#### Travelers face dangerous roads after Midwest snowstorm

By Carrie Antifinger Associated Press writer

MILWAUKE
Highways remained slippery for some holiday travelers Monday in the upper
Midwest in the aftermath
of a blustery snowstorm
that blacked out thousands
of homes and businesses
and snarfed air travel.
At least 19 deaths were
linked to the weekend-long
blast of ice and windblown
snow, which led to multicare pilleuss that closed secturn pilleuss that closed secturn refluens that closed secturn refluens that closed sec-

snow, which led to multi-car pileups that closed sec-tions of several major high-ways on the Plains. Conditions had eased Monday, with sunshine across much of the region, but that didn't necessarily mean safer roads, authori-ties cautions.

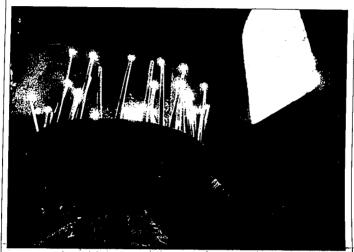
but that didn't necessarily mean safer roads, authorities cautioned. Highways in northwestern Wisconsin still had silppery patches Monday, said State Patrol dispatcher Linda Luhman in Spooner. Manager had any had been supported to the said state and minor property damage, but no serious injuries or fatalities." Luhman said. Early Monday, Sgt. Tim Elve of the Dane County Sheriff's Office said: The roads aren't quite as iccovered but we're still telling people not of twe unless they have to. The interstate is still silck and the rural roads are really bad."

the rural roads are really bad."
Authorities had issued ungent pleas for travelers to say home Sunday but officials worried that people would be supported to the property of the supported by th

The storm rolled through Colorado and Wyomling on Friday, then spread snow and ice on Saturday from the Texas Panhandle to Wisconsin. On Sunday, snow fell across much of Wisconsin. On Sunday, snow fell of Wisconsin Colorado (Wisconsin Colorado) with the Wisconsin Colorado (Wisconsin C

Please see STORM, Page A3

## Peace in Bet



A Palestinian Christian boy lights candles in the Church of the Nativity, traditionally believed by many to be the birthplace of Jesus Christ, in the biblical West Bank town of Bethlehem, Monday, Gloom was banished from Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem for the first time in years on Monday as Christian piligrims from all over the world flocked there to celebrate Jesus' birth in an atmosphere of renewed tranquility.

## For the first time in years, a cheerful Christmas in Jesus' traditional birthplace

BETHLEHEM, West Bank — Encouraged by renewed peace talks between Ismel and the Palestinians, Christian pilgrims from around the world converged on Jesus' traditional birthplace Monday to celebrate Christmas — a palpable contrast to the

sparse crowds of recent years.

The diverse mix of people included festive American tourists, clergymen in frown flowing robes and Palestinian scouts wearing kilts and playing bag-

pipes.
"I'm Catholic, I always wanted to see
the beginning of Christianity, the whole history. It's something you grow up with," said Kristin Obeck, a 37-year-old

schoolteacher from Richmond, Va,
Despite the festive atmosphere, a
heavy police deployment, the presence
of Istael's massive separation barrier
and unease among Bethlebms evershrinking Christian population served
as reminders of the lingering tensions
in the region.

Please see BETHLEHEM, Page A3

## Miracle on Blake Street: Habitat for Humanity gives house keys to two families

They couldn't have gotten better

They couldn't have gotten better Christmas gifts. During a double ceremony Friday, two Twin Falls familles were told, two Twin Falls familles were told, welcome home, and given the keys to their new Habitat for Humanity homes. The homes, which sit back-to-back in the Habitat for Humanity Subdivision on Blake Street, were renovated for the two familles: Sharon Lane and her two familles: Sharon Lane and her have familles: A period of the street were renovated for the two familles: A period of the street were renovated for the two familles: A period of the street were renovated for the two familles: A period of the street were renovated for the street were reno

Please see HABITAT, Page A3



Dale Jessen and his wife, Jennifer, hang family photographs Monday afternoon in their new home on Blake Street in I win Falls. The family put in 500 hours of sweat equity to become homeowners through the Habitat for Humanity

Help someone you know Help someone you know To quality as a Habitat partnership formily, a housefold must be living in substandard housing, have a suffi-cient employment/income record, to be able to make monthly, no inter-cent performed on the home, and be able to price least of 500 event eath permetting on the home, and be able to make monthly, no inter-cent permetting on the home, and be able to price least of 500 event eath permetting on the home. And that its policy least Safet 7 win fall Housing and the Habitat, possibility and the Habitat, price living and the Habitat price living and t

## Little green laptop catches on in remote Peruvian village

ks un while



ARAHUAY, Peru — Doubts about whether poor, rural children really can benefit from quirky little computers evaporate as quickly as the morning dew in this hillitop morning dew in this hillitop Andean village, where 50 primary school children got

machines from the One Laptop Per Child project six months ago.

These offspring of peasant families whose monthly earnings rarely exceed the cost of one of the \$180 laptops—people who can ill afford pencil and paper much less books—can't get enough of their 'XO' laptops.

At breakfast, they're already powering up the combination library/videocam/audio necorder/music maker/drawing kits. At night, they're dozing off in front of them — if they've managed to keep older siblings from waylaying the coveted machines.

Please see LAPTOP, Page A4

### **DEO** issues report on air quality

No area numbers. but local officials say air is clean

By Matt Christensen Times-Nows writer

Breathe easy,
Despite an Idaho
Department of Environmental Quality report that
does not determine if the
Magic Valley meets federal
air-quality standards, local
officials say the area is likely
in compilance with new,
tougher laws.
The report, filed with the
Environmental Protection
Agency by Gow C.L. Batter
Otter, classified airsheds into
Otter, classified airsheds into

Otter, classified airsheds into three categories; attainment, meaning the area meets standards; nonattainment, mouning the area does not meet standards; or unclassifiable, meaning not enough data is available to determine if the airshed is within federal rules.

at rutes."

Magic Valley's airsheds
were recorded as unclassifiable. Local officials say
they've measured air quality
for years — just not within
the parameters for inclusion in the recent report - and their numbers indicate clean

their numbers indicate countries.

"In general, we're in really good shape," said Stephen VanZandt, an air-quality science officer with DEO's Magic Valley office. "We haven't come anywhere close to nonattainment."

The report evaluated whether airsheds met standards for a pollutant called fine particulate matter, or PM 2.5.

2.5, DEQ's Magic Valley office has measured particulate matter since 1995 in Twin Falls, Ketchum and Rupert, VanZandt said, and has never detected levels above the fed-eral threshold

VainZandt saud, and nas never detected levels above the federal threshold.
Airsheds in portlons of Shoshone and Franklin counties were the only areas in Idaho that did not meet the new standards, according to the report. Pollution there was blanned on wood-burning stoves, cars and ammonia from agriculture activities.
The EPA tightened PM 2.5 standards in 2006 over public health concerns.
PM 2.5 can form in the afrom smokestacks, boilers, engines, dust and wood stoves, and PM 2.5 from diesel engines is thought to cause cancer.
The pollutant can appear as make or be invisible.
"It can go right through the respiratory system, through the lungs," VanZandt said.
Despite nationwide concern over PM 2.5, it doesn't be the most likely cause.
Nevertheless, Magie Valley, where dust

cause.
Nevertheless, Magic Valley
DEQ will continue to test for
the pollutant.
"We still have to remain
vigilant," VanZandt said. "We
can't get complacent."

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@lee.net.

 Nation
 A5, A8

 Obituaries
 C2

 Opinion
 A6-7

 Sports
 B1

#### TODAY'S FORECAST—

## Tonight

Wednesday

Low 20 28 / 17

#### High 30 MINI-CASSIA

Today: A chilly, yet generally snow free Christmas Day Highs low to middle 20s.

Highs low to middle 20s. —

Tonight: Becoming mostly cloudy. Lows teens.

Tomorrow: Scattered snow showers developing. Highs

#### Complete weather report: See page B4

#### TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

Christmas Day, no events planned

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by email at strowne@magicvalley.com; by lax, 734-5535; or ymail, Times-News, Do.Ros 434, Fivin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the



	%	season	Upper Snake Basin	80%	28)		
Watershed	% of Avg*	puak**	Oakley	63%	199		
Salmon	97%	33%	Salmon Falls	53%	179		
Big Wood	91%	31%		As of	Dec.		
Little Wood	81%	27%	* A comparison of basin snowpack, on				
Big Lost	79%	26%	this day, with a 30 year				
Little Last	77%	27%	An indicator of basis				
Henrys Fork/Teta	n 93%	32%	the entire snow season, which peaks spring.				



Pope Benedict XVI celebrates the Christmas Midnight Mass In St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, early today. Thousands of the faithful filled St. Peter's for the mass.

### Pope Benedict XVI ushers in Christmas at Midnight Mass in St. Peter's Basilica

By Ariel David Associated Press writer

VATICAN CITY — Pope Benedict XVI ushered in Christmas us he led Midnight Mass early this morning amid thousands of the faithful who filled St. Dressed in white and gold-colored robes, Benedlet blessed the crowd of pil-grims, Romans and tourists as he walked in a procession

plessed the crowd of pla-grims, Romans and tourists as he walked in a procession up the main aisle to the cen-tral altar, which was decorated with red poinsettia flow-

As a closir sang. Benedict sangle san

while beneticity of the service into the midnight service there were giant screens set up in St. Peter's Square, which was made feative with a twinkling Christmas tree

and the Vatican's Nativity

scene. Officials unveiled the life-Officials unveiled the life-size Nativity on Monday, revealing the statues of Mary and Joseph, Jesus' parents, in a huge house-like structure located next to the Vatican's giant, twinkling Christmas tree.

iocated next to the vaticans giant, twinking Christmas tree.

This year, the scene of fesus' birth was depicted in a recreation of Joseph's Nuzareth home rather than the traditional makes the scene of the scene of

# MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD



An Iraqi boy is treated in a hospital in central Baghdad, Iraq, after being injured in a car bomb attack Monday. A bomb hidden Inside a exploded near the nday, killing two people and injuring six others.

IRAQ

#### Leader of Iraq's Catholics urges emigrants to return

emigrants to return
BAGHIDAD — The spiritual
leader of Iraq's Catholics
made a Christmas appeal
Monday for all those who
have flud Iraq to return and
help rebuild their shattered
tomeland, acknowledging
that fear still persists even as
the country enjoys one of its
most peaceful holiday seasons it vears. sons in years. Cardinal Emmanuel III

Cardinal Emmanuel III Delly, leader of the ancient Chaldean Church, told The Associated Press at his guard-ed compound in west Baghdad that his message was one of love and charity for everyone.

was one of fove and com-for everyone.

"And for the emigrants to return home, to work for the good of their country and their homeland despite the situation which their country is to make it my hope."

situation which their country is in — that is my hope."
Sectarian violence in the country has declined largely because of a surge by thousands of U.S. troops, the help of Sunni Arab fighters who have turned against al-Qaida In Iraq and are now funded by the U.S., and a cease-fire by radical shifte cleric Muqtada al-Sadr and bis Maldi Arms. Mahdi Army. The issue of how to reinte-

grate the growing number of Sunni Arabs joining the volunteer forces looms for 2008. There are about 70,000 members of groups known as Awakening Councils, and their numbers are increasing

#### Officials say Iran wants to hold high-level talks with U.S. over Iraq

With U.S. Over Iraq
BAGIIDAD — Iran wants
to renew high-level talks
with U.S. officials on security in Iraq, insisting that discussions take place between
ambassadors and not
lower-level functionaries,
Iraqi officials said Monday.
The Iranians also want a
clear-cut agenda for the
American side has not yet
Provided, according to Sami
al-Askarl, an adviser to Iraqi
Prime Minister Nouri al-

al-Askarl, an adviser to Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki and a member of parliament. Three Iraqi offi-cials confirmed his account, speaking on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the media.

anonymy because they weren't authorized to speak to the media. In Washington, the State Department said three-way alaks including Iraq were likely to be held in a couple of weeks. Spokesman Tom Casey said that "as always, the talks would be restricted to issues related to Iraq's security. He said Iraq is seger to hold another round and is working on a date. There was no immediate comment or confirmation from Iran's Foreign Ministry or state media. A May 26 meeting concerning security in Iraq between U.S. Ambassador. Ryan Crocker and his Iran'ian Control of the Iran'ian Control of Iran'ian'ian'i Control of Iran'ian'i Control of Iran'ian'ian'i Control of Iran'ian'ian'i Control of Iran'ian'i Control of Iran'i Control of Iran'

an counterpart, an Kazemi Qomi, broke a 27-year diplomatic freeze

#### SOMALIA

#### Police: French journalist released in Somalia

released in somalia

MOGADISHU — Police
said a French journalist
abducted by Somali guinner
was released Monday, eight
days after he was seized in
the northern part of the
country.

Cameraman Gwen Le
Gmill was seized Dec. 16 outtolde the town of fireseen in

the town of Bossaso in

Gouil was selzed Dec. 16 outside the town of Bossaso in Puntland, an area associated with coastal piracy and known as a staging post for human traffickers running boats into Yemen. Elders from Somalia's influential claus had intervened to try to win his release.

"He is now in Bossaso and is feeling well. No ransom was paid," Puntland Police Commissioner Addiazk Said Mohamoud told The Associated Press by phone. The area where Le Gouil associated Press by phone. The area where Le Gouil aghial, Mogadishu, which is at the center of an Islamic insurgency that has killed thousands of people this year. The United Nations says Somalia is facing Africa's worst humanitarian crisis. Media watchdog Reporters Without Borders said it was Without Borders said it was Without Borders said it was Without Borders said it was

worst humanitarian crisis.
Media watchdog Reporters
Without Borders said it was
pleased to hear of Le Gouil's
release, calling it "a very release, calling it "a very delightful Christmas gift" for his wife and mother. But the head of the Paris-

But the head of the Paris-based groups Africa depart-ment. Leonard Vincent. Called the kidnapping chill-ing sign for foreigners in the region. He said kidnapping was becoming a "business" for clans in the north involved in arms smuggling and human trafficking to Yemen.

The French Fareign

The French Foreign Ministry could not immediately be reached for com-

ment.

On Monday 100
Burundian peacekeepers
arrived in Mogadisht, following the first deployment of
100 a day earlier to bolster
1,800 Ugandan troops
already in place. The African
Union has said it wants to
deploy 8,000 peacekeepers in
Somalia, but countries have
been slow to come forward
with troop contributions. with troop contributions.

#### TURKEY

### police stop would-be bomber in Istanbul

ISTANBUL. — Turkish police thwarted a bomb attack in Istanbul on Monday, arresting a 25-year-

old man with explosives in his backpack outside a sub-way station, the city's goversald.

nor said.

The man was carrying more than 7 pounds of A-1 plastic explosives when he was arrested in the Sisi district, one of the most crowd-ed areas of the city. Turkish news agencies reported.

Though Governor Muanmer Guler said the

Though Governor Munammer Guler said the man was surely preparing for a bomb attack but said police were not yet able to find out what his target had been. Guler said police launched a raid on an apartment believed to be used as a safe house and seized more explosives and various mechanisms that could set off a bomb. Another man at the apartment was arrested after a chase. Guler said, and was suspected of membership in an mispecified urrorist.

Milltain Kurdish, leftist and launic groups have carried

Islamic groups have carried out bombings in big cities and in resort towns in the past.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### Notion that crack is more dangerous than cocaine widely disputed

Gocaine widely displited
BOSTON — During some
of the bloodlest years of the
drug wars of the 1980s, erack
was seen as far more danger,
and that perception was writeten into the sentencing law,
But now that notion is under
attack like never before.
Criminologists, doctors
and other experts say the differences between the two
forms of the drug were largely exaggerated and do not
justify the way the law comes
down 100 times harder on

down 100 times harder on crack.

A push to shrink the disparity in punishments got a boost last month when reduced federal sentencing guidelines went into effect for crack offenses. Then, carlier this month, the U.S. Sentencing Commission, which sets guidelines for federal cases, voted to make the reductions retroactive, allowing some 19,500 immates, mostly black, to seek reductions in their crack sentences. Many think the changes are long overdue.

Crack, because it is smoked and gets into the bloodstream faster than snorted cocaine, produces a more intense high and is generally considered more addictive than powdered cocaine,

#### NEW YORK

#### Last-minute shoppers bring relief to retailers

NEW YORK — Just weeks go, the holiday shopping eason seemed headed for season seemed headed for disaster. But in the waning hours before Christmas, the mation's retailers got their wish—a last-minute surge of shopping that helped meet their modest sales goals.

shapping that helped meet their modes sales goals, according to data released late Monday by research firm ShopperTrak RCT Corp. And with post-Christmas shopping to come, some malls and stores were down-right optimistic. While consumers Jammed stores at the start of the sea-son in search of discounts and hot items such as Nintendo Co.8 Wil game con-sole, a challenging economy prompted them to hold out until the end for bigger dis-counts. counts.

An extra full weekend before Christmas also caused shoppers to procrastitute. In fact, Christmas Eve Is expected to be a bigger shopping day than in past years because many employers gave workers the day off, with the holiday falling on Tuesday. Tuesday

#### CALIFORNIA

#### Former 'Lost' star Rodriguez reports for 6-month jail term

O-monto fail term

LYNWOOD) — Former

Los" star Michelle
Rodriguez, will be spending
the holidays in jail.
Rodriguez reported to a
Los Angeles Gounty jail on
Sunday to begin a six-month
sentence for
community

Community

community service and a I c o h o I monitoring as part of her probation from a drun ken driving incident, authorities said.

She was booked into Conturn Regional Datos

She was booked into the Century Regional Detention Facility just before 4 p.m., said Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Aura Sierra. It's the same fail where Paris Illiton served much of her sentence earlier this year. A call late Sunday night to a Rodriguez representative was not immediately returned.

#### A 'LOVE'LY CHRISTMAS



People are seen Christmas Ere at John F. Kennedy Plaza, also known as Love Park, in Philadelphia, Monday.

### **Times-News**

..735-3345

..735-3207

Mail Information

### Israeli military upholds use of cluster bombs during 2006 war in Lebanon

HERUSALEM (AP) — The Israell army on Monday said it will not press charges against officers who ordered the use of cluster bombs during last year's war In Lebanon, brushing off international criticism that the weamons unpressedit and

national criticism that the weapons unnecessarily put Lebanese civilans at risk. Announcing the results of a more than year-long probe, the army said investigators determined Israel's use of cluster bombs was a "coi-crete military necessity" and did not violate international humanitarian law. Lebanese

officials accused the army of covering up war crimes.

Cluster bombs open in light and scatter dozens of bomblets over wide areas. The United Nations and human rights groups have accused Israel of dropping about 4 million cluster bomblets during its 34-day war against the Hezbollah guerrilla group.

They say as many as I million bomblets failed to explode and now endanger civilians, and earlier this year, the U.S. State Department said Israel prob-

ably misused American-made cluster bombs in civil-ian areas. More than 30 peo-ple have been killed by clus-ter bomb and land mine explosions in Lebanon since the 2006 summer war.

the 2006 summer war. In a statement, the army said its chief investigator, Maj. - Gen. Gershon HaCohen, determined "it was clear that the majority of the cluster munitions were fired at open and uninhabitated areas, areas from which Hezbollah forces operated and in which no civilians were present."

### Habitat

Continued from page A1

"I couldn't imagine getting a better present," said Dale lensen. "This just means so much, to have the chance to be in our new home for Christmas."

Christmas."
Each family completed
500 hours of sweat equity
needed to become home-owners through the program
by working on the refurbish-ment of both homes and by

ment of both homes and by putting in hours at the Habitat for Humanity's Restore, which opened endi-er this year at 669 South Eastland Drive. Before moving into their Habitat.homes both families struggled to make end ineet. For the Lanes that meant liv-ing in 3-home that didn't hold off the bitter wind.

