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WINNING IN, GROWING OUT
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2007 was deadliest year for U.S. troops in Iraq.
NATION/WORLD: A7

Good Morning
High: 25
Low: 10
Partly cloudy and chilly with light winds. Details: B4

Times-News

MONDAY
December 31, 2007
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LEGISLATURE 2008

Ready for a comeback



House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum, visits with students in December in the Wood River Valley. In traditionally Republican Idaho, Democrats have struggled for the past 50 years, with success coming in waves. Many party members and political experts credit Jaquet's recruitment and organizational skills for last year's six wins in the House.

Idaho Democrats seek a stronger presence

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

In what is considered the nation's reddest state, Democrats are smiling. In Idaho, the fourth-fastest growing state, Democrats now find their long-time platform — better schools, environmental protection and cleaner energy — suddenly at the forefront.

Last year, the Idaho House followed a national trend by electing six new Democrats. Even the party's losses weren't so bad. In 2006, three Senate races were won

by Republicans by less than 500 votes. "People are beginning to realize there needs to be balance in state government and they are tired of the good ol' boys," said House Minority Leader Wendy Jaquet, D-Ketchum. "Democrats are focused on what's good public policy for the state. The state is changing and becoming more urban."

But the Democrats' boundless optimism hits a wall when it comes to the Legislature that will convene next month.

"They haven't had much to say about much of anything for quite a while," said 84-year-old Perry Swisher, a former legislator who served for both parties. "The balance is not even a topic in Idaho. Don't we have the most partisan Legislature in the country? Don't we have more Republicans than everyone else?"

For the first time since 1928, Republicans control the Legislature and all statewide offices. It's been more than 12 years since a Democrat occupied the governor's mansion and almost 50 years since Democrats controlled the Legislature. In the coming session, the score will be 79 Rep-

CONTINUED ON PAGE A4

CSI wants higher-ed law changed

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

College of Southern Idaho officials want legislators this session to double the community college tuition cap and the amount of liquor funds appropriated to community colleges.

The proposed changes are being jointly pushed by CSI, North Idaho College and the College of Western Idaho, CSI officials said.

The colleges want politicians to more than double the in-state annual tuition cap from \$1,250 to \$2,500.

Current law limits community college tuition,



Marina Wells, a College of Southern Idaho student from Burley, gets situated in a math class Aug. 11. The college is asking the Legislature to increase the annual in-state tuition cap.

Please see CSI, Page A4

Countdown to caucuses

McCain, Huckabee attack Romney; Clinton touts White House experience

By Ron Fournier
Associated Press writer

Elections 2008

Online
For comprehensive election coverage, click on the Election 2008 logo at MagValley.com

DES MOINES, Iowa — Mike Huckabee says John McCain is a hero. McCain says Huckabee is a good man. And they both seem to agree on this: Mitt Romney is neither.

The Republican rivals joined Sunday to criticize Romney — McCain in New Hampshire called him a waffler and Huckabee in Iowa questioned whether he can be trusted with the presidency, a sign of Romney's strength in both states.

Romney's camp accused the hard-charging Huckabee of "testiness and irritability," a reflection of the brass-knuckles phase of the most open presidential race in half a century. Much is at stake: Iowa kicks off the election process Thursday with Democratic and Republican caucuses that could propel two candidates to the nomination.

"Whoever wins Iowa could be the next president of the United States," said Democratic consultant Stephanie Cutter, adding that a compressed election schedule may put a premium on momentum this year "and Iowa can be a rocket booster."

New Hampshire votes just five days after Iowa.

The dynamics aren't quite the same on the Republican side, but GOP consultant Scott Reed said Iowa "is going to make or break three-quarters of all the candidates."

Polls show Democrats Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards lead for the lead in Iowa. Clinton and Obama are closely bundled in New Hampshire, too, where voters are often influenced by the results in Iowa.

The Democratic winner here will be hard to stop, especially if it's a well-funded Clinton or Obama.

As six candidates offered their closing messages on the morning talk shows, Obama acknowledged that the criticism about lack of experience in Washington might be taking a toll.

"That may have some effect, but ultimately I'm putting my faith in the people of Iowa and the people of America that they want something better," Obama told NBC's "Meet

Please see CAUCUS, Page A3

Public can print wishes on Times Square confetti

NEW YORK (AP) — Messages and wishes for the new year from people around the world will float down on the New Year's Eve revelers in Times Square when the confetti is dropped.

For the first time, anyone can get a message printed on a piece of the multicolored confetti by visiting the Times Square Information Center or by using the Internet to type a message on a "Wishing Wall Online" — <http://tinyurl.com/2c5e5d>.

The message-carrying pieces will be mixed among the more than one ton of confetti, organizers said. Messages can be serious or silly, said Tim Tompkins, a spokesman for the Times Square Alliance, which organizes the party. So far, messages have included everything from wanting to be taller or having a smarter boss to healthy children and asking for the safe return of a child from Iraq, he said. "Peace in the World," reads one posted on the "virtual wishing wall."

"Another person wrote that they wanted their husband to get a green card so that they could join them here in the states," Tompkins told WABC-TV.

LEGISLATURE 2008

DAY ONE:
A look at Gov. Butch Otter's first year in office; what's ahead for public schools, health care and energy issues.

TODAY:
Democrats climb their way back to balance; fixing urban renewal; what's ahead for community colleges.

DAY THREE:
The inner conflict for Idaho Republicans: health and welfare rule changes; planning for the water year and funding changes for state police.

Did you miss something? Find the entire series online at MagValley.com under the Legislative 2008 button.

MORE INSIDE

Urban renewal
Misunderstood entities of city government will be a leading topic of discussion.
PAGE A3

ONLINE

At MagValley.com hit the Legislature 2008 button for:
• More stories
• Blogs on the legislative players
• A survey
• Links and more



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Classifieds	C3-8	Horoscope	02	Movies	A5, A7	Option	A6	Year-end review	A5

TODAY'S FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Tuesday. Includes weather icons and temperature forecasts.

Today: Partly cloudy and chilly. Light winds, with highs in the low to mid 20s.
Tonight: New Year's Eve celebrations will be met with cold temperatures. Lows near 10.
Tomorrow: 2008 begins on a cold note. Skies will be mostly sunny with highs reaching the middle 20s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

Alcohol-free, All Ages, New Year's Eve Party featuring "A Rotterdam November," "Dies," "The Send"; also Mechanical Bull, inflatable games, food and vendor area and more.
Arts and Entertainment: Various local events and performances.

Government: Lincoln County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 111 W. B. Shoshone, 886-2173.
Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

Health and Recovery: Fit and Fall Pro Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 301 Main St. N., Kimberly, 737-5988.
Silver Sneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program, designed specifically for Medicare beneficiaries' unique health and physical needs.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicalvalley.com by fax, 734-5538 or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 5418, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.

ON THE AGENDA

- WEDNESDAY: Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
THURSDAY: Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.
FRIDAY: Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068.

Snowpack level chart comparing current snowpack to a 30-year average for various locations like Salmon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Big Lost, Little Lost, Henrys Fork/Teton, and Upper Snake Basin.

LONGING FOR SPRING
Who salivates over seed catalogs?
TUESDAY IN COUNTRY ROADS

WHAT'S NEW ONLINE
Check out our Legislature 2008 page to find:
• Stories • Bios on the legislative players
• A survey • Links and more

Also, submit information about your band in the Local Vocals section of www.tricket.com

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

IOWA

Candidates have plenty of politics to dine on in Iowa, New Hampshire

DES MOINES — A bit of hubbly, a few serious of Auld Lang Syne and candidates, candidates and more candidates. It's New Year's Eve in Iowa and New Hampshire.
With the caucuses and primary just days away, many presidential hopefuls are spending every precious minute campaigning — even if it's while voters and the rest of the world ring in the New Year with celebrations, not politics, on their mind.

NEW YEAR'S EVE TRADITION



Lola, left, and Messy, right, pause during the annual Key West Duckyland in Key West, Fla., on New Year's Eve 2006. The third New Year's Eve procession of canines down sidewalks that border the island city's Duval Street begins at noon today. Organizers anticipate the event will attract more than 100 dogs and their owners.

KENYA

President declares victory, sparks unrest

NAIROBI — President Mwai Kibaki was declared the winner Sunday of Kenya's presidential election and hastily fled to his home in a defining widespread concern over vote irregularities and sparking riots and tribal violence.
As smoke rose over parts of Nairobi, Kenya's emerging democracy also appeared to be smoldering. Before the chaotic election count, which saw returning officials disappear and European Union observers turned away without access to tallies, analysts and diplomats had viewed Kenya as one of the most promising democracies in Africa.

GEORGIA

Four days of rain might save Atlanta area from driest-year-on-record

ATLANTA — Rain fell in the city for a fourth consecutive day Sunday and meteorologists decided it probably would be enough to save 2007 from going down as the drought-stricken Atlanta area's driest year on record.
The most arid year ever recorded for Atlanta was 1954, when only 31.80 inches of rain fell.
Meteorologists had said it appeared that this year would have even less rain than that, saying rain falling Sunday morning would taper off and quit. However, showers continued and by 2:50 p.m. Sunday the 2007 cumulative rainfall was up to 31.56 inches — with a band of moderate rain moving in from Alabama.
"It's likely" the 1954 record will stay intact, said Mike Lenry, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service.
Dry weather was forecast for Monday.

ALABAMA

Helicopter crashes during search for missing hunter; 3 crew killed

TUSCUMBIA — A helicopter crashed in thick woods early Sunday during the search for a missing hunter.
All three people on board, according to the company that owns the aircraft.
The cause of the crash was under investigation, said Jeff Davis, a manager of Air Evac

MASSACHUSETTS

Number of personal data breaches hits record in 2007

BOSTON — The loss or theft of personal data such as credit card and Social Security numbers soared to unprecedented levels in 2007, and the trend isn't expected to turn around any-

COLUMBIA

Oliver Stone joins mission for release of 3 rebel-held hostages

VILLAVICENCIO — With its fearsome record of kidnapping and violence, Colombia's largest guerrilla army might seem a night-

ALABAMA

Helicopter crashes during search for missing hunter; 3 crew killed

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All three people on board, according to the company that owns the aircraft.
The cause of the crash was under investigation, said Jeff Davis, a manager of Air Evac

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Monday, Dec. 31, the 365th and final day of 2007.

Today's highlight:

On Dec. 31, 1879, Thomas Edison first publicly demonstrated his electric incandescent light in Menlo Park, N.J.

On this date:

In 1775, the British repulsed an attack by Continental Army generals Richard Montgomery and Benedict Arnold at Quebec; Montgomery was killed.
In 1857, Britain's Queen Victoria decided to make Ottawa the capital of Canada.
In 1862, President Lincoln signed an act paving the way for West Virginia statehood.
In 1877, President and Mrs. Hayes celebrated their silver anniversary (actually a day late) by re-enacting their wedding ceremony in the White House.
In 1946, President Truman officially proclaimed the end of hostilities in World War II.
In 1974, private U.S. citizens were allowed to buy and own gold for the first time in more than 40 years.
In 1978, Chinese diplomats struck their colors for the final time from the

embassy flagpole in Washington, marking the end of diplomatic relations with the U.S.

In 1905, singer Rick Nelson, 45, and six other people were killed when fire broke out aboard a DC-3 that was taking the group to a New Year's Eve performance in Dallas.

In 1986, 97 people were killed when fire broke out in the Dupont Plaza Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico. (Three hotel workers later pleaded guilty in connection with the blaze.)
In 1987, Robert Mugabe was sworn in as Zimbabwe's first executive president.
Ten years ago: Michael

Kennedy, the 39-year-old son of the late Sen. Robert E. Kennedy, was killed in a skiing accident on Aspen Mountain in Colorado.

In 1956, a deadly fire broke out in a three-story apartment building in Nashville, Tenn., at age 64. In Sorocaba, Brazil, riot troops stormed a prison where inmates were holding hunger strikes of hostages, quickly ending a three-day rebellion without any deaths.
Five years ago: Emerging from holiday seclusion at his Texas ranch, President Bush told reporters an attack by Saddam Hussein or a terrorist ally "would cripple our economy." Two U.N. nuclear inspectors expelled by North Korea arrived in China, leav-

ing the communist nation's nuclear program isolated from international scrutiny.
An explosion at a clandestine fireworks factory in a Mexican port city of Veracruz ignited an entire city block, killing 28 people.
One year ago: The death toll for Americans killed in the Iraq war reached 5,000. Hundreds of Iraqis flooded the village of Dujia where Saddam Hussein was born to see the deposed leader buried in a religious compound 24 hours after his execution. Ordinary Americans paid their respects to former President Ford, walking slowly by his flag-covered casket in the U.S. Capitol.

Times-News

Subscription and contact information for Times-News, including phone numbers, website, and address details.

LEGISLATURE 2008

Urban renewal on the 2008 agenda

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Urban renewal, one of the most misunderstood entities in city government, will be a leading topic of discussion at the 2008 Legislature with the introduction of four bills that would change how the agencies operate.

The proposals appear to illustrate the challenges communities face in combating inner-city blight.

Among the proposals: a change in the way urban renewal boards are formed, how they set operational boundaries, and how long the public can contest agency decisions. The

reforms are sponsored by Rep. Jim Clark, R-Hayden Lake. Clark's North Idaho region has been at the forefront of the urban renewal debate.

URAs in cities such as Coeur d'Alene are watching their bank accounts grow because of rising property assessments. Meanwhile, agencies in places such as Twin Falls are struggling to revitalize with limited budgets.

Because urban renewal agencies generate funds through property assessments within areas known as Revenue Allocation Areas, they can earn big money when property values in allocation areas rise. But when the allocation areas have below-average property values — as do most blighted areas — urban renewal generates little.

Two proposals up for consideration could change the limit on a URA's ability to expand or change Revenue Allocation Areas, as well as the type of property that can be considered for urban renewal — a restriction that will remain in a URA's taxing authority, Clark said.

Although lawmakers representing south-central Idaho said they're not opposed to having some control over URAs, some said that the proposals could hinder their

ability to spur economic development.

Rep. Leon Smith, R-Twin Falls, a member of the House Revenue and Taxation Committee, said URAs are more effective when directed by business-savvy members, not elected community members. He said the current system provides adequate checks-and-balances to prevent the URAs from abusing their authority — including a mayor's ability to discontinue any URA decisions.

Joshua Palmer may be reached at (208) 735-3231 or at jpalmer@magicvalley.com.

www.magicvalley.com

Giving birth is latest job outsourced to India

By Sam Delnick
Associated Press writer

ANAND, India — Every night in this quiet western Indian city, 15 pregnant women prepare for sleep in the spacious house they share, ascending the stairs in a procession of ballooned bellies, to bedrooms that become a landscape of soft hills.

A team of maids, cooks and doctors looks after the women, whose pregnancies would be unusual anywhere else but are common here. The young mothers of Anand, a place famous for its milk, are pregnant with the children of infertile couples from around the world.

The small clinic at Katal Hospital matches infertile couples with local women, cares for the women during pregnancy and delivery, and counsels them afterward. Anand's surrogate mothers, pioneers in the growing field of outsourced pregnancies, have given birth to roughly 40 babies.

More than 50 women in this city are now pregnant with the children of couples from the United States, Taiwan, Britain and beyond. The women earn more than many would make in 15 years. But the pregnancies raise a host of uncomfortable questions that touch on morals and modern science, exploitation and globalization, and that make natural of desires to have a family.

Dr. Nayna Patel, the woman behind Anand's baby boom, defends her work as meaningful for everyone involved.

"There is this one woman who desperately needs a baby and cannot have her own child without the help of a surrogate. And at the other end there is this woman who badly wants to help her (own) family," Patel said. "If this female wants to help the other one... why not allow that?... It's not for any cause. They're helping one another to have a new life in this world."

Experts say commercial surrogacy — or what has been called "wombs for rent" — is growing in India. While no reliable numbers track such pregnancies nationwide, doctors work with surrogates in virtually every major city. The women are impregnated in-vitro with the egg and sperm of couples unable to conceive on their own.

Commercial surrogacy has been legal in India since 2002, as it is in many other countries, including the United States. But India is the leader in making it a viable industry rather than a fertility treatment. Experts say it could take off for the same reasons outsourcing in other industries has been successful: a wide labor pool working for relatively low rates.

Caucus

Continued from page A1

"Meet the Press." Playing the experience card, Clinton told ABC's "This Week" that as first lady from 1993-2001, she was "intimately involved in so much that went on in the White House, here at home and around the world."

While she was one of the most influential first ladies in history, Clinton had her limits. She did not attend National Security Council meetings, did not receive presidential daily briefing on terrorism and other threats and did not have a top level security clearance. She is married to one of the most popular figures in the Democratic Party Bill Clinton, and his return to the White House as first spouse would break new ground.

"He will not have a formal official role, but just as presidents rely on wives, husbands, fathers, friends of long years, he will be my close confidante and adviser as I was with him," Sen. Clinton said, adding that attending NSC meetings "wouldn't be appropriate" for her husband.

Edwards said he couldn't invade Bill Clinton staying out of the mix.

"I think it's a complete fantasy," he said with a laugh on CBS.

In an interview with The Associated Press, Edwards said he was trying to ease fears about his electability by arguing that his sharply populist message is not polarizing. "It's not divisive at all," he said, "it's unifying." A former president as the White House spouse would make history, a common denominator of the 2008 contest. The last wide-open race came in 1952 after Harry Truman opted not to run for re-election and his vice president, Alben Barkley, bowed out because of doubts raised over his age.

A new poll of the Republican race in Iowa suggested that Huckabee's surprise surge in Iowa may have stalled — in his lead over Romney evaporated. A victory here for Romney would send the former Massachusetts governor to his neighboring New Hampshire with a head of steam.

That explains why Huckabee, strongest in Iowa, and McCain, winner of the 2001 GOP primary in New Hampshire, both criticized Romney.

Huckabee said he may have been hurt by Romney ads and mailings criticizing his record as governor of Arkansas.

