**SEATTLE** — The Raiders and Detroit had 192 yards and a touchdown and Detroit had 109 yards and a touchdown on the field.

Seattle led in the first half, but the victory wasn't sealed until Chiefs receiver Sammie Parker foolishly dove to the ground at the Lions 30 after getting a lateral with no time left.

# National Football League

AFC	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
East	10	4	0	190	153	90	100	17.00	16.00	6.00
North	10	4	0	207	143	117	90	16.60	12.00	4.00
South	11	3	0	200	155	103	97	17.50	18.00	4.00
West	11	3	0	207	143	97	106	18.00	19.00	6.00
Division	4	1	0	207	143	97	106	18.00	19.00	6.00
North	10	4	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
South	11	3	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
West	11	3	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
Division	4	1	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
North	10	4	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
South	11	3	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
West	11	3	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00
Division	4	1	0	167	127	247	210	34.0	34.0	5.00

NFC	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
East	11	2	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
North	10	3	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
South	11	2	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
West	11	2	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
Division	4	1	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
North	10	3	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
South	11	2	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
West	11	2	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00
Division	4	1	0	167	127	90	78	11.0	10.0	4.00

Week 16  
 Thursday, Dec. 20  
 Pittsburgh at St. Louis 24  
 Sunday, Dec. 23  
 Cincinnati at Cleveland 13  
 Sunday Results  
 Detroit vs. Kansas City 20  
 Chicago vs. Green Bay 7

Week 17  
 Saturday, Dec. 29  
 New England at NY Giants, 1:15 p.m.  
 Sunday, Dec. 30  
 Seattle at Houston, 11 a.m.  
 Dallas at Washington, 11 a.m.  
 Denver at Green Bay, 11 a.m.  
 Cincinnati at NY Giants, 11 a.m.  
 Cleveland at Chicago, 11 a.m.  
 Tennessee at Indianapolis, 11 a.m.  
 Jacksonville at Houston, 11 a.m.  
 Buffalo at Philadelphia, 11 a.m.  
 Tampa Bay at Tampa Bay 19  
 Tennessee vs. NY Giants, 11 a.m.  
 Green Bay at Dallas, 11 a.m.  
 San Francisco at Cleveland, 11 a.m.  
 San Diego at Oakland, 2:15 p.m.  
 Minnesota at Denver, 2:15 p.m.  
 St. Louis at Kansas City at NY Giants, 1:15 p.m.

Week 18  
 Thursday, Dec. 27  
 Pittsburgh at St. Louis 24  
 Sunday, Dec. 30  
 Cincinnati at Cleveland 13  
 Sunday Results  
 Detroit vs. Kansas City 20  
 Chicago vs. Green Bay 7

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
Chiefs	0	0	0	0
Colts	0	0	0	0
49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
Colts	0	0	0	0
Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
Chiefs	0	0	0	0
Colts	0	0	0	0
49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
Colts	0	0	0	0
Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
Chiefs	0	0	0	0
Colts	0	0	0	0
49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
Colts	0	0	0	0
Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
Chiefs	0	0	0	0
Colts	0	0	0	0
49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
Colts	0	0	0	0
Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
Chiefs	0	0	0	0
Colts	0	0	0	0
49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
Colts	0	0	0	0
Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
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Second Quarter				
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First Quarter				
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Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

Green Bay	0	7	0	0
Chicago	3	15	7	35
First Quarter				
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49ers	0	0	0	0
Second Quarter				
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Giants	0	0	0	0
Packers	0	0	0	0
Redskins	0	0	0	0
Titans	0	0	0	0
Seahawks	0	0	0	0
Steelers	0	0	0	0
Texans	0	0	0	0
Vikings	0	0	0	0
Wizards	0	0	0	0
Wolves	0	0	0	0
Yankees	0	0	0	0
Zions	0	0	0	0

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS  
 RUSHING—Minn. Adrian Peterson 171, 117; Dallas DeMarco Murray 120; Denver Terrell Davis 107; Denver



**TWIN FALLS FORECAST**

Today: Snow and blowing snow may mess with holiday travel. A light snow 20s.  
 Tonight: Snow showers tapering off. Low 20s.  
 Tomorrow: A cool Christmas Day with no new snow likely. Highs near 30s.

**BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST**

Today: Slushy and snowy winter showers are likely to cause some travel headaches. Highs near 30.  
 Tonight: Blowing with snow showers actively coming to an end. Lows near 20s.  
 Tomorrow: A chilly, yet generally snow free Christmas Day. Highs near 20s.

**IDAHO'S FORECAST**

**SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.**  
 Christmas Eve weather will turn in favor of snow once again. Travel may be slow in areas. Look into renting poor performing windshield wipers as you'll need them.

**BOISE** Flak and snow showers will develop today likely creating some holiday travel headaches. A brief reprieve from the wet weather may surface on Christmas Day, but it won't last long.

**NORTHERN UTAH**  
 If you plan to travel today, get an early start as snow showers are expected. Road conditions will deteriorate as snow develops.

Yesterday's State Extreme: -40 at Lewiston. Low: -9 at Elk City. Weather key: B=blizzard, C=cloud, F=fog, H=heavy snow, Hs=heavy snow, M=moderate, P=precipitation, R=rain, S=snow, Ss=snow showers, W=wind, Ws=wind showers.

**TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST**

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 Snowy travel weather expected High 35 Low 23	 Snow showers tapering off Low 23	 A cool Christmas Day 31/20	 Redefining snow showers 32/21	 A quick break from the snow 28/17	 A new round of snow 28/10

**ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS**

Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset
High 35 Low 23	0.00	75%	30.00	7:54 AM - 5:03 PM

**Yesterday's Weather**

City	Hi Lo Precip
Boise	33 24 0.01
Burley	30 28 0.17
Chamberlain	30 22 0.00
Elmore	31 23 0.00
Idaho Falls	33 27 0.00
Jerome	31 25 0.00
Malheur	34 25 0.00
Mountain Home	31 26 0.00
Rupert	31 26 0.00
Twin Falls	28 7 0.00

**MOON PHASES**

Dec 24 Full Moon	Dec 31 New Moon	Jan 8 First Quarter	Jan 16 Full Moon
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**MOONRISE AND MOONSET**

Today Moonrise: 7:10 PM	Today Moonset: 8:50 AM
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**J. V. INDEX**

Low	Moderate	High
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**REGIONAL FORECAST**

City	Today	Tomorrow	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Boise	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18
Idaho Falls	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18
Malheur	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18
Mountain Home	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18
Rupert	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18
Twin Falls	20-18	28-19	32-17	31-18

**NATIONAL FORECAST**

City	Today	Tomorrow	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Atlanta	50-33	45-33	30-30	30-30
Boston	40-21	30-16	20-16	20-16
Chicago	44-33	43-30	30-30	30-30
Denver	38-24	31-14	21-14	21-14
Houston	58-34	53-38	38-38	38-38
Los Angeles	57-38	48-30	30-30	30-30
Miami	78-68	78-65	65-65	65-65
New York	50-30	41-31	31-31	31-31
San Francisco	53-40	43-30	30-30	30-30
Seattle	43-33	43-30	30-30	30-30
Washington, DC	43-33	43-30	30-30	30-30

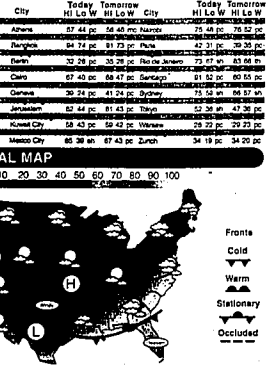
**WORLD FORECAST**

City	Today	Tomorrow	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
London	47-32	45-30	30-30	30-30
Paris	47-32	45-30	30-30	30-30
Tokyo	53-34	53-38	38-38	38-38
Sydney	21-16	31-20	20-20	20-20
Auckland	18-12	22-16	16-16	16-16
Wellington	18-12	22-16	16-16	16-16

**CANADIAN FORECAST**

City	Today	Tomorrow	Hi Lo W	Hi Lo W
Calgary	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Edmonton	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Halifax	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Montreal	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Ottawa	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Regina	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Saskatoon	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Vancouver	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10
Winnipeg	20-10	10-10	10-10	10-10

**TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP**



# Bryant youngest NBA player to score 20,000



New York Knicks forward Quentin Richardson (23) defends Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (24) in the Lakers' 95-90 victory at Madison Square Garden in New York on Sunday. Bryant scored 39 points.

**NEW YORK** — Kobe Bryant scored 39 points, becoming the youngest player in NBA history to reach 20,000, and the Los Angeles Lakers held off the New York Knicks 95-90 Sunday.

Bryant added 11 rebounds and eight assists in his first game at Madison Square Garden in nearly two years. His 3-pointer in the opening minute of the third quarter allowed him to reach the milestone at 29 years, 122 days.

Bryant's last basket came in the final minute after the Knicks had trimmed a 25-point deficit to one. The victory capped a 3-1 road trip for the Lakers, who headed home to host Phoenix on Christmas Day.

Jamal Crawford scored 31 for the Knicks, who were again without Stephen Marbury and have lost eight of 10. David Lee had 12 points and 13 rebounds, and Nate Robinson scored 16 points.

