

IS THE END NIGH?

The second coming is on some Christians' minds.

RELIGION, C1

BRONCOS TRAMPLE FRESH

No. 9 Boise State routs Fresno State.

SPORTS, D1

PREPARING FOR CYBER MONDAY

Online retailers ramp up deals to capture the dollars.

BUSINESS, B1

TIMES-NEWS

Saturday, November 29, 2008

MagValley.com

75 cents

BLACK FRIDAY BLITZ

Despite souring economy, shoppers flood area retailers

By Ben Bokun and Josh Palmer
Times-News writers

Addison Mickelsen of Oakley grabbed a sleeping bag and headed out to Best Buy in Twin Falls Thursday evening.

Several others were there, too — all eager shoppers who sacrificed the dwindling hours of Thanksgiving and a warm bed for a chance to be among the first in line for Best Buy's 5 a.m. opening on Black Friday. It's the day that traditionally marks the start of the holiday shopping season — one that's known for its early-morning sales that help retailers turn a profit each year.

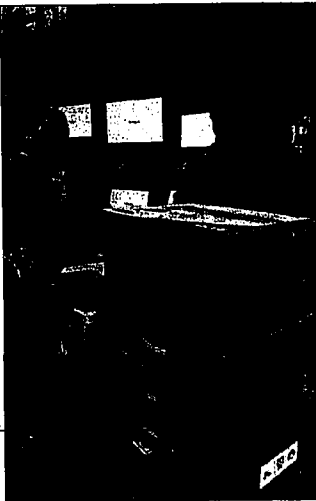
"The shoppers had spent the night visiting, sitting in chairs and doing their best to stay warm. After a while, it got pretty windy out here," Mickelsen said.

Despite tightening credit, dwindling retirement accounts and layoffs at some of the regional manufacturers, store managers at Best Buy, Target and Wal-Mart said lines were comparable to last year. Even before Target opened its doors at 6 a.m. Friday, a line of people already wound its way around the retail store to the

Hampton Inn hotel on Fillmore Street North.

"We are having a really good turnout this year," said Aaron Heaton, sales floor manager of Target in Twin Falls. "The lines aren't quite as long as last year, but it's a better than expected turnout."

Heaton said the hottest selling items were Garmin



McKay Greenwood, left, and Derek Hlem stand by their car while shopping at Best Buy early Friday morning in Twin Falls. Their group arrived at the store to wait in line at 3:45 a.m. There were people that arrived at 2 a.m. that were just in front of us. We had good timing! Greenwood said.

Photos by JUSTIN JACKSON/Times-News

MAGICVALLEY.COM

WATCH: Video of the shopping madness and hear from Best Buy shoppers.

GPS units and Guitar Hero World Tour bundles for the Nintendo Wii.

"We had hundreds of the bundles that sold out in about 30 minutes," he said.

Dwayne Weyland, general manager of the Best Buy in Twin Falls, said he expected GPS units, television sets and video games to be the electronic retailer's most

sought-after holiday gifts.

By 4:30 a.m. at Best Buy the early birds were at the front in a long line of latecomers — by Black Friday standards — who had arrived after becoming interested in a variety of electronic gear for sale. "This will be my first time

Please see FRIDAY, Page A2

Jump-starting the conversation

Soil district takes on environmental debate in roundtable event Thursday

By Kate Poppino
Times-News writer

It was a rash of news stories this spring that gave Terry Halbert the idea.

No matter the county — Jerome, Camas or Twin Falls — people just weren't listening to each other, he noticed.

"I thought, 'Gee, let's change the mood and the agree on,'" said Halbert, with the North Side Soil and Water Conservation District.

On Thursday, Halbert and other district members will oversee the first step in his plan to change disension into discussion. All day at the Best Western Sawtooth Inn, a group of district members, elected officials and 30 citizens

Learn more:

The Jerome Environmental Roundtable, organized by the North Side Soil and Water Conservation District and several partner groups, will take place from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at the convention center at the Best Western Sawtooth Inn in Jerome. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m., and the public is invited to sit in and watch the discussions. For more information: 208-324-2501.

zens nominated from the community will take part in roundtable discussions

Please see SOIL, Page A2

Indian forces end siege on Mumbai

By Viji Velupillai
Associated Press writer

MUMBAI, India — Indian commandos killed the last remaining gunman holed up at a luxury Mumbai hotel this morning ending a 60-hour rampage through India's financial capital by suspected Islamic militants that left more than 150 people dead and rocked the nation.

Orange flames and black smoke engulfed the landmark 400-room Taj Mahal

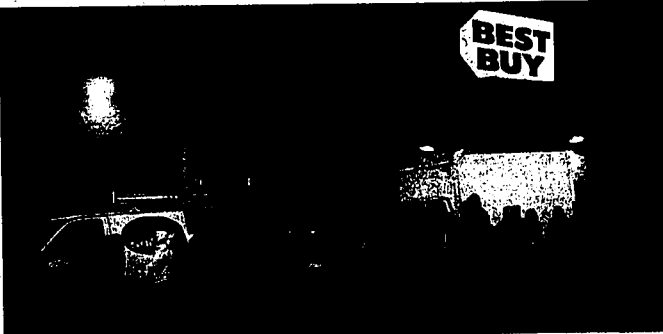
INSIDE

U.S.-Jewish meditation groups members die in India.

See page B5

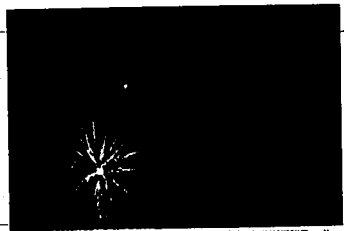
hotel after dawn today as Indian forces ended the siege in a hall of gunfire, just hours after elite commandos stormed a Jewish center and found six hostages dead.

Please see INDIA, Page A2



A line of shoppers stretches from the front entrance of the store along the side and to the rear early Friday morning at Best Buy in Twin Falls.

LIGHTING UP THE SKY



Fireworks light up the sky during the annual Christmas in the Nighttime Sky event Friday evening in Twin Falls. To view a video of the sights and sounds from Christmas in the Nighttime Sky, go to MagValley.com.

Idaho's economic malaise puts damper on '09 bills

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Some groups and agencies have trimmed their proposals for the 2009 Idaho Legislature, doubting that lawmakers will be willing to spend more money during economic hard times. Laird Noh, who had been pushing an incentives package for ranch, farm and timberland owners, said his group voted this month not to pursue a new bill in session that starts Jan. 12. Before stalling in the 2008 session, the Idaho Ranch, Farm and Forest Protection Act called for \$3 million in tax credits in exchange for conservation easements.

"It just doesn't appear to be prudent during to pursue something that would

"When you're looking at holdbacks that are going to be made permanent at some level, we've got to make sure agencies aren't spending the resources in a way they'd previously been spending them."

— Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert

have even a minimal impact on state general fund revenues this year," Noh, a former Republican state senator from Kimberly, told The Associated Press this week. "It was based primarily upon economic conditions."

Already this year, Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter ordered agencies to trim 1 percent, or a total of \$27 million from their cur-

rent budgets, as well as to delay spending another \$41 million. He may announce even more aggressive cuts at a news conference planned for Monday. The University of Idaho and Boise State University are preparing to slash up to 5 percent of spending in the

Please see BILLS, Page A2



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WeatherB6



High: 49 Low: 30

Partly cloudy, breezy. Details: B6 and live at magvalley.com/weather

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls: County included the following:

CITY OF TWIN FALLS DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE BENCHINGS

Sacramento, 24, Burley; one count driving under the influence; costs waived; 90 days jail, 15 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended 180 days; 12 months probation; one count driving without privileges dismissed.

MISDEMEANOR BENCHINGS

Henry B. Duncan, 47, Rupert; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs.
Marian R. Morris, 28, Twin Falls; petty theft; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 30 days jail, 90 suspended; credit for time served; two days work detail; 12 months probation.
Joseph D. Brennan, 18, Twin Falls; possession of drug paraphernalia; \$200 fine; \$85.50 costs; 20 days jail, credit for time served.

Thomas D. Zellers, 69, Twin Falls; domestic battery; \$700 fine, \$500 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days jail, 147 suspended; credit for time served; 24 months probation; no contact with victim.
Joshua C. Donkel, 27, Twin Falls; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs.
Richard R. Schlaich, 22, Twin Falls; one count petty theft; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs; 60 days jail, credit for 30 days served; restitution to victim; one count failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs; 60 days jail, credit for time served.

MISDEMEANOR DISMISSALS

Tun L. Naing, 27, Twin Falls; trespass; dismissed by prosecutor.

MISDEMEANOR AQUITTALS

Geoffrey C. Pierce, 22, Twin Falls; resisting or obstructing an officer; liquor failure to allow police access to premises; found innocent.

TWIN FALLS COUNTY DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE BENCHINGS

José Alvarez, 23, Jerome; driving under the influence; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$90.50 costs; 90 days jail, 80 suspended; credit for one day served, nine days house arrest; driving privileges suspended 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.
Nicholas D. Homolik, 22, Kimberly; driving under the influence; \$700 fine; \$500 suspended; \$90.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days jail, 178 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended 90 days; 24 months probation; no alcohol.
Richard A. Scheller, 69, Butte; driving under the influence; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$90.50 costs; 90 days jail, 80 suspended; credit for two days served, eight days house arrest; driving privileges suspended 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.
Paul C. Fischer, 29, Filer; driving under the influence; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$90.50 costs; 90 days jail, 80 suspended; credit for two days served, eight days house arrest; driving privileges suspended 90 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol.
Jose Camron Nava, 31, Jerome; one count driving under the influence; costs waived; 90 days jail, 60 suspended; credit for four days served; driving privileges suspended 180 days; 24 months probation; one count failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; 180 days jail, six suspended; credit for time served; 12 months probation.
Charles D. Sears, 46, Jerome; one count driving under the influence; \$500 fine, \$500 suspended; \$90.50 costs; 90 days jail, credit for time served; driving privileges suspended 180 days; 12 months probation; no alcohol; one count driving without privileges dismissed.

MISDEMEANOR BENCHINGS

Pedro A. Sanchez, 30, Burley; driving under the influence; amended to inattentive/carnless driving; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs; 90 days jail, credit for 30 days served; restitution to victim; Manuel Q. Juarez, 44, Burley; driving without privileges; \$700 fine, \$400 suspended; \$90.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 180 days jail, 173 suspended; credit for time served; driving privileges suspended 180 days; 18 months probation; no alcohol.
Christina A. Kluge, 35, Twin Falls; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$100 fine; \$75.50 costs.
Gonzalo J. Garcia, 19, Twin Falls; grand theft; amended to petty theft; \$75.50 costs; 80 days jail, credit for time served.
Aaron J. Pothman, 19, Twin Falls; one count possession of drug paraphernalia; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$85.50 costs; 90 days jail, 90 suspended; two days work detail; 12 months probation; no alcohol; one count minor consumption, possession of a controlled substance; dismissed.
Christopher S. Jones, 29, Twin Falls; failure to transfer title; withheld judgment granted; \$500 fine, \$75.50 costs; 30 days jail, 20 suspended; two days work detail; six months probation.
Lee R. Fife, 37, Twin Falls; one count felony fraud-insufficient funds check; amended to petty theft; \$75.50 costs; \$90.50 costs; 90 days jail, 80 suspended; credit for one day served, nine days house arrest; 24 months probation; restriction on probation; no checking account without probation officer approval; maintain budget; \$107.07 restitution; one count fraud-insufficient funds check dismissed.
Caleb W. Faulkner, 15, Twin Falls; failure to stop/leave the scene of a damage accident; amended to failure to notify upon striking/falling on highway; \$500 fine, \$300 suspended; \$75.50 costs; \$75 public defender fee; 10 months probation; 10 suspended; two days work detail; six months probation; \$107.07 restitution.
Erik L. Van Hook, 30, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; 90.50 costs; 60 days jail, credit for 29 days served; driving privileges suspended for 180 days.
James E. Nevada, 23, Twin Falls; possession under the influence of alcohol or drugs; \$500 fine, \$500 suspended; \$75.50 costs; 67 days jail, credit for time served; 12 months probation; no alcohol.
Miguel Martinez Hernandez, 43, Twin Falls; one count failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; costs waived; 42 days jail, credit for time served; one count resisting/obstructing an officer dismissed.

FELONY BENCHINGS

Garrett G. Frey, 26, Twin Falls; forgery; five years penitentiary; two years determinate; three years indeterminate; \$97.50 costs; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$350 public defender fee.


Evan D. Fischer, 19, Twin Falls; two counts grand theft by possession of stolen property; 10 years penitentiary, per count; two years determinate; eight years indeterminate; suspended; three years probation; \$1,000 fine, \$800 suspended; per count; \$97.50

costs; \$400 public defender fee; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; 75 hours community service; apologetic to victim.
Joshua R. Schmitz, 22, Boise; robbery;

eight years penitentiary; five years determinate; three years indeterminate; \$1,500 fine; \$97.50 costs; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$500 public defender fee.

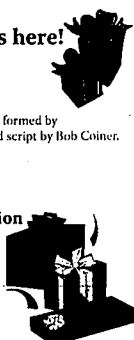
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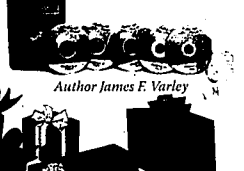
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of Twin Falls Says

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Rupert turns out to turn on the lights

By Damon Hunzaker
Times-News writer

On a day when a man was trampled to death by a marauding horde of shoppers at a New York Wal-Mart and two people were shot to death in a California Toys 'R' Us, Rupert provided a small-town contrast of good behavior on Black Friday.

At the town's entrance, a large banner of lights announced "Christmas City."

Downtown, in Rupert Square, several hundred people gathered to welcome the sights and sounds of the holiday season. There was no snow, but it was cold.

"At any given time, nearly 100 people stand in line — huddled in blankets, coats pulled over their faces — waiting for chili as kids played on swings. 'Jingle Bell Rock' could be heard throughout town."

Vincent Lanovara was nearly as enthusiastic.

"Get your candy canes! 50 cents for the big ones, 25 cents for the small ones! Get them now! Candy canes! They're good for you!" he shouted, occasionally taking a break to laugh maniacally before resuming the chant.

Lanovara said he does it every year. When asked if he makes any money, he said, "Yeah. Big ones are 50 cents. Small ones are 25 cents."

Brynden Fassett, 10, bought a big one.

"Just to be nice," he said, adding, "I like when he laughs and talks to himself. I could listen to him for hours."

"We come out for the entertainment, the chili, the cinnamon rolls. It's fun for the kids, and how often do you get to see fireworks in the winter?"

— Nick Salinas

Nick Salinas, also holding a freshly purchased candy cane, said, "We come out for the entertainment, the chili, the cinnamon rolls. It's fun for the kids, and how often do you get to see fireworks in the winter?"

Then Santa Claus, or at least a guy dressed like him, showed up on a fire truck — circling the park several times, sirens blaring and lights flashing — before Santa Claus entered the square and turned the town's holiday lights on from inside the gazebo.

Fireworks followed, and it was a surprisingly elaborate display. Toward the end, some were loud enough to set off car alarms and frighten children. They were the kind of explosions more likely to evoke images of Homeland Security than Frosty the Snowman — but the grand finale calmed the kids, and nobody was trampled.

Damon Hunzaker may be reached at 208-677-8764 or dhunzaker@magicvalley.com.



Fireworks light up the Friday night sky behind the holiday light display at the Rupert Square. Hundreds of spectators came out during the cold night to take in the festivities.

Cassia School Board adopts new policies

By Damon Hunzaker
Times-News writer

In an effort to comply with state and federal laws, the Cassia County School District recently approved several new policies.

On Tuesday, the board adopted Policy 1006, which prohibits registered sex offenders from entering school premises or participating in school activities. It allows a few exceptions, such as delivery personnel on school grounds briefly or anyone with "a legitimate need."

Policy 565, also adopted Tuesday, updates student immunizations required by the state. Anyone, however, can refuse immunizations by providing "a statement of objection on religious or other grounds."

Policy 407, which updates the district's compliance with changes to the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), was given its first reading Tuesday. The FMLA was enacted by Congress in 1993 and mandates that employers allow 12 weeks of job-protected leave for eligible employees with medical emergencies, including the needs of immediate family members.

In January, President Bush signed into law an amendment to the FMLA — 12 weeks of leave because of "any qualifying exigency" for anyone who is in the military or who has an immediate family member on active duty.

Additionally, an eligible employee may take 26 weeks of leave during a 12-month period to care for a family member injured in-the-line-of-duty.

"It makes us current with federal law, as far as military service is covered. It's part of the yearly review we go through to make sure we're compliant," Debbie Critchfield, chairwoman of the school board, said.

The second reading of Policy 407 will occur in the Dec. 16 meeting — and, unless significant changes are needed, will be adopted at that time.

Damon Hunzaker may be reached at 208-677-8764 or dhunzaker@magicvalley.com.

CSI to observe World AIDS Day Monday

Times-News

The College of Southern Idaho will observe World AIDS Day on Monday with a guest speaker, information exhibit and candle-light vigil.

Former Wendell resident Duane Quintana will show a video called

"I'm Just Me, Just Like You." The documentary tells of his life before and after becoming HIV positive. Quintana will speak and answer questions, as well, starting at 2 p.m. in rooms 117/118 at CSI's Shields building.

The event will feature an exhibit and information stations in the

Student Union building from the Idaho Meth Project and South Central District Health agency.

Visitors can receive free HIV tests from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in rooms 256 and 258 of the Taylor Building. Those desiring a more private atmosphere always are welcome to get HIV tests at the CSI

Student Health Center for \$15.

Students and community members are invited to participate in the "Wear a Ribbon, Light a Candle" vigil starting at 8 p.m. at the Fine Arts building. The event will be outside, weather permitting. Otherwise, it will be inside the lobby.

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

TWIN FALLS COUNTY

FELONY SENTENCINGS

Ronald B. Gill, 66, grand theft by possession of stolen property; six years penitentiary; three years indeterminate; three years indeterminate; suspended; four years probation; \$97.50 costs; \$200 public defender fee; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; obtain mental health evaluation; \$312.17 restitution; appeal to victim.

Matthew J. Campbell, 31, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; 12 years penitentiary; three years indeterminate; nine years indeterminate; \$2,821.93 restitution; recommended for placement in Therapeutic Community Program.

Darrell L. Sweet, 27, Buhl; one court possession of a controlled substance; seven years penitentiary; two and one half years indeterminate; four and one half years indeterminate; recommended for placement in Therapeutic Community Program; one court possession of a controlled substance; seven years penitentiary; three years indeterminate; four and one half years indeterminate; concurrent.

Joel L. Anderson, 38, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; seven years penitentiary; three years indeterminate; four years indeterminate; \$2,500 fine; \$110.50 costs; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$300 public defender fee; \$187.83 restitution; 100 hours community service.

Gerardo Reyes-Avarez, 21, Buhl; possession of a controlled substance; five years penitentiary two years indeterminate; three years indeterminate; suspended; three years probation; \$2,500 fine; \$2,500 suspended; \$110.50 costs; \$500 public defender fee; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establish-

ment where alcohol is the main source of income; 100 hours community service; \$1,006.22 restitution; \$132 court compliance costs.

Alvin R. Ruedi, 26, Twin Falls; grand theft; five years penitentiary; two years indeterminate; three years indeterminate; suspended; four years probation; \$2,500 fine; \$2,500 suspended; \$110.50 costs; \$300 public defender fee; shall not possess or consume any alcoholic beverages or frequent any establishment where alcohol is the main source of income; obtain mental health evaluation; \$312.17 restitution; appeal to victim.

Charles D. Sears, 46, Jerome; possession of a controlled substance; seven years penitentiary; two years indeterminate; five years indeterminate; \$2,500 fine; \$110.50 costs; judge granted retained jurisdiction; sentenced to 180 days to be served at the Idaho State Board of Corrections; \$300 public defender fee; \$287.50 restitution; 100 hours community service.

CHILD SUPPORT CASES

The State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services has filed claims against the following:

Brian R. Murphy. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$783 monthly support plus 73 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$3,367 for medical assistance granted.

Rosemary M. Pennell. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$201 monthly support plus 100 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$589.60 for foster care and child support costs.

Wendell L. Pennell. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$312 monthly support plus 67 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,344.37 for child support costs.

Joy C. Martindale. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$313 monthly support plus 57 percent of medical

expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$10,760.57 for uncovered medical costs.

Daniel E. Maddox. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$177 monthly support plus 54 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$434.22 support for a prior period.

Rita S. Aguduez. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$201 monthly support plus 100 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$628.92 for foster care and child support costs.

Daniel C. Codner. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$762 monthly support plus 76 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$7,183.84 for uncovered medical costs.

DIVORCES FILED

Katlo Ashworth vs. William B. Ashworth
Desiree L. Tapia vs. Rigoberto Tapia
John Bybee vs. Bonnie M. Bybee
Charles C. Coggins vs. Roxanne N. Coggins
Johnathan A. Pollard vs. Kristina L. Pollard

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Idaho woman raises cash for malaria relief

BOISE (AP) — A Boise State University graduate student is selling African-made jewelry and Christmas ornaments as part of a personal effort to fight malaria in Uganda.

Patricia Little, who is studying literature at BSU, wants to raise \$5,000 to buy 1,500 mosquito nets for the village of Kisoga, located northwest of Lake Victoria.

If she succeeds, Little said, it will be enough to hang a mosquito net over every bed in the village.

Little said many of the villagers have AIDS, and a mosquito bite can end up being a death sentence.

"Most people with AIDS end up dying of malaria," she told the Associated Press. "The only way to not get malaria is to not get bitten by a mosquito that's carrying it."

Her brother is on a Peace Corps mission there and she visited him in September. She said Kisoga is a rural village with no paved roads and homes with no running water. Villagers make a living by growing bananas, plantains, yams and peanuts.

"We went to mass one day," she said. "I saw a kid making his way to us. He was about 10 years old. His name was Peter."

"He told us he had AIDS. He just wanted to hold my hand, wanted me to hug him. Even though AIDS is common, people who have it are still stigmatized. So as soon as I heard his story, this kid right in my lap, it made me ask, 'OK, what in the world can I do?'"

She said her brother's friend had started a craft commune in another village to sell necklaces in the U.S., giving her the idea to buy jewelry made by women who have AIDS, then bring it to the U.S. to sell.

Little said that if she sells all her jewelry and ornaments, she'll be halfway to her goal of 1,500 mosquito nets. She hopes student penny drives at local schools in Idaho will raise the rest.

She said the nets are too costly for most of the villagers. "For people in the village, the price of a net would be the equivalent of many months' salary," she said. "The poorest people are the ones who need the nets the most."

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Former worker sues N. Idaho county over firing

SANDPOINT (AP) — The former human resources director for Bonner County in northern Idaho has filed a lawsuit in federal court against the county, alleging she was unfairly forced out of her job last summer.

Donna Wells, 59, filed the lawsuit earlier this month in U.S. District Court, seeking unspecified damages. Wells has also filed a tort claim in state court. The tort claim filed in 1st District

Court on Tuesday is a precursor to a lawsuit against the county, and in it Wells states she will seek damages of \$525,000.

Wells alleges that her constitutional right to due process was violated when she was forced from her job in June.

Named in the filings are county commissioners Todd Crosssett, Lewis Rich and Joe Young. Also named is Scout Bauer, the county's deputy

prosecutor who serves as the board's legal counsel.

Bauer did not immediately return a call from The Associated Press on Friday.

According to the filings, Wells was hired as a deputy clerk in 1994 and became human resources director in 2001.

She was placed on leave, the documents say, after commissioners said confidential information exposed the county to liability by recording a phone conver-

sation she had with a Bonner County dispatch shift supervisor concerning medical issues within the department, as well as possible vacant positions.

The commissioners said the recording violated a law concerning privacy rules involving medical records, the lawsuit says.

The commissioners said confidential information exposed the county to liability by recording a phone conver-

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The commissioners said the recording violated a law concerning privacy rules involving medical records, the lawsuit says.

The commissioners said confidential information exposed the county to liability by recording a phone conver-



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Feds enter next phase of wolf delisting push

BOISE (AP) — Friday marked the final day that federal officials took comments on a new wolf management proposal for the predators in the northern Rocky Mountains.

It's part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's push to lift Endangered Species Act protections from more than 1,000 wolves in Idaho and Montana before President-elect Barack Obama takes office.

Protections were lifted in March, only to be restored in July when a federal judge said that delisting plan was flawed. Environmental groups including the Natural Resources Defense Council continue to criticize the Fish and Wildlife Service.

They contend the agency should wait until the Obama administration can take a renewed look at wolf management nationwide, including in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan where a separate judge restored protections for the predators in October.

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Gender pay gap is Idaho's shame

JEERS: To Idaho employers, who still pay women just 60 percent of what they pay men.

According to the Census Bureau, average compensation for working women in Idaho is only 5 percent better than in 1992. Women in only three other states — Utah, Wyoming and Louisiana — earn a smaller wage compared with men that women do in Idaho.

Especially distressing is the pay gap in Idaho's fast-growing health care sector, where women's compensation is only 43 percent of men's. Women's paychecks on average sink to one-fourth or less of men's during the middle and later part of their health care careers.

That means there are a lot of well-compensated male doctors, dentists and diagnostic specialists in their forties and fifties in Idaho and too many underpaid female physicians' assistants, pharmacists, registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, dental assistants, medical technicians and nurse practitioners.

On the upside, female health care workers in their twenties actually earn more than men, reflecting in part Idaho's success in educating highly qualified RNs whose skills are much in demand.

Still, across the spectrum a wage gender gap of magnitude of Idaho's is unacceptable, suggesting that many of the best and brightest women in our state aren't getting hired or promoted — or are having to take their career aspirations out of state.

CHEERS: To the Twin Falls City Council, for taking a fresh look at the future of the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course.

The council this month formed a task force to assess whether to fully lease the course and to decide if the management of its longtime golf professional needs to change.

The city owns the course and city workers maintain it, but management of the facility has been contracted out to Mike Hamblin since 1998. Before that, he was a city employee.



For years, the city has unsuccessfully tried to make the course profitable. The links have accumulated nearly \$550,000 in losses over the years, including about \$99,000 during the most recent fiscal year, which ended Sept. 30. The taxpayers cover the shortfall each year.

Hamblin's contract has also come under scrutiny recently. Last month, the council rejected Hamblin's request to be reimbursed for up to \$17,000 in credit card fees he says he's absorbed while accepting revenue, some of which went to the city.

Hamblin has done an exemplary job of running the golf side of the operation, but the city — which is in the process of cutting back its budget in the

midst of an economic downturn — needs to make some hard-nosed choices about the business side.

JEERS: To Oklahoma Sen. Tom Coburn, the king of the filibuster, for delaying a new airport for the Wood River Valley.

Coburn, a conservative Republican, effectively scuttled Sen. Mike Crapo's Owyhee Canyonlands wilderness bill earlier this month by threatening to talk it to death. Included in the wilderness package was a request by the Friedman Memorial Airport Authority for a parcel of Bureau of Land Management rangeland.

The airport authority was seeking as many as 2,400 acres in southern Blaine County east of Idaho Highway 75 for a new airport. The BLM donating the land would be one option. Another would be persuading the federal agency to sell the property to the airport authority, which would require at least 600 acres for an 8,500-foot runway and adjoining taxiway. The so-called Site 10-A would

be the best location for south-central Idahoans who live outside the Wood River Valley. Let's hope Idaho's congressional delegation can get the BLM land transfer request back on track.

CHEERS: To Sen. Kate Kelly of Boise who remains determined to toughen Idaho's ethics laws, despite recent failures in convincing her legislative colleagues that a more open government is a better government.

Citing a recent survey by the Better Government Association that ranked Idaho 44th among 50 states in its "Integrity Index," Kelly is poised to take another run at amending our state's conflict of interest laws.

According to her recent Reader Comment on these pages, her efforts have and will continue to focus on lawmakers' financial disclosure and revolving door restrictions for lobbying and public contracting.

Her efforts aren't radical or unique but simple steps to provide taxpayers more information about the people who are spending their money.

The dogged pursuit of a First Pooch

In the midst of America's greatest economic meltdown since the Great Depression, one topic dominates Barack Obama's incoming e-mail — selection of a puppy for the Obama offspring.

"This is a major issue," our president-elect quipped recently.

—Ron Reagan, Seattleite and son of the 40th president, feels on several fronts that the First Dog search is no joke.

"It's a way to humanize the president, a window into his soul," Reagan explained. "People identify with their dogs. People can even pick dogs that look the way they do."

Dog stories can dominate the White House pressroom, as when Bill Clinton acquired a male, chocolate-colored Labrador in 1997. Spokesmen were asked whether his master would take "Buddy" to be neutered, and submit to the same surgery.

—The Reagans' dog "Lucky," a bouvier des Flandres, had trouble with the First Dog's constant scrutiny. Lucky once relieved himself in front of Marine 1 as Nancy Reagan looked on in mock horror. Lucky was more happy living out his days at the Reagan ranch above Santa Barbara.

What breed should the Obamas get for daughters Sasha, 7, and Malia, 10?

The dog will need to be



JOEL CONNELLY

hypoallergenic because of Malia's allergies. Michelle Obama prefers to get a "shelter dog," a dog rescued from a shelter or pound. "Obviously a lot of shelter dogs are mutts like me," the president-elect quipped Friday.

Choosing a shelter dog would be an "egalitarian" move, said Ron Reagan, who tried to envision what kind of dog most resembles the president-elect: "I don't know that Barack Obama is a hound. He's more of a working dog. A German shepherd has that sense. I don't think a German shepherd would be so good at the White House, though."

Two of Richard Nixon's feared, hard-eyed White House aides — H.R. Haldeman and John Erlichman — were frequently likened to German shepherds.

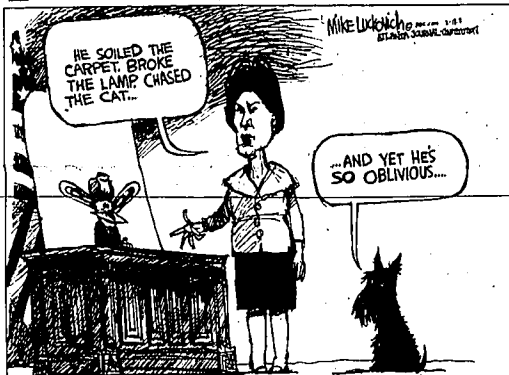
As Reagan notes, the White House is "an indoor environment." Aides are available to walk the dog except at times, e.g. the Monica Lewinsky scandal, when Buddy seemed to be Bill Clinton's only friend.

"You don't want a bull terrier gnawing away on his-
toric furniture," Reagan joked.

The happiest White House dog may have been Liberty, the golden retriever given to Gerald Ford as a puppy. Liberty spent much time in the Oval Office, serving as a convenient object of attention when Ford needed to end a conversation.

Alas, Liberty contributed to the pratfall image of our 38th president. Ford locked himself in a White House stairwell after taking Liberty for a walk on the South Lawn.

A stuffed version of



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A stuffed version of

Liberty became one of the fixtures of Chevy Chase's "Saturday Night Live" parodies of Ford. As the command of "Roll over Liberty," a string would pull legs out from beneath the presidential pet.

Reagan argues that the Obamas' new White House puppy should be kept free of politics.

"Presidential dogs do better above the fray," he added. "The dog should be a national symbol. We should stay away from fixing and neutering talk. The goal should be to preserve the dignity of the First Dog."

Fat chance! Dogs have been used to grasp and hold power.

In the 1944 presidential campaign, Franklin D. Roosevelt used his Scottish terrier to take a bite out of the Republicans. The GOP spread the rumor that a destroyer had to be dispatched to the Aleutians to pick up the First Dog.

"These Republican leaders have not been content with attacks on me, my wife or my sons," FDR began a famous speech. "No, not content with that, they now include my little dog, Fala."

resent attack, but Fala does resent them. ... I am accustomed to hearing malicious falsehoods about myself. ... But I think I have to resent, to object to libelous statements about my dog."

A family cocker spaniel helped save the political career of the man who would become America's 37th president.

The dog became namesake of Nixon's famous 1952 "Checkers" speech, in which the vice presidential nominee laid out his assets in refuting charges that he was supported by a secret fund.

Bon Reagan makes a couple other salient points. A dog's loyalty is without question, much appreciated when ex-aides don't even wait for a president's departure before penning tell-all memoirs.

And the White House will be a livelier, more honest place in having a puppy on the premises.

"I think it's a great thing," Reagan said. "Little kids are a fine reality check. You become isolated. You are surrounded by vested interests telling you what you want to hear."

"Kids are unimpressed by titles, encourages and symbols of power. They will tell you exactly what they think."

Joel Connelly is a columnist for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. Write to him at joelconnelly@seattlepi.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Words can often hurt more than broken bones

"Sticks and stones won't break my bones, but your words will always hurt me."

Have you ever thought about how your words can hurt someone? Even if you didn't mean to, it still broke their heart. You blame it on something else, like it

slipped or I was angry. Most people in the world have done it. And most people haven't realized it yet, but words can hurt so much more than sticks and stones.

The only advice I have to give, being hurt by words myself, is that you must believe it for it to be true. If it is not true, then don't give it a second thought. The

only way you can live in this world is if you keep true to yourself.

However, for those who say innocent and degrading things, like the little kids say, "You're rubber, you're glue, whatever you say bounces off them and sticks to you."

HAILLEY FLECK
Twin Falls

Reader suggests LAP feature

The Times-News published an interesting article in the Outdoor section on Nov. 13 pertaining to access to the game animals within our state. I felt it was a well-balanced piece and the paper is to be commended for printing

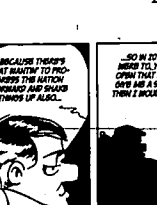
an article on a topic of great interest to the sports persons of Idaho.

Well done. Perhaps a good followup would be a feature on the Landowners Appreciation Program. I am sure the majority of sports persons don't have an understanding of why the LAP was started or what it has

evolved into. Information and transparency are required for the people that support wildlife to be able to decide if they want to support this program or not. Your paper would be a logical place to start getting this information out to the public.

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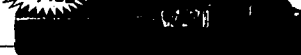
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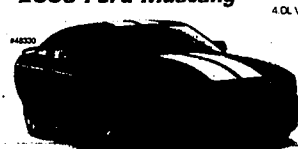
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Stocks end short session with gains

(AP) Wall Street kept up a broad winning streak Friday, giving blue chip stocks their fifth straight advance as investors looked for clues about whether dire predictions for the holiday shopping season would prove accurate.

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BUSINESS

INSIDE: Wal-Mart worker dies after shoppers knock him down, B3



B

SATURDAY

NOVEMBER 29, 2008

TIMES-NEWS • BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: (208) 735-3231 JPALMER@MAGICVALLEY.COM

INSIDE: Stocks and commodities, B2 | Nation/World, B3-4 | Obituaries, B5 | Weather, B6

Online retailers ramp up deals to capture dollars

Getting ready for Cyber Monday

By Mae Anderson
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Online retailers are ramping up heavy-duty deals to turn skittish shoppers into buyers during the crucial Thanksgiving weekend and "Cyber Monday" — but even so, online sales are expected to be fairly flat after years of strong growth.

Free shipping is virtually a given, and many are offering financing options such as no payments for 90 days and deals like \$10 off purchases of \$50 or more, along with traditional discounts on products.

"Last year, people were spending a lot more money on gifts and products," says Jeff Wisot, vice president of marketing for online retailer

Buy.com. "With the economic challenges arising this year, people are definitely spending less."

"Cyber Monday," a term coined by the trade group National Retail Federation in 2005 to describe the Monday after the Thanksgiving holiday, is the unofficial kickoff for the busy online retail season.

However, this year, consumer spending has dropped dramatically — down 1 percent in October, the largest amount since the 2001 terrorist attacks — as consumers grapple

with a shaky economy, mounting job losses and a prolonged housing slump.

During the holidays, the trade group expects overall holiday spending will total about \$470.4 billion, a 2.2 percent rise from a year ago and the slowest growth since 2002, and online retail is being hit along with brick-and-mortar stores. ComScore, a digital technology monitoring company, said Tuesday it expects online

Please see ONLINE, Page B2

Family thanks employees with giant bonuses

WAUKEGAN, Ill. — Year-end bonuses are rare these days. But a family that founded a ball bearings manufacturer in suburban Chicago is giving eye-popping bonuses this year.

A total of \$6.6 million is being shared by just 230 employees.

Some workers at Waukegan-based Peer Bearing Co. couldn't believe their eyes when they opened checks for \$10,000 and more. Amounts varied and were based on years of service.

Dave Tilderman (TEE-der-man) says he thought the decimal point must be in the wrong place when he saw his \$35,000 check. He's assistant product manager at the company, where he's worked his way up from the warehouse since 1985.

Peer Bearing was sold to a Swedish company earlier this year. Danny Spungen (SPUN-jen) says his grandfather launched the company in 1941. He says it was an unanimous family decision to thank employees with the bonuses.

Curbing waste, boosting profit

As food prices climb, industries ponder trash

By Christopher Leonard
Associated Press writer

Experts in the food industry are thinking a lot about trash these days.

Food waste has been a chronic problem for restaurants and grocery stores — with millions of tons being lost along the way as crops are hauled hundreds of miles, stored for weeks in refrigerators and prepared on hectic restaurant assembly lines. But the historically high price of commodities is making it an even bigger drag on the bottom line.

Restaurants, colleges, hospitals and other institutions are compensating for the rising costs of waste in novel ways. Some are tracking their trash with software systems, making food in smaller batches or trying to compost and cut down on trash-hauling costs.

"We have all come to work with this big elephant in the middle of the kitchen, and the elephant is this 'It's okay to waste' belief system."

— Andrew Shackman, president of Lean Path Inc., a company that helps restaurants cut back food waste.

"The interest level (in cutting food waste) has just skyrocketed in the last six to nine months," he said.

Roughly 30 percent of food in the U.S. goes to waste, costing some \$48 billion annually, according to a Stockholm Water Institute study released this summer. A 2004 University of Arizona study put the total higher, estimating that 40 percent to 50 percent of U.S. food is wasted.

Wholesale food costs have risen more than 8 percent this year alone, the biggest jump in decades, according to the National Restaurant Association. That comes after a 7.6 percent increase in 2007.

While that makes it more expensive to toss food out, Shackman said there's no easy answer for cutting back on waste because each kitchen is run so differently. That means institutions are devising their own solutions.

Please see TRASH, Page B2



A worker checks frozen chicken wings at a Tyson plant in Springdale, Ark. Restaurants, colleges, hospitals and other institutions are compensating for the rising costs of waste in novel ways. Some are tracking their trash with software systems, making food in smaller batches or trying to compost and cut down on trash-hauling costs.

When the cheap turn vicious

Never get between a bargain shopper and a DVD player marked down 60 percent — It's a lesson I learned about four years ago while covering Black Friday.

Black Friday — that infamous day when consumers relinquish human decency to save a few bucks — is one of the most revered days for retailers.

It's also a day that generates some strange news stories. Bargain-hunting confrontations are pretty low-key in south-central Idaho compared to homicides at Toys "R" Us in Palm Desert, Calif. But in it's own way, some of the local chaos is just as surprising.

So, without further ado, here is a running tally of tips that were brought to my attention Friday morning.

The first call came from Jeanette Ostrin of Jerome at about 7 a.m. — a man was berating his wife in front of a Wal-Mart in Jerome, she said.

The crime: Buying the widescreen version of a DVD.