"I want to get moved in here right away." Sharon Lane said through tears. "I want to get my kids out of the drafty home we are in

now and into this nice neighborhood. I just don't want to be there anymone. The fenses made the most of a one-hedroun home, it wast terrible, said farilly, 10, who is excited about getting be own room. It was kind of hard but kind of coal, too, We are a really close faringly. She said. Our new home is way nicer. It's just what I wanted for Christmas.

It's just what I wanted for Christmas.

Her father explained that familial bliss wastr always, the case Although he's basett used methamphetamine for over four years, the road has been burnpy, and full of tribulation, lessen said he is glad his family stayed, by side.

This shows what can hap-pen when you put your life

en when you put your life inder the Lord's direction Only through submitting to Him was I able to get off the drugs and get to this point.

He has provided my family with a home of our own, I never thought that I would see this day, Insens said.
With another Habitat renocation home scheduled for completion, 2007 has been a pivoid one for the organization.
With the completion of these two homes, Habitat for Humanity has been able to make home ownership available for three hamiles this year. Said Linda Heming, escentive directors for Habitat for Humanity of the Magic Valley. With the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days with the completion of another one schuldted soon, that is three days and the said of the said and took forward to giving even more families a hand up."

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





Merry Christmas,

#### Bethlehem

Bethlehem

Continued from page A1

In the years following the 1993 Oslo peace accord, Bethlehem attracted tens of thousands of tourists, for Christmas, But the number of thousands of tourists, for Christmas, But the number of visitors plummeted after the outbreak of the second Palestinian uprising in 2000.

Tourism has begun to eccover in recent years as fighting has slowed. This year, it got a boost from the renewal of peace talks last mouth at a summit in Annapolis, Md.

Israell tourism officials said they expected some 20,000 visitors to cross from perusalem into neighboring Bethlehem, an increase of about 50 percent over last year. Tourism workers handed out sweets and flowers to pilgrims, and smilling Israell soldiers posed for pictures with travelers.

Bethlehems governor, Saleh Tumard, said all of the towns 5,000 hotel rooms were booked.

'If you can't be with family.

booked. "I'you can't be with family, it's good to be here where it all went down." said 23-year-old David Collen of Hickman, Neb., who is studying the Middle East at Tel Aviv University in Israel. Tago Martins, 28, from Curitiba, Brazil, said, the new peace talks had prompted

peace talks had prompted him to visit Bethlehem for the

him to visit Bethichem for the first time.

"The idea that it's a Christian city makes me more calm, and I think going to the West Bank is more comfort-able since Annapolis," Martins said.

Priests and monks, touris Palestinian families ar police mingled in Manger Square outside the Church of the Nativity, the site where tradition holds Christ was

Vendor house Christ was born. Vendor Santas, roasted peanuts, cotton candy, steamed corn and Turkish coffee while city residents watched the festivities from balconles and rooftops. A four-story cypress tree, strung with lights and red and gold ornaments and topped with a yellow star, towered outside the church. Children strolling through the square wore red-and-

Children strolling through the square wore red-and-white Santa Claus hats, with some in full Santa regalla. Balloons bobbed from ven-dors stands and strings chil-dren clutched in their hands. After nightfall, the square was til to a sea of red and yellow lights and Christmas stars.

"This year is much better than the last seven years for tourism," said shopkeeper lacques Annan, whose whoden handlerafts shop offered crosses, rosarles and nativity scenes, "The atmosphere is better in general. There is relative calm, from the security standpoint."

Palestinian scouts, some wearing kilts and berets adorned with pompons, marched through the streets playing drums and bagpines. Throughout the evening, the streets and continues and the streets of the streets and christmas carols in a multi-rude of languages.

Speaking to reporters as he leather in mosque, ralestinian President Mahmoud Abbas expressed hope that the renewed peace talks will bring about a Palestinian state in the coming year. "We hope that this year will "This year is much better

For explosives.

Years of violence with Israel, infighting among rival Palestinian factions and economic hardship caused by the barrier have all contributed to the departure of a growing number of Christians from Bethlehem.

Officials say from 35 to 50 percent of the towns 40,000 people are Christian, compared to 90 percent in the 1950s.

pared to 90 percent in the 1950s. Johnny Glacaman, a Bethlehem native who now lives in the United Arab Emilates but returned this year to visit his family, is among the people who have left. "There is nothing for young people here." he said, stand-ing outside lib family's gift shop. "Christians are leaving in high numbers. I am an example. If this continues, in five to 10 years the Church of the Nativity will be a muse-

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Mis-Match

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### Storm

Continued from page A1

Continued from page AI

The storm system had blown out to sea Monday morning, but in 1ts wake wind blowing at 25 mph picked up moisture from Lake Erie to create lake-effect snow in Buffaio, N.Y. Five to 10 inches of snow was possible there and in other parts of western New York by Tuesday morning, the weather service said.

morning, the weather service said.

Wind was measured at 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 more than 300 flights Sunday at Chicago's O'Hare International Altport, the city Aviation Department said. Municipal officials said the wind had knocked our nearly 170 traffic signals, and there were more than 500 reports of fallen trees and limbs.

Travelers packed hotels in

Travelers packed hotels in

Albert Lea, Minn., Sunday night after blowing snow and poor visibility forced them off Interstate 35. Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty authorized the National Guard to open the city's armory for stranded travelers.

talks will bring about a Dalestrian state in the coming year.

"We hope that this year will be the year of Independence for the Palestriain people. God willing, this will be the year of security and stability and economic prosperity for the Palestrians," he said.

Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah, the top Roman Catholic official in the Holy Jand, began Christmus celebrations with his annual procession from Jerusalem to Bethlehem.

Sabbah tould only enter Bethlehem after passing brough a massive sted gate in Israel's separation barrier—a stretch of concrete slabs built to keep suicide bombers from reaching Israel. Israeli monned policemen escorted Sabbah. In his flowing magenta robe, to the gate, and border police clanged it shut betind him.

Inside betilden. Sabbah in his flowing magenta robe, to the gate, and border police clanged it shut betind him.

Inside betilden. Sabbah in the Holy Lund—and Independence for the Palestriain people.

The Holy Lund—Ba land of were and englite, and a land

people.
The Holy Land "is a land of

The Holy Land "is a land of war and conflict, and a land of humiliation of one people at the hand of another," said sabbah, the first Palestinlan to hold his position.

The barrier was just one of the reminders of the area's lingering troubles.

Hundreds of police were deployed in Manger Square and on neighboring rooftops, and before celebrants started flowing in, bomb squads walked through the streets sweeping cars and buildings

More than 11,000 homes and businesses were without 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 and power monday morning, and in Illinois about 3,500 ComBd customers remained without tomers remained without power Monday, down from a Sunday morning peak of more than 225,000.

more than 225,000.
Accidents on highways slippery with snow and ice killed at least seven people in Minnesota, three in Indiana, three in Wyoming, four in Wisconsin and one each in Texas and Kansas.

#### Laptop Continued from page At

Confined from page A1
"It's really the kind of condi-tions that we designed for," Walter Bender, president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology spirutf, said of this agrarian backwater up a pre-certors directly

agaraian backwater up a pre-carious diff road.
Founded in 2005 by former MIT Media Lah director Nicholas Negropome, the One Laptop program has retreated nom early basas, that devel-oping-world—governments would snap up millions of the pint-sized—laptops—at \$100 cach.

oping-word governments of the pint-sized laptops at \$100 carh. In a backhanded tribute, he laptop new faces hune-govern competitions every more findless of the competition of produced for the competition of gyl Classification of the But competition of But competition of produced for the competition gyl Classification of But competition of But competition of But competition of produced for the produced for the produced for produced produced for produced produced for produced produced for produced produced for produced for produced for produced for produced

and a full-court press from fuel Corp's more power-bumjry Classmate.

But no competitor approaches the XO in innovainon, it is hard drive-free, runs 
on the Linux operating system 
and stretches wireless networks with 'mesh' technology 
that lets each computer in a 
village rehy data to the others. 
Mass production began last 
more and the stretch of the composition 
of State John 
Negroponte, says be expects at 
the composition of State John 
Negroponte, says be expects at 
the state of the state of the 
test 1.5 million machines to 
be sold by next November, 
teen that would be far less 
than Negroponte originally 
envisioned. The bipher-thaninitially-advertised price and a 
lack of the Windows operating 
system, still being tested for 
the XO, have dissuaded many 
potential government buyers. 
Pern made the single biggest 
order to date — more than 
272,000 machines — In its 
quest to turn around a primary 
education system that the 
World Economic Fortun 
recently ranked last among 
131 countries surveyed. 
Negroponte 
of the laptops, inking a conrear for 10,000 and 150,000 
Negroponte 
said 150,000 
note laptops, will get shipped

Uriguay was the No. 2 huyers of the laptops, inking a contract for 100,000.

Negropome said 150,000 more laptops will get shipped to countries including Rwanda, Mongolia, Ilaiti, and Afphanistan in early 2008 through 'Give One, Get One,' a U.S.-lasced promotion ending Dec. 31 in which you buy a pair of laptops for 5399 and donate one or hoth.

The children of Arahuay prove One Laptop's transformative conceit: that you can revolutionize education and democratize the Internet by giving a simple, durable, nower-stingy but feature-packed laptop to the worlds pourest kids.

"Some tell me that they don't want to he like their parents, working in the fields," first-grade teacher Efrica Velasco says of her pupils. She day has been them to the Internet to seek out photos of inventehrates — animals without backbones.

Antony, 12, wants to become an accountant.

Alex, 7, aspires to be a lawyer.

II. wants to play transits to find the fields, and the say of the pupils with the control of the fields. The fields of the fields of the fields of the fields of the fields. The fields of the fields of the fields of the fields of the fields. The fields of the fields. The fields of the fields. The fields of the fields. The fields of the fields. The fields of the f

trumper. Saida, 10, is already a promising videographer, judging from her artful recording of the town's recent Flesta de la Virgen.

towns televim pessa de la vivine de la vivin

vals or to see local Inca ruins.
Arahuay's lone industry is agriculture. Surrounding fields yield avocados, mangoes, yield avocados, mangoes, potatoes, corn, alfalfa and che-

yield avocados, mangoes, potatoes, corn, alfalfa and cherimoya.

Many adults share only weekends with their children, spending the work week in fields many hours' walk from town and relying on chartites to help keep their families nourished.

When they finish school, owng people tend to abandon the village.

Peru's head of caticational technology, Oscar Becerra, is betting the One Laptop program can reverse this rural exodus to the squalor of Limas shantytowns four hours away. It's the best answer yet to 'a global crisis of education' in which curricula have no relevance, he said. 'If we make education pertinent, something the student enjoys, then it won't reatter if the class-

room's walls are straw or the students are sitting on fruit

Indeed, Arahuay's elemen-tary school population rose by 10 when families learned the laptop pilot was coming, said Guillermo Lazo, the school's

over the internet.

Critics of the rollout have two key concerns.

The first is the ability of teachers — poorly trained and equipped to begin with — to cope with profoundly disruptive technology.

Eduardo Villamièva, a communications professor at

teachers toward the purchase of conventional laptops, for which it is also arranging low-interest loans.

terest toans.
The second big concern is

Tech support is nevertheless a serious issue in many coun-tries. Negroponte acknowl-edged in a phone interview. One Laptop is currently bid-ding on a contract with Brazils government that Negropointe says demanded unrealistically-onerous support require-ments.

onerous suppose the ments.

The XO machines are water resistant, rugged and designed to last five years. They have no fan so they won't suck up dust, are built to withstand drops from a meter and a half and can absorb power spikes typical of places with irregular electricity.



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## Deportations leave illegal immigrants' families in anguish

It was 5 a.m. when Immigration agents knocked on
the door of the Diaz family's
neatly kept house in
Baltimore County, with the
kinchen table. Edwin, 13,
and Cynthia, 8, woke up just
in time to see their mother
put into a van and driven
away. The moment several
months ago changed almost
everything about their quiet,
close-knit life.
"Since that day, nothing
"Since that day, nothing

Since that day, nothing as been the same," said Miguel Diaz, 42, a construction worker and labor union representative from Elsalvador. It know my wife made a mistake all those years ago, but we have worked hard, lived decently and never caused any trouworked hard, lived decentify and never caused any trou-ble. Shouldn't the punish-ment fit the crime? Her place is here with us, with her chil-dren. What kind of society is this that would suddenly take

her away?"

Edwin, listening somberly on the sofa, said it was especially hard having his mother gone at Christmastime. She



Edwin Diaz, 13, and his sister Cynthia, 8, woke up just in time to see their Edwin said it was especially hard having his mother gone at Christmastime

was not here last week to hear him sing "lingle Bells" in the school chorus or to arrange her ceramic manger tableau of animals and wise men. "She always did it a certain way," he said. "In the end, we decided not up uit tup."
Fidelia Diaz is one of thou-

en them.
Many, like the 38-year-old
Salvadoran woman, crossed
the border illegally when they
were young, single and eager
to find a better life. Others
came as tourists and overstayed their visas, keepling a
low profile or moving fre-

quently to avoid detection. Some were snagged in raids on factories or farms; others were tracked down by fugitive operations teams' armed with decades-old deportation orders.

Still others committed immigration offenses, such as marriage fraud or traveling abroad without permission, that were suddenly rediscovered and disqualified them when they attempted to apply for legal status years later with help from lawyers who were not fully aware of their pasts.

Intercenting to U.S. Intercenting the U.S. In

Enforcement, 273,288 foreign-born residents have
been sent back to their native
countries for immigration
volations in the past year.

Many had been in the
United States only a few
weeks, but countless others
had put down roots, taken
out mortgages and raised
families by the time the law—
and the recently beefed-up
immigration enforcement
system—came back to haunt
them.

"I know this is a politically sensitive issue, an emotional issue. But we have to enforce

the law, and the law is very clear," said Michael Keegan, an ICE spokesman. 'It states shuply that if an individual is out of status, having a U.S. born child does not qualify the parent to gain legal status, Even if they have relatives who are U.S. citizens, the law doesn't bleed over to give them the same rights.' Immigration judges have limited discretion to consider family citicumstances and homeland conditions, but if a family citicumstance in the consideration of the consideration.

to some cases, an immi-grant's past catches up with him at an especially difficult moment. Samir Saleh, an Israeli hairdresser, came to the United States in the 1990s as a tourist and mar-ried a young American woman in what was later ruled a case of immigration fraud. He appealed the rul-ing but eventually divorced, remarried and settled in 'Cleveland.

#### Letter to JFK said to show human side of Christmas

NEW YORK (AP) — Over the years, Caroline Kennedy sometimes wondered about a third grader who wrote to her father, President Kennedy, worried that Russian bomb tests at the North Pole would kill Santa Claus.

Claus.
Kennedy finally got to meet her during a segment of ABC's "Good Morning America" that aired Monday about Kennedy's Kennedy's recent bestselling book,
'A Family
Christmas,'
w hi c he
letter from an
8-year-old Michelle Rochon.
That girl, now Michelle
Rochon Phillips, recounted
what prompted her to write
the October 1961 letter. She
said she sat down to write the

the October 1961 letter. She said she sat down to write the letter after hearing her par-ents talking at the dinner table about nuclear testing at the North Pole. "I thought well, Santa Claus." she said, according to a transcript of the interview. "And so I ran, sat down at the footstool and wrote the let-ter."

ter."
Then a Marine City, Mich., third-grader, she wrote: "Please stop the Russians from bombing the North Pole because they will kill Santa Claus."

The president wrote back, and closed his note by say-ing, "You must not worry about Santa Claus, I talked with him yesterday and he is fine." He added, "He will be making his rounds this Christmas."

making his rounds this Christmas."
Caroline Kennedy said that for her father, as one of nine siblings, "Christmas was huge" and he appreciated the girls fears. She said the letters capture how the anxiety of the Cold War and nuclear testing permeated everyday life.
"There's just so much about Christmas, and I think the history of Christmas and how it Intersects with American history. George

Christmas and how it Intersects with American history, George Washington, all the way up to President Kennedy," she said. "I think this is kind of the human side of Christmas, and how it's kind of become also a patriotic holiday and it's all wrapped up together." Phillips, of Pensacola, Fla., told ABCs Claire Shipman that she wasn't trying to make a statement about nuclear testing when she wrote the letter. "I was just worried about." The was just worried about.

"I was just worried about Santa Claus," Phillips sald. "Worried about my Christmas."

## Food pantry project takes health care straight to needy

WASHINGTON - An out-WASHINGTON — In the common of work David Thomas walked into a Milwaukee food pantry just seeking groceries. Thomas learned he was a stroke walting to happen and got blood pressure medicine along with his bread.

medicine along with on-bread.
Food pantites have long aimed to help heal hunger, A new project aims to see how well they can help heal high blood pressure, diabetes and other aliments, too.
It's part of a growing move ment to offer medicaic are for the places where they regu-larly gather.

the places where they regularly gather.

"We're taking a window of opportunity approach," says Bill Solberg, director of community services for Columbia St. Mary's Hospittal in Milwaukee, which co-founded the food pantry project. "We know we can see these people once an Deconity and programme of the programme o

month."

Despite an increasing number of free medical clinics, treatment is bard for the needy to track down. That's especially true for the nation's top health problems — high blood pressure, diabetes and high cholesterol that require ongoing care even when the person feels no symptoms if they're to avoid heart attacks, strokes,



from Parish Nurse Julia Means, left, at a clinic that works with Church Food Pantry is Milwaukee w Life Presbyterian Milwaukse, in January. Thomas walked into the food pantry seeking groceries. While there, be learned be was a prime cand date for a stroke. He got blood pressure treatment along with his bread.

kidney failure and amputa-

kidney failure and amputations.

Clinics require a special
trip a long walt, perlaps a
baby sitter, annoyances for
the well-to-do but huge
obstacles for someone who
must take three buses to
reach the doctor or who loses
a day of pay for the time off.
Consequently, 'they only
come when they're out of
medicines or have symptoms. It's so fustrating,' says
to the control of the
Medical College of
Wisconsin.

So specialists increasingly are seeking other ways to address glaring disparities in U.S. health care, by taking care directly to where the people who need it most

care direction people who need thangout.
Churches nationwide are blood pressure and health Churches nationwide are offering blood pressure screening days and health fairs. Projects in numerous states are teaching barbers and beauticians how to teach their customers about stroke symptoms or to encourage a mammogram while giving a

haircut.
Baltimore health officials are debating expanding the concept, with a proposal to offer blood pressure testing in 100 hair salons and barbershops in neighborhoods with high rates of heart dis-

with high rates or neart us-ease. In Milwaukee, Columbia St. Mary's and the medical college aim to provide scien-tific evidence that 'chronic disease management' — ongoing wellness care — can significantly improve food pantry users' health in nine months. The targets: High blood pressure, diabetes, high cho-icsteroi, obesity and smok-ing. The plan: Nurses, will

NEED HELP WITH QUICKBOOKS\*? Call Rita at 737-0087 TRAINING, SETUP & SUPPORT screen users of three food pantries for those health con-ditions when they come in for free groceries. Those with problems can get treated on problems can get treated on the spot, with ongoing care as

eeded.

And because four of those onditions are diet-related, atlents also will get nutri-

tion education: Cooking classes in the pantry's kitchen and tips to make the often carbohydrate and sait-heavy food bank staples a lit-tle healthier. Medical stu-dents will be sent shopping with patients, helping with things like label-checking for salt.



## **Holiday Hours**

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New Year's Eve . . . . . 8:00am-5:30pm New Year's Day . . . . . Closed

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## OPINION

#### EDITORIAL

## Glad tidings of great joy on **Christmas Day**

ollowing our Christmas Day custom, the Times-News editorial board is pleased to surrender this space for a seasonal and sarrenaer uns space for a seasonal and eternal holiday message from St. Luke.