Andrew Bynum had 13 points for the Lakers, playing without forward Luke Walton (ankle).

**PISTONS 94, ROCKETS 82**  
**AUBURN HILLS, Mich.** — Richard Hamilton scored 17 points and Antonio McDyereas and Rasheed Wallace added

double-doubles, helping Detroit beat second-handed Houston.

The Rockets started the night near full strength, but Tracy McGrady didn't come out for the second half after aggravating a sore knee, and Yao Ming missed most of the second half after needing four stitches to close a facial cut.

Detroit (20-7) has won five straight and-1/2 of 14, and Johns Boston as the only teams' with 20 victories. Houston has lost four of its last five.

McDyereas finished with 12 points and 11 rebounds, and Wallace had 14 points and 10 rebounds. Jason Maxiell added 14 points off the bench for Detroit.

Luis Scola led Houston' with 18 points. McGrady scored 14 and Yao had 12.

**CELTICS 103, MAGIC 91**  
**BOSTON** — Paul Pierce had 24 points to lead balanced scoring, and Boston avenged its first loss of the season on Nov. 18 by beating Orlando.

Rejon Rondo added 23 points and Ray Allen 22 for the Celtics (22-3). Kevin Garnett had 21 points to go along with 10 rebounds.

The Celtics led by as many as 20 in the third quarter. The Magic twice cut the lead to fewer than 10 in the fourth and 10 rebounds, but Allen responded both times with 3-pointers.

Dwight Howard led the Magic with 23 points and 14 rebounds for his 25th double-double of the season. Hedo Turkoglu scored 19 points and Rashard Lewis added 15 for Orlando, which has dropped seven of its last nine games.

**WARRIORS 105, CLIPPERS 96**  
**CLEVELAND** — Stephen Jackson scored 23 points and Baron Davis added 27 to help Golden State hand Cleveland its 10th loss in 13 games.

The Warriors, playing the finale of a five-game trip, never trailed and built an 89-61 lead late in the third quarter. The Cavaliers outscored the Warriors 28-14 in the fourth to make the final score appear more respectable.

The Cavaliers were booed by the home crowd throughout the game. The defending Eastern Conference champions fell to 12-16 despite 25 points from LeBron James.

Monta Ellis scored 19 and Al Harrington added 16 for Golden State.

—The Associated Press

# McClinton leads No. 22 Miami to 95-64 victory over North Carolina A&T

**CORAL GABLES, Fla.** (AP) — Jack McClinton forgot his game jersey. Luckily he remembered his shooting touch.

Forced to miss the game's first 2:44 after leaving his jersey in the dressing room, McClinton scored 17 points and No. 22 Miami defeated North Carolina A&T 95-64 Sunday to stretch its season-opening winning streak to 12 games.

"Coach gave us a (pregame) speech and I was zoning in it," McClinton said. "I was focused on the game."

McClinton made up for his brief memory lapse once he entered the game, going 6-for-10 from the field and 3-for-6 from 3-point range.

James Dews and Raymond Hlicks each scored 16 points for the Hurricanes, who are two games shy of the school record for victories to open a season set in 2001-02.

The Hurricanes opened the game on a 17-0 run in the first 5:07 and were never threatened.

The Hurricanes shot a season-high 58 percent from the field to remain one of nine unbeaten Division I teams.

Down 45-23 at halftime, the Aggies (5-7) got no closer than 47-52 after James Porter's field goal 2:55 into the second half.

The Hurricanes countered with an 18-4 run in the next 5:08.

Dews scored eight points, including two 3-pointers, during the spurt.

"Guys are staying after practice and coming in early," McClinton said. "So we are really maturing and getting better for when we step onto the court."

# Blazers' winning streak is NBA's best

**By Brian Kendrick and Associated Press writer**

**PORTLAND** — Even after nearly three weeks of winning, increasing prestige and accolades, the words still struck Brandon Roy when he was named MVP.

After Portland held off Denver Friday night for a thrilling 99-96 victory to extend its winning streak to 10 games, Roy was informed that the streak was the longest yet recorded in the NBA this year. The news caused Roy to immediately chuckle.

"Who'd have thought Portland would've done that?" Roy said with a laugh. "I would expect Dallas or Phoenix to do that."

The thought likely is not unique to Roy.

For all the attention Boston received after acquiring All-Stars Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen in the offseason and starting the year 6-0, the Celtics' longest win streak of the season ended last week at nine games.

Phoenix is no stranger to

winning streaks either, with two-time most valuable player Steve Nash leading the NBA's most exciting offense.

But their longest run of the season halted last month after eight wins.

But here are the Blazers — who were projected by national experts to have another losing season — settling the standard for consecutive wins with the longest winning streak the franchise has recorded since the 2001-02 season.

As a result, Portland's 10th consecutive win pushed the NBA's youngest team — with an average current age on the active roster of 24.3 years — into an elite position in NBA history.

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## Americans' debt woes expanding; unpaid credit card bills rising

By Rachel Konrad and Bob Porterfield  
Associated Press writers

SAN FRANCISCO — Americans are falling behind on their credit card payments at an alarming rate, sending delinquencies and defaults surging by double-digit percentages in the last year and prompting warnings of worse to come.

An Associated Press analysis of financial data from the country's largest credit issuers also found that the greatest rise was among accounts more than 90 days in arrears.

Experts say these signs of the deterioration of finances of many households are partly a byproduct of the subprime mortgage crisis and could spell more trouble ahead for an already struggling economy.

"Debt eventually leaks into other areas, whether it starts with the mortgage and goes to the credit card or vice versa," said Cliff Tan, a visiting scholar at Stanford University and an expert on credit risk. "We're starting to see leaks now."

The value of credit card accounts at least 30 days late jumped 26 percent to \$17.3 billion in October from a year earlier at 17 large credit card trusts examined by the AP. That represented more than 4 percent of the total outstanding principal balances owed to the trusts on credit cards that were issued by banks such as Bank of America and Capital One and for retailers like Home Depot and Wal-Mart.

At the same time, defaults — when lenders essentially give up hope of ever being repaid and write off the debt — rose 18 percent to almost \$961 million in October, according to filings made by the trusts with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

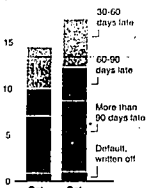
Serious delinquencies also are up sharply: Some of the nation's biggest lenders — including Advanta, GE Money Bank and HSBC — reported increases of 20 percent or more in the value of accounts that were at least 90 days delinquent when compared with the same period a year ago.

The AP analyzed data representing about 325 million individual accounts held in trusts that were created by credit card issuers in order to sell the debt to investors — similar to how many banks packaged and sold subprime mortgage loans. Together, they represent about 45 percent of the \$920 billion in the Federal Reserve council's credit card debt owned by Americans.

Until recently, credit card

### Deeper in debt

Americans owe more credit card debt than they were a year ago. Accounts are going delinquent at a higher (90 days-plus) rate and serious delinquencies (90 days-plus) are growing at the highest rate.



SOURCE: U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission filings

default rates had been running close to record lows, providing one of the few profit growth areas for the nation's banks. But now, quite in line with flood Americans' mailboxes with billions of letters monthly offering easy sign-ups for new plastic.

Even after the recent spike in bad loans, the credit card business is still quite lucrative, thanks to interest rates that can run as high as 36 percent, plus late fees and other penalties.

But what is coming into sharper focus from the detailed monthly SEC filings from the trusts is a snapshot of the worrisome state of Americans' ability to juggle growing and expensive credit card debt.

The trend carried into November. As of Friday, all of the trusts that filed reports for the month saw increases in both delinquencies and defaults over November 2006, and many show sequential increases from October.

Discover accumulated 25.7 billion in November 2006 and had increased 6,000 between October and November this year.

Many economists expect delinquencies and defaults to rise further after the holiday shopping season.

Mark Zand, chief economist and co-founder of Moody's Economy.com Inc., cited mounting mortgage problems that began after this summer's subprime financial shock as one of the factors that are weakening the job market in the Midwest, South and parts of the West, where real-estate markets have been particularly hard hit.

"Credit card quality will continue to erode throughout next year," Zand said.

## Freezing a path

Snowstorm blamed for nine deaths, widespread outages across Midwest

By Carrie Antfinger  
Associated Press writer

MILWAUKEE — Highways were hazardous for holiday travelers Sunday and thousands of homes and businesses had no electricity in the Midwest as a storm blustered through the region with heavy snow and howling wind.

At least nine deaths had been blamed on the storm.

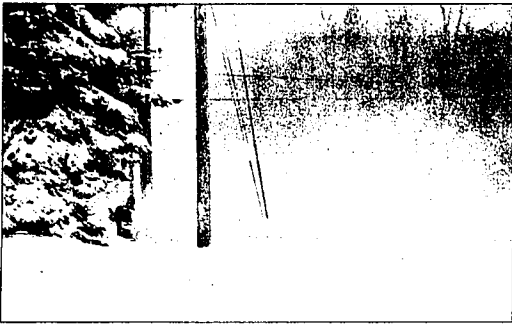
Winter storm warnings were posted for parts of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan on Sunday as the core of the storm headed north across the Great Lakes. Parts of Wisconsin already had a foot of snow, and up to a foot was forecast Sunday in northeastern Minnesota, the National Weather Service said.