Please see BITES, Page B2



JOSHUA PALMER
Biz Bites

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	14.75	▲ .55	Dell Inc.	11.17	▲ .12	Idacorp	30.40	▲ .48
Lithia Mo.	2.66	▲ .19	Micron	2.74	▲ .35	Supervalu	11.91	▲ .61

COMMODITIES

For more see page B2

Live cattle	87.37	▼ .05	Jan. oil	54.43	▼ .01
Dec. gold	816.20	▲ 7.7	Dec. silver	10.18	▼ .03

Today in business

WASHINGTON — Commerce Department releases construction spending for October.

WASHINGTON — Weekly Treasury briefing, auction.

NEW YORK — The Institute for Supply Management releases its manufacturing index.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with 3 columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Each column lists 'MOST ACTIVE' and 'GAINERS' with stock names and prices.

Table with 2 columns: INDEXES, STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST. Lists major indices like Dow Jones Industrials and local stocks like Alkermid.

Table titled 'HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT' explaining various market indicators and symbols.

BUSINESS AROUND THE WORLD

CDC links 401 illnesses to 2007 pot pie recall. OMAHA, Neb. — Federal investigators have linked 401 salmonella illnesses to the Banquet pot pies ConAgra Foods Inc. recalled last week.

NBC in talks to sell off remaining Super Bowl ads

By Deborah Yang and Brian Nakashima. Most advertising slots for the 2009 Super Bowl that weren't sold in September still haven't moved, a change from earlier in the year when NBC announced the air time had been selling faster than usual.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table with 2 columns: CLOSING FUTURES, GRAINS. Lists prices for various commodities like soybeans, wheat, and corn.

Online

Continued from page B1. Retail spending for November and December to be flat compared with the same two months in 2007. Last year's growth rate was 19 percent.

Bites

Continued from page B1. When their television was obviously meant to accommodate fullscreen. Another reader, who left a message — but not her name or number — called to say that she had watched a woman steal a DVD player from another woman's shopping cart.

Can't find your agriculture reports?

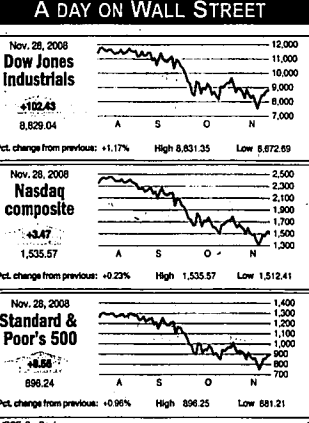
Some agriculture reports were unavailable because markets and buyers were closed for the holiday weekend.

Trash

Continued from page B1. Freshman students at Virginia Tech were surprised this year when they entered two of the campus's biggest dining halls, only to find there weren't cafeteria trays.

Standard & Poor's 500

The Dow Jones Industrial average rose 102.43, or 1.17 percent, to 8,829.04. It was the Dow's longest string of advances since the period ended July 17, 2007 and the biggest percentage gain over five sessions since Aug. 8, 1932.



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Police: DNA ties suspect in slaying of TV anchor to rape

By Jon Gambrell
Associated Press writer

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Forensic evidence gathered at the home of a slain television anchorman led police to a man now also suspected of raping a school teacher in eastern Arkansas, officials said Friday.

Curtis Lavelle Vance, 28, of Marianna offered a DNA sample to Little Rock police detectives during an interview



Tuesday in his hometown, officers said. A day later, a man once only garnering suspicion for loitering in neighbors'

yards became the prime suspect in a slaying of anchorman Anne Presley.

"They asked if we had a suspect who could have done it and I told them we had a guy running around, getting in some burglaries, going in people's yards early in the morning, hanging around the house, hanging around the neighborhood," Marianna police Sgt. Carl McCree said. "That was Curtis Vance." Little Rock police traveled

30 miles east to Marianna this week after DNA collected at Presley's home matched that from an unsolved April rape in the town, McCree said. On April 21, a teacher there said a man attacked her in her home after she had woken up and taken a shower. She said she didn't see the man's face.

"She didn't have a lot of money," a police report of the incident states. "She only had \$3, and that the subject took."

On Tuesday, Vance voluntarily went to the Marianna police department to speak with Little Rock detectives and give a DNA sample, McCree said. By Wednesday, tests showed the sample matched and police tried to arrest Vance in Marianna but couldn't find him, the detective said.

Little Rock police arrested Vance near downtown late Wednesday night, about 30 minutes after holding a news conference to name him as

the suspect in Presley's death. Officers credited the DNA match to helping identify Vance as a suspect.

During a brief hearing at the Pulaski County jail on Friday, Vance declined to enter a plea on a capital murder charge into Presley's death. Pulaski County District Judge Lee Munson ordered Vance held without bond, and denied a defense attorney's request to set a bond amount, said deputy prosecutor John Hout.

Emergency loan program increases activity

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve boosted its lending to commercial banks and investment firms over the past week, indicating that a severe credit crisis was still squeezing the financial system.

The Fed released a report Friday saying emergency credit banks averaged \$93.6 billion in net borrowing for the week ending Wednesday. That was up from an average of \$91.6 billion for the week ending Nov. 19.

The report also said investment firms borrowed an average of \$52.4 billion from the Fed's emergency loan program over the week ending Wednesday, up from an average of \$50.2 billion the previous week.

The Fed said its net holdings of business loans known as commercial paper over the week ending Wednesday averaged \$282.2 billion, an increase of \$16.5 billion from the previous week.

Financial firms are borrowing from the Fed because they are having trouble raising money through normal channels as the financial system endures its worst crisis since the Great Depression.

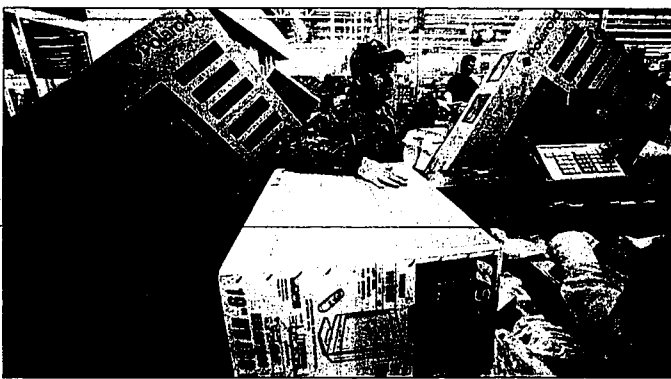
Banks are hoarding cash rather than making loans out of fear that they won't be repaid. The Fed and the Treasury have been flooding the financial system with money in hopes that banks can return lending operations to more normal levels.

The central bank on Oct. 27 began buying commercial paper, the short-term debt that companies use to pay everyday expenses. It was one of a series of moves the Fed has made to try to unfreeze credit markets.

The Fed's goal is to raise demand in this area as a way to boost the availability of commercial paper, which has been seriously constrained since the financial crisis hit with force in September.

The report said insurance giant American International Group's loan from the Fed averaged \$7.6 billion for the week ending Wednesday. That was down by \$5.6 billion from the average the previous week.

SHOPPING FEVER



Bryan Stone buys four televisions during the early holiday shopping rush in Dallas, Friday. This store is open 24 hours a day, but the special sales started at 5 a.m.

Unruly shoppers trample Wal-Mart worker to death

By Anne D'Innocenzo
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Shoppers, who had snapped their wallets shut since September, turned out in force Friday to grab early morning deals and hard-to-find items like Elmo Live and the "Wil Fit" exercise game, but many said worries about the economy have them focusing on fewer gifts and less expensive, more practical items.

Meanwhile, the start of the shopping season proved deadly at both a Wal-Mart store in Valley Stream, N.Y., and a Toys "R" Us store in Palm Desert, Calif.

A temporary Wal-Mart worker died after a throng of unruly shoppers broke down the doors and trampled him moments after the store opened early Friday police said.

Nassau County police said about 2,000 people were gathered outside the Wal-Mart store at the mall about 20 miles east of Manhattan. The impatient crowd knocked the man down as he opened the doors, leaving a metal portion of the frame crumpled like an accordion.

Shoppers stepped over the 34-year-old man on the ground and streamed into the store. When told to leave, they complained that they had been in line since Thursday morning.

"This crowd was out of control," said Nassau police spokesman Lt. Michael Fleming. He described the scene as "utter chaos."

A shooting inside the Toys "R" Us killed two people, authorities said. Toys "R" Us released a statement late Friday, noting "our understanding is that this act seems to have been the result of a personal dispute between the individuals involved. Therefore, it would be inaccurate to associate the



Bargain hunters were out in force Friday, but it was clear that worries about the economy tempered buying. Magicalvideo.com

events of today with Black Friday," The Wayne, N.J.-based retailer added that it's "working closely with local law enforcement officials to determine the specific details of what occurred."

Elsewhere at malls and stores, it was the usual hectic start of the season, as crowds of shoppers frantically picked through piles of discounted merchandise.

"It was like everything we bought was already on sale and was an additional 50 percent off at the register," said Lynn Mahloy of Snellville, Ga., who arrived at Atlanta's Lenox Square Mall just after 6 a.m. on the traditional start of the holiday shopping season. But she's slashing her holiday budget to about \$1,000 this year from about \$2,500 in past years because of economic worries.

"I'm just buying smaller, less expensive presents," added Mahloy, who had bags filled with sweaters, shirts and dresses.

Preliminary reports from major retailers including Macy's, KB Toys Inc., Best Buy Co. and Toys "R" Us and mall operators such as Taubman Centers Inc. said the crowds were at least as large as last year's.

But analysts said sales Friday may not match the year-ago levels as Americans, worried about layoffs, dwindling retirement accounts, and tightening credit, slash their holiday

budgets, even for their own children. "I've always filled the tree. But you have to be honest," said Shannon Keane, 38, of Cary, N.C., a single mother who was recently laid off from her job. "This year, I'll do the best I can." She was out with her 13-year-old son, Miles, at a local Wal-Mart, buying one item: an iPod.

"He really wanted this one thing," Keane said. "So we're here for this one thing."

And while the steep price cuts — which were even more aggressive than the deep discounting offered throughout the month — are great for consumers, such moves are expected to depress sales and profits in a season that many believe could show a rare contraction in spending, according to Janet Hoffman, managing partner of the North American retail practice of Accenture.

At a Milwaukee Wal-Mart store, Shirley Jackson, a technician, arrived at about 8 a.m., too late to get a 42-inch Polaroid HDTV selling for \$599. Instead she focused on the necessities, buying shoes and pajamas for her family and stocking up on 500-thread-count sheets discounted to \$20 from \$70.

"It's just as well I didn't get the TV. I have to focus on what I need — I need shoes, I need groceries," said Jackson, who is in her 40s. "I'm spending a whole lot less this year. I have bills to pay, and I don't want to have to come down to choosing between buying medicine and buying groceries."

Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, received its name because it historically was the day when a surge of shoppers helped stores break into profitability — into the black — for the full year.

FDA sets safe level for infant formula chemical

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators set a safety threshold Friday for the industrial chemical melamine that is greater than the amount of contamination found so far in U.S.-made infant formula.

Food and Drug Administration officials set a threshold of 1 part per million of melamine in formula, provided a related chemical isn't present. They insisted the formulas are safe.

The setting of the standard comes days after "The Associated Press reported that FDA tests had found traces of melamine in the infant formula of one major U.S. manufacturer and cyanuric acid, a chemical relative, in the formula. The contaminated samples, which both measured at levels below the new standard, had been analyzed several weeks ago.

The FDA had stated in early October that it was unable to set a safety contamination level for melamine in infant formula.

Though Dr. Stephen Sundlof, FDA's director of food safety, said Friday that there had been no new scientific studies since October that would give regulators more safety data, he said the agency was confident in setting the 1 part per million level for either of the chemicals alone. He emphasized that neither of the two tainted samples had both contaminants. He had no ready explanation for why the level wasn't set earlier.

Sundlof said the lack of dual contamination was key because studies so far show dangerous health effects only when both chemicals are present. The agency still will not set a safety level for melamine if cyanuric acid is also present, he said.

Both the new safety level and the amount of the chemical found in U.S.-made infant formula are far below the amounts of melamine added to infant formula in China that have been blamed for killing at least three babies and making thousands ill.

"The levels were so low ... that they do not cause a health risk to infants," Sundlof said. "Parents using infant formula should continue using U.S.-manufactured infant formula. Switching from one of these infant formulas to alternate diets or homemade formulas could result in infants not receiving the complete nutrition required for proper growth and development."

Reacting to news of the contaminated formulas, members of Congress, a national consumer group and the Illinois attorney general have demanded a national recall, something the FDA said made no sense because it had no evidence suggesting that the formula would be dangerous for babies at the levels of contamination found.

Small Iowa cafe swamped with orders for 'Obama cookie'

The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Want an example of the change Barack Obama is bringing to the country? Check out cookie sales at Baby Boomers Cafe in Des Moines.

Ever since word spread about the president-elect and his family's fondness for Baby Boomers' chocolate chunk cookies, the small downtown restaurant can't bake them fast enough.

"Two months ago I was giving these cookies away," said co-owner Rodney Maxfield. "Now, it's like, 'I need four dozen cookies.'"

The Obamas were frequent visitors to the cafe in the summer of 2007 when the Illinois senator devoted much of his time to Iowa, where the state's precinct caucuses kick off the presidential nominating process.

His daughters, 10-year-old Malia and 7-year-old Sasha,

would stop by with their mother, Michelle, and Maxfield said they loved the cookies.

During a stop in Iowa last month, Obama's staff ordered about a dozen cookies for the family.

That's when word got out about their affection for the confection.

Suddenly, sales of 400 cookies in a good week soared to more than 1,000 a week, with requests coming from as far away as Mexico.



Baby Boomers Cafe owners Joy Maganaal, left, and Rodney Maxfield, show off a jar of cookies at their cafe in Des Moines, Iowa, on Wednesday. AP photo

Madonna's film about orphans to air on Sundance

By **Frazier Moore**
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Madonna's awakening to the crisis in Malawi — an impoverished African nation where one million children are orphaned by AIDS — had many consequences.

She adopted one of those orphans, her 3-year-old son David. She is building a school there.

And she has told Malawi's harrowing story in her documentary, "I Am Because We Are." With an audience thus far limited to isolated theater screenings, it will be screened for everyone via its TV premiere on Sundance Channel on Monday (World AIDS Day).

The feature-length film was written, produced and narrated by Madonna (directed by Nathan Rissman). It consults experts including President Bill Clinton and Archbishop Desmond Tutu.

But the film's real power is

its images, which are often dismaying but, here and there, reflect hope and a remarkable will to survive.

"I had many goals," said Madonna during a phone conversation from her Manhattan home a few days ago. "I did get to a point where I thought, 'I'm being overambitious, I'm trying to say too much, I'll never accomplish it.' But I feel proud of the fact that I did get to make all my points."

Among her points: an insistence that any crisis comes with solutions, however hard-won and piecemeal.

The film offers its audience a menu of constructive responses.

"If all you can do is live life in YOUR world in a way that shows you are responsible for the people around you, that's a course of action," said Madonna. "People can be of service in large ways and small."

The first wide exposure of "I Am Because We Are" may be

coming at a propitious time, which befits the pop superstar who made it, with her knack for anticipating and identifying cultural trends.

On the eve of a new presidential administration, Americans seem set on a more idealistic path, however alarmed they may be by economic threats along the way.

"People really are going. 'Wow! I can no longer ignore what's going on around me.' There are changes in the air," she said.

Madonna's busy schedule continues apace. But the artistic life that drives it "is a world you create and you inhabit, to express yourself, and to inspire and reach out to other people," she explained. "It's also a consolation, a place you go to to protect yourself." That's true now, in particular, during her highly public split with Guy Ritchie, her husband of eight years, which she described as "not easy, I'm not going to lie."



In this image released by the Sundance Channel, pop star Madonna is surrounded by children in Malawi in a scene from her documentary, "I Am Because We Are," airing on the Sundance Channel on Monday at 9 p.m. AP photo

Doctor: Hopes of separating conjoined girls dashed

By **Jamie Strang**
Associated Press writer

DALLAS — Twin girls born joined at the head have overcome long odds, but the doctor who brought them to the United States to be evaluated for surgery now says there is no longer any chance they will ever lead separate lives.



Conjoined twin Romanian sisters Anastasia, left, and Tatiana Dogaru sit in their playroom at their apartment in Dallas in March 2007. AP file photo

"We have finally decided that it's in these girls' best interest that they remain like they are ..."

— Dr. Kenneth Salyer, chairman and founder of the World Craniofacial Foundation

However, the twins have become smart, active girls, said Dr. Kenneth Salyer, chairman and founder of the Dallas-based, nonprofit World Craniofacial Foundation. Still, their long-term prognosis is uncertain.

"They're troopers and they may be with us a long time, God willing," Salyer said.

Physicians at Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital in Cleveland had hoped to separate the girls, but that surgery was deemed too dangerous and was called off in August 2007.

Still, Salyer, whose foundation brought the girls to Dallas when they were babies, had kept up hope that separation might still be possible.

"But no longer."

"We have finally decided that it's in these girls' best interest that they remain like they are and that's really hard for me to say because I've been optimistic about separation," Salyer told The Associated Press earlier this month.

He said attempts to find other medical centers to take

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Ride Along on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15
Madagascar Escape 2 Africa on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15

Secret Life of Bees on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15
Transporter 3 on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15
Ride Along on Day 7 10:15
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High School Musical on Day 7 10:15
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Saw 6 on Day 7 10:15
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The Changeling on Day 7 10:15
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Pineapple on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15
Eagle Eye on Day 7 10:15
Wed - Sun 12:15 2:00 4:00 7:00 9:15
Beverly Hills Chihuahua on Day 7 10:15
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Four Christmases on Day 7 10:15
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Madagascar Escape 2 Africa on Day 7 10:15
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James Bond Quantum of Solace on Day 7 10:15
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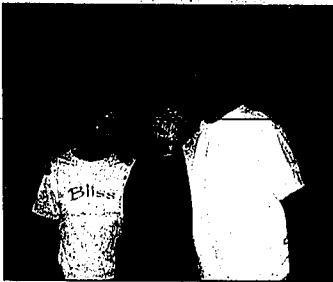
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This faded image of Alan Scher, his daughter Naomi, 13, and wife, Rita, left, was taken before Alan and Naomi were tragically killed by terrorists at the Oberoi hotel in Mumbai, India.



An undated photo shows Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, left, and his wife Rivkah Holtzberg, the directors of Chabad-Lubavitch in Mumbai, India.

U.S. Jewish, meditation groups' members die in India attacks

By Adam Goldman
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — A New York couple who recognized the threat of terrorism in India but believed their mission of spreading Jewish pride was greater than the potential danger were slain in a series of attacks across Mumbai that have killed at least five Americans.

Rabbi Gavriel Noah Holtzberg, 29, and his wife, Rivkah, 28, died in the attack on the ultra-Orthodox Chabad-Lubavitch movement's center in Mumbai. Rabbi Zalman Shmorkin said in New York.

The group said three other victims in the building apparently had been visiting there. Shmorkin said the dead included Benzion Chroman, an Israeli, with dual U.S. citizenship; Rabbi Leishliss, Teitelbaum, an American from Brooklyn; and an Israeli woman whose name was not released. The Israeli Foreign Ministry said the body of a fourth victim, an unidentified woman, was also found inside the five-story building.

Some of the victims had been bound.

The Holtzbergs' toddler son, Moshe, was rescued by an employee and taken to his grandparents.

More than 150 people had been killed since gunmen attacked 10 sites across India's financial capital, Mumbai, also known as Bombay, starting Wednesday night, officials said.

Also killed were a man and his teenage daughter from a Virginia community that promotes a form of meditation, a colleague said Friday. Alan Scher, 58, and daughter Naomi, 13, died in a cafe Wednesday night, said Bobbie Garvey, a spokeswoman for the Synchronicity Foundation.

The U.S. State Department confirmed their deaths.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said the deaths of the three victims from New York were "tragic losses" for the city. He said Teitelbaum, a Brooklyn native who moved to Jerusalem several years ago, was a kosher food supervisor.