> "... For today in the town

> > of David a

savior has

been born to

you, who is the Christ

Christmas Merry Christmas. The editorial board: • Brad Hurd • James G. Wright • Steve Crump • Bill Bitzenburg • Traci Bliss

Now it came to pass in those days, that a decree went forth from Caesar Augustus that a cen-sus of the whole world should be

from Caesar Augustus that'a census of the whole world should be taxed. This first census took place while Cyrchius was governor of Syria. And all were going, each to his own town, to register.

And Joseph also went from Galilee out of the town of Nazareth into Judea to the town of David, which is called Bethlehem — because he was of the house and family of David — to register, together with Mary his espoused wife, who was with child.

And it came to pass while they were there, that the days for her to be delivered were fulfilled. And she brought forth her first-born son, and wrapped him is swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them at the inn. And there were shepherds in the same district living in the fields and keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood by them and the glory of God shone round about them, and they feared exceedingly. And the angel said to them. "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which shall be to all the people; for today in the town of David a savior has been born to you, who is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign to you; You will find an infant wrapped in swaddling clothes and bying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying. "Clory to God in the highest, and on Earth peace among men of good will."

And it came to pass, when the angels had departed from them into heaven, that the shepherds were saying to one another." Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with laste and they found Mary and Joseph and the baby, lying in a manger, and when they had seen, the things told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept in mind all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God foil that they had heard and seen, or has a sit was spoken to them.

#### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### Optimists busy finding coats for needy kids

The Optimist Club is very busy with another success-ful season for our most popular service project dubbed "Coats for Kids." This trademarked coats program for the Optimist clubs makes us proud to be able to benefit the youth of

able to benefit the youth of our community.

The club has been col-lecting and distributing winter coats and hats to needful children for more than 15 years.
With experience, our sys-tem has become finely tuned. The Optimist mem-bers place colorful collec-tion bins around town at the start of cold weather, announcements are sent out to local schools, public agencies and support servagencies and support serv-ices. We then receive requests from school officials with size and gender of each child in need. A volunteer tries to get a coat delivered to the school as soon as possible to be given directly to the child. The club utilizes donated warehouse space for the coats that are new or used or bought with funds from the members of our great com-

munity.
Our Optimist members are busy citizens who have families and full-time jobs; families and full-time jobs; many also do volunteer work alongside their Optimist activities. Because of their love of community, they go the extra mile to make sure no child goes without a warm coat in

without a warm coat In winter.
They also know how much you, the people of the Magic Valley, have helped over the years. If you would be interest-ed in finding out more about being an Optimist or just like to learn what we do for the children of the do for the children of the community, please call one of our more than 100 members in Twin Falls or someone with our other clubs in Jerome and Wendell. In Twin Falls, call Wayne at 539-6526, Donna at 539-1836 or our president, Kevin Rosenau at 733-6093, DONNA BOHRN
TWIN Falls

## For Bush, one win, one loss, one draw

WE HAVE A HIGH CONFIDENCE ASSESSMENT THAT IRAN

IS NOT A NUCLEAR THREAT.

ASHINGTON — Just four months after 9711, George Bush identified fran, Iraq and North Korea as the "axis of evil" and declared that defauging these rogue regimes was America's most urgent national security task, Bush will be judged on whether he succeeded.



Six years later and with time running out on this administration, the Bush legacy is clear one for three. Contrary to current public opinion, Bush will have suc-ceeded on Iraq, failed on Iran and fought North Korea to a draw.

tran and lought North Korea to a draw. Iran. Bush has thrown in the towel on Iran's nuclear program because the Intelliprogram because the Intelligence bureauteracy, in a spectacularly successful coup, seized control of the policy with a National Intelligence Estimate that very misleadingly trumpeted the claim that Iran had haltered its nuclear program, in

the claim that fran had halted its nuclear program. In fact, fran only halted the least important component of its nuclear program, namely weaponization. The hard part is the production of the nuclear fuel, fran continues enriching uranium with 3,000 centrifuges at work in open defiance of U.N. Security Council resolutions. Once you have the necessary fuel, you can make the bomb in only a few months.

you make the bomb in you can make the bomb in you can make the bomb in Thus to even speak of the Iranian program as having been stopped while enrichment continues is absurd. And that is true even if you discount recent dissidents' reports that the weaponization program, suspended in 2003, in fact resumed the following year—contrary to the current NIE estimate, offered with only "moderate confidence," that it has never been restarted.

The administration lad to immediately release and



and Dick Cheney have a hold block Cheney have a hold block Cheney have a hold battle. The administration understands that the NHE's distorted message that Iran has given up pursuing nukes has not only taken any military option off the table but jeopardized any further sanctions against Iran. Making the best of the lost cause, Bush will now go through the motions until the end of his term, teaving the Iraniah bomb to his successor.

North Korea. We did get Klin fong it odsable his plutonium-producting program. The next step is for motion of the production of the program that North Korea bad once admitted but now denies.

Knowing we have no credible threats against North Korea, we now come bearing carrots, President Bush writes a personal letter to Klin fong it. In essence entreating him to come



clean on his nuclear program so we can proceed to full normalization.

Disabling the plutonium reactor is an achievement and we do gain badly needed intelligence by simply being there on the ground to inspect. There is, however, no hope of North Korea giving up its existing nuclear weapons stockpile, and little assurance that we will find, let alone disable, any clandestine programs. But lacking sticks, we take what we can be a difficulties, our initial success definitively rid the world of Saddam i hassein and his monstrous sons. The

world of Saddam Frissein and his monstrous sons. The Hussein dynasty will not — as it would have, absent the U.S. invasion — rebuild, rearm and threaten the

rearm and threaten the world.

The taking down of Saddam ted directly to Libya's full nuclear disarmament and, undoubtedly, to Iran's 2003 suspension of weapontzation. As for traq itself, after three years of disorientation, the U.S. has finally found a winning counterinsurgency strategy.

It took Bush three years to find his general (as it did Lincoln) and turn a losing war into a winnable one.

The first state of the Baghdad and Washington

Beginda and Washington are currently discussing a long-term basing agreement that could give the United States permanent military presence in the region and a close cooperative relationship with the most important country in the Middle East heartland — a major strategic achievement. Nonetheless, the pressure on this administration and the next to get out prematurely will remain. There are those for whom our only objective in Irraj is reducing troop levels rather than securing a potentially critical Arab ally in a region of suprems strategic significance.
On North Korea and Iran.

cal Aracis supreme strategic and cance.

On North Korea and Iran, with no real options at hand, the Bush administration to the finish line. doing what Sen. George Aiken once suggested for Vietnam: Declare victory and go home. With no good options available, those decisions are entirely under-standable. But If Bush or his successor does an Aiken on Iraq, where success is a real option, history will judge him severely.

Syndicated columnist Charles Krauthammer can be reached at letters@charleskrautham-

## Let's extend five years of peaceful evenings

Remember that evening five years ago when your cozy family supper was interrupted not once but twice by telephone calls, first from a droning gentleman peddling aluminum siding and then from a califerianted woman pushing credit cards? Or that night during Game? of the World Serles when the encyclopedia sales guy called, you scrambled out of your Barcolounger to get the phone and missed the tie-breaking three-run home?

phone and missed the tie-breaking three-run homer? Well, fortunately, such ill-timed disturbances have come to an end since you registered your telephone number on the national Do-Not-Call Registry back in 2003. Or have they? You may be surprised to learn that your quiet, telemarketer-free nights are not quite perma-nent.

ient.
Unbeknownst to most Americans, the 2003 law (the Do-Not-Call Americans, the 2003 faw (the To-Not-Call 2003 faw (the To-Not-Call 2004) for established the DNCR con-tained a provision frame telephone numbers regis-tered to the list. What this means is that those who were first to register should know that their numbers will begin to vanish from the list next june unless they re-register, or President Bush signs the "Do-Not-Call Improvement Act of 2007"



into law, making registration

Now just so that we're

horman, mixing registration.

The control of the co

claims that the five-year expiration allows the list to be periodically updated to include changes, such as for people who move and switch their telephone numbers. The list, though, is already purged every month of numbers that have been disconnected or reassigned so the re-registration. so the re-registration

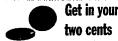
disconnected or reassigned so the re-registration requirement is unnecessary. Nevertheless, the FTC insists that it will not be a problem. It is incredibly quick and easy to do. 'said a top official from the FTCs brown of the original from the FTCs brown of the original from the FTCs in the original of consumer protection, in a recent interview with The Associated Press. 'It was so easy for people to sign up in the first instance. It will be just as easy for them to re-up. 'This may very well be the case. A few keystrokes and a couple of clicks could do the trick, but that really lan't the point. The point is that people are completely unaware that they have to re-register in the proposition of Americans since its introduction in 2003. This dividend — which pays off in less worr, less to remember.

duction in 2003. This divi-dend – which pays off in less worry, less to remember, more security from scam-mers and, best of all, the knowledge that policymak-ers are listening — tumps everything. A stroke bt the presidential pen is all that is left to set things right.

Congressional passage of the Do-Not-Call improvement legislation carlier bits month is laudable. The bit somethies a simple solution: Amend the "Do-Not-Call implementation Act" to climinate the automatic five-year expiration and removal of telephone numbers registered on the DNCR. For Rep. Mike Doyle, D-Pa., one of the bill's chief sponsors, it is open-and-shut: "When someone takes the time and effort to say 1 don't want these kinds of calls coming into my house."

the time and effort to say? I don't want three kinds of calls coming into my house, they shouldn't have to keep a calendar to find out when they have to re-up to keep a calendar to find out when they have to re-up to keep this nuisance from happerling. The said in an interview. AARP strongly agrees and is asking President Bush to sign the bill and eliminate the expiration period before next September, by which time 52 million telephone numbers will have disappeared from the DNCR. This would annoy ordinary folks who simply wish to keep control over their consumer preferences. And it would, most certainly annoy float more more more than the consumer preferences. And it would, most certainly annoy float minum siding during dinner.

Jim Wordelman is the director for the American Association of Retired Persons of Idaho.



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## Military deserves a genuine show of support

ASHINGTON —
Recently at a Town
Hall meeting in
Hooksett, N.H., Sen, John
McCain of Arizona paid trip,
ute to the US military: These
men and women are the
best-trainach, most professional, and bravest we've ever
hod."

had."
His audience instantly applauded. It's a line McCain uses regularly, and it always

applauded. It's a line McCain uses regularly, and it always receives a strong response. Seemingly all of America—and especially les political leaders—wants to honor the troops serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, to make certain that their sacrifices are appreciated and understood. McCain, the father of two sons serving in the Navy, even points out that they receive the best possible troops and ensuring that they receive the best possible troops and ensuring that they receive the best possible treatment for their injuries, and the most enthusiastic and the most enthusiastic. The waves of appreciation for the military emanating from the campaign trail are a welcome curative to the treatment of Vietnam-era veterans like McCain hinself. They returned to a country.

veterans like McCain himself. They returned to a country considered them reminders of a war that many wanted to put behind them.

wanted to put behind them. But there are political agendas at work in both parties expressions of devotion to those lighting in Iraq and Afghanistan, And their politically calibrated rehetance to draw attention to problems that may reflect badly on the troops could have the perverse effect of damaging the millitary.

irrops could have the per-verse effect of damaging the inilitary.

The most immediate prob-lem is the declining stan-dards for Army recruitment.
In October, the first month of a fiscal year in which the Army is increasing its size, it met its recruitment goals— but only by accepting a large number of recruits who failed to meet the requisite standards for fitness, sub-stance abuse, and lack of criminal records.

In all, more than one of every five recruits obtained a waiver after failing to meet the usual standards. That was twice the share that was granted waivers before the

granted waivers before the Iraq war, which has made many potential recruits leery of joining the Army. Meanwhile, the number of

Meanwhile the number of enlistees who have carred a high school diploma has also dropped in recent years. The lowering of standards would be more acceptable if the Army could, through training, instill upstanding values in its soldiers, regardless of what they were like before entering, Certainly, many young men and women have turned theil lives around by joining mor physical fitness, a history of substance abuse, or brushes with the law have always been given a chance

sy or substance allows a way so bushes with the law have always been given a chance to serve their country. The country of the country for sergeant—a clear violation of military law. No one in the Army hierarchy has offered an explanation for the falture to address the problem beyond the usual bureaucratic obstacles to change. But some officers



PETER S. CANELLOS

For Republicans, an admission that standards are unraveling, at least

in some areas, would prompt the reasonable

conclusion that the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have overstretched the forces - something that President Bush and his allies refuse to acknowledge.

noted in interviews that the Army would naturally be reluctant to crack down on thousands of soldiers at the same time as recruiters struggle to attract new enlis-

struggle to attract new enlis-tees.
Meanwhile, political lead-ers would naturally feel awk-ward pressuring the Army either to crack down on cleaters or to raise its recruitment standards at the very moment they are trying to appear supportive of the troops.

to appear supportive of the troops.

For Republicans, an admission that standards are sisten that standards are sisten that standards are standards, and the same that the wars in fraq and Afghandstan have overstrethed the forces—something that President Bush and his allies refuse to acknowledge.

For Democrats, an admission that standards are unraveling would risk an accusation of insensitivity to the troops. It would put the Democratis in the awkward position of pointing out flaws

position of pointing out flaws while their rivals across the aisle are celebrating the patriotism of those who

aiste are cereorating the patriotism of those who serve.

The American people who are not in the military also have a reason for avoiding any unpleasant truths about Army recruitment and training. The only alternative to the current system is a draft, and the public overwhelmingly opposes such a move.

Until the people in the world outside the military are willing to do the job of the military for the people in the world outside the military are willing to do the job of the military handles itself.

So from Congress to the military handles itself.

So from Congress to the White House to town meetings across the campaign traft, candidates and their supporters have been extolling the excellence of the military while perpetuating a sense of denial about the Amy's recruitment and talhing flaws.

There are many ways to support the troops, and honoring their sacrifices is only a start.

Peter S. Cànellos is the oston Globe's Washington u chlef.



## Welcome to club meds, where they feel your pain

hey recognize you by your wince when you walk. The yelp when you get up from a chair. Hang too long at the huffet table rubbing your hip and some expert will be at your side faster than you can ack which believe more

and some expert will be at your side faster than you can ask which wine goes with Advil.

Hold on, Don'th bother with the alerts. I know the rules. No ibuprafen with alcohol. I've read the warnings. Besides, there are so many other creative pain management plans that people are just dying to recommend.

Admit to a lingering, undiagnosed weird thing going on in your body that now has you hobbling and you enter a world of ready sympathizers. Mysterious pain draws people like a magnet, happy to share their stories and muscle relaxants and their chiropractor, whom they insist you call right now.

They become the lay advisers you consult in between doctor's &cans. Members of the pulled into-cle or ton tredon club, they not only feel your pain, they find it almost as fascinating as you do.

Like you, they've suffered

find it almost as ... as you do. Like you, they've suffered something the same and been desperate for relief.



noncopathic anti-inflam-matory and the name of her roller. A colleague who knows about aching hips demonstrated her favorite

demonstrated her favorite stretches.

The budy works in secre-tive ways and pain may strike for no apparent rea-son. Some think theirs came from shopping all day in high-leeded boots. Banging into the kitchen table. The dog got hig and yanked too land out the stretches are supported to the company of the company high rasked.

Hamu, they said, Or

hip, Lasked. Hmm, they said. Or

My Reiki woman pronounced my chakras in good shape. But still I hurt.

maybe it's stress. Or that big purse pulling on your shoul-der. Or maybe it's because (ha, ha) we're all getting

tha, ha) we're all getting older.

Well, we don't want that, do we't Well rather have it be a fluke than worn body parts. Or some crippiling bone disease or worse. We want something fixable. My doctors said my high bones were good, my joints still working, My feekis woman pronounced my chakras in good shape. But still I hurt.

"You need to start swim-

smt Furt.
"You need to start swim-ming and take glu-cosamine," said a friend on the phone from Washington, "It sounds like arthritis."

arthritis."
I told her I didn't think so.
The X-rays show no arthri-

The X-rays show no arthritis.

"I was in denial at first, too," she said.
Sounds like lower back said the sciatica crowd, Not really. The doctor said if can move my leg this way and that, it's probably not sciatica.
Bursitis, declared my sister, the nurse, who had the same pain in the same hip

years ago. Could be genetic.

It's the same with what
you do to feel better—a
teal division of loyalities on
iey baths versus beating
pads. And don't even get
them started on the little
red pills that you take every
three hours compared to
the blue ones that last for
12. Or the purple ice gel, the
plus ones that last for
12. Or the purple ice gel, the
plus malgesie, the menthelated stick-on patch, the
baltu that comes in an
orange wrapper.

In the end, and the bursitic cloud that move with the
admit that comes in for the
purple gel and a glant dose
of cortisone shot into my
hip from a horse-sized
syringe I am almost fully
mobile.

But let me say, if you have
one of those things that
grabs onto your hip and
shoots down your thigh,
come sit next to me. I'll give
you my pillow and be happy
to tell you what you to do.

Susan Swanz is a colum-

Susan Swartz is a colum-nist for The Press Democrat in Santa Rosa, Calif. Write to her at sswartz@pressdemoc-



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## Bush offers holiday greetings to troops around wo

WASHINGTON
President Bush spoke by
telephone Monday to 10 U.S.
servicemen and women stationed in Iraq and elsewhere
around the world to thank them for serving their coun-try and spending the holiday season away from their fam-

try and spending the housay season away from their families.
White House spokes-woman Dana Perino said the rresident told them their country is proud of them.
"He said he couldn't thank them enough for their contibution to their country, hopes they are in high spirits, and that they are serving a cause that they are serving a cause that they are serving a cause that is very noble." Perino said, "He said. 'How own hat you miss your family." The service members included three soldiers, two marines, two sailors, two members of the Alt Force and one Coast Guard petty



A U.S. soldier from Blackfoot Company, 2nd Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, outpost in Shakarat village, in the volatile Diyala province, Iraq, on Christmas

officer. Seven were serving in Iraq, one in Afghanistan and in the Persian Gulf and one

to pass on to their colleagues his appreciation and his wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year," Perino said.
One of them was Cpl. Orlando Anaya, a Marine from Roswell, N.M., stationed at Al Asad Airbase in Iraq.

His father, Ray Anaya, said the phone call was an honor for his son and for the fami-

the phone can was an another for his son and for the family.

"I wasn't too surprised because I know he deserves it. How he deserves it. How he was the condition of the conditi

to Turkey to assist the opera-

to Turkey to assist the operations.

"The president and the
prime minister ... discussed
their common efforts to
fight terrorism, and the
importance of the United
States, Turkey and Iraq
working together to confront
the (separatists), 'National
Georgia of the Christmas holiday at his
Gamp David, Md., presidential retreat.

He have been supported to the contial retreat.

Laura, he is Joined by his
daughters. Jenna and
Jenna Welch, his sister Doro
Bush Kosch, his brother
Marvin, and their families.

On Wednesday, the president will travel to his ranch
in Crawford, Texas, where he
will spend the rest of the hollay break and ring in the
new year before returning to
Washington, D.C., on Jan. 1.

### Study says many parents of fat children are in denial about their youngsters' weight

DETROIT (AP) — A startling number of parents may be in denial about their youngsters' weight.

weight.
A survey found that many
Americans whose children are
obese do not see them that

obese do not see them that way.
That is worrisome because obese children run the risk of dlabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol problems and other aliments more commonly found in adults. And overweight children are likely to grow up to be overweight adults.

"It streages to me that nare."