Radar showed snow falling across much of Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota on Sunday and moving into parts of Michigan and Indiana.

"Everything is just an ice rink out there," said Sgt. Steve Selby with the sheriff's department in Rock County, Wis.

The weather system also spread locally heavy rain on Sunday from the Southeast to the lower Great Lakes.

The storm rolled through Colorado and Wyoming on Friday, then spread snow and ice on Saturday from the Texas Panhandle to Minnesota. Multi-car pileups closed parts of several major highways Saturday in the



Diane Dombrowski creates her own blizzard as she clears the sidewalk Sunday, in Port Edwards, Wis. Light, dry snow and a stiff west wind made it a challenge to use a snowblower.

### Plains states

The area of Madison, Wis., got three to four hours of freezing rain early Sunday, said weather service meteorologist intern Bill Borghoff at Sullivan. The combination of icy pavement and gusty wind made driving treacherous, he said.

"It's quite a mess out there," Borghoff said.

Wind gusting to more than 50 mph uprooted trees in parts of Michigan. "I can see the snow moving basically sideways," meteorologist Wayne Hoepner said in Grand Rapids.

Blinds were recorded blowing as fast as 88 mph over Lake Michigan with gusts of 50 to 68 mph across the Chicago region, according to the National Weather Service. Because of the wind, airlines canceled 150 flights Sunday at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, the city

Aviation Department said. Municipal officials said the wind had knocked out nearly 170 traffic signals, and there were more than 500 reports of fallen trees and limbs.

More than 11,000 homes and businesses were without power at some point Saturday in Wisconsin because of the freezing rain, ice, gusty wind and heavy snow, utilities said. Michigan utilities reported some 92,000 customers were still without power Sunday afternoon, and in Illinois about 24,000 customers were blacked out.

At least three people in Minnesota, three in Wyoming and one person each in Texas, Kansas and Wisconsin were killed in traffic accidents that authorities said stemmed from the storm.

The fatality in Texas came in a chain-reaction pileup involving more than 50 vehi-

cles, including several tractor-trailer rigs, on Interstate 40, police said. At least 16 people were taken to hospitals, Sgt. Michael Poston said.

"We're not really sure how many cars, probably in excess of 40 cars and in excess of 20 semitrailers," Amarillo police Sgt. Greg Fisher said Sunday.

Many were holiday travelers, including families with small children not dressed for the weather, Sgt. Shawn McLeland said. Other drivers opened their own Christmas presents to provide warmer clothing for the children.

Authorities believe the pileup, which shut down the highway for most of the day, was caused by near zero visibility in blowing snow and slippery pavement. Multi-vehicle wrecks on Saturday also blacked sections of I-70 in Kansas and I-29 in Missouri.

## Ambassador to Iraq is skeptical of Iran's intentions

By Tina Susman  
Los Angeles Times

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker expressed wary Sunday about Iranian intentions in Iraq, saying that even if Iran-backed militias have decreased activities here, he was not convinced the Islamic regime was committed to stabilize Iraq.

U.S. military officials have cited the drop in roadside bombs and mortar and rocket attacks in recent weeks as a sign that Iran, which Washington accuses of fomenting unrest in Iraq, is altering its behavior. Many have said they remain in "wait-and-see" mode to determine if the change represents a firm policy change.

Crocker said he wasn't

swayed yet.

"It is a conscious policy decision on the part of the Iranian government to use all its influence to bring these things down," he said, referring to violent incidents. "Or does it involve the Iranians saying, 'Let's throttle it back, get everyone comfortable, and then put the pedal down again.'"

Crocker made his comments to foreign journalists during a briefing that came as Iraq, the United States and Iran try to set a date for a fourth round of talks on Iraq security.

Previous meetings have done little to improve U.S.-Iran relations. Iran denies Washington's claims that it has orchestrated the smuggling of sophisticated bombs and other weapons to "anti-

U.S. Shiite militias in Iraq. U.S. military officials say the number of such bombs being detonated and discovered has dropped dramatically since the summer. Crocker said, however, that they continue, and he cited the assassination earlier in December of a U.S.-allied provincial police commander. Crocker said the explosive used in the attack had the sophistication of those linked to Iranian manufacturing.

Referring to the decline in such attacks, Crocker said, "If it's a case of the Iranians winding down a round of using influence to reduce rather than foment violence, that is a good thing." But, he added, "They would still in our view clearly have some way to go."

Looking ahead to 2008, Crocker said one of the most

critical tasks facing the Iraq government was to find jobs for the tens of thousands of volunteer security workers known as Concerned Local Citizens. The volunteers, who are paid about \$10 per day, work alongside U.S. and Iraqi security forces against insurgents. The United States credits them with helping turn around violence in much of the country, particularly in Sunni Muslim areas where the Shiite-dominated Iraqi police are in short supply.

On "Fox News Sunday," Gen. David H. Petraeus, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, said, "All of us, Iraqi and coalition alike, want to see these neighborhood watch organizations, so-called concerned local citizens ... incorporated into the legitimate Iraqi security forces."

## Filtering, etiquette questions arise as airlines introduce in-flight Web access

By Anick Jesdanun  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Seat 17D is yapping endlessly on an Internet phone call. Seat 16F is flaming Seat 16G with expletive-laden chats. Seat 16E is too busy surfing porn sites to care. Seat 17C just wants to sleep.

Welcome to the promise of the Internet at 33,000 feet — and the questions of etiquette, openness and free speech that airlines and service providers will have to grapple with as they bring Internet access to the skies in the coming months.

"This gets into a ticklish area," said Vint Cerf, one of the Internet's chief inventors and generally a critic of network restrictions. "Airlines have to be sensitive to the fact that customers are (seated) close together and may be able to see each other's PC screens. More to the point, traveling people are often aboard the plane."

Technology providers and airlines

are already making decisions. Some will block services like Internet phone calls altogether while others will put limits and install filters on content. And traffic management tools that are frowned upon on terra firma could be commonplace in the air.

Parasone Avionics Corp., a Matushita Electric Industrial Co. unit testing airborne services on Australia's Qantas Airways Ltd., is designing its high-speed Internet access to block sites on "an objectionable list" including porn and violence, said David Bruner, executive director for corporate sales and marketing.

He said airlines based in more restrictive countries could choose to expand the list.

The company also is recommending that airlines permit Internet-based phone calls only on handsets with wireless Wi-Fi capabilities, the technology delivering access within the passenger cabin. Bruner said the company believes Wi-Fi



Charles Ogilvie, director of in-flight entertainment for Virgin America, demonstrates a personal computer in the first-class section on a Virgin America plane at San Francisco International Airport recently.

handsets use less bandwidth than telephone software that runs on laptops.

Airlines, he said, also could block incoming calls — and the annoying

ring tones they produce — or designing periods of quiet time.

OnAir, which has European certification for airborne cellular services, plans to give airlines similar

choices, Chief Executive Benoit Debains said. Although some airlines are concerned about noise, Debains said, enabling voice would generate more revenue than data-only services.

Air France, which plans to start allowing cellular calls through OnAir within months, said it would see how people use such services before crafting rules.

"Are you going to reach your wife but tell her that she's on the ending day or tell her, 'Can you pick me up at the airport?'" Air France spokeswoman Marina Tymen said, adding that passengers might tell the airline that data services fulfill all their needs.

U.S. airlines are largely taking the opposite approach.

With possible exceptions for crew and federal air marshals, flights on AMR Corp.'s American Airlines and Alaska Group and Alaska Airlines won't have access to Internet-based phone services like eBay Inc.'s Skype.

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NOTICE OF SALE
South Locust Mini Storage 197 South Locust, Twin Falls, ID 83301 will auction contents of 2 storage units to the highest bidder on site 01/02/2008 at 9:00 AM, cash only, at time of sale. To be removed by 5:00 PM 01/04/2008. Brandt Milford, Unit #100, 760-C Moulton St., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

PUBLISH: December 24 and 31, 2007

LEGAL NOTICE
TWIN FALLS STORAGE under the provisions of Idaho Code 26-7-101 will sell contents of storage items ASAP.

South Locust Mini Storage 197 South Locust, Twin Falls, ID 83301 will auction contents of 2 storage units to the highest bidder on site 01/02/2008 at 9:00 AM, cash only, at time of sale. To be removed by 5:00 PM 01/04/2008. Brandt Milford, Unit #100, 760-C Moulton St., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

PUBLISH: December 21 and 24, 2007

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
Case No. CV-07-5883

A Petition to change the name of Arcelia Juarez, born 6-28-62 in San Pedro Tercero, Michoacan, Mexico residing at 121 Ramsey, Ft. is has been filed in Twin Falls County District Court, Idaho. The name will change to Arcelia Juarez-Tapia, because I wish to change my naturalization certificate to reflect my two last names. The petitioner's father is living and his address is 1000 West Tanager, Meridian, Mexico. The petitioner's mother has died and the names and addresses of her closest blood relatives are attached to this Petition.

PUBLISH: December 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2007

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 charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper carries every notice to inform and study these notices. We advise those citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public records at public meetings.

IMPORTANT
Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News PO Box 458 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 telephone 733-3234.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF JEROME

Case No. CV-07-1213
SUMMONS
JASON FARR, Plaintiff, vs. SHANE GARDNER, Defendant.