He accused Romney of running a "very desperate and, frankly, a dishonest campaign."

Romney has been less than candid about his record and campaign plans, a fact seized upon by Huckabee. "If you aren't being honest in obtaining a job," Huckabee said, "can we trust you to be honest if you get the job?"

Huckabee defended McCain against negative ads by Romney. "I felt like that when Mitt Romney went after the integrity of John McCain, he stepped across a line," Huckabee told NBC. "John McCain's hero in this country: He's a hero to me."

Huckabee scrapped a public appearance at an Iowa church, his only open event of the day, in favor of attending a private service and taping new ads — perhaps to counter Romney's.

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LEGISLATURE 2008

THE SENATE

Leaders

- Pro Tom Bab
- Guides
- Majority Leader
- Bart Davis
- Assistant Majority Leader Joe Stenger
- Minority Caucus Chair Brad Little
- Minority Leader Clint Stennett
- Assistant Minority Leader David Langhans
- Minority Caucus Chair Kate Kelly

South-Central Idaho's delegation includes eleven of the 15 members who are either in leadership or who are chairmen or vice-chairmen of committees, and two more sit on the budget-setting panel. Here's a look at the senators most likely to influence the course of the session.

Local Senators

- Denton Darrington
- Dean Cameron
- Chuck Colner
- Tom Cannon



Brad Little
R-Emmett

A long-time rancher and major property owner in Idaho who's popular on both sides of the aisle, Little is said to be a candidate to replace Lt. Gov. Jim Risch if Risch is elected to the U.S. Senate. Little has been known to change course; he was initially opposed to last year's sales tax increase, and in 2006 he opposed a gay marriage amendment in committee but supported it on the floor.



Clint Stennett
D-Ketchum

A former House member, Stennett was elected to the Senate in 1994 and has led the caucus since 1998. Senate Democrats are considered friends of sportsmen, environmentalists and educators — alliances that have both helped and hurt them over the years.



Kate Kelly
D-Boise

Kelly is a popular and outspoken attorney who has learned to form alliances with her more conservative colleagues. Last year she continued a push to promote good government and transparency measures, and saw success in an open-meeting law. This year she plans for another try at a "revolving door" bill to prevent state workers from leaving office and immediately lobbying their former colleagues.



Tom Cannon
R-Buhl

A moderate Republican, his hard work paid off last year when he became chairman of the Agriculture Affairs Committee. Cannon often backs party votes on education and social matters, but has strong support from agriculture groups and worked to establish a dairy research facility in the Magic Valley.



Chuck Colner
R-Twin Falls

Another one of the most moderate Republicans in the Legislature, Colner is on the board of directors of the Twin Falls Canal Company. In 2006 he joined two Republicans and six Democrats in the Senate to oppose the gay marriage amendment. Last year he went against his party to support legislation that would have given illegal immigrants health care.



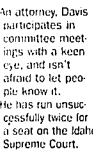
Dean Cameron
R-Rupert

Co-chairman of the powerful budgeting panel (along with district-mate Maine Bell), Cameron is high on agriculture and education issues, particularly charter schools. In recent years, he's taken more political risks: In 2006, he broke with former Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to resist unorthodox highway funding, then took the same public stance last year, even defending a Democratic colleague in a spat with the House.



Denton Darrington
R-Deer

With more than 25 years in the Legislature he's the longest-serving lawmaker. Chairman of the Judiciary and Rules Committee, Darrington has overseen increasing penalties in abuse cases, more oversight of jails and tougher sentences. A former teacher who eventually left the teacher's union, he's skeptical about this year's \$60 million proposal to change teacher salaries.



Bart Davis

An attorney, Davis participates in committee meetings with a keen eye, and isn't afraid to let people know it. He has run unsuccessfully twice for the Idaho Supreme Court.

Democrats

Continued from page A1

A Democratic demise

Last December House Democrats stormed out of the chamber to protest their denial of a filled seat on the budget committee. In yet another new House Speaker Lawrence E. Denney of Idaho unfairly barring the Democrats, who had gained six seats two months earlier. With 29 percent of the House seats, the Democrats realized, they deserved a little more clout.

Leaders of both parties insist they're not on. But the incident is a reminder of the GOP's lasting dominance. In 1950, Democrats won the Legislature and every statewide office but governor. And Democrat Frank Church was two years into the first of his four terms in the U.S. Senate.

Then came the 1960s, when Idaho's well-established populist streak dovetailed along with its interest in an ever-more liberal Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, traditional sources of Democratic support were fading. Mining and logging shrank, eliminating an organized labor job base that had traditionally aligned with Democrats.

Idaho Democrats, particularly in the West, also suffered from growing national discontent with their party, which was seen as soft on international affairs and increasingly corrupt and out of touch after nearly a half-century of control in Congress.

The shift to Republican dominance can best be seen by noting the rise of former Republican House Speaker Bruce Newcomb.

In 1982, then-Democrat Newcomb, of Burley, unsuccessfully ran against Republican Republican Dan Dingert (now the longest-serving state senator).

"In the Legislature they still serve in the role of the loyal opposition in raising questions and presenting alternative viewpoints. Overall, it's hard to pinpoint major policy achievements, and that's the problem of the minority party in what is arguably a one-party state."

— Jim Weatherly, retired Boise State University professor

But he became disenchanted with the Democrats at a state convention where, he says, the party emphasized environment protection and labor unions while dismissing concerns of timber, mining and agriculture. Newcomb said that was "foolish."

He joined the Republicans and in 1996 was elected to the House, where he remained for 20 years.

Close, but not that close

Democrats were able to win the governor's office from 1970 through 1984, with Cecil Andrus serving longer than any Republican.

In 1990, Andrus led a revival that included the two U.S. House seats, and several statewide offices. The State Senate was tied.

As a minority, Democrats can be influential when Republicans are divided. Last year, Democrats joined with moderate Republicans on local-option taxes. The move failed, but it showed that Democrats can still hold some clout.

"In the Legislature they still serve in the role of the loyal opposition in raising questions and presenting alternative viewpoints," said retired Boise State University professor Jim Weatherly.

But, he added, "Overall, it's hard to pinpoint any major policy achievements, and that's the problem of the minority

party in what is arguably a one-party state."

What makes an Idaho Democrat?

There's consensus in both parties that all state lawmakers are generally conservative. During the session, most bills pass unanimously, or close to it. Some Democrats even concede that they would be Republicans if they lived elsewhere.

But when the differences come out, they're as loud as a hawk's cry.

"The minority is as relevant as they want to be," said Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, a 10-term lawmaker. "When the minority party members are wise, they work with legislators regardless of party affiliation, they try and seek compromise and they promote good government policies that everyone can work with and live with."

Senate Minority Leader Clint Stennett, D-Ketchum, became a Democrat while attending the College of Southern Idaho and decided the Republicans weren't favoring education or the state's resources.

"It really boils down to the important things which are Idaho values, which are education and the environment," he said.

Stennett said education is still an unfunded, and that Democrats would increase funding for community colleges, urge pre-kindergarten programs and establish Idaho as a leading state in education.

"If we were given the keys to the car I'd be a much different

situation," he said.

"The biggest misconception about Idaho Democrats is that they are aligned with the national party, Stennett said. They are not big spenders and do not desire high taxes.

"We really are not," Stennett said. "We're trying to make government work. We're trying to use common sense and reason."

Urban versus rural

Colorado's state legislature might foreshadow Idaho's development, said Gary Moncrief, a professor at the Boise State University who has written several books on state legislatures. Twenty years ago, Colorado's urban population grew so quickly that the legislators didn't immediately reflect their constituents.

"It tends to lag," Moncrief said. "The legislature doesn't tend to reflect those changes immediately."

The lag a legislative shift could be due to longstanding regional differences between Northern, Southwestern, Central and Eastern Idaho areas with unique politics, economies and social cultures.

When redistricting begins in 2010, Idaho is expected to have 1.7 million people. Meridian, for example, has grown by nearly 50,000 since 1990.

Redistricting has increased the potential for competitive elections in some areas of the Treasure Valley, and as Boise grows, so does its Democratic base.

Inquet said Idaho is growing more independent as it grows,

and that residents of urban areas are more supportive of programs such as mass transit and environmental protection that are hallmarks of her party.

"I'm really excited about being a Democrat in Idaho," said Inquet. "What I've always tried to do is find more balance. That's what democracy is all about. When you have too many of the same people you have the closed-door deals."

But some areas are bucking the trend. Fast-growing Canyon County, for example, remains strongly Republican.

Weatherly said he doesn't think redistricting will make a difference because the growth has come in the form of like-minded conservatives moving from other states. In fact, he said, it may be that these conservatives will actually make the state even more so.

A strategy for the future

The future of the Democratic Party remains unclear, most notably after the party's chairman, Richard Stallings, resigned in December. Stallings was a longtime Democratic headliner, as a member of Congress and in two years as chairman of the party.

Swisher describes the party as moribund, looking back at glory days instead of building for the future.

"They're like sub-prime mortgages," said Swisher. "Someone's got to take them over. It can't be done just memorializing Andrus and the late Sen. Church."

Weatherly says the party is moving to expand its base,

and is breaking away from its past reliance on a "star system," with a major figure running at the top of the ticket with little depth elsewhere, said Weatherly.

"Now there is no big name. There is no obvious leader of the Democratic Party," said Weatherly. "And they're working more at the local and grass-roots level."

Debraal Silver, chairman of the Twin Falls County Democrats, said a stronger Democratic presence has emerged in the Magic Valley and called it issue-related — primarily to concern over the Bush administration and local environmental matters, such as nuclear energy. Silver said that a local chapter of "Drinking Liberty" — separate from the Democratic Party — meets monthly to discuss things and its existence reflects how there's a changing dynamic. The mailing list has grown from 20 people to 80.

"I think there are more people here who are willing to say, 'I am a Democrat and I am going to do something,'" Silver said. "We have all the things that have gone so far to the right and I think people here are saying I'm not willing to just keep my mouth closed."

Former state Sen. Jon Peavey of Carey is credited with turning Wood River Valley into the Democratic stronghold it is today. He credits Inquet with leading a turnaround of recruitment, and is optimistic that the party now has the right strategy for success.

"If your numbers are small you've really got to pick your issues and that's kind of like fighting a guerrilla war," he said. "You try and find some other friends who can gather around you."

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 735-3300, or Andrus.Gates@jhopkinsmagicalvalley.com.

CSI

Continued from page A1

through individual schools set their own fees.

CSI's elected board of trustees raised tuition slightly in April, pushing the college closer to the cap. The board also raised student fees and housing rates effective this school year.

"CSI and NIC are nearing the limit and will be unable to increase tuition under the current law," according to the 2008 CSI Legislative agenda.

Full-time tuition and stu-

dent fees are \$1,050 per semester for those living in the tax district of Jerome and Twin Falls counties. That includes a \$50 increase, with \$35 toward tuition, \$5 for registration and \$10 for athletics. Under current state law, fees can't be included in the tuition cap. So they're charged in excess of tuition.

The state's community colleges also want legislators to double the money they receive annually from the state's liquor account from \$300,000 to \$600,000.

The state's liquor account has appropriated \$300,000 to community colleges since 1992, CSI officials say. That school and NIC split the appropriation equally.

But the creation of the new tax district for CWI in Nampa, set to open fall 2008, changes the calculation. The liquor money will be split into thirds, and CSI administrators are concerned about the potential loss of \$50,000 from the fund.

If the Legislature agrees to double the liquor fund

appropriation to community colleges CSI would get \$200,000 or \$300,000 more.

Other CSI legislative requests include:

Online development: \$226,300 to expand and improve online courses, with CSI hiring a firm to handle the system. The college would also use these funds to hire a design teacher, who would teach faculty about online courses.

Student financial aid: CSI wants legislators to increase state funding for student aid

— but they haven't attached a dollar amount to that wish, according to the college's legislative agenda.

About 70 percent of CSI students receive financial assistance, and the college supports need-based aid "as the top priority followed by merit-based assistance."

The average total debt for CSI graduates with student loans was \$7,370 for the 2006-2007 school year, according to the college.

Livestock, environmental studies: CSI wants legislators

to fund a livestock and environmental studies research center in the Magic Valley.

"In addition to research and agriculture courses conducted by the University of Idaho, partnerships with CSI will provide needed professional, technical and lower division agricultural science opportunities for CSI students," according to the agenda.

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EDITORIAL

Voice of the people
came through loud
and clear in '07

daily newspaper invests substantially in producing content that generates a lot of interest among readers.
But one of the most popular features in the Times-News is something we don't write: letters to the editor.
For that, we are deeply indebted to you. In 2007, the Times-News published 1,698 letters — an average of almost five a day. That total included 187 thank-you letters, 41 letters in our Religion section and 17 letters to our sports editor.
They came from 1,585 different writers.
Speech is just an idea until it finds a forum. With letters to the editor, you are the critical force that delivers the message — a message that comes through praise, scorn, satire and most of all, conviction.
We welcome all of those things. A newspaper depends on its readers not only for business, but also to fuel the spirit of free ideas. Your contributions of voice and dialogue make the Opinion page a product we're proud to deliver.

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P.S. Write soon.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Idaho needs tougher laws on illegal immigration

Forty-year-old Adrienne Shelly, who co-wrote, directed and co-stars in "Whitress," was murdered in 2006 in her Manhattan apartment by an Ecuadorian illegal immigrant who tried to rape her; her husband came home that night to find her hanging nude from a bed sheet wrapped around the slower curtain rod. Now her 4-year-old daughter (she's the one Kerl Russell is holding in the film's final scene) will grow up without ever knowing her own mother. What a stellar "contribution" to the United States that is!

Next time you hear entitled, mind-boggled immigrants (and their self-serving, arrogant American Immigration Lawyers Association representatives) yammering on about being "unfairly persecuted and targeted," remember Shelly — and the circumstances surrounding her targeting! CNN's "Glenn Beck" program (www.GlennBeck.com) examined how L.A.-based www.Chirla.com for years now has been brazenly handing out free DVDs and pamphlets explaining how illegals can avoid prosecution and deportation by Immigration and Customs Enforcement, an organization I'm sure many of those who were picking your Twin Falls WinCo recently are very aware of.

Michelle Malkin's 2004 bestseller, "Invasion" — which every law enforcement officer (and officer of the court in the United States) should have a copy of by now — in the "Torturers Next Door" chapter profiles a myriad of arrested illegals who had no more intention of being "integrated into American society" (other than perhaps our American prison society) than bin Laden would do a search of "Nuevo Laredo Mexico/Texas" and read about the scores of drug-related kidnappings and murders that we taken

place there already — and see if that's something Idaho wants to buy into!
Until Idaho passes laws that heavily fine employers and landlords who knowingly do business with illegals, this will remain a "sanctuary state," where the quality of life (and wages) continue to spiral downward.

JOHN PLONTZE
Ketchum

Gooding rehab workers dedicated to the job

I have the privilege of working with a great team here at Gooding Jobs and, to most of us, this is more than just a job. It's not an obligation or just a paycheck to pay the bills. It's a way of life and a love of life and love of the residents we care for. And when we lose someone, we lose a part of our heart.

What the public, media, state and federal governments don't seem to see is the dedication of the rest of us. They don't see the smiles and laughter from our residents. All they see is the paper staff printed on paper.

We here at Gooding Rehab scream out to you, "We will not go quietly into the night!" We are going to fight with everything we've got to keep our residents, our family from being evicted from their home.

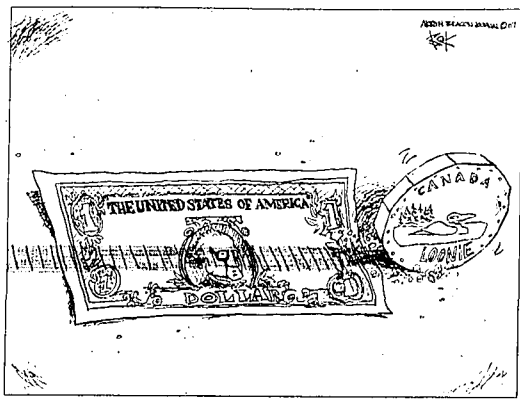
I am the activities coordinator for the South Hill BCU, and my residents have a message for you from their hearts that also reflects in the hearts of the staff here. "Let everyone know that it's not fair that everyone, staff and residents alike, have to pay for the stupid actions of a few. We need to give credit and recognize all of the good and wonderful things that everyone here does for us each and every day. We are truly thankful that our home has this kind of love and care from the staff. And they are nobody to take that away from us!"
MICHELLE SEBASTIAN
Gooding

While the United States has long imported oil and other raw materials from the third world, we used to import manufactured goods mainly from other rich countries like Canada, European nations and Japan.



PAUL KRUGMAN

But recently we crossed an important watershed: We now import more manufactured goods from the third world than from other advanced economies. That is, a majority of our industrial trade is now with countries that are much poorer than we are and that pay their workers much lower wages.
The world economy as a whole — and especially for poorer nations — growing trade between high-wage and low-wage countries is a very good thing. Above all, it offers backward economies their best hope of moving up the income ladder.
But for American workers the story is much less positive. In fact, it's hard to avoid the conclusion that growing U.S. trade with third world countries reduces the real wages of many and perhaps most workers in this country. And that reality makes the politics of trade very difficult.
Let's talk for a moment about the economics.
Trade between high-wage countries tends to be a modest win for all, or almost all. Remembered When a free-trade pact made it possible to integrate the U.S. and Canadian auto industries in the 1960s, each country's industry concentrated on producing a number of products at larger scale. The result was an all-round, broadly shared rise in productivity and wages.
By contrast, trade between countries at different levels of economic development tends to create large classes of losers as well as winners.
Although the outsourcing of some high-tech jobs to



India has made headlines, on balance, highly educated workers in the United States benefit from higher wages and expanded job opportunities because of trade. For example, ThinkPad notebook computers are made by a Chinese company, Lenovo, but a lot of Lenovo's research and development is conducted in North Carolina.
But workers with less formal education often see their jobs shipped overseas or find their wages driven down by the ripple effect as other workers with similar qualifications crowd into their industries and look for employment to replace the jobs they lost to foreign competition. And lower prices at Wal-Mart aren't sufficient compensation.