"It suggests to me that par-ents of younger kids believe that their children will grow out of their obesity, or someout of their obesity, or some-thing will change at older ages," said Dr. Matthew M. Davis, a University of Michigan professor of pedi-atrics and internal medicine

ndition can be improved."
Among parents with an obese, or extremely overweight, child ages 6 to 11, 43 percent said their child was 
"about the right weight," 37 percent responded "slightly 
overweight," and 13 percent 
said "very overweight." Others 
said "slightly underweight." For those with, an obese 
child ages 12 to 17, the survey found more awareness that 
weight was a problem. Filty-sky 
percent said their child was 
"slightly overweight," 31 percent responded "very overweight," It percent said about 
the right weight" and others

who led the study, released earlier this month.
"When I see a child that is obsect at these younger ages, I take that as a sign of ways truttion can be improved."
Among parents with an obese, or extremely overweight, child tages 6 to 1.1 as percent said their child was prevent said their child was a sign of the social stigma. It's not office the state of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the social stigma. It's not office the sign of the sign o

Rao såld.

The survey of 2,060 adults, conducted over the summer by Internet research firm Knowledge Networks, collected height and weight measurements on the children from their parents, then used that to calculate body mass index.

index. When a child's BMI was When a child's BMI was higher than the 95th per-centile for children who are the same age and gender, the child was considered obese.



Tis the season to forward our best wishes along with our gratitude for your business and support. Happy Holidays!



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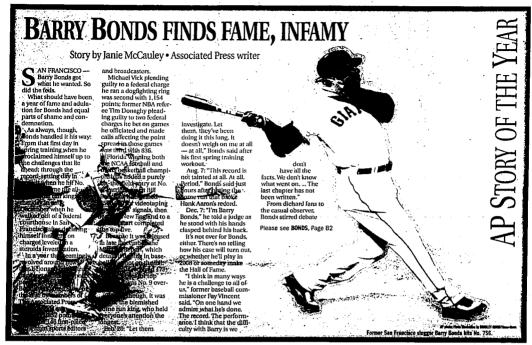


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## No World Series title, but New York Yankees cut luxury tax bill again to the \$17,442,637 in salary he earned. -He left Game 3 of the Yankees first-round playoff series against Cleveland in the third inning because of an injured hamstring. New

NEW YORK — The New York Yankees dld accomplish something this year: They lowered their luxury tax for the second straight season. The Yankees were litt with a tax bill of \$23.88 million by Major League Baseball in a notice sent to teams late Friday, pushing them over the \$100 million mark since the

penalty for profilgate spending was introduced in 2003. The only other club that must pay the competitive balance tax, as it is formally known, is the World Series champion Boston Red Sox, who owe \$5.06 million. Checks are due at the commissioner's office by Jan. 31. New York's bill is down from \$26 million last year and a high of \$33.98 million

in 2005. In all, the Yankees have run up taxes of \$121.6 million in five seasons with no World Series title to show for it. The Yankees' tax dropped even lower dropped even lower Rocket went 6-6 with a 4.18 ERA In 18 appearances, and he cast New York a \$5.98 million tax increase in addition

an injured hamstring. New York won the game but was eliminated by the Indians the following night. Boston will be paying tax for the fourth straight season but the bill for the Red Sox has been only a fraction of

what the Yankees have paid. Boston's four-year total is \$13.86 million, including just \$497.549 in 2006. The only other team to pay tax was the Angels, who owed \$927,059 for 2004.

S927,059 for 2004.

New Yorks payroll was S207.7 million and Boston was second at \$163.1 million for luxury tax purposes, which uses the average annual values of contracts for 40-man rosters and adds bene-

fits. Both teams pay at a 40 percent rate for the amount over the tax threshold, which rises from \$148 million this year to \$155 million next sea-

year to Stan man-son. New York figures to lower New York figures to lower its payroll without Clemens next year — unless the Yankees acquire Johan Santana from Minnesota and sign the two-time AL Cy Young Award winner to a big extension.

## Pats one game from perfect season

By Howard Ulman Associated Press writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Here's nother Patriots milestone to think

another Patriois minerance about.
The team that seems ready to set a record for most records set in one year can break the NFL mark of 18 straight regular-season whis on Saturday night. All it has to do is beat the New York Glants to complete an unbeaten season.

The first team to win 18 in a row? Yep

Monday Night the Patriots, 2 0 0 3 - 0 4 Football

Due to an early press time, a recape and box score of the San Diego Denver Monday Night Footbell game will be published in Wednesdeys Times-News: We also gize for any inconven-ience

2 0 0 3 - 0 4 variety.
Coach Bill Bellchick, a student of football history who downplays his team's place in it, doesn't care about either of those 18 a m e g a m

streaks. At least not now.

Thope we can go on a one game-winning streak," he said Monday. "Just get ready, have a good week and be able to win on Saturday... There is maybe a time to reflect on that, but right now is not it."

time to reflect on that, but right now is not it."

So he's not focusing on the NFL single-season records New England already has set: most touchdownscored, most wins to start a season, or most touchdown passes involving one passer-receiver combination.

Or the ones the Patriots can set in their season finale by Tom Brady for most touchdown passes, by Randy Woss for most scoring catches, and by the entire offense for most points, Or reaching the most impressive achievement by becoming the first team to finish 16-0, with a chance to join the 1972 Miami Dolphina as the only clubs to go unbeaten throughout the regular season and postseason.

"There have been things overy week, different distractions every week that we've dealt with." Belicht's said one day after the Patriots beat the Dolphins



New England Patriots faus celebrate their team's win over the Milami Dolphins to set a new regu-lar season record with 15 wins in Foxborousk. Mass.. Sunday.

28-7. I think the players have done a good Job of staying focused in approaching the games, coming to work, working hard and paying attention, putting the team first. That approach, worked during New England's first 18-game streak that broke the record of 17 set by the Chicago Bears in 1933-34. It began in the fifth game of the 2003 season with a 38-30 win over Tennessee.

Tennessee.

The Patriots were missing seven starters and the Gillette Stadium crowd seemed to be paying as much attention to the Boston Red Sox's 5-4 win over Oakland in the American League playoffs, But New England overcame a 27-24 deficit in the final four minutes.

"We went out there with more heart than we've had In a long time," offensive tackle Matt Light said at the time. "This was, the kind of play that made us champlons" two years earlier.

Of the next seven wins, five were by six points or less — far closer than this season, in which 11 of the 15 victories have been by at least 17 points.

So reaching a 19-game winning streak on Saturday is less important than winning just one game against a Giante team that is 10-5 and clinched a playoff berth in Buffalo on Sunday.

I don't think we'll have any trouble getting Gui attention, any of our attention—players, logathes or anybody—against: the Giatus. Belichiek said. They we good forbust learn.

## Belichick wouldn't sit starters for finale, would he?

A fter leaving his starters on the field late in meaningless games all year long to punish dissenters and the disbe lleving, there's no way New England coach Bill Belichick

England coach Bill Belichick would sit then down for the regular-season finale at the New York Glants.
Not with his history of playing regulars from first whistle until last, Not with a shot at a perfect record on the line, something that hasn't been done in the NFL in 35 years. Not with the chance to squash any debate about whether these Patriots are the best team ever to set are the whether these Patriots are the best team ever to set. are the best team ever to se foot on turf. Not even if the m ever to set Giants, as expected, rest a half-dozen of their own

hall-dozen of their own front-line guys to get ready for the playoffs. Right, Bill? ... Bill? ... Mr. Belichick? "I'm not worried about anybody else." he said after New England boat Miaml 28-7 to push their marker to 15-0.

It's worth noting that was the third time Belichick It's worth noting that was the third time Belichick essentially was asked the same question about starters and that each answer boiled down to a version of. "We'll do what's best for our foot-ball team."

(Translation: Tune in next. Sahurday night; to find out.)
Belichick may hot give good queue, as reporters like to say, but nobody gives better misdimertian.

Just for Kick's to back and read tilg startenent Belichick.



crafted after getting caught by the NFL spying on New York Fix conches with a York Fix conches with a sidelline opener. It was so artful that even after fining the coach 5500,000, and lifting another \$250,000 and first from the franchise, commissioner Rocer. \$250,000 and a first-round pick from the franchise, commissioner Roger Goodell made sure to have the last word: "This copied," he said in a letter to the club, "represents a calculated and deliberate attempt to avoid long-standing rules designed to encourage fair play and promote honest competition on the playing field. That's old news (to everyone but Bellchick, who could have taught Capital Alaba but the proposed of the playing field where taught Capital Alaba the grant and the proposed of the playing field. The proposed of the proposed of the playing field where taught Capital Alaba the grant and the proposed of the playing field where the playing field in the playing f

last week.
Despite being an overwhelming favorite at hom
against the league's weake
team, he made his players

Please see LITKE, Page B2 5条字流



## Disabled Hawaii grad assistant to travel with team for the first time

IONOLULU — He spends hours on the houtball field, but his feet never touch the turf. His specialty is dissecting offenses, but he's never played a down. Meet Britan Kajiyama, a first-year graduate assistant for Hawaii who was born with cerebral palsy, seouts around in a motorized wheelchair and communicates by wiping into a small cates by typing into a small computer that speaks in a

computer that speaks in a robotic voice. As a member of coach lime lones' staff, Kajiyama is responsible for breaking down game film and prepar-ing scouting reports for the defense.

og sconting reports for the defense.

Ask Hawaii's players and coaches and they'll tell you Kajiyama has contributed greatly to the best football season the school has ever had.

The Warriors are Western Athletic Conference champions, the only unbeaten team in major college football and on their way to their first Bowl Championship Series appearance and a matchup against No. 4 The Warriors are Western matchup against No. 4 Georgia in the Sugar Bowl Georgia on Jan. J

reergian the sagar bown in lan. J.

"Everybody talks about the greatness of this 12-0 team and how we have a tremendous quarterhack. That is so true," said Jeff Reinebold, Hawaii's defensive line coach. "(But) is there anybody who has made the impact that guy in the chair is making in terms of changing lives? I don't know."

know."
Reinebold called
Kajiyama's role at Hawaii
"groundbreaking."

"Brian, to my knowledge, is the first wheelchair-bound, non-speking coach in college Routball." Reinebold said.
Kaijyama attends every practice, He zipa around the field and is generous with his high-figor and sulles. A Warriors higo is prundly displayed on the back of his wheelchair. Above that, there's a sicker that reads. "No Fear."
As long as he can rement

As long as he can remem-ber, he always wanted to be part of a team, in the action, on the field.

on the field.
Kajiyama sits with the lans
at Aloha Stadlum because
the coaches' booth isn'
accessible by wheelchair.
He's not allowed on the field
during the game for safety
reasons.

reasons.
Also, Kajiyama hasn't accompanied the Warriors on any of their away games, let alone been on the team bus ride to their home stadi-

m. That'll change Christmas

Day, He'll make his first road trip with the team when the Warriors travel to New

Oricans.
Reinebold and others on the team lobbled for Kajiyama to attend after it appeared he would be left behind, again. The university has arranged for a wheel-chair-accessible bus and hotel room to accommodate Kajiyama.

chair-accession to accommodate Kajlyama.
To have my official road trip to be a RCS hovel. I'd say the condition of the condit

and spent 19 days in the hospital.

It wasn't until a few months later that Bert and Grace learned that their firstborn had cerebral palsy, which affected the left side of Kajiyama's body, but not his brain.

his brain,
"I thought it was some-thing that could be correct-ed with therapy and I could just stay at home with him until he was fully recovered. until he was fully recovered. But I learned it wasn't some thing he was going to recov-erfrom," Grace said, "It's just a lifelong condition. It's just a matter of pow you deal with it."

with it." She tank you con-with it." She tank you with it. The she was a laways try, even if that means falling. Kaljyama's interest in foot-ball came early from watch-ing Hawaii play at Aloha Stadlium with his father every Saturday night. Despite heing in a wheel-chair, Kajiyama believed he could one day play for Hawaii.

"Back then, I thought I'd "Back then, I thought I'd become a star athlete," Kajiyama said, "But as I grew and matured, I realized that God's plan didn't have me being that athlete. ... I began to focus on academics since that was one area where physical ability didn't mat-ter."

physical ability didn't mat-ter."

Reinebold encouraged Kaliyama to talk to Jones about the job.

Jones, who has built a winning program largely by giving players second chances, gave Kajiyama his first shot.

"He's what we're about," he said. "It's about helping, and about people. ... He has a real love for football and the students."

## Christmas no longer a day to relax for Seattle rookie Durant

SEAFTLE (AP) — Kevin Durant used to be able to sit around with his family and

watch movies on Christmas.

It was the one day in the middle of hoops season that he didn't have any practices, shootarmarks. he didn't have any practices, shoutarounds, seconding seasons or team meals to attend. Even have seconding season or team meals to attend. Even have season at Texas, as a freshman at Texas, as a freshman at Texas, and the season have for Christmas and sit on his family's couch. "We rarely got to hang out a lot because my unon worked, and me and my brother went to school, then played ball, had practice and stuff like that," Durant said. "We just hung out."

Those times of lounging around on Christmas Day are

that, Dutant sees of houghts around on Christmas Day are over for the 19-year-old, who is still very much a kid. The SuperSones star will be the focus of Puesday night focus of the straight perform earthe and Trail Blazers, winners of 10 straight. When the NBA announced is three-game Christmas Day schedule, the nighteap in Portland was to be a showcase of the top two gicks in last June's draft — Na. 1 selection Greg Oden and Durant, the Na. 2 pick. That high-profile meeting was dashed when Oden was sidelined for the season with a knee biputy, leaving the big stage to Durant. "It's kind of an honor." Durant said. "Christmas is a log day, it's a very big day, it's choose a team like us to play on Christmas Day I dink is an honor."
Still Just a teenager, Durant.

Still just a teenager, Durant

Nonor.

Sill just a teenager, Durant has taken on the responsibility of being the Sonics' on-the-floor leader just 27 games into his NBA career, living up to the lofty expectations that came with his arrival in the league.

He is averaging a rooklebest 19.9 points, and has been than a handful of games at any level of basketball, but has handful Sonics help a young team building around him for the furore.

Like most rookles, Durant struggles to get calls afforded

struggles to get calls afforded the veteran stars of the league, but the adjustment from but the adjustment from dominating the college game



vember before their game against the New Orleans Hornets Dec

in his one year at Texas to the rigors of the NBA has ared fluid.

rigors of the Nob has appeared fluid.

"What's impressive is the way he manages he successes, how he responds to the adversities he faces, 'Seattle general manager Sam Prest said, 'We're obviously extremely pleased with his approach to the game and his willinguess to learn and compete."

willingness to learn and compete."

Off the floor, Durant is rarely seen without a gin on his youthful face. He openly invites neighborhood kids in his affluent Seattle suburbover to play video games in the house he rents with his mother.

Recently, after returning from a long road trip, Durant got home around 2 a.m. Shortly thereafter, two teenagers knocked on his door asking if they could come in and play video games. It's about the only time Durant has turned anyone away.

away. "Kevin's personality and

respect for the opportunity to play in the NBA is a tremen-dous quality," Presti said. Durant understands his

Durant understands his role as the face of a franchise desperate for any goodwill, with a community stung by owner Clay Bennett's inten-tions to move the franchise from Scattle to Oklahoma City at the earliest possible oppor-mative.

at the carllest possible oppor-tunity.

Last week, Durant invited 26 kids from Seattles First Place, a school that provides education and support services far familles fighting home-lessness, to aday out with the talented guard. Durant took the students on a shopping spree at Niketown in down-town Seattle, then treated them to dinner at a local restaurant.

restaurant.

Durant wasn't sure when he'd celebrate the hollday — either on Christmas Eve before the Sonics left for Portland, or late on Christmas night after the team returned. Either way, Durant's family was all going to be there.

remains undeterred.

The playing till I'm 100," he has said repeatedly, Given the potential road-blocks ahead, even playing until he turns 44 on July 24 seems in doubt.

"I don't bring baggage to a team, I've never brought any baggage to a team," he said on MSNBC in November.

"I've brough my baseball bag, but I don't bring any baggage, I go on the field and I play."

However it was accom-

and I play."
However it was accomplished, Bonds has had one of baseball's most successful careers. A record seven MVP awards, 14 All-Star

selections, eight Gold Gloves, as well as the sin-

#### Bonds

Continued from page B1
about whether the most hallowed record in sports needed an asterisk.
Commissioner Bud Seligs stood uncomfortably for the record-tying shot and was thousands of miles away from Sun Francisco when li Bonds homered off Washington's Mike Bacsik for No. 756.

aron himself stayed away from the chase, opting instead to send a class gratulatory message that was shown during a 10-minute, in-game tribute following the record-breaking home

the record-breaking home run.

"It is a great accomplishment which required skill, longwity and determination," Aaron said.

"Throughout the past century, the home run has held a special place in baseball, and I have been privileged to hold this record for 33 of those years. I move over now and offer my best wishes to Barry and his family on this historic achievement."

Bonds appreciated the

Bonds appreciated the gesture, but in his news conference later, his mood was-n't always celebratory. When steroids came up in ques-tions, he went on the defennons, he went on the defen-sive yet again, saying his record was legitimate. No doubt Bonds was des-tined to be a target this year as he prepared to pass Aaron.

Aaron.
Fans, opponents, media and federal prosecutors took aim and, from the moment he arrived at Giants camp, Bonds took a defiant stance.
His attitude: Come get me. And they did. On Nov. 15, Bonds was

on Nov. 15, Bonds was indicted on four counts of perjury and one count of obstruction of justice for telling a BALCO grand jury

in 2003 that he never know-ingly took illegal perform-ance-enhancing drugs. "I truly believe I have been singled out. Definitely," Bonds said on MSNBC that month.

month.
Perhaps, but a month
later, he was named 103
times in the Mitchell Report.

Bonds' only public appearance since the end of the World Series came at the federal courthouse in San Francisco for his arraign-

He still seems confident— some would say even exhibiting his hallmark are gance—that everything will be fine. Before that hearing. Bonds cleared the building metal detector, smiled, waved and flashed a Hawallan hang-loose sign to the crowd walling for a glimpse.

glimpse.

A day earlier, he offered this message on his Web site: "Despite the charges that have been filed against me, I still have confidence in the still have conflidence in the judicial system and especial-ly in the judgment of the city case. And I know that when all of this is over, I will be vindicated because I am

vindicated because I am innocent."
He also knows this: He's not going back to the Glants, Whether he plays anywhere remains to be seen.
Glants owner Peter Magowan told Bonds in September the club didn't want him back. The Oakhand Athlettes had interest before the Indictment came down; now, they say they want to rebuild and probably aren't interested in an aging cleanup hitter with bum knees even if he has 762 home runs to his name. es even if he has 762 ne runs to his name. No other team has stepped forward, yet Bonds

Gloves, as well as the single-season records for home-runs, slugging percentage, and walks. If he never plays again, Bonds will finish his career 65 hits shy of 3,000, four RBIs short of 2,000, and 69 runs scored from breaking another career record. Most notably, he would leave without the World Series ring he has coveted. Still, he always knew it all could end abruptly, perhaps under circumstances out of his own control ricumstances out of his own control. under circumstances out of his own control.

"There's always just a little window of opportunity in baseball," he said, "That window can close real fast. Sports are like that, Just a lot of luck comes with that, and good fortune."



#### Litke Continued from page B1

practice in full pads three times, something they haven't done since training camp. And the Patriots' injury report has been a running loke in the league for years; it's always packed with names followed by "doubtful and "questionable" during the week and almost always empty by game time. To play for Bellchick is to live in fear of having a job. So now you know that Randy Moss wasn't exaggerating all those times he took the podium after a win and said. "Coach Belichick would never let us get big heads." (Translation: Coach likes swollen heads inside helmets; once the helmets are off, not so much.)

The other thing to "warm".

not so much.)
The other thing to remember is the
Patriots have won three Super Bowls since
2001, so there's no need for lectures about
sealing the deal. They understand it's the
last win of the season that validates the

nast win of the season that validates the ones before it, not the other way around. Coaches, however, have very different philosophies about how to get their teams to the big game with the best chance to

win.