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED BY THE ABOVE-NAMED PLAINTIFF(S). THE COURT MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INFORMATION BELOW. It is your duty to respond. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that in order to defend your lawsuit an appropriate written response must be filed with the above designated court within 20 days after the date of this Summons. If you fail to file a response the court may enter judgment against you as demanded by the Plaintiff(s) in the Complaint.

A copy of the Complaint is on file with the Jerome County Courthouse. You wish to seek the advice or representation by an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be filed in time and other legal rights protected.

An appropriate written response requires compliance with Rule 10 (a)(1) and other Idaho Rules of Civil Procedure and shall also include: 1. The title and number of this case. 2. If your response is an Answer to the Complaint, it must contain admissions and denials of the separate allegations of the Complaint and other defenses you may claim. 3. Your signature, mailing address and telephone number, or the signature, mailing address and telephone number of your attorney. 4. Proof of mailing or delivery of a copy of your response to Plaintiff's attorney, as designated above.

To determine whether you must pay a filing fee with your response, contact the Clerk of the court. DATED this 2nd day of November, 2007. Michelle Emerson, Clerk By Angela Diebler, Deputy Clerk.

PUBLISH: December 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2007

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
On March 4, 2008, at the hour of 11:00 o'clock AM of said day, at First American Title, 259 Third Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho, JUST LAW, INC., as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit:

Lot 68 of the Buena Vista Addition, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof, filed in Volume 2 of Plats at Page(s) 23, official records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed the address of 261 Buena Vista St., Twin Falls, ID, is sometimes associated with the said real property. This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a reinstatement or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware that would cause the cancellation of this sale. Further, if any of these conditions exist, this sale may be null and void, the successful bidder's funds shall be returned, and the Trustee and the Beneficiary shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any damages. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possessions or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the above set of sale contracts as the Deed of Trust executed by Travis Wayne Nelwer, an unmarried man, of Grant(s) with Beneficial Mortgage Co. of Idaho as the Beneficiary, under the Deed of Trust recorded December 19, 2002, as Instrument No. 2002026603, in the records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.

THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-2-102 AND ALL FUNDS EXPENDED BY BENEFICIARY TO PROTECT THEIR SECURITY INTEREST, AND INTEREST INCLUDING ALL THEREOF 10.32% from April 1, 2007, together with delinquent taxes plus penalties and interest to the date of sale. The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation. Dated this 29th day of October, 2007. Of Paula Peterson, Trust Officer for Just Law, Inc. For Information concerning this sale please contact Just Law, Inc. at www.justlawidaho.com or Toll Free at 1-800-923-9106, Thank you.

PUBLISH: December 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2007

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV 2007-5031
CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS
In the Interest of:
MARIAN PETERSON-ORTIZ
d.o.b. 08-18-07

A Child under the age of eighteen. THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO: CHARITY PETERSON FRANCISCO ORTIZ

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate's Division of the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named child comes within the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act. You are hereby directed to appear personally for a Review Hearing at the Twin Falls County Courthouse, 425 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, on February 14, 2008, at 9:30 AM.

You are notified that service of the attached Petition upon you, as the parent(s), guardian, or custodian of this child, confers personal jurisdiction of the Court upon you and subjects you to the provisions of the Child Protective Act.

You are notified that if you fail to appear without reasonable cause, the Court may proceed in your absence or you may be proceeded against for contempt of Court.

You are notified that the parent(s), guardian, or custodian may be financially unable to pay, have the right to have an attorney appointed by the Court to represent the child or the parent(s), guardian, or custodian at county expense. If you request to have an attorney appointed at county expense, you must appear before the date of the hearing given above, at which time the Court shall consider appointment of an attorney for the child and inquire whether the parent(s), guardian, or custodian require the separate appointment of an attorney.

You are further notified that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that if a child is placed in the custody of the IDHW and was also placed in care out of the home for a period not less than fifteen (15) out of the last twenty-two (22) months from the date of Adjudication, the IDHW shall initiate a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. This presumption may be rebutted by a finding by the Court that the filing of a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights is in the best interest of the child and their family, or that the children are placed permanently with a relative.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of said Magistrate Court this 17th day of December 2007. CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT By Deputy Clerk

PUBLISH: December 24 and 31, 2007

NOTICE
The Idaho Unclaimed Property Program will post an updated list of Idaho Unclaimed Property owners on the Internet on January 1, 2008. Anyone who has a claim on this list will be notified quarterly via e-mail or computers at an address you have provided at tax.idaho.gov (click on "Unclaimed Property"). If you do not have Internet access you can view the list on computers at any of our public libraries. Unclaimed Property consists of abandoned bank accounts, forgotten refund checks, utility deposits, gift certificates, and more.

PUBLISH: December 24, 2007

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS MAGISTRATE DIVISION

Case No. CV 2007-4763
CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS
In the Interest of: ANGELA MARRS, d.o.b. 03-21-90

A Child under the age of eighteen. THE STATE OF IDAHO SENDS GREETINGS TO: STEVEN MARRS

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT: A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate's Division of the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named child comes within the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act. You are hereby directed to appear personally for a Review Hearing at the Twin Falls County Courthouse, 425 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, on February 14, 2008, at 9:30 AM.

You are notified that service of the attached Petition upon you, as the parent(s), guardian, or custodian of this child, confers personal jurisdiction of the Court upon you and subjects you to the provisions of the Child Protective Act.

You are notified that if you fail to appear without reasonable cause, the Court may proceed in your absence or you may be proceeded against for contempt of Court.

You are notified that the parent(s), guardian, or custodian may be financially unable to pay, have the right to have an attorney appointed by the Court to represent the child or the parent(s), guardian, or custodian at county expense. If you request to have an attorney appointed at county expense, you must appear before the date of the hearing given above, at which time the Court shall consider appointment of an attorney for the child and inquire whether the parent(s), guardian, or custodian require the separate appointment of an attorney.

You are further notified that there shall be a rebuttable presumption that if a child is placed in the custody of the IDHW and was also placed in care out of the home for a period not less than fifteen (15) out of the last twenty-two (22) months from the date of Adjudication, the IDHW shall initiate a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. This presumption may be rebutted by a finding by the Court that the filing of a Petition for Termination of Parental Rights is in the best interest of the child and their family, or that the children are placed permanently with a relative.

WITNESS MY HAND AND SEAL of said Magistrate Court this 18th day of December 2007. CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT By Deputy Clerk

PUBLISH: December 24 and 31, 2007

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101 Lost and Found

FOUND Torrier cross, black with white chest, female, 1 year old, 15 lbs. Call 208-316-1497

102 Lost and Found

FOUND Cat, black and white, Datal and blind, but later box trained on Teller. Found on old 500 East Jackson near in Rupert. Call 208-456-3724

103 Lost and Found

FOUND SE, mixed breed, 3 years old, near Snake River, Call to identify 208-872-5209

104 Lost and Found

FOUND Husky/Border Collie Cross on Lindsey Ln. in Kimberly, male, has two white front feet. Call 208-733-1015

105 Lost and Found

FOUND Kitten, gray, green eyes, well fed, four weeks old. Quilley Truss in Filor. Call 208-313-9992

106 Lost and Found

FOUND puppy, black, on Tyler Street in Twin Falls, Call to identify, 208-316-1497

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110 FOUND

- 1. Lab Hound X male, Victory Ave.
2. Gorman Shepherd, male, adult, Harrison Elementary
3. Pit X, male adult, 3500 E 3100 N, Kimberly, one blue eye
ADOPTIONS
4. Springer X, male puppy,
5. Pit Bulls (2), 2 females,
6. Chug Retriever X pups
4. Blue Heeler, adult female, not a working dog
5. Pit Bull, male puppy
6. Lab X, spayed female, nice dog
7. Heeler X, male, big pup, adult
8. Lab C (2) pups, 1 male, 1 female
9. Border Collie X female, young adult
10. Lab X, male pup
11. Pointer, 1 yr, neutered male, adult
12. Lab X, male, big pup
13. Lab X, spayed female, nice dog
14. Border Collie X, male adult
15. Lab X, neutered male, adult
16. Chov X, young adult female
17. Lab X, spayed female pup
18. Yellow Lab, adult, female
19. Lab X, male pup
20. Bassett X spayed female adult

111 DONT FORGET US!

Many cats/kittens for adoption! www.petfinder.com Hours: Mon-Fri. 10:00 am-5:30 pm Saturday 10:00 am-2:00 pm

Closed Sunday and Holidays We can only keep animals as long as they are not ad DESTROYED. Please check daily!

Child Care Services

BABYSITTER Stay at home mom looking to watch kids in my home. Near CSI. 208-949-6904

NANNA'S HOUSE DAYCARE Day and swing shifts, meals and snacks included, ICP and CPI Certified. All ages accepted. Call 208-736-4193

CLASSICAL DRAWING CLASSES 2008 Sign up now with MARIA SMITH, The Artist's Atelier Call (208) 734-3003

EMPLOYMENT

200 Accounting
201 Accounting
202 Dental
203 Construction
204 Customer Service
205 Day
206 Drivers
207 Education
208 Farm
209 General
210 Management
211 Medical
212 Miscellaneous
213 Professional
214 Retail
215 Sales
216 Trades
218 Newspaper Careers

209 PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

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**6202 Clerical**  
**Rich Thompson**  
 Trucking Inc. accepting resumes for a full-time Data Entry Receptionist position. Must have excellent skills, be experienced with office operations and be extremely dependable. Benefits available. Wage DOE. Please send resumes to PO Box 137 Jerome, ID 83338

**206 Drivers**  
**Coulters/ Delivery Driver.**  
 Twin Falls area. Must be available evenings & weekends. Clean driving record. 21+ yrs old. Local knowledge a must. \$9.50/hour start. Contact Action Coulters for application. 208-733-7688 or www.actioncoulters.com

**206 Drivers**  
**Hiring over the road Drivers.**  
 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 401k offered. vacation after 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515  
 Gilmer Milk Transportation

**206 Drivers**  
**\*TOP GUN TRUCKING ACADEMY**  
 Class "A" CDL Instruction  
 735-6656

**209 General**  
**TWIN FALLS Care Center**  
 Twin Falls Care Center is looking for a Cook for the day and the evening shifts with weekends & holidays included. Must be serious and dependable. Prior experience with institutional cooking, but will train the right person. Please apply at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Drive or call Cindy at 208-734-4264

**209 General**  
**GENERAL**  
 Immediate openings: Western Supply in Hainley has immediate openings for Plumbing Showroom Installer, Inside Hailton Sales, Warehouse/Driver, Operations/Delivery Dispatch and Receptionist. Highly motivated team players that love a challenge should apply. Positions are full time with benefits. Wage DOE. Fax Resume Attn. Greg to 208-730-3402 or email to gcarter@wsupply.com

**205 Dairy**  
**Herdsman needed at**  
 Hanson dairy.  
 Please call 423-5176

**DRIVER**  
 Now hiring Blue Drivers Paid Training Western States Bus 208-733-8003

**DRIVERS**  
 Local drivers for the Burley/Rupert area and OTR drivers for dedicated routes. Home weekly. 6% quarterly safety bonus. Exc benefit pkg. Apply at Rich Thompson Trucking Inc. 323 West Maz Perce or call 208-324-3511

**207 Education**  
**EDUCATION**  
 Wendell School District #232 is looking for a Para Professional Full-time or half-time. Please see district website at www.ed232.k12.id.us for an application contact the District Office at 536-2418 after January 1<sup>st</sup>.

**GENERAL**  
**TWIN FALLS Care Center**  
 Dining Room Aide needed. Hours vary. Competitive wages & benefits. Call Cindy 208-734-4264 or apply in person at Twin Falls Care Center 674 Eastland Dr. Twin Falls, Idaho

**GENERAL**  
 Painter needed to paint farm equipment. Experience preferred. Pay DOE. Benefits available. pre-application drug testing required. Mail resume & application to Employment 376 E. Main Burley, ID 83318

**su do ku**  
 © Puzzles by Pappocom

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

V. EASY #5  
 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 C7.

**ADMINISTRATIVE**  
 The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT-AIRPORT.** Hourly wage range is \$12.46-\$18.41 plus complete benefits package. Duties include: secretarial and office support, transcription, filing documents, answers a large volume of telephone calls. Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED, type 40 wpm, have a working knowledge of computers, grammar and punctuation and word processing programs. For additional information and City employment application contact the Human Resources Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East, phone 208-735-7288 or visit Job Openings at www.tffid.org. A typing certificate issued within the last six (6) months which shows a typing proficiency of at least 40 wpm must be submitted with application. Closing date is 1/6/08. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Drug Free Workplace.

**DRIVERS**  
 CDL Driver needed for long haul. Make sure you have your CDL. Some exp. req. Call 208-293-6009

**PSI**  
 Now hiring for a Full-time Solid Waste Collector. Must be able to lift 75 lbs. repeatedly. Class A or B CDL, required. Benefits medical, dental & vision insurance - 401(k) plan. \$600 sign on bonus. Apply at PSI Waste System 222 Gem Street Twin Falls.

**208 Farm**  
**Classified Private Party Ads**  
 Requires pre-payment online. Major credit/bank cards, and cash accepted. 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News

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**Magical Valley Regional Medical Center**  
 • **CLINICAL OFFICE POSITIONS** - full and part-time, days, evenings, and weekends with periodic travel. Office experience preferred.  
 • **BUILDING MAINTENANCE** - full-time position. 1-2 years of experience in the field or in a related or adjacent field. Must hold a valid Idaho Driver License. High School diploma or equivalent required.  
 • **NURSE PRACTITIONER** - full-time position. 1-2 years of experience.  
 • **EXERCISE ASSISTANT** - full-time, 3-5 days a week. Must have 1-2 years of experience in a fitness center. Must have a valid Idaho Driver License. High School diploma or equivalent preferred.

**DECEMBER 2007 & MAY 2008 RN GRADUATES!**  
 • **MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST** - Post-lic. 1-2 yrs. Master's degree in related field. Must be able to obtain professional licensure within one year of employment.  
 • **PERI PHARMACEUTIC** - Graduate of an accredited school of pharmacy with a minimum of 60 days Degree. Must be licensed by the Idaho State Board of Pharmacy. Advanced degree (PharmD), hospital/industry pharmacy experience, and/or residency training preferred.  
 • **CNA** - Part-time. 5-8 time positions. Certified Nursing Assistant required.  
 • **REGISTERED NURSES** - Medical, Surgical, Operating Room, Emergency Department, Intensive Care Unit, and Rehabilitation, Oncology, Obstetrics, Pediatrics. Full part time openings with benefits.  
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**209 General**  
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 Production Heavy Duty Milling Line Workers. Microsoft Excel, Word good telephone skills. Apply in person at 1711 Overland Ave in Burley.  
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 Production duro tractor/motors of lines. Microsoft Excel, Word. business habilitated del telefono. Apilique on persona 1711 Overland Ave in Burley.

**211 Medical**  
**CAREGIVERS**  
 Part-time Caregivers needed for residential care facility. Must be able to work all shifts. Arrive at Restate Assisted Living 1777 Enbridge Court in Burley. Will train, some tools needed. wage depends on experience. Benefits include medical, dental vision, 401k & vacation. Call at 208-733-6657 or 731-2498. Burley call 678-4625 ext 111  
**MEDICAL**  
 CMA or RN needed for busy office. Travel necessary! No commutes to P.O. Box 447 Gooding, ID. 83330 or call 208-934-5900  
**MEDICAL**  
 Medical Coder with front office experience needed for busy surgical practice office. Exp. required. CPC preferred. Supervised compliance coding and practice knowledge. Please submit resume to P.O. Box 1808, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-1808.

**216 Trades**  
**MECHANIC**  
 Ag Express Inc. Burley & Twin Falls ID. Mechanic needed to do full & short service and minor maintenance on newer model trucks & trailers. Entry level position. Will train, some tools needed. wage depends on experience. Benefits include medical, dental vision, 401k & vacation. Call at 208-733-6657 or 731-2498. Burley call 678-4625 ext 111  
**MECHANIC**  
 Mechanic wanted. Trucks and Farm Equipment. Smith Equipment Co. 208-434-4400

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 305 Contracts & Mortgages  
 306 Financial Services  
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 CASH! Bonds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation presentation. Criminal background check, valid driver's license, computer skills. Salary \$13.50 - \$14.00. A drug free workplace. Send resume to: Box 95186 c/o Times News, P.O. Box 940, Twin Falls, ID. 83302

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 CASH! Bonds of Trust, Mortgages and Real Estate Contracts. Call today for a free, no-obligation presentation. Criminal background check, valid driver's license, computer skills. Salary \$13.50 - \$14.00. A drug free workplace. Send resume to: Box 95186 c/o Times News, P.O. Box 940, Twin Falls, ID. 83302

**217 Medical**  
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**Magical Valley Regional Medical Center**  
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THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"If he is no good he must be poleared."

— Winston Churchill

All this week's deals come from the European Championships held in Warsaw. On today's deal the field did not do well. West led a low diamond against the no-trump game...

Now too many of the Easts took their eye off the ball, failing to focus on the size of the minor spot-cards: the six that they had already seen, and dummy's seven. If partner led from four diamonds, your play does not matter, and if your partner had a five-card suit to either the J-10 or A-J-10, your play is equally immaterial.

But the key is that if declarer began with either 10-6 (or less likely the J-6), the suit will potentially be blocked. If you return the diamond nine to unblock the suit, you actually create a blockage...

At an absurdly large number of tables (21 out of 31), the no-trump game was allowed to make on a diamond lead. Incidentally, if declarer drops the 10 on the first round of the suit, he might have J-10 doubleton and partner five to the A-6. So now you must play back the nine, and when declarer follows with the six, partner will not need to overtake, and there will be no further problems.