All this is textbook international economics; contrary to what people sometimes assert, economic theory says that free trade normally makes a country richer, but it doesn't say that it's normally good for everyone. Still, when the effects of third-world exports on U.S. wages first became an issue in the 1990s, a number of economists — myself included — looked at the data and concluded that any negative effects on U.S. wages were modest.
The trouble is that these

effects may no longer be as modest as they were, because imports of manufactured goods from the third world have grown dramatically — from just 2.5 percent of GDP in 1990 to 6 percent in 2006.
And the biggest growth in imports has come from countries with very low wages. The original "newly industrializing economies" exporting manufactured goods — South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Singapore — paid wages that were about 25 percent of U.S. levels in 1990. Since then, however, the sources of our imports have shifted to Mexico, where wages are only 11 percent of the U.S. level, and China, where they're only about 3 percent or 4 percent.

There are some qualifying aspects to this story. For example, many of those made-in-China goods contain components made in Japan and other high-wage economies. Still, there's little doubt that the pressure of globalization on American wages has increased.
So am I arguing for protectionism? No. Those who think that globalization is always and everywhere a bad thing are wrong. On the contrary, keeping world markets relatively open is crucial to

the hopes of billions of people.
But I am arguing for the finger-wagging, the accusation either of not understanding economies or of knowing to special interests that tends to be the editorial response to politicians who express skepticism about the benefits of free-trade agreements.

It's often claimed that limits on trade benefit only a small number of Americans, while hurting the vast majority. That's still true of things like the import quota on sugar. But when it comes to manufactured goods, it's at least arguable that the reverse is true. The highly educated workers who clearly benefit from growing trade with third-world economies are a minority, greatly outnumbered by those who probably lose.

As I said, I'm not a protectionist. For the sake of the world as a whole, I hope that we respond to the trouble with trade not by shutting trade down, but by doing things like strengthening the social safety net. But those who are worried about trade, have a point, and deserve some respect.

Paul Krugman is a columnist for the New York Times.

ISTARS is an idea whose time has arrived

State Superintendent Tom Luna is traveling throughout Idaho presenting his Idaho State Teacher Advancement and Recognition System plan. It outlines five ways a teacher can financially benefit from its implementation.



responsibility. This recognizes all teachers — including music, physical education, art, special education, etc. — whose contribution to a child's education is sometimes overlooked. This money is distributed to teachers who do not they choose a Category 4 contract.
A teacher's voluntary decision to move to a Category 4 contract requires giving up renewable contract status and receiving contract options similar to those of an administrator. Under Category 4, a teacher can negotiate a contract of up to three years in length that offers property and due process rights for the term of the contract.
Some teachers have expressed concern that districts will seek to replace higher-paid staff with teachers who earn less money. In Idaho, funds are distributed through a funding formula based on teacher experience and education. If a teacher

costs more, the state pays the district more. It is a revenue neutral process, and the expressed concern is without merit.

Teachers believe ISTARS funding will not be sustained and, at some point, the Legislature will discontinue financial support for the idea. Superintendent Luna responds by pointing out that ISTARS funding will be a result of statutory action passed by both legislative bodies and signed by the governor, ensuring that, while funds may not increase from one year to the next, they cannot decrease without new legislation.

A concern voiced by the Idaho Education Association is the teacher-based fear of working without the security of renewable contract status. Some teachers also believe it is "unfair" to utilize test scores as a means of identifying "worthy" teachers for performance bonuses. Many doubt current testing methods are sophisticated enough to accurately differentiate "successful" teachers from "unsuccessful" ones. These concerns may have merit.

A system of paying all teachers the same salaries based on education and experience is truly an unfair system. Merit pay, bonus pay

or increased pay tied to teacher performance and student achievement is an attempt to break out of our current, indefensible salary system. ISTARS does this. It rewards Idaho's teachers more responsibly and takes the first step toward a new, creative partnership between educators and those who compensate them.

As a superintendent and president of the Idaho School Superintendents Association, I strongly believe in increasing teacher salaries based on a defensible system of achievement and merit. ISTARS is a vehicle designed to drive this process. Idaho needs to be more progressive in compensating teachers appropriately. The status quo does nothing to demonstrate the immense value all of us place on education and teachers. ISTARS is a plan that must begin now. If not, this contentious cloud of mediocrity will continue to accompany the salaries of Idaho's great teachers.

Dr. Charles J. Shackett is the superintendent of Bonneville Joint School District No. 93 in Idaho Falls and president of the Idaho School Superintendents Association.

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Get in your two cents

Feds take on Latino gang accused of targeting blacks in LA

By Thomas Watkins
Associated Press writer



Florence 13 gang members are questioned by Los Angeles Sheriff's detective Adam Torres after being pulled over for erratic driving in the Florence-Firestone neighborhood of Los Angeles County in November.

on the wall of a liquor store mark the gang's boundary and graffiti wars rivals to start clear.

The gang's name comes from the neighborhood that is its stronghold and the 13th letter of the alphabet — M — representing the gang's ties to the Mexican Mafia.

Federal, state and local officials worked together to charge 102 men linked to F13 with racketeering, conspiracy to murder, weapons possession, drug dealing and other crimes. In terms of people charged, it's the largest-ever federal case involving a Southern California gang, prosecutors say. More than 80 of those indicted are

in custody.

But eliminating the gang won't be easy. It's survived for decades and is believed to have about 2,000 members. Its reach extends to Nevada, Arizona and into prisons, where prosecutors say incarcerated gang leaders were able to order hits on black gangsters.

According to the indictment, F13's leader, Arturo Castellanos, sent word in 2004 from California's fortress-like Pelican Bay State Prison that he wanted his street soldiers to begin "cleansing" Florence-Firestone of black gangsters, notably the East Coast Crips, and snitches.

His followers eagerly obeyed, according to federal prosecutors.

According to federal prosecutors.

In one case, F13 members came across a black man at a bus stop, shouted "Cheese toast" and fired. "Cheese toast" is a derogatory name for East Coast Crips. Assistant U.S. Attorney Kevin S. Rosenberg said.

The victim, apparently targeted only because of his skin color, survived being shot several times, Rosenberg said.

F13 isn't the only Latino gang linked to racial killings. Last year, four members of The Avenues, a gang from the Highland Park area east of downtown Los Angeles, were convicted of hate crimes for killing a black man in what prose-

cutors called a campaign to drive blacks from that neighborhood. And last January, authorities announced a crackdown on the 2800 S. Street gang following the killing of a 14-year-old black girl.

The violence goes both ways, said Adam Torres, a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department gang detective whose beat includes Florence-Firestone.

During a recent patrol on the east side of the neighborhood, he pointed to a cinderblock wall peppered with bullet holes. Torres said the Crips still control that area and any Hispanic there is at risk of being shot.

Despite the wave of violence, George Tita, a criminologist with the University of California, Irvine, said "racially motivated gang killings are an exception. Latinos and blacks are far more likely to be murdered by one of their own."

"You don't see these major black-brown wars, either within the context of gangs or outside the context of all gangs," Tita said.

Residents of Florence-Firestone are leath to discuss gangs, fearful they might end up as targets, but there are signs of change. Murders in the neighborhood dropped from 63 in 2005 to 19 in 2006, Bucca said. For 2007, there were 19 murders as of Dec. 24.

Jose Garcia sees the difference. The security doors on the store where he works aren't covered with graffiti as often and he hasn't heard a gunshot in two months.

"It used to be at least once or twice a week," he said.

2007 was deadliest year for U.S. troops in Iraq, but less violence seen in past 6 months

By Bradley Brooks
Associated Press writer



Joseph Anzack Sr., right, hugs his former wife Teresa Anzack, center, and their daughter Casey, 16, in front of the casket carrying their son, Cpl. Joseph Anzack during a public memorial at South High School's football stadium in Torrance, Calif., in June. Anzack's body was found floating in the Euphrates River on May 23, 11 days after he was captured along with two comrades in a daring ambush that killed four U.S. soldiers and an Iraq soldier south of Baghdad.

BAGHDAD — The second half of 2007 saw violence drop dramatically in Iraq, but the progress came at a high price: The year was the deadliest for the U.S. military since the 2003 invasion, with 899 troops killed.

American commanders and diplomats, however, say the battlefield gains against insurgents such as al-Qaida in Iraq offer only a partial picture of where the country stands as the war moves toward its five-year mark in March.

Two critical shifts that boosted U.S. forces in 2007 — self-imposed cease-fire by a Shiite militia and a grassroots Sunni revolt against extremists — could still unravel unless serious unity efforts are made by the Iraqi government.

Iran also remains a major wild card. U.S. officials believe the neighboring country has helped quiet Iraq by reducing its flow of supplies to the Shiite militias, including materials needed for deadly roadside bombs.

But Iran's apparent hands-off policies could come under strain as Shiite factions — some favoring Iran, others — battle for control of Iraq's oil-rich south.

The Pentagon, meanwhile, will increasingly look to the uneven Iraq security forces to control the land in 2008 as demands for an American exit strategy grow sharper during the U.S. election year.

Britain, the main U.S. coalition partner in Iraq, is gradually drawing down its forces and other allies, including Poland and Australia, are contemplating full-scale withdrawals in the coming year.

"We're focusing our energy on building up Iraq's coalition and Iraqi troops have accomplished in 2007," Gen. David Petraeus told a group of Western journalists on Saturday. "Success will not, however, be akin to flipping on a light switch. It will emerge slowly and fitfully, with reverses as well as advances, accumulating fewer bad days and gradually more good days."

That era of progress played out in the raw statistics of U.S. and Iraqi casualties. American military deaths peaked in May with 126 troops killed. It was then that the U.S. began ramping up its

attacks against insurgent strongholds, leading to increased clashes in Baghdad and other key areas across central Iraq.

Seven months on, commanders and analysts say America's aggressive strategy of targeting al-Qaida in Iraq strongholds is paying off. U.S. casualties have dropped sharply. As of Sunday night in Baghdad, 21 deaths were reported in December, one more than in February 2004, which was the lowest monthly total of the war.

The 899 deaths in 2007 surpassed the previously highest death toll in 2004, when 850 U.S. soldiers were killed. The total for 2007 could rise slightly, occasionally the military reports new casualties a few days after they occur. The military reported the non-combat related death of a soldier on Sunday.

At least 3,502 members of the U.S. military have died

since the beginning of the war. Of those, at least 3,175 died as a result of hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

Iraq civilian deaths have tracked that decline and overall violence across the country is down roughly 60 percent, American commanders say. Since the influx of some 30,000 U.S. troops that began in June, the lessening violence has meant that new problems have emerged.

"There certainly are ample challenges out there in the new year. In some respects, the positive developments in the latter half of 2007 also represent the challenges of 2008," U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker said during a recent briefing.

An example, Crocker said, is how the improving security situation is in part luring back Iraqis who took refuge in neighboring Syria, Jordan and elsewhere.

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Financial Lesson of the Week

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Avoid Estate Planning Mistakes

If you've been investing for a while, you probably have learned to avoid key mistakes, such as making frequent trades based on short-term price fluctuations. But even if you invest wisely and are able to retire comfortably, you could still make some errors in your estate planning - and these miscues could prove costly and painful to your family.

How can you avoid making the wrong moves with your estate plans? Here are a few tips:

- Communicate with your family. To reduce the possibility of hurt feelings and damaged relationships within your family after you're gone, make sure that everyone knows what they can expect from the disposition of your estate plan. Tell your children how much money they can expect - and when. (If you decide to establish a trust, you can arrange for money to be disbursed over various periods of time, or when your children reach a given age.) Are you going to leave a considerable amount of your assets to charities? Let your family know.
- Update your beneficiaries. Many of your financial assets - including your IRA, 401(k), annuities, life insurance contracts and some government bonds - allow you to designate a beneficiary. It's important to name both a primary beneficiary and a contingent beneficiary (an individual or trust who will receive the assets if the primary beneficiary dies before you). Beneficiary designations supersede whatever instructions may be in your will, so it's essential that you update your beneficiary designations whenever your family situation changes. It's not uncommon for assets to go to the "wrong beneficiaries" (e.g., spouses from earlier marriages) or to bypass children born after the initial beneficiary designation was made.
- Maintain adequate liquidity. It's not always easy to know the amount of "cash" (liquid investments) you should keep in your investment portfolio. But as you prepare your estate plans, keep in mind that it's usually a good idea to have at least enough cash available to help your family pay for any final expenses.
- Choose the right executor. When you choose an executor for your estate, you'll want someone who has the time to devote to the sometimes long and protracted estate administration process. You also want to make sure that your executor will be fair, knowledgeable and free of conflicts of interest.
- Keep good records. Your executor and your family will need to know where your assets are located - your bank accounts, insurance policies, investments, retirement plans, etc. By maintaining an orderly record system throughout your life, you can make it much easier on everyone when it's time for your estate to be settled.
- Get professional help. You may require a variety of legal documents and arrangements - a will, various trusts, powers of attorney, health care directive, etc. - to complete your estate plans. Consequently, you will need to work with a competent legal professional, along with your financial and tax advisors. The right estate-planning team can help you avoid many of the mistakes that disrupt people's estate plans.

Here's one final suggestion: Don't wait too long to start your estate plans. They can take some time to develop, so the sooner you get them in the books, the better.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult with a competent tax or legal professional for your particular situation.

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Bhutto's 19-year-old son and husband chosen to lead her party

By Zarar Khan
Associated Press writer

NAUDERO, Pakistan — Benazir Bhutto's 19-year-old son — a student with no political experience — was named symbolic leader of her party Sunday, while her husband took effective control, extending Pakistan's most enduring political dynasty.

The major parties appeared to agree that the elections should take place as scheduled on Jan. 8 despite street violence and political turmoil triggered by the assassination of Bhutto. The Election Commission is to discuss the timing of the polls Monday.

A successful vote would bolster U.S.-backed plans to restore democracy to the nuclear-armed country as it battles rising Islamic extremism.

Booting subsidized Sunday after destruction that left at least 44 dead and caused tens of millions of dollars in damage, but bitterness remained over the government's response to the gun and suicide attack that killed Bhutto.

The appointment of Bhutto's husband, Asif Ali Zardari, was not without its own complications. A former Cabinet minister who spent eight years in prison on corruption accusations, he is known as "Mr. 10 Percent" for allegedly taking kickbacks and is viewed with suspicion by many Pakistanis.

At a news conference on Sunday, Zardari said the opposition party — Pakistan's largest — had no confidence in the government's ability to bring the killers to justice and urged the United Nations to establish a committee like the one investigating the 2005 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri.

The decisions on the future of Bhutto's Pakistan Peoples Party were made at a closed-door meeting in the sprawling family estate in the south of the country where the two-time former prime minister grew up.



Asif Ali Zardari, left, husband of slain former prime minister of Pakistan Benazir Bhutto, addresses a news conference with his son Bilawal Zardari, top, as Bilawal was nominated chairman of Bhutto's People's party, in Naudero near Larkana, Pakistan, on Sunday.



The eldest of Bhutto's three children, Bilawal Zardari, accepted the party's leadership, but said he would remain at Oxford University. He said his father, who was officially designated co-chairman, would be the effective

party leader.

"The party's long struggle for democracy will continue with renewed vigor," Bilawal said at a news conference that was repeatedly interrupted by emotional chants from Bhutto's supporters. "My mother always said democracy is the best revenge."

Bhutto's grandfather was a senior figure in the movement that helped Pakistan split from India and led it to independence in 1947. Her father — Pakistan's first elected prime

minister — founded the Pakistan Peoples Party in 1967 and its electoral success since then has largely depended on the Bhutto name.

Bilawal said that Zardari would "take care" of the party while he continued his studies. Zardari then told reporters to direct questions at him, saying his son was at a "tender age."

Zardari, who spent eight years under detention on corruption charges in Pakistan before his release in late 2004, is a power broker who served as investment minister in Bhutto's second government. He has denied the graft charges.

Karachi remains paralyzed from violence after Bhutto's death

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Residents of Pakistan's largest city cautiously emerged from their homes Sunday and struggled to find food and fuel amid the blackened buildings, shattered glass and burnt-out vehicles littering the streets of Karachi.

With police and troops patrolling, Pakistan's largest city appeared quiet for the first time since

Benazir Bhutto's assassination Thursday sparked a wave of angry rioting.

The previous three days of clashes and looting left at least 40 people dead across Sindh Province, where Karachi is located, provincial Home Minister Akhtar Zameen told The Associated Press. Hundreds of bank branches were destroyed and 950 vehicles burned.



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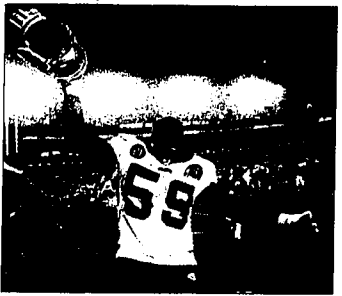


INSIDE: Georgia Tech faces Fresno State in the Humanitarian Bowl in Boise, B3



INSIDE: NFL, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | College Basketball, B4 | NBA & weather, B4

Redskins clinch playoff berth with win over Cowboys



Washington Redskins London Fletcher (59) celebrates with the crowd after beating the Dallas Cowboys 27-6 at FedEx Field in Landover, Md., Sunday. The win gave the Redskins a spot in the NFL playoffs.

By Joseph White
Associated Press writer

LANDOVER, Md. — Even the margin of victory reminded the playoff-bound Washington Redskins of Sean Taylor. "I was on the sideline and guys were talking about the score, and then it hit me — we won by 21," veteran left tackle Chris Samuels said. "I came in the locker room and I yelled it out, and immediately I just kind of broke down in tears. Because I miss Sean, you know."