Look at the Coits' roster next week against Tennessee and you'll see one extreme, indianapolis coach Tony Dungy has faced the possibility of an unbeaten team several times in recent years, but he always places a prenium on having a healthy, rested squad heading into the post-season.

season.
Belichick takes the opposite tack. He's a momentum freak, and a perfectionist besides, and this game plays into both of those deathy held beliefs. The Patriots are playing so far above their competition

they're accumulating team and personal records almost as an afterthought. They picked up a few Sunday and put themselves in position to break a few more next week. As much as Larry Csonka was right when les said this about this 1972 Dolphins, "Perfection ends a lot of arguments," it wouldn't be hard to argue that if the Patriots win them all, their unbeaton season would mark them as the best of all time.

The league has never been tougher, or deeper, Players are biggers, stronger and faster. New langland's defense might not be as dominating as the 1905 Pears, and the hard to mind, them score for score and the complex of the comp

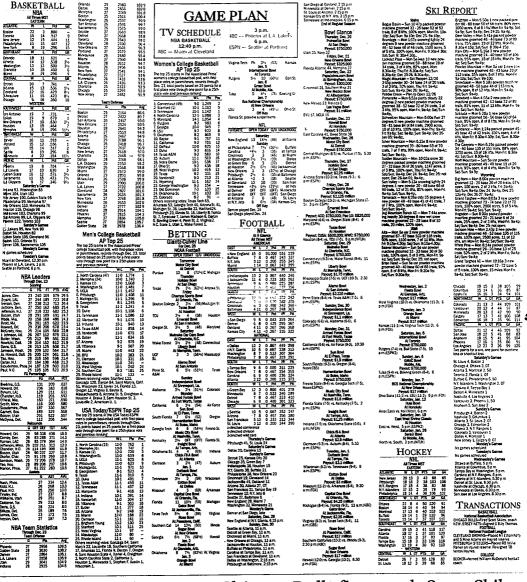
27.5 points total. The Patriots are beating opponents by an average of more than 20 points, something only one other championship team—the 1941 Bears, who posted a 22.6-point differential — accomplished. Like everybody else, even Bleichiek's players won't know until Saturday night whether their coach intends to go after that mark, top.

"He has a tone or a beat, that we're beating to, trying to stay in rhythm," Moss said, "That's what we're beating to now — his beat."

And the beat goes on ... and on ... and on.

Jim Litke is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

## **S**COREBOARD



## After 9-16 start to season, Chicago Bulls fire coach Scott Skiles

Scott Skiles was fired Mo

\_CHICAGO — Scott Skiles was fired Monday as coach of the Chicago Bulls, who have one of the worst records in the Eastern Conference.

The underachieving Bulls (9-16) have lost firee of their last four and were booed firoughout by the home crowd during Saturday nights 116-98 loss to the Houston Ruckets.

This was a diffleuit decision to make, but one that was necessary at this time, Bulls general manager John Paxson said in a release. "Soch helped us in many ways during his time with the Bulls; most importantly, he helped this franchise get back to respectability. I am appreciative of his hard work and the imprint that he left on our team."

The Bulls didn't Immediately amounce a replacement for Skiles, who went 165-172 after replacing Bill Cartwright in November 2003.

after replacing Bill Cartwright in November 2003.
Chicago is in a familiar spot with this season's slow start.
...The Bulls dropped their first nine in 2004-05 and were 4-15 before going on a surge that led to 47 wins and their first playoff appearance since the Michael Jordan era. They needed a late surge the next season to make it to the playoffs, winning 12 of their final 14 regular-season games to finish with 41 wins.
And with high expectations following the arrival of Ben Wallace, the Bulls promptly dropped nine of their first 12 last season before turning things around. They wound up with 49 wins and swept Mamil to capture a playoff series, then lost in six games to Detroit in the second round.
There were no most in six games to Detroit in the second round.
There were no mest in sub games to Detroit in the second round.
There were no mest in sub games to Detroit in the second round.
There were no mest in sub games to Detroit season, instead, the most notable moves were the ones the Bulls did not make — contract extensions for Ben Gordon and Luol Deng and a blockbuser trade for Kobe Bryant.

#### NFL

#### Parker lands on IR with broken leg PITTSBURGH - Willie Parker, the NFL's

leading rusher when he broke his right leg Thursday night in St. Louis, was officially lost for the season when the Pittsburgh Steelers placed him on the injured reserve list Monday, Parker underwent surgery on his broken fibula, but is expected to return next season. coach Mike Tomlin said.

To replace Parker on their roster, the Steelers re-signed Verron Haynes, primarily a third down back for them from 2002-06. He missed the second half of the 2006 season with a knee injury and was cut by Pittsburgh before the season began.

Parker's injury likely cost him a chance to be with a knee injury and was cut by Pittsburgh before the season began. Parker's injury likely cost him a chance to be the Steelers' first NFL rushing champion in Givens, or shore Bill Dudley in 1946. Parker was hurt making on a cut on his first and only carry during Pittsburgh's 41-24 victory in St. Louis.

Louis.

Parker led San Diego's LaDainian Tomiliason 1.316 yards to 1.311 yards, but Tomiliason 1.316 yards to 1.311 yards, but Tomiliason lad games remaining Monday night against Denver and Sunday against Ondand.

Four other running backs were within 114 yards of Parker's lead.

#### MAGIC VALLEY CSI baseball to hold winter camp

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho baseball program will host its annual winter camp from Thursday to Saturday at all Eldon Ewans Expo Center on the CSI campus. The camp, taught by CSI coacles, former players and former professional players, will focus on instruction of the fundamental aspects of the game.

For more information, call Skip Walker at 734-8285, Bomer Walker at 733-2834 or visit http://athletics.csi.edu/baseball/camp.asp.

#### CSI basketball to hold winter camp

TWIN FALLS — Room is still available for the College of Southern Idaho men's and

## **Sports Shorts**

women's basketball annual winter camps, this Friday and Saturday in the CSI gymnasium. The camps, which run from 9 a.m. to noon, are for boys and girls in grades K-8. The registration fee, which includes a T-shirt, poster and ticket to a CSI game, is 580 per camper. The camp is presented by CSI head coaches Barret Peery and Randy Rogers, along with their staffs and players. For more information, call Peery at 732-6496, 100grs at 732-6490 or the athletic office at 732-6486.

#### Twin Falls seeks hoops officials

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation is seeking adult basketball offi-cials. Game knowledge is preferred. Those interested in the part-time position may call Louis Esquizia at 733-3965 or 733-5033.

#### Times-News seeks sports video correspondent

Sports View correspondent
The Times-News and magicvalley.com is
looking for a paid freelance correspondent to
shoot video of high school games and other
local sporting events.
Correspondents must have their own video
camera. If interested, contact online editor
Pat Marcantonlo at 735-3288 or e-mail her at
patm@magicvalley.com.

#### Little Dribbler registration open

TWIN FALLS — The 10th annual Little Dribbler hasketball camp is accepting regis-ration for January.

The dates set for 2008 are Jan. 12 and 19 strell as the halltime presentation at the Jan. 22 Twin Falls Bruins girls varsity basketball game against the Minico Spartans.

The Bruins basketball staff is also offering an inaugural competition camp for boys and glis in grades 4-7 on the same dates. This camp will focus on crowing the best 2-on-2 and 3-on-3 players in the area along with other individual competitions such as horshot shooting and with the state of the state o

#### Idaho Youth Ranch Basketball Tournament dates set

BURLEY — The Idaho Youth Ranch 28th Annual Basketball Tournament will be held Feb. 14-16 for girls in grades 5-6 and 7-8. The tournament for boys in grades 5-6 will be Feb. 21-23, while grades 7-8 compete March 20-22. For more information, contact Tony Bell at (208) 532-4117.

#### Holiday Youth tourney in Idaho Falis

IDAHO FALLS — Idaho Premier will hold its annual youth basketball tournament Friday and Saturday in Idaho Falls, Boys divisions include grades 5-8 and girls include grades 5-

For more information, visit http://www.ida-opremier.com.

#### Basketball makeup scheduled

BURLEY — A makeup game between the Burley Bobeus and Declo Hornets girls baseball teams will be played on Monday, Jan. 7. The junior varsity game is scheduled for 4:30 p.m. The varsity will follow at approximately 6.

- Compiled from staff and wire reports

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GRAINS

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## Tuesday, December 25, 2007 TWIN FALLS FORECAST BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST IDAHO'S FORECAST SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Snow on, snow off. That will be the story through final week of December. Bands of snow are expe-NORTHERN UTAH

IEGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

y don't get to choose how you're going to die.

Don't Sucan party decide how you're going

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TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today

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ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS Precipitation U. V. INDEX DayWeather, Inc

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP CANADIAN FORECAST

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BEANS Reare fire hel to growers, 100 pounds, U.S. No. 1 beans, less sen las and storage charges. Prices subject to charge notice. Producers desiring more recent price information eders. Doct greet northerns, no quote; pmks, \$27, mds, \$30, new crop. Phons are given by Rang arent Dec. 19.

MARKET SUMMARY NYSE HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPOR 14,198.10 5,487.05 555.07 10,387.17 2,562.20 2,861.51 1,576.09 856.48 15,938.99 MOST ACTIVE (\$1 on 1000) 13,549,33 4,705,59 540,38 9,873,48 2,429,81 2,713,50 1,496,45 794,39 15,110,89 +85.55 +85.55 +25.43 +21.51 +11.99 +8.79 +131.62 Name Vol(00) Leat Chg SP fred 435313 29 82 + 53 SP08 418311 149 23 + 1.10 IShRRX nya 274313 79.17 + 57 Shtlpn rya 3708176 1326 - 02 PrUShQ0Q 78365 36 44 - 51 GAI GAINERS (12 00 1000) GAINERS ## EAS extension:
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## AGIC VALLEY

INSIDE: Obituaries, C2 | Community, C2-3 | Nation, C4 | World, C6-7





### Children's drive yields 500 books for needy

Times-Nows wither

Christmas will be a bit cheerier today for residents of valley crisis centers and safe houses, thanks to a children's book club and one anonymous book donor.

The Busy Book Club, a group of 6- to 12-year-olds who gather after school at the Jerome Public Library, collected about 500 donated books — enough to fill the back of a pickup one and a half times — for the houses' needs.

and a half times — for the houses' needy. And when about 50 of the mostly children's books went missing from the library on Dec. 14, an anonymous donor dropped off a crate of brand-new

off a crate of brand-new books to ensure a merry Christmas for the residents. The drive was a noble effort by the 30 children in the Busy Book Club, said library volunteer Ruth Ann Under

ker. 'm proud of the chil-

"I'm proud of the children. They worked very hard."

- Ruth Ann Harke,

— Ruth Ann Harke,
Ilibrary volunteer
dren," Harker said, "They
worked very hard."
For the past few weeks,
the children gathered bnoks,
from five donation barrels
throughout Jerome. They
sorted the hords, many of
them new, and packed them
in boxes for delivery.
Then in mid-December,
Harker noticed someone
had runmanged through one
of the boxes and taken all
the new books. When word
of the boxes and taken all
the new books when word
off about 40 store-bought
books for the drive.
All the books were deliveered last week, to smilling
faces.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@lee.net.



### **Authorities identify** hit-and-run victim

Police searching for car that killed Hagerman man

By Matt Christensen Times-News writer

Police have released the name of a man killed Sunday evening in a hit-and-run inci-dent in Twin Falls as they continue to search for the vehicle that hit him.

vehicle that hit him.
Hagerman resident Steven
Wills, died shortly before 7
p.m. near the intersection of
Blue Lakes Boulevard South
and Park Avenue after he was
hit by an unidentified vehicle.
Willis, 50, was walking
south on Blue Lakes when he

was hit by the car, which then was driven from the scene, police say. Authorities are not save if alcohol was a factor in the incident. Police are searching for the driver of a large, dark sedan that likely has front-end damage. The car may have a marred grille or a broken windshield.

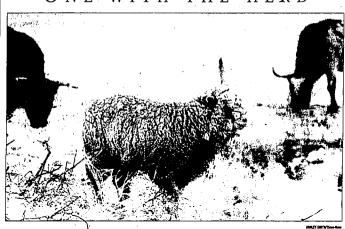
windshield.

The incident, which remains under investigation, stopped traffic Sunday evening on Blue Lakes Boulevard South for several

hours.
Authorities ask anyone with information to contact Idaho State Police Trooper Chris Clausing at 736-3060.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243 or at matt.christensen@lee.net.

#### HERD ONE WITH THE



with a herd of cattle south of Twin Falls. Today's forecast for the Magic Valley is patch

## Local artist's work graces White House tree

By Laurie Welch For the Times-New

When Burley artist Marilyn Miller was asked if she would design an ornament for the White House Christmas tree, the answer was a resounding yes.

"I had always dreamed of doing something for the White House Christmas, so it literally was a dream-cometrue." Miller said.
Miller was selected to design an ornament depicting City of Rocks National Reserve and traveled to Washington, D.C. Nov. 28 for a reception in the artists' honor.

Washington, D.C. Nov. 28 for a reception in the artist's honor.

"Miller was selected based on her previous work depicting the beauty of the park," said Wallace Keck, City of Rocks park superintendent. "After visiting her studio and seeing many similar works of art, I knew we would be well represented in the White House. The Blue Room tree is the tenterpiece of the decorden at the content of the decorden at the content of the proposed of the decorden at the proposed of the

uks. The tree is decorated with ornaments representing the country's 391 National Park Service sites, including City of Rocks, Minidoka Internment National of Rocks, Minidoka Internment National Monument, Craters of the Moon and the Hagerman Fossil Beds national monu-

Fossi Beds national monu-ments.

The Minidoka Interment ornament was designed by Dianna McKeage, who used copies of old pictures that were placed on a bulb through an art technique



Burley's Marilyn Miller stands in front of the White House Blue Roc Miller was chosen to design an ornament depicting the City of Rocks

called hodge podge along with a representation of the

called hodge pouge arong with a representation of the camp symbol.

Stephanie Martin was the artist who designed the ornament for the Hagerman Fossil Beds National

Ornament for the regestrom-possil Beds National Monument.

U.S. Secretary of Interior, and former Idaho Gow. Dirk Kempthome said the parks commenorate the people, places and events that define the American experience. The country will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the National Parks Service in 2016.

Miller, who works mainly

In oils, has created many paintings, greeting cards and magnets depicting the outdoor beauty found in Mini-Cassia and Magic Valley, Finding the right subjects to paint on the supplied Christmas bulb's round surface was a bit of a challenge. Miller's aunt, Glenna Whitaker, of Rupert, was her traveling companion to Washington. Together they researched potential subjects at the park before setting on the Twin Sisters rock formation scene and a mountain blue bird, the state bird, interlaced with

"To be sitting there where incredible people have been and be a part of it all was just magical. I was in awe at being asked and so thrilled to be able to do it."

– Marilyo Miller

— Marilyn Miller
pinlon pine and Indian paint
brush.

"I have spent a lot of time
at the City of Rocks and I love
that area." Miller said.
Keck said park officials
were notified last summer of
the theme and superintendents were asked to choose an
artist and keep it a secret
until White House officials
ammounced it.

The artists were addressed
by first lady Laura Bush,
photographed in front of the
tree and enjoyed a banque.
Miller took along a sketch
book and recorded seenes in
it days the strength of the control of the
tree and enjoyed a banque.

book and recorded scenes in throughout the rip. One of the most striking aspects of the experience, Miller said, was the sheer history of the White House. To be string there where incredible people have been and be a part of it all was just magical," she said. "I was in awe at being asked and so thrilled to be able to do it."

Laurie Welch is a staff writer for the South Idaho

## Police: Repeat DUI offenders dismiss dangers, create unsafe roads

Authorities say drunk drivers fail to acknowledge potential life-threatening consequences

idaho Press Inixune

NAMPA — Nampa DUI officer B.J. Koho said there are two kinds of offenders he takes to jail: first-timers and "frequent lipers." Koho said the number of first-time DUI offenders and habitual, repeat DUI offenders is pretty much an even split, but it is the people who continually drive while under the influence that cause officers a lot of grief.

"It's the repeat offenders that don't cooperate with the tests, and, most of the time, they're the ones with substance abuse problems, Koho said.

There are several dangers that habitual DUI offenders present to the community and other motorlists, Koho said. While members

of the first-time offender crowd are often caught on Friday and Saturday nights, repeaters tend to drive under the influence—usually of alcohol—at any time, day or night. "We've caught them at 8 a.m. drunk on heir way to work. With your habitual offenders, it's all the time; it's just a matter of catching them," he said.

Another problem is that substance abuse and additions often go hand-in-hand with repeat DUIs.

"The people with serious substance abuse problems are the ones we deal with as repeat offenders," Koho said. Alcohol is the most common, and it's also the easiest to detect. Marijuana and meth are the two others that we deal with most frequently, but we also deal with prescription drug abuse.

Unfortunately, the officer service can be attong will and easier to bus cases without a strong will and easier to change on the part of the offender.

"There are substance abuse treatments available, but for that to work a person has to want it to work. Many don't want help and

"There are substance abuse treatments available, but for that to work a person has to want it to work. Many don't want help and won't seek help."

- B.J. Koho , Nampa DUI officer

— B.J. Koho , Nampa DUI officer
won't seek help."
Herhaps the most difficult aspect to overteen as that habitual offenders refuse to
acknowledge the criminal nature of their
impaired arthing status.

"The multi offenders are the ones who
most specifically don't see what
They're doing is a crime: They don't see the
moral Issue involved, 'Koho said. They don't
think they're hurting anyone. It's almost an
attitude of contempt they think it's awaste of
public resources and police resources.

They just don't see what they're doing as a
problem."

And Koho said repeat offenders aren't the only ones who have an attitude about DUI

Stops. "I usually get the third degree from (every one) about how I should be out getting the real criminals," Koho said. "But they don't see the accidents, the injuries, the deaths involved."
"We need the public perception to change

involved."
"We need the public perception to change
and (acknowledge) that this is a real prob-lem," Koho said. "People who wouldn't
dream of stealing wouldn't hesitate to drive
drunk."

Harsher laws against driving under the influence have helped curb habitual DUI drivers in some respects.

"I think that different penalties legislators have inflicted are working. For example, now there are penalties for refusing fibreathalyzer) tests; now its an automatic revoke of license and a \$250 fine.

But offenders who get off casy from DUI violations will often re-offend, Koho said.
"It's gotten better, but I think there's still room for improvement."

#### Rose M. Anderson

GOODING Rose Mildred Anderson, 84, of Gooding, died Saturday, Dec. 23, 2007, at home after a courageous battle with

She was born Sept. 12, 1923, in Richfield, daughter of



great-grandchildren. Patrick and Camilla. Rose is survived by her children. Verua (Harold) Schweppe of North Ogden, Utah, Carolyn (Gary) Mosler of Pocatello, Raymond (Linda) Carter of Ogden, Utah, and George (Harcence) Carter of Aurora, Colo; one stepson, Mike (Jackie) Anderson of Salt Lake City, Utah; seven bruth-ers and sisters, Tom Kodesh of Mountain Home, Ella Tennant of Mountain Home,

of Mountain Home, than Tennant of Mountain Home, than Tennant of Mountain House, Anton Kodesh of John Day, Ore, Janie Brown of Seake, Howels of Buhl, James Kodesh of Buhl, Wash, James Kodesh of Buhl, Wash, James Kodesh of Buhl, Bilden Steele of Twin Falls and John (Bobby) Kodesh of Wendell: 18 grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren and 23 great-grandchildren. The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 27, at the LDS Chapel, 1228 Main in Gooding, with Bishop Dale Gerratt conducting, Vlewag Gorratt conducting, Vlewag Gorratt conducting, Vlewag Gooding, and 1 until 145 p.m. prior to the funeral Thursday at the church.

#### 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, Me., on July 1, 1919, to Brady and Minnie (Eaton) Jackson. He and his four brothers came to Idaho in 1936 at the age of 16. Thurman and his older brother, Vernon, owned the Overland Dalry. Thurman married Lou Ella Cobb on Nov. 18, 1939. During World War II. Thurman proudly served in the Marine Corps. He was stationed at Ewa, Ilawaii where he was post-master. In the 1950s, he and his father owned and operathis father owned and operat-ed "The White House," a restaurant and card room on Main Avenue South in Twin

In the 1960s, he owned and In the 1960s, he owned and operated, along with his father, Brady, the Twin Ealls Cigar Store. People who worked at the Times-News, Troy Laundry, Sears, Glep Jenkins Garage and many others will remember eating a, 'good meal" there. In the 1970s, Thurman and Lue Ella moved to Shoshone for nine years. Later, they moved to Jerome, where Thurman had a mail contract route: also, he rainched and farmed. In 1990, rainched and farmed. In 1990,





he sold their farm to the Beuker's Dairies. He enjoyed horses, fishing, gardening, jigsaw puzzles, playing cards and watching the squirrels id wate

and birds.

He is survived by his wife,
Lue Ella; daughters, Marjorle
Jackson of Twin Fall, Kathy
Partridge (Fred) of Jerome,
Nancy Jackson of Jackson of Twin Fall, Kathy Partridge (Fred) of Jerome, Nancy Jackson of Sacramento, Callif.; two granddaughters, Lisa Campbell Waller (Darln) of Seeley Lake, Mont., and Emily Brooks (Mark) of Sacramento, Callif.; and three great-grandsons. Jacob, Caleb and Brandon Campbell. Also surviving are several nieces and consins. Thurman was preceded in death by his parents and four brothers, Vernon, Olls, Dallas and Eugene.

A private family service 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."

#### SERVICES

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

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

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 Dematay's Gooding Chapel.

David Arthur Craner of David Arthur Craner 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 Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:40 a.m. Thursday at the church.

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. Bannock St. In Boise; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at the Wednesday at the

Alice Jane Hoogland of Buhl, funeral at 2 p.m. Thursday at the Twin Falls Reformed Church, 1631

Grandview Drive N.; visita-tion from 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Farmer Funeral Chapel, 130 Ninth Ave. N. in Buhl.

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, visi-tation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th S. In Burley, and 10 to 1045 a.m. Friday at the church.

Lawrence Eugene "Gene" Dudley of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Friday at Demaray's Wendell Chapel.

Laren Melvin Rosa of Paul, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at the Rupert United Methodist Church, 605 H. St.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley, 1350 E. Idih St. in Burley, 145 p.m.

Burley, and 1 to 1:45 p.m. Friday at the church.

Fred J. Walmstey of Hagerman, memorial serv-ice at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Living Waters Presbyterian Church in Wendell.

Phyllis Kaye Fullmer Colonna of Brownsburg, Ind., and formerly of Buhl, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the LDS Church on Fair Street In Buhl: visitation from 4 to 7 p.m. Friday at Farmer Puneral Chapel, 130 Ninth Ave. N. in Buhl, and 10 to 10:50 a.m. Saturday at the church.

#### Armando Sosa Baeza

Gracia 'Grace' Ellen Davis

Armando Sosa Baeza, 44, of Twin Falls, passed away Monday, Dec. 3, 2007, in Yurirla, Guanajuato, Mexico. He was born May 12, 1963, in Yurirla, Guanajuato,

Mexico.

He is survived by his wife of 26 years, Teresa Baeza; and their children, Armando Jr.,

age Etrain, age 23, Isalas, age 7, Sebastian, age 7, and Jasmin, age 5, all of Tvin Falls.



Gracia "Grace" Ellen Davis.

Gracia "Grace" Ellen Davis, 65, of Iwin Falls, passed away Friday, Dec. 21, 2007, after a long dilness.
She was born Dec. 2, 1997, 1 on and continued to live and work in the Twin Falls area. She loved to camp, fish, play pool, darts and bingo and socialize with the many friends and family she held

close.

Grace is survived by one brother, Paul Perrault of Boise; sister, Linda (Gary) Morton of Burley; three chil-

dren, Brian Garner of Merdidian, Robyn Ross of Jerome ad Tina (Jason) Lewis of Twin Falls; along with five grandchildren, Ramdall, Emily, Anna Marte, Ashley and Gabriella: and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her father, Walter Perrault; the man she considered her real father, Richard Baird; her mother, Evelyn Baird; five brothers. Walter, Ernest, Arthur, Reglandi and Bohby; three sisters, Irene, Shirley and Elizabeth; one niece. Charlene; and one nephew, looy; along with two sons, Glen Garner and Ray Garner. I am sure our mother now knows the sweet blissful peace after long suffering, and it is our prayer than her soul will know all the glories of Heaven. Let your spirit rest on high.

on high.

A graveside inurnment service will be held at 11 a.m. Friday.\ Dec. 28, at the Heyburn Cemetery. Heyburh Cemetery. Cremation and arrange-ments are under the direc-tion of Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

#### Nancy L. Brennan

JEROME. --Brennan, 70 passed away 23, 2007, at her son's home with her family by , or Jerome, Sunday, Dec.



home with her family by her side.

She was born Marchy 1, 1937, in Weymouth, Mass., the daughter of daughter the daughter of the side of t

Gristopher (Kerl) Brennan of Jerome, Catherine Ann Brennan of Jerome and Patricia (Richard) Jackson of Bishop, Calli, She is also surfaced by our hard of the John Market of John

parents, six sisters and three-bruthers.

Nancy's family would like to express their gratitude to lospice Visions and a spe-cial thank you of Karen, Tony, Amy, Alisa and Madelline.

The funeral will be con-ducted at 2 p.m. Friday, Dec. 26, at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome, with Father Ronald Wekerle presiding, Interneum will follow in the Jeanne Cemetery. Interment will fol Terome Cemetery.

#### David B. Gallegos

David B. of Heyburn,



Re g i on a i Me d i c a i Center in Twin Falls. He was born Sept. 8, 1949, in Eagle Pass, Texas, to David and Celedonin Gallegos. He did farmwark in Oregon and, for the last three years, worked an McCalin Foods in worked worked and McCalin Foods in the the Catholic Church, and he lowed to collect anything that had to do with Eivis.

had to do with Elvís.
He is survived by his wife,
Emma Gallegos; sons, David
Gallegos Jr., Victor Gallego,
Jose Ramon Gallegos, Johnny
Gallegos, and Miguel
Gallegos, He is also survived
by his father, David Gallegos,

Gallegos

brothers, Henry Gallegos, Alex Gallegos, Mark Gallegos, and Albert Gallegos, and Albert Gallegos, sisters, Mary Duran and Susan Miller; and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his grandsom and adopted son, Ruben Gallegos; his mother, Celedonia Gallegos; anice, Mary Ann Gallegos; and a brother, Jose Luis Gallegos, A viewing for family and friends will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 26, at the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, and the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 27 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, and the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 27 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, and the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 27 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, and the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 27 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, and the Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 27 W. Main St. in Burley, Carlotte, C. Irvin as celebrant. A viewing monon to 1:30 p.m. at the church, Burlat will follow in the Evergreen Cormetery in Ontario.

#### DEATH NOTICES

#### Tom Asher

Falls.

A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 29, at the Albion LDS Church, 889 S. Main St.

ussen Funeral Home

of Burley) ALBION — Tommy "Tom" Preston Asher, 67, of Albion, died Sunday, Dec. 23, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical in Twin Falls. MarLee C. Vaughn

MarLee C. Valighti
RUPERT — MarLee Carter
Vaughn died Tuesday, Dec.
11, 2007.
A memorial service will be
held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec.
29, at the Rupert LDS West
Stake Center, 100 W. 26 S.
(Hansen-Payne Mortuary in
Burley).

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

#### Patricia Jane Korb

(especially her cats) and

BURLEY — Patricia Jane Korb, 73-year-old Burley resi-dent, passed away Friday, Dec. 21, 2007. at Dec. 21, 2007, at Countryside Care in Rupert. Patricia was born 20,

was born May 20, 1934, in Twin

Falls, the daughter of George D. and Lorene Blair Howard. She attack schools in Martaugh and graduated from Twin Fells High School. Particle married Adolph Korb on Jan. 29, 1955, in Elso, New, and settled in Burley, where she has since resided. She enjoyed crocheting, sewing, animals

tespecially her cats) and shopping.
Patricla is survived by three children, Sue (ftoy) Reeves of Pocatello, and Margaret Korb and Randy (Nancy) Korb, hoth of Burley seven grand-children; three great-grand-children; and one brother, James Howard of Iowa. She was preceded in death by her husband; two daughters, Betty Beckhum and Iody Palmer, and her was seld Mariday. Dec. 24, at the Payne Mortuary Chapel, 221 W. Main St. in Burley Services were under the direction of Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley, In lieu of inverse the family suggest donations be made to the American Humane Society.

#### TEEN IDOLS



nico Spartan Teen Idol talent on nor. 20 the section annual minico sparian reen not travell sow was held at Minico High School. A total of 26 teams competed from all over Mini-Cassia, including several dance studios from Burley, cheer-leaders and drill teams from all the junior highs and high schools and Pil Sung Martial Aris from Rupert. For the second year in a row Pil Sung won and was presented with 550 by two of the judges, Sandy Nelson and Thom [The Singler janitor] Stimpson. Pictured is the de team and two of the Dance Force team members.

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#### 5TH-DISTRICT-COURT-NEWS

#### **Gooding County**

ARRAIGNMENTS Andrea N. Clark, 27, DWG Christy L. Drown, 32, DWOP Pleaded guilty, fined \$325.50 Crisisy L. Drown, 32, 500, 500 and 500

bation, Brian Dale Ravenscroft, 56,

Brian Date Ravenscroft, 56, trespassing. Joseph Allen Sellers, 38, open container. Pleaded guilty, fined \$150.50. Melissa A. Smith, 18, failure to use safety belt, Pleaded guilty, fined \$10. Cerlita Taylor, Ir. 31, dispress.

Cecilio Trevino Jr., 31, driver's

license violation.

SENTENCINGS

Ramiro C. Bautista, 19, minor possession of alcohol. Fined \$310.50; 1 year supervised

probation, Jesseca M. Dodge, 19, minor possession of alcohol. Fined \$310.50; 1 year supervised

probation.
Credencio Gonzalez-Dimas, 39, reckless driving, Fined \$75.50; 90 days jail time, 84 suspended, credit for 6 days served; 1 year unsupervised probation. year unsupervised probation. Corey Lance Tucker, 18, burgla ry. Fined \$600.50; 6 years penitentlary, 3 years determi-nate, 3 years Indeterminate, credit for 12 days served: 3

#### Jerome County

ARRAIGNMENTS Benjamin Valencia, no DOB, Injury to a child. Robert E. Johnson, 49, invalid license; speeding. Elimiano Garcia-Ledesma, 43. invalid license; invalid license; inattentive/careless driving. Katrina K. Miller, 13. pleaded guilty, elcohol possession/con-sumed/purchased by a minor; sent to Youth Court. Adrian Melchor-Aleantaro, 23. invalid license; DUI. Misti Dawn Anderson, 28, petty thoft.

Tyler B. Beade, 19, alcohol bev-erage possession/con-

lyler B. Beade, 19, alcohol beverage possession/con-sumed/purchased by a minor. Jaime V. Beltran-Lagunas, 20, speeding; fined \$75. Thomas M. Bosteder, 47, bat-

tery Joshua DWOF nua Owen Bridweii, 267,

Jason Ray Capps, 19, resisting/obstructing an officer; fre-quenting a place using control substance; alcohol beverage

substance; alcohol beverage possession/consumed/pur-chased by a minor. Robert Darrell Delika, 74, plead ed guilty, DWOP; fined \$90.50 Tyler A. Goeckner, 17, alcohol beverage possession/con-sumed/purchased by a minor. Stanley H. Herting II, 30, bat-tery.

lyn.

beverage ...
sumed/purchas...
Stanley H. Herting II. av.
tery
Joshua L. Jones, 28. DWOP:

""dul transportation of a
""a/open contain
"coof of I unlawful transportation of alcool beverage/open container allure to provide proof of instance; registration not in vehicle.

cle. LeeRoy Levesque, 35, inattentive/careiess driving. Luis Lopez-Lopez, 39, reckless

driving.
Jason Thomas McLemore, 26,
DWOP; speeding.
Ana Juventina Nunez, 17, DWOP. failure to provide proof of insur

ance.
Paul H. Perry, 45, pleaded gullty, vicious dog at large; fined \$50; dog at large; fined \$50.
Mario Rojos, 19, pleaded gullty, invalid license; fined \$144; probation 6 months.
Jose L. Sandova-Arrellano, 41, commits cruelly to animals. commits cruelty to animals.
Darcey Heather Siler, 20, speeding; DWOR
Spencer D

Spencer D. Sorensen, 21, inat-tentive/careless driving. Dennis D. Thorpein, 42, litter-ing

Ing.
Mark Devid Walters, 52, pleaded guilty, inattentive/careless
driving: fined 5175.50; jall
time 10 days, 10 suspended;
probation 6 months. Santlago B. Flores, 19, invalid license: DUI: fallura to provide proof of insurance.. Harold Miller, 56, DUI. Harold Miller, 56, DUI. Anibal Alarcon-Vargas, 21, pleaded gullty, invalid license fined \$144p speeding; fined \$140; probation 6 months. Ruben Estrada-Pizano, 25,

pleaded guilty, invalid; fined \$144.

Deann L. Hampton, 50, pleaded guilty, littering; fined \$100. Jose Antonio Lopez, 25, plead ed guilty, invalid ficense; \$144; speeding; fined \$ \$144; speeding; fined \$75. Adrienne Mendoza, 46, plead guilty, dog at large; fined \$50. Robert Alan Bradshaw, 26, grand theft. Lloyd W. Eldredge, 24, destruc

Lloyd W. Eldredge, 24, destruc-tion of telecommunication line; 2 counts approximate assault. SENTENCINGS Garry Grover Layman, 35, fraud-use of Innancial transaction card: fined \$322.50; driving vehicle without owner consent; fined \$72.50; jail time 180 dwys. 71 days suspended; 100 days credit; probation 2 years supervised. Ugo Alvarado-Martinez, 30, nleaded vallue, Dill: fined

pleaded guilty, DUI; fined \$490.50; jail time180 days, 145 days suspended; 145 days suspended; 1 day credit; 4 days serve: 30 days disc tionary: probation 1 year super

vised vised.
Eduardo Barriga-Tellez, 24,
pleaded guilty, DWOP; fined
\$287.50; fall time 180 days;
178 suspended; 1 day credit;
1 day serve; probation 1 year

1 day serve; probation 1 year unsupervised. Richard Barton, 39, ploaded guilty, DUI: fined: 5540.50; jail time 180 days; 140 days suspended: 1 day redit; 9 days surve; 30 days discretionary; probation 2 years supervised. Angulio Graciano-Hernandez. Angulio Graciano-Hernandez. 399, 50, jail time 180 days; 100 days suspended: 2 days credit; 8 days served; 70 days discretionary; probation 2 years supervised. Christopher A. Hunt, 21, plead-

ot A Hi ed guilty, DUI; fined \$440,50; jail time 180 days; 178 days suspended; 1 day credit; 1 day

Christopher A. Hunt. 21, pleaded guilty, battery; fir \$172.50; jail time 9 n 90 days: 89 suspended; 1 day serve; pro bation 1 year supervised. Christopher Philip Bethke, 45, pleaded guilty, drug trafficking marijuana; fined \$5107.50; jail time 145 days credit; 1 1/2 years determinate; 6 1/2 years determinate; 6 1/2, years indeterminate. Frances Renee Bethke, 44, pleaded guilty, drug trafficking marijuana; fined \$5107.50; js time 145 days credit; 1 1/2 years determinate; 6 1/2 years indeterminate. years indeterminate. Andrew Odell Vance, 20, plead ed guilty rape; fined \$297.50; jall time 4 years determinate; 6 years indeterminate.

#### Twin Falls city

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS Kennech E, Urbanus, 55. Ketchum; driving under the Influence; withold Judgment influence; withold Judgment suspended; 590.0 flos with 5400 suspended; 590.0 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for anot day served, one day work detail; driving privi-leges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation. Anglin H. Hecht, 48, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; \$300 fine with \$400 suspended, ed. \$400.50 costs; 90 days in jail with 88 suspended, credit for one day served, one day work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation. Peggy R. Reutier 47 Twin Falls: ty R, Beutier, ---, count driving under the excessive; \$1,000 fine-with \$500 suspended; \$90.50 costs; \$75 public r fee: 180 days in lai with 170 suspended, credit for one day served, four days work detail; driving privileges sus-pended for 365 days; 24 onths probation; one count iving without privileges dis-

missed.
Jacob S. Brady, 22, Twin Falls;
one count driving under the
influence; costs uncollectible;
90 days in jail, credit for three
days served; driving privileges
90 days in jail, credit for three
days served; driving privileges
suspended for 180 days; one
count driving without privileges
suspended for 180 days; concurrent.

MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS Elisha G. Ortiz, 22. Twin Falls: without privileges, se ffense; \$2,000 fine w  credit for time served; 12 months probation; \$508 proba. victim tution to vici rter. 20. Twin Falls

one count possession of a con d substance: \$1.000 : with \$500 suspended; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee: 180 days In rail with 150 suspended, credit for four days served; 24 mpnths probation; one count minor possession of alcohol; \$1,000 fine with \$800 suspended; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 24

suspended for 180 days; 24 months probation; one count possession of drug parapher-nalla dismissed; \$257 court compliance fees.

Dazia L. Tammie, 23. Twin Falls failure to stop/feave the scene of an accident; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.0 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; 12 months pro

tion.
Margarita A. Reza-Estrada, 19,
Buhl; failure to
purchase/Invalid driver's
license; 19, Buhl; costs waived; 10 days in jail, credit

for time. Donald A. Grundvig, 46, Twin Falls; possession of drug para-phernalia; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 71 suspende credit for time served; 12 crean for time served; 12 months probation; no alcohol. Debbie L. Hawkins, 33, Twin Falls; petit theft; amended to wifful concealment; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; six months probation.

tron. Emily E. Dean, 19, Twin Falls; possession of drug parapher-nalia; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$85.50 costs; 30 days in jail with 30 suspend 12 months probation; no al

hillin C. Stevens, 23, Twir Falls; one count petit theft; \$500 fine with \$200 suspend ed; \$75.50 costs; 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; six months probation: two days community service; one count petit theft; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$75.50 costs; five days in jalf with five suspended; six months proba

suspended; six months proba-tion; concurrent.
Doluna Armando Jr., 33, Twin Falls; domestic battery; amend ed to disturbing the peace; dis-orderly conduct; \$200 fine with \$100 suspended; \$75.50 costs; three months probation, Carly E. Johansen, 31, Jerome; potit theft; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.50 Carly E. Jot petit theft; \$500 fine v \$300 suspended; \$75 costs; \$75 public defe ended; \$75.50 fee; 10 days in Jail with 10 suspended; two days commu-ty service; six months proba-

Water M. Rica, 33. Burley: resisting/obstructing on offi-cer; costs walved; 90 days in jail, credit for time served. Santlago 8. Prores, 19. Buhl; one count failure to purchase/irvalld driver's license; 5500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$75.50 costs; 10 days in jail with 1.0 suspended; 21 months probation; \$307 court compliance fees; one count possession of drug pare phermalial dismissed. Julie A. Rose; 41, Boise; petit theft; amended to willful con-coalment; \$500 fine with \$30. Watter M. Rice, 33, Burley; cealment; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75,50 costs: \$75 public defender fee: 10 days in jail with 10 suspended; 12 months probation. Justin H. Sanderson, 34, Twin Falls; open container; \$500 fine with \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 90 days in jail with 79 suspended, credit for time served; 12 months prob

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www.conturycinomas.com sed Christmas Eve and copen Christmas Night NATIONAL TREASURE BOOK OF SECRETS г **WATER HORSE ALVIN & THE** CHIPMUNKS I AM LEGEND ENCHANTED BURLEY THEATRE OSED CHRISTMAS EVE CLO

Charles & Powell, 40, Twin Falls no insurance, second off \$400 fine with \$300 sus ed; \$75.50 costs; 10 da jail with 10 suspended; months probation.

my W. Brown, 20, Buhl, one count possession trolled substance: \$1,000 fee with \$800 suspended; \$82.50 costs; 365 days in joil with 275 suspended; 24 months probation; one count posses in of drug paraphe \$1,000 fine with \$800 sus-pended; \$85.50 costs; 365 pendut; \$95.50 costs; 365 dbys in jail with 275 suspend ed; 24 months probation; one court petit their; amended to willid concentiner; 90 dbys in jail, oredit for time served; concurrent; one court possession of divid paraphemials, failure to appear dismissed.

Zhompulat 0. Raddrajov, 25, Thompulat 0. Raddrajov, 25, Thom Falls; driving without privileges, second offense; \$1,000 him with \$700 suspended; \$90,50 costs; \$75 public addraids the \$35 suspended, credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 365 days; 24 months probable.

months probation. Ronie J. Parrott, 35, Twin Falls;

nonic J. Parrott, 35, Iwin Falls; one count driving without privi leges, second offense; \$800 fine with \$400 suspended; \$90.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in jail with 127 suspended, credit for time served; driving privileges suspended for 365 days; 24 months probation; one court possession of prescription drugs without a prescription; 5500 fine with \$400 suspend et; 180 days in jai with 127 suspended, receil for time seveet; 24 months probation, Holly A. Morrissey, 19, Fivin Falls; possession of drug para piernalia; 31,000 fine with \$700 suspended; \$85,50 months probation; one count phernalia; \$1,000 fine with \$700 suspended; \$85.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days in Jail with 160 suspended, credit for time served; 12 months probation.

### Twin Falls County

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE SENTENCINGS Perry J. Penjow, 64, Twin Falls: one count driving under the influence: \$1,000 fine with \$600 suspended; \$90.50

\$75 public defend fee; 90 days in jall with 7' suspended, credit for time served; driving privileges; pended for 180 days; 24 months probation; \$192 c comphance fees; one cour resisting/obstructing an offi-cer dismissed.

Solamon P Mathews, 27, Iwn Falls: driving under the influ-ence, excessive; \$1,000 line with \$500 suspended; \$90.50 costs; 180 days in jail with 178 suspended, credit for one day served, one day work detail; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol. Paul P Monahan, 59,

months probation; no alcohol. Paul P Monaban. 59.
Hagerman; driving under the influence; withhold judgment granter; \$1,000 line; with \$500 suspended; \$90.50 casts; 120 days in jail with 178 suspended, cedif for one of the summer of the summ

open container: costs waived: 14 days probation. Javier Juarez-Martinez, 24 Hansen: driving under the influence, excessive; costs waived; 365 days in jail with waived; 365 days in jan who 345 suspended; driving privi-leges suspended for 365 days; 24 months probation;

days; 24 months pieubeuw, no alcohol. Brandon L. Pilant, 30, Filer; driving under the influence; withhield judgment granted; \$800, file with \$400 suspended; \$90,50 costs; 90 days in all with 88 suspended, credit for one day served, one day house arrest; driving privileges suspended for 180 days; 12 months carbation. months probation.

John M. Jones, 54, Kimberly driving under the influence, second offense; \$2,000 fine. with \$1,000 suspended; \$90.50 costs: \$75 nub defender fee; 365 days in j with 245 suspended, credit

for 70 days served; driving privileges suspended for 365

days; 24 months probation,
MISDEMEANOR SENTENCINGS
Albert D. Maughan, 31.
Honsen, one count driving
without privileges; \$800 fine
with \$500 suscended;
\$90.50 costs; \$75 public
defender fee; 180 days, in api
with 18 suspended, credit
for time Served, driving him
leges suspended for 180
days; 12 months industion;
one count open container disone count open container discount open container dis Johnny K. Peterson, 43, Twin

Falls; forgery; amended to petit theft; \$1,000 fine with \$600 suspended; \$72.50 costs; \$1,000 restitution to Money Tree: 180 days in juil with 178 suspended, credit for time served; 24 months probation; five days work

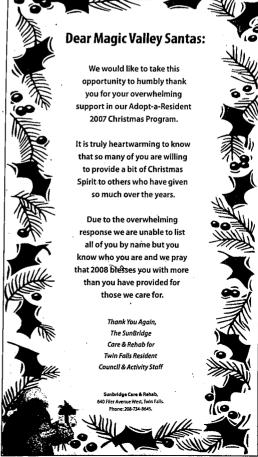
probation; five days work detail. Gerardo Reyes Abarrer, 20, Gerardo Reyes Abarrer, 20, and the subtiline to pur chase/invalied driver's license; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$75,50 costs; 10 days in pall with 10 suspended; 21 months probation; one count resisting/obstructuring an officer dismissed. Valentina 1. Hernandez, 32, Buth; faiture to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; \$300 fine with \$200 suspended; \$75,50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; six months probation.

Danva L. Lent. 40. Twin Eatls:

forgery; amended to petit theft; \$1,000 fine with \$600 suspended; \$72,50 costs; \$1,000 restitution to Money Tree; 180 days in jail with 178 suspended, credit for time served; 24 months probation; served; 24 months probation; five days work detail. Shella A. Johnson, 34, Pocatello; resisting/obstructing an officer; amended to disturbing the peace/disorder

ing an officer; amended to dis-turbing the peacy disorderly conduct; \$500 fine with \$400 suspended; \$75.50 casts; \$75 public defender (ec; 30 days in jail with 29 suspend-ed, credit for time served; 12 months probation. Benito B. Mondragon, 45. Castleford; domestic veloner; \$500 fine with \$300 suspend ed; \$75.50 casts; \$75 public defender (ec; 180 days in jail with 178 suspended, credit with 178 suspended, credit

with 178 suspended, cred for time served: 12 months probation.



## Freemasonry eager to step in from the shadows

By Daniela Deane and Kirstin Downey The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When Hollywood comes knocking, hat's probably a clue the time has come to open the door. And the secretive, centuries-old order of Freemasonry seems to be picking up its cue. "National Treasures Book of Secrets," which opened in theaters this weekend, is the second lith in the adventure-fantasy series to shine a light on the mysterious and little-known world of the Masonic order.

And although the Masons play a much smaller part in the sequed than they did in the 2004 original, the first-scene featuring the movies three male leads — Nicolas Cage, Ion Voight and Ed Harris — was filmed in the George Washington Masonic Memorial in Alexandria, Va., one of the Masons most visible shrines.

Filmmakers and novelists have been mining the Masons recently, weaving their legends and symbols into such tales of conspiracies and secrets as the Samuel of the Conspiracies and secrets as the Fatternal, of ten-control of the Conspiracies and secrets as the Fatternal, of ten-control of the Conspiracies and secrets as the Fatternal, of ten-control of the Conspiracies and secrets as the Fatternal, of ten-control of the Conspiracies and secrets a

movie is just a small part of that effort.

"We're really trying to bring the memorial back into the community, not just be a fortress on the hill," Seghers says. "We're nothing to be afraid or."

Masons say their organization is dedicated to "making good men better." It donates about \$2.5 million a day to medical research, health care, education and other causes, according to Richard Peterber, a spokesman for the group. Musons are a staple of community parades, where they diess as clowns and fide in little cars to raise money for Shriners' hospitals.

Fletcher says the Masons, down from Life milde for a fullon of the community and the community of the communit

Fletcher says the Masons numbered 1.5 million in 2006, down from a peak of 4 million in 1950, it easys the membership shrank rapidly as the World War II generation, which he described as a generation of loiners, has continued to age and die.

But now there's a feeling in the group — not yet backed up by statistics — that the tide has turned and that a new generation is "looking for something beyond themselves, an anchor to stabilize their lives," Fletcher says. He says younger men nowadays are part of a "generation of volunteers," which he predicts will stabilize the downtum.

Others arent as optimistic. "The lodges are in deep decline," says UCIA historian Margaret Jacob, author of "The Origins of Freemasonry.

Facts & Fictions" and an expert in Masonic history: "It's no longer a vital societal organization, so it has become the subject of myth and legend;" Like so many things about

the Masons, even the organization's origins are shrouded in mystery. Hundreds of books have been written about them, but little is cer-tain, partly because the organization has been so

secretive and partly because conspiracy theorists have spread a variety of tales about the Masons and their cere-

In the 1700s and 1800s, members tended to be intel-

lectual free thinkers, associated with Protestantism and scientific tism a.s. inquiry. ad from Freemasonry spread from England throughout Europe, and Masons were frequently involved with revolutionary Freemasons included Washington, Benjamin Franklin, John Hancock, James Madison, James Monroe, Paul Revere and



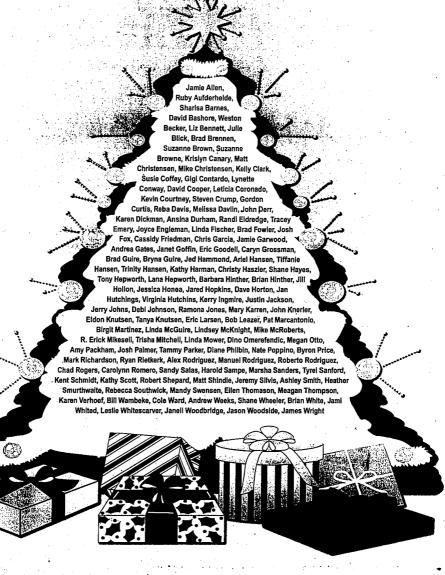
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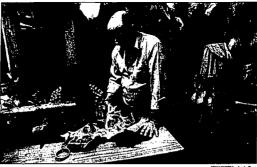
CAIRO, Egypt — In a shop that looks and feels like the that looks and feels like the inside of a vaude/ulle trunk, Ahmed Diaa Eddin sits amid beads and sequins bargain-ing hard with a woman from Saudi Arabia over satin and chiffon. "200."

ing hard win a small and chiffon.

"200."
The price is 400."
"The price is 400."
The wort budge. Neither will she. There's a stare-down, but Dias Eddin hasat spent of years designing belly-dance costumes to let his wares go cheap. He knows-the contours of a waman's wares go cheap. He knows-the contours of a waman's body and the intricaces of her mind. He waits The right outside the open window is cool, he's listened to the street helow since he was a form outside the open window is cool, he's listened to the street helow since he was chutered from watching his fathers was the walks out the street helow since he was chutered from mandas a count-worder the deal is done. She walks out followed by her happy husband.

"I'm famous, Google me, and I pop up all over." Dian Eddin says. "Nohody taught me this art. I mastered li, I am the first person in Egypt to export helydancing costumes. I am the oldes designer in my trade. Howe the way the costume flows. The truth is, though, you may design a beautiful elaborate costume, but if an ordinary woman wears it, it wort attract much attention."

Diaa Eddin rummages through his shop, a sparkly unspooled-thread kind of place with fading photographs of dancers, a computer misted in dust and, hanging above it all, an airbrushed picture of Diaa Eddin with a smitk that suggests he might whisper sumething intoxicating or perhaps slightly offensive and the summary of t



Belly dance outfit designer Ahmed Diaa Eddin oversees a seamstress at his store in Cairo, Egypt, Tastes change, slasts and even Arah wo oking to entice their husbands. But, he says, 'the golden days of belly dancing are gone.'

looking to entire their substands. But Ing, Yan get this director who hires five or six gifts, dresses, them in belly dancer outfits, but they're not professional. They can't dance. But people see them on TV and they get worth and they get worth ground the get the fabled strip of belly danc-ing, is not what it used to be. The artists have slipped away to other neighborhoods, leaving behind upholsterers and tailors, men with swift hands and steady feet work-ing vintage-era Singer sewing

machines,
"I began as a costume designer on this street when I was a finglithelph since I was a finglithelph since I was a loser at school. But if I hadn't been a loser at school. But if I hadn't been a loser hack then I wouldn't be famous today. The school is a woman will come to me today. She wants an outfit, but she doesn't have big breasts, so I have to do a bit of cosmetic surgery on the costume to make her look bigger.

Women come and go, flicking through catalogs, scruti-

nizing folds of satin and Lycra, shaking bead boxes. Some of them are shopping for bridal gifts; others, like the Saudi woman, who wore a hijab and had her face covered except for her eyes, want to entice husbands in the privacy of their homes. Some belly dance for art, many ripple and shake their hips for exercise, especially in belly dance for art, many up-ple and shake their hips for exercise, especially in Scandinavia and Germany, which imports more of Diaa Eddin's costumes than any other nation, including the U.S., which comes in third. "Have you heard that story

I love to watch the dancer. I love the way the costume flows. The truth is, though, you may design a beautiful elaborate costume. but if an ordinary woman wears it, it won't attract much attention."

... Ahmed Diaa Eddin

about the American womant" he says. "She had a spinal injury and started belly dancing for rehabilitation. She came to Egypt and danced for three years. It's a famous story."

Dian Eddin enjoys imparting knowledge, stitching together a bit of this and a bit of that, giving thoughts shape. He's busy, but in no particular hurry talking to a customer, answering the phone, looking over a costume, moving through his office like a magpie, collecting needles, spindles and ideas.

"Bolly dancing is a legracy."

"Belly dancing is a legacy from the time of the Pharaohs," he says. "Ancient Egyptians believed the belly



Mississauga, Ontario, home in July 2006. Peterson, whose early talent and speedy fingers made him one

## Pianist, jazz great Oscar Peterson dies at 82

Associated Press writer

TORONTO Oscur
Peterson, whose early talent
and speedy fingers made him
one of the world's hest known
jazz planists, died at age 82.
His death was confirmed
by Hazel McCallion, mayor of
Mississauga, Ontario, the
Toronto suburb where
Peterson lived, McCallion
told The Associated Press
that he died of kidney failure
hut that she did not know
when. The hospital and
police refused to comment.
Tie's been going downhill
in the last few months, slow-

ing up," McCallion said, call-ing Peterson a "very close

During an illustrious career During an illustrious career spanning seven decades, Peterson played with some of the biggest names in jazz, including Ella Fitzgerald, Count Basie and Dizzy Gillesple. He is also remembered for touring in a trio with Ray Brown on bass and Herb Ellis on guitar in the 1950s.

Peterson's impressive col-lection of awards include all of Canada's highest honors, such as the Order of Canada, of Canadas rignest monoral, such as the Order of Canada, as well as a Lifetime Grammy (1997) and a spot in the International Jazz Hall of

International Tazz Hall of Fame.

His growing stature was reflected in the admiration of his peers. Duke Ellington referred to him as "Maharajah of the keyboard," while Count Basic once said "Oscar Peterson plays the best ivory box I've ever heard."

"The world has lost an important Jazz player," said McCallion. It isn't just a loss for Canada, he was world measurement of the said of the

Born on Aug. 15, 1925, in a poor neighborhood south-west of Montreal, Peterson obtained a passion for music

from his father. Daniel Peterson, a railway porter-and self-taught musician, bestowed his love of music to his five children, offering them a means to escape

Oscar Peterson learned to play trumpet and plano at a young age, but after a bout with tuberculosis had to con-

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Thailand's top parties scramble to find partners for ruling coalition

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) Thailand's leading parties wood possible partners for wooed possible pariners for a coalition government on Monday, a day after allies of ousted Prime Minlster Thaksin Shinawatra came out on top in the country's first election since he was ousted in a September 2006 military coup.

The pro-Thaksin People's Power Party won just under the property of the pro-Thaksin People's Power Party won just under the property of property of the pro-Thaksin People's Power Party won just under the property of property of the p

prime minister's mostly virual supporters would be happy to see him return despite allegations he was corrupt and abused power. Not so happy to see Thaksin return would be those who deposed him—the military. Bangkok's educated middle class, and the country's elite, including elements around the monarchy who felt threatened by his accumulation of power. Under an interim military-installed government that

succeeded Thaksin, they changed the constitution to limit the influence of big parties and sought to demoparties and sought to demo-nize him as a corrupt destroyer of democracy. His return could undo their efforts and put their own positions in jeopardy. Ahead of the vote, rumors even swirled that the mili-tary would stage a new coup if faced with the prospect of a Tipaksin comeback, and the prospect of the come of the minder wowed to abide by the election results.





WATER SPORTS ore info, or piedge forms:

## To slow drivers, German town drops traffic signals

BOHMTE, Germany — Like countless other communities, this west German town lived for years with a miserable traffic problem. Each day, thousands of cars and big trucks barreled along the twolane main street, forcing pedestri-

lane main street, forcing pedestrians and cyclists to scamper for their lives.

The usual remedies—from safety crossings to speed traps—did no good. So the clitizens of Bohmte decided to take a big risk. Since September, they've been tearing up the sidewalks, removing curbs and erasing street markers as part of a radical plan to abandon nearly all traffic regulations and force people to rely on common sense

"Generally speaking, what we want is for people to be confused. When they're confused, they'll be more alert and drive more carefully."

- Will Ladner, a deputy mayor of Bohmte, Germany

and courtesy instead.

This contrarian approach to traffic management, known as shared space, is gaining a foothold in Europe. the Netherlands

Towns in the Netherlands, Denmark, Britain and Belgium have tossed out their traffic lights and stop signs in a bid to reclaim their streets for everyone. The assumption is that drivers are accustomed to owning the road

and rarely pay attention to speed limits or caution signs anyway. Removing traffic lights and erasing lane markers, the thinking goes,

will cause drivers to get nervous and slow down.

"Generally speaking, what we want is for people to be confused." said Willi Ladner, a deputy mayor in Bohmie, "When they're con-tused, they'll be more alert and drive more carefully."

The European Union has subsi-dized shared space programs in seven cities in five countries. Interest is spreading worldwide with cities in countries from Australia to Canada sending emissaries to Europe to see whether the experiment works. In Bolunte, a town of 13,000 people in the state of Lower Saxony, residents were fired of all the tracks of Lower Saxony, residents were the dot of all the tracks of the state of Lower Saxony, residents when the state of the s

traffic bureaucrats to approve the

traffic bureaucrats to approve the unorthodox approach. They were grinding their teeth, but fingly they agreed. Tachier said.

On Nov. 26, a small section of the construction of the cons

is one of the most talked-

### In Britain, a respected, if rowdy, holiday ritual: Office parties known for booze, brawls

By Mary Jordan and Kevin Sullivan The Washington Post

LONDON — Just before midnight, the well-dressed, 25-year-old financial trader arrived by ambulance at the makeshift hospital ten pitched at a train station in central London. Blood oozed from bis seeds, draining ble central London. Blood obzed from his scalp, staining his elegant pink-striped/shirt. "What happened to your head?" asked Dixie Dean, an

emergency care specialist with the London Ambulance

with the London Ambulance Service, as she wrapped gauze around his head and checked for a skull fracture. "I don't remember," said the dazed man. He was the latest injured drunk this busy night in the medical tent set up to care for easualties of the infa-mous British office party.

In many parts of the world, companies hold Christmas parties—or holiday year-end bashes—for employees. But in Britain, the gatherings have become a particularly potent institution, legendary for massive booze consumption that leads to flistights, firings and spur-of-the-blurry-moment indiscretions in boardrooms and parking loss. Dean compared the Christmas season in Britain to New Year's Eve in New York—except that here, the binges run nightly or two sold. The spike in alcohol-related emergency calls from office parties is so predictable that the ambulance service has a special medical vehicle to patrol the streets. With room for five people.

patrol the streets.

With room for five people, its known as the "Booze Bus"

or "Vomit Comet."
"Yet the office Christmas
party endures," said Sam Gill,
who has been helping plan
them for 19 years. They are
such a tradition that even in
slow economic times, "it
vould take a lot to take the
Christmas office party off the
calendar."

Lawvers are increasingly Lawyers are increasingly warning companies that they should not provide free-flow-ing alcohol for fear of injury and sexual harassment law-suits like those that have aris-

suits like those that have arisen in the past.
In one case, a London lawyer won and collected damages believed to be well over \$1 million after a senior lawyer at her investment bank made remarks about her breasts and sex life at the office party. Another executive won a suit after claiming

she was ridiculed by her boss at the office Christmas party about her decision to convert to Islam and eat halal meat. Gill said American companies based in England are a bit "more concerned about lift"more concerned about lift attorney at the england are a bit to the constant of the constant of the constant of the constant of the consistently comes out at or

awareness in Britain — which consistently comes out at or near the top in surveys of Europe's heaviest-drinking countries — say tradition or Burope's heaviest-drinking countries — say tradition or not, it may be time to tame the Christmas party. This month, Prime Minister Gordon Brown convened a summit meeting on the summit meeting on binge drinking at his 10 Downing Street office.

But, despite the warnings, many in Britain are standing

up for parties with an almost patriotic vigor. As one enthu-stastic commentator on 'Comment is free,' the popu-lar forum on the Guardian Unlimited Web site, recently noted, 'Projectile vomiting is our birthright.' These days, the office party

is one of the most taked-about topics on Internet blogs and radio call-in shows. People regularly share humil-iating office party experi-ences, while others warn of dangers ranging from broken teeth to unplanned pregnan-ries.

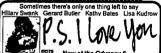
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DECEMBER 25, 2007

INSIDE: Comics, D2-3 | Horoscope, D2 | Dear Abby, D3 | Today in history, D3

# Urban hay ride

Church group spreads cheer the old-fashioned way

In the 12 years Eric Lec has provided horse-drawn rides, the provided horse horse-drawn land, and lack, Lec's gentle Belgian dans, don't seem to mind. Quietly the 7- and 8-year-old horses nuzzle each other as their hooves make a pinging clop, clop in a church asphalt parking lot, patiently waiting for their riders. Finally teems from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' Tivin Falls 17th Ward burst from the doors and make their way to fresh they provide suting, lim the wagon, where bales of fresh thay provide suting, lim and shake the laziness off their rich, tan manes. Laughing the teens settle down. Lee gives the reins a shake, yells "Yahl" and the wagon bursts forward. With a switch of the generator behind the driver, con spreading merriment

and the group — set on spreading merriment through the residential area of eastern Twin Falls — discusses what song to sing first.
With no caroling books and

Please see CAROLING, Page D4





as Ballestero, 14, of Twin Falls, sings with friends while caroling on Wednesday. There are too many ages out therey. Ballestero says. 'I hope this belps relieve the stress of skopping — the hurry and scu helps people focus on the giring of Christmas.'

"These kids, out caroling, just brings such joy and happiness. The spirit they bring for Christmas, it's just wonderful.'

- Margie Anderson



Two of Eric Lee's horses stand ready before pulling a wagon of carolers Wednesday night in Twin Falls.

## Carolers explain: More than just singing 'Silent Night'

Debra Green,

LDS 17th Ward volunteer





Celeste McMillen, LDS 17th ward volunteer This helps the kids think about something other than themselves.

Dustin Davids, 15 "I hope this helps people remember all the wonderful things we have to enjoy."



Kris Hall, 14 "I hope the people that hear/ us feel happy."



Taylor, 13 "I'm here for fun."





## Send us your wintry country-life shots

Here in Country Roads, the mes-News now and then towcases some of its readers set photographs of rural top-s. We dant offer prizes, but e publish our favorites along th our judges' comments. For the next round, were ruticularly interested in the uff of winter — hay wagons

bouncing over icy ruis, perhaps, or chore icids hauling warm water to the animals. Here's how to enter:

• Photos must be taken in Magic Valley, Mini-Cassia or the Wood River Valley,

• Stick to recent photos, please. Nothing older than approximately one year.

• For our case of judging, submit prints (they can be

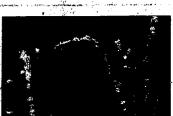
pain-paper printouts or stan-dard photo prints). After we choose winners, we'll ask them to e-mail high-resolu-tion digital versions for publi-cation. cation.

• Identify the people in your photograph, and where and which it was taken. And, of course, 'tell us, who shot the photo. (If you aren't the photo, tographer, you must include

the photographer's written permission for publication in the Times-News.) If you like, include a few extra comments about the photo. • Include, your address, phone number and e-mall address.

address.

Mall entries to: Virgini Hutchins, Features Edito Times-News, P.O. Box 546 Twin Falls, ID 83303.



ng the Snake River earlier this m

DID YOU SEE THE

CHRISTMAS STAR

B.C

By Johnny Hart

Baby Blues







00PS

OH.NO





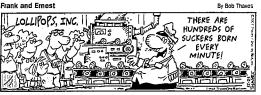






























THE END OF THE SECRET PART OF THE COMPANY'S SECRET SANTA TRADITION MO DETAILED SE INC. - DIST. BY 12-24 COCOMICS CON / LOUSSING









## Stand under the mistletoe, Cancer

IF DEC. 25 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Opportunity only knocks once and, that milght be occurring right now. He confident that the people close to you now have your best interests at heart and that people who are a bad influence carri get their foot in the door. What you start be confident to the confidence of the confidence o

21): It isn't necessary to splurge to have fun. One piece of pie should be enough. Encourage visitors to take a walk, take a drive or play games rather than being mere spectators on the side-lines. HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

to light a fire under someone who is nodding on the soft after a huge holiday feast.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stand under the misstece early in the day. It won't detract from your chartsma if your hands get soiled putting together the parts of a present. Someone loves you just as you are.

as you are.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):
Spread enthusiasm around
like butter and others will
respond. Physical exercise
through sports, games or a
simple after dinner walk suits

simple after dinner walk suffs your mood.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22);
Your mental skills are perfectly tuned to putting together a bleyele or any intricate new gift that came with four pages of instructions and six bags of parts.

of instructions and six pags or parts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):
Use a camera to capture memorable moments with loved ones. Outdoor activities should be arranged to burn off excess energy and an overload of calories.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov.

play games rather than being mere spectators on the side-lines.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):It doesn't matter whether you are in Southern California or northern Maine; this is a good day to walk off a large meal and commune with nature.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 13): Holiday magic is in the air; enjoy pleasant times with towed ones. Be optimistic if Santa forgot something in your stocking. You may be able to trade a gift for the right size tomorrow.

AURITARIUS (IAn. 20.-Feb. 18): ARATIUS (IAn. 20.-Feb. 18): Respectively with the part of the property of the property



Blondie



The Born Loser

























nnis the Menace



n the Dentils Menore Toam

By Bil Keane THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"Aw, Mommy! Do I HAFTA eat Christmas breakfast?"

## Troubled foster kids need stable adults for support

DEAR ABBY, Thank you for instructing: Pulled in Two in California: (Now, 1) to stick by her decision to keep a troubled child out of the system. As a newly ficensed educator, I find the attitude of the granddaughter to be indicative of our times. It appears the glrfs mother has completely dropped the ball. Today, sadly, mediocrily is the norm, How can we expect better from our children if those who are supposed to teach them, both at home and at school, settle for so lite; left Grandma should stand firm. By doing so, she'll teach their granddaughter a long overdue lesson.

TEACHER

overdue lesson.

— TEACHER IN ALABAMA
DEAR TEACHER: I agree with you about the importance of adults teaching by example, in this case, it could be the defining moment in her foster child's life, Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I was I is when my husband's 11-year-old sister moved in with us. Their parents are convicted drug addicts who never had time for their children. I shudder to think about where "Klm" might be if we hadn't taken her.

her. Her parents didn't make her go to school because they didn't feel like getting up to



take her. She had no rules and got her own way so she would leave them alone. We had a hard time with her at first because she didn't want to

hard one want to follow rules.

Kin is now 17, a junior in high school and has made the honor roll for the first time since she was in grammar school. She is learning that her life is not defined by her parents action. She happy, healthy and we is animered, and I'm pract for a "Palled in two is doing the right 1994, selds can't control what they te born into but we can help them control what they become by not giving up to them.

ienj. — KIM'S 23-YEAR-OLD "MOM" IN ARKANSAS

DEAR ABBY: That grand-mother needs to get herself to a foster/adoption parent sup-port group or a therapist who specializes in adoption. Her local foster/adoption agency can provide a contact. I also suggest Adoptive Families

magazine, which is online.
— DIANE
IN CASTLETON, N.Y.

IN CASTLETON, N.Y.

DEAR ABBY: Your reply to "Pulled in Two" was excelent for the property of the transport of transport

- ROGER K, BREA, CALIE

TO MY CHRISTIAN READ-ERS: A very Merry Christmas to you all!

#### TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, Dec. 25, the 359th day of 2007. There are six days left in the year. This is Christmas Day.

#### Today's highlight

On Dec. 25, 1818, "Silent Night," written by Franz Gruber and Father Joseph Mohr, was performed for the first time, at the Church of St. Nikolaus in Oberndorf,

#### On this date

On this date

In A.D. 336, the first recorded celebration of Christmas on Dec. 25 took place in Rome.

In 1066, William the Conqueror was crowned king of England.

In 1776, Gen. George Washington and his troops crossed the Delaware River for a surprise attack against Hessian forces at Tenton, NJ. In 1907, Jazz singer and bandleader Cab Calloway was born in Rochester, NY.

In 1926, Hirohito became emperor of Japan, succeeding his father, Emperor Yoshibito.

(Hirohito was formally enthroned almost two years

enthrome was formany enthrome where the states and the states are states are

cutted blowing a popular uprising in 1991, Soviet President Mikhall S. Gorbachewwent on television to announce his meigration as the elghth and final leader of a communist superpower that had already gone out of existence. Ten years agot Richard Bliss, a field technician for Cynalcomm Inc. accused of spying in Russia, arrived in San Diego after Russian authorities were persuaded to thim return home. Comedian Jerry Scinfeld

announced plans to fold his highly successful NBC sitcom "Seinfeld" at the end of that

highly successul New, successive New Section of the season.

Five years ago: Pope John Paul II delivered a Christmas message in which the said war had to be and could be avoided even in a world made fearful by terrorism. A major storm made for a white Christmas in parts of the United States of the Section of the Section

### TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Singer Tony Martin is 94.
Actor Dick Miller is 73.
Actors Hanna Schysulla is
Grigger Hymn-and-bles
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Grigger Hymn-and-bles
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Sandy is 62. Singer Immy
Buffett is 61. Football Hallof-Famer Larry Csonka is
61. Country singer Barbara
Mandrell is 59. Actress Sissy
Spacek is 58. Actress CCII
Pounder is 55. Singer Annie
Lennox is 53. Reggae singermusician Robin Campbell
(UB40) is 53. Country singer



"Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind." Mary Ellen Chase,

THOUGHT

erican writer (1887-1973)

### Coin worth more than \$1,000 given to Salvation Army bell ringer in Florida

PENSACOLA, Fla. — A plat-lnum coin estimated to be worth more than \$1,000 couldn't fit in a Salvation Army

couldn't fit in a Salvation Army kettle, so the donor handed it over to the bell ringer. An unidentified person donated the coin Friday outside a Belk department store. The man who donated the coin tried to put it in the kettle, but it wouldn't fit. Salvation Army spokeswoman Yvonne Warthen said. So he just handed it to the bell ringer."

just handed it to \_\_\_\_ ringer."
The coins face value is \$100, but the Salvation Army had it appraised, and initial esti-mates put its value at about

\$1,300. The stamped with an image of the Statue of Liberty.

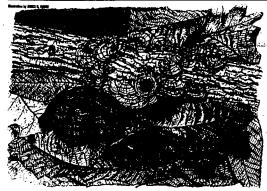
The Salvation Army has also received at least eight gold coins in its kettles this year. One, a one-ounce South African Krugerrand worth about \$800, turned up earlier this month in Washington. And gold coins have turned up all the way back to 1982, the group sald.

In Morgantown, W.Va., Salvation Army Major Richard Hathom said the still doesn't know who slipped a \$1,000 bill into one of the charity's Chrismas kettles;

Each Christmas since 1978,

Each Christmas since 1978.

someone has coverly stuffed one of the big bills into a kettle in the northern West Virginia university city. Talls year, Italien says, the donor alerted the Salvation of the continuation of the continuatio



### In dirt, a dynamic display of biodiversity

That last leaf falls from the now-naked tree and the gar-dener's heart sinks. Winter is

here.
But for the creatures of the underworld, as biologist lames B. Nardi calls them, the leaf arrives like the farted call. As it settles on the soil surface, organisms that can be seen by us, such as wood lice, and those that cannot, such as bacteria, set into motion a hidden, primal banquer featuring hordes of revelers and many courses.

turing hordes of revelers and many courses. First, woodlice, millipedes and criters called springtails earl little holes in the leaf, pro-viding openings for hungry bacteria and fungal threads. Their feeding, in turn, makes the leaf careass more polar-able to the larvae of care flies and midges. Next to feast are fly maggots. Then snalls, mites, crickets, earwigs and something called a bristeatil have their fill. The countless jaw marks now provide a jaw marks now provide a foothold for more bacteria. As

have intensity and a second of the control of the c rain forest to have a to the biodiversity at our feet.

Thin leaves that have a

rain forest to tuxurate in inbiodiversity at our feet.

Thin leaves that have a
higher nitrogen content, such
as an elm trees, will break
down in a year. Maple leaves,
with more earbon, rot in two
years. Oak and heech,
tougher and with a greater
ratio of carbon to nitrogen,
take roughly three years to
decay. But the gardener can
vastly accelerate that process
by chopping up the leaves,
giving a far greater surface
area to the microbes.
For really speedy decay,
you can start a compost pile,
where the correct ratio of
brown to green matter, constant moisture and a certain
mass of muterial soon will
invite the sugar fungl. They
secrete antibiotics to ward off
rival fungl and besteria, and
they survive the high heat
general the survive the high heat
general the heart of a new
compost pile.
Nardi writes that "the billions upon billions of soil
bacteria exert an extraordifary influence on the health
of the earth." For example, if
you were to measure the
metabolic activity of bacteria
in the top six inches of an acre
of fertile soil, he writes, you
would find that it exceeds the

of fertile soll, he writes, you would find that it exceeds the metabolic energy of 50,000

people.

What is even more amazing, I'd say, is that we as a species have been largely ignorant of this universe for

so long. Nardi quotes Leonardo da Vinci as saying that "we know more about the movement of celestial bodies than about the soil underfoot." Given the expansion of our scientific knowledge of space since those words were tutered, and our indifference to soil life through global addiction to synthetic and harmful fertilizers over the past century, you could argue than that rith las grown wider.

Organic gardeners and armens have always fell intuitively that you ignore the soil armens have always fell intuitively that you ignore the soil at your perfit, but not until the recent past has the scientific basis for that become more broadly under stone scientifics, the control of the scientific than the control of the scientific than the control of the c

the size of the root zone immeasurably.

In support of that, I recall a professional gardener at an arboretum telling me years ago that, beech trees don't show meaningful top growth

Nardi explains that phenomenon in detail. It say that his hook, which is published by the University of Chicago Press and costs \$25, is n must-read for anyone who wants a better understanding of this world and how to protect it.

As he points out, organic matter not only improves the structure of the soil, it also makes niturients available to plants that otherwise would be chemically locked. It also feeds this wast world of vertications, the structure of the soil, it also feeds this wast world of verticates, insects and microbes.

It is ironic that the growth and health of plants are dependent on decay, but pershaps it isn't so much an oddiny as the natural order of life on our planet, with disastrous consequences for the soil world. "Over time." Nardi writes, soil that loses more plant and animal material than it gains eventually loses its crumbs, its structure, its

and animal material than its gains eventually loses its crumbs, its structure, its pores, and its air spaces." In warm elimates, the rate of decay is far greater than in cooler ones. Once temperatures exceed 80 degrees, nature alone cannot replensish the amount of naterial consumed.



Brianna Johansen, left, 15, of Twin Falls, rides along with Natalle Beinap, 15, also of Twin Falls, during a night

### Caroling

Continued from page D1
just memory to rely on, it's
easy to tell the group hasm's
prepped prior to heading
out Chuckling, they wing h
for a casual version of
'lingle Bells.' It's hard to
hear over the humming
generator, and a decision
must be made. Singing Or
lights?
They decide that lights

must be made. Singingt Or lights?

They decide that lights will do unlithey make it to their first destination. Nobody's home and so, clip, clop, clip, clop, the horses move on.

"If some of the boys jump out and ring the doorbels, that works to get people out of their home." Lee yells behind him, turning off the lights. "Just ring the bell and keep inoving to the next house."

For blocks, two feisty boys sprint from house to house. Curious, people seronges roll their eyes and quickly shut their doors.

At one home an excited

"It's different than I thought it would be." er Chet Pettingill, 15

snuggle in her sweater. The weather is mild and the pair stand in the doorway, waving to the carolers. Cheer spreads down

neer spreads down dow Vlew Drive.

waving to the carones.
Cheer spreads down
Meadow Vlew-Drive.
"This is just wonderful,"
says Margie Anderson, who
stands with slippered feet
on her porch as her husband, Jerry Anderson,
peers from the front door,
"These kids, out caroling,
just brings such joy and
happiness. The spirit they
bring for Christmas, it's just
wonderful."
Too soon the ride is
almost over, indicated by
the horses turning back
onto Elizabeth Boulevard.
The generator's whir fills
the air, replacing the sound
of singing, and the lights
burst on.
Back in the church, the
kids discuss the ride.

Back in the church, the

and sing songs in front of people's homes but I'm glad we stayed on the wagon. I'm just glad some of the people seemed to enjoy the caroling. That's the whole reason we did this."

Blair Koch may be reached at blairkoch@gmail.com or 316-2607.

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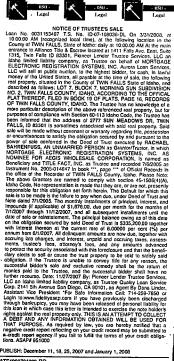
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PUBLISH: December 11, 18, 25, 2007 and January 1, 2008

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PUBLISH: December 18 and 25, 2007

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PUBLISH: December 18 and 25, 2007

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IMPORTANT
Ploaso addross all logal adventising os:
LEE and a l

LOST cat Black/Grey Tabby, neutered

LOST cat Black/Grey Tabby. neutered mnle, long body, green cyes. (Named Solomon) No collar. Lost in vicinity of Paint-brush & Trotter. (SE Twin Falls) Roward. 738-0055/420-5354

OST diamond wad-ding ring, ladies. If found, please call 208-423-6453.



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four no-trump redoubled.

but a much rarer 920 for scoring four not-rump redoubled.
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What the declarer actually did after winning dummy's diamond ace was to run the heart nine to West's 10. West cleared the diamonds, and East now carelessly pitched a low heart (the queen would have been far safer). Declarer won the diamond in hand and exited with a low heart, leaving West able to win his heart king and run the diamonds. But how could West tell if his partner had the bare heart ace or queen left? Unable to bear the ridicule if

had the bare heart ace or queen left? Unable to bear the ridicule if

left? Unable to bear the ridicule if he were to reduce his three heart winners to two, West played low, and East had to win the heart queen. Declarer now had his 10 tricks, tied with a big red ribbon.

H you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail blim at bobbywolff or mindspring com. Copyright 2007, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

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