

TIMES-NEWS

Saturday, December 6, 2008

MagicValley.com

75 cents

Area sees one of largest 1-month increases in unemployment

Labor officials say economy 'roughest in decades'

By Joshua Palmer
Times-News writer

Layoffs swept across the Idaho economy in November, leaving a record 44,100 workers without jobs and sending the seasonally adjusted unemployment rate to a 15-year high.

The unemployment rate in

the Twin Falls micropolitan area jumped seven-tenths of a percentage point to 4.7 percent in November — more than double the 2.2 percent unemployment rate during the same month last year.

The Burley micropolitan area reported the largest increase in unemployment in south-central Idaho, growing

almost a full percentage point from 3.8 percent in October to 4.6 percent in November. Shoshone County reportedly hit double digit unemployment — more than 12 percent.

Collectively, there are about 1,600 more people who are without jobs compared to the same time last year. The

increase is one of the largest one-month increases during November in south-central Idaho.

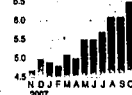
Across Idaho, more than 8,700 private-sector jobs vanished during the month. While retailers hired during the month, it was less than

Please see **JOBS**, Page A2

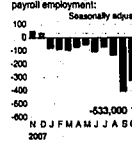
Unemployment

The monthly unemployment rate for the past 13 months:

Seasonally adjusted 6.7%



Monthly net change in nonfarm, payroll employment:



SOURCE: Department of Labor

Pacific Ethanol closing rumors unfounded

By Damon Hunziker
Times-News writer

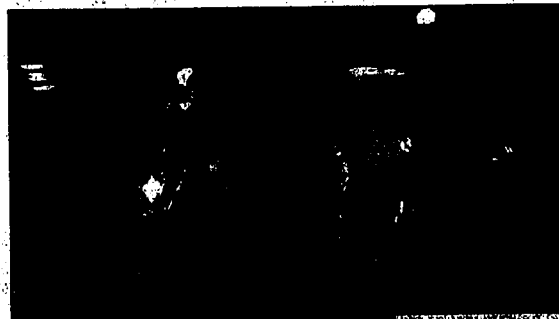
It's not running, but it's also not running away.

A flurry of rumors around town has persisted about Pacific Ethanol closing its Burley plant. The speculation ranges from gossip about the company paying bills late, to employees looking for other jobs. But mostly, people have wondered because the plant appears to be inactive — nothing emitted into the sky, no curious smell.

"We're taking our annual maintenance shutdown, something we do every year. It was moved up a bit because market conditions warrant that," company spokesman Tom Koehler said.

When asked if the company is experiencing cash-flow obstacles that would cause the plant to close permanently, he said, "No. The Magic Valley is a primo place

Please see **PLANT**, Page A2



Lighting up the parade



TOP: A bike rider, riding behind the One Stop Chevron parade float, crashes down Main Avenue during the Parade of Lights Friday evening in Historic Downtown Twin Falls.

ABOVE: Dan Prascil watches with his two children Will, 4, and Josie, 2, as Parade of Lights floats travel by Friday evening in Twin Falls.

RIGHT: A bike decorated from head to handlebars rides behind the One Stop Chevron parade float.

New rule eases ban on firearms in national parks

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — People will soon be able to carry concealed, loaded guns in most national parks and wildlife refuges.

The Bush administration said Friday it is overturning a 25-year-old federal rule that severely restricts loaded guns in national parks.

Under a rule to take effect in January, visitors will be able to carry a loaded gun into a park or wildlife refuge — but only if the person has a permit for a concealed weapon and if the state where the park or refuge is located also allows concealed firearms.

The Interior Department rule overturns a Reagan-era regulation that has restricted loaded guns in parks and wildlife refuges. The previous regulation required that

Please see **PARKS**, Page A2

Police: Addison Avenue death not likely a felony

By Andrea Jackson
Times-News writer

Twin Falls Police said Friday they don't think the driver of a vehicle that struck a pedestrian Tuesday night on Addison Avenue was intoxicated or committed a felony.

The case, though, is still

under investigation, Twin Falls Police Capt. Matt Hicks said.

Authorities say Lloyd D. Dalley, 67, died after he was struck by a 2008 Honda Pilot driven by 33-year-old Twin Falls resident Darling Willie. Dalley was not walking in a crosswalk while crossing the dimly lit Addison Avenue

shortly before 6 p.m. Police think he was walking towards the Dunes Motel, where he was staying.

No one has been ticketed or charged with a crime. Dalley's body underwent an autopsy last week and he, along with Willie, was tested for drugs and alcohol, police said.

Results of those tests aren't back yet, Hicks confirmed Friday. At least preliminarily, though, "there's no indication of intoxication on behalf of the driver," Hicks said.

Addison Avenue has a speed limit of 35 mph. "At this point there's no indication of excessive speed," Hicks also said on Friday.

Police are planning to forward their case to the city prosecutor, Fritz Wondertich, said Hicks. The prosecutor makes charging decisions. Wondertich does not handle felony cases.

A driver who fatally strikes someone with a vehicle can

Please see **DEATH**, Page A2

Patching the leaks at Minidoka Dam

Bureau of Reclamation officials discuss spillway replacement

By Laurie Welch
Times-News writer

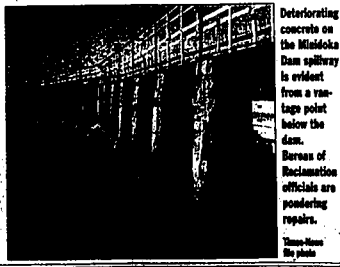
About a half-dozen people turned out Thursday to hear options presented by the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Reclamation for replacement of the Minidoka Dam spillway.

Mini-Cassia residents raised few issues and several times branched off into the state-proposed raising of the dam five feet, which is a separate issue.

"The dam raise proposed by the state is not



Please see **DAM**, Page A2



Deteriorating concrete on the Minidoka Dam spillway is evident from a vantage point below the dam. Bureau of Reclamation officials are pondering repairs.



Obituaries on.....B5	Commodities.....B2	Horoscope.....E7	Opinion.....A6
Bridge.....E4	Crossword.....E10	Jumble.....E8	Sudoku.....E6
Classifieds.....E1-12	Comics.....D5	Dear Abby.....E7	Today in History.....E7
	Community.....C6	Dr. Gott.....C6	Weather.....B6

High: 49 Low: 29
 Clouds expected. Details: B6
 and live at magicvalley.com/weather

MORNING BRIEFING

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

Oakley Valley Arts Council's annual Christmas concert, 7:30 p.m., Howells Opera House, 160 Blaine Ave., Oakley, no cost, 677-2787.

Hendel's "Messiah" featuring the prophesy and birth of Christ and the Hallelujah Chorus presented by College of Southern Idaho's Chamber Choir and Chamber Orchestra, 7:30 p.m., CSI's Fine Arts Center Auditorium, Twin Falls, \$5 suggested donation, (208) 732-6767 or ghsaisell@csi.edu.

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," presented by College of Southern Idaho Theater Department, 8 p.m., CSI Fine Arts Center Theater, \$8 for adults and \$5 for senior citizens and students, 732-6288 or Tickets.csi.edu.

BAZARS AND FAIRS

Grandy's and Juniper Street Farmhouse Christmas Craft Show, 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Snake River Sprinklers Garden Center, Buhl, 20386 U.S. Highway 30, 1.75 miles east of Buhl on Highway 30, laybrand@necnet.com.

Hagerman-Lea Overlay Post #31, American Legion Auxiliary annual Holiday Bazaar, includes variety of gifts, crafts and decorations, several raffles for Girls State in June 2009, "Kids Craft Table" (\$1 per craft) while parent shops, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Hagerman American Legion Hall, corner of State Street and Lake Avenue, food available for nominal fee, canned food donation in lieu of admission fee, (208) 837-6060.

The 48th annual Pioneer Club Holiday Bazaar, over 50 vendors and new artists from across the West featuring handblown fused glass, ceramic tableware and vases, clothing, jewelry, unique handbags, fiber arts, soy candles, gourd art, photography and holiday home design items; also baked goods, soups, raffle, holiday music and free children's activities, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Hingway Elementary School, 111 Eighth Street W., Ketchum, 726-5424.

Senior Center Christmas Bazaar, Baked goods, craft items, chicken noodle soup, chili and more, 9:30 a.m., Golden Years Senior Center, North Hill, Shoshone.

Holiday Marketplace, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Planet Cheer Gym, 1139 Addison Ave. W., (just past Rock Creek Park), Twin Falls, free admission, 280-0809.

Magic Mud, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Eagle's Nest, College of Southern Idaho Student Union building, Twin Falls, portion of proceeds to CSI Art Club, 732-6655.

Wendell Merchants' market, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., with Entertainment Hour, choir performance at 11 a.m., a kind of coffee and baked potato from 11:30 to 2 p.m., and Santa arriving at noon to 3 p.m., Wendell Elementary School Cafeteria, 4A for pictures with Santa; free drawing for gift basket, 538-6159 or 538-6111.

The 56th annual Christmas Procurement Sale, includes jewelry, gift baskets, wood burning, wood carvings and turnings, porcelain, paintings, paintings, crafts and more; also art gallery and craftmen; also fundraiser sales page for children in Coloret, Mexico, sponsored by In His Name Christian Fellowship, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Lion's Gate Gallery, 219 Main St., Fler, no admission fee, 410-0034.

The 49th annual Gooding Holiday Craft Show, includes gifts, toys, decorations and food sponsored by Gooding Chamber of Commerce; lunch by donation provided by Helping Hands and Hands, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Gooding Accelerated Learning Center, 906 Main St. (Gooding), 394-9478.

Little Flower Catholic Church annual bazaar, includes baked goods, Christmas cards, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., at the church, 1801 Oakley Ave., Burley, food available all day, 678-7336.

Jewelry and Baked Holiday Goods Bazaar, unique gold gemstone and Tin Sophie jewelry, holiday baked goods with complementary fresh coffee, hot cider and holiday cookies (while they last), 2 to 5 p.m., Tom's Eatery, 1924 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls, no admission fee, 733-1950.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Minidoka County Senior Center Breakfast Buffet, with pancakes, French toast, biscuits, eggs, breakfast meats, hashbrowns, cinnamon rolls, cereal, fruit and beverages, 7 to 11:30 a.m., at the center, 702 11th St., Rupert, \$5.50 general, \$3 for age 10 and under, 469-9107.

Gooding County Memorial Hospital Foundation Festival of Trees, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., includes Santa visit, pictures and live entertainment from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m., ISDB Board Building, Gooding, open to the public, \$2, 934-5760.

St. Luke's Magic Valley Health Foundation Festival of Trees Children's Day, "A Child's Wish," 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., with special showings of "Frozen: The Snowman" at 9 and 10 a.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, campus of College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens and no cost for children; toy proceeds benefit children's health care at the new St. Luke's, 737-2480.

Cassia Health Foundation's Festival of Trees, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mini-Cassia College of Southern Idaho's gym (400 Burley High School), 1500 Park Ave., Burley, \$3 for adults and 50 cents for children, 654-2770 or 678-1353.

Century Children of Burley annual canned food movie drive, choices: Kung Fu Panda (PG), Indiana Jones 4 (PG-13) and a special surprise movie, 10 a.m., 464 E. N., Burley; admission: two cans of

food for the Christmas Council; concession proceeds to Coats for Kids, 678-3131.

Twin Falls County Sheriff's Employee Association 3rd Annual Turkey Shoot fundraiser, includes raffle for Mossberg Silver Reserve Sporting 12 gauge over and under shotgun, 10 a.m., Twin Falls Gun Club, 230 Federation Way, 736-4177.

Warm, Arzy charity shoot, clay targets simulating warm hunting situations, 11 a.m., Burley Trap and Sporting Clays, \$30 entry fee for 50 targets, proceeds to various local Christmas charities, raffle ticket for each canme item donated, 431-1043.

Free Pictures with Santa, children and pets welcome, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Snake Falls-Davidson, 2404 Addison Ave. E., Twin Falls, bring non-perishable food item donation, donation to Toys for Tots or donation to the Magic Valley Humane Society, 734-8400 or www.snakehd.com.

CHURCH

Burley United Methodist Church free holiday meal, for those who have no place to go for a holiday meal, 5 to 6:30 p.m., at the church, 450 E. 27th St., Burley, 878-3978.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Christian Men's Fellowship and (optional) no-host breakfast, 7 to 9:30 a.m., Depot Gift, Twin Falls, no cost, 733-5501.

Magic Valley Quilt of Valor, a group that make quilts for wounded soldiers, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Stitchin' Time, Twin Falls, newcomers welcome, 423-6758 or 735-4034.

Magic Valley's Rambler's 'Ar Car Club annual Christmas Dinner, anyone interested in the Model A Ford cars and trucks built from 1928 through 1931 is welcome, 1 p.m., banquet room, Golden Center, 1823 Lake Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, (208) 731-7353.

Lincoln County Holiday Dinner, includes reports from Horizons Program community discussion groups; plans for future projects, 5 to 9 p.m., Mason Hall across from courthouse, 112 W. B. St., 885-2406.

EDUCATION

Raises Community Leadership Training for Latinos ages 14 and older of Shoshone, Jerome, Heyburn and Burley; free, interactive training on organization techniques; includes meals, materials and child care, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., United Electric Conference room, 1330 21st St., Heyburn, no cost, \$75 in gift certificates available, (208) 324-4286 or mglat@centraliaze.com/idoahidaho.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Pinxten with Santa, paint and glitter, cocoa mug Christmas page 10 to 11 a.m., Hands On, 147 Skoshone St. N., Twin Falls, \$8-\$10 based on project, 736-4475.

Free Gingerbread House Building Contest, for age categories: 3-8, 9-13 and 14-18, drop off time: 10 a.m. to noon, and winner announcements with refreshments at 3 p.m., Twin Falls Creative Art Center, 249 Main Ave. W., category winners receive gift certificate for one month of art classes and a \$20 cash prize, 737-9111.

The 2nd annual Holiday Art class, children ages 4 to 10 may make three projects: personalized holiday ornament, cellulose stained glass window decoration and gift wrap, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Magic Valley Arts Center, 192 Main Ave. S., Hingway Elementary School, Twin Falls, \$2 includes supplies, (208) 734-2787.