From disarray and heartache to confidence and dominance, the Redskins will enter the playoffs as the hottest team in the NFC after Sunday's 27-6 win over the Dallas Cowboys.

And with the hottest quarterback. And maybe the hottest running back. And with a defense coming off a game in which it allowed exactly 1 yard rushing.

And, perhaps most importantly, on a mission for the teammate who wore No. 21. It's been four weeks since the

Redskins attended the funeral of their best defensive player, and they haven't lost since.

"Win for Sean" was as strong Sunday as it was when the four-game winning streak began Dec. 6, reinforced by everything from the fiery speech given by kick returner Tuck Carterright on the field before the game to the white "21" on the front of the black baseball cap worn by coach Joe Gibbs at his postgame news conference.

"Play for the guy who's on your jersey — the guy who's not here, who should be here," Carterright said he told his teammates. "We know how he played the game. That's why I think guys came out and played so hard."

The Redskins (9-7) will travel to Seattle on Saturday for a 4:30 p.m. game, a rematch of a 2005 division playoff win 20-10 by the Seahawks. Washington will be riding the longest current winning streak in the NFC, including three straight victories by double digits. It's a remarkable remain-

sance for a team that stayed afloat with close, ugly games before losing four straight, the last defeat coming the day before Taylor's funeral.

"To think four weeks ago, where we were, and where we are tonight, it was a great experience and a great ride," said Gibbs, who has quieted doubters with perhaps the best performance of his Hall of Fame career. "To get in the playoffs was a dream of ours, and four weeks ago, obviously everybody would have said, 'You know, it looks next to impossible.'"

Sunday's game ultimately turned out to be irrelevant — other than to serve as a possible preview of a postseason game two weeks from now. Minnesota lost 22-19 to Denver and New Orleans fell 23-25 to Chicago, giving Washington the two out-of-town results it needed to make the postseason without having to beat the Cowboys.

"To win by 21 on this day, to get into the playoffs," Daniels said. "Oh, man, that's a great feeling."

Alabama rolls past Colorado in Independence Bowl



Alabama quarterback John Parker Wilson sprints for 24 yards in the first quarter against Colorado during the Independence Bowl college football game in Shreveport, La., Sunday.

By Kelly P. Kissel
Associated Press writer

SHREVEPORT, La. — John Parker Wilson completed 13 of his first 15 passes for 185 yards and three touchdowns and Alabama rolled to a four-touchdown lead, then held off Colorado 30-24 in the Independence Bowl on Sunday night.

Colorado's attempt at a multi-lateral play as time expired collapsed shy of midfield, ending the game.

Alabama (7-6) stopped a four-game losing streak and avoided consecutive losing seasons for the first time in 50 years. Colorado (6-7) finished below .500 for the second straight year, but was vastly improved from a 2-10 mark in 2006.

With the Tide up 27-0, Wilson was in firm control until being chased into an intentional grounding penalty with 5 minutes left in the first half. He threw an interception on his next attempt, leading to a Buffaloes score, and didn't complete another throw in the half.

Colorado quarterback Cody Hawkins, meanwhile, recovered from an interception on the Buffaloes' first play and finished the half 9-of-10 for 87 yards and two scores.

Hawkins' 25-yard pass to Dusty Sprague with 4 seconds left in the half cut Alabama's lead to 27-14. It came less than 2 minutes after Hawkins hit Tyson DeVree with a 4-yard scoring pass. Kevin Eberhart's 39-yard field goal in the third period cut it to 27-17.

Alabama amassed 170 yards in the first quarter and had 285 by halftime. Wilson had scoring passes of 15 yards to Keith Brown, 34 yards to Matt Caddell and 31 yards to Nikita Stover.

With Leigh Tiffitt's two field goals, Alabama led 27-0 3 minutes into the second quarter and appeared to have Colorado on the ropes.

The Buffaloes, who scored 65 points against Nebraska in their previous game, had a first down on their second play from scrimmage but didn't pick up another until 10½ minutes before halftime.

In the second half, having learned they couldn't beat Alabama's linemen to the corner, Colorado running backs spread out the Tide defense and cut back against the grain to pick up 5 or 6 yards at a time.

Tiffitt's first-quarter field goals gave him 105 points for the season, the most for an Alabama kicker. Phillip Doyle had 100 in 1989. Tiffitt added three extra points and the fourth-quarter field goal, giving him 111 points for the season.

TITANS IN, BROWNS OUT

Collins rallies Titans for playoff berth

By Michael Marot
Associated Press writer

INDIANAPOLIS — Kerry Collins spent most of the season waiting for a chance to prove he could still play.

On Sunday night, with a playoff spot at stake, Tennessee's backup quarterback delivered the biggest win of the season.

He led the Titans to three second-half field goals, including a 54-yarder from Rob Bironas to retake the lead in a 16-10 victory that left Tennessee celebrating and Cleveland grimacing. The Titans visit San Diego next Sunday.

The Titans (10-6) had to win to make the playoffs for the first time since 2003. A loss would have given Cleveland its first playoff berth since 2002.

And when Peyton Manning left after two series, things looked good for the Titans.

Instead, the offense bogged down after a touchdown drive on the game's opening series. When Vince Young led in the third quarter with a right quadriceps injury, Tennessee appeared to be in trouble.

Collins replaced Young in the middle of a 13-play, 56-yard drive that ended with Bironas' tying 40-yard field goal late in the third quarter.

"That's life as a backup. You never know when you'll go in," Collins said. "I hope Vince is all right."

He moved the Titans 58 yards in 12 plays, setting up Bironas for the go-ahead field goal. Like last December, when Bironas hit a 60-yarder to beat Indy in Nashville, Bironas carried the 54-yarder inside the right goal post for a 13-10 lead. He finally sealed the win with a 33-yarder with 2:50 to go.

It was enough to end Indy's 10-game home winning streak against AFC South foes, although it came primarily against Colts backups.

Coach Tony Dungy used the game as a tune-up for Indy's playoff opener Jan. 4, benching most of his offensive starters after two series and his defensive starters in the second half.

But Manning and Reggie Wayne played just long enough to reach their milestones.

Manning entered the game needing 55 yards to extend his NFL record of most 4,000-yard seasons to eight. That took one series.

Pro Bowl receiver Wayne needed eight



Tennessee Titans quarterback Vince Young (10) throws over Indianapolis Colts defensive end Jeff Charleston in the first quarter in Indianapolis, Sunday. Young later left the game in the third quarter with a right quadriceps injury.

atches to become the second Colt with 100 receptions in a season. That took two series. Young also needed 71 yards to pass Randy Moss for the league tie in yards receiving. He did that on Indy's third series.

Manning finished 14-of-16 for 95 yards, while backup Jim Sorgi was 11-of-24 for 68 yards.

But without the usual offensive stars, the Colts' offense looked pedestrian.

Adam Vinatieri made a 37-yard field goal early in the second quarter to get the Colts

within 7-3. Sorgi converted a Tennessee turnover into a 3-yard TD pass to Crapionso Thorpe early in the third quarter to give Indy a 10-7 lead.

That was all the Colts could muster, and it gave Collins a chance to work his magic after throwing just 69 passes all season.

"This is why we got him here," coach Jeff Fisher said. "He's done a great job for us since he got here."

Young was 14-of-18 for 157 yards, and Collins was 10-of-13 for 106 yards.

What's next for Patriots? Belichick waits to find out

By Howard Uman
Associated Press writer

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Now what? What's next for the Patriots now that the preliminaries, as perfect as they were, are over?

Four days off to savor their feats and soothe their aches. A New Year's Eve toast to a 2008 that's as good as 2007. Then back to reality — the meeting rooms and practice field presided over by demanding Bill Belichick.

"They may have been unbeaten in the regular season, but that's history. In the playoffs, the Patriots are winless."

"The next time we step on the field we'll be zero and zero in the second season," Belichick said Sunday. "so we've got still a lot to look forward to."

The Patriots' locked back home at 3:30 a.m. with a 19-0 record and a break from practice until Thursday.

hadn't been 15-1 if Tom Brady hadn't pulled off his fourth fourth-quarter comeback of the season to beat the New York Giants 30-30 on Saturday night.

New England joined the 1972 Miami Dolphins and the 1934 and 1942 Chicago Bears as the only teams to finish a regular season undefeated. Only Miami, though, also made it through the playoffs without a loss.

So the first team to go 16-0 in the regular season could go 0-1 in the playoffs. The Patriots won Super Bowls in four years and were labeled by many as a dynasty. But in the next season, 2008, they missed a berth in the AFC title game by losing at Denver. Then their 2006 season ended with a loss at Indianapolis in the conference championship game after they blew an 18-point lead.

"We've been there before," Belichick said in a conference call. "Lose and go home. Win and keep playing. It's all one-

game season now."

"It's a relief that we played the regular season and it's finished," Brady said. "Now we get ready for what we've been preparing for all season. The week off is extremely important for us to rest and a little bit of pressure is relieved for this week. Coach will turn up the pressure Thursday when we go back."

That will intensify after the Patriots find out who they'll play after their bye week. They have home field advantage throughout the AFC playoffs.

"Any time we win we're excited," Belichick said. "With the success we've had this season, yesterday's game puts a certain little bit more of a degree of satisfaction in that game because of the culmination of the regular season."

"But, at the same time, we've got plenty of things that we need to work on." And he still doesn't utter the words "unbeaten" or "undefeated."

Falcons top Seahawks

ATLANTA — Chris Redman gave the Falcons a feel-good finish to an ugly season. Redman set a career high with four touchdown passes, including two to Alge Crumpler, and the Falcons rode three fourth-quarter touchdowns to victory. The Falcons defeated the Seahawks 40-14.

BRONCOS 22, WIKINGS 19, OT

DENVER — Jason Elam kicked a 30-yard field goal less than a minute into overtime.

The Vikings (8-8) needed a win and a Washington loss to top-seeded Dallas to sneak into the playoffs, but neither the Redskins nor the Broncos (7-9) obliged.

CHARGERS 30, RAIDERS 17

OAKLAND — LaDainian Tomlinson ran for 56 yards for his second straight rushing title. Philip Rivers threw two touchdown passes, and the Chargers spoiled JaMarcus Russell's first career start.

RAVENS 27, STEELERS 21

BALTIMORE — The Steelers were not interested in gaining the No. 3 seed in the AFC playoffs. Their primary objective against the Ravens was merely to keep several key starters healthy.

BRONCOS 20, 49ERS 7

CLEVELAND — Joshua Gibbs returned a punt 76 yards for a touchdown. Jamal Lewis rushed for 12th yards and rookie quarterback Brady Quinn made his long-awaited NFL debut. Hours later, Lewis' first NFL game ended when the Tennessee Titans lucked up the final wild card spot with a 16-10 win over the Indianapolis Colts.

Derek Anderson threw a TD pass to Braylon Edwards and Phil Dawson kicked two field goals as the Browns finished 7-10, ending the first time in club history. Cleveland's 10 wins are the most since its expansion rebirth. The Browns last posted double-digit wins in 1994 (11).

BEARS 33, SAINTS 25

CHICAGO — Devin Hester sprinted 64 yards for a TD with a punt return — his NFL-record sixth kick return for a score this season to break his own mark set a year ago — and also caught a 55-yard touchdown pass from Kyle Orton.

PACKERS 34, LIONS 13

GREEN BAY — The Packers finished their turnaround regular season with a victory while resting several key players for the playoffs.

Brett Favre extended his quarterback-record consecutive starts streak to 253 games, but didn't keep his helmet strapped on for very long. Favre led the Packers (13-3) to touchdowns on their first three possessions before handing the ball to backup Craig Nall in the second quarter.

TEXANS 42, JAGUARS 28

HOUSTON — Meaningless game? Not to Andre' Davis, who returned two kickoffs for touchdowns against the Jaguars (11-5), who rested many starters with their playoff spot secured. The victory gives the Texans (8-8) a 5-0 finish for the first time in their six-year history, and their 42 points are a team record.

PANTHERS 31, BUCS 23

TAMPA, Fla. — Tampa Bay, resting most of its starters for the playoffs, tied spot Carolina for leading in the NFC South with a meaningless game and giving Vinny Testaverde a nice send-off.

DeAngelo Williams rushed for 121 yards and two second-half touchdowns, lifting the Panthers with the retiring 44-year-old Testaverde taking the last snap in his home city where he began his NFL career in 1987.

BENGALS 38, DOLPHINS 25

MIAMI — Miami allowed 316 yards passing by Carson Palmer, gave up a 60-yard punt on a fumble return and lost to the Dolphins in the worst season in franchise history. The Dolphins became the eighth team to finish 1-15 and flopped in their audition for new boss Bill Parcells. He started work Thursday as executive vice president of football operations and watched the game from a press box suite with retired Green Bay Packers general manager Ron Wolf.

EAGLES 17, BILLS 9

PHILADELPHIA — With the Eagles eliminated from a playoff spot, Brian Westbrook still gave their fans a reason to celebrate with a pair of team records.

JETS 13, CHIEFS 10, OT

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Mike Nugent kicked a 43-yard field goal, after having a 33-yard negated by a penalty, 5:13 into the extra period.

With both offenses struggling and a freezing rain falling throughout, not even the return of Chiefs coach Herman Edwards to Kauffman Stadium could spice up this one. Edwards coached the Jets from 2001-05 and led them to the playoffs three times.

CARDINALS 48, RAMS 19

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Larry Fitzgerald caught 11 passes for 171 yards and two touchdowns, and Arizona finished an 8-8 season with the Cardinals' highest-scoring game in 30 years.

The 500 returner in first-year coach Ken Whisenand is Arizona's best since going 9-7 and making the playoffs in 1999.

The Cardinals' only other non-losing season in 23 years was 8-8 in 1994, Buddy Ryan's first year as Arizona coach.

—The Associated Press

National Football League

AFC	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D		
New England 10	0	1000	559	74	9-0-0	10-0-0	4-0-0	6-0-0	6-0-0	0		
Houston	6	0	438	252	35-4	4-0-0	3-5-0	6-0-0	1-3-0	2-0		
NY Jets	12	7	200	200	0-5-0	1-2-0	0-4-0	0-4-0	0-4-0	0-4-0		
Miami	1	15	0	303	247	1-7-0	0-10-0	1-11-0	0-4-0	0-6-0		
North	10	6	1	311	271	PF	PA	Home <th>Away</th> <th>AFC</th> <th>NFC</th> <th>D</th>	Away	AFC	NFC	D
Cleveland	10	6	0	625	402	7-1-0	3-5-0	5-7-0	3-1-0	3-0-0	3-0-0	0
Indianapolis	10	6	0	625	373	5-1-0	3-5-0	7-1-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	5-1-0	0
Cincinnati	7	0	438	303	3-5-0	2-3-0	2-6-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0
Baltimore	5	11	0	313	275	3-0-0	4-4-0	1-7-0	2-1-0	3-1-0	3-1-0	0
West	10	6	1	311	271	PF	PA	Home <th>Away</th> <th>AFC</th> <th>NFC</th> <th>D</th>	Away	AFC	NFC	D
San Diego	11	5	0	644	414	7-1-0	4-4-0	9-3-0	2-7-0	3-0-0	3-0-0	0
Denver	7	9	0	438	303	5-0-0	2-6-0	6-0-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0
Kansas City	4	12	0	250	203	2-5-0	2-6-0	2-6-0	3-9-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0
Philadelphia	8	8	0	500	336	3-0-0	3-5-0	3-1-0	2-7-0	2-7-0	2-7-0	0
North	10	6	1	311	271	PF	PA	Home <th>Away</th> <th>AFC</th> <th>NFC</th> <th>D</th>	Away	AFC	NFC	D
Minnesota	10	6	0	625	373	5-1-0	3-5-0	7-1-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	5-1-0	0
Chicago	7	0	438	303	3-5-0	2-3-0	2-6-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0
Green Bay	14	0	625	373	5-1-0	3-5-0	7-1-0	3-1-0	5-1-0	5-1-0	5-1-0	0
Carolina	7	9	0	438	303	3-5-0	2-3-0	2-6-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0
Atlanta	4	12	0	250	203	2-5-0	2-6-0	2-6-0	3-9-0	1-3-0	1-3-0	0

1-0 indicates conference, 2-0 indicates division, 3-0 indicates wild card

Saturday's Results	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
New England 30 NY Giants 35										
Sunday's Results										
San Diego 34 Denver 13										
Cleveland 38 Miami 28										
Chicago 20 New Orleans 25										
Philadelphia 17 Buffalo 25										
Carolina 21 Tampa Bay 23										

Texans 42 Jaguars 28	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
Jacksonville 7	7	7	—	28	—	—	—	—	—	—
Houston 0	21	4	7	—	42	—	—	—	—	—
San Francisco 15	11	3	—	219	364	3-5-0	2-4-0	1-3-0	4-8-0	3-0-0
Washington 10	7	5	—	293	295	2-6-0	0-6-0	0-4-0	3-9-0	1-5-0

Washington 20 Broncos 17	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
San Diego 30 Oakland 17										
Denver 27 Minnesota 21										
Arizona 45 St. Louis 19										
NY Jets 12 Kansas City 10										
Tennessee 16 Indianapolis 10										

Falcons 40 Seahawks 14	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
Seattle 7	10	14	—	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atlanta 0	17	3	—	14	—	—	—	—	—	—

San Francisco 27 Dallas 9	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
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San Diego 30 Oakland 17										
Denver 27 Minnesota 21										
Arizona 45 St. Louis 19										
NY Jets 12 Kansas City 10										
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San Francisco 27 Dallas 9	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
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Arizona 45 St. Louis 19										
NY Jets 12 Kansas City 10										
Tennessee 16 Indianapolis 10										

San Francisco 27 Dallas 9	W	L	T	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	D
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TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy and colder with light westerly breeze. High in the mid-20s.
Tonight: A chilly night for New Year's Eve celebrations. Mostly clear with high in the low 20s.
Tomorrow: The new year begins on a colder than average note. Mostly sunny with highs in the 20s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

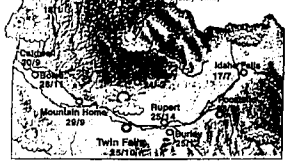
Today: Partly cloudy and chilly. Light winds with high in the low to mid-20s.
Tonight: New Year's Eve celebrations will be met with cold temperatures. Low in the 10s.
Tomorrow: 2008 begins on a cold note. Skies will be mostly sunny with highs in the 20s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
 High pressure will allow for partly cloudy skies and a brief break from the snow. Temperatures will remain cold through. Snow looks to make a return Tuesday night and Wednesday.