"Our hearts go out to these families and to the many New Yorkers of all different religions and ethnicities who have been affected by the attacks," he said.

Members of the Chabad-

Lubavitch movement gathered at the group's headquarters Friday to pray for the families of the dead.

Gabriel and Rivky Holtzberg made the ultimate sacrifice, said Rabbi Moshe Kotlarsky, vice chairman of the educational arm of Chabad-Lubavitch.

"As emissaries to Mumbai, Gabi and Rivky gave up the comforts of the West in order to spread Jewish pride in a corner of the world that was a frequent stop for throngs of Israeli tourists," he said.

Shmorkin said at least three of the five victims at the center held U.S. citizenship: Teitelbaum was an American from Brooklyn, while the Israeli-born rabbi, who moved to the U.S. as a child, and Chroman both had dual Israeli-U.S. citizenship. Officials here were not sure whether Rivkah Holtzberg, also born in Israel, had obtained dual citizenship.

Twelve hours after gunmen stormed the center Wednesday, Sandra Samuel, a cook at the center, heard little Moshe's cries outside the room in which she had barricaded herself. She opened the door, grabbed the toddler and ran outside with another

center worker. The little boy's pants were soaked with blood, and Samuel said she saw four people lying on the floor as she fled.

Kotlarsky said Holtzberg's last known call was to the Israeli consulate. He said that "the situation is not good" before the phone went dead, according to Kotlarsky.

The Holtzbergs arrived in Mumbai in 2003 to run a synagogue, provide religious instruction and help people dealing with drug addiction and poverty, Kotlarsky said.

Hilary Lewin, a New Yorker met the Holtzbergs last summer at the center in India, said both the rabbi and his wife were aware of possible terrorism, but believed their mission was greater than the potential danger.

Their attitude was "If I don't do it, who's going to do it?" Lewin said.

Rabbi Yehuda Krinsky said Moshe will turn 2 on Saturday. "Today, he became an orphan," he said. A second son, who has been alluring, was with relatives in Israel when the attack happened. A third child died earlier this year of a genetic disease, the group said.

DEATH NOTICES

Michael D. Taylor
SHOSHONE — Michael D. Taylor, 53, of Shoshone, died Monday, Nov. 24, 2008. Arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Susan C. Greene
Susan C. Greene, 60, of Twin Falls, died Nov. 27, 2008, at a local hospital. Arrangements will be announced by Parks Magill Valley Funeral Home.

Arthur Hubschmidt
RUPERT — Arthur Reed Hubschmidt, 87, of Rupert, died Thursday, Nov. 27,

SERVICES

Rick V. Coates of Twin Falls, graveside service at 10 a.m. today at the Carey Cemetery in Carey (White Mortuary, Twin Falls).

Margaret Alice Taylor Mabey "Peggy" of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the View LDS Church, 550 S. 500 E. of Burley; visitation from 10 to 10:45 a.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home).

Mervin Rounly Allen of Rupert, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Rupert LDS 1st Ward Chapel, Eighth and G St.; burial at 4 p.m. today at the Elysian Burial Gardens in Salt Lake City, Utah; visitation one hour before the funeral today at the church (Hansen Mortuary Rupert).

Keith R. Naffsinger of Jerome, graveside service at 2 p.m. today in the Jerome Cemetery, 900 W. Ave. 1. In Jerome; gathering for friends and family from 2 to 4 p.m. today at the Snake River Elks Lodge, 412 E. 200 S. In Jerome; visitation from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. today at Farnsworth Mortuary, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome.

Paul Norman Conner of Klamath Falls, Ore., and former of Richfield, graveside service at 2 p.m. Sunday at Eternal Hills Memorial

Gardens in Klamath Falls (Eternal Hills Funeral Home in Klamath Falls).

Mary Katherine Henderson of Wendell, funeral at 10:30 a.m. Monday at the Wendell United Methodist Church (Demary Funeral Service, Wendell, Chapel).

Francis Vincent Duane Pastor of Paul, funeral at 11 a.m. Monday at the Paul Congregational Church, 121 N. Second W. in Paul; visitation from 5 to 8 p.m. Sunday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Molly Faye (Julian) Craft of Boise, memorial service at 11 a.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at the West End Cemetery in Burley; interment follows at the United Methodist Church in Burley (Alexia Chapel in Boise).

Donald Dwight Ramseyer of Twin Falls, family service at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 5, at Sunset Memorial Park; public memorial service at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Olive C. Hartley of Wendell, memorial service at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, at the Wendell United Methodist Church (Demary Funeral Service, Wendell, Chapel).

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The email address for obituaries is obits@magillvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 5 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an online guestbook, go to www.magillvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Monster Worldwide founder McKelvey dies at 74

NEW YORK (AP) — Andrew McKelvey, the billionaire founder and former chief executive of Monster Worldwide Inc., died early Thanksgiving morning in New York after a long battle with pancreatic cancer, his family said. He was 74.

In 1967, McKelvey founded a yellow pages advertising business called Telephone Marketing Program. Later known as TMP Worldwide, the company acquired The Monster Board and Online Career Center in 1995 and four years later the jobs recruitment Web site Monster.com was launched to great success.

In 2003, TMP Worldwide became Monster Worldwide. The New York-based company reported 2007 revenue of \$1.35 billion, employing 5,200 people across 36 countries.

McKelvey left the company in 2006 amid questions about his role in backdating employee stock options. In

January of this year, McKelvey agreed to relinquish much of his voting stake in Monster and reached a monetary settlement with the company, federal prosecutors and the Securities and Exchange Commission said.

McKelvey was also a philanthropist. The McKelvey Foundation has supported over 600 students to attend colleges across the country. Since 2001, he had donated \$25 million to the Andrew J. McKelvey Lung Transplantation Center at Emory University in Atlanta.

He has given \$3 million to the Andrew J. McKelvey Lower School at the Hewitt School in New York and provided funding for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America and for the Andrew J. McKelvey Campus Center at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa.

McKelvey, who died, was a man who lived by his own rules, and believed that



Andrew J. McKelvey poses with the Monster.com mascot in Manhattan in 2001. McKelvey, a serial entrepreneur who built Monster.com into the leading job-search website, died Thursday at his home in Manhattan. He was 74. The New York Times/AP photo

William Gibson, Tony-winning playwright, dies at 94

By Adam Bernstein
The Washington Post

William Gibson, 94, a Tony Award-winning playwright, died Tuesday. He is best known for "The Miracle Worker," the inspiration of Helen Keller and teacher Anne Sullivan, died Nov. 25 at his home in Rockledge, Mass.

The family did not disclose the cause of death.

Gibson, whose work appeared on Broadway for five decades, was known for

the demanding roles he wrote for women.

Working frequently with director Arthur Penn, he helped make a star of actress Anne Bancroft in "The Miracle Worker" (1959) and "Two for the Seesaw" (1958).

They also collaborated on "Golda" (1977), a critically panned study of power with Bancroft as Israeli prime minister Golda Meir. The author reworked the play into a monologue, which became "Golda's Balcony" (2003), a popular hit starring Tovah Feldshuh and later a film with Valerie Harper.

In addition to winning the

Tony for "The Miracle Worker," Gibson was also Tony nominated for "Two for the Seesaw" and "Golden Boy" (1954).

The second was a musical version of his friend Clifford Odets' 1930s boxing drama and which he took over after Odets' death. Sammy Davis Jr. starred in the Broadway production, which attracted respectable reviews and ran 18 months under Penn's direction.

Gibson occasionally was criticized for sentimentality and structural clumsiness, but his best stage moments achieved a compelling emotional clarity.

One of the finest examples

was the water-pump scene from "The Miracle Worker," in which "a determined Sullivan achieves a language breakthrough with her deaf and blind pupil who had resisted communicating beyond animal grunts and violent grasping.

Theater critic Walter Kerr said Gibson "dramatized the living by his credible energy." In its determination to express itself in violence when it cannot arrange itself into thought. ... When it comes, the physical contact of the child and the teacher — a contact that is for the first time meaningful and for the first time affectionate — is overwhelming."

Indiana woman, the world's oldest person, dies at 115

SHELBYVILLE, Ind. (AP) — Edna Parker, who became the world's oldest person more than a year ago, has died at age 115.

UCLA gerontologist Dr. Stephen Coles said Parker's great-nephew notified him that Parker died Wednesday at a nursing home in Shelbyville.

She was 115 years old, said Robert Young, a senior consultant for gerontology for Guinness World Records.

Parker was born April 20, 1893, in central Indiana's Morgan County and had been recognized by Guinness World Records as the world's oldest person since 2001.

She was four months her senior.

Coles maintains a list of the world's oldest people and said Parker was the 14th oldest validated supercentenarian in history. Marla de Jesus of Portugal, who was born Sept. 10, 1893, is now the world's oldest living person, according to the Gerontology Research Group.

Parker had been a widow since her husband, Earl Parker, died in 1939 of a heart attack. She lived alone in their farmhouse until age 100, when she moved into a nursing home in the Shelbyville nursing home.

Although she never drank alcohol or tried tobacco and led an active life, Parker did

not offer tips for living a long life. Her only advice to those who gathered to celebrate when she became the oldest person was "more education."

Parker outlived her two sons, Clifford and Earl Jr. She also had five grandchildren, 13 great-grandchildren and 13 great-great-grandchildren.

Don Parker, 60, said his grandmother had a small frame and a mild temperament. She walked a lot and kept busy even after moving into the nursing home, he said.

"She kept active," he said Thursday. "We used to go to church, and she would be pushing other patients in their wheelchairs."

Gov. Mitch Daniels celebrated with Parker on her 114th birthday.

"It was a delight to know Edna, who must have been a remarkable lady at any age," Daniels said.

Parker taught in a two-room school in Shelby County for several years after graduating from Franklin College in 1911. She wed her childhood sweetheart and neighbor in 1913.

But as was the tradition of the era, her teaching career ended with her marriage. Parker traded the schoolhouse for life as a farmer's wife, preparing meals for his many as a dozen men who worked on her husband's farm.

Parker noted with pride last year that she and her husband were one of the first owners of an automobile in their rural area.



Parker

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy and a little breeze. High 45 to 50.
Tonight: Mainly clear and remaining somewhat breezy. Low 30.
Tomorrow: Sunny skies and light winds. Highs around 50.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. Includes high/low temperatures and weather icons.

Yesterday's Weather

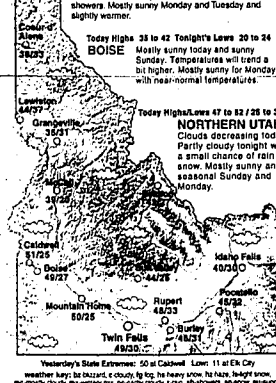
Table listing weather for various cities: Boise, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, etc.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly cloudy and a little breeze. High 45 to 50.
Tonight: Mainly clear and remaining somewhat breezy. Low 30.
Tomorrow: Sunny skies and light winds. Highs around 50.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.
Variable clouds today with a chance of rain and snow showers. Mostly sunny for Monday with near-normal temperatures.



ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

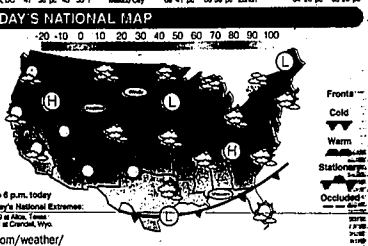
Weather statistics including Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Moon Phases, Moonrise and Moonset, and U.V. INDEX.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, High, Low, W, F, M, S, P, N. Lists forecasts for cities like Boise, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with columns for City, Today, Tomorrow, High, Low, W, F, M, S, P, N. Lists forecasts for Canadian cities like Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver, etc.



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
My second new choice to enrich ourselves in a way that supports our lives, and to think and speak about people in a way that is honoring and makes choices are you going to make?

AROUND THE WORLD



John Tobais, director of the Miller Park Zoo in Bloomington, Ill., holds a Christmas tree ornament. Wednesday made from dried reindeer droppings by Susie Ohley, 16, daughter of Susie Ohley, marketing director, as a fund raiser for the zoo.

ILLINOIS

Zoo creates ornaments from reindeer droppings
BLOOMINGTON — The Christmas ornaments for sale at the Miller Park Zoo's gift shop are partly manufactured by reindeer. Honest! Staffers make decorations out of droppings from the zoo's two reindeer, Ealu and Rika. The droppings are dried, then clear-coated and either painted or rolled in glitter. Zoo marketing director Susie Ohley has named the products "magical reindeer gent ornaments" and each comes with a label of authenticity. They cost \$5 at the zoo gift shop. Staffer Katie Byrdes, who makes jewelry as a hobby, donated wire and beads, saying, "Susie asked me to bring some creativity to the table." Some folks are surprised at the size of the "gems," which are only about as big as marbles. "Reindeer droppings" zoo maintenance worker Sheldon Williams said. But the droppings are "just a big pile of small."

WISCONSIN

After 55 days, contest ends for 2 living in truck
MADISON — A Wisconsin radio station had to make two contestants an offer they couldn't refuse in order to get them to quit a game to win a new car. Tommy Kempfer, 26, of Sun Prairie, and Lisa Thompson, 40, of Westfield, had been living in a truck, hoping to outlast the other to win the \$30,000 vehicle from WMAD-

FM in Madison. After 55 days, the station became concerned that the contest would never end. "We sensed these two were not going to back down," said John Flinn, a co-host on the station's morning show. "There was no way we expected this to go 55 days. If it was not for the deal, it's possible they could have gone on into November."

On Tuesday, the station offered the two a compromise: End the contest and receive \$10,000 toward the purchase of a car, among other prizes, or continue with the runner-up receiving nothing. Within 15 minutes, both agreed to the deal.

NEW JERSEY

Cardboard figure causes bank standoff
MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP — A standoff at a New Jersey bank is over after police learned a "person" inside was actually a full-size cardboard figure. Officers went to the PNC Bank in Montgomery Township on Thursday night after an alarm went off. They saw when they thought was at least one person through the windows of the bank, which had its blinds drawn. The area was sealed off and three nearby apartment buildings were evacuated as a precaution. Meanwhile, authorities used bullhorns and made telephone calls in a bid to "make contact" with whoever might be in the bank. After repeatedly failing to get a response, a SWAT team entered the building and discovered the cardboard figure. It was not immediately clear what set off the bank alarm.

FRANCE

Court: Sarkozy Voodoo doll shouldn't be poked
PARIS — A French appeals court says Voodoo dolls of President Nicolas Sarkozy may remain on sale, but must carry a notice saying that pricking them harms the president's dignity. Sarkozy's attorney had asked that the dolls be withdrawn from sale, saying the president like any French person owns the right to his own image. The appeals court backed an earlier ruling allowing the dolls to stay on the market in the name of freedom of expression. But it ordered the doll's marketer, publishing house

K&B Editions, to add a warning that using the needles which come with the kits "constitutes an attack on the personal dignity of Mr. Sarkozy."

MEXICO

Man robbed in Mexico while glued to wheel
MONTERRREY — A driver in Mexico got himself into a sticky situation when he

pulling over to help a woman whose pickup appeared to be broken down by the highway. Anadel Carrizales was driving Wednesday near the northern city of Monterrey when a blond woman in a black miniskirt motioned for him to pull over.

Once he had stopped, the woman walked up and told him an accomplice was pointing a gun at him, said David Perales, a spokesman for state investigators.

She then tied him up with packing tape, super-glued his hands to the steering wheel of his truck and demanded money. Carrizales didn't have any cash, but the woman took his credit cards and fed.

"He probably thought it was his lucky day when he saw the woman in the miniskirt, but was surprised when she tied him up," Perales said. With his motor still running and his hands still glued to the

wheel, Carrizales managed to drive a few miles (kilometers) down the road until he found a police officer to help him.

Emergency officials freed his hands with a saline solution. "There are some contradictions in his story about how he ended up stopped alongside the road, but the robbery and being glued to the steering wheel are indisputable," Perales said. — The Associated Press

Digital mammography now available in Twin Falls

Advanced technology in the fight against breast cancer



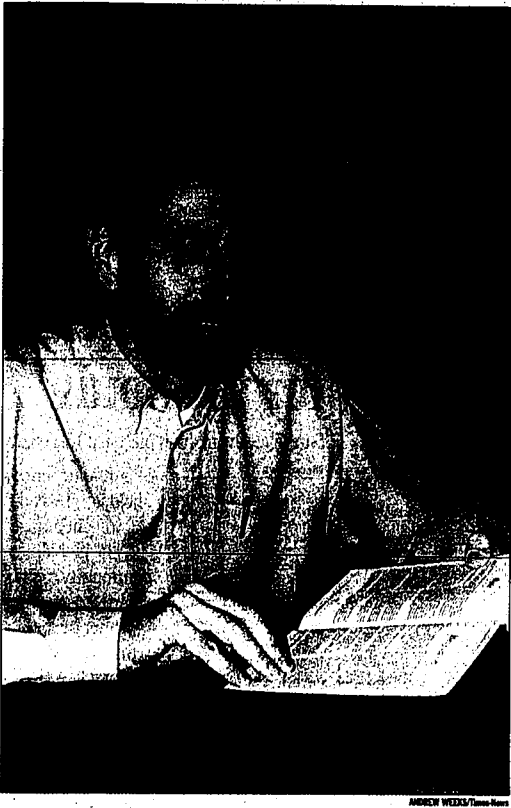
St. Luke's Women's Imaging Center is excited to offer digital mammography to aid in early breast cancer detection. Digital mammography is different from conventional mammography in how the image of the breast is viewed and, more importantly, manipulated. The radiologist can magnify the images, increase or decrease the contrast, evaluate micro-calcifications, and focus on areas of concern. There is no difference in the screening from a patient's perspective, although they may notice shorter exam times and a reduction in the need for additional images.

Digital mammography will improve access to care for women by allowing individuals with dense breast tissue to receive the same precise detection as other women, close to home. Improving early detection rates will help us reduce the overall death rate from breast cancer.

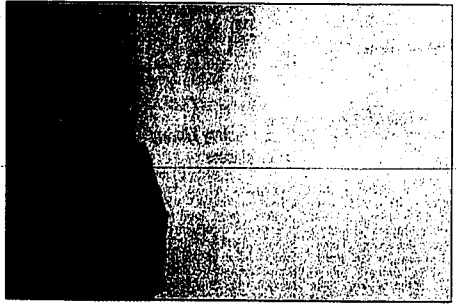
Digital mammography is coming soon to St. Luke's Wood River - Spring 2009.

Service provided by St. Luke's Magic Valley.

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Fred Kretschmer, of Sabbath Rest Advent Church in Hagerman, teaches a Bible study class once a month called 'The World in Crisis and Revelation,' taking on its theme biblical prophecy as it relates to the days leading up to the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.



Fred Kretschmer discusses the Book of Revelation at a Bible study Tuesday night in Twin Falls. Much of the book, he said, though filled with imagery pertains to what the world should expect to happen in the future.

The end of days — It is a topic that has intrigued and, in some instances, baffled humankind ever since it was brought up centuries ago.

It has made fanatics flee to the mountains in an attempt to escape what they felt was government corruption and the stress of an encroaching world, and has at the same time made saner heads ponder their life's spiritual standing.

In a time when the economic and political spectrum seems topsy-turvy, churches with large memberships, such as the 13-million member The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, to small congregations, such as the handful of members who make up the Sabbath Rest Advent Church, are teaching their members to prepare temporarily and spiritually for what they say are challenging days ahead.

Interpreting prophecy

Studying the end of days is important to Fred Kretschmer, a member of Sabbath Rest Advent Church in Hagerman. So important is it to him that he is helping others to learn about it through an interactive Bible study called "The World in Crisis and Revelation," which he hosts once a month at the Christian Community Church in Twin Falls. The first discussion was held Tuesday night.

The Hagerman church has only five members, but it's a worldwide organization that has about 2,000, he said.

Cutting to the chase, Kretschmer told the *Times-News* that he believes the end of days is drawing close. One of the signs of the times, he believes, will be that state and federal government will get to the point when they will begin to legislate religious laws, enjoining church and state, fulfilling biblical prophecy about a seven-head, 10-horned beast that negates the law of God.

"I feel, and it is only my opinion, that I can tell everyone what the very beginning of the end will be," he said. "It is the tearing of church and state, a unification of all religions. A lot of people don't believe that, but that's what the Bible says."

He's not the first to believe in a one-world government or what has been called a "New World Order."

Kretschmer, who discussed Revelation 17 and other biblical passages Tuesday, parallels modern times with the time of Christ, when the Jews persecuted and crucified Jesus. "They rejected Christ. In our day, people will reject the law of God," or the Ten

Next meeting

If you missed the first discussion, "The World in Crisis and Revelation," Fred Kretschmer will present it again at 7 p.m. Dec. 9 at the Moose Lodge, 1101 Main St. in Buhl.

The second part of the series, which will include discussion of Revelation 18, will be 7 p.m. Dec. 22 at the Community Christian Church, 303 Grandview Dr. in Twin Falls.

For more information: Kretschmer at 734-2218.

Commandments, he said.

It is happening today, he warned those who came to the Bible study. Wars prevail, the economy is weakened, and people are losing their moral fiber, Kretschmer said.

Though he does not claim to know when Jesus will return to the earth, Kretschmer said he believes it is nearer than some might suppose.

"We're down to years, whether it's three, or two, or one," he said. "If the Lord doesn't come and stop this thing, we're going to destroy ourselves. And I don't think the Lord wants us to do that."

As signs of the times, Christians should also look to what happens with Israel, the topic of many last-days prophecies, he said.

Though only about eight people attended Tuesday's meeting, Kretschmer said he is grateful to teach whomever he can, if only a handful at a time. He said he hopes to see more people turn out to future discussions.

A Christian belief

While Jesus stood upon the Mount of Olives soon after his resurrection, he was taken up into heaven, according to the Book of Acts. As his disciples stood marveling, two angelic visitors said to them: "Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner

Please see COMING, Page C2

Return of the King

The Second Coming of Jesus Christ is on the minds of some area church members

By Andrew Weeks • Times-News writer

Turning over a new leaf: Baptism helps believers along new path

By Trista Freed
Topeka Capital-Journal

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Not long ago, Tiffany Dudley made a public declaration of her faith in a baptism service at Lake Shawnee.

"I decided to be baptized because the past decisions maybe weren't the best," Dudley said. "It's turning over a new leaf, an outward show of an inward change."

Dudley was one of six people who took part in the annual Gallatin baptism service. The event was sponsored by First Baptist Church.

For Christians, baptism recognizes the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

It also represents the follower's death to sin and rebirth in Christ.

Though baptism is practiced in nearly every Christian denomination, there are

differences from one group to another. Baptists and Pentecostals, for example, view baptism as a symbolic action, not something contingent for salvation. It is seen as an act of obedience after a person has received the Holy Spirit.

On the other side of the issue, Catholics and Lutherans teach that baptism has saving powers.

"It's a way in which we experience God's grace in a tangible form," said the Rev. Trudy Crelsinger, pastor of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church.

The Church of Christ is unique and combines the two, teaching baptism is necessary for salvation but doesn't in itself bring salvation.

"If you were to blend both together, it is essential for obedience and to be saved," said Robert Stephenson, minister at Quivira Heights Church of Christ.

Most churches do not rebaptize people

if they move to another denomination. The Church of Christ does if the person had a different understanding of baptism.

"If you came from a different teaching other than the Bible, then all you did was get wet," Stephenson said. "If a person comes to understanding that they were baptized for another purpose, then we will rebaptize them."

Despite the differences, believers all over the world have submitted to a spiritual bath to join in the death of Christ.

"Baptism deals with the heart," Stephenson said. "If a person is sincere, God knows."

Other differences arise over how baptism should be performed — whether by immersion, sprinkling or pouring.

The Church of Christ, Pentecostals,

Please see BAPTISM, Page C2



Tiffany Dudley, right, receives a hug from Kris Chanay after emerging from Lake Shawnee in Topeka, Kan., Aug. 4, following First Baptist Church's annual Gallatin baptism service. Dudley was one of six people baptized in the lake.

Faith as a defense

Child deaths test faith-healing exemption

By William McCall
Associated Press writer

OREGON CITY, Ore. — When Dr. Seth Asser saw row after row of flat headstones marking children's graves in a small cemetery not far from the end of the historic Oregon Trail, he knew many of these early deaths should not have happened.

The children's parents relied on faith healing, instead of doctors.

The pediatrician published a landmark study concluding many of the deaths could have been prevented if the children had received medical care.

"What struck me was the fact that it was obvious from the expressions on the headstones that the children were loved," Asser said. "So it was especially troublesome they were not afforded the care that most parents would give their children."

His study 10 years ago brought attention to the issue, and yet today three similar cases in Oregon and one in Wisconsin — have revived concerns about exemptions that most states grant to parents who rely on faith healing instead of doctors to treat sick children.

Faith healing has deep roots in American history, and yet it may seem surprising that in the 21st century, children still die because parents choose not to seek medical help from physicians.

State laws across the nation exempt members of religious groups from prosecution if they choose faith healing over science, Asser and his colleague, Rita Swan, have been trying to get states to repeal such laws, arguing that safety should always come first, no matter what the parents believe.

"We can't legislate good parenting, but at least we shouldn't have laws allowing bad parenting," said Swan, who now heads the advocacy group Children's Healthcare.

But Swan and Asser have been largely unsuccessful because tragedies are rare and partly because legislators are loath to challenge parental rights, especially when they are intertwined with the constitutional right to freedom of religion.

"There hasn't been a groundswell of organized advocacy to get the laws changed," said Shawn Francis Peters, a University of Wisconsin professor who has written a book on faith healing. "I do think there's broad public sentiment to do it, but that doesn't get things through the meat grinder of legislation."

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at least 30 states have specific exemption laws on the books.

What does federal law say? According to HHS, nothing in the amendments to the original 1974 Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, can be construed as establishing a federal requirement that a parent or legal guardian provide any medical service or treatment that is against the religious beliefs of the parent or legal guardian.

Five states have repealed exemption laws, Swan said: Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska and North Carolina.

Some states have revised their laws, including Oregon in 1999. After a stormy debate in the Oregon Legislature, then-Gov. John Kitzhaber — a doctor himself — a compromise bill into law that eliminated the Oregon spiritual healing exemption in some manslaughter and criminal mistreatment cases.

Many of the exemption laws were enacted in the 1970s, promoted by two top advisers to former President Nixon — Bob Haldeman and John Ehrlichman — and an influential senator, Charles



Beth Young, an English professor, is seen on the campus of the University of Central Florida in Orlando, Fla., June 4. Young, whose parents belonged to the Christian Scientist religion, suffered hip dysplasia as an infant and now walks with a limp.

Percy of Illinois, who practiced Christian Science. The religion, founded by Mary Baker Eddy just after the Civil War, embraces a form of faith healing its adherents say is unique and different from the way it is practiced by some fundamentalists.

The Church of Christ, Scientist, emphasizes that it does not prevent any members from seeking medical care, and it is quick to distance itself from other religious groups that demand prayer be the only method for healing.

"One of the mistakes people make is lumping all these groups together," said Stephen Lyons, a Boston attorney who has defended Christian Scientists.

Church leaders also deny their lobbying efforts with state lawmakers across the country have kept the laws on the books, even though Peters and a fellow author on faith healing, Boston College historian Alan Rogers, say the effort is intense and largely successful.

"It's remarkable," Rogers said. "Without exception, it has been the push of the Christian Science church."

Two pending criminal cases expected to test Oregon's revised law are against parents belonging to the followers of Christ Church, the same religious sect that owns the cemetery visited by Asser in 2001.

Jeffrey Dean Bingley, 50, and his 46-year-old wife, Beth, have been charged with failing to provide adequate medical care, in violation of their duties as parents.

Their 16-year-old son, Nell, died in June from complications of a urinary-tract infection that triggered heart failure. Doctors said a simple procedure could have saved his life.

In the other Oregon case, Carl Brent Worthington and his wife, Raylene, have pleaded not guilty to charges of manslaughter and criminal mistreatment in the death of their 15-month-old daughter, Ava, who died at home from bacterial pneumonia and a blood infection due to complications the state medical examiner said were treatable.

The Bingleys and the Worthingtons have refused to talk to reporters, and their attorneys have declined to comment, along with prosecutors.

In a third case, in Wisconsin, Lellani and Dale Neumann face reckless homicide charges in the death of their 11-year-old daughter due to complications from diabetes.

Lellani Neumann has said the family believes in the Bible and that healing comes from God, but she said they do not belong to an organized religion or faith and have nothing against doctors.

The Followers of Christ figured prominently in a state legislative battle over the Oregon exemption that

began in 1998 with the discovery of the children's graves, and the death of an 1-year-old member of the sect from complications caused by diabetes.

The political battle ended with revision of the law, but not its repeal.

"I was there" — for repeal, said Oregon Senate President Peter Courtney. And, he notes, so were churches, child health care advocates, law enforcement and plenty of parents.

What stopped the Legislature from an outright repeal of the law was an effort to protect religious freedom and parental rights and at the same time protect children.

"We tried and tried and tried to figure out a way to speak to, to be sensitive to, and balance all those influences," Courtney said. "Did we do it? I don't know."

"These are extremely sensitive cases nationally," said Josh Margolis, an Oregon district attorney who has been part of the debate over how to balance those conflicting rights. "It's where faith meets the law."

In a 1998 study published in the medical journal Pediatrics, Asser and Swan, herself a former Christian Scientist, documented 172 faith-related child deaths in the United States between 1975 and 1995. They found that 140 of the children died from conditions for which survival rates with medical care exceeded 90 percent.

Asser notes that no government agencies systematically collect data, and reliance on faith healing is not a category listed on a death certificate.

Before federal medical privacy laws were tightened, he was able to talk to medical examiners about cases, but that has become more difficult.

Asser has tracked a handful of cases that have gotten media attention in the past decade, including deaths in Philadelphia, Massachusetts and California. But he still learns about many of the deaths only through concerned friends or family members who contact him or Swan.

And death is not the only troubling outcome when children avoid doctors because of their parents' religious beliefs.

Beth Young, a professor at the University of Central Florida, says her hip dysplasia, which could have been easily corrected when she was an infant, went undiagnosed and untreated by her Christian Scientist parents.

Young finally went to a doctor in her 20s to find out why it was such a struggle to walk and climb stairs.

She learned her hip [joints] were deteriorating — but that it was too late for a surgical fix.

"It's not going to get any better," Young said in an interview. "I think about that every day. If my parents knew how simple the treatment was, I don't think they would have ignored it. So I do feel cheated."

She added: "I can remember times when I would pray and pray and pray, and I would think that maybe I'm healed now, and then I would go check, and I'd go walk in front of a mirror or something, and then I would discover, no I'm not."

Malaysia government sued over seized Christian CDs

By Julia Zappell
Associated Press writer

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — A Malaysian Christian is suing the government for allegedly violating her religious rights after airport officials seized Christian educational CDs that she brought from Indonesia, the woman's lawyer said.

Customs authorities in this Muslim-majority country confiscated eight CDs from Jill Ireland when she flew back to Kuala Lumpur on May 11 after a trip to Jakarta, her lawyer, Annou Xavier, said late Thursday.

The Home Ministry informed her in a letter that the CDs were seized mainly because their cover titles contained the word "Allah," which is prohibited in non-Muslim religious material, Xavier said.

Ireland wants the Kuala Lumpur High Court to issue a declaration allowing her to transport any religious material for her own personal use, Xavier said.

The court on Thursday

scheduled Jan. 30 for a preliminary hearing.

Government lawyer Suzana Atan declined to comment on details of the case, but noted that authorities have barred the use of the word "Allah" except for Muslim publications.

Malaysia's constitution guarantees freedom of worship for non-Muslims, who make up more than one-third of the country's 27 million people.

However, minority Buddhists, Christians and Hindus have increasingly voiced allegations of religious discrimination due to incidents in recent years such as the occasional demolition of Hindu temples by state authorities.

The government last year ruled that non-Muslims cannot use the word "Allah," an Arabic word that is a synonym for "God" in Malaysia's national language.

The ban has sparked criticism by Christians who use it to refer to God in their Malay-language Bible and other publications.

FLDS ranch leader indicted

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (AP) — The bishop overseeing a polygamist sect's west Texas ranch is among those who have been indicted.

The Texas Attorney General's office says Frederick Merrill Jessup was indicted on a charge of conducting an unlawful marriage ceremony involving a minor. The 72-year-old was believed to be the bishop overseeing the Learning For Zion Ranch in Hildreth.

All three men have turned themselves into authorities.

Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Utah and has written a best-selling book about her experience.

Texas prosecutors identified two other men who were indicted by a grand jury on Nov. 12.

Wendell Loy Nielsen was charged with bigamy and Leroy Johnson Steed was charged with sexual assault of a child and bigamy. All three men have turned themselves into authorities.

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RELIGION BRIEFS

Mormon church's involvement in Prop 8 investigated

SAIT LAKE CITY — California's Fair Political Practices Commission says it will investigate allegations that the Mormon church didn't report nonmonetary contributions to the Yes on Proposition 8 campaign. The nonprofit organization, Californians Against Hate, called for the investigation after the measure amending the California constitution to define marriage as a heterosexual act passed earlier this month. The complaint says the church failed to report money invested to organize phone banks, send out direct mailers, provide transportation to California, mobilize a speakers bureau, send out satellite simulcasts and develop Web sites as commercials and video broadcasts. The LDS Church did not immediately have a comment.

Gay marriage backers to protest at Mormon display in Arizona

MESA, Ariz. — Supporters of gay marriage are vowing to be out in force when Mormons light their massive Christmas displays Friday night on the grounds of the Mesa Arizona Temple. They're upset with Mormons' opposition to same-sex marriage and the passage of state constitutional amendments banning gay marriage in Arizona, California and Florida in the Nov. 4 election. Organizers say they're hoping thousands will turn out in solidarity for gays and lesbians seeking full civil rights. The Mormon church urged members to donate money and vote for the gay marriage bans. Mormon spokesman Don Evans says the church finds it surprising it is being singled out by protesters. He says the amendments were also supported by the Catholic church and various evangelical denominations.

World's largest cathedral plans rededication

NEW YORK — The Cathedral of Saint John the Divine in Upper Manhattan, called the largest in the world, will be open from end to end for the first time since a devastating fire damaged ancient tapestries and a 6,500-pipe organ. A celebratory rededication is planned for Sunday at the Gothic Episcopal church after its restoration. The entire length of the 601-foot-long (183-meter) building will be open. A temporary wall had halved the cathedral, concealing the scaffolding set up for the restoration work. The fire originated in the gift shop on Dec. 18, 2001. At Sunday's celebration, the restored 98-year-old Skinner organ will be played for the first time since the fire. All of its pipes were removed, cleaned and reinstalled. Every inch of limestone, marble and granite surface also has been cleaned. The ceremony will begin with a procession of bishops

and fire department members who helped battle the blaze. The fire wrecked two rare 17th century Barberini tapestries — part of a set of 12 depicting the life of Christ. They were painstakingly restored in the cathedral's textile conservation laboratory, located on its campus. "The New Jerusalem," a hymn written for the occasion, will be played on the organ by Bruce Neswick, director of cathedral music at Saint John the Divine. Neswick and associate organist and choirmaster Tim Brumfield also will perform a score by Ralph Vaughn Williams, an English composer who wrote the commemorative piece for the opening of the entire interior of the cathedral in 1941. The church's cornerstone was laid in 1892. It is larger than the French cathedrals of Chartres and Notre Dame, combined. It boasts a Gothic nave and Romanesque choir area, eight stately interior granite columns and 150 stained-glass windows depicting religious and his-

CD of songs based on pope's poems on sale

VATICAN CITY — A new album of songs based on poems by the late Pope John Paul II and performed by Plácido Domingo goes on sale in Italy. The world famous tenor says the album "Amore Infinito" ("Infinite Love") will not just speak to the faithful. He says "these are songs for everyone." The 12-track record was presented Friday at the Vatican. The CD features duets with Andrea Bocelli, Vanessa Williams and Katherine Jenkins. The lyrics are in Italian, English and Spanish. The Deutsche Grammophon record label says the CD will come out next month in Mexico, where Domingo grew up, and worldwide in January. John Paul published poems, plays and philosophical essays before he became pope. He died in 2005. — Wire reports

Court: Voodoo doll should not be stabbed

PARIS — A French appeals court says Voodoo dolls of President Nicolas Sarkozy may remain on sale, but must carry a notice saying that pricking them harms the president's dignity. Sarkozy's attorney had asked that the dolls be withdrawn from sale, saying the president like any French person owns the right to his own image. The appeals court backed an earlier ruling allowing the dolls to stay on the market in the name of freedom of expression. But it ordered the doll's marketer, publishing house K&B Editions, to add a warning that pricking the needles which come with the kits "constitutes an attack on the personal dignity of Mr. Sarkozy." "Nicolas Sarkozy: The Voodoo Manual" costs \$16.50 and includes a handbook and 12 pins.

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SEATING IS LIMITED.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
with special music & a Christmas message by Pastor Mike Keiser
Christmas Eve
{10:00pm}

CARING AND SHARING TREE

Mrs. Tominaaga's third-grade class at Acquia Elementary School recently decorated a Christmas tree to donate to Mindokva Health Care Foundation's Caring and Sharing to be held this weekend at the chic center in Rupert. Pictured are Kalissa Barfuss, Timber Dennis, Maddy Tolson and Jacobson Orasco.



COMMUNITY NEWS

Long-term care wish lists wanted

Long-term care facilities are encouraged to gather residents' wish lists for inclusion in the Times-News Community sections. Interested facilities can gather lists of three to five items or wishes per resident and e-mail them, along with each resident's name and the name of the facility, to front-door@magicvalley.com. The submission deadline is noon, Dec. 5. Lists will run Dec. 11-16.

Remembrance held at Cassia Regional

The Cassia Regional Medical Center Birth Center will host a Christmas Remembrance at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 in the front lobby at the hospital.

The public is invited to join in support of families who have experienced infant loss at this annual non-denominational religious service. If you have experienced a loss and desire to participate, please bring a purchased Christmas tree ornament that would fit in a 4-by-4-inch box.

On the ornament, indicate the parent's name, the date of birth or loss, as appropriate. During the service you will be given an opportunity to hang your ornament on a tree that will be in the hospital foyer specifically as a tree of remembrance.

Please see COMMUNITY, Page C7

GIVING WARMTH



Carves gathered years, women and time to create lappages for area disabled veterans. Carves member Goldie Lafferty shared her project idea with Carves manager Terri Lentini. A total of 15 lappages were sent to Boise for distribution through the Veterans Administration. The members have responded very well to such a great cause, said Lentini. Those who couldn't crochet donated the yarn. The group met Saturdays after the class closed to work on the project together. "It has been a great time of fellowship and fun for an outstanding cause," Lentini said. Pictured is Lafferty with Lentini with some of the finished lappages.

DeMary Memorial Library book notes

Here are the most recent book notes from DeMary Memorial Library in Rupert.

Fiction: "Deceivers" by Harold Robbins
The knock on the door of struggling art expert Madison Dupre's low-rent New York apartment is that of a Thai cafe delivery man. Instead of succulent noodles, he has a rare work of art from the Incredible Angkor Wat in

the jungles of Cambodia.

Mystery: "Death Switch" by Laura Childs
Scrappbook store owner Carmela Bertrand is attending a Mardi Gras party at Jekyl Hardy's French Quarter apartment. Amid Zydeco rhythms and popping champagne corks, Jekyl's neighbor Archie Baudier is found choked to death on the balcony. Buried up to her neck

in strange clues, Carmela is sure of only one thing: whoever killed Archie is following her, straight into the madness of Mardi Gras.

Fiction: "Darkfever" by Karen Marie Moning

Readers are transported into a world of immortal and lethal magic. When Mac discovers that her sister's murder was more than just a random act of violence, she

also makes a shocking discovery about herself. Driven to justice, Mac has no choice but to seek a book, which in the right hands, could help the world. In the wrong hands, it could be deadly.

Children's Titles: "Whose Baby Am I?" by John Butler, "A Cold Winter's Good Knight" by Shelley Moore Thomas, Pictureka (game for age 6+).

Parole and probation: There's a difference?

Q: Is there a difference to somebody being on probation and somebody being on parole?

A: There is a difference between parole and probation. When somebody gets convicted of a felony charge and they don't go to prison that person would be put on probation. The person that gets convicted of a felony and spends time in prison but is then let out to be supervised is on parole. If somebody is charged with a misdemeanor they are on probation regardless of whether they went to jail or not.

Q: How many people can legally ride in a pickup?
A: The simplest answer I can tell you are that the number of seat belts is usually the number of people that can ride in that seating area. There are exceptions though. If one of the passengers causes your vision to be obstructed or interferes with your ability to drive properly then that could be a violation.

The code we deal with here is Idaho Code 49-612. This code also covers not clearing off ice or other debris, which would hamper your ability to see clearly out of the front and



POLICEMAN DAN Bristol

side windows. I have seen and stopped several drivers that like to create a tank-type view out their front window. It sometimes takes a while for them to pull over but when they do, their windows end up being cleaned for the low service price of a \$75 fine. Personally, I think the \$2 ice scraper is a much cheaper way to go.

Dumb criminals

Man accused of dousing neighbor for a "confession" Police said a Pennsylvania man bound his neighbor with duct tape, doused him with gasoline and threatened to set him on fire unless the neighbor confessed to burglarizing his house.

John Black, of New Sewickley Township, was charged with burglary, aggravated assault, unlawful restraint and related crimes. Police said that last

Thursday, Black accused Henry Schmitt Jr. of burglarizing his home earlier this month before eventually letting him go. Police said they have no evidence Schmitt burglarized Black. Schmitt lives in a camper on Black's property.

Reason to buy a stick shift vehicle

Police in Kansas City, Mo., said attempted carjacker were forced to abort their theft when the vehicle turned out to have a manual transmission.

Investigators said two males, an adult and a juvenile, approached a woman sitting in her car outside of a store at about 11 p.m. Monday and one of the suspects pointed a gun at the woman. The suspects ordered the woman to hand over her cell phone and exit the car, police said.

However, officers said the suspects exited the car quickly after attempting to drive off because they were unable to work the manual transmission.

Police said the two suspects in the crime were arrested shortly after the incident following a street robbery on the University of

Have a question for Policeman Dan? E-mail your questions to policeman@yaho.com.

Missouri-Kansas City campus.

Officer down

Please post these officers, killed in the line of duty, and their families in your prayers.

- Deputy Lawrence Canfield, Sacramento County Sheriff's Department
- Sergeant Monty Carmickle, Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
- Sergeant Timothy Simpson, Philadelphia Police Department
- Special Agent Samuel Hicks, Federal Bureau of Investigation

Finally, congratulations to my old alma mater, Declo High School's, football team. What a great season. You almost did it. Be safe, I'll talk to you next week. E-mail your questions to policeman@yaho.com.

Dan Bristol is a Heyburn Police sergeant detective.

VA secretary pledges high-quality care for female veterans

An aggressive push to ensure female veterans receive the highest quality of care in U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities was pledged by Secretary James Peake at a recent VA National Summit on female veterans' issues.

Citing the demographic shift that brings increasing numbers of women to VA for care and the need for changes, Peake announced formation of a work group to focus on these issues:

- Women's needs in prosthetics and rehabilitation.
- Giving women's advocates in VA medical centers.
- Developing quality measurements specifically for female patients.
- Purchasing more state-of-the-art specialized women's services for VA care providers.

Summit attendees also learned that VA recently established a work group with a goal is to ensure every female veteran enrolled in VA care has a women's health primary care provider, especially to meet gender-specific needs.

The June 20-22 conference in Washington focused on how to ensure VA meets female-specific health needs and how to inform more female veterans of their VA benefits.

VETERANS CORNER

George Schwindeman

Not updating retired pay records can cost benefits. Too often we hear about survivors who were denied Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP) benefits because the retired soldier did not update retired pay records after getting married, divorced, remarried, being widowed or gaining a child.

We hear from surviving spouses who did not receive the retired pay for the days of the last month the retired soldier was alive because this money went to the person the soldier had chosen at retirement.

We hear from former spouses who lost SBP benefits because either the former spouse nor the retired soldier notified DFAS within a year of the divorce that SBP was part of the divorce, by sending a letter and a copy of the divorce decree.

To make sure your spouse (or better yet, either the former spouse nor the retired soldier) notified DFAS within a year of the divorce, by sending a letter and a copy of the divorce decree.

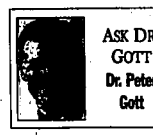
To make sure your spouse (or better yet, either the former spouse nor the retired soldier) notified DFAS within a year of the divorce, by sending a letter and a copy of the divorce decree.

George Schwindeman is a veteran who lives in Rupert.

Infection likely cause of irritation, frequent urination

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a 97-year-old lady and have a pacemaker. I had two or three seizures but have not had any since the pacemaker was put in. I am now doing fine except that I have an irritated vagina and inner thighs.

While in the hospital, a nurse spilled urine all down my back, and I was not given a bath for two days before



ASK DR. GOTT Dr. Peter Gott

leaving. I now have to urinate every two hours during the night and have a very

odd dark red half circle on my inner thighs. It does not itch and fades during the night. What should I do?

DEAR READER: First, I don't believe that your symptoms have anything to do with the nurse who spilled the urine or the fact that you were not allowed to bathe afterward. I can say that I am truly appalled by the situation and disappointed in the staff for not immediately helping you wash up. That must have been difficult to deal with, and I urge you to write a letter to the hospital administrator expressing your dissatisfaction in that situation. There is no excuse for a patient to have to lie in bed covered in urine for two days. Now, to your symptoms. I

believe there are two things going on here: first, a urinary-tract infection or vaginal inflammation, and second, skin irritation. Your symptoms of frequent urination and vaginal irritation suggest to me that you have an infection. Whether it is vaginal or urinary isn't clear. Return to your physician and request testing. I recom-

mend a culture and sensitivity to check for urinary infection. If that is negative, he or she can either test for vaginal infection or refer you to a gynecologist for testing. Treatment is often easy and involves a course or two of antibiotics. It is always important to have repeat testing after treatment to

Please see DR. GOTT, Page C7

Bombing follows security pact approval in Iraq

By Soudam Rajwanshi and Saad Sarhan
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — A suicide bomber detonated explosives outside a Shiite mosque south of Baghdad on Friday, police said, killing at least 12 people and injuring 23 a day after Iraqi lawmakers approved a security pact to extend the U.S. military presence in Iraq.

The attack in the city of Musayyib, 40 miles south of the capital, occurred as people were gathered outside the mosque before the start of Friday prayers, witnesses and police said. The mosque is run by loyalists of Shiite cleric Moqtada Sadr.

"Suddenly a huge explosion shook the entire building," said Dawood Ahmad, 23, a worshiper. "Window glass flew in all directions, hitting me in the back. Heavy black smoke filled the main hall. Despite my injury, I rushed outside. I saw bodies lying on the ground, parts of human flesh scattered around. And many screaming for help."

After the prayers, the several hundred worshipers had planned to march in protest against the security agreement, which still requires approval from Iraq's Presidency—Council. The Sadrist have long opposed the U.S. military presence in Iraq.

Sadr issued a statement through his key aides Friday calling for three days of mourning and peaceful demonstrations against the pact.

No group asserted responsibility for the bombing, but suicide attacks are typically



FRANCO HOSE DOWN THE ALTA WHERE A SUICIDE BOMBER BLEW HIMSELF UP AT THE ENTRANCE OF A SHIITE MOSQUE IN MUSAYYIB, SOUTH OF BAGHDAD, IRAQ, FRIDAY, KILLING AT LEAST 12 PEOPLE, IRAQI OFFICIALS SAID.

the trademark of Sunni extremists.

The U.S. military said in a statement that eight civilians were killed and 15 wounded. Last month, the U.S. military handed over control of the province of Babil, which includes Musayyib, to Iraqi forces. The city is predominantly Shiite, but pockets of Sunnis live in villages and on farms in the surrounding area. Both Shiite and Sunni extremists have operated in the area. On July 16, 2005, a suicide bombing killed an estimated 90 people in the city.

In the city of Kufa, also in southern Iraq, about 500 Sadrist carrying black flags and photos of Sadr demonstrated against the pact after Friday prayers. "No, No, Agreement!" and "Death, Death to those who signed the agreement!" they chanted.

"We shall continue to protest the agreement because it does not serve Iraq

or its people," said Kathim Alwan, 25, a protester. "We reject this agreement because we have our own beliefs, and we do not want to be tied down to the West and its culture."

Waad Khazaly, 30, a taxi driver, said Sadr's U.S.-backed rivals had signed the agreement only to "keep their dominance" ahead of provincial elections scheduled for next year.

Before the protest, an influential Sadrist aide said the attack in Musayyib was a result of the security agreement.

"The Iraqi government cannot survive without the U.S. presence, and as long as the Americans remain here, Iraq will be still a battlefield," Abdul-Hadi al-Muhammadawi told worshippers at the Kufa mosque.

Meanwhile, a car bomb exploded in a square in central Baghdad, killing two people and wounding 15, police said.

Iraq's prime minister may be weakened by dealmaking over pact

By Hamza Hendawi
Associated Press writer

BAGHDAD — Parliament's approval of a security pact with the U.S. has propelled Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki into a position of strength unsurpassed among Iraqi political leaders since the fall of Saddam Hussein.



Al-Maliki

use the agreement to weaken the prime minister," said Halidar al-Bhadi, a senior Shiite lawmaker and a close aide. "Maliki is playing with fire."

Realizing the stakes, a group of mostly Sunni lawmakers sought concessions from al-Maliki in exchange for their support.

Al-Maliki said that amounted to blackmail but, in the end, he met most of their demands in a three-page "Charter of Political Reform."

The declaration doesn't have the force of law. But it has committed al-Maliki to make changes on several thorny issues he had been reluctant to undertake.

Chief among them are the full integration into the security forces and government agencies of thousands of

U.S.-backed Sunni fighters who revolted against al-Qaida in Iraq and recruiting more Sunnis in the Shiite-dominated army and police.

He also pledged to work for the release of thousands of Sunni security detainees not charged with specific crimes and allow wider participation in top-level decision making.

"Many political blocs, including those close to al-Maliki, have had fears that al-Maliki was becoming authoritarian. The Charter of Political Reform will stop him from becoming a one-man government," said Adnan al-Dulaimi, a Sunni politician and bitter critic of the prime minister.

The Sunnis had long been alone in publicly accusing al-Maliki of monopolizing power. Recently, however, some Kurds have started to repeat the allegation.

"Assuming (the next elections) are free and fair... I am not sure al-Maliki can survive them and get re-elected," said prominent U.S.-based Iraq expert Juan Cole.

News analysis

Furious dealmaking preceded the vote Thursday, compelling al-Maliki to make a wide range of concessions to Sunni lawmakers in exchange for their support.

As a result, he emerged with his main goal intact: a historic agreement in which the last American soldier would leave Iraq by Jan. 1, 2012, and restore the country's full national sovereignty.

Coming on top of a string of military and political successes this year, the agreement has given al-Maliki the aura of a national leader who rises above Iraq's chronic sectarian and ethnic divisions to pursue the greater interest.

Experts are divided on how long will the prime minister's political dominance will last however.

"The prime minister is involved in political struggles that have only just begun, and it is far from clear how well he can survive the power struggles and elections to come," said Anthony Cordesman, a former Pentagon analyst now at the Center for Strategic and International Studies in Washington.

"The insurgency is still there, Arab-Kurdish rivalries are growing, Shiite-Sunni tensions are still critical, and no one can predict the future power struggle without each key ethnic and sectarian faction," Cordesman said.

Al-Maliki risked his future on the agreement with the United States, which many Iraqis see as an occupying power. Failure to win approval might have forced him to step down.

"Some thought they could

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INSIDE: College basketball, D2 | Local awards, D2 | Scoreboard, D3 | College football, D3-4

No. 9 Boise State routs Fresno State

By Greg Bell
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Kyle Wilson returned a punt 90 yards, wide receiver Tanyon Bissell threw for another touchdown on a smooth reverse pass, and No. 9 Boise State went from endangered to dazzling by scoring 48 points after halftime to beat Fresno State 61-10 on Friday night.

Ian Johnson ran for 128 yards and scored two touchdowns as scouts from three BCS bowls watched from the press box. The senior tied the WAC record of 57 rushing touchdowns set by Marshall Faulk at San Diego State from 1991-93.

The Broncos (12-0) trailed for only the third time all season early and were up just 13-10 after halftime before Jeremy Avery ran for a 43-yard touchdown three min-

utes into the third quarter. Then came three more touchdowns in a 3½-minute span to clinch Boise State's third undefeated regular season since 2004.

"Just goes to show you how stacked this team is," Johnson said of the Broncos' second-half romp. Representatives of the Rose, Orange and Fiesta Bowls watched the rout, perhaps pondering whether to choose Boise State over one-loss Southern California two-loss Ohio State for a final at-large spot in the BCS.

They were greeted by cries of injustice and chants of "BCS" from Broncos fans two years removed from their team's fair-tale upset of Oklahoma in the Fiesta Bowl at the end of the 2006 season — when Johnson proposed



Boise State running back Ian Johnson (41) walks off the field after running for a touchdown against Fresno State during the second half of Friday's game in Boise. Johnson tied Marshall Faulk's WAC record of 57 rushing touchdowns as the Broncos won 61-10.

Greatness achieved — again

BOISE — Perfection is an ideal rarely attained in this challenging world. Flawless is an adjective seldom attached. But greatness can be found in many a November night.

The Boise State Broncos are not a perfect football team. Some plays run to precision, perhaps perfection, but not all. The 12-0 record is flawless, although the team may not be at times. There are ticks in all those words, all except greatness. That is here in Boise. That is real, a moniker certainly earned by these grid-iron men.

Friday's 61-10 blowout of Fresno State erupted into a celebration on Lyle Smith Field. Thousands of fans



DUSTIN LAPRAY

rushed the field, held players aloft, chanted the name of Ian Johnson, haunted the Bowl Championship Series with bowls of "B-C-S."

There were trophies, fireworks and 100 student athletes smiling such great smiles even perfect strangers to this program could smell elation in the air.

"It turned out like we were hoping it would," Petersen

Please see BSU, Page D4

Please see GREAT, Page D4

2008 MAGIC VALLEY PREP MVP: VOLLEYBALL

JESSE

DILL

Dietrich
Volleyball



Photo by ASHLEY SMITH/Times-News Photo Illustration by SANDY SALOY/Times-News



The College of Southern Idaho's Marthia Yonkoff lays the ball up as Yakima Valley's Kaitlin McBride attempts a block during their matchup Friday night in Twin Falls.

CSI finds stride, blows out YVCC

By Mike Christensen
Times-News writer

It took the College of Southern Idaho women two possessions to settle into their basketball home opener Friday night. But after one miss and one turnover, the rout was on.

With their defense holding Yakima Valley (Wash.) Community College to 16-percent first-half shooting, the Golden Eagles got plenty of easy looks inside and out en route to a 96-65 win Friday night at the Coca-Cola Classic in Twin Falls.

"You don't know how the kids are going to react to being home and the extra pressure," said CSI head coach Randy Rogers.

The answer: just fine. Led by Martina Holloway's single-game school record 15 assists, the 4-3 Golden Eagles rolled up 31 assists as 11 players scored four or more points.

Coca-Cola Classic

Thursday's score
Casper College 92,
Yakima Valley CC 70

Friday's scores
No. 16 Casper College
73, Idaho All Stars 65
CSI 98, Yakima Valley CC
65

Today's games
Yakima Valley CC vs.
Idaho All Stars, 2 p.m.
CSI vs. No. 16 Casper
College, 6 p.m.

Soana Lucet led the scoring with 21 points to go with nine boards and Shauneice Samms recorded a double-double with 16 points and 13 rebounds.

Klara Tate came off the bench to score 12, while Kim Gamblin, Cassie Wood and Noelle Millie each finished with eight.

As for Holloway, her line included seven rebounds, five steals and five points to go with her heady passing. But the sophomore point guard gave her teammates the credit for her record assist night. "Without their finishes, I can't get the assists," she said.

Holloway said the solid outing for the Golden Eagles was the result of going harder in practice and truly coming together as a team since falling 3-3 on Nov. 15.

"I'm very excited. I think we had players that just found confidence tonight and played basketball with a smile. Everyone was cheering for each other. We were all

Please see STRIDE, Page D4

Jesse Dill knew she would spend the season surrounded by young, inexperienced players at the start of Dietrich's volleyball season. It didn't stop any of them from aiming for a state championship, and together they almost made it.

On the strength of her 20 kills and senior leadership, the Blue Devils claimed a 3-0 sweep of Richfield for the Sawtooth Conference tournament championship. A few weeks later, Dill helped Dietrich blaze a trail to the Class 1A Division II state third-place trophy (falling to an averaging Richfield squad that placed second). For all those efforts, she's the 2008 Times-News Magic Valley Prep MVP for volleyball.

Dill, who has made multiple appearances on regional all-conference lists, improved at middle hitter, killing 61 percent of her

attacks. Her serving game came along as well as she scored 176 points off 324 attempts. She had 51 aces and committed only 23 errors. She also tallied 72 blocks.

Fall sports MVPs

This is the fifth in a series of fall high school sports MVPs. Below is a full schedule for the MVP series.

Tuesday: Girls cross country
Wednesday: Boys cross country
Thursday: Girls soccer

Friday: Volleyball
Today: Volleyball

Dec. 6: 8-man football
Dec. 7: 11-man football

"We were really young, but you could see the potential," Dill said, "and we had a desire to achieve high goals."

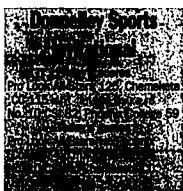
Bear trap: Eagles press their way to win over Phoenix

By Mike Christensen
Times-News writer

The runaway simply wasn't materializing. With his 10th-ranked College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team struggling to put away an overmatched and undersized NCCAA Division II team in Phoenix College, head coach Steve Gosar turned to his secret weapon.

Periodically unleashing a 1-3-1 half-court trap during in the second half not only gave fits to the visiting Bears, but also gave the Golden Eagles some much needed energy.

That was enough to turn a tight game turned into an 82-59



blowout on the opening night of the Donnelly Sports Invitational. "I like our 1-3-1. I think it's a good change of pace for us from

Please see TRAP, Page D2



The College of Southern Idaho's Janelle Barrett drives through a Phoenix Community College defense during the first half of their matchup Friday night in Twin Falls.

JESTH JACKSON
Times-News

Ole Miss eyes Cotton Bowl bid, blows out rival Bulldogs

OXFORD, Miss. — Cotton might be king in Mississippi country.

No. 25 Mississippi, spurred by a chance to play in a New Year's Day bowl, set a school record with 11 sacks, got four touchdowns passes from Lewan Stroud and routed Mississippi State 45-0 Friday in the most lopsided Egg Bowl in 37 years.

"Total domination," Ole Miss coach Houston Nutt said after his first Egg Bowl. "And it starts with our defense."

Cotton balls rained down on fans from the top of the stadium as the Rebels (10-4, 5-3 Southeastern Conference) wrapped up a blowout that could send them to the Cotton Bowl.

With representatives from the SEC's top three non-BCS bowls — the Capital One, Peach and Cotton bowls — in attendance, the Rebels need-

ed to put on a top performance to pull in a top payday.

Ole Miss finishes second in the SEC West and with Florida ranked Alabama and No. 2 ranked both possibly heading to BCS bowls, the Rebels and Georgia figure to be selected next by affiliated bowls.

Nutt assumed Ole Miss is headed to the Cotton Bowl, the traditional postseason destination for the SEC West's top team not involved with the Bowl Championship Series. But the Capital One Bowl has first pick and representatives from the Orlando, Fla., game saw a heck of a show from the Rebels, who have peaked at the end of the season with their fourth straight win.

point win over LSU.

That victory sent the Razorbacks to the Southeastern Conference championship game. They won't go to that game, but this victory will be remembered for a while.

The Tigers (7-5, 3-5) are all but assured of a trip to a minor bowl, not what the deflating national champions had in mind when they started the season ranked in the top 10. LSU, beaten by Mississippi last week, lost back-to-back games for the first time since 2002 and finished with three losses in last four games.

183-yard rushing performance, and Pittsburgh helped make Cincinnati the Big East champions.

McCoy carried on all but one of the 10 plays on the 59-yard game-winning drive down drive in the closing minutes, scoring from the 1.

Pitt (8-3, 4-2 in Big East) rallied from a 15-7 deficit, even though Bill Stull threw two interceptions and lost a fumble and a pair of drives inside the West Virginia 10 ended with no points.

Pat White scored on a 54-yard touchdown run, but West Virginia (7-4, 4-2) lost in the Backyard Brawl, though his loss didn't hurt nearly as badly as last year's 13-9 defeat that cost the Mountaineers a national title game appearance.

White threw complete in-

fourth-and-1 from the Pitt 18 on the final play to end it.

McCoy had 33 carries and now has 331 yards in two seasons against West Virginia.

NEBRASKA 40, COLORADO 31

LINCOLN, Neb. — Alex Henry's school-record 57-yard field goal with 1:43 left paved the way for Nebraska, then defensive end Adamcoski sealed the deal seconds later. Sui returned a tipped pass 30 yards for a touchdown.

The 18-point underdog Buffaloes made Friday's matchup closer than expected.

With the win, Nebraska positioned itself for an invitation to the Gator Bowl on New Year's Day. The loss knocked Colorado out of bowl contention.

— The Associated Press

NBA unavailable

Due to technical difficulties, the NBA standings and boxes from Friday's games were not available.

BASKETBALL

College Soccer

Wake Forest 1, Wake Forest 0
 Wake Forest 1, Wake Forest 0
 Wake Forest 1, Wake Forest 0
 Wake Forest 1, Wake Forest 0

College Football

Ole Miss 45, Mississippi State 0
 Mississippi State 0, Ole Miss 45
 Mississippi State 0, Ole Miss 45
 Mississippi State 0, Ole Miss 45

SCOREBOARD

FOOTBALL

Arkansas 31, LSU 30
 Little Rock, Ark. — Casey Dick threw a 24-

at San Diego 14, 41, 10, 10
 at Memphis 17, 1, 1, 1
 at Nevada 20, 1, 1, 1
 at Houston 31, 30, 14, 10

BASKETBALL

Donkey Sports Int'l
 Pro Look All Stars vs. Phoenix
 CSI vs. Chemeketa College
 Women's College Basketball
 Coca Cola Tournament
 All Star vs. Tacoma
 VSI vs. Casper College
 High School Boys Basketball
 Preston at 3:30 p.m.
 Camas County at Battle 4 p.m.
 Bishop Kelly at Jerome
 High School Girls Basketball
 Bishop Kelly at Jerome 2:30 p.m.

GAME PLAN

LOCAL

10:30 a.m.
 FSN — Kansas vs. Missouri, at Kansas City, Mo.

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

NBC — NCAA, FCS, Bayou Classic, Grambling vs. Southern, at New Orleans, La.

12:30 p.m.
 ABC — Florida at Florida State
 CBS — Maryland at Alabama
 ESPN2 — Maryland at Boston College
 ABC — Baylor at Texas Tech
 4:30 p.m.
 ESPN2 — Kentucky at Tennessee
 8 p.m.
 VERSUS — Oregon at Oregon State
 ABC — Ohio, at Ohio State
 ESPN — Notre Dame at Southern Cal

TV SCHEDULE

BOXING

HBO — WBC Champion, Antonio (25-0) vs. NABF Champion Tony Weller (28-1-0), for WBC Continental Americas/NABF heavyweight title, at Orlando, Calif.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

8 a.m.
 ABC — Duke at Georgia Tech
 ESPN — Virginia at Virginia Tech
 ESPN2 — South Carolina at Clemson

GOLF

AT STAGWOOD HILLS CLUB, BULL DOG, MISSISSIPPI

PGA TOUR
 The Tradition, Nov. 26-27
 The Tradition, Nov. 28-29
 The Tradition, Nov. 30-1

TRANSACTIONS

FOOTBALL

MLB — Fred Lerner (L) Boston \$7,000 for 2007 season
 MLB — Fred Lerner (L) Boston \$7,000 for 2007 season

BASEBALL

MLB — Fred Lerner (L) Boston \$7,000 for 2007 season
 MLB — Fred Lerner (L) Boston \$7,000 for 2007 season

BETTING

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

HOBBY

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

HOBBY

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

HOBBY

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

HOBBY

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

HOBBY

College Soccer

Wake Forest -1.50
 Wake Forest +1.50

College Football

Ole Miss -140
 Mississippi State +140

Marbury suspended, docked about \$400,000 by Knicks

GREENBURGH, N.Y. — The New York Knicks needed Stephen Marbury to play, then suspended him a game and docked him nearly \$400,000 in salary Friday after claiming he faked an injury.

The disgruntled guard insists he never told coach Mike D'Antoni "no" and plans to appeal.

Just another chapter in Marbury's turbulent tenure with his hometown team.

"I don't want to get into it, guys. I think I already told you, I asked him to play. We just asked, 'You're a coach, and we need him to play.' D'Antoni said after practice Friday, 'So I don't really have a whole lot to say. There's nothing I can say right now. I've already said the piece and what I said from my viewpoint is what happened. So we'll just leave it at that.'"

Marbury will not be paid when he sits out Saturday's home game against Golden State and will lose an additional game's pay for Wednesday's actions. He earns approximately \$2.1 million in salary this year, drawing about \$190,000 a game.

2010 season.

"He's stupid. That's all I've got to say about that," James said Friday night before the Cavaliers' game against Golden State.

Barkley made his comments on TNT's NBA studio show and Ban Patrick's radio show.

"I'm a big LeBron fan. I would shut the hell up," the Hall of Famer said on Patrick's show.

"I'm a big LeBron fan. He's a stud. You gotta give him his props. I'm getting so annoyed he's talking about what he's getting to do in two years. I think it's disrespectful to the game. I think it's disrespectful to the Cavaliers."

James, under contract for two more seasons, was bombarded with questions about his future when the Cavaliers visited New York to play the Knicks on Tuesday night.

Sports Shorts

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Tennessee, Kiffin reach tentative deal

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — Tennessee and Lane Kiffin have reached a tentative agreement with the former Oakland Raiders coach to lead the Volunteers, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press on Friday.

A formal announcement was expected early next week, said the person, who requested anonymity because the deal had not been finalized.

Kiffin, 33, replaces Phillip Fulmer, who was fired out after 17 seasons as Vols coach. Fulmer won a national championship in 1998 but had two losing seasons in the last five years, including a 4-7 mark this year.

Tennessee athletic department spokeswoman Tiffany Carpenter declined to comment on Kiffin because Fulmer had not finished his season. Athletic director Mike Hamilton did not return a phone message seeking comment.

The Vols (3-7, 2-5 Southeastern Conference) host Kentucky (6-5, 2-5) on Saturday night in what has been dubbed "Phillip Fulmer appreciation day."

LeBron James blasts Charles Barkley

CLEVELAND — LeBron James reacted strongly to Charles Barkley's comments that the Cavaliers star isn't showing respect for Cleveland fans and his teammates by discussing his possible free agency following the

Porter fined for verbal abuse

DAVIE, Fla. — Miami Dolphins linebacker Joey Porter has been fined \$7,500 for unspecified verbal abuse during Miami's 48-20 loss to New England on Sunday.

NFL spokesman Cory Rusk said Friday that Porter was fined for verbally abusing the opponent after the play was over.

It has been a rough week for Porter, who on Wednesday apologized for not leaving the field as coach Tony Sparano ordered Sunday.

The Dolphins traveled in the fourth quarter against the Patriots. Linebacker Channing Crowder was ejected for a scuffle with a New England player and Porter macked up two penalties.

MAGIC VALLEY

Kimberly boosters to meet

KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the Kimberly High School media center.

Dietrich hosts jamboree

DIETRICH — The Dietrich Blue Devils will host Mackay and Shoshone for a three-team basketball jamboree beginning at 6 p.m. Cost is \$3 for adults and \$1.50 for students. No IHSAA cards or student activity passes will be accepted.

M.V. Bulldawgs hold open house

JEROME — The Magic Valley Bulldawgs semi-pro football team will hold an open house and pre-registration at 7 p.m. Monday at Jerome High School. The registration cost is \$15 and includes T-shirt for the Dec. 6 tryouts.

Information: Ben at 208-358-1469.

Local VB team seeking members

TWIN FALLS — The Southern Idaho Volleyball Club is seeking girls 18-16 years of age for its 18 and under traveling volleyball team. The club competes within the International Volleyball Association and will begin tournament play in January 2007. Information: Jay Bride at 424-2524-0 / jaybridecpa@magiclink.com.

— Wire and staff reports

Idaho State reflects on 1-11 season

By Mark Luptak
Times-Tribune correspondent



POCATELLO — When running back Kenyon Blue scored from 18 yards out to give Idaho State a season-ending 36-33 overtime win over Sacramento State, the Bengal team celebrated like it had just won the Football Championship Subdivision title.

ISU had lost 15 consecutive games dating back to last season. While the players continued to play hard regardless of the result on the field, the fan base was becoming restless.

Sure, character and attitude are important, but so are wins and those weren't coming despite the best efforts of head coach John Zamberlin and his staff.

This single-win makes the offseason a whole lot easier for the staff going into the recruiting period.

"I've never been in this position before in my coaching career," said Zamberlin. "But you can't panic when you're in this spot. You have to fight lightning through and it teaches the kids how to deal with adversity."

Offensively however, ISU is not in bad shape and may look forward to good quarterbacks. Russell Hill set the school mark for passing yards by a sophomore, yet he was pushed to the bench the final two games of the year by Kyle Blum.

Blum played well in a tough environment at Montana then led ISU back to the game in the final minute with Sacramento State. He could be a player on the rise.

The Bengals lose receiver Eddie Thompson but have both Isiah Barel and Jason Taylor back. Those two combined for 111 catches and 1,342 yards.

The offensive line will have some of the starters from this season returning although Zamberlin wants to build depth.

Zamberlin heads into the final year of his contract next season and progress must be made. It is an ongoing going to be enough and will be the first one to say so.

Look for Zamberlin and his staff to bring in quality individuals who can play in 2009. They won't be able to fill all the needs but staying in better shape this year to take some of that issue. 2009 should be a better season, it can't get much worse could it?

"I know it's a process and we appreciate the fans who have stuck with us," Zamberlin said. "We honestly feel we're doing this the right way and the plan is getting into place. We'll get there."

No. 17 Oregon State plays Oregon with Rose Bowl hopes

CORVALLIS, Ore. — The Rose Bowl is within reach for Oregon State. Only Oregon stands in the way.

The No. 17 Beavers (8-3, 7-1 Pac-10) host the rival No. 19 Ducks (8-3, 6-2) on Saturday in the 112th Civil War.

A win would send Oregon State to its fourth Rose Bowl and first since the 1964 season.

No. 19 Oregon at No. 17 Oregon State
5 p.m., VERSUS

No. 3 Oklahoma at No. 11 Oklahoma State
6 p.m., ABC

No. 2 Florida at No. 23 Florida State
1:30 p.m., ABC

Sooners must face a much-improved team in the 11th-ranked Cowboys (9-2, 5-2).

Oklahoma State has little to gain except a more prestigious bowl bid and some bragging rights for the next year.

"A lot of people are talking about being a spoiler," Cowboys linebacker Seb Clements said. "It never hurts to have that in your mind, but really we're just trying to take care of us and get win No. 10. We've got to take care of what we've got to do."

BSU

Continued from page D1

to his cheerleader girlfriend on national TV following the game drama.

Signs of "Obama: Bring Change Soon" and "Boycott the BCS" were at the bottom of the second deck of stands at midfield.

"We don't have really have a message," Johnson said. "The system is what the system is. It's taken care of us before. We have no complaints about it."

"We just want to play in a game we deserve."

Tom Brandstater was 23-for-36 with 212 yards passing for Fresno State (7-5), which was outscored 61-3 after taking the lead on Damon Owens' 68-yard interception return.



Boise State defensive back Kyle Wilson (11) returns a first half interception during the first half of Friday's game in Boise.

As the record crowd of 32,412 sat stunned, the jubilant Bulldogs defense forced a fumble in the end zone after the score that put Boise State behind for only the third time all season.

Moore entered. And normalcy returned.

Moore was 17 of 23 for 219 yards and two touchdowns. He completed all 16 passes on his first drive, including a 9-yard touchdown pass in the back of the end zone to Chidus.

The remainder of the first half was a trade of field goals that left the Broncos up 12-10, the closest any team had been to them at the break since Hawaii trailed 10-7 here on Oct. 14.

"It's a one-game season now," Beavers defensive end Victor Butler said.

Even if the Beavers don't win, they could still clinch a Rose Bowl berth (No. 5 USC (9-1, 2-1) loses in its finale against UCLA on Dec. 6. An Oregon victory and a Trojan loss would result in the three-way tie for the conference title, but Oregon State would win the tiebreaker for the Bowl.

decept at running the fly sweep, which has become a staple of the Beavers' offense.

James Rodgers ran 25 yards on a fly sweep for a touchdown in the second overtime against the Ducks in the Civil War last year for a 38-31 Oregon State victory at Autzen Stadium, breaking a 10-game winning streak for the home team in the series.

NO. 3 OKLAHOMA AT NO. 23 FLORIDA STATE
TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida has owned Florida State recently, so the Seminoles would enjoy nothing better than knocking the Gators out of the national championship race.

No matter what happens against Florida State on Saturday, the second-ranked Gators will play No. 1 Alabama in the Southeastern Conference championship game — next week.

But if Florida doesn't beat its most fierce rival, the SEC title will be the only thing at stake for the Gators in the Georgia Dome.

Good thing, because the Broncos trampled them.

Avery sprinted up the middle, displacing defenders at the 25, finally put Boise State back on the map ahead at 20-10 three minutes into the third quarter.

Then Wilson took a long punt at his own 10, immediately despoiled Fresno State's Steele-Dunn-and-took-off.

Brandstater deep in Bulldogs territory, freshman Millen Moore threw for another touchdown. His 16-yard pass to Tommy Gallarda made it 41-10.

Ian Johnson ended the third quarter by running 69 yards — pulling Owens 18 in the final yards — to the 4. He scored on a 4-yard touchdown run on the first play of the final quarter and then on a 1-yard run midway through the fourth.

No. 9 Boise State 5D

Power Rank	1989-2009
BSU	28 of 52
BSU	28 of 52

BSU	BSU
BSU - Brantner 28 of 52	BSU - Brantner 28 of 52
BSU - O'Connell 28 of 52	BSU - O'Connell 28 of 52
BSU - Johnson 41 of 165	BSU - Johnson 41 of 165
BSU - Wilson 18 of 165	BSU - Wilson 18 of 165
BSU - Gallarda 18 of 165	BSU - Gallarda 18 of 165
BSU - Moore 18 of 165	BSU - Moore 18 of 165

BSU	BSU
BSU - Johnson 41 of 165	BSU - Johnson 41 of 165
BSU - Wilson 18 of 165	BSU - Wilson 18 of 165
BSU - Gallarda 18 of 165	BSU - Gallarda 18 of 165
BSU - Moore 18 of 165	BSU - Moore 18 of 165

Without Rodgers, Oregon State is likely to turn to his older brother, James. A flanker, James Rodgers is

neither team shot well from the field Friday, with the Lady Thunderbirds shooting 37.3 percent to 28.4 for the All Stars.

Former CSI player Jelena Williams had 12 points and eight boards for the Idaho All Stars while Jennifer Cannon had a double-double, scoring 12 and grabbing 10 rebounds.

This time it's Florida with the most to lose.

— The Associated Press

Great

Continued from page D1

said. "The crowd was awesome tonight. We think there was something special out there for some of these seniors."

I've witnessed excellent celebrations, three great ones by this team. In Reno, in Arizona and now on the Blue. But waves of uncertainty wafted over that celebrating crowd. This team, despite its greatness looks like it will be left out of the BCS puzzle. It doesn't seem right.

end his career at BSU. He was player of the game: Fourteen carries (none for a touch), 128 yards and two touchdowns to tie the school record for a Conference record of 57 career rushing touchdowns, set in 1993 by Marshall Faulk at San Diego State.

Doug Martin almost spoiled the record by scoring on his own, but got tackled by two players at the 1-yard line. When he came off the field, he said, "You're welcome I.J."

themselves. It's all wrenching to think that might not be true.

Petersen said a BCS bowl is not a goal for this team. It requires only: to win the conference. He is sure they will for the sixth time in seven years, go to a bowl game (none specific) and win it.

There was no posturing Petersen's part. It worked out for his team two years ago, but nothing he says will change the BCS.

"If I thought it would do one bit of good I would say something," Petersen said. "This team is great on the football field, but in the soil of this team is magnificent. They are all very good people. That's why people come here to play, why thousands believe and cheer and why they win so much."

Stride

Continued from page D1

having fun."

Luce scored 11 consecutive points during a first-half stretch, including a pair of layups off nifty passes from Holloway. Luce capped her run with three free throws after being fouled on a 3-point try.

Holloway's try gave CSI a 37-lead before Yakima Valley started keeping pace offensively to trail 50-20 at intermission.

"The closest Yakima came in a sloppy second half was at 56-33 after a 9-0 run. But CSI responded with a 10-0 spurt that helped the Golden Eagles double up their visitors at 70-35. Christina Gough's 14 points led Yakima Valley.

point, 10-rebound double-double No. 16 Casper (Wyo.) College to a 73-65 win over Idaho All Stars. Emily Elliott added 13 points and seven assists for Casper. She had a triple-double Thursday night with 21 points, 13 assists and 12 rebounds in a 92-70 win over Yakima Valley.

Neither team shot well from the field Friday, with the Lady Thunderbirds shooting 37.3 percent to 28.4 for the All Stars.

Former CSI player Jelena Williams had 12 points and eight boards for the Idaho All Stars while Jennifer Cannon had a double-double, scoring 12 and grabbing 10 rebounds.

CSI player Jelena Williams had 12 points and eight boards for the Idaho All Stars while Jennifer Cannon had a double-double, scoring 12 and grabbing 10 rebounds.

Shannell Knight scored a game-high 17 points for the All Stars.

"It was a sweet little deal," the Kellen Moore said. "The third and fourth quarter were putting up a lot of points. The offense started rolling and it was fun to play."

There are a hundred ares to the 2009 story. Moore is one of the greatest. His line tonight: 17-of-23, 213 yards, 2 TD. This freshman did it all season long.

Moore's story is great, but Ian Johnson is terrific. I can't think of a better way to

Do the Broncos deserve to go to the BCS? The national Championship, even?

Like the players, I have no power to say yes or no. I know they succeeded in everything they tried. That's enough. Wherever they go, they will go there with that attitude that pride, that team, that mystique grounded in character.

That's what makes BSU great. It's not all about wins, championships.

It's about doing right by yourself and your team. In doing this right, you've achieved greatness and so have the field.

CASPER COLLEGE 73, IDAHO ALL STARS 65
Samira Van Grinsven's 15-

CSI 96, Yakima Valley CC 65
Christina Gough's 14-

Casper College 73, Idaho All Stars 65
Jelena Williams' 12-

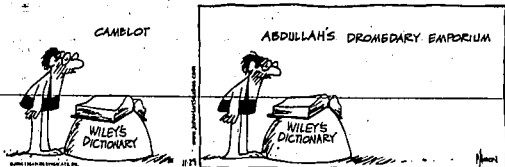
Casper College 73, Idaho All Stars 65
Jelena Williams' 12-

Casper College 73, Idaho All Stars 65
Jelena Williams' 12-

Casper College 73, Idaho All Stars 65
Jelena Williams' 12-

B.C.

By Johnny Hart



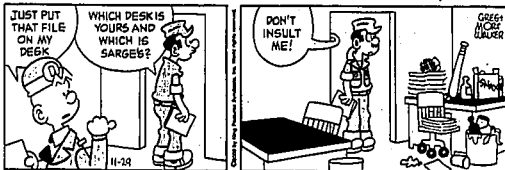
Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



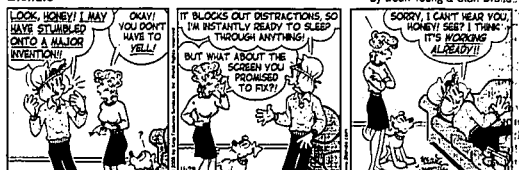
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



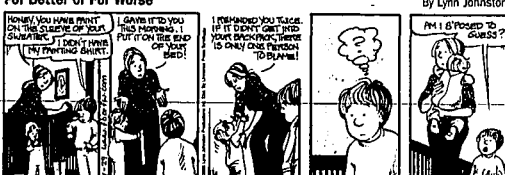
The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



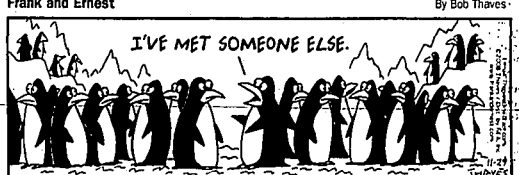
For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Brown



Luann

By Greg Evans



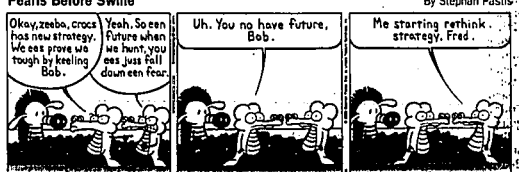
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady

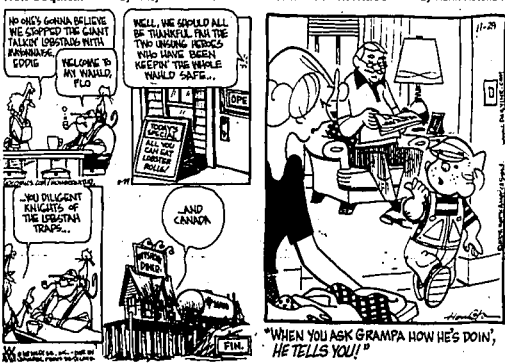


Non Sequitur

By Wiley

Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Mexicans in U.S. return home for holidays with less

By Julie Wilson
Associated Press writer

CIUDAD JUAREZ, Mexico — Nearly 1 million Mexican migrants living in the U.S. are expected to head home for the holidays, but relatively few are returning loaded down with gifts and cash this year.

Many are simply moving back after losing their jobs in the U.S. economic crisis, a disappointing turn for an annual journey that has become a cherished tradition in towns and villages across Mexico.

In many impoverished hamlets, migrants are usually welcomed home with lavish festivities. Townspeople admire their new vehicles bought with U.S.-earned dollars, and children scramble to see what is inside boxes as if Santa Claus had just arrived.

Mexican police even accompany returning migrants to protect them against bandits who target vehicles overflowing with toys, appliances, televisions and bicycles.

This year, there is less to protect.

Wearing an Old Navy sweat shirt, Enrique Gonzalez, 38, said all he was bringing back — a Saucillo in northern Chihuahua state, says his deported uncle's furniture.

"There are no gifts, thanks



Jose Moreno, from Mexico's Zacatecas state, leans on a friend's truck as he waits for his friend to get a permit that will allow him to temporarily drive his U.S.-registered truck in Mexico, at the customs office in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, Thursday. Moreno, who entered the U.S. illegally, decided to return to Mexico after spending over two months jobless and depleting all his savings.

to the recession," said the Phoenix, Arizona, hotel employee as he waited for a permit for his truck and trailer at a Mexican Customs office in Ciudad Juarez, across the Rio Grande from El Paso, Texas.

Rosemary Guerrero said she and her husband could barely afford the trip to their native Durango state, despite falling gasoline prices. Her

husband, a construction worker, has only been working about one day a week in Los Angeles for months.

Mexican Immigration Commissioner Cecilia Romero expects the usual number of Mexicans to return between Thanksgiving and Christmas, despite a spike in drug violence along the border, but says "some who are coming back are deciding to

stay in Mexico for awhile."

Greater border security, the U.S. crackdown on its undocumented population and the economic downturn have discouraged would-be migrants from heading north, legally and illegally.

The Mexican government says emigration has dropped 42 percent over the last two years.

Many Mexicans already in

the U.S. also are giving up on the American dream. Even before the economic crisis, in first-quarter 2008, Hispanic unemployment was at 67 percent, well above the 4.7 percent rate for all non-Hispanics. Another key indicator is that money migrants send home — Mexico's second-largest source of foreign income — has fallen this year for the first time since 2000, according to a report by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Mexico is preparing to receive this wave of returnees in the next few weeks. In Mexico City alone, officials predict the usual number of returning migrants will rise by as much as 30,000 because they cannot find work in the U.S.

"Before, we would arrive and everyone would be so happy to see us and they knew we would take them out," Guerrero said as she sat with her mother and 15-year-old daughter in their pickup outside the Mexican Customs office. "But this year we're only bringing back used things. You feel bad coming from so far away to bring back used items. Now we're the ones who feel like we need to be asking them for money."

Jose Moreno, 25, said he'll be asking his relatives in his home state of Zacatecas for help in finding a job.

Just a month ago, he was laid off at a Los Angeles facto-

ry, where he worked making springs for garage doors.

After spending nearly all his savings, and losing his girlfriend, Moreno decided it was time to go home, despite the risk of not being able to get back over the fortified U.S. border.

Moreno endured a six-hour walk across the Arizona desert and another six hours squashed under people hidden in the back of a truck to get to California in 2000.

"I struggled so hard to get into the United States, but I couldn't support myself after losing my job," said Moreno, leaning against a pickup truck with his belongings. "I'm going to wait things out at my parents' house until the economy recovers."

Manuel Medina, 34, said only about half the migrants from Toluca in the Pacific coast state of Jalisco returned this year to celebrate his town's patron saint.

"In past years, we would show up with candy, statues of Christ, other church souvenirs and gifts from other migrant families," said the truck driver from Toluca, California. "But this year, we didn't have anything because of the economy."

Still, he said things are better in the United States than Mexico.

"If it's bad over there, here it's even worse," he said.

Thai protesters defiant as police boost presence in capital

By Ambika Ahuja and Chris Blake
Associated Press writers

BANGKOK, Thailand — Thailand's prime minister pledged Friday to use peaceful means to end the siege of the capital's airports by anti-government protesters and denoted the national police chief, amid speculation that he had disagreed with government policy.

But the likelihood of a violent confrontation still appeared high, as both protesters and police reinforced their presence at

Suvarnabhumi International airport, seized Tuesday by the anti-government People's Alliance for Democracy.

"Today, we see blood with our eyes. We will fight," said top protester Sondhi Limthongkul. "At this moment, there is no way we will negotiate."

The group is demanding

the resignation of the government, which it accuses of being a puppet of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, who was ousted by a 2006 military coup and fled overseas to escape corruption charges. Current Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat is Thaksin's brother-in-law.

The capital remains cut off from all civilian air traffic, stranding thousands of travelers and dealing a severe blow to the economy and tourism industry.

More protesters arrived at the airport in cars and buses despite road blocks set up by police, boosting their number to several thousands. One of the main elevated roads into the airport is controlled by the alliance's guards who are manning their own check-point.

Police, many in full riot gear, also had a much more visible

presence, guarding an airport hotel and airport management offices, and assembling in a nearby administrative building. There appeared to be several hundred in the area.

In downtown Bangkok, about 20 soldiers — unarmed but wearing flak jackets and carrying batons and shields — were posted near Victory Monument, a roundabout which hosts a station of the city's elevated transit system.

A soldier who refused to give his name told The Associated Press the unit was sent out "to monitor the situation in case third parties and ill-intended people decide to get involved."

U.S. State Department spokesman Gordon Duguid on Friday said Washington was "deeply concerned" about the situation and called on protesters to walk away from the airports peacefully.

Britain also voiced its concerns and urged all parties involved to "resolve the crisis and restore public order."

"The situation facing the many British nationals stranded in Bangkok is frustrating and deeply concerning," Foreign Office Minister Bill Rammell said. "Our priority is to help them get home."

The Thai government on Thursday declared a state of emergency at Suvarnabhumi and at the smaller Don Mueang domestic airport — also occupied by demonstrators — but has not taken any further firm steps.

Its failure to end the illegal airport closures has led to calls in the media for Somchai to step down, even from those who oppose the protesters.



An anti-government protester cheers while listening to a protest leader speak from a stage at Don Mueang airport in Bangkok, Thailand, on Friday. Thailand's government prepared to crack down on protesters occupying the capital's two airports, but called on the public not to panic as rumors of a coup swept through the city.

In turnabout, China executes man accused of spying for Taiwan

By Lauren Keane
The Washington Post

BEIJING — China on Friday executed a man convicted of passing sensitive military and political information to Taiwan a day after notifying his relatives through diplomatic channels that they would have a second chance to visit him, his daughter said.

Austrian deputy ambassador Stefan Scholz relayed the news of the execution late Friday afternoon to the family of Wo Weihan, 60, according to Wo's daughter Han Chen. Chen is an Austrian citizen and had been appealing for clemency through diplomatic channels since arriving in Beijing on Monday. She said she had been told her father was executed by gunshot.

Wo was put to death even as Chinese and European lawmakers and European Union officials were wrapping up a summit on human rights here in Beijing. The sequence of events raises the question of whether the Chinese government had merely waited until after the summit ended to carry out the execution. Capital punishment is at the top of the P.R.C. human rights agenda with China, Scholz said Friday morning, before he learned of Wo's execution.

The news shocked Wo's family members, who on Thursday afternoon news conference had praised China's willingness to grant

them a second visit and said they had not lost hope that Chinese officials would commute Wo's sentence based on what they believed were numerous legal flaws in the case against him.

Chen said that her father had not been told of his impending execution when she met with him Thursday morning and that she never received written confirmation that his final appeal to the Supreme People's Court had been turned down.

"Our father was a Chinese citizen and is subject to

Chinese law," Chen wrote in a statement released Friday evening. "But the Chinese law also says that death row prisoners deserve the right to see their families before execution, to say goodbye and to go in peace."

Chen said her parents had raised her and her sister to respect Chinese values of gratitude to and love for their parents. "The legal procedures in China, which we experienced in these last traumatic days, show no regard for these values," she said.

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NATIONAL VS. STATE FORECLOSURES! WHAT IT MEANS FOR REAL ESTATE



Jeff Duggan, CEO
Greater Twin Falls
Association of
REALTORS

There have been several national news articles this week that caught our attention. The headlines read, "Foreclosure rates up 25 percent year-over-year", "85,000 homes lost to foreclosure in October", "Housing prices have declined", and "Default filings reach record in Treasure Valley". While these reports sound like doom and gloom for the real estate market, let's look at what's happening here in the Magic Valley as compared to across the State.

Have Foreclosures really taken over our market? Based on the national headlines one would have to assume that almost every house on the market is in foreclosure.

According to Realty Trac, a national web site may refer to for foreclosure information, Ada County leads the state with 428 foreclosures, Canyon County has 331, Kootenai County has 119, Bannock County has 119, Twin Falls County has 30, Blingham County has 12, and Cassia County has 2. I would not call the foreclosure rates in the Magic Valley alarming by any standards. In fact, several of our local lenders, Countrywide and Wells Fargo, report that between the two companies they currently have two local foreclosures on their books out of 167 total properties.

When is a home really in foreclosure and how long is the process? There are three types of foreclosures used. Idaho



uses the non-judicial foreclosure process, which usually takes three to four months to complete. Here is an example of the 12 steps usually associated with a foreclosure:

1. The beneficiary will fill out a Foreclosure Information and Request Sheet and provide a title company with a deposit.
2. The title company will then request a title report, which will disclose anyone with an interest in the property.
3. The title company will prepare and record a Notice of Default with the County Recorder. At this point, the foreclosure public notice is displayed for public knowledge and is usually reported on by media outlets and websites.

4. A Notice of Sale stating the date, time and location of the foreclosure sale is prepared.
5. Copies of the Notice of Sale and recorded Notice of Default are sent to everyone with an interest in the property. This must be done at least 120 days prior to sale date.
6. A request is made to the local sheriff or process server to post a copy of the notices at the property three times or personally serve the occupant. This must be done at least 45 days prior to the sale date.
7. A copy of the Notice of Sale is sent to publish in a local newspaper once a week for four consecutive weeks. This must be done at least 30 days prior to the sale date.

8. At least 20 days prior to the sale date, Affidavits of Mailing, Posting and Publication will be recorded to show all the legal requirements have been met.
9. Three weeks prior to the sale date the beneficiary will receive a Representation of Amount Due form which the beneficiary must return to the title company signed and filled out stating the amount they are owed and would like the title company to open bidding with at the foreclosure sale.
10. Using the dollar amount received from the beneficiary, the sale will be conducted.
11. After the foreclosure sale, the property will be recorded in a Trustee's Deed transferring the property into the name of the successful bidder. If

there are no bidders then the property will be transferred into the name of the beneficiary.

12. Once the sale has been recorded, the title company will disburse all funds received to the appropriate parties.

It must be noted that the persons being foreclosed upon have the right by law to bring their debt current up to 115 days after the Notice of Default has been recorded. After this date it is up to the beneficiary's discretion if they allow the debt to be brought current or require it to be paid in full.

Home prices are also a hot topic for national headlines these days. Many foreclosed properties are found in areas of

the country where home values sky rocketed over that past several years and have now declined to the point that people owe more on their homes than it is worth. Many homeowners in Nevada, Arizona, California, and Florida are simply walking away from their homes because it is no longer an asset worth paying for. That is not the case again in Idaho.

The Idaho Housing and Finance report out in November actually shows some areas in the State with home values increasing. The market trend report states that home values have dropped in Ada County by 10.94 percent, Canyon County by 11.51 percent, Kootenai County by 2.71 percent, Bannock County by 2.15 percent and in Twin Falls County home prices have declined less than one percent at .68 percent from June 2007 to June 2008.

Two areas of the State have actually experienced home value increases over the same June 2007 to June 2008 period. Bonneville County saw a 1.26 percent increase while Nez Perce County saw a 4.41 percent increase in home values.

Real Estate is a local market place. Yes, the news from the national media looks bleak, however, the Magic Valley refuses to buy into the national media hype. Our Valley is still a great place to live, work, own a business, and raise a family.

Sources: AP, Yahoo news, CNN Money, TSN, Daily Business, TAMM FINANCIAL GROUP, Finance, Alliance Title and Escrow.

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101 Lost and Found FOUND Basaloid found near road south of Curry, REWARD Call 208-436-5797. 106 Special Notices ROAD 2 RECOVERY Tuesday, 7:00-8:30pm...

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What do you know? Puzzles by Pappocom

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HARD # 93

CASSIA COUNTY NOTICE OF HEARING ON NAME CHANGE Case No. CV08-1198 A Petition to change the name of Eva Martinez Garcia...

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107 Pregnancy Alternatives Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests Confidential 208-724-7472

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106 Professional Services CHOCICES FOR RECOVERY Monday, 4:30-5pm Miracle Memorial Hospital...

108 Child Care Services NEEDED Babysitter every Saturday & every 2 of Sunday, Call for info 208-312-4514

GENERAL Feeding & care of infant. Must be in force & construction exp. & live-in. Jerome, Larry 208-1045

IMPORTANT Please address all legal advertising to: LEGAL ADVERTISING The Times-News PO Box 644 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0648

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• Maurice St. N. • Madrona St. N. • Duval Courts • Heyburn Ave. E.
• Sunrise Blvd. N. • Morningside Dr. N. • Heyburn Ave. E. • Hill Crest Dr.
• 9th Ave. E. • Aspenwood Ln. • Cypress Way
• 6th Ave. E. • 8th Ave. E. • 4th Ave. E. • Maurice St.
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11/29/08

Friday's Puzzle Solved

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50 Dried fruit
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Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"To do easily what is difficult for others is the mark of talent. To do what is impossible for talent is the mark of genius."

— Frederic Amiel

WEST: J7542, Q987, 3, K54. EAST: 10, K32, J10762, Q10242. SOUTH: Q986, AJ, KQ, A9876. NORTH: AK3, 10654, A854, J.

In today's deal from the Houston Nationals, David Berkowitz and Larry Cohen reached a Goldlocks contract — not too high, not too low, just right.

They play a strong club, but despite the limited nature of the North hand, Cohen (South) could easily envisage a slam making. Improve North's diamonds a little and six diamonds might play well.

Hence, the quantitative four-no-trump call, which got his side un-comfortably high, as the cards lay.

West, Norberto Bocchi, led a heart to East's king and South's ace. Cohen returned a heart, hoping that the defense would not find a club shift, and Bocchi duly won and led a third heart, leaving Cohen unsure who had the 13th heart. He won dummy's heart 10, cashed his diamond K-Q, and was greatly disappointed when Bocchi pitched a spade. At this point, though, Cohen could infer that Bocchi had five spades. He led the spade nine (hoping for a cover from West) to North's king and was delighted to see East's 10 fall. Then he passed dummy's diamond eight to Michael Polowan (East) as Bocchi pitched a club. Cohen won the club return, crossed to the spade ace, and took the diamond ace.

In the three-card ending, West was squeezed in three suits. He had to keep his heart and two spades, so let his club king go. Cohen now threw West in with the 13th heart to engineer a spade lead from the J-7 into the Q-8. Contract made!

Vulnerable: East-West Dealer: West

The bidding:

Table with 4 columns: South, West, North, East. Shows bidding sequence: 2♣, 2♠, 2♠, 4NT.

BID WITH THE ACES

Table with 4 columns: South, West, North, East. Shows card holdings for a bidding exercise.

ANSWER: When you doubled one heart, you were hoping partner would bid a black suit or pass for penalties. Unlucky! But now that partner has suggested real diamond length, it is hard to see that there will be a better strain to play in. Pass and hope for the best.

For details of Bobby Wolff's autobiography, "The Lone Wolf," contact me by e-mail or call. If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at bobbyw@midwestpress.com

HAY Quality small bales, \$10 each. 208-538-0201

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800 Antiques and more. BOISE BEST ANTIQUE SHOW - Friday 5-9 pm. Sat. & Sun. 11am-5pm. \$5.00 good at three days. Expo Idaho.

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Christmas Bazaar. Homemade arts, crafts, jewelry, purses, etc. Nov. 28, 29, 30, 9am-6pm. 64 Horseshoe Circle

CHRISTMAS COUNTY BAZAAR. Nov. 28th 8:00am-6 pm Nov. 29th 8am-6 pm Nov. 30th 9am-6pm. 2475 E 3600 N. Twin Falls, ID. May 64-6702

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JACKETS Leather. Motorcycle, various sizes and colors, gloves, duffel bags and accessories. Below retail. Call for details. 1 day only. Good condition. Call 208-478-1114

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ROFEY	□	□	□	□
MOBOL	□	□	□	□
DEXENP	□	□	□	□
HESTOO	□	□	□	□

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Print your answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: **SHOWY MOURN GAUITY DAMPEN**
Answer: When the beauty queen was crowned, it was a -- "HEADY" MOMENT

This is a mess I can't find my size

"ROBES" ALL MIXED UP CAN BE ...

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answer Monday)

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