HOME AND GARDEN

Mini-Cassia Farmers Holiday Market, new vendors welcome, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Dvorshak Elementary School, corner of 19th Street and Overland Avenue, Burley, 678-8472, 678-8922 or 678-8408.

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Frosty the Snowman" at 9 and 10 a.m., "Season of Light" at 11 a.m., "Snowmazing through the Holidays" at 1 p.m., "When Comes the Sun?" at 2:30 p.m., "Season of Light" at 4 p.m.; "The Christmas Star" at 7 p.m.; and "Snowmazing through the Holidays" at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, no cost with admission to Festival of Trees, 732-6655.

OPEN HOUSE

Magic Valley Railroad Group 20th annual Christmas Open House, large scale layout, HO, Lionel and Thomas and Friends; new members welcome, noon to 5 p.m., Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, Fler, no cost, 735-4184.

TREE LIGHTING

Hansen Community Christmas Tree Lighting, with chili, coffee and hot chocolate served by MUD Action Committee at 5 p.m., and lights on at 6 p.m., Dixon Park, Highway 30, 423-5681 or 423-5158.

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by email at sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Deadline is noon, four days in advance of the event.



Pat Marcontino and do today.

Kids can learn how to make personalized tree ornaments, window charms and gift wrap at the Holiday Art Class for Kids ages 4 to 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Magic Valley Arts Center, 132 Main Ave. S. in Twin Falls. The fee is \$2 and includes materials. What a deal. Space is limited.

Also in the crafts department, the Wendell Merchants Market takes place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wendell Elementary School. Admission is free. And the big guy himself, Santa, will be there from noon to 3 p.m. The honor choir performs at 11 a.m. There's also a Holiday Market from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Dvorshak Elementary School, 19th Street and Overland Avenue in Burley.

Enjoy trains — on a small scale — at the Magic Valley Railroad Group Christmas Open House. While the trains are small, the layout is large. It runs from noon to 5 p.m. at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds in Fler.

Admission is free.

A bonus perk, because there's so many darn things out there: The Hansen Community Christmas Tree Lighting features chili, coffee and hot chocolate served by MID Action Committee at 5 p.m. and lights on at 6 p.m. at Dixon Park off of U.S. Highway 30.

E-mail me at patm@magicvalley.com.

Death

Continued from page A1

be charged with felony vehicular manslaughter if the driver is grossly negligent or driving under the influence.

Misdemeanor vehicular manslaughter be charged if a driver is committing an unlawful act, which is not a felony, and causes the death of another person without being grossly negligent. That carries a maximum penalty of up to a year in jail, a \$2,000 fine and license suspension.

Polles said they may be done with their investigation this week.

Twin Falls police have handled two other fatal crashes so far this year, both in March. One killed a pedestrian on the 2000 block of Kimberly Road, and the other killed a driver in a single-vehicle rollover at Pole Line Road and Eastland Drive, said Hicks. Three in city limits exceed past averages, Hicks has said.

Willie, a member of the family that owns Oasls Stop 'N Go stores, did not return a call Friday for comment.

Plant

Continued from page A1

to be. We're providing a major value to the community and the economy."

Koehler said the plant could remain shut down for two to three weeks, all depending on how fast we get the maintenance done."

Burley officials, including Mayor Jon Anderson and City Administrator Mark Mitton, said they're unaware of any plans for the plant to close.

"As far as we know, they intend to continue operating here," Anderson said.

Koehler acknowledged that economic circumstances are not precisely right now but said the plant will return to operating at full capacity.

"Corn is a major one of the market commodities that is changing on a daily basis, and we're dealing with that. The corn market has been relatively volatile... but we are not having problems getting corn," he said. "We've been clear about where we are. We're a public company, and it's all very close."

Regardless of the falling market, Koehler said the company is satisfied with its Burley operation.

"We've been welcomed with open arms. It's been a great relationship. We're a major part of the community and proud to be so," he said.

Jobs

Continued from page A1

usual, and jobs in health care and education were essentially unchanged from October. Every other major sector was hit.

The November unemployment rate jumped half a percentage point from October to 5.8 percent, a 31 percentage point higher than in November 2007. It was the highest in 10 years that the rate has risen a half point. It was the largest rate increase from October to November on record, and only the seventh time in 30 years that there has been an October-November increase.

The unemployment rate dropped for the second straight month to 717,000, nearly 20,000 fewer than in November 2007 and the fewest people working in any month since May 2006. More than 700 more people were without jobs statewide, and the unemployment rate in the Boise-Nampa, Coeur d'Alene and Lewiston metropolitan areas was at or above

6 percent.

During the past year, 23,900 more Idahoans found themselves out of work in Idaho than last 18,000 jobs in those 12 months. November was the seventh straight month that nonfarm jobs have been below the 2007 levels, and every county in the state recorded higher unemployment in November than a year earlier. Mill closures and layoffs in mining and forestry hit northern and north-central Idaho hard, and seven counties posted double-digit unemployment rates with Adams hitting 17 percent in November, the first time any county has hit 17 percent in a decade.

Regular state unemployment benefits totaled \$6.3 million this past week — the first time after weekly payouts surpassed \$6 million.

"We're facing one of the roughest economies Idaho has seen in decades, and unemployment benefits are important to workers and their families and the com-

Parks

Continued from page A1

firearms be unloaded and placed somewhere that is not easily accessible, such as in a car trunk.

Assistant Interior Secretary Lyle Laverty said the new rule respects a long tradition of states and the federal government working together on natural resource issues.

The regulation allows individuals to carry concealed firearms in federal parks and wildlife refuges to the same extent they can lawfully do so under state law, Laverty said, adding that the approach is in line with rules adopted by the federal Bureau of Land

Management and the U.S. Forest Service. Those agencies let visitors carry weapons consistent with applicable federal and state laws.

The National Rifle Association hailed the rule change, which will take effect next month before President-elect Barack Obama takes office.

"We are pleased that the Interior Department recognizes the right of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their families while enjoying America's national parks and wildlife refuges," said Chris W. Cox, an NRA lobbyist. A group representing park rangers, retirees and conservation organizations said the rule change will lead to confusion for visitors, rangers and other law enforcement agencies.

"Once again, political leaders in the Bush administration have ignored the preferences of the American public by succumbing to political pressure. In this case, generated by the National Rifle Association," said Bill Wade, president of the Coalition of National Park Service Retirees. "This regulation will put visitors, employees and precious resources of the National Park System at risk."

WHAT'S NEW AT MAGICVALLEY.COM

Buhl kids are collecting canned food to help others in their community. See the video story.

And get the legislative scoop with updates and videos on the "Capitol Confidential" blog by political reporter Jared S. Hopkins.

CORRECTIONS

Case Due to incorrect information provided to the Times-News, an article that appeared on the front page Friday incorrectly listed the status of Insuk Anderson-Groff in relation to a 1995 Ada County prosecution issue. Charges against Anderson-Groff were disposed through a bond forfeiture, which was incorrectly listed in records as a conviction. Technically, it isn't.

TIMES-NEWS

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T.F. to hire consultants

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

Twin Falls County commissioners are seeking bids from consultants for an estimated \$60,000 contract to ensure county code aligns with the county's new comprehensive plan.

The commissioners said the consultants will review legal issues specific to planning and zoning—the definition of land-use, for example—and the corresponding ordinances to guarantee there aren't inconsistencies between the county documents as well as advisory boards.

"We have to compare the different zones and the different uses we have to see if there is any conflict we have with the spirit of the county plan," Commissioner Terry Kramer said.

For example, Kramer said, wind farms and wind tur-

blines have become more popular since the last comp plan, and the county wants to ensure the legal parameters fit.

"If you read the original version of the comp plan, it's to give legal direction," Commission Chairman Tom Mikessell said. "We want to review the comp plan with the zoning ordinances."

But the commissioners said the work will not initially be performed by County Prosecutor Grant Loeb, because his office lacks the time, and instead will be contracted out to a consulting agency.

"Why a consultant? We don't have anybody who has the time to run through this themselves," Mikessell said. "We can either put the child protection and juvenile detention commitments aside or we can take care of this outside the office."

The request for proposals

has been published and is also available to view on the county's Web site. The money was included in the planning and zoning department's budget, Mikessell said.

Mikessell said Monday he personally hadn't talked with Loeb.

When asked Wednesday about the issue, Loeb said he wasn't aware of the matter, and that hiring for legal services outside the county requires his approval.

Jennifer Gose-Eells, his office's chief civil deputy later confirmed that the prosecutor's office will review the consultant's work for legality.

"They're not doing legal work," said Gose-Eells. "We're just not doing the initial drafting."

Mikessell said they will accept out-of-state firms.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 208-735-3204 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

WANTED
in the Magic Valley

Reynaldo Ruiz Jr.
Age: 19
Description: 5 feet, 10 inches, 180 pounds, brown hair, hazel eyes
Wanted for: Probation violation, original charge
possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver, \$75,000 bond.
The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office asks anyone with information about Ruiz call 208-735-1911 or Crime Stoppers at 208-732-5387 where tips can remain anonymous and may be eligible for a cash reward.

See what's new online at magicvalley.com

Brighten your Holidays with Merry & Bright Gifts and Décor

Our Shop is all Decked-Out with Santas, Snowmen, Angels by Willow Tree and Jim Shore at 20% off.

Oh, Joy!
All Ornaments are Buy 2 get 1 Free!

"Merry Christmas from your friends at Everybody's Business!"
1277 Pole Line Road East, Twin Falls 733-5332

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

The Country Lane Shop
December 6th - 14th
10 a.m. to 7 p.m. - Every Day
The Holidays are here & The Country Lane is ready with Sales on top of Sales throughout the shop.

Angel Candles are back, new flat wickets, cast items & Roomies... also a great herbal formula to help with your tension, stress and holiday nerves.

As always a fun place for quality & affordable shopping!

Bring your friends and it'll be you soon.
Please call 208-733-5332 or Kimberly
Open weekdays 208/423/4401

Poor turnout doesn't ruin Jerome environmental roundtable

By Kate Popolo
Times-News writer

Only one-third of the people showed up.

But otherwise, Thursday's roundtable discussion of Jerome County's environmental future was a success, said Terry Halbert with the North Side Soil and Conservation District.

Halbert and the district invited a group of district members, elected officials and 30 citizens nominated from the community to the Best Western Sawtooth Inn to take part in roundtable discussions focused on environmental issues facing Jerome County.

The goal, Halbert said, was to create free-flowing conversations among neighbors that can serve as the basis for future discussions and for projects funded by the district, or others. Speakers gave presentations on environmental building standards, the Snake River Canyon Park on the north rim of the canyon and other priorities.

Perhaps the biggest issue highlighted during the day was the need for Jerome County to update its comprehensive plan. Halbert said it was last changed

about 11 years ago.

"A lot has changed in Jerome in that time period," Halbert said. "The growth has been far more than anyone perceived."

Mike Stone, who sat at one of the tables, said he was disappointed in the number of people who didn't show up. But he complimented Halbert on the work he did to organize the event, and said he hopes it was only the first of many roundtables that draw more people.

"The more (people are) involved, the more ideas you have," Stone said. "Whether you agree with them or not was not the issue."

The two tables that were filled came up with very similar lists when asked to discuss the issues facing the county, Stone said. Topping the list was water issues, including quality and quantity.

Such problems probably weren't a surprise to government officials.

Jer City Administrator Ben Marchant said both city and county officials also raised the topic of water conservation, as well as such issues as protecting the county's open space and investing in needed infrastructure to reduce such problems as

sewer overflows.

Marchant, who gave a presentation at the start of the event and then stayed through the day's discussions, said he hopes the roundtable will serve as a starting point for better collaboration among the various government bodies in the county.

"It was just a wonderful opportunity to have the time set aside to let issues and conversations flow," he said.

TFHS Drama Department's
Dessert Theater
A collection of comedies, selections, and collections
December 11th - 13th 2008
7:30pm Curtain
Roper Auditorium
\$5 Admission
Doors open 7:00pm

Ketchum artists, businesses to beautify space gutted by fire

Ketchum's Main Street is about to get a facelift just in time for the holidays.

Several businesses are banding together to beautify the hole created by a September fire on the 200 block of the street that destroyed Dirty Little Roddy's, Whiskey Jacques' and part of The Sawtooth Club.

Workers will build a plywood fence along the sidewalk where the buildings

used to be. From noon to 5 p.m. on Dec. 13, several young artists from local high schools will paint a "winter wonderland" mural on the fence. Planted trees will be added to complement the mural.

The businesses involved are The Sawtooth Club, The Roosevelt Grille, Engelmann Construction, Webb Landscape and Garden Center and The Kirk Group.

The Jr. Club of Magic Valley presents the 19th annual
Holiday HOME TOUR
to benefit the Ike Kistler Safe House & Crisis Center of Magic Valley
Sunday • Dec. 14th • 1:00-6:00 pm
The following homes will be featured:
Sherril & Loreta Mullins Linda Virgin
Shawn & Camille Barigar Steve & Pam Brown
Roger & Kelly Vincent Tammie Hall

Tickets: \$8⁰⁰ - Children 8 & older are welcome with ticket
Holiday Prize Package Drawing
Entries are submitted with ticket purchase prior to Wednesday, December 10th.
Tickets on sale at:
Everybody's Business Kimberly Nurseries
Inspired Living Kurt's Pharmacy
Java Jungle Rosebud's Florist
Kelly Garden Center The Little Red Hen
The Black Sheep Gallery

For more information please contact
Shelly Olsen 731-4463 or
Ruth Mes 320-1602

Save Save Save
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New mental health clinic to open in '09 in T.F.

By Ben Bottkin
Times-News writer

Early next year, a new facility will open up in Twin Falls with psychologists, psychiatrists, and counselors in an outpatient setting.

Family Health Services is spearheading the project, and construction of the building is expected to be finished by February. Family Health Services officials hope to open the facility that month and gradually fill the building during the next three years. The facility will be located along Eastland Drive off of Lulu Lane.

"We're hoping to grow it over time," said Aaron Houston, chief financial officer of Family Health Services. The facility will have 14

offices and therapy rooms. Initially, the building will have eight or nine treatment rooms occupied, and gradually add to the facility from there. Houston said there's a strong need in the region for the services that the center will provide, adding that community partners is important.

"Even with this, I don't think we're going to meet the need," Houston said.

Houston said the center will collaborate with St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center on ways to share resources. With having multiple resources in one spot, he said, one benefit is that patients can get help from multiple sources, allowing the psychologists to efficiently use their time.