BOISE
 Temperatures will remain chilly, but sunny skies will break today and a brief break from the snow. Temperatures will remain cold through. Snow looks to make a return Tuesday night and Wednesday.

NORTHERN UTAH
 An mountain snow shower may linger today, but otherwise it will be mostly sunny through New Year's Day. Temperatures will play chilly.



Yesterday's State Extremes: 42 at Lewiston. Low: 0 at Hingham weather by the hour. For more on the weather, go to www.kootenai.com or call 1-800-875-8226.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Tonight	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Yesterday's Weather
Partly cloudy and chilly with light breezes High 25	Breeze up for the New Year's Eve Celebrations Low 10	A chilly start to the new year 30/18	Partly cloudy and a bit warmer 30/17	A slight chance for scattered rain or snow showers 39/25	Mostly cloudy with rain or snow possible 39/27	City: 33 25 06 Burley: 33 25 06 Coeur d'Alene: 33 25 06 Jerome: 33 25 06 Lowell: 33 25 06 Alta: 37 28 trace Harrison: 21 4 00 Shoshone: 22 16 00

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Temperature	Precipitation	Humidity	Barometric Pressure	Sunrise and Sunset
Yesterday's Low: 28	Month's Precip: 0.21"	Yesterday's Maximum: 31%	Yesterday's Max: 30.14 in	Today: Sunrise: 6:08 AM Sunset: 5:11 PM
Record High: 73 in 1977	Record Low: 0	Today's Maximum: 31%	Record Low: 29.82 in	Thursday: Sunrise: 6:08 AM Sunset: 5:11 PM

Moon Phases

Dec 31	Jan 8	Jan 15	Jan 22
Waxing Crescent	First Quarter	Full Moon	Waxing Gibbous

Moonrise and Moonset

Today	Tomorrow
Moonrise: 1:57 AM	Moonset: 12:32 PM

U.V. INDEX

Low	Moderate	High
1	2	3

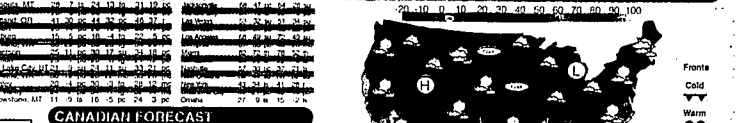
REGIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Boise	21-30	21-30
Idaho Falls	21-30	21-30
Jerome	21-30	21-30
Lowell	21-30	21-30
Shoshone	21-30	21-30
Twin Falls	21-30	21-30
Wendover, UT	21-30	21-30

NATIONAL FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Albany, NY	21-30	21-30
Albuquerque, NM	21-30	21-30
Anchorage, AK	21-30	21-30
Atlanta, GA	21-30	21-30
Baltimore, MD	21-30	21-30
Birmingham, AL	21-30	21-30
Boise, ID	21-30	21-30
Butte, MT	21-30	21-30
Charleston, SC	21-30	21-30
Chicago, IL	21-30	21-30
Cincinnati, OH	21-30	21-30
Cleveland, OH	21-30	21-30
Colorado Springs, CO	21-30	21-30
Dallas, TX	21-30	21-30
Dayton, OH	21-30	21-30
Denver, CO	21-30	21-30
Des Moines, IA	21-30	21-30
Detroit, MI	21-30	21-30
El Paso, TX	21-30	21-30
Fort Worth, TX	21-30	21-30
Grand Rapids, MI	21-30	21-30
Houston, TX	21-30	21-30
Indianapolis, IN	21-30	21-30
Jacksonville, FL	21-30	21-30
Kansas City, MO	21-30	21-30
Las Vegas, NV	21-30	21-30
Little Rock, AR	21-30	21-30
Los Angeles, CA	21-30	21-30
Los Angeles, CA	21-30	21-30
Madison, WI	21-30	21-30
Memphis, TN	21-30	21-30
Miami, FL	21-30	21-30
Minneapolis, MN	21-30	21-30
Mobile, AL	21-30	21-30
Montgomery, AL	21-30	21-30
Myrtle Beach, SC	21-30	21-30
Nashville, TN	21-30	21-30
New York, NY	21-30	21-30
Oakland, CA	21-30	21-30
Oklahoma City, OK	21-30	21-30
Omaha, NE	21-30	21-30
Orlando, FL	21-30	21-30
Philadelphia, PA	21-30	21-30
Phoenix, AZ	21-30	21-30
Pittsburgh, PA	21-30	21-30
Portland, ME	21-30	21-30
Portland, OR	21-30	21-30
Raleigh, NC	21-30	21-30
Reno, NV	21-30	21-30
Richmond, VA	21-30	21-30
Roseville, CA	21-30	21-30
Salt Lake City, UT	21-30	21-30
San Antonio, TX	21-30	21-30
San Diego, CA	21-30	21-30
San Francisco, CA	21-30	21-30
San Jose, CA	21-30	21-30
Seattle, WA	21-30	21-30
St. Louis, MO	21-30	21-30
St. Paul, MN	21-30	21-30
Stockholm, MN	21-30	21-30
Tampa, FL	21-30	21-30
Tucson, AZ	21-30	21-30
Tulsa, OK	21-30	21-30
Wash. DC	21-30	21-30
Washington, DC	21-30	21-30
Wichita, KS	21-30	21-30
Winnipeg, MB	21-30	21-30

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

City	Today	Tomorrow
Calgary	21-30	21-30
Edmonton	21-30	21-30
Halifax	21-30	21-30
Montreal	21-30	21-30
Ottawa	21-30	21-30
Regina	21-30	21-30
Vancouver	21-30	21-30
Victoria	21-30	21-30
Winnipeg	21-30	21-30

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Blazers winning streak continues

PORTLAND, Ore. — Brandon Roy scored 22 points and the Portland Trail Blazers rallied to beat the Philadelphia 76ers 97-72 on Sunday for their league-leading 13th straight win.

It is the second-longest winning streak in Blazers history.

Portland won 16 straight in the 1990-91 season.

Trailing 63-59 in the third quarter, the Blazers (18-12) went on a 21-0 run, holding Philadelphia scoreless for 8:21.

The youngest team in the NBA, Portland started its run with a Dec. 3 victory at Memphis after going 5-12 to start the season.

Ten of the team's 13 victories have come at the Rose Garden, where the Blazers are 15-3.

Nuggets, ending a seven-game losing streak in Denver.

Carmelo Anthony had 26 points and 10 rebounds for the Nuggets. Linas Kleiza and J.R. Smith added 15 points each for the Nuggets, who saw their seven-game winning streak snapped.

SPURS 111, GRIZZLES 87
SAN ANTONIO — Tony Parker and Tim Duncan each scored 24 points to help the Spurs beat Memphis, handing the Grizzlies their fifth straight loss.

Duncan also grabbed 17 rebounds, and Parker had nine assists. Michael Finley scored 22 points, including five 3-pointers, for the Spurs.

BULLS 100, KNICKS 83
NEW YORK — Ben Gordon scored 25 points in his second consecutive strong performance since returning to a reserve role, leading the Bulls over the Knicks.

Luol Deng added 17 points for the Bulls, who are 2-0 since Jim Boylan became the interim head coach last week, three days after Scott Skiles was fired.

Boylan's first decision was to ask Gordon to give up his starter's role, and it paid off immediately.

—The Associated Press

SUNS 117, KINGS 102

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Amare Stoudemire scored 31 points and grabbed 17 rebounds to help the Suns beat the Kings.

Shawn Marion made five 3-pointers and had 25 points, Leandro Barbosa scored 22 points, Steve Nash had 12 points and 15 assists, Grant Hill added 12 points and Raja Bell added 11.

WARRIORS 105, NUGGETS 95
DENVER — Baron Davis scored 29 points and Stephen Jackson added 23 to help Golden State beat the

Green powers top-ranked Tar Heels past Valparaiso

By Aaron Beard
 Associated Press writer

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Danny Green matched his career-high with 20 points and sparked the second-half spurt Sunday night to help No. 1 North Carolina beat Valparaiso 90-59.

Tyler Hansbrough had 23 points and 13 rebounds for the Tar Heels (13-0), who got off to a fast start only to see the Crusaders hang around before finally putting the game away with a big second-half run. North Carolina is off to its best start since winning 17 in a row to start the 1997-98 season.

Jarryd Loyd scored 14 of his 24 points in the first half for Valparaiso (10-3), which

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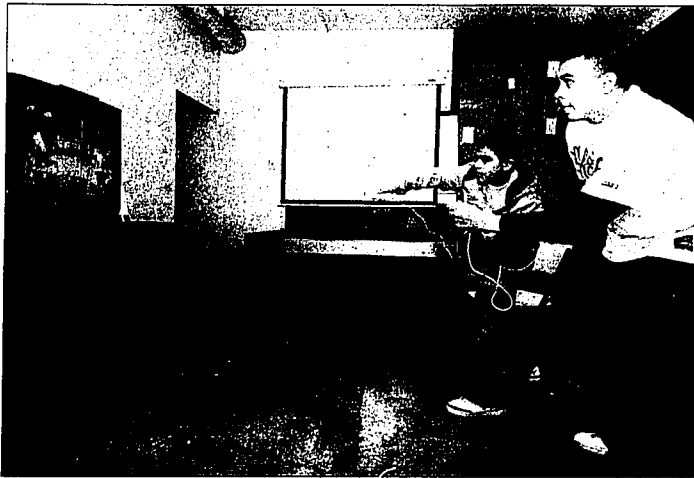
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GAMES OF GLORY



Junior Ramirez, left, takes on his older brother Alfonso in a Nintendo Wii boxing match at the Digital Colosseum in Filer.

Halo 3 tournaments in Filer gaining popularity

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

fortable watching their friends as they wailed. "People yell. It gets pretty crazy," Ryan Reeves, 21, of Kimberly, said minutes before the tournament.

Halo 3, a "first-person shooter" video game for Xbox 360, was released in September and, like its two predecessors, has emerged as one of the most popular video games in the world. It set sales records, reportedly grossing \$300 million in its first week.

Much of its appeal is traced not only to its balanced game play but also an online component that allows gamers to compete on the Internet.

Fans on Saturday agreed that while internet gaming has basically replaced LAN parties — multiple gamers meeting in the same place, each with his own system — face-to-face gaming remains a unique thrill.

"It's fun to have your competition in there with you, someone who shares my passion for video games," said Jacob Thornequist, 23, of Kimberly. "It sounds funny, but there are a lot of other people who would

"It's fun to have your competition in there with you, someone who shares my passion for video games."

— Jacob Thornequist, 23, of Kimberly



Rody Sasa, right, competes against Robert Lyday, second from right, at the Halo 3 tournament at the Digital Colosseum in Filer, as Nathan Romans watches.

agree with me." Mecham and friend Aaron Weddle, 26, won the last Halo tournament at Filer DC. Former Marines, they've both been playing video games since the heydays of the original Nintendo. The lure of Halo 3 stems from its fast-paced, yet smooth, game play that the gamers say designers have perfected.

"It returns its investment because it's different every time you play," Weddle said.

Filer DC, a video game arcade, was opened several months ago by Ewan Ha, a self-employed food processing consultant. His business has almost a dozen flat-screen televisions, plush, vibrating chairs with speakers — and plenty of space

for expansion. "The business began simply as an extension of his family's hobbies. Ha said, 'But he wants Filer DC to appeal to hardcore gamers and families, church groups and children's birthday parties. The Halo tournaments have been a huge success, he said, and he wants to hold them monthly.

"At home you play by yourself, but here you've got six, eight or 10 gamers," he said. "You don't bring your stuff. You just bring yourself."

Personal gaming controllers, of course, are allowed, too.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at jhopkins@magicvalley.com or 735-3204.

Wendell water rates on the rise

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

More information

After years of running in the red, officials in Wendell have taken a step toward halting the trend and ending a potentially illegal method of funding water services.

During the Dec. 20 City Council meeting, a 56-percent increase to the flat water rate fee was approved unanimously. That means when Wendell residents open their bills in February for water used in January, they will see the base residential water rate has increased from \$9 to \$16.

The decision to raise the rate was not made lightly nor without keeping residents' budgets in mind, said Mayor Rick Cawen.

"This is part of a plan that has taken months to set up," he said. "Hopefully, the increase will get the system to pay for itself."

Previously, the water system fund had to borrow from other city accounts. The practice of intermingling city funds is not good for the taxpayer — and it's illegal, said Council President Hene Rounselleff.

"Where borrowing from other funds has happened in the past, it can't continue now," she said. "With this increase we hope to at least break even this year, and re-evaluate the rate then." Rounselleff indicated that

Residents of Wendell may receive payment assistance for city services. For information: 536-5161 or City Hall, 375 1st Ave. E.

city officials thought January was a good time to implement the fee change, because that's when water usage is typically the lowest.

The city's water fund must pay catchup, as well as accumulate dollars for a rainy day. New pipes and meters are also needed.

"Some of the meters are very antiquated; some are 50 years old or older," said Public Works Director Pat Munyon. "While we've made progress on replacing some of those meters, others still need to be replaced."

When the meter isn't reading how much water is being used, the city isn't able to charge the right amount. By replacing those meters the city will be able to raise more revenue for the system.

Concerning the increased water rate, Munyon said, "We know that there are people out there that just can't pay their bills, and we have forms that residents can fill out. If they are eligible for assistance, they'll get it, and not only will the water bill but for other city services as well."

Sun Valley couple donates \$1 million to St. Luke's foundation

By Cass Friedman
Times-News writer

Last week, Julia and George Argiros, who is also chair and — CEO of a California-based real estate holding company, sent the foundation a letter pledging \$1 million.

"It is very unique that a resort critical-access hospital staffs their emergency room with board-certified doctors," said hospital spokeswoman Tanya Keim. "A lot of hospitals our size have doctors on call. And, in addition, they have emergency rooms staffed with family medicine physicians, not certified emergency room doctors."

Hilary Furlong, executive director of St. Luke's Wood River Foundation, said the Argiros' donation is the endowment's first. She said it will lend credibility to the effort to meet the \$10 million goal.

A former owner of the Seattle Mariners, American ambassador to Spain and part-time resident of Sun Valley has donated \$1 million to St. Luke's Wood River Valley Foundation, helping to secure top doctors for the emergency room's future.

Only last year, five years after the hospital's south of Ketchum opened, the emergency room became fully staffed with around-the-clock board-certified doctors — a rarity in ski resort towns prone to sports accidents, according to hospital officials.

In recent months, the foundation began targeting local residents with deep pockets to raise \$10 million to keep it that way.

Slick roads cause crashes, slide offs

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Police are blaming winter weather for dozens of crashes and slide offs Sunday, including a pileup on U.S. Highway 93 that injured several people. Six vehicles collided just before 3 p.m. near milepost 64 north of Jerome when a vehicle driven by Shayline Davis, a 17-year-old Twin Falls resident, swerved near a horse trailer that had skidded off the road, according to the Idaho State Police. Two vehicles, unable to immediately stop in the snowy conditions, struck Davis' car.

Two other vehicles crashed trying to avoid the wreck. An unknown number of passengers in Davis' vehicle were taken by helicopter to St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. Davis was later flown to St. Alphonsus Medical Center in Boise, where hospital officials could not describe her condition because she is a minor.

The other victims' identities and conditions were unknown late Sunday evening. The crashes are under investigation by ISP and Jerome County Sheriff's Department.

Matt Christensen may be reached at 735-3243.

Wendell Chamber of Commerce wants to expand

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

As with other Magic Valley towns, Wendell struggles with its rural size and ability to keep local businesses viable.

In an effort aimed to help, the Wendell Area Chamber of Commerce is attempting to kick-start the Hub City's business sector by getting those in the marketplace more involved.

"Our chamber is small but growing," said Vice President Leo Sanchez. "We've got a great board of directors and leaders that are really concerned in meeting the needs of our member businesses, and we're trying new things to do that."

Monthly meetings are now tried on a rotating schedule, Sanchez said.

"Not everyone can come to the lunchtime meetings, so we are holding a morning meet-

ing one month and a lunch meeting the next," he said. "After a while, we'll re-evaluate whether it was effective and take from there."

The chamber also seeks a place to call its own.

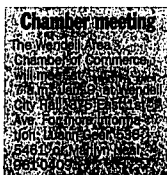
"Right now we just meet at City Hall," Sanchez said. "One day we would like a chamber office — and we will get there. It will just take a while."

Volunteers are essential to the chamber's success, said member Marilyn Neal, who joined the organization after she and her husband, Dan, moved to the area from Texas.

"I've been on the chamber a few months now and things are happening," Neal said. "We get at least one new member business each month."

The chamber currently has about 30 members who meet regularly. The organization wants more.

"The chamber really tries to meet business people that



Chamber meeting

have just come to the area and get to know them," Neal said. "We want to know how the chamber can best meet their needs."

While special events sponsored by the chamber are important, the group aims to put more focus on supporting everyday commerce.

"In the spring we would like to run programs for members and other merchants that will help small businesses be productive in a small town,"

Neal said. "The programs will focus on issues like customer service. In order for people to stop here instead of going to Twin Falls, our businesses have to really have an edge."

Other chamber goals for 2008 include marketing to area agribusinesses.

As part of the Wendell Area Chamber of Commerce, not the Wendell City Chamber of Commerce," Neal said. "In order to have a strong and active network, we need to get everyone on board."

"Area businesses need to be aware of the support and resources available to them through the chamber. Luann Geer is a member."

The chamber is trying to make sure that people and their businesses "know that we are here and act for them," she said.

Blair Koch may be reached at 316-2607.

Otis B. Hughes

BURLEY — Otis B. Hughes, an 85-year-old Burley resident, passed away Saturday, Dec. 29, 2007, at his home surrounded by his family.



He was born Oct. 14, 1922, in Hanson, the son of Carl and Minnie Mae Tolby Hughes. He attended schools in Kimberly and graduated from Kimberly High School in 1941. He was drafted into the Army in January 1942, serving out country in the Philippines and in Japan during World War II. On Feb. 10, 1948, he married Irene Miracle in Kimberly. Otis farmed in the Burley area for several years. He loved the outdoors, especially loved to hunt, fish and camp. He also loved to dance. He was involved with

the youth as a 4-H leader. He will truly be missed by his wife and those who knew him. Otis is survived by his wife, Irene; of Burley; his children, Annette (Glen) Lattin of Pocatello, Chris (Jojo) Adams of Boise and Mike (Katalos) Hughes of Pocatello. He is also survived by four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. He was predeceased in death by his parents, two grandchildren and three brothers.

Graveside services for family will be held at 11 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 3, at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls with military rites. Friends and family are invited to an open house on Thursday from 2 p.m. until 4 p.m. at the Hughes' home, 427 Buckle Road in Burley. Arrangements are under the direction of Hansen-Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St., Burley.

SERVICES

Leonard Vern Owens of Burley, funeral at 10 a.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls; visitation from 9 to 10 a.m. today at the mortuary.

John Richard Forbes of Twin Falls, rosary prayer service at 10:30 a.m. today at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls; Mass at 11 a.m. today at the church (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Ellen M. Harnar of Buhl, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at Buhl Immaculate Conception Catholic Church (Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Nile Zetland Mitchell of Declo, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Declo LDS Stake Center, 213 W. Main St.; visitation from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Fantella Harper Tracy of Malta, funeral 11 a.m. today at the Malta LDS 2nd Ward Chapel (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

Jane Douglas Rogerson of Twin Falls, funeral at 1 p.m. today at the Valley Presbyterian Church, 310 Park in Hazelton (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Shirley Ann Klynion of Castledorf, celebration of life at 1 p.m. today at Rock Creek Community Church, 262 Fifth Ave. E. in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Melanie Darrington Judy of Maricopa, Ariz., and formerly of Idaho, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Almo LDS Church; visitation one hour before the service at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Harlie Gene Waters of Buhl, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Jacqueline "Jackie" Esther Robinson of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 3 p.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2166 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Rex Leroy Sutherland of Buhl, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Buhl 2nd Ward LDS Church on Main St.; visitation from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday

at the church.

Pauline Warr Armstrong of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Rupert LDS 3rd and 10th Ward Church, 526 S. F St.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley; and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Dale K. Felman of Jackpot, Nev., celebration of life at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Jackpot Community Church (Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Jna M. Soran of Twin Falls, rosary prayer service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2465 Buckle Ave. E. in Twin Falls; funeral Mass at 2 p.m. Thursday at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls; visitation from 5 p.m. until time of the rosary Wednesday at the funeral chapel.

Rueben Elmer Ketterling of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Burley First Presbyterian Church, 2100 Burton Ave.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley; and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Thursday at the church.

Lena Nelsen-Morley of Liberty Lake, Wash., and Jerome, funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at Howe-Robinson Funeral Chapel in Jerome; visitation from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday at the chapel.

Harold Vernon Jensen of Crawford, Neb., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Church of the Nazarene, 1231 Washington St. N. in Twin Falls.

Elvaale Edith Peckham of Buhl, graveside service at 11 a.m. Saturday at the West End Cemetery in Buhl (Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl).

Lee Ray Thurber of Champaign, Ill., and formerly of Fairfield, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday at Faith United Methodist Church, 1719 S. Prospect Ave. in Champaign; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at Morgan Memorial Home, 1304 Regency Drive W. in Savoy, Ill.

Martin R. Gutches of Bellevue, funeral at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Community Center in Halley; visitation from 1 to 8 p.m. Friday at the Wood River Chapel in Halley.

resident, died Friday, Dec. 28, 2007, at her home in Burley. Services are pending and will be announced by Hansen-Payne Mortuary.

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

New Year's Day will bring several closures around valley

Many offices and facilities will be closed for New Year's Day. Here's a rundown of what will be open or closed today and Tuesday:

- Many city offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
- County offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
- State and federal offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
- Post offices will be open today; closed Tuesday.
- Banks will be open today; closed Tuesday.

open today; closed Tuesday.

• The College of Southern Idaho will be closed today and Tuesday.

• Twin Falls Public Library will be open until 5 p.m. today; closed Tuesday.

• YMCVA/Twin Falls City Pool will be open until 1 p.m. today; closed Tuesday.

• The embarrassing e-mails were described as "sarcastic banter" by the two.

• Nearly two dozen animals, including one whitetail deer — were seized by police from a Coeur d'Alene doublewide trailer in September. Deputies checked the animals while checking on a report of a neglected horse, which was lying outside the home, inside the trailer were 13 dogs, four guinea pigs, two deer, two cats and one rabbit, according to police reports.

• More than 300 felines in Twin Falls were also living in uncomfortably close quarters. Janet Rasmussen, owner of Rocky Mountain Cat Resort, pleaded guilty to 19 counts of misdemeanor animal cruelty and 51 counts of misdemeanor animal neglect and was given six months in jail for the poor conditions at her cat boarding house.

How low can you go? Idaho's depths from 2007

By Rebecca Boone Associated Press writer

BOISE — Residents who once proclaimed Idaho "too great for hate" after successfully ousting a white supremacist group from a white supremacist group for day care centers. Rep. Tom Loertscher, R-Iona, criticized parents who use day care centers before voting against the bill. "What can we do to keep them out of home?" Loertscher asked.

• In February, state lawmakers rejected a bill to require minimum safety standards and criminal background checks for day care centers. Rep. Tom Loertscher, R-Iona, criticized parents who use day care centers before voting against the bill. "What can we do to keep them out of home?" Loertscher asked.

• Idaho gained a new tourism attraction — in Minnerdale. After 11 months, Sen. Larry Craig was accused by police of trying to solicit gay sex in a Minneapolis airport bathroom, travelers began stopping by the infamous restroom to snap pictures of themselves posing in front of the door for sometimes,

made up some of the state's "lowlights" of 2007. Others included:

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in the stall.

• An Idaho musician made a name for himself, but not because of his recently released CD called "Risk." Instead, Nate Schierman of Coeur d'Alene was charged with felony sexual abuse of a minor, accused of paying a 14-year-old girl \$100 so he could rub her feet. In addition to rubbing her feet, the girl told police, he began rubbing a different part of his own anatomy. That's when the girl apparently realized her sandals were made for walking — away from Schierman's car.

• Hundreds of flirty e-mails between Kootenai County Prosecutor Bill Douglas and former drug court administrator Marina Kalani were released to the public after *The Spokesman-Review* newspaper of Spokane, Wash., filed a public information request and then fought in court to get access to the documents.

Idaho woman renews tradition of buffalo hunt

FORT HALL (AP) — A 22-year-old woman is the latest member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes to kill a buffalo, renewing a tradition of American Indians in the region who once relied on the giant animals for their livelihoods.

Tradition Dann was chosen earlier this year in a random drawing. She is the only woman who once relied on the giant animals for their livelihoods.

Dann's killing of the buffalo, tagged with a violet car marker with the number "356," is part of broader American Indian interest in ceremonial bison hunting, and the millions of acres of North America before they were reduced to small isolated herds in the mid-19th century by rampant killing by white European settlers pressing west.

As a girl, Dann remembers how she swam in streams near where the buffalo grazed and dreamed of participating in a hunt like her ancestors did.

In addition to hunts on its land, the Shoshone-Bannock tribe also wants to expand its buffalo hunting elsewhere, starting in 2008. In November, they became the

latest Idaho Indian group after the Nez Perce and Salish and Kootenai tribes to demand rights they say they were promised by a 19th-century treaty for hunts in Montana.

The animal targeted by Dann earlier this month was part of the herd managed by Lance Tissidimit, the tribe's buffalo master. Members must enter a drawing for one of the tags; nontribal members are allowed to purchase a tag, with prices based on the size and gender

of the animals. Dann, who has hunted deer and speared salmon, said she entered the drawing on a whim after seeing the signpost sheet on a tribal Department of Fish and Game clipboard in nearby Fort Hall.

She wasn't prepared when Tissidimit called later and spoke on her answering machine. "Hey Tradition, it's me Lance," she recalls his message. "When are you going to come shoot your buffalo?"

Report: UI graduate programs stuck in past

MOSCOW (AP) — The University of Idaho's graduate programs are stuck in the past, resistant to change and lag behind other schools, according to an independent report commissioned by the school and released this month.

The 435-page draft report by Yardley Research Group, a Pennsylvania-based higher-education consulting firm, criticized some departments for focusing too heavily on undergraduate education, saying they should have bolstered efforts to secure research grants and contracts, publish books and papers, and do other scholarly activities.

It also says many faculty members have been slow to cooperate as the "Moscow-based school tried to dig its way out of a financial crisis exacerbated by its ill-fated 2002 attempt to expand beyond its roots in Boise, the state's largest metropolitan area.

Faculty is "overly concerned with trivia and do not feel they have an obligation to help with larger issues" because they believe the "fiscal crisis... is the fault of administrators and needs to be fixed by administrators, not the top staff."

Dale Graden, a history professor and former president of the faculty union, said he was appalled by the criticism. Many programs are doing fine work, but simply weren't recognized by Yardley, he said.

To me, it almost verges on being disingenuous, some of the comments they make about faculty culture," Graden told the *Idaho Statesman*. "That's a complete farce. The people I know work from morning to night, seven days a week."

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DEATH NOTICES

Wilma Natalion Muff
Wilma Natalion Muff, 85, of Twin Falls died Saturday, Dec. 29, 2007, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel, Twin Falls.

Carma Murphy

BURLEY — Carma Murphy, a 65-year-old Burley

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

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

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of Directors of First Federal Savings Bank of Twin Falls will be held at the Main Office of First Federal Savings Bank, 3033 Shoshone Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho on Wednesday the twentieth day of January 2008, at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing two Directors - each to serve a term of three years, the presentation of the Management's Annual Report, and the transacting of any business that may properly come before such meeting.

Case No. CV-2007-0503
CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS
In the Interest of:
MARIAN PETERSON-ORTIZ,
d.o.b. 08-18-67

Case No. CV-2007-0753
CHILD PROTECTIVE ACT SUMMONS
In the Interest of:
ANGELA HARRIS,
d.o.b. 03-21-85

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING
You are hereby notified that the Annual Meeting of Directors of First Federal Savings Bank of Twin Falls will be held at the Main Office of First Federal Savings Bank, 3033 Shoshone Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho on Wednesday the twentieth day of January 2008, at 2:00 p.m. for the purpose of electing two Directors - each to serve a term of three years, the presentation of the Management's Annual Report, and the transacting of any business that may properly come before such meeting.

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

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

PUBLISH: December 31 and January 7, 2008

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate's Division of the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named child comes within the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
A Petition, a copy of which is attached, has been filed in the above-entitled matter in the Magistrate's Division of the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, by the Prosecuting Attorney, alleging the above-named child comes within the Court's jurisdiction under the Child Protective Act.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are part of your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing. As self-government charges all citizens to be informed, this newspaper urges every citizen to read and study these notices. We advise these citizens who seek further information to exercise their right to access public information.

YOU ARE NOTIFIED THAT:
If you fail to appear without reasonable cause, the Court may proceed in your absence or you may be proceeded against for contempt of Court.

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Deadline for filings is 11:59 p.m. prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Friday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call P&R legal clerk, at 208-735-3324.

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

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICE: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED BY THE ABOVE-NAMED PLAINTIFF(S). THE COURT MAY ENTER JUDGMENT AGAINST YOU WITHOUT FURTHER NOTICE UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN 20 DAYS. READ THE INSTRUCTIONS BELOW.

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102. 2nd & 3rd
104. 3rd & 4th
105. 4th & 5th
106. 5th & 6th
107. 6th & 7th
108. 7th & 8th
109. 8th & 9th
110. 9th & 10th
111. 10th & 11th
112. 11th & 12th
113. 12th & 1st
114. 1st & 2nd
115. 2nd & 3rd

101
Lost and Found
FOUND Black Lab,
found in Jerome,
Call CSI on 208-733-1129
Call 208-308-7142
FOUND dog, black and
white, found in
Boise, found on
December 22, 2007.
Call 208-841-7300
FOUND K9r Mendocino
Poodle in Twin Falls,
Digital Camera call
described 734-3676
FOUND Shih Tzu
with Matt in Jerome
found on December
15, 2007. Call
426-5907 or
426-6863 to identify.

FOUND Terrier Mix,
neutered male, black
& white, long hair,
12 lbs. Found in Target,
parking lot on
12/23, 2007-734-1129
FOUND-Border Collie
in Twin Falls,
spayed black & white
female, south of Filer.
208-245-0372
FOUND:
black/brown, puppy
with blue collar,
blue collar, Kimberly
Call 208-944-0234.

LOST Black Lab &
Beagle cross, white
& black, long hair,
orange reflective
collar, name Coyle.
Lost in Filer, W of
Hanson by drive.
423-4756, 731-4851
LOST Britany Spaniel
& black chocolate Lab
at 2554 Dean off Elk
avenue in Twin Falls
on Christmas eve.
Call 232-3653 or 734-0924.

LOST Can Black/Grey
Tabby,
neutered male,
green eyes,
(Various Sodom)
No collar.
Name of
Pantibus & Trotter.
E-mail:
Twin Falls,
736-0550/420-5354.

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE
T.S. No. ID-07-11285-DL Loan No. 002780051 On 4/17/2006 at 11:00 am (recognized local time), at the following location in the County of Twin Falls, Idaho: In the lobby of Allstate Title & Escrow located at 1414 Falls Ave. East, Suite 1311 in Twin Falls, ID 83301. Pioneer Trustee Services, LLC, an Idaho limited liability company, as Trustee, on behalf of Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee for Long Beach Mortgage Loan Trust, by Washington, DC, as Trustee, as successor-in-interest to Long Beach Mortgage Company, its attorney-in-fact will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful tender, the United States dollar, at the time of sale, the following real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows: to block 20 in parcel 1 of an estate subdivision, according to the official plat thereof, recorded in the office of the official records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with section 45-106(4)(A), Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address at 2497 4th Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301 is sometimes associated with said real property. Said sale is to be made in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth herein, and the Trustee is authorized to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Burnniette W. Reyes and Everette R. Reyes, as Grantor/Trustor, in which Long Beach Mortgage Company is named as Beneficiary and Long Beach Mortgage Company as Trustee and recorded 4/12/2006, as Instrument No. 2006-08955 in book _____, page _____ of the Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The above Grantees are named to comply with section 45-106(4)(A), Idaho Code. No representation is made that they are, or are not, presently responsible for this obligation set forth herein. The Deed of Trust is to be made in accordance with 12/23/2007, and all subsequent installments until the date of sale or reinstatement. The principal balance owing as of this date on the obligation set forth herein is \$920,463.43 together with interest thereon at the current rate of 8.950000 percent (%) per annum from 6/1/2007. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges, and interest, taxes and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee's fees, attorney's fees, and any amounts advanced to protect the security associated with this foreclosure and that the beneficiary elects to sell or institute the trust property to be no further charge. Dated: 12/17/2007. By: Pioneer Lender Trustee Services, LLC, an Idaho limited liability company, as Trustee Quality Loan Service Corp., 2411 5th Avenue, Suite 100, Twin Falls, ID 83401, as Agent. By: Paul J. Johnson, Asst. Vice President. *For Sale Information Call: 714-259-7850 or Log in to: www.fidelityasp.com. If you have previously been charged through bankruptcy, you may only be sold for that purpose. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report Agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. ASAP# 656265

NOTICE OF TRUSTEES SALE
On March 4, 2008, at the hour of 11:00 o'clock AM of said day, at First American Title, 260 Third Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho, JUST LAW, INC., as Successor Trustee, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful tender at the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows to wit: Lot 68 of the Buena Vista Addition, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the official plat thereof, filed in Volume 2 of Plats at Page(2), 23, official records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. This is a portion of the above referenced real property, but for purposes of compliance with section 45-106(4)(A) Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address 2418 Buena Vista St., Twin Falls, ID, is sometimes associated with said real property. This Trustee's Sale is subject to a bankruptcy filing, a payoff, a release, or any other conditions of which the Trustee is not aware that would cause the cancellation of this sale. Further, if any of these conditions exist, this sale may be null and void, the successful bidder's funds shall be returned, and the Trustee and the Beneficiary shall not be liable to the successful bidder for any damages. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale conferred in the Deed of Trust executed by Trevis Wayne Nelwert, an unmarried man, as Grantor(s) with Beneficial Mortgage Company, a limited liability company, as Beneficiary, recorded on December 19, 2002, as Instrument No. 2002-056663, in the records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. THE ABOVE GRANTOR ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-106(4)(A), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION SET FORTH HEREIN. The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay the amount due under the certain Promissory Note and Deed of Trust, in the amount called thereunder as follows: Monthly payments in the amount of \$425.01 for the months of May 2007 through (including) to the date of sale, together with late charges and monthly payments accrued. The sum owing on the obligation secured by said Deed of Trust is \$367,738.72 as principal, plus service charges, attorney's fees, costs of this foreclosure, any and all funds expended by Beneficiary to protect their security interest, and interest according to the rate of 10.25% from April 1, 2007, together with delinquent taxes plus penalties and interest to the date of sale. The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property to be sold to satisfy said obligation. Dated: 23rd day of October, 2007. Trust Officer: Paul Peterson Just Law, Inc. For information concerning this sale please contact Just Law, Inc. at Twin Falls at 430-923-1308. Thank you. PUBLISH: October 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2007

BUY IT! SELL IT!
A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEEDED
BUY IT! SELL IT!

NOTICE OF SALE
South-Locust, Strangle, 127 South Locust Twin Falls, ID 83301 will sell onto contents of 2 storage units to the highest bidder on site 01/04/2008 at 9:00 AM. The units are located at 136 Maxwell St. To be removed by 5:00 PM 01/04/2008. Brandl, Mildon, Unit #100, 780-C Maurice St. Twin Falls, ID 83301. PUBLISH: ID, December 31, 2007 and January 31, 2008

NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE
Case No.: CV-07-5683
A Petition to change the name of Arcelia Juarez, born 6-28-62 at San Pedro Tapan, Michoacan, Mexico residing at 121 Romero, Filer, has been filed with the County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The name will change to Arcelia Juarez-Tapia, because I wish to change my naturalization certificate to reflect my two last names. The petitioner's father is living and his address is Salud Pedraza - Tapia. The hearing is scheduled for 9:15 o'clock AM on January 15, 2008, at the County Courthouse. Objections may be filed by any person who claims an interest in the court a good reason against the name change. Date: December 6, 2007. By: Deputy Clerk PUBLISH: December 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2007

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

V. EASY #6
 Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page C8.

101 Lost and Found

LOST Golden Retriever, male, 2 yr old, blue & green collar, answers to "Duke" Missing since 12/23. Lost in Wendou. Sarah 208-404-2870

LOST Yorkie, blonde reddish hair female, 12 yrs old. Family misses her. Roward 734-8080 or 734-4996

108 Professional Services

Bankruptcy Chapter 7 Guaranteed lowest price for attorney representation. We are a debt relief agency. Free Consultation. Call 1-866-608-2399.

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE

CAREGIVER Live in house, caring for elderly woman. Refs required. Call 208-829-5047 or 208-216-0224

115 BIRTHDAY PHOTOS

Have you forgotten to pick up your birthday photos? We have some photos we are sure you don't want us to toss. These can be picked up at The Times-News Classified Dept

PEOPLE FOR PETS

420 Victory Ave. PO Box 1163 736-2299 Twin Falls, Idaho

FOUND

- Pitt Bull X, tan and white, male, adult, Quincy St.
- Red Mastiff X female, brindlo adult, HWY 30 Firer Id.
- Pointer, male, adult, white and brown speck, Twin Stop Kimberly Rd.
- Husky X, neutered male, adult, black/tan and white, camo collar Blaine County tags.
- Red, black and tan, adult, with tail, 2672 East 4100 North.
- Border collie Pyrenees X, fluffy black with white, adult male, Washington St. South.
- Terrier Cross, shaggy gray, neutered male with choke collar, TF pet garage.

ADOPTIONS

- Springer X, male puppy.
- Pit Bull, pup, female.
- Chow Retriever X pups.
- Blue Heeler, adult female, not a working dog.
- Pomeranian, blonde, male, adult.
- Black lab X 14 wks, male and female pups.
- Aussie neutered, male, adult.
- Husky Catahoula X, spayed female, 3 yr old.
- Catahoula Lab X 1 yr old, spayed, female.
- Blue Heeler female, adult.
- Cocker Spaniel male, black, adult.
- Basett X spayed female adult.

DON'T FORGET US!

Many cats/kittens for adoption! www.petfinder.com Hours: Mon-Fri, 10:00 am-5:30 pm Saturday 10:00 am-2:00 pm Closed Sunday and Holidays We can only keep animals 48 hours, they are then sold or DESTROYED. Please check daily

113 Child Care Services

IN HOME Child Care ICCP certified, 11 yrs exp. All meals included. Call Jamie 961-1986

NANNA'S HOUSE DAYCARE

Day and swing shifts, meals and snacks included, ICCP and CPR Certified. All ages accepted. Call 208-735-4189

115 Community Events

CLASSICAL DRAWING CLASSES 2008 Sign up now with MARIA SMITH-The Artists Atelier Call (208) 734-3003

REMEMBER

Time again to put your name in the Times-News Now is the time to come to work at your picture. Sign by the Customer Service Dept today!

EMPLOYMENT

200 Employment 221 Accounting 202 Clerk 203 Construction 204 Customer Service 205 Day 206 Drivers 207 Education 208 Farm 209 General 210 Management 211 Medical 212 Miscellaneous 213 Professional 214 Retail 215 Sales 216 Teachers 218 Newspaper Careers

CLASSIFIEDS

It pays to read the fine print! Call The Times-News to place your ad! 208-733-0931 ext. 2

GENERAL

Journeyman Electrician - High School Diploma, Current Idaho State Commercial Drivers License, valid Journeyman Electrician License, able to lift 50 pounds.

Warehouse Supervisor

District Distribution - Duties include receiving and distributing groceries and supplies to schools. Able to lift 60 lbs. on a continuous basis. Able to drive forklift and operate a pallet jack preferred. Positions are full time, 12 months, 40 hours per week, includes health, dental, life and retirement benefits. Sign language Teacher/Deaf Interpreter - Burley High School, Idaho Teaching Credential in Sign Language. Apply online at www.ad151.k32.id.us

Now Is The Time To Check Out A Career With Sunrise Express!

Twin Falls, ID
Sunrise EXPRESS 1-800-835-0825
COMPANY DRIVERS Owner/Operators (New Rates)
 Deluxe Late Model Equipment Weekly Settlements Holiday & Vacation Pay Health Insurance - 401K

0202 Clerical

CLERICAL, Legal Assistant/ Office Manager Energetic and highly organized self motivated person with excellent office, computer and people skills. Send detailed resume & cover letter to: Law, P.O. Box 329, Twin Falls, ID, 83303

204 Customer Service

CUSTOMER SERVICE FT and FT computer and phone skills. Call 208-878-4052 for more information

205 Drivers

DRIVER Now hiring Bus Drivers Paid Training Western States Class "A" CDL 208-733-8003

DRIVERS

CDL A with Hazmat, good pay, call 208-401-4052 for more information.

DRIVERS

"TOP GUN" Truck Driver/Tractor Trailer Class "A" CDL Instruction 736-6656

FAK YOUR CLASSIFIED AD

TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5338

206 Drivers

DRIVERS Hiring over the road Drivers. 2 years experience preferred. Medical insurance and 40k offered. Vocational after 1 year. \$35 per mile. Apply at: 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-324-3515

DRIVERS

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

DRIVERS

OTR drivers check us out! Never spend home regularly. Medical, 401K and paid vacation. Run Western and Midwest States. 2 years OTR experience, endorsement required. Food grade products. 1-800-987-2311 or apply online at IdahoTruckers.com

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TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5338

208 Farm

Classified Private Party Ads Requires pre payment prior to publication. Make credit cards, and cash accepted. 733-0931 ext. 2 Times-News

209 General

GENERAL DISCOVERY Want Holiday Cash? Day & Swing Shift Positions Available! *No Sales Involvement! *Base Pay Up To \$11.00 an hour! *All Paid Training! *Scheduling - You Pick the Days You Want to Work! *Shift Start Times Correlated with School Schedules! *Bonuses offered on monthly basis! *Fun, Positive work environment! Great for first time job seeker!

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AUTOMOTIVE Country Auto in Jerome is seeking a Customer Relations Manager & a Junior Assistant Finance Manager. Apply in person at 2408 S. Lincoln in Jerome ask for Clay or call 208-324-1457

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209 General

COLLECTIONS Full-time bilingual Collector. Must have computer/marketing skills. Experience preferred but not req. Call 208-732-2121 for appointment

209 General

DELIVERY Produce Delivery Driver. Magic Valley, Wood River Valley, and Eastern Idaho. DMV record required. Call 208-732-2121. Twin Falls.

209 General

GENERAL Data Processing Firm classes now forming an entry duty institution with focus on income tax preparation. Day and evening classes available. Call 866-071-1040

209 General

GENERAL Abbreviations can be too confusing for many readers will understand your ad completely. Special Classifieds 733-0931

209 General

GENERAL This year will be our best! Classifieds 733-0931

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GENERAL The Twin Falls Juvenile Probation Department is accepting applications for a Community Service Worksite Monitor. Part-time position, \$9.00/hr. Saturdays from 7:30 - 4:30, with additional hours during Christmas and Spring Break and 40 hrs. per week June through August. Position is responsible for supervising youth working on community service at designated job sites. For detailed job posting and application form, visit our website at www.twinfallsjuvenile.org or HR Office, 4th Floor, Twin Falls County Courthouse, EODrug Free Workplace.

209 General

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602

Unfurnished Homes

BUIH 2 bdrm, 1 bath mobile home, \$475 mo. No pets, long term. 208-543-8342

601

Unfurnished Homes

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, home. Large fenced yard, large master bdrm, wood floors, carpet, 3000 sq ft. 208-539-7833 or 544-7789

604

Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex

KIMBERLY large 3 bdrm 2 bath, garage. No pets, pet-friendly. \$650 + dep. Apts. include 208-324-2244

604

Unfurnished Apts. and Duplex

TWIN FALLS ***** Eject to be Impressed! Spacious 1 & 2 bdrm 2 bath apts. great kitchen, wood floors, 2nd floor. 208-543-2422 Div. Call 734-4239

703

Horse and Tack

PAUL STRUCHON Trimming Work on hand all your trimming needs. 33 years experience. Call 208-734-9377 or 208-358-9376

704

Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE Kitty's Females. Inside and trim box included. Good home, 1 is spayed & declawed. 218-2422 or 218-2466

704

Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE Lab/Boxer X 1 yr old, spayed female, very friendly & energetic, very playful, some training. 208-536-1926 Ivag, mag.

704

Pets and Pet Supplies

FREE Pi Bull female, 6 wks old, chocolate & tan, very friendly & playful, would make a wonderful pet. Call 208-431-9172

Equal Housing Opportunities. All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the fair housing act...

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, carpet, exc. nice, \$995/mo. dep. lease, No smoking, pet friendly. 208-539-7833

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, 1 bath, pet friendly, close to CSI, brand new apt. Of SI parking, all appliances included. 208-543-2244

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, 1 bath, pet friendly, close to CSI, brand new apt. Of SI parking, all appliances included. 208-543-2244

FREE Heeler Pups. Home. Call 208-731-2588

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JUMBLE. Unscramble these four Jumbles. Write the letter in each square to form four ordinary words.

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JUMBLE Answer: ENAKO, TAGEA, DROVEN, REHND. (Answers tomorrow)

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LABRADOR AKC registered, rare light chocolate puppies, 1 shot & dewormed. \$450/lot. Call 208-665-8360

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LABS Volvo, chocolate black, just in time for Christmas. All the things you'd love in a male, female & a/c. 208-677 or 208-431-7722

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At Your Service. Your local guide to professional and personal services. Contact a Times-News classified representative for our low monthly rates: 733-0931, ext. 2

Monday, Dec. 31, 2007

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world."

— William Shakespeare

For the last day of the year here is a deal from Terence Reese's classic book "Master Play." This hand still remains as fresh in my memory as when I first encountered it. It proves that defenders in the past were as proficient as modern ones.

East was Boris Schapiro, West was Reese in the Masters Pairs, and the deal has reappeared in print several times since then, but it was an original conceit at the time. Reese led the heart queen against four spades and continued the suit, and South ruffed the third round. He continued with the diamond king and Reese played low!

Although we can all see that playing the diamond ace would have surrendered all chance of beating the contract, it is safe to say that few players would have even considered the possibility that this was the right defense. South next played the queen and jack of diamonds, West ducking again, and East ruffed this jack.

Schapiro's normal exit at this point would be a club, allowing declarer to win in dummy and play a trump to hand. This could ruff a diamond high and draw trumps making the rest of the tricks. A spade lead would have been equally ineffective, but Schapiro found the defense of a fourth heart, giving a ruff and discard. As you can see, this destroys the communications between the hands. Whatever South does, he has to lose another trick.

807 NORTH A 3 12-31-A K 6 5 J 10 7 6 3

WEST A 7 6 2 Q J 1 0 A 8 5 2 K 9 4

SOUTH K Q J 10 7 2 K Q J 10 7 6 5

Vulnerable: Both Dealer: South

The bidding: South West North East 1 Pass 2 Pass 3 Pass 4 All pass

Opening lead: Heart queen

LEAD WITH THE ACES

South holds: A 5 K J 8 3 J 7 3 2 K 10 8 2

South West North East Pass 1 Pass 1 Pass 2 Pass 4 All pass

ANSWER: Everybody about this hand suggests that suits are breaking badly for declarer. The most passive defense available seems appropriate, and my guess would be to lead a diamond. Obviously a heart might be necessary, but the bad breaks in both black suits suggest the trick may come back later.

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

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704 Pets and Pet Supplies LAB pups, AKC reg. ivory and fox red...

803 Bazaars and Crafts! Buy It! Sell It! A Times-News Classified

705 Farm Equipment JOHN DEERE '84 4450 MFWD...

804 Building Materials BUILDING LUMBER from pine wood to all purpose...

709 Hay Grain and Feed ALFA LFA HAY Quality Hay...

805 Auctioneers, Auctioneers DOWN AT THE PLAZA UPRIGHT PIANO for sale...

MINI SCHAUZER AKC reg. pick out for sale...

806 Antiques and Collectibles STEEL BUILDINGS 20x20 to 100x100...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

807 Antiques and Collectibles ANTIQUE & WINTAGE Pocket Watches...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

808 Antiques and Collectibles BIRTHDAY PHOTOS Have you forgotten...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

809 Antiques and Collectibles USED APPLIANCES All types and models...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

810 Antiques and Collectibles REMEMBER The birthday you passed over...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

811 Antiques and Collectibles READ THE CLASSIFIEDS Every Day!

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

812 Antiques and Collectibles BARBIE CAR battery operated with charger...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

813 Antiques and Collectibles NAUTILUS Free 1013 Auto Body Power System-Like New!

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

814 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

815 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

816 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

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817 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

818 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

MINI SCHAUZER puppy, black, purebred...

819 Antiques and Collectibles WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

805 Electronics SONY TV 52" has it all...

816 Miscellaneous For Sale BUILDING LUMBER for sale...

807 Clothing And Furs WEDDING DRESS, size 12...

810 Furniture & Carpet BED, 12IN QUEEN PILLOWTOP...

810 Furniture & Carpet BED, KING PILLOWTOP...

810 Furniture & Carpet BEDROOM SET 5 pc. solid wood...

810 Furniture & Carpet CARPET, Berber, lo-look...

810 Furniture & Carpet MATTRESS SET 1119 All orthopedic...

810 Furniture & Carpet MATTRESS SET NAPA MEMORY Foam...

810 Furniture & Carpet POWER LIFT CHAIR ton, excellent condition...

810 Furniture & Carpet SLEIGH BED, solid wood, brand new...

810 Furniture & Carpet HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING QUADRAFIRE pellet stove...

812 Auctioneers, Auctioneers DOWN AT THE PLAZA UPRIGHT PIANO for sale...

820 Tools & Machinery FORKLUFT Caterpillar 50, \$3,000...

820 Tools & Machinery FORKLUFT Forklift, 16 cbl mast...

820 Tools & Machinery SUZUKI '08 DRZ250S \$1,350/offer...

822 Wanted To Buy TABLE Saw for shop. Solid, excellent...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Antiques and pottery, pictures, horse tack...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

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822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Farm ground 30-80 acres...

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822 Wanted To Buy WANTED Old magazines, paintings, jewelry...

905 Motor Homes & RVs CAR DOLLY brand new...

905 Motor Homes & RVs SPORTCOACH '04 Class A motorhome...

905 Motor Homes & RVs ARCTIC CAT '04 Truck...

905 Motor Homes & RVs ARCTIC CAT '99 700 Powder Ski excellent condition...

906 Snow Vehicles ARCTIC CAT '04 Truck...

906 Snow Vehicles ARCTIC CAT '99 700 Powder Ski excellent condition...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment PETERBILT '96 370 '99 Cat 13 speed...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment TRAILERS '08 Walton...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '00 XCR 120 Great kids sled...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '91 1200 UTV...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '96 UTV...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '96 UTV...

1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '96 UTV...

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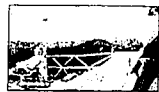
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1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '96 UTV...

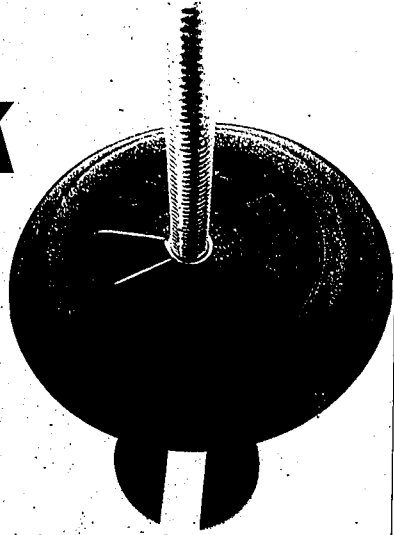
1005 Semis And Heavy Equipment POLARIS '96 UTV...

The Times-News magivalley.com The Times-News office will be closed on January 1st. We wish you a happy and safe New Year. We will re-open on January 2nd at 8:00 am



INSIDE: Comics, B2-3 | Horoscope, B2 | Dear Abby, B3 | To do for you, B4

More than a coat hook



Emanuel Gomez, a College of Southern Idaho student, performs a quick weightlifting workout in his apartment's dining area Thursday evening in Twin Falls.

Photo by STEVE SCHNEIDER/Photo Bank

Home gym equipment requires commitment, lifestyle change

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

Emanuel Gomez isn't going to buy a gym membership any time soon.

In his Twin Falls apartment, the college student uses a bench press, dumbbell set and squat bar at least three times a week. The routine keeps him in shape and is convenient for the full-time worker.

"If we didn't have time or the gym was closed, we could use it at home," he said.

Owners of home fitness equipment can work out in their pajamas. No driving through snow at 6 in the morning. No leaving gym rats.

But getting in shape isn't as easy as purchasing a treadmill and surrendering a corner of basement. Home gym equipment requires as much attention and dedication as any other workout routine.

To bypass the costs of gym membership, home gym equipment seems an obvious alternative for busy folks who want to get in shape. Without commitment, however, the machines are just going to collect dust, said Clint Eldredge, salesman at the Brady's Fitness store in Twin Falls.

"The mistake that a lot of people make is thinking that buying a

machine is automatically going to pay off," he said.

Stephen DeWitt, owner of Strength Inc. in Twin Falls, said he saw many people drop their commitment to fitness after New Year's Day when he owned a gym in Twin Falls 23 years ago.

"Probably about three-fourths of them ended up not sticking with it after about a month or so," he said.

Yes, the same problem plagues

people with home gym equipment.

Sometimes, exercise equipment can be shoved away because of circumstances instead of disinterest. Leah Geary of Twin Falls once used her weight machine regularly. After getting pregnant with her second child, though, she stowed the machine in her 8-year-old son's room.

"It just hangs his clothes (on it)," she said. Now her equipment

is listed in a classified ad.

Jessica Fenton of Kimberly said her "home weight machine worked well for her and her husband. Fenton, who has three children, said gyms are inconvenient for her lifestyle.

"It's not feasible to go find a babysitter and go work out somewhere."

Although they used to use it frequently, they decided to sell the machine when Fenton got pregnant again and her husband started working out elsewhere.

"We had it for probably four years and we did use it quite a bit," she said.

But it's not the presence of dumbbells in the den that makes the difference.

People are more likely to use their equipment frequently if they see results, Eldredge said. The only way they'll see results is if they commit to a lifestyle change, including eating right and establishing a workout routine.

"That's, like, 90 percent of getting in shape," he said.

DeWitt said change requires time but is worth the hard work.

"If they can stick with it ... for at least six months, they'll really start seeing results," DeWitt said.

Melissa Davlin may be reached at melissa.davlin@lee.net or 735-3234.

To get in shape, avoid the gym no, really

By Eileen McCarthy
The Washington Post

Go ahead, join an expensive gym. Set the alarm clock an hour early and pledge to spring gleefully out of bed and into your running shoes six days a week. Resolve to lose three pounds a week until you can count your ribs.

Go ahead. We'll see you and your broken promises back here in April.

We're not trying to be pessimistic here. Just, you know, a little realistic.

And maybe a little creative. It's hard to make big lifestyle changes, and we're more interested in fun than drudgery anyway, so we brainstormed and polled some experts to come up with ways to get moving that should elicit far more smiles than groans.

No chance we're going to make you into a Mr./Mrs. America type, but the fitness gurus told us time and time again that every little bit counts.

And every little bit might just as well be a pretty good time.

Dance with the masses: Or your friends at least. The point is, who cares about stars, and who cares about your couch? This is about you and that couch. This is about you and that couch. This is about you and that couch.

Please see EXERCISE, Page D4



Emanuel Gomez lifts weights in the dining area of his Twin Falls apartment. Home fitness equipment suits Gomez's schedule, but even the equipment's promoters say it's not right for everyone.

OUT OF THE WOODS

Red-and-black buffalo plaid an outdoor staple

The Washington Post

What better time for wool, plaid and warmth? And nothing personifies the three more than the red-and-black buffalo plaid first pioneered by Woolrich in the late 1800s.

The simple turtleneck was manufactured into hats, hunting coats, Daniel shirts and pants. And when such pieces were worn together (as they often were), the look launched a new term in the American lexicon: the

Pennsylvania tuxedo.

In 2006, Daiji Suzuki, the New York-based designer of Engineered Garments, was brought in to revolutionize and modernize the Woolrich brand, creating a unique European line that has crossed the pond just in time.

This winter, the American outdoor staple is in the sights of trend-hunters everywhere.

The block print is cut on the bias for James Kendi's unique "daggar" tie

and Woolrich's own shadow plaid

belt. Phillip Lim trimmed a round wool bag with black leather and metal, while a trapper hat by Ralph Lauren's Rugby is trimmed in, shearinglike fleece. J. Crew went mad for buffalo plaid — its holiday collection was chockablock with shirts and scarves for him, and even a matching taffeta dress-and-silk clutch for her.

It's never too late, apparently, to teach an old rag new tricks.



Nothing personifies wool, plaid and warmth more than the red-and-black buffalo plaid first pioneered by Woolrich in the late 1800s. Some updated versions, from top: Neel Woolrich tie, \$95; Woolrich Wooler Mills' classic shirt and shadow plaid belt, \$100; Phillip Lim editor bag, \$495; J. Crew shirt, \$68; Ralph Lauren Rugby trapper hat, \$68; Lamb by Owen Stefan jacket, \$345.

Photo by STEVE SCHNEIDER/Photo Bank

Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brent Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



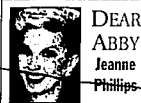
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bill Kenne



Teen boy's casual nudity perplexes longtime neighbor

DEAR ABBY: I have lived next door to the "Smiths" for 16 years. They're nice people. When problems have arisen, they have helped me out, and I have done the same for them. We're good neighbors and friends.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

I now can my mother make new friends or start a new relationship? How can she figure out what she likes and be a happier person?

—WANTS TO HELP MOM IN PHILLY
DEAR WANTS TO HELP MOM: Your being a caring daughter, but you can't "make her happy." Only she can do that.

DEAR CLOTHES-MINDED:

Standards regarding nudity vary from family to family, and obviously the Smiths are casual and open-minded on the subject. It's possible that you have been their neighbor so long that the young man considers you part of the family.

Because he has matured sufficiently that his nudity now makes you uncomfortable, you should hang curtains on your windows that face the Smiths' kitchen — and before dropping over there, call to ask whether he's presentable. If he's not, then don't go over.

DEAR ABBY: My mother has been a single parent for the last seven years. She doesn't have any really close friends — there are two women she goes out with occasionally, but all she does is complain about them. She seems to have forgotten what makes her happy and who she is.

I may be biased, but I think Mom is an amazing person. I'm in college now, but whenever I'm home I always try to spend lots of time with her and make her happy.

It's possible that losing your father (through death or divorce) has caused your mother to withdraw and go into a depression. Most depression is treatable if the person is willing to discuss the problem with a mental health professional. However, this is a step that you cannot make for her.

Your mother needs to look beyond herself, volunteer some of her free time to the community, and allow herself less time to wallow in her discontent. In that way she will meet new friends and perhaps find a new relationship. But none of this can happen until she herself decides to reach out.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: If you are partying tonight to celebrate the arrival of the new year, please don't drink and drive. Make sure you have a designated driver.

I wish you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous 2008!
—LOVE, ABBY

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

Folk and blues singer Orlan is 77. Actor Sir Anthony Hopkins is 70. Actor Tim Considine ("My Three Sons") is 67. Actress Sarah Miles is 66. Rock musician Andy Summers is 65. Actor Ben Kingsley is 64. Rock musician Peter Quilte (The Kinks) is 64. Producer-director Taylor Hackford is 63. Actor Tim Mattheson is 60. Pop singer Barbra Cummings (The Guess Who) is 60. Singer Donna Summer is 59. Actor Joe Dallesandro is 59. Rock musician Tom Hamilton (Aerosmith) is 56. Actor James Hurnar is 54. Actress Bebe Neuwirth is 49. Actor Val Kilmer is 48. Singer Paul Westerberg is 48. Actor Don Diamond is 45. Rock musician Bill Ivanovskiy (Oleander) is 45. Rock musician Scott Ian (Anthrax) is 44. Actress Gong Li is 42. Pop singer Joe McIntyre is 35.



Val Kilmer

Woman loses diamond ring while making fudge; man finds it in candy

LAFAVETTE, Ind. (AP) — A woman whose diamond ring vanished while she was making fudge for a bake sale was despondent after scouring her home and finding no sign of it.

But Linda Vancel recently got a sweet surprise: A relative of the woman who bought the fudge found the ring when he bit into a piece

of the candy. "It's a very sentimental ring," Vancel said of the white gold ring her mother, who died 15 years ago, wore for 50 years.

Linda Rhoades bought the fudge at a bake sale in West Lafayette. She took some of it to her sister-in-law's father, Charles Matson, in hopes of cheering him up after recent health problems.

2" Faux Blinds
Enjoy the look for 1/2 the price!
18 designer colors & shades.
All sizes have equal discounts.
\$34.00 EA
STARTING AS LOW AS...
Sale Ends 1/5/08
MAGIC BLIND CLEANING
Blinds Use the Ultrasonic Process

50% Off All Christmas items
Soothe your upset stomach fast
Cola Syrup
Relieves nausea
Feel better in a flash even if you overindulged.
Sav-Mor Drug
Soothe Your Stomach

THOUGHT

"The past at least is secure."
— Daniel Webster, U.S. statesman (1782-1862)

Happy New Year
from Mary, Nicole, Angie, Nathan & Bonnie
ALL Bored Chocolates 1, 1 1/2, 2, 3 & 5 lb. boxes
THE CHOCOLATE Pedicel
309 Hansen St. E. • 733-7624
Mon - Open Mon-Fri • Closed Sat & Sun
We now accept Visa & MasterCard

HAPPY NEW YEAR
May the year ahead be filled with Peace and Prosperity For all.
This series brought to you by:
CAPRICORN FINANCIAL STRATEGIES
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Financial Consultant

TO DO FOR YOU

About back injuries

"Back School," a course on preventing and treating back injuries, 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center's Rehabilitation Services, 560 Shoup Ave. W. in Twin Falls.

The class will include information on basic spine anatomy, common injuries and diseases that lead to back pain, as well as instructions in posture and body mechanics to protect the spine. Cost is \$25. To register: 737-2126.

About childbirth

Prepared childbirth classes, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Thursdays, this week through Jan. 31, in the lobby at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional's downtown

campus, 660 Shishone St. E. in Twin Falls.

Instruction includes wellness of the mother, labor and delivery process with education and birthing techniques, care of the postpartum mother and care of the newborn including breastfeeding and bottle feeding, and a video tour of the Women's and Infant Center. Wear comfortable clothing; bring two pillows and, if possible, a support person.

Cost is \$60. Pre-registration required: 732-3140.

Big Kids Klub

Big Kids Klub meeting, 10 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, in the Sage Room at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional's Education Center, 588 Addison Ave. W. in Twin Falls.

The class helps prepare siblings for a new baby. Participants need to bring a photo of themselves.

Cost is \$10 per family with one child or \$15 per family with two or more children. Pre-registration required: 732-3140.

Weight management for diabetics

Weight-management class for people with diabetes, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 8 through March 11, at the Genoa Building, Suite A, 726 N. College Road in Twin Falls.

A registered and licensed dietitian and ADA-certified consultant in weight management will conduct the 10-week course.

Cost is \$100. Pre-registration required: 736-6218 or headhersh@mvmc.org.

Adult weight management

Adult weight-management class, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays, Jan. 10 through March 13, at the Genoa Building, Suite A, 726 N. College Road in Twin Falls.

A registered and licensed dietitian and ADA-certified consultant in weight management will conduct the 10-week course.

Cost is \$100. Pre-registration required: 736-6218 or headhersh@mvmc.org.

"In do for you" is a listing of health-related activities, events and education. Submit information by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's health section. E-mail notices to rummelt@gmagicvalley.com.

Leisure could be bad for you

By Lindsay Minnema
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — It may not be the corgin, the endless holiday music or even the pounds of sugar cookies that are making you ill. It may be the same thing that seems to set you back when you finally finish a week's worth of sports or get off for a week on the beach: You're too work.

Ad Vingerhoets, an associate professor of clinical health psychology at Tilburg University in the Netherlands, calls it "leisure sickness." Just when you take a break from your busy schedule to enjoy a little relaxation, your leisure time becomes anything but — a full of aches and pains, cold-and-flu-like symptoms and other health complaints.

Just when you take a break from your busy schedule to enjoy a little relaxation, your leisure time becomes anything but — full of aches and pains, cold-and-flu-like symptoms and other health complaints.

a lot to do with stress. He has been finding calls when the theory since 2001, when his team of researchers reported on their survey of 1,893 Dutch people in which about 3 percent of respondents indicated that they seldom felt ill during work days but got sick during weekends and vacations. Many attributed their symptoms to difficulties transitioning from work to non-work, to stress associated with travel and to balancing a heavy workload.

Respondents who identified themselves as workaholics or perfectionists tended to have a much harder time relaxing than others.

Most explanations for the phenomenon remain unproven, however.

Paul Rosch, president of the American Institute of Stress in Yonkers, N.Y., and a professor of medicine and psychiatry at New York Medical College, says he has been involved in stress research for more than 50 years. Is one of the skeptics. An inability to relax on vacations and holidays has long been a well-known characteristic of Type A behavior, he says.

Leisure represents a time when they are not in control,

The two hormones are timed differently, with adrenaline starting up and shutting down within milliseconds, much faster than cortisol, which takes five to 10 minutes.

"What happens when you stop doing what it is you were doing, the stressed you is that the adrenaline slits off first," Sternberg said. "You are left with this cortisol floating around. And if at that moment someone coughs in your face, you get sick."

Don't like that hypothesis? How about this one: Vacations and holidays involve greater exposure to germs that make you sick. Then there's the psychological theory: Much of the year, busy people ignore the signals that they are sick because they don't have the time to acknowledge the symptoms.

But Sternberg said stress hormones go on long way toward explaining why most people who suffer from leisure sickness on vacation experience their symptoms within the first couple of days after they stop work, a pattern Vingerhoets observed in his survey.

"There is a science to it. There is a biology to it," Sternberg said. "It's not really psychosomatic because the term 'psychosomatic' carries with it the baggage of implying that it's not really real. ... But there is enough evidence in other settings that we can draw upon to say that leisure illness is probably a real phenomenon."

But Sternberg said stress hormones go on long way toward explaining why most people who suffer from leisure sickness on vacation experience their symptoms within the first couple of days after they stop work, a pattern Vingerhoets observed in his survey.

Exercise

Continued from page D1

flash-dancing mania you've kept locked away for too long now. Christine Haas, a Herndon, Va.-based personal trainer, tells her clients to set up regular dance sessions with a partner or at a local dance school. Tango? Tap? Hip-hop? Belly dance? There are classes for every style of dancing. And breaking a sweat at a night-club works just as well. Haas says. But make sure you're rehydrating with water instead of sugary cocktails.

"Take a coffee break: Does that sound beside the point? Not if your coffee break is four blocks away. Chances are you're already taking time out of your workday for this kind of relaxation, probably with a reliable gossip buddy. Now get the gossip while you walk back and forth rather than while you sit and stir. It might not seem like much, but it'll definitely work against the calories in that green smoothie."

"Have a kid OK, don't have a kid. That might be a little extreme as methods of fitness motivation go. But if you do have a kid (or two or three), make it a point to play with them. "Put them on a sled," says Tim Chudy, a St. Louis-based personal trainer. "Play games with them, play tag. ... You're spending time with them and getting some physical activity." And if you're not a parent, we bet you know a few little ones you could borrow once a week. Or you could coach a youth sports team and see how breathless, but delighted, it leaves you.

Play fetch: Don't they all look so happy, those straggling owners all bundled up in the night? And why not — the love of a faithful companion, the endorphins of an accelerated heart rate, it's easy to commit to a good, long walk every time the temperature is perfect and the sky is cloudless. But get a dog, and

we promise you'll walk into or shine. What's not to love? A fitter you, packaged with adoring eyes and a wagging tail.

• Be a team player: Literally. Team sports are a vital part of lots of people's social lives. Join an adult kickball team and you'll probably widen your circle of friends tenfold. Same with soccer or softball or hoops. Not to mention clubs for running, hiking, biking, golfing and bull riding. OK, maybe not bull riding. But you get the point. Even if you're not a natural athlete, you can still sign up. Most organizations go out of their way to welcome beginners.

Watch TV: But do it on the floor. That is another of personal trainer Chudy's favorites. Almost everyone watches the tube eventually, but Chudy says that just by parking yourself on the floor, you're more likely to stretch or do crunches than, say, crunch on a bag of chips.

Grow: And organ! And ant! And stop spending so much money at specialty markets. Michael P. O'Donnell, editor of the American Journal of Health Promotion, prods his colleagues to plant a vegetable garden if they have the space. It might not appear to be the most vigorous activity, but all that digging and watering and care-taking can add up. Plus, O'Donnell says, it creates a "more personal relationship with food," especially when you play farmer and chef.

So, none of that sounds that bad, right? And none of it will cost you \$69 a month or fill you with so much dread you'll choose to hide under the covers in seditary liberation till the next resolution-season rolls around, right? OK, good. And we could help. And if you're looking for more easy ideas along these lines, check out Uncle Sam's similarly minded Web site, www.smallstep.gov.

When running is a gas

By Vicky Hallett
Special to The Washington Post

I, Q, I've just taken up running, and I absolutely love it. I've developed an embarrassing flatulence problem. Is this normal? What can I do?

A. So you've found out that your new hobby is a gas, huh?

Most people have heard of the runner's high, but there's also the lesser-known runner's GI. For the most part, folks who lace up sneakers have happy gastrointestinal tracts that dig a good 5K — if patients are constipated, we tell them to move more," says Zalfi Shanavas, a gastroenterologist with Capital Gastroenterology Consultants in Montgomery County, Md.

"O'Kieffe says, after a few miles, you could be swallowing extra air along the way, especially if you gulp down water en route. Or your respiratory system could be the problem — include and fiber-rich meals are often behind tummy troubles.

"Plan your running for after you've had a bowel movement," O'Kieffe suggests. Stay away from gas-causing foods, and really any eats, for at least two hours before you pound the pavement. O'Kieffe also has patients on over-the-counter remedies such as simethicone (an anti-flatulence drug), Pepco-Bismal and yogurts with probiotics.

"And maybe pick a less populated trail so only the trees have to suffer."

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