NORTH K 8 5 J 10 2 Q 7 K 9 8 5 EAST J 10 7 4 3 Q 7 3 K 9 8 5 WEST A 9 2 K 8 6 A J 4 3 10 6 2 SOUTH A Q 6 A 9 5 4 10 6 A J 4 3

Vulnerable: Neither Dealer: South

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

Opening lead: Diamond three

LEAD WITH THE ACES

South holds: A J 7 2 K 7 6 2 Q 10 4 6 2 South West North East 1 NT Pass 2 NT 1 NT All pass

ANSWER: On this sort of auction, dummy's play is to come down with both majors and a short minor. Your best bet is to lead trumps at every turn, hoping to cut down on the crossruff. It may be worthwhile to sacrifice a trump trick to achieve your aim.

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SEWING MACHINE 60 in. old, Juki, industrial. Quen size mits, tires & box springs, new. 400-209-0948

SOFA & OVERSEIZED CHAIR, olive green. \$350. 10' contractor's table saw w/exposed table \$100. 543-5093

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<p><b>04 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW LARIAT</b></p> <p>4X4, PREPARED TO GET THE JOB DONE AND DO IT IN COMFORT! LOADED LOCAL TRUCK, GREAT PRICE! #07267A</p> <p>WAS \$23,999 NOW ONLY <b>\$19,995</b></p>	<p><b>05 NISSAN MURANO SL AWD</b></p> <p>LOCAL ONE OWNER TRADE IN YOU ARE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS. 15 011 #05715A</p> <p>WAS \$23,999 NOW ONLY <b>\$20,995</b></p>	<p><b>07 DODGE 1500 SHORT BED SLT 4X4</b></p> <p>ONLY 54 MILES, HEAVY POWERED AND LOADED WITH EQUIPMENT, PRICED BELOW WHOLESALE BOOK! #05359A</p> <p>WAS \$23,999 NOW ONLY <b>\$21,995</b></p>	<p><b>05 FORD F-350 CREW CAB 4X4</b></p> <p>LARAMIE TURBO DIESEL, FULLY RECOMMENDED FOR MAXIMUM SALES! GREAT TRUCK, GREAT PRICE! #05424A</p> <p>WAS \$23,999 NOW ONLY <b>\$22,995</b></p>	<p><b>06 DODGE 3500 QUAD CAB 4X4</b></p> <p>TURBO DIESEL, LARAMIE PACKAGE AND 6 SPEED! IS THIS THE BIGGEST TRUCK OR WHAT? #05424A</p> <p>WAS \$23,999 NOW ONLY <b>\$23,995</b></p>

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INSIDE: Comics, D2-3 | Today in History, D3 | To do for you, D4

# SOLDIERS OF SWEAT



College of Southern Idaho instructor Scott Rogers uses a trampoline, which he features in his 'Boot Camp Fitness' class.

## 'Boot Camp Fitness' returns to CSI

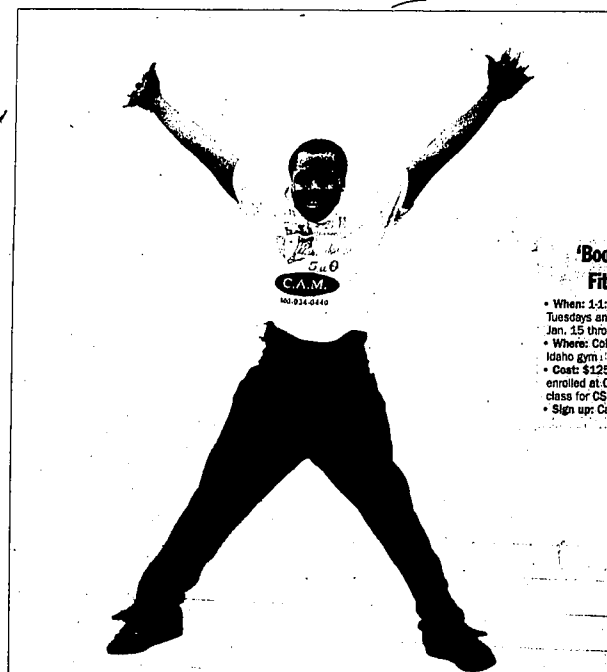


VersaSteps are used in 'Boot Camp Fitness' to improve balance. Rogers describes them as training wheels for the larger, more unstable Bosu ball.

By Melissa Davlin  
Times-News writer

Look alive, soldier. "Boot Camp Fitness" is back, and it's as intense as ever. The aerobics class, offered at the College of Southern Idaho, combines cardiovascular exercises, stretching, balancing and core strengthening to make "Sweatin' to the Oldies" workouts look like a casual stroll in the park. Each day brings a new exercise — students will jump on mini-trampolines one day, balance on Bosu balls the next. "It's always changing, always new, always different," Instructor Scott Rogers said. "It mixes it up so you're not doing the same thing."

While working out, students wear heart monitors to help them keep track of their exertion and are pushed to stay within 80 percent of their maximum heart rates for the duration of the 50-minute class. "There are quite a few people who drop out after they know what they're getting into," Rogers said. Charlotte Chabuka wasn't intimidated. The CSI student took the class during the summer and is back for another round of aerobic punishment this spring semester. Chabuka initially thought the class would be easy. On the first day, students stretched and did basic heart-rate measurements to help track progress throughout the



### 'Boot Camp Fitness'

- When: 1:15 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, Jan. 15 through May 8
- Where: College of Southern Idaho gym
- Costs: \$125 for those not enrolled at CSI; one-credit class for CSI students.
- Sign up: Call 732-6442

College of Southern Idaho student Pascal Geslin demonstrates exercises on a Bosu ball, which utilizes core muscles and helps coordination.

Photos by MURLEY SMITH/Times-News



Instructor Scott Rogers, right, works with Pascal Geslin while he demonstrates exercises on a Swiss ball. Using the Swiss ball strengthens core muscles, Rogers says.

class. Nothing resembling the workout she expected. Chabuka soon got a wake-up call. "The second day was tough," she said. "We just went into it right there and then."

The hardest part, Chabuka said, was balancing on the balls while doing exercises. It was worth it, though, to help her reach her goal — lightening her abs. "I was determined to get

through it," she said. The whole-body workout benefits almost everyone, Rogers said, beginners can use the course to plunge right into a fit lifestyle. People who are already in shape can

step up their efforts to keep their heart rates within the target range. He has had everyone from teenagers to 60-year-olds in his class, and all who stuck with it have done well. Although most people shouldn't be afraid of the intensity of the class, those with recent injuries should stay away, Rogers said. "Don't use this as a rehabilitation class," he said. While Chabuka would recommend the course to her friends, she admitted she had to take a break during fall semester because it was such a tough workout. She couldn't stay away, though. She's using the upcoming semester to get back on track and maintain her new body. "I know that spring semester is going to be longer than the summer semester, which means I'll probably have enough time to discipline myself," she said. Melissa Davlin may be reached at 735-3234 or melissa.davlin@lee.net.

Catherine Ramos, left, and Danielle Arnold hang out in the kitchen before sitting down for a family meal Dec. 15 in Twin Falls. After attending school together in the College of Southern Idaho's nursing program, Ramos made a generous donation to Arnold in October — one of her birthdays. "It's a good thing I let you check off me," says Arnold as she and Ramos share a laugh.



## A FRIEND IN NEED

One nursing student's kidney helps another live

By Chandra Lancaster  
Times-News correspondent

Some people might call it fate. Danielle Arnold, 23, is alive because of a classmate in the nursing program at the College of Southern Idaho. Arnold chose the nursing profession partly because she was diagnosed with diabetes at age 9. The hospital was her second home, where she had good and bad experiences. The bad ones motiva-

ted her to become a nurse who cares about her patients. "I can see the difference I can make in someone's life," Arnold said. Through her experience, she said, she can sympathize with her patients. According to the National Kidney Foundation, 30 percent of type 1 diabetes patients experience kidney failure. Arnold was one of them.

Please see FRIEND, Page D4

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baldo

By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castelanos



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



The Elderberlies

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Pickles

By Brian Crane



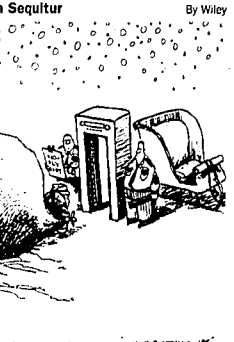
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Non Sequitur

By Wiley



Strange Brew

By John Deering



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



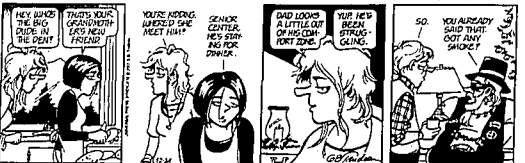
Brevity

By Guy & Rodd



Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Luann

By Greg Evans



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Acorns don't fall far from the tree, Gemini

IF DEC. 24 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Make firm resolutions now and your year ahead will unfold without a hitch. Be grateful for myriad blessings in your life right now and don't take them for granted. Spread appreciation and enjoy some of the finer good luck. Whatever you sign this week will take wing and fly high. Avoid additional debt, signing contracts or key changes in late March or late May. You could lock yourself into something that becomes an albatross around your neck. ARIES (March 21-April 19): If you must head out on the roads, allow plenty of time to arrive at your destination at a leisurely pace. A fellow traveler could be impatient or hard to please. TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Only take your fair share. Visions of sugar plums, or something just as tasty, might dance in your head. There may be a generous offering on the table, but you should mind your manners. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Acorns don't fall far from the tree. The very things that irk you about loved ones are probably attributes that you also possess. Enjoy a pleasant "silent night" by refusing to voice criticisms. CANCER (June 21-July 22): Santa Claus is being naughty or nice. This isn't a good time to insist on having your own way. If you oppose the will of a significant other, you might end up with coal in your stocking. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): There are miles to go before you sleep. The planets indicate a tendency to rush. Recall the fable of the tortoise and the hare and remember that slow and steady always wins the race. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Remain sensitive to the varied customs and traditions of your nuclear family. Find room in your heart to overlook brush statements. Ask for help when lifting heavy items. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You are always at your charming best when entertaining friends and family. Your peacemaking talents could be in demand this evening if someone else tries to run the show. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Walk away from a challenge and ignore a line drawn in the sand. You don't need to outdo the felines to hold a memorable family event. Use peacemaking to settle a dispute. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Take your time and stretch out the holiday. Stomping your feet won't make the clock run any faster. Maybe you are anxious to open gifts or must rush to finish last minute arrangements. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be a good loser. Plans are not cast in stone, so it is acceptable to bend the rules a wee bit at this celebratory time. Remember to be forgiving if your authority is challenged or wishes vetoed. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): You don't have to be the leader of the pack all the time. Perhaps it is a good idea to follow the lead of others today. Competing for the attention of a special someone might cause conflict. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Too many queen bees and not enough workers could be the problem. You might not be able to delegate duties. Be concerned with your own business and everyone else will take care of theirs.

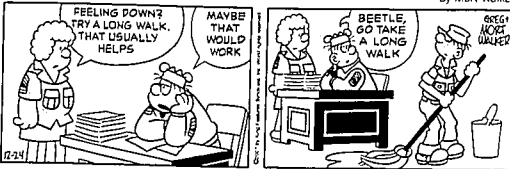
HOROSCOPE

Jeraldine Saunders

Acorns don't fall far from the tree, Gemini

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



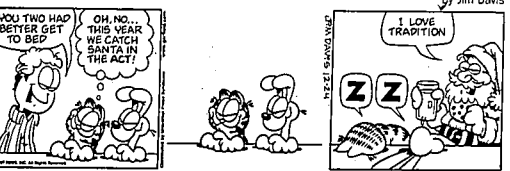
The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



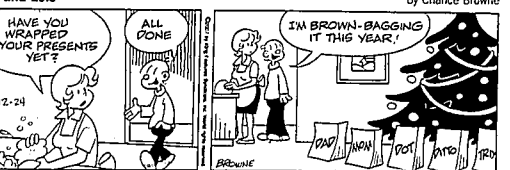
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

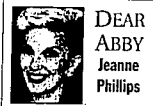


THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



# New Year's looms as joyless reminder of husband's death



DEAR ABBY  
Jeanne Phillips

DEAR-ABBY: My husband had a stroke the morning of New Year's Eve last year. He died on New Year's Day. This year has been hard for me. With the help of my strong faith and my family, I have been coping.

I am having an overwhelming feeling of angst about the upcoming New Year's events. I don't want to go to any gatherings. (We usually stayed home.) I feel like going away, but where could I go without a lot of party stuff going on? Should I just stay home and deal with the reminder of the events of his stroke happening here at home? I don't know what to do. I don't want to sit around twiddling my eyes out reliving the whole nightmare, either. I'm confused and don't think I am thinking clearly.

I am not in some deep depression. I have accepted my husband's death, although I miss him dearly. I just feel nervous and anxious, and I don't feel like celebrating. Please help me figure this out.

— HOLIDAY BLUES IN INDIANA  
DEAR HOLIDAY BLUES: Please know that all the feelings you are experiencing are absolutely normal. It is entirely possible that from now on you will associate New Year's with your husband's death. No laws say that you must celebrate this holiday. If you would prefer not to be home at this time, consider checking into a hotel and asking a close friend or family member to host you.

I hope, as time goes by, your anxiety will lessen. However, if that doesn't happen, then counseling can help you.

DEAR ABBY: My parents divorced in 2001 after a 20-year marriage. They reconciled a few years later, only to split up again after Dad once again had an affair with a younger woman. Dad is now living with his girlfriend, and the situation has my mother severely depressed.

Mom is in poor health due to a severe heart condition. She has had multiple bypass surgeries over the last 15 years and has a defibrillator permanently implanted in her chest. And she's not

DEAR HEARTSICK: Your mother appears to be chronically depressed, and part of it may be due to her heart condition. You can't fix what ails her, but you should accompany her to see her doctor and explain what's going on. It's possible that with a combination of counseling and medication, her depression can be treated and she'll end the self-destructive lifestyle she has adopted. Because of her serious medical problems, her doctor should also be involved in her rehabilitation.

DEAR HEARTSICK: In Houston, Texas, a man was sentenced by a French court to life in prison for the 1975 murders of two French investigators and a Lebanese national. Japanese actor Toshiro Mifune died in suburban Tokyo at age 77.

Five years ago, Lucie Peterson was reported missing from her Modesto, Calif. home, by her husband, Scott, who was later convicted of murdering her and their unborn son, Saddam Hussein said in an address read on television that Iraqis were ready to fight a holy war against the United States.

Chinese pro-democracy activist Xu Wenli was released from a prison in Beijing and flown to the United States.

— One year ago: Ethiopian sent fighter jets into Somalia and bombed several towns in a dramatic attack on Somalia's powerful Islamic movement. A ship's crew members said their country had been "forced to enter a war."

— Broadcasting pioneer Frank Stanton, CBS president for 26 years, died in Boston at age 99.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Dec. 24, the 358th day of 2007. There are seven days left in the year. This is Christmas Eve.

Today's highlight:  
On Dec. 24, 1814, the War of 1812 officially ended as the United States and Britain signed the Treaty of Ghent in Belgium.

On this date:  
In 1524, Portuguese navigator Vasco da Gama—who had discovered a sea route around Africa to India—died in Cochim, India.

In 1851, fire devastated the Library of Congress in Washington D.C., destroying about 25,000 volumes.

In 1865, several veterans of the Confederate Army formed a private social club in Pufaski, Tenn., called the Ku Klux Klan.

In 1871, Giuseppe Verdi's opera "Aida" had its world premiere in Cairo, Egypt.

In 1907, investigative reporter I.F. Stone was born in Philadelphia.

In 1920, Enrico Caruso gave his last public performance, singing "Swanee" at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

In 1943, President Roosevelt appointed General Dwight D. Eisenhower supreme commander of Allied forces as part of Operation Overlord.

In 1951, Gian Carlo Menotti's "Amahl and the Night Visitors," the first opera written specifically for television, was first broadcast by NBC-TV.

In 1968, the Apollo 8 astronaut, orbiting the moon, read passages from the Old Testament Book of Genesis during a Christmas Eve television broadcast.

In 1980, Americans remembered the U.S. hostages in Iran by burning candles or shining lights for 417 seconds — one second for each day of captivity.

Ten years ago: Ilch Ramirez Sanchez, the aging revolutionary known as "Carlos the

Jackal," was sentenced by a French court to life in prison for the 1975 murders of two French investigators and a Lebanese national. Japanese actor Toshiro Mifune died in suburban Tokyo at age 77.

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— Broadcasting pioneer Frank Stanton, CBS president for 26 years, died in Boston at age 99.

## TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Songwriter-bandleader Dave Bartholomew is 87. Author Mary Higgins Clark is 80. Federal health administrator Anthony S. Fauci is 67. Recording company executive Mike Curb is 63. Rock singer-musician Lemmy (Motorhead) is 62. Actor Peter Onorati is 52. Actress Stephanie Hodge is 51. The president of Afghanistan, Hamid Karzai, is 50. Rock musician Ian Burden (The Human League) is 50. Designer Kaitie Curran is 45. Rock singer Mary J. Blige (J. Blige) is 44. Actor Mark Valley is 43. Actor Friedrich Bader is 41. Singer Ricky Martin is 36. "American Idol" host Ryan Seacrest is 33.



Ryan Seacrest

## THOUGHT

"Christmas comes, but once a year is enough."

— American proverb.

# Chuck Norris gets tough with publisher of new biography

By Larry Neumeister  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Trading karate chops for lawyers, tough guy actor Chuck Norris is taking on a new book titled "The Truth About Chuck Norris," saying it's a big lie and he wants to stop its distribution.

On Friday, Norris sued Penguin Group Inc. and the book's creator, Ian Spector, saying his good image is being spoiled by a book that depicts him as a racist and unlawful while he says includes false "facts" that are sometimes racist and lewd. In a lawsuit in U.S. District

Court in Manhattan, the actor, whose real name is Carlos Ray Norris, says the preface of the book refers to meetings between Norris and Spector at Westbury, N.Y., resident and an undergraduate at Brown University, and the book also thanks Norris for "playing along."

But, the lawsuit said, Norris never authorized Penguin or its Gotham Books division to use his name, image or likeness in connection with commercial sales of the book, which was published on Nov. 29. The lawsuit said Norris told Penguin it was not authorized to publish the

book but the publisher rejected Norris' claims. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages, a halt to publication and a recall of books already sold. A message left with a spokesman for Penguin was not immediately returned. Norris has been in more than 20 films. The actor was a six-time undefeated World Professional Middle Weight Karate champion who in 1997 became the first man in the West to win a belt in the martial art. He was awarded an 8th degree Black Belt Grand Master recognition in the Taekwon Do system, the lawsuit said.

# The holiday season's darkest...

By Susan Brink  
Los Angeles Times

It was Christmas Eve when George Bailey stared into the black depths of the river beneath the bridge in Bedford Falls, convinced that the world would be better off without him. That scene from the 1946 movie classic "It's a Wonderful Life" could well have given birth to the media myth that Christmas is a trigger for increased suicides and episodes of depression.

It is a baseless notion, according to a body of published studies by statisticians who have examined hundreds of thousands of suicides in the U.S. and around the world. The number of suicides goes down, not up, over the holiday season, by as much as 40 percent.

During the season of good cheer, there are certainly those whose blue mood stands in stark contrast to the season's bright lights and festivities. But pointing to the Christmas season as a cause of increased depression and risk for suicide is wrong, says Dan Smeed, director of the Anenberg Adolescent Risk Communication Institute at the University of Pennsylvania.

"Holiday blues?" says Dr. Eric Caine, co-director of the center for the study and pre-

## When it goes beyond the blues

For those feeling depressed during the holidays, here are some resources...

- For tips on coping with holiday stress: [www.healthyminds.org/holidaytips.cfm](http://www.healthyminds.org/holidaytips.cfm)
- For suicide warning signs, or what to do to help a loved one: [www.stopasuicide.org](http://www.stopasuicide.org)
- Suicide Prevention Hotline: (800) 273-TALK (8255)

vention of suicide at the University of Rochester Medical Center in New York. "I'm not sure. I just know I get a lot fewer admissions to the psychiatric ward over the holidays."

In one of the most thorough examinations of what researchers call acts of deliberate self-harm, which can be an indication of depression, Helen Bergen, research scientist at the University of Oxford, found that Christmas, for most people, is protective.

Bergen and colleagues reached this conclusion after examining emergency room admission records of 19,346 people in England and looking at daily rates of self-induced injury from 1976 to 2000.

Drug or alcohol overdoses,

self-poisoning with gas or other harmful substances and self-inflicted injuries — with or without the deliberate intention to die — all decreased from average levels during the week of Dec. 19-26. Bergen and colleagues found, and these lowered levels held through New Year's Day.

The decrease in rates of self-inflicted damage before, on and immediately after Christmas and into the New Year was found regardless of age, family connections or social isolation, the researchers reported in the September issue of the *Journal of Social Science & Medicine*.

Even people with family relationship problems were less inclined to attempt to hurt themselves during the holidays. "These findings are contrary to the popular view that Christmas is a time of stress and arguments," Bergen says. Perhaps, she says, problems within the nuclear family ease up instead of intensify when the extended family is around.

Another possible reason depression and suicide rates fall this time of year is that the season, more than other times, is one of giving. "People tend to reach out over the holidays," says Dr. Douglas Jacobs, a psychi-

atrist at Harvard Medical School. "Happy people in nursing homes might suddenly get visitors. People who haven't heard from friends all year might get a card or a phone call."

It's only in the last year that the majority of news stories reflected the fact versus the myth about seasonal suicide rates, says Romer, who since 2000 has been tracking trends in media interpretations of the link between holidays and suicide. In a national search of news stories linking the holidays with suicide, he says, 9 percent of news organizations supported the myth in 2006, compared with 57 percent in 2005 and 77 percent in 1999.

This is not to say that the holidays are easy for everyone. "Some people have unreasonable expectations — the holidays have to be happy," says Dr. Jan Cook, Bergen says. Perhaps, she says, problems within the nuclear family ease up instead of intensify when the extended family is around.

If in-laws are sniping at you about your home, your fund and your lifestyle, your 2-year-old has already broken his new toys and is willing, and your sister's teenage daughter is sulking in the bedroom, happiness can be a tall order.

## TO DO FOR YOU

### Childbirth refresher

Childbirth refresher course, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, in the lobby at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center downtown campus, 660 Shoshone St. E. in Twin Falls. Childbirth preparation and procedures will be reviewed, along with a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center.

Cost is \$20. Pre-registration required: 732-3148.

### About C-sections

Cesarean childbirth classes, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Jan. 2, in the lobby at St. Luke's Magic

Valley Regional's downtown campus, 660 Shoshone St. E. in Twin Falls. Topics include cesarean deliveries, nonconforming labors, pain management and hospital procedures. Wear comfortable clothing; bring two pillows and, if possible, a support person. Free. Pre-registration required: 732-3148.

"Do do for you" is a listing of health-related activities, events and education. Submit information by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's *Image* section. E-mail notices to [ramona@magicvalley.com](mailto:ramona@magicvalley.com).

## Taking stock

Whose home fitness equipment is covered in dust?



**NEXT WEEK IN IMAGE**

# Checking results from medical tests

The Washington Post

Just because your doctor doesn't call doesn't mean you can assume your test results

were normal. It might just mean your medical file was misplaced or your doctor was expecting you to make a follow-up visit so she could

explain results in person. If there's no word from your doctor, call the office to ask what she's playing new, the results, advises the University

of California, Berkeley Wellness Letter. Or ask that a copy of the results be mailed to you, with an explanation even if you have to pay a small fee.

## Friend

Continued from page D1

In February 2006, during one of Arnold's routine doctor visits, a small amount of protein was discovered in her urine, which is one of the first signs of kidney failure. Her doctors prescribed medicine and monitored the function of her kidneys. They said the kidneys would probably work well for another 10 years. But every doctor visit thereafter revealed a decrease in function.

"Arnold's kidney function had fallen to 12 percent when her doctors began discussing dialysis with her. Dialysis — a process which removes waste and extra water that build up in the body — also maintains a balance of nutrients in the blood and controls blood pressure, another common complication of kidney failure."

Arnold was a second-semester nursing student when her doctors decided peritoneal dialysis was the best option. "Arnold's energy went to school," Arnold said. She was determined to finish despite the dialysis.

"The nursing program is an 11-month, extremely intensive program. You must pass several tests, and any failure removes you from the program," said John Brannen, practical nursing instructor at Arnold's former teacher. Nursing students attend multiple classes during the week and complete 80 hours of clinical study throughout the program.

Arnold kept her kidney disease a secret from most everyone she knew; she told her teachers and five other people. "I didn't want to be the person everyone felt bad for," she said.

Arnold operated the dialysis kit on herself four times a day, 30 to 45 minutes each time; sometimes while on lunch break from her clinical studies she did it in her car in a parking lot. The dialysis required as sterile an environment as possible to decrease the chance of infection. Arnold kept the vehicle as clean as possible and closed the vents, even in summer.

"It basically controlled my life," Arnold said. "You have to persevere and hope that you can succeed... I just really wanted to finish (the education)."

Arnold's devotion to her studies wasn't lost on her classmates. "That girl is just driven," said Cayla Hedrick, a nursing-program student and friend of Arnold's.

After a few months, a problem arose with the catheter placed in Arnold's abdomen for dialysis. The plastic tubing had wrapped around the fatty tissue in Arnold's stomach, making it impossible for her to continue peritoneal dialysis. Hemodialysis was her only option, requiring her to take more time away from studies to go to a Twin Falls dialysis center a couple of times a week for the treatment. Arnold needed a transplant.

Making matters worse, Arnold has O-positive blood, a type that is in high demand for organ donors but has few matches. Despite months of dialysis in her car between classes and at home, Arnold still had not informed many people about her disease. One of the few she confided in was former nursing classmate Catherine Ramos.

Ramos didn't think she'd be a match, but as a nursing student she wanted to try to help. When she learned the two women had the same blood type, Ramos discussed the issue with her family. They supported her decision to possibly donate a kidney to Arnold.

Ramos had to pass a number of physical, psychological and biological tests. In addition, the donor and receiver must not be sick during the surgery, to ensure

safety for both. The process started in February, and the date for the surgery was set for Oct. 12. Over those months, Ramos passed the tests. Everything looked like it would work until Ramos came down with a cold at the end of September.

"I was really, really scared, and I think she was, too," said Arnold about not knowing whether the surgery would happen after all. Ramos used her nursing education to quickly get over her illness, taking vitamins and resting. Ramos recovered, and the surgery went on as scheduled.

"It's a hard and long process, but I loved Danielle," Ramos said. "I feel good about it, and I think everyone should look into it." Doctors risk their lives for the recipients of their organs. Although she can survive with one kidney, Ramos has a higher risk of kidney failure or infection after the transplant. "For her to be willing to do something like that for me is amazing. She saved my life," Arnold said.

Despite her pain, Arnold graduated at the top of her class in July, receiving the Taylor Award for the highest maintained grade-point average at CSI.

According to Hedrick, nursing students group together and help each other when in need; the CSI nursing students continue to raise funds for Arnold's ongoing medical costs.

Arnold's kidney is healing but highly susceptible to infection. Arnold works at her doctor's office and feels much better than before her operation. "I'm so thankful," Arnold said.

"It truly is the ultimate gift." *Chandra Lancaster is a journalism student at the College of Southern Idaho. She can be reached at 308-5761 or chalanca082@students.csi.edu.*

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