Family Health Services, a non-profit organization, has 10 clinics in Twin Falls, Burley, Buhl, Jerome, Rupert and Fairfield. The clinics provide medical and dental services on a sliding fee schedule that's based on income.

Mark Schwartz, CEO of St. Luke's Magic Valley, said the hospital looks forward to working with Family Health Services.

The hospital's Canyon View Behavioral Health Services facility will focus on inpatient services for patients, he said.

"The reality is that we didn't really do a lot of outpatient programming over there," he said, adding that there won't be a major loss or transfer of staff.

View will continue the collaboration with Family Health Services that's now in place. The psychiatrists who will staff the clinic work for both the hospital and Family Health Services.

Canyon View will continue to do outpatient evaluations to determine what services patients need. Houston said he wants to get medical students involved at the facility, which could attract them to the area for a long-term career.

Another goal is to start a committee of community members who will help provide guidance for the center.

Nate Poppino contributed to this report.

Ben Bottkin may be reached at 208-735-3238 or bbottkin@magicvalley.com.

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Let's Talk Real Estate

by Sheri Jarman & Sandy Koch, Associate Broker, CRIS

AT THIS RATE!

Whatever else you've heard about real estate market, the banking system, and the economy, interest rates are falling. In fact, the Federal Reserve has recently made the most aggressive rate cuts in modern history. What this means for homeowners and consumers is that the cost of credit is coming down. For people with adjustable-rate mortgages, the cuts could provide some much needed relief. For those looking to buy or sell homes, lower interest rates could bring them closer to deals. Buyers may find that they can better afford homes that sellers are looking to sell. In short, if you are thinking about buying or selling a home, get the facts from a real estate professional during these fast-changing times.

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Dam

Continued from page A1
Reclamation. That will take place separately," said Chris Ketchum, Bureau of Reclamation assistant area manager. "And that is such an unknown, for us to stop and think about it would throw us off budget."

Ketchum said the federal bureau hopes the state will make a decision on the issue before it starts construction on the spillway.

Reclamation Civil Engineer Keith Brooks said the 2,000-foot long concrete spillway of the dam has reached the end of its lifespan and Reclamation officials are gathering public comment under Dec. 19, which will be incorporated into the draft environmental impact statement on the proposed corrective measures.

The dam, which controls the water flows from Lake Weir, is about 18 miles northeast of Burley and inside the Minidoka Wildlife Refuge.

Brooks said the concrete spillway and piers show extensive deterioration. The potential for ice to damage the stoplog piers requires the water levels in the reservoir to be lowered each winter. T

he headgate structures at the North Side Canal and the South Side Canal also show serious concrete deterioration.

If the structural problems are not resolved, officials predict a partial or complete failure of the spillway and headgates. "If that happens, Reclamation may not be able to meet demands for water delivery, power generation or flow augmentation under the Nez Perce Agreement and the Endangered Species Act."

Brooks said the proposed alternatives include taking no action, total replacement of the spillway and headgate structures or replacement of just the spillway.

Reclamation Activity Manager John Tiedeman said the bureau hopes to have construction started in late 2010 and officials are still trying to pin down costs on the various alternatives.

The approximate cost for replacing all the structures is \$70 million. Cost-saving measures could drop another \$5 million to \$10 million from the total.

If the headgates aren't fixed, costs are expected to come in between \$50 million and \$60 million.

Ketchum said other issues that could delay the project or factor into the cost are two species of snails found in the area, one of which was believed to have disappeared from the area until recently.

The bureau announced finding the snail Nov. 21, in a press release that said the Snake River physa, a freshwater snail, was endangered on Dec. 12, 1992, was believed to no longer exist in the Snake River.

However, samples taken from an 11.5-mile stretch from the Minidoka Dam and extending downstream revealed the species living in the area.

"We don't know enough about its habitat requirements and there is so much unknown," Ketchum said.

"Fish and Wildlife will require us to gather more information and it could mean very little to the project or could be very costly."

Laurie Welch may be reached at 208-877-8767 or lwelch@magicvalley.com.

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Digital mammography now available in Twin Falls

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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.

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Idaho inmates complain of private prison violence

By Rebecca Boone
Associated Press writer

BOISE — An inmate is suing the managers of the state's only private prison, contending that a high level of violence at the Idaho Correctional Center amounts to cruel and unusual punishment — a complaint that has been echoed recently by other inmates and at least partly documented in reports from the Idaho Department of Correction.

The lawsuit, filed by inmate Daniel Dixon in U.S. District Court, contends that he and other inmates are being preyed upon by gangs and that correctional officers aren't doing enough to help.

He seeks \$1 million, segregation of vulnerable inmates and improved training for guards.

Dixon was sent to ICC in 2008 after he was convicted of kidnapping and molesting a 12-year-old girl on a Coeur

d'Alene beach. Dixon was 24 at the time, and within a week of his arrival, word of Dixon's charges spread throughout the prison. He was labeled as a "Cho Mo," prison slang for a child molester.

"A few days later the Plaintiff was forced to defend himself against a 'white supremacist gang member,'" Dixon wrote in the lawsuit filed this fall.

ICC officers knew about the fight but did nothing about it, Dixon claimed.

Dixon was moved to another unit in the prison, one that he contends is known for high levels of skin-head gang activity. Gang leaders in the unit had given other inmates a "green light" for harming any child molesters, according to the lawsuit.

Dixon told a correctional officer that he feared harm, but the officer reportedly tried to get Dixon to give him

information about the gang activity in the unit. Dixon refused, saying he feared that would result in him being labeled a snitch as well as a child molester, placing him at greater risk. Other inmates were already talking about beating him up, he said.

"One even introduced himself as 'Rapeano,' then defined himself as, 'The man who rapes child molesters,'" Dixon wrote in his lawsuit.

Dixon was moved to different units around the prison — sometimes with gang members for cellmates, he said.

The prison south of Boise is operated by Correction Corp. of America, based in Nashville, Tenn. The state says the facility houses medium- and minimum-security inmates.

An Associated Press voice message seeking comment on the lawsuit Friday was not immediately returned by a CCA spokesman.

Woman swept to sea during marriage proposal

NESKOWIN, Ore. (AP) — A romantic marriage proposal on the Oregon coast turned deadly for the bride-to-be when a wave swept her out to sea.

Police don't suspect foul play in the disappearances Saturday of Leafli Alforque, Tillamook County Sheriff Todd Anderson said. Thick fog and dangerous water conditions off Neskowin Beach hampered the rescue efforts, and the search was called off Monday.

Scott Napper had a ring in his pocket and planned to pop the question to Alforque, 22, at Proposal Rock, which got its name from couples ready to marry.

Napper said the tide had receded around the rock when the couple began to

walk to it, but then a wave around 3 feet high suddenly came in.

"I turned into it to keep from getting pulled under it," Napper said. By the time he turned to find Alforque, who was only 4-foot-11, she had been caught by the receding waves.

"She was about 30 feet away, getting swept away," Napper said.

The 45-year-old Silverton man tore off his jacket to get rid of any extra weight, and when he looked up again she was gone.

"That's the last I saw of her," he said Wednesday, breaking into tears.

"I yelled for her," he said. "I was praying to God." His own phone was wet and no longer worked, but some-

one on the beach called for help and emergency personnel arrived within minutes.

Napper and Alforque had been dating since they met on the Internet in 2005. Alforque arrived in Oregon on a visa from the Philippines just three days before the fateful trip to the coast.

The two had already set a wedding date for this week, but he wanted to use the moment Saturday to make a formal proposal and give Alforque the ring.

Her 25-year-old sister, Nova Alforque, said the family hopes the body can be recovered.

"My mother is always crying, day and night," Nova Alforque said by telephone from the Philippines. "She wants my sister back."

Festival of Trees "Children's Day"

Children's Day
Saturday, December 6 from 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.
Sponsored by: United Dairymen of Idaho and Physician Center Physicians and Staff.

FREE ADMISSION to children 12 and under. (Past! Santa will be visiting from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m., and Inckley's will be present to capture your memories!). The first children (ages 4-12) to arrive by either 9 a.m. or 10 a.m. will see a special showing of "Frosty the Snowman" in the Planetarium.

All proceeds benefit the children's health care programs at the new St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center.



Showing at the Planetarium

- 9 a.m. - Movie: "Frosty the Snowman" (26 minutes)
- 10 a.m. - Movie: "Frosty the Snowman" (26 minutes)
- 11 a.m. - "Season of Light"
- 1 p.m. - "Steamrolling Through the Holidays"
- 2:30 p.m. - "Here Comes the Sun"
- 4 p.m. - "Season of Light"
- 7 p.m. - "The Christmas Star"
- 8:15 p.m. - "Steamrolling Through the Holidays"

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Dubious convictions in a feeble case

JEERS: Abraham Lincoln, an old trial lawyer, had it right: "He who represents himself has a fool for a client."

And so it's hard to see Twin Falls, anti-nuclear activist Peter Rickards' conviction by a Mountain Home jury this week for battery and trespassing as anything other than an untrained legal advocate performing like one.

Rickards — who's a podiatrist, not an attorney — was arrested June 16 while passing out leaflets at a public information meeting sponsored by Alternate Energy Holdings at the privately owned Glenns Ferry Opera House. He was also accused of shoving Doug McConaughy, who AEHI officials say was a part-time consultant who no longer works for the company.

AEHI is seeking to build a nuclear power plant in Elmore

County, a project Rickards opposes.

Anyone with law degree would never have let this case go to trial. The evidence of battery was questionable and the notion of someone being arrested for trespassing at a public meeting is laughable.

To her credit, Elmore County Prosecutor Kristina Schindele tried to cut a plea agreement with Rickards before the trial, but the doctor opted instead to use the court as a bully pulpit for his grievances against AEHI.

Rickards, who is scheduled to be sentenced next month, may appeal the convictions. This time he should hire a lawyer instead of trying to be one.

CHEERS: To Idaho Power, for retooling its peak reward program for irrigators in an effort to encourage more participation.

Starting next summer, irriga-



tors will get more flexibility about when their systems can be shut down during peak demand periods. Plus, they get a larger credit on their June and July power bills.

Non-ag Idaho Power consumers could also benefit if the new program reduces demand during summer months to the point that the utility can delay building a new natural gas peaker to meet that demand.

Some irrigators have been reluctant to participate in demand reduction programs because they fear crops will suffer during off-times. The

revised program is intended to allay some of those concerns. Idaho Power seems to be taking seriously its stated philosophy that the cheapest — and greenest — energy is energy that's saved.

JEERS: From the Legislature's most dependable source of dumb public policy ideas comes a corker.

Rep. Steve Thayne, R-Emmett, plans to introduce a bill during the upcoming legislative session that would pay parents to teach their kindergarten-age children at home.

The statewide average cost for kindergarten is \$4,500 per student, and Thayne would pay parents an average of about \$2,250. He stressed that parents would only receive a payment if their child was ready for first grade.

The program would be optional, with traditional kindergarten

classes still available for parents and students, Thayne said.

Kindergarten classes, while funded by the state, aren't mandatory for children in Idaho. So Idaho, which can't adequately fund the schools it has, would end up writing \$2,250 checks to parents of kindergarten students and maintaining a full-service system of kindergarten instruction statewide.

Schools would also be adding another layer of standardized tests — this one for first-graders.

Thayne is convinced that early childhood education in the public schools encourages mothers of pre-schoolers to work outside the home and thus destroys families. He wants to social-engineer a return to an America where mom sacrifices a career and father knows best.

Truly, he's one of the best minds of the 1950s.

How about spending the stimulus where it will work?

Over the past year, the federal government has poured money into the economy hundreds of billions of dollars at a time. It has also guaranteed investments, loans and deposits worth about \$B trillion. Barry Ritholz, the author of "Ballout Nation," points out that this project constitutes the largest infusion in American history.

If you add up just the funds that have already been committed, you get a figure, according to Jim Bianco of Bianco Research, that is larger in today's dollars than the costs of the Marshall Plan, the Louisiana Purchase, the New Deal, the Korean War, Vietnam and the S&L crisis combined.

Is all this money doing any good?

The financial system seems to have stabilized, but bank lending is minimal, home prices keep falling, consumer spending is plummeting, and the economy continues to dive.

It could be we just have to endure some fundamental adjustments. Housing prices have to reach a new level. Consumption has to settle on a new trajectory. Until those fundamental shifts are made, no federal sugar rush is going to restore economic health.

That's not a recipe for doing nothing. It's a recipe

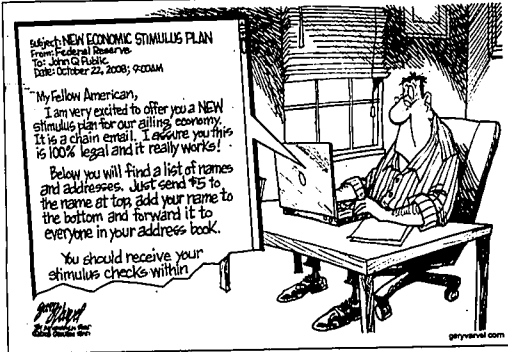


DAVID BROOKS

for skepticism. And it leads to some guiding principles for those designing the \$500 billion stimulus plan the next administration seems set on: Don't just throw more money into the sugar rush. Spend money on projects that will enhance the long-term economic health of the country even without a crisis. Do what you do best anyway, just do it faster.

To understand how the short-term response might serve the country's long-term economic interest, I called up Michael Porter, the competitiveness guru at Harvard Business School. Porter wrote an outstanding overview of America's long-term economic challenges in the Oct. 30 issue of *BusinessWeek*.

Porter wrote that the U.S. economy has historically benefited from several great assets: an unparalleled environment for entrepreneurialism, a tremendous infrastructure for scientific research, the world's best universities, a strong commitment to competition and



free markets, decentralized regional economies, and efficient capital markets. But, Porter continued, these advantages are starting to erode. The United States has an inadequate rate of reinvestment in science and technology, America's confidence in free markets is waning. Lack of regulatory oversight has undermined capital markets. Universities have not sufficiently increased graduation rates. American workers do not have a credible safety net. Regulations and litigation have inflated

the cost of business. Most important, there is no long-term economic strategy to organize responses to these problems. I asked Porter how this short-term crisis might serve as an opportunity to address those long-term problems. First, he said, the Obama team will have to avoid a few temptations: Don't just try to throw out money as fast as possible to stimulate demand. Don't spread the spending around too thinly. Don't try to save jobs that are going to disappear anyway.

Then he threw out a bunch of ideas that could be part of a stimulus package: Send federal money to the states, but make sure a lot of it goes to state universities. There's going to be increased demand for their services at the same time their budgets are cut. We can't weaken that link in the social mobility chain. Extend unemployment insurance, but also create vouchers and loans so workers can get the skills they need to move on. Extend the Cobra period

another 12 months to head off a rise in the uninsured during the recession.

Adjust the capital gains rate to give people the incentive to become long-term investors. Right now there's a tension between the real economy, which is gradual, and the financial system, which is manic. Low rates shouldn't kick in until an investment is held three to five years.

Accelerate depreciation on energy efficient goods and services. Increase tax credits for energy efficient buildings and appliances.

Porter's basic message was that President-elect Barack Obama should do nothing in the short term that doesn't serve a long-term goal.

To which I would add just one idea: Create a network of social entrepreneurship investment banks. These public funds would invest in the best local community organizations, so they could bring their ideas to scale. This is a mental recession as well as an economic one. Solving it means getting more people involved in a fundamental rebirth.

David Brooks is a columnist for *The New York Times*. Write to him at dbrooks@nytimes.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Remember what Christmas is about

Sure, you can say it's just for the kids. Maybe that's what you tell yourself when you take a potentially flammable tree into your house to be festooned with hat lights from an overloaded extension cord. Then I guess it follows that you translate wise men bringing gifts to a baby into searching Wal-Mart for toys your kid doesn't need that stretches your credit but gives him bragging rights with all his friends. The camel must be interpreted as reindeer. Maybe you see the fat white-haired guy driving the flying sled as Howie Mandell and you've just made the right deal.

My question is, if you

don't recognize Christmas as the birth of the savior of mankind, why do you celebrate the season? Obviously, I mean apart from the office party where you can get drunk and play loose and fancy with the cute little office intern. There are other holidays that mean nothing to many people today, like Independence Day, Veterans Day, Election Day and Easter. All those can be perfect opportunities for TV, barbecue and booze. It isn't necessary that you understand the meaning, just that you have a good time. After all, didn't our founding fathers build this nation on the concept of "it can't be wrong if it feels good" and "it ain't my responsibility"? VAUGHN PHELPS
Twin Falls

Tell us what you think

ONLINE: Register at magvalley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition. **ON PAPER:** The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office; mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

Environmentalists want it both ways

I was reading the letter from Joseph Aitken on Dec. 2 about GM making a car that got 62.8 mpg that was for sale only in Europe. He wondered why it doesn't sell here. If you're 60 inches to the right of his letter, you see a column by Cal Thomas saying Ford has a car that gets 65 mpg

that it sells in Europe and it doesn't sell in America. Why? Because it runs on diesel fuel — and environmentalists in the United States have fought to keep diesel taxes high and refinery capacity low. So the greenvans want better fuel mileage right? So the greenvans want renewable resources right? But they don't want logging either.

DELOY BAKER
Jerome

Reader wants balanced opinions on Prop 8

I am not a Mormon, but I

would like to see a balanced story on the "Mormons' untold story" on the opinion page Nov. 30.

How about a headline story like that on how much the anti-Prop 8 spent, and names an addresses of contributors to the anti-Prop 8 campaign like you provided on the pro-Prop 8 campaign?

The only news we get is negative news about Prop 8, ignoring the fact that this is the second time that Californians overwhelmingly passed a constitutional amendment establishing marriage as a union of one man and one woman. Seems to me that shows who controls the press, even in this conservative community.

CHUCK COLLINS
Twin Falls

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau

Mailed Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



A year of looking into Twin Falls' future

It has been one year since we introduced the mayor's initiative in 2007 and it seems appropriate that we step back and evaluate our progress. The *Times-News* recently used a moderator for a town hall meeting they sponsored. Not being too proud to steal a good idea, the use of a moderator for the next Town Hall meeting will encourage more participation for an evaluation of the initiative 2010.

We hope to create a citizen-driven opportunity to share new ideas, critique the old and redirect our energy. The initiative was never designed to be a final document, but more of a living process. We realize that you can influence how the initiative moves forward at our next Town Hall meeting.



READER COMMENT
Lance Clow

We are looking for new ideas and approaches to bring energy and vitality to our Townsite. We will begin with an opportunity for you to share your propositions and then rank them with the original. If you have a passion for the Townsite this will also be an opportunity to step up and champion your favorite idea.

Currently champions are stepping up to bring some new ideas and energy forward. The Kiwanis Club of Twin Falls, along with the

Business Improvement District, is working toward a 2009 Magic Festival for next August. Details are still being finalized, but it appears that this new festival for the Historic Downtown is taking shape. You will soon see an announcement that a special small business educational and motivational seminar will be available. Two back-to-back sessions of "Making your Business Work for You—The E-Myth Solution" is being presented by the Southern Idaho Small Business Center and CSI. It is scheduled for Jan. 19. If you are a small business owner or manager, you should attend as this focused small business management program.

As you read this, you may have noticed that the new

Christmas sprays have been installed on many of the decorative lamp posts in Historic Downtown. You should already know how blessed we are as a community, blessed by our natural resources and the many beautiful, caring citizens. One of those caring citizens is Judy McCurdy. She has volunteered to find sponsors for the Christmas sprays and has done a wonderful job, all this, while being hobbled with a recent broken foot. If you would like to sponsor a Christmas spray, please contact Denise Miller at 735-

7313 or just send an email to me at clow@tfd.id.gov. Include your name, address and phone number. The sponsorships are \$85 per year or \$375 for a five year commitment.

Our next Town Hall meeting will be held in the City Council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E. It has been suggested that we try a weeknight meeting to allow more merchants an opportunity to attend. So our next Town Hall meeting will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesday. Mark your calendars and gather your thoughts. To refresh

your memory, you can find the original Mayor's Initiative 2010 on the Twin Falls City Web site at www.tfd.id.gov/city-council/183-mayors-initiative-2010.

See you Wednesday evening.

Lance Clow is the mayor of Twin Falls.

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LETTERS OF THANKS

Quilting event was a success

How can we thank the many volunteers who helped us the 127 quilts during one week at the mall? Many came back for more than one session, knowing we have a great need for quilts in this community. We also thank those who spent time binding quilts. We were happy to see you there and the spirit of volunteerism.

Special thanks to the husbands and friends who set up and took down the equipment needed for this venture. We also thank Kathy Reite at Sitchin Time, who provides year-long support by allowing us to keep our quilts and fabric in her basement. We appreciate her allowing us to use her long-arm quilting machine to finish some of our quilts.

So, to all of you who came to the mall for our tying event and those in the wings who make this event possible, here is a big thank you.

SUSAN STALLINGS
PEGGY JARDINE
SUE PACK
Co-chairmen, Community Quilts
Twin Falls

Rachel's Challenge had an important impact

Last year, with the support of Glanbia Foods, the Twin Falls High School Student Council brought the Rachel's Challenge Assembly to TFHS. As a result, students started the FOR Club (Friends of Rachel), whose mission is to begin a "chain reaction" of kindness that promotes positive school climate.

Follow up to the impact of the Rachel's Challenge program, the FOR club hosted Brad Henning for a series of assemblies focusing on personal leadership

and respect. We would like to thank those responsible for making contributions to this valuable experience for all who attended: Glanbia Foods, Safe and Drug Free Schools, Seasmor Manufacturing, Jane Krumm, Jeffrey J. Hepworth, P.A. & Associates, Shilo Inn and David and Maria Christensen.

This opportunity for our students would not have been possible without the continual support of community members and businesses that share this vision with the youth of Twin Falls.

KAYLA URRUTIA
President
Friends of Rachel Club
Twin Falls

Safe Harbor thanks donors

We gratefully acknowledge our appreciation for Mims Valley Ministry Center's continuing generosity toward Safe Harbor's food assistance program. Its recent donation of a Chevy van is especially appreciated.

In addition, the following recent donors are gratefully acknowledged:

First Presbyterian Church, First Christian Church, First United Methodist Church and Budget Air, a local business.

PHYLLIS BERG
President
Safe Harbor
Twin Falls

Couple thanks Good Samaritan

On Nov. 23, I had the unfortunate experience of having a flat tire. A young couple stopped their car and asked me if I needed help. The young man, Kristian Bauman, then changed my tire. When I asked him how much I owed him, he said, "nothing."

Thanks, Kristian Bauman, for being such a "Good Samaritan," and I want to let

the people of Jerome know what a nice person they are in their community.

CAROL BEAURUP
Twin Falls

Sawtooth vet services were caring

We wish to thank Sawtooth Veterinary Services in Jerome for the wonderful care of our puppy "Sammi."

She broke her leg jumping a fence. We called the veterinary hospital after hours and were told to bring her in immediately. Dr. Green treated her and sent her home and we were told to bring her back the next day for surgery. Dr. Green performed her surgery and had to place a pin in her leg the next day. Several weeks later, we found her brace had worn a hole in her leg. We called the vet (on a Sunday) and the again were told to bring her right in. Her injury was taken care of by Dr. Schabacker.

We wish to express our gratitude and excellent care and concern shown by the staff at Sawtooth Veterinary Services, and we highly recommend them.

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Saturday, December 6

8:00-9:00	Kid's Italy: Simple and Delightful Recipes
10:00-11:00	Brain Fitness 2: Sight and Sound
11:00-12:00	(11-30) Stay Rich Forever & Ever with Ed Slott
1:00-2:00	Brenda Watson's Fiber 35: Nature's Weight Loss Secret
2:30-3:30	(2-30) Qi Gong: The Flow Continues
3:30-4:30	(3-30) John Denver: Song's Best Friend
5:00-6:00	Rick Steves' European Christmas
6:00-7:00	Lawrence Welk's TV Treasures
8:00-9:00	Andre Rieu: Live in Vienna

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Indians Anonymous Meetings
Created Dec. 5 to 7, 2008
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Nicole Kidman - Australia
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

Second Lines of Blues on Day 7 11:00-11:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

High School Musical on Day 8 8:30-9:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

Changemakers on Day 9 8:30-9:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

Publisher: Star Zone on Day 11 8:30-9:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

Journal: Street Chronicles of Bolivia on Day 12 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
Sat 12/20/08 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/21/08 7:30-9:30

Buy in the World: Payment on Day 13 7:30-9:30
Sun 12/14/08 7:30-9:30
Mon 12/15/08 7:30-9:30
Tue 12/16/08 7:30-9:30
Wed 12/17/08 7:30-9:30
Thu 12/18/08 7:30-9:30
Fri 12/19/08 7:30-9:30
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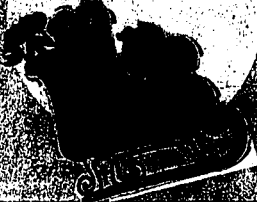
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Stocks end with big gains (AP) Wall Street has put an upbeat spin on the government's report that the nation lost more than half a million jobs last month. Stocks reversed early losses to finish sharply higher.

Dow Jones Industrials

Nasdaq composite

Standard & Poor's 500

Russell 2000

DJI

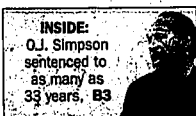
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BUSINESS

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INSIDE: O.J. Simpson sentenced to as many as 33 years, B3

B

DECEMBER 6, 2008

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



Martha and Zon Lloyd pose for a photo at one of their Christmas tree stands in Twin Falls. The couple plans to retire this year after selling fresh-cut Christmas in Twin Falls for 52 years. The couple's son, John Lloyd, will take over the family business.

Longtime T.F. Christmas tree vendors set for retirement

By Blair Koch
Times-News correspondent

Fifty two years and tens of thousands of fresh cut Christmas trees later, Zon Lloyd and his wife Martha Lloyd are ready to retire.

The couple, who live in Montana's Flat Head Lake region, have sold Christmas trees in Twin Falls for 52 years, but this holiday season will be their last.

Christmas tree sales helped provide financially for their family, and the business even brought the couple together 55 years ago.

"We met on the lot and I've been selling with (Zon) ever since," said Martha Lloyd, 74. "But we're getting old. We've been doing this for so long and it's getting harder to keep up...the cold weather gets to

us and its such a long drive from home, it's just the right time."

Magie Valley residents won't be without their Lloyd Family Tree, though. The operation, which purchases trees from Oregon, Washington and Montana, will continue bringing trees to Twin Falls for sale.

"Lloyd Family Christmas Trees isn't disappearing, just the old folks," said Zon Lloyd, 78. "We decided it was time for the kids to take over."

Instead of spending the season in a parking lot converted into a Christmas tree forest or in the cramped quarters of a motor home the couple said they plan on enjoying their cattle ranch in Big Sky country.

"We will miss it — we're selling to some of the great-

grandkids of our original customers. It's almost like a big family reunion 'anymore," said Martha Lloyd.

The couple's youngest son, John Lloyd, who moved to Twin Falls about 7 years ago, is helping take over the operation that has two tree lot locations in the city — one on the southeast corner of Addison Avenue and Eastland, in the K-mart parking lot, and in Albertson's parking lot at the intersection of Blue Lake Boulevard and Addison Avenue.

Each year Lloyd Family sells roughly 4,000 evergreens, ranging in size from just a couple feet tall to towering over 20 feet. They sell another 1,000 trees, wholesale, to retailers.

John Lloyd, 43, can't think of a different way to spend

December other than greeting customers and "tying down their yuletide necessity."

Taking the reins to the family business is an honor and a responsibility. He said lessons he learned from his parents include providing top-notch customer service and making personal contact with every customer walking onto the lot.

"Even if it's just a quick 'hello' we try and make shopping for a Christmas tree a personalized experience," he said.

The business continues cultivating family members and the older Lloyds hope their business remains viable for another 50 years.

Blair Koch may be reached at 208-316-2607 or blairkoch@gmail.com.

HARD TIMES



Eric Devericks, recently laid-off from his job as an editorial cartoonist at The Seattle Times, stands with his wife Brandi, right, and children Penelope, 2, left, Matthew, 5, and Amara, 6, and a stack of packed moving boxes, Nov. 24, in Kenmore, Wash.

End of the line for a cartoonist

By Alan C. Reed
Associated Press writer

Journalists are known for their gallows humor but the editorial cartoonist in The Seattle Times—a few days before Thanksgiving—was downright disturbing.

Titled "Everything gray?" Not so much," the panel showed a fallen ax and two turkeys, one with its head missing. The intact Tom turns to his headless companion and says "Hal! That's nothing. You should see my 401(k)."

If cartoonist Eric Devericks' art is a bit darker than usual these days, he can be forgiven. On Nov. 13, the ax fell on him.

"It's tough to try to be funny or witty when your life is a wreck," the 32-year-old artist says, managing a weak laugh.

Devericks is one of about 150 employees being let go in a third round of layoffs or buyouts at the newspaper this year. His last day is Dec. 12.

The Times is not alone. Newspapers across the

Please see **HARD**, Page B2

Bush, Hill leaders: Job losses argue for auto help

By Julie Hirschfeld Davis
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush and congressional leaders seized on the latest grim unemployment data Friday to try to fire up lukewarm support on Capitol Hill for bailing out U.S. automakers. But they clashed anew over terms of the rescue plan and the source of any aid.

As the Big Three auto chiefs pressed their case for \$34 billion in a second day of hearings, Bush said in the Rose Garden that the loss of 533,000 jobs in November was even more reason to help the companies. The warring U.S. auto sales slump claimed another 2,000 workers, as General Motors Corp. announced layoffs at three more car factories.

Bush said he was worried about the viability of the automobile companies, along with the workers and their families. "And likewise, I am concerned about taxpayer money being provided to these companies that may not survive," he said.

He said Congress should act next week — and make sure that public dollars are repaid.

With just a month and a half left in his presidency, Bush repeated his calls for Congress to rewrite an existing \$25 billion program intended to help the industry make more fuel-efficient vehicles.

Please see **AUTO**, Page B2

"We will miss it — we're selling to some of the great-grandkids of our original customers. It's almost like a big family reunion 'anymore'"

State offers numerous incentives for rural Idaho areas

Q: State incentives seem to focus on urban areas. What's out there for rural Idaho?

A: Idaho Gem Grants provide funding to cities and counties specifically for areas with less than 10,000 residents. They develop public assets for job creation and economic development. In 2007 the Idaho Legislature appropriated \$400,000 for the IGG program. Cities and counties may seek Idaho Gem Grant funds.

ABOUT IDAHO BUSINESS

Julie Howard

on behalf of special districts (water, sewer, highway etc), tribal governments and not for profit organizations.

Use of grant funds is limited to the hard implementation costs of economic development projects. Some examples of eligible cost

items include: construction materials, new and rehabilitative construction, architectural and engineering services; and property acquisition.

Q: My rural town doesn't even know where to start with developing more business opportunities. Help!

A: If you don't even know what to ask for, you might want to get involved in the Rural Community Peer Program. This program enables rural leaders to

learn from the successes of other rural communities and to ask questions from peers who have dealt with similar issues. The state provides up to \$350 in reimbursement costs for leaders to travel to another community and spend time meeting with area leaders there.

Contact Randy Shroll at Commerce for information: 208-334-2650 ext. 2124.

Q: I saw a map of Idaho's technology companies that

was pretty cool. On one side, it showed the entire state and the other side showed the Boise area companies. How can I get one of these maps?

A: The map was developed as a joint project between Idaho TechConnect and the Idaho Department of Commerce, and features research by a Virginia Tech professor about the Treasure Valley's tech ecosystem. You can get a map either through the Department of

Commerce (email Karen.lewis@commerce.idaho.gov) or through Idaho TechConnect (email writer@idahotechconnect.com). There is a small charge per poster.

The About Idaho Business column helps businesses connect with local resources. The writer welcomes questions. Send an email to the Idaho Department of Commerce at julie.howard@commerce.idaho.gov

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	14.23	▲ .43	Dell Inc.	10.71	▲ .44	Idacorp	29.50	▲ 1.07
Lithia Mo.	3.39	▲ .67	Micron	2.04	▲ .23	Supervalu	11.30	▲ .31

COMMODITIES

Live cattle	81.55	▼ 1.52	Jan. oil	40.81	▼ .28
Dec. gold	750.5	▼ 13.3	Dec. silver	9.40	▼ .09

Today in business WASHINGTON — Weekly Treasury briefing, auction.

MARKET SUMMARY

NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ market data including Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Diary sections.

INDEXES and STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST tables.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT: A guide explaining market data and reporting conventions.

COMMODITIES REPORT

COMMODITIES REPORT table listing various commodities like Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, and their prices.

BUSINESS DATA

BUSINESS DATA table listing various business metrics and company information.

Auto executives, from left, General Motors Chief Executive Officer...

Auto executives, from left, General Motors Chief Executive Officer Rick Wagoner, Chrysler Chief Executive Officer Robert Nardelli, and Ford Chief Executive Officer Alan Mulally testify on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday before the House Financial Services Committee.

BEANS

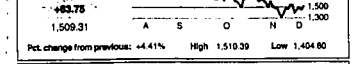
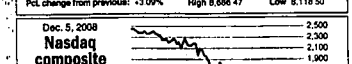
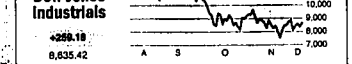
BEANS market data table.

GRAINS

GRAINS market data table.

SOY

SOY market data table.



The Dow Industrials jumped 259.18, or 3.09 percent, to 8,635.42 after falling by 258 and rising as much as 310 in the volatile trading late in the session.

Broader stock indicators also advanced. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 30.85, or 3.65 percent, to 876.07, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 63.75, or 4.11 percent, to 1,509.31.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies rose 21.56, or 4.91 percent, to 461.09.

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Auto executives, from left, General Motors Chief Executive Officer...

Auto executives, from left, General Motors Chief Executive Officer Rick Wagoner, Chrysler Chief Executive Officer Robert Nardelli, and Ford Chief Executive Officer Alan Mulally testify on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday before the House Financial Services Committee.

Auto

By congressional budget analysts have said raising the fuel-efficiency program for a broader auto bailout would not net only \$7.5 billion in short-term costs.

While lawmakers pondered the ends of options, including government-run management board, no individual plan seemed to be gaining much footing.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

WORLD

GM to lay off 2,000 more workers

DETROIT — The worsening U.S. auto sales slump claimed another 2,000 workers Friday as General Motors Corp. announced layoffs in London, Ohio, and at two other factories.

In Lordstown, where GM makes the Chevrolet Cobalt and Pontiac G5 small cars, 890 workers will go on indefinite layoff starting Feb. 2 while GM ends a third shift at the sprawling complex.

The cuts are in addition to 1,100 layoffs announced earlier this month. The plan is expected to stop production Dec. 23 and be done until Feb. 2.

John Grahm, president of UAW Local 1112, said the assembly and fabricating plants, which employ about

Hard

Continued from page B1 country have shed thousands of jobs in recent months as advertising revenue and circulation continue to plummet.

The economic downturn has only made it harder on the beleaguered newspaper industry. And in this rapidly changing ecosystem, cartoonists are among the most endangered species.

In the past three years, around three dozen artists have been laid off, forced to take buyouts or to retire, according to the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists.

The toll was nine during one particularly brutal three-month period this summer, with losses in big-city markets from Honolulu to Palm Beach, Fla.

Devericks is among the latest. And with the stakes as high as they are — his paycheck is the sole support for his wife, Brandi, and their three children — this talented cartoonist is about to give up a career that has known only success.

Growing up in the tiny logging town of Dallas, Ore., he had always been a scribbler. It was a good way to "impress girls in high school," but he didn't see much of a career coming; he was hoping to go into medicine.

But his grades at Oregon State University were not good enough to get into medical school, and he cast about for another career. He read the student newspaper, The Daily Barometer, and found the editorial cartoons wanting.

"I thought I could do better," he says. "And I could."

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AROUND THE NATION

WASHINGTON

Caroline Kennedy eyes Clinton's Senate seat

WASHINGTON — Caroline Kennedy is interested in the Senate seat that would open once Hillary Rodham Clinton becomes secretary of state, according to a close relative who says the powerful Kennedy clan is fully behind her rising to the office previously held by her uncle.

"I know she's interested," Robert F. Kennedy Jr. told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Friday. "She spent a lot of her life balancing public service with obligations to her family. Now her children are grown, and she is ready to move onto a bigger stage."

Clinton is confirmed to President-elect Barack Obama's cabinet, New York Gov. David Paterson will appoint someone to fill the seat for two years.

The Kennedy family's strong support has increased pressure on Paterson to choose her above lesser-known contenders.

NEW YORK

Teacher apologizes for binding girls in class

WHITE PLAINS — A white social studies teacher attempted to enliven a seventh-grade discussion of slavery by binding the hands and feet of two black girls, prompting outrage from one girl's mother and the local chapter of the NAACP.

After the mother complained to Haverstraw Middle School, the superintendent said he was having "conversations with our staff on how to deliver effective lessons."

"If a student was upset, then it was a bad idea," said Superintendent Brian Monahan of the North Rockland School District in New York City's northern suburbs.

The teacher apologized to the mother who complained and her 13-year-old daughter during a meeting Thursday that also included a representative of the local NAACP.

MISSOURI

Secret Santa spreads cheer, and \$100 bills

ST. LOUIS — At a suburban Goodwill store on Friday, Theresa Settles selected a large, black comforter and handed her family \$100 bills she can raise the honey to turn the gas heat back on.

A petite woman approached, her face obscured by dark sunglasses and a wrapped winter scarf, and handed Settles two \$100 bills stamped with the words "Secret Santa."

"The only condition," she said, "is that you do something nice for someone. Pass it on."

Stunned, Settles said she would. The secret Santa was a protégé of Kansas City's undercover gift giver, Larry Stewart, who died of cancer nearly two years ago near downtown city streets each December doling out \$100 bills to anyone who looked like they might need a lift.

CALIFORNIA

Heart attack hospitalizes pinup Bettie Page

LOS ANGELES — Bettie Page, a 1950s pinup known for her raven-haired, honey-colored hair, was hospitalized in intensive care after suffering a heart attack, her agent said Friday.

"She's critically ill," Mark Roessler of CMG Worldwide told The Associated Press. He said the 85-year-old had been hospitalized for the last three weeks with pneumonia and was about to be released when she had the heart attack Tuesday.

Murder case hangs over Simpson sentencing

By Linda Deutsch
Associated Press writer

LAS VEGAS — The shadow of O.J. Simpson's infamous murder case hung over a different courtroom, a different state, a different judge. This time, though, there was a far different ending. He wasn't going home a free man.

Simpson was sentenced Friday to at least nine years in prison a manslaughter of 33 years, perhaps the rest of his life — for what the defense claimed was a small-time heist of his own memorabilia and family heirlooms.

The judge insisted the sentence was not retribution for the 1994 slayings in Los Angeles in which the onetime football hero was acquitted, but to relatives of Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman, it was.

Fred and Kim Goldman, the father and sister of the slain man, grieved over Simpson's sorry end and said



O.J. Simpson speaks at his sentencing hearing at the Clark County Regional Justice Center in Las Vegas, Friday. Sitting at right is his lawyer Yale Galanter.

AP photo

they hoped their endless pursuit had pushed him "over the edge" into committing an armed robbery last year in a downscale Las Vegas casino hotel room.

In town for a wedding, Simpson organized a band of five men who joined him to confront two sports

memorabilia dealers peddling Simpson collectibles. Angry threats were shouted, a gun was drawn and a recorder secretly captured it all for a jury, which convicted Simpson on all 12 counts.

"I'm sorry, I'm sorry for all of it," he told the judge Thursday, choking back

tears during a rambling, five-minute plea for leniency.

Now the Hall of Fame football star, former TV pitchman and one-time actor is being held in a Nevada state prison. Wary and defeated, the 61-year-old Simpson was led from the courtroom in shackles while the Goldmans celebrated outside.

They were booed by a small crowd that gathered on the courthouse steps, carrying signs saying "Free O.J." Defense lawyers promised an immediate appeal — and to continue seeking bail for Simpson while an appeal is considered — but the earliest Simpson will be eligible for parole is in nine years.

Simpson lawyer Yale Galanter said later he sympathizes with the Goldmans in their loss but felt it was inappropriate for them to attend the Las Vegas sentencing.

"It really made us all aware that despite our best efforts, it's very difficult to separate the California case from the Nevada case," Galanter said.

Contractors face trial



Plainclothes contractors working for Blackwater USA take part in a firefight as Iraqi loyal to Muqtada Al Sadr attempt to advance on a facility being defended by U.S. and Spanish soldiers in Najaf, Iraq, in April 2004.

Sources: 5 Blackwater guards charged in shooting

By Matt Auzero and Lara Jakes Jordan
Associated Press writers

WASHINGTON — Five Blackwater Worldwide security guards have been indicted and a sixth was negotiating a plea with prosecutors for a 2007 shooting that left 17 Iraqis dead and became an anti-American rallying cry for insurgents, people close to the case said Friday.

Prosecutors obtained the indictment late Thursday and had it put under seal until it is made public, perhaps as early as Monday. All who discussed the case did so on condition of anonymity because the matters remain sealed.

Six guards have been under investigation since a convoy of heavily armed Blackwater contractors opened fire in a crowded Baghdad intersection on Sept. 16, 2007. Witnesses say the shooting was unprovoked but Blackwater, hired by the State Department to guard U.S. diplomats, says its guards were ambushed by insurgents while responding to a car bombing.

Young children were among the victims and the shooting strained relations between the U.S. and Iraq. Following the shooting, Blackwater became the subject of congressional hearings in Washington and insurgent propaganda videos in Iraq.

The exact charges in the indictment were unclear, but the Justice Department has been considering manslaughter and assault charges against the guards for weeks. Prosecutors have also been considering bringing charges under a law, passed as part of a 1988 drug bill, that carries a mandatory 30-year prison sentence for using a machine gun in a crime of violence.

The Justice Department has ordered five of the six guards to surrender Monday to the FBI, but details of where and precisely what time were still being worked out Friday, according to those people close to the case.

The remaining guard has been negotiating to reduce the charges against him in return for cooperation. If com-

pleted, such a deal could provide prosecutors with a key witness against the other five. Others in the convoy have already testified before a federal grand jury about the shooting.

Justice Department spokesman Dean Boyd declined comment. Blackwater spokeswoman Anne Tyrrell said, "We've consistently said that we do not believe the guards acted unlawfully. If it is determined they did, we would support holding them accountable."

Regardless of the charges they bring, prosecutors will have a tough fight. The law is unclear on whether contractors can be charged in the U.S., or anywhere, for crimes committed overseas. The indictment sends the message that the Justice Department believes contractors do not operate with legal impunity in war zones.

Based at a sprawling compound in Moyock, N.C., Blackwater itself is not a target of the FBI investigation. Company officials have cooperated with the investigation.

Robbers in drag get millions in Paris jewel theft

By Angia Charlton
Associated Press writer

PARIS — It was nightfall in Paris, Christmas lights sparkled and among shoppers on one of the French capital's ritziest streets was a small group who headed toward the luxury Harry Winston jewelry boutique. Once inside, they transformed into gunmen and pulled off one of the most spectacular jewel heists in history.

On Friday, the Avenue Montaigne, just off the Champs-Élysées, remained in a discreet, moon-eyed air. The only signs of the lightning-fast armed robbery were three empty display windows. And the locked doors.

The thieves vanished with \$108 million worth of jewels — just over a year after a similar heist there.

The four gunmen — three of whom wore wigs and women's clothing — forced employees to strip jewelry, necklaces and earrings from window displays and pull more out of safes, said Isabelle Montagne, spokeswoman for the Paris prosecutor's office.

The brazen robbery early Thursday evening took place in the presence of security guards and security cameras in one of Paris' toniest shopping locales. Besides Harry Winston, Vivena Ricci, Gucci, Chanel and Dior are among the fashion houses with boutiques on Avenue Montaigne.

The robbers threatened the 15 employees with handguns and hit some on the head, according to a police official who cannot be identified under agency policy. The robbers spoke a foreign language at times and appeared to know employees' names, the official sources' names, the official sources said.

Montagne said there was only one client in the store at the time, and no one was injured and no weapons were fired. She called the incident "well-organized." Security guards are banned from carrying guns in France.

Investigators seized the store's surveillance tapes, and police said one group under suspicion was a so-called "Pink Panthers," a ring of jewel thieves mostly from the former Yugoslavia. Interpol has blamed the gang for jewel thefts in 19 countries in Europe, Asia and the Pacific worth more than \$150 million over the past 10 years.

Pentagon to hire foreigners for war effort

Doctor, nurse corps, needs 1,000 people to treat patients

By Pauline Jellack
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Struggling to find enough doctors, nurses and linguists for the war effort, the Pentagon will temporarily recruit foreigners who have been living in the United States on student and work visas, or with refugee or political asylum status.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates has authorized the

Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps to recruit certain legal residents whose critical medical and language skills are "vital to the national interest," officials said, using for the first time a law passed three years ago.

Though the military previously has taken recruits with green cards seeking permanent residency, Gates' action enables the services to start a one-year pilot program to find up to 1,000 foreigners who have lived in the states legally for at least two years on certain types of temporary visas.

The new recruits into the armed forces would get

accelerated treatment in the process toward becoming U.S. citizens in return for serving in the wartime military in the United States or abroad.

"The services are doing a tremendous job of recruiting quality personnel to meet our various missions," sometimes with bonus pay and tuition for medical school, said Bill Carr, deputy undersecretary of defense for military personnel policy. But they haven't been able to fill their need for 24,000 doctors, dentists and nurses in the Defense Department.

The Pentagon's doctor and nurse corps remain

1,000 short of the numbers needed to treat patients, and Carr said he hoped the program would fill the gaps.

The military's most pressing need is for neurosurgeons and dermatologists to treat troops coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan with brain and burn injuries caused by insurgents' wide use of roadside bombs and suicide bombs.

The force also lacks nurses with a broad range of specialties, Carr said.

It also needs people with special language and cultural skills for a war on terrorism that has taken the armed forces across the globe.

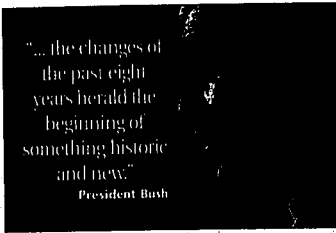
Bush defends administration's legacy in Middle East

By Paul Richter
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — In a sweeping defense of his second President George W. Bush asserted Friday that his administration is leaving the Middle East a "freer, more hopeful and more promising place" than when he took office.

Bush said his administration is close to success in Iraq, has moved to counter Iran's nuclear program, and has "laid a foundation of trust" between Israelis and Palestinians.

"At long last, the Middle East is closing a chapter of darkness and fear, and opening one written in the language of possibility and hope," Bush said in remarks to the Saban Forum in Washington, according to a



President George W. Bush speaks Friday at the Saban Forum 2008 at the Newsweek in Washington.

transcript released by the White House.

The assessment comes six weeks from the end of a presidency that Bush's team would like to portray as more

successful than widely believed. But many experts don't share Bush's optimism. "The net effect is an impression left by the Bush administration that the

United States is unable to deliver and that when it tries, it tends to make matters worse," wrote two experts, Martin S. Indyk, director of the Saban Center, and Richard N. Haass, president of the Council on Foreign Relations.

In a book released in advance of the forum that Bush addressed, the two veteran diplomats wrote that the new administration of President-elect Barack Obama confronts a perilous situation in the Middle East.

"Iran's pursuit of nuclear capability and regional dominance; a strained U.S. military tied down in Iraq, a war that is going badly in Afghanistan, and toward U.S. involvement in the region — all create a dangerous, complicated and urgent policy environment,"

they wrote.

However, in his remarks, Bush said that economic and political reforms are advancing across the Middle East.

"There are still serious challenges facing the Middle East," he said. "Yet the changes of the past eight years herald the beginning of something historic and new."

He said his administration refused to take the "easy option" of installing a friendly strongman when the U.S. invasion of 2003 toppled Saddam Hussein. Instead, the U.S. and, at great cost, supported Iraqis as they "elected their own leaders and built a young democracy."

A U.S.-Iraq security agreement approved by both sides sets "a framework for the drawdown of American forces as the fight in Iraq nears a successful

end," he said.

He acknowledged that the Iraq war, now lasting nearly six years and costing more than \$550 billion, has been longer and more costly than he expected. But he did not attempt to explain early predictions by the top officials of his administration officials that the war would be shorter and much less costly.

However, he alluded to the frequent criticism that his administration sought to justify the invasion by connecting Iraq dictator Saddam Hussein to the Sept. 11 attacks.

"It is true, as I have said many times, that Saddam Hussein was not connected to the 9/11 attacks," Bush said. "But the decision to remove Saddam from power cannot be viewed in isolation from 9/11."

Heart attack patients get 'big chill' treatment

By Marilyn Marchione
Associated Press writer

NEW ORLEANS — It took five mighty shocks to get Cynthia Crawford's heart to start beating again after she collapsed at Ochsner Clinic a few weeks ago. A dramatic rescue, to be sure, yet it was routine care she could have had at any hospital.

What came next, though, was not.

As she lay unconscious, barely clinging to life, doctors placed her in an inflatable cocoon-like pool that sprayed her naked body with hundreds of jet cold jets of water, plunging her into hypothermia.

"Like jumping in the North Sea," said the cardiologist leading her care, Dr. Paul McMullan.

Days later, Crawford was recovering without the brain damage she might have suffered.

For years, doctors have tried cooling people to limit damage from head and spinal cord injuries, strokes and even premature deaths with trauma in newborns. It's also used for cardiac arrest, when someone's heart has stopped. In January, New York will join several other cities requiring ambulances to take many cardiac arrest patients to hospitals that offer cooling.

"Now doctors will be testing a new and dramatically speedier way of doing this for a much more common problem — heart attacks, which strike a million Americans each year."

"It's extremely appealing" because the cooling system is non-invasive and can be used in an ordinary hospital room, said Dr. George Sopko of the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute, which is paying for this first-of-its-kind study.

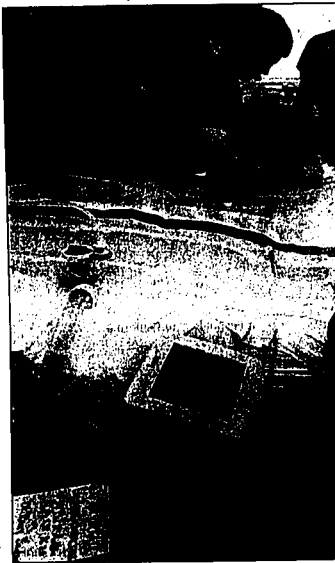
Animal research suggests it will help, "but we need the hard evidence" from human tests to know, he said.

"Heart attacks occur when an artery gets blocked, depriving the heart muscle of oxygen and blood, and causing part of it to die. But the damage doesn't happen all at once — cells die off slowly, sending chemical messages that make neighboring cells do the same. Cooling the body to around 90 degrees from its usual 98.6 slows this down."

"Tissue that would have died, were it not cooled, can stay alive," McMullan explained.

Cooling has been around — you may have heard of it last year when it was used experimentally on Buffalo Bills football player Kevin Everett's spinal cord injury. Doctors pumped frigid saline into his veins to reduce inflammation and give things a chance to heal.

Half a dozen companies sell tools to do this — tubes that go into veins or the belly cavity, fancy ice bags and gel



Dr. Paul McMullan works with the ThermoSulit which is on the top of a patient Nov. 11 at Ochsner Hospital in Jefferson, La., a suburb of New Orleans. A pump rapidly inflates the plastic pool around the patient as doctors Velero on a plastic tophset. Tubes spray naked patients with frigid water as other tubes drain it away, taking heat from the patient's skin with it.

packs, blankets with cold saline inside, fans blowing cold air over patients, even a skullcap to cool the head.

Surgeons use cooling now during open-heart surgery, and promising results from a few studies several years ago led the American Heart Association to recommend it for cardiac arrest patients, whose hearts have stopped.

"The problem with all these trials is the cooling was too slow," taking as long as six hours with some devices, said the leader of one key study, Dr. Michael Holzer of Medical University of Vienna in Austria.

"That's too pokey for treating heart attacks, where doctors must move at warp speed to open the clogged vessel and keep the initial injury as small as possible — the 'time is muscle' message we often hear."

The only big study of cooling for heart attacks — 392 patients given cold saline through a big vein — failed to show benefit, said its leader, Dr. William O'Neill, executive dean of clinical affairs at the University of Michigan's Miller School of Medicine.

However, the cooling was only a few degrees and took an average of 75 minutes. "We believe the reason the trial didn't work is they didn't cool them fast enough," McMullan said.

His proof: People in the study whose temperatures were below 85 degrees at the time they had their artery-opening procedures wound up with only half the heart damage of the others, who were not cooled so much or so quickly.

Which is why doctors at Ochsner have high hopes for the ThermoSulit, made by Life Recovery Systems in Waldwick, N.J., and designed by a former Air Force flight surgeon, cardiologist Robert Freedman of Alexandria, La.

A pump rapidly inflates the pool-like suit until it puffs up tightly around the patient as doctors Velero on a plastic tophset. Tubes spray naked patients with frigid water as other tubes drain it away.

The clinic has not yet had the type of heart attack patients called for in the new study. But McMullan has used the suit on 12 cardiac arrest patients, like Crawford, and cooled them to around 90 degrees in as little as nine minutes, typically in about half an hour.

"That's fabulous and that is very quick. That's the kind of speed we're going to need" for this to be practical and useful, said Dr. Lance Becker, a University of Pennsylvania doctor and Heart Association spokesman who led cooling experiments in animals.

Study tests cooling for heart attacks

COLD AS ICE: There's strong evidence that chilling the body can help limit damage from cardiac arrest, when the heart has stopped beating.

NEW STUDY: Now doctors in New Orleans will test therapeutic cooling for heart attacks, which strike 1 million Americans a year.

COOLING SUIT: New equipment makes it possible to cool the body from its normal 98.6 degrees to about 90 degrees in roughly a half-hour.

— The Associated Press

Obama campaign weighs \$30 million surplus

WASHINGTON (AP) — Democrats carrying significant campaign debt after winning a string of House and Senate races are grumbling about President-elect Barack Obama's financial reserves, saying the party's leader is sitting on a pile of cash while Democratic leaders are broke.

Obama's organization retains some \$30 million after his successful presidential bid, but it's unclear how the Democratic president-in-waiting might use the money. Members of his party are doing their best to appeal for the funds without appearing greedy, ungrateful or hostile to their new leader. "If I was a top adviser to the president elect, I wouldn't necessarily be advocating using those dollars," said Raymond Buckley, chairman of the New Hampshire Democratic

Party. "It was critically important that we not repeat what happened in '93, '94," when President Bill Clinton held the purse strings and Democrats lost 54 U.S. House seats and eight senators during midterm elections. "We need the resources to build the national grass roots network for the Obama agenda. We need to make sure the president is successful and that the administration fulfills his promises," Buckley said.

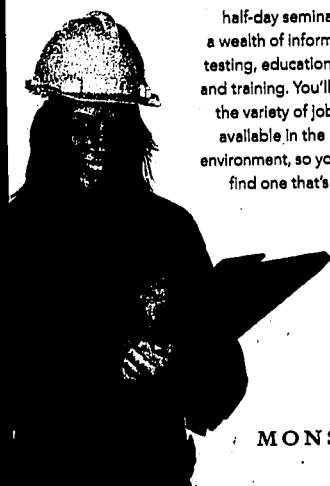
The Democratic National Committee is carrying about \$5 million in debt, with almost \$12 million cash on hand. DNC officials say they expect to have the debt paid by the end of the year. The Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee carries some \$19 million in debt and less than \$3 million on hand.

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Mary Teresa Last

Mary Teresa Last, wonderful mother, cherished daughter, loved sister and treasured friend, died at her home on Dec. 3, 2008. She slipped away quietly and peacefully in her sleep. Her way to a better place where we know she is able to run and dance with the angels.



Mary was born in Portland, Ore., on Jan. 10, 1952. She lived most of her life in Jerome, graduating from Jerome High School. She attended the College of Southern Idaho and lived on campus in the new dorm. She was active on campus and was part of the first group who raised their voices asking for better access to students with disabilities. She then attended Idaho State University where she was active at St. Paul's student center, and continued her activism to help create social and recreational activities for all students regardless of physical ability. Following her graduation in 1978 with a degree in elementary education she volunteered with VESS (Volunteers in Education and Social Services) and served as a teacher for a year in Floresville, Texas. The next year she was hired to teach in Grangeville and after several years there she returned to Jerome and taught in the Jerome school system. She volunteered for many years in schools and helped students be more aware of the students who faced challenges everyday because of their handicaps. She married Steve Hammett in 1987 and they lived for several years in Boise, later moving to Twin Falls. Her life was blessed by the addition of her two children, Sophie and Jason. Throughout the rest of her life she enjoyed them both and reveled in their successes. Mary's activities in Twin Falls revolved around St.

Edward's Parish, The Guadalupe Center, the Cursillo movement, St. Vincent de Paul's, and LINC. For the last five years Mary lived at Curry Retirement Estates west of Twin Falls. She loved living there, and said she had always wanted to live in the country. She enjoyed all animals, birds, horses and calves in the pasture, especially her little dog "Bear". Her ready smile and upbeat attitude was an inspiration to all of those who lived or worked or visited there. She shared her optimism and her deep faith, and always maintained an interest in the world events. She enjoyed outings and celebrations of all kinds.

Mary is survived by her children Sophia Hammett (Jason) of Albuquerque and Amy Hammett of Twin Falls, Lakewood, Wash.; her parents, Bill and Jackie Last of Jerome; her twin brother, Mike (Tish) Last of Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; her five sisters, Kathy (Vern) Pound, Boise, Nancy (Dana) Knapp, Dec. 10, preceded by a rosary at 6:30 p.m. A funeral Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Dec. 11. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Memorials can be made to Idaho Home Health and Hospice, 826 Eastland Drive, Twin Falls Idaho 83301, Monastery of the Ascension, 541 E. 100 S., Jerome, ID 83308, St. Edward's Parish, 212 7th Ave. E., Twin Falls Idaho 83301, St. Jerome's Parish, 212 2nd Ave. E., Jerome, La Posada, Inc., 355 4th Ave. W., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

Lenore Larin Kadlec died Saturday, Nov. 29, 2008, in San Carlos, Calif., after a short illness. She is survived by two sons, Gregory J. Kadlec of Twin Falls and James E. Kadlec of Bainbridge Island, Wash.; her daughter, Barbara K. Eandl of Castro Valley, Calif.; their respective spouses, Judy Kadlec, Nina Kadlec and Richard Eandl; and four grandchildren.



Lenore was born in 1906 in Mayville, N.D., to David and Gertrude Larin. The third oldest of four children, she was the only surviving child at the time of her death. Her father's career as a small-town newspaper owner and editor dictated the family's frequent moves from North Dakota to Wisconsin to Utah and back to North Dakota. Lenore left home at age 17 to teach in a one-room schoolhouse in North Dakota and alternately taught and attended college until she graduated from the University of North Dakota in 1931.

Lenore married George Kadlec of Plsek, N.D., in 1935. The couple had five children. Lenore continued her peripatetic lifestyle as her husband's work with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took her family to many different towns in three different states. Her last stop before coming to Twin Falls was Omaha, Neb., where she worked for six years as the residence director of the University of Nebraska's School of Nursing after the untimely death of her husband in 1963. Also while in Omaha, her youngest two sons were killed in separate automobile accidents when each was 21 years old.

In 1971, Lenore moved to Twin Falls, where she resided happily for many years gardening in her big backyard, playing bridge with her friends, watching the stock market, traveling and reading.

A lifelong learner, she took up the computer when she was 60 and continued to use it to explore the Internet, follow her stocks and correspond with her children until falling sight made it no longer possible.

Lenore Larin Kadlec

In December 2000, illness forced Lenore to relocate to the Elms, an assisted living facility in San Carlos, Calif., near her daughter. Once more demonstrating the remarkable determination that had allowed her to recover from numerous physical challenges, she adapted quickly to her new environment, although always remaining nostalgic about her home in Twin Falls.

Through personal tragedy, economic deprivation and physical disability, Lenore was admitted for her boundless optimism, her friendly demeanor and her refusal to accept the limitations imposed on her by age and health.

Until she was 99, she would not divulge her age and never used the term "old," only "older." Only as she approached her 100th birthday did she begin to express the uniqueness of her situation and admit to her years.

Known at the Elms for her beautiful smile and friendly demeanor, Lenore navigated her remaining years with remarkable grace, fortitude and good humor. Sidelined several times by broken bones, she always struggled back to her feet, proud to be ambulatory until shortly before her death. Acknowledging the contributions of genetics and positive attitude to her longevity, Lenore was also quick to point out the role played by chocolate, her consuming passion.

Lenore was an inspiration to her family, her friends and her caretakers. Even as the shadows grew long around her, she remained forward-looking, never losing confidence that technology held solutions to her infirmities. She will be remembered by all who loved her for her pleasure in life, her refusal to quit and her faith in the future.

A funeral Mass will celebrate Lenore's life at 2 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2486 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls, with Father John Koelsch celebrating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. At Lenore's request, there will be no public viewing. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Carol Ramsey

Carol Lee Nelson Ramsey, 56, of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 5, 2008, at her home.

Arrangements will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Ronald Galloway

Ronald Brent Galloway, 56, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008, at his home.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2008, at the 13th Ward LDS Chapel on North Temple in Twin Falls; visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, 2008, at White Mortuary. Arrangements are under our prior to the services at the church.

Allen Ray Thurston

BURLEY — Allen Ray Thurston, 50, of Salt Lake City, Utah, formerly of Burley, died Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2008.

Funeral arrangements will be announced by Rasmussen Funeral Home.

Russian Orthodox Church Patriarch Alexei II, 79, dies

Los Angeles Times

MOSCOW — Russian Orthodox Patriarch Alexei II, the iconic religious leader who restored the church from a post-Soviet shell to an institution of privilege and power, died at his Moscow home Friday, He was 79.

The imposing, white-bearded Alexei had held the Russian Orthodox Church's top post for the last 18 years, an era that witnessed the collapse of the Soviet Union and the rebirth of Russia as a

powerful, centralized state under the steady leadership of Prime Minister and former President Vladimir Putin.

Alexei was celebrated for healing a painful rift with the Russian Orthodox Church Outside Russia, a splinter faction established by White Guard Russians who fled the Soviet Union for the West. The Russian patriarch signed a pact with Metropolitan Laurentius in 2007, putting an end to the bitter, 80-year schism.

Amnesia victim 'HM,' who shed light on brain, dies

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) — Henry Molaison lived for decades with profound amnesia, but in death he will be remembered for his groundbreaking contributions to understanding the brain.

Molaison, who was known as Henry M. or H.M. in scientific studies, died Tuesday at a nursing home at the age of 82, said Suzanne Corkin, a neuropsychologist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology who worked closely with Molaison.

Molaison participated in more than a half century of research and hundreds of studies that shed light on learning and memory.

"He was an absolutely groundbreaking," Corkin said Friday. "Before him people didn't know memory could be localized to a specific part of the brain."

Molaison was the subject of the 1957 book "The Mind of Henry M." and the 1984 movie "The Mind of Henry M." He was also the subject of the 1997 movie "The Mind of Henry M."

Molaison was a writer, editor and literary agent who has been credited with coining the term "sci-fi" in the 1950s.

DEATH NOTICES

Scott Chestnut

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. — Scott Chestnut, 46, of Walnut Creek, Calif., and formerly of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008.

A memorial service will be held at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008, at Ascension Episcopal Church, 371 Eastland Dr. N., Twin Falls.

Robert Amende

MESA, Ariz. — Robert Amende, 89, of Mesa, Ariz., and formerly of Twin Falls, died Friday, Dec. 5, 2008, at a local nursing home.

Arrangements will be announced by Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Marvin Williams

HEYBURN — Marvin Dean Williams, 63 of Heyburn, died Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Arrangements are under the direction of Hansen Payne Mortuary.

Francis Carter

BURLEY — Francis Marley Carter, 97, of Burley, died Wednesday, Dec. 3, 2008, at the Warren House in Burley.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 10, at the Burley LDS

Church.

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

Dale Snow

Dale Snow, loving husband, father and grandfather passed away at the age of 88 at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Center on Dec. 4, 2008.

He was born to parents Clyde and Orpha Snow on March 27, 1920, in Buhl, Idaho. He graduated from Murtaugh High School in 1938 and continued working at the local service station until 1941 when he joined the Navy. He worked as a machinist while stationed in Alameda, Calif., where he met the love of his life, Francis E. Riewerts. He was married to Francis, Aug. 11, 1944, at the Fruitvale Christian Church in Oakland, Calif. They lived in Hutchinson, Kan., while he served in the Navy during World War II, later moving to Murtaugh, two times in Oakland, then back to Caldwell and have lived in Twin Falls for nearly 50 years.

He worked as a machinist at Self Manufacturing, later K&T Steel, and also worked as a maintenance man at Sears, Roebuck and Co. for 19 years until his retirement in 1983.

He was an avid outdoorsman spending much of his free time camping, fishing and hunting with friends and family in the South Hills and Sawtooth Mountains.

Joseph D. Ferris

Joseph D. Ferris, 85, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, Dec. 4, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Joe was born June 27, 1923, at Beaver, Utah, to John L. and Tina Powell Ferris. He grew up and graduated from high school in Beaver and then moved to California to work for Lockheed Aircraft. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and then attended LDS Business College.

Joe moved to Twin Falls and worked for Union Pacific at the freight office and also in the wholesale grocery business. The Korean War called Joe back to service in the U.S. Navy, after which he returned to Twin Falls.

On April 24, 1953, Joe married Vera Schofield at the Idaho Falls LDS Temple. They had two children, Union Wholesale Grocers until 1955 when he moved to Northern California to work for United Airlines. He returned to Idaho, to Rupert in 1956, helping his father-in-law at the dairy. From 1958 until 1960, he worked for Young's Dairy and then

returned to United Airlines, moving to San Francisco. He retired after years of management and manpower planning for the airline and returned to Twin Falls in 1983.

Vera preceded Joe in death on April 16, 1987. Joe later married Gladys Kloepper and the couple moved to Boise to work at the LDS temple. Gladys preceded Joe in death on June 27, 2006. Joe married Patsy Colter in Twin Falls.

Joe was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints church, where he served as a High Priest. He was also a past member of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

Joe is survived by his wife, Patsy Ferris of Twin Falls; as well as several nieces, nephews and families. He was preceded in death by his parents; wives, Vera and Gladys; two brothers and two sisters.

A celebration of Joe's life will be held at 3 p.m. Monday, Dec. 8, 2008, at Bridgeview Retirement Estates in Twin Falls. The burial will take place at 3 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, 2008, at the M.A.R.C. Cemetery at Rupert, Idaho. Arrangements are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls.

SERVICES

Henrietta "Betty" Marie Bartels of Jerome, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Twin Falls Reformed Church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome).

Olive C. Hartley of Wendell, memorial service at 11 a.m. today at the Wendell United Methodist Church (Demaray Funeral Service, Wendell Chapel).

Michael D. Taylor of Shoshone, funeral at 11 a.m. today at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley; visitation one hour before the funeral today at the mortuary.

Carma June Adams of Albion, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Albion LDS Church; visitation from 1 to 1:45 p.m. today at the Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley.

Edith S. Hamilton of Twin Falls, memorial service at 3:30 p.m. today at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, 1312 Parkside Drive in Twin Falls (Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Emma J. Dodge of Twin Falls, memorial spaghetti dinner from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. today at the Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2055 Filber Ave. E. in Twin Falls (Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Gary Lee Boguslawski of Jerome, memorial service at 10 a.m. Monday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome.

Gail Ann Peacock of Twin Falls and formerly of Scottsdale, Ariz., celebration of life memorial service at 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Deon Senior Apartments, 1338 N. College Road in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Virginia Southwick of Twin Falls, memorial service at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 13, at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Barry O. Bragg of Jerome, memorial service at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 20, at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome; visitation from 8 to 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 19, at the mortuary.

RELIGION

TIMES-NEWS • SECTION EDITOR ANDREW WEEKS: (208) 735-3233 AWEEKS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

INSIDE:
Believers flock
to controversial
revival, C4



C

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 6, 2008

INSIDE: Church news, C2 | Religion letter, C2 | McMullen column, C2 | Community, C6

A POETIC CHRISTMAS

A member of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley made this tapestry, which depicts the nativity scene.



Rev. Kenneth Brannon poses for this photo taken last summer in front of his church. Brannon and his church will host a poetry night Sunday, which will weave together familiar gospel passages from creation to the birth of Christ with classic and contemporary poetry and hymns.

Writers use artistic talent to express thoughts on nativity

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

If you go

"Reflections on Christ's Nativity" service of Advent lessons and carols will be held 5:30 p.m. Sunday at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, 201 Sun Valley Rd. in Sun Valley. Admission is free.

A cat in the manger becomes interwoven with the Christmas story Sunday night when St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Sun Valley observes a unique Advent celebration.

The service, titled "Reflections on Christ's Nativity," will weave together familiar gospel passages from creation to the birth of Christ with classic and contemporary poetry and classic hymns.

There'll also be harp music by Marina Dellago and a few contemporary selections, such as Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Everything's

Alright," which high school students Julia Dwyer and Madigan Miller will sing.

Rachel Brannon modeled the program, which will start at 5:30 p.m. at the church, 201 Sun Valley Rd., after those she'd experienced at St. Barnabas Episcopal Church in Irvington, N.Y., where a high school literature teacher included poetry in the tradi-

tional Anglican service of Advent lessons and carols.

"I'm really excited," she said. "Some people are a little intimidated by poetry. And those of us who went to the Mary Oliver poetry reading several weeks ago wondered how we could possibly sit in our seats listening to an hour and a half of poetry. But time flew by. Poetry seems to add a new dimension to our understanding."

Some of the poetry is pretty edgy, but it speaks to human life, said Rev. Kenneth Brannon, the rector at St. Thomas.

One poem, chosen as part of the passages illustrating man's sin and fall, talks about money.

"...Then one day when you

think you are its master it will turn its head as if for a kiss and bite you gently on the hand," writes Victor Contoski.

Another poem by James Wright presents "Saint Judas" in a new light:

"When I went out to kill myself, I caught
A pair of hoodlums beating up a man.

Running to spare his suffering, I forgot
My name, my number, how my day began..."

There's a poem by former U.S. poet laureate Billy Collins, another by Robert Frost, still another by Carl Sandburg.

"He said hot damn, holy cow, what the hell is going on?" writes poet Sharon

Bryan as she ponders Adam and creation in "Saying Things."

And then there's U.A. Funtiope's "Cat in the Cradle," about a cat who wonders how Matthew, Mark, Luke and John could have possibly missed the fact that there was a feline snuggling with the holy pair that Christmas morn so long ago.

"Each of the readers comes to it with their individual voices, which should make the service flow real nicely," said Sara Gorby, the service's director.

Karen Bossick may be reached at kbossick@cox-internet.com or 208-578-2111.

Mormon church apostle eulogized as humble, kind

By Jennifer Dobner
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Mormon church apostle Joseph B. Wirthlin Jr. was remembered at funeral services Friday as a kind man of deep faith, who never sought the limelight and strived to serve others. "His humility stands out. Dad just never saw himself as anyone special," Wirthlin Jr. said in a short eulogy. "He thought so little of himself because he thought so much of others and their needs and, when you were in his presence, you felt important."

Wirthlin, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, died at home Monday of causes related to his age. At 91, Wirthlin was the oldest-serving church apostle. The Quorum is the church's second-highest governing body, charged with oversight of church operations.

Wirthlin was ordained as an apostle in October 1985, about a decade after being called to full-time church service. His death leaves a vacancy in the Quorum. Members serve for life and are in line for succession to the church presidency.

The decision to call a new apostle is left to church President Thomas S. Monson. It was unclear Friday when that appointment would be made.

Wirthlin was well-known to faithful Mormons for his soft-spoken and unassuming manner. His funeral was open to the public. More than 5,000 mourners came to Temple Square for the services, packing the facility's 141-seater tribune, which was draped in pine boughs and white lights for the Christmas holidays.

Prior to being called as apostle, Wirthlin held a variety of church and community positions, including serving as a counselor to the Sunday school president, director of the church military relations committee, director of the church curriculum department and as an editor of church magazines. He also led church operations in continental Europe, Britain, Please see WIRTHLIN, Page C3

Phebe's story: Wendell author writes novel about biblical woman

By Andrew Weeks
Times-News writer

There have been a lot of books written about women in the Bible, but there is at least one woman who has been overlooked, according to Richard Hagerman.

So he decided to write his own book about her.

In his book, *Phebe — Courier for Paul*, Hagerman explores the life of Phebe, who is mentioned in the Book of Romans — "one of the most important books in the Christian church," he said.

He calls his book a "what if" story, noting the best way to



tell Phebe's story is through a fictional narrative, since little is mentioned of her in the scriptural record. But that didn't stop him from delving into what historical records

he could, "all 28" reference sources listed in the bibliography at the back of his book. "It took me two years to research the book, and another two years to write it."

he said. The central theme of — and the best thing about — the book, Hagerman said, is that it teaches the importance of Christianity.

"It's a story about a woman who is searching for something. She thinks she can find it in her Grecian gods, but can't, and finally realizes that Jesus Christ is her answer," he said.

A description on the back of the book reads, in part: "What will it take for this brave, resilient, passionate widow to believe, finally, in the Christians' 'One God' and his Messiah Son, the 'Light

of the World'? What journey must she take to ultimately change forever her strong ideas about the Romans — and learn new things about them as human beings? And can she ever find room in her heart for a Roman man named Ampelius who is truly in love with her?"

Hagerman said he's received a lot of feedback from people who've read the book, people other than from his Presbyterian faith. Catholics, Methodists and various church missionaries have read the book, he said.

One person, he said, told him the book made her stay

up late reading it when she normally went to bed early. Hagerman, like most authors, likes the feedback he gets from readers.

"It's an excellent book," said Sharia Dunn, who operates her own bookstore, Something More, out of her Wendell home. "I couldn't put it down. I wanted to know what happened next."

Dunn said she's sold the book to customers who have also commented on how much they enjoyed reading it. Although it is a bit of a love story, she thinks the book

Please see NOVEL, Page C3

CHURCH NEWS

Presbyterian Women hold annual brunch

The women of the First Presbyterian Church will hold their annual Christmas Brunch from 10 a.m. to noon today in the fellowship hall...

The church is located at 209 Fifth Ave. N. in Twin Falls. Everyone is welcome. Information: 733-7023.

LDS Singles host Christmas dinner

The Regional LDS Single Adults (31 and over) will hold a Christmas dinner at 6 p.m. today at the new Twin Falls LDS Stake Center near the Temple.

Boise deacon speaks at Ascension Episcopal

Deacon Scott Ellsworth of Boise will be the guest celebrant for Eucharist at the Ascension Episcopal Church, 371 Eastland Drive N.

Information: 733-1248.

Methodists begin 'Journey to Christmas'

The Rupert United Methodist Church will begin its "Journey to Christmas" on Nov. 23 by decorating the church sanctuary and fellowship hall...

Jerome church open for Advent prayers

The First Presbyterian Church in Jerome will be open during the noon hour on Monday through Friday during Advent for special prayers.

Wendell Methodists host first Sunday lunch

The First Sunday Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Wendell United Methodist Church, 175 E. Main.

Gooding church hosts sing-along on Tuesday

A community Christmas sing-along will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church, 504 Washington St. in Gooding.

Meese speaks to ladies fellowship group

The Ladies Lifeline Fellowship, a non-denominational group, will host a Christmas meal and sing-along with Lila and Pastor Pamela Meese speaking.

River Christian Fellowship hosts movie night

The River Christian Fellowship will host a Christmas Movie Night on Friday at the church, located on the corner of Falls Avenue East and the road to Shoshone Falls.

Young womanhood award

Robyn Smith recently received a Young Womanhood Recognition Award through the Young Women program of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Mormon church takes reservations for temple tours

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The doors of the new Mormon temple in Draper aren't open yet, but its reservation desk is.

Austrian Christmas tree arrives at the Vatican

VATICAN CITY — Workers are setting up the Vatican's Christmas tree that has arrived in St. Peter's Square from Austria.

December. One recipient is the Crisis Center of Magic Valley. A wish list of toys and Christmas gift items is posted in the December 'Messenger', the church bulletin and at the church.

The second recipient is Safe Harbor, which needs toys to fill stockings for the elderly on a fixed income, the homebound and others in need.

The adult Sunday school is participating in an Advent study using the lectionary readings for the season. This class is led by Corine VanDyk and meets at 9:45 in the Fireside Room. Everyone is welcome.

Burley Presbyterians plan blanket drive

His table for Holy Communion and the Second Sunday of Advent will be held at 10:45 a.m. Sunday at the First Presbyterian Church, 2100 Burton Ave. in Burley, with the Rev. Al Fry.

The church is participating with the South Central Community Action Agency in the annual Blanket Drive and requesting blankets instead of canned foods this month.

Wendell Methodists host first Sunday lunch

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assisted living facilities.

On Dec. 20, the youth group will hold its annual caroling service, traveling in wagons to several locations.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent on Dec. 21, "It's a Womp" will be a time for members to assist others in wrapping gifts with stories and songs in the fellowship hall following hospitality time.

A Blue Christmas service will be at 4 p.m. Dec. 21 in the sanctuary, followed by a time for light refreshments and fellowship. All who have ever lost a loved one will be invited to share their "blue Christmas" following a loss of any kind.

Christmas Eve Candlelight services will be at 6 and 11 p.m. with communion served and special music and a Christmas message by Pastor Pamela Meese at each service.

Christmas Day will be with families and celebration of the birth of Christ.

Sunday school for all ages will be at 9:45 a.m. Worship begins at 10:50 a.m.

All are welcome. Information: 436-3354.

Wendell Methodists host first Sunday lunch

The First Sunday Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Wendell United Methodist Church, 175 E. Main.

There is a break from Thanksgiving and turkey leftovers with a light lunch of chili and/or clam chowder soup, cornbread, tossed salad and dessert. Cost is a freewill donation.

The door to the basement is on the east side of the church. Anyone who needs help down the stairs should call the church at 436-2305.

Information: Margaret Pressnell, 536-5751, or Mary Lou Ruby, 536-6503.

Jerome church open for Advent prayers

The First Presbyterian Church in Jerome will be open during the noon hour on Monday through Friday during Advent for special prayers.

A prayer leader will be available in the Sanctuary to pray or meditate with those who come to pray.

Pledges for 2009 will be due on Monday through Friday during Advent. Lunch with crafts and Christmas cookies for everyone will follow.

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RELIGION LETTER

To have peaceful world, religions must change

If we are ever to have a more peaceful world, religions will have to change with some of their beliefs for they have divided people all over the world for thousands of years, causing wars and rumors of wars.

Facing reality has never been easy with so many false prophets. Scientists know that what was true millions of years ago is still true today, for Mother Nature is still the

boss, and like it states in the Bible, "There is no knowledge or wisdom in the grave whither thou goest" (Ecclesiastes 9:10). WILLIAM HAFFNER Twin Falls

The Times-News welcomes letters on religious topics of 200 words or less from readers. Letters should include the writer's signature, mailing address and telephone number. Letters considered libelous, obscene or in bad taste will be rejected, and the Times-News reserves the right to edit all letters.

FAMILY FUN



Clown 'N' Ministry, featuring Deonoe and Cheekers (aka Mark and Nettie Bergsoll) will present a family fun celebration of Christmas at 4:30 p.m. Sunday at the Jackpot Baptist Church, 1785 Pleasant Drive in Jackpot. New. The service is part of the 10th Annual Christmas with the Jackpot and Rogerson Baptist churches. Deonoe and Cheekers were voted 'American Clown Idols' in January 2008 in Las Vegas.

YOUNG WOMANHOOD AWARD

Robyn Smith recently received a Young Womanhood Recognition Award through the Young Women program of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



To earn the award, girls age 12 to 18 set goals in seven value areas — faith, divine nature, individual worth, knowledge, choice and accountability, good works and integrity — and strive to achieve them, through church and community service projects.

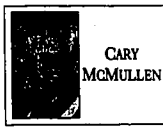
anniversary, planting a garden, crocheting a hammock for stuffed animals, making a quiet book for her future family and many service projects from baby-sitting to raking leaves. She has helped make her home a happy place and has been a good example to her younger siblings.

Robyn is the daughter of Jim and Karen Smith of Wendell and is in the Wendell 1st Ward. She is a freshman at Wendell High School with a 4.0 grade-point average and plays baritone saxophone in the band. She ran the 800 meter and 1,600 meter runs in the middle school track program. Her Young Women leader is Lori Egbert.

The Times-News welcomes news of Young Women Recognition awards. Send information to Ellen Thomason at ellen@magicalvalley.com. Deadline is 5 p.m. Wednesday for publication on the Saturday religion page.

Islam's existence is not the root of world strife

What if Islam had never existed? What if the Prophet Muhammad had never lived and history had proceeded on without the formation of what is now the world's second-largest religion? That was the subject of a provocative essay in a recent issue of the Journal Foreign Policy.



CARY McMULLEN

The article was written by Graham Fuller, former vice chairman of the Middle East Intelligence Council of the CIA, the author of several books about Islam and currently professor of history at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. Fuller displays an impressive grasp of the history of the Middle East.

No shortage of people in the United States and Europe see Islam as the source of most of the conflict in the world today and would be only too happy to see it snuffed out. Fuller proposes what he calls "an act of historical imagination." All right, he says, suppose there were no Islam and never had been. Would our present situation be any better?

His short answer is no, and he gives a persuasive set of arguments why, beginning with the most obvious: "These struggles — over power, territory, influence, and trade — existed long before Islam arrived."

If there had been no Islam, presumably the Middle East region's predominant religion would have continued to be Christianity, but both before and after the discovery of the Americas and, so the West has always had designs on it. Fuller argues that Western greed and desire for hege-

... if Eastern Orthodox Christianity were the presumed religion of the Middle East, we need only look at the conflicts between Catholic Croatia and Orthodox Serbia to find intolerance at least as vicious as anything attributed to Islam.

who visited their 'world wars' twice upon the rest of the world — two devastating global conflicts with no remote parallels in Islamic history.

One often hears that Islam is anti-democratic (ignoring the examples of Turkey and Indonesia). So would a Middle East without Islam have been more amenable to democracy? Not necessarily, Fuller writes.

Seven times out that Spain and Greece had dictatorships into the 1970s, as did most of Christian Latin America until recently and even now some of the predominantly Christian nations of Africa.

Lack of religious tolerance is another major charge leveled against Islam. Fuller didn't mention the example, but if Eastern Orthodox Christianity were the presumed religion of the Middle East, we need only look at the conflicts between Catholic Croatia and Orthodox Serbia to find intolerance at least as vicious as anything attributed to Islam. Fuller writes, Palestinians would still resist Russians. Kashmiris would resist Indians. The grievances of the Middle East

against the West do not have their roots in Islam, he says. Rather, Islam provides a "vehicle" for a unified resistance to ongoing Western pressure.

Other scholars, notably John Esposito of Georgetown University, have also made the point that terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda have misused Islam to justify violent actions to resist a local or global foe, both real and imagined, by the West. Thus, Western politicians and pundits blame Islam and fall to see underlying causes.

The "key reason why the United States does not find itself beset by its teeth upon the Muslim world," Fuller concludes, is the "unceasing Western quest for domination of the strategic space, resources, and even culture of the Muslim world — the effort to create a 'pro-American' Middle East. Unfortunately, the United States naively assumes that Islam is all that stands between it and the prize."

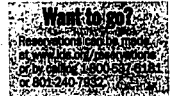
Cary McMullen is religion editor at The Ledger in Lakeland, Fla. Contact him at cary.mcmullen@theledger.com. The Ledger is a member of the New York Times Regional Media Group.

Mormon church takes reservations for temple tours

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The doors of the new Mormon temple in Draper aren't open yet, but its reservation desk is.

Austrian Christmas tree arrives at the Vatican

VATICAN CITY — Workers are setting up the Vatican's Christmas tree that has arrived in St. Peter's Square from Austria.



Members, close to the public after dedication ceremonies in March. Temples are considered sacred to Latter-day Saints, who use the buildings to perform religious rituals including prayer baptisms and marriage ceremonies known as sealings.

Austrian Christmas tree arrives at the Vatican

VATICAN CITY — Workers are setting up the Vatican's Christmas tree that has arrived in St. Peter's Square from Austria.

The official lighting ceremony is on Dec. 12. The tree will be adorned with 2,000 Christmas balls and topped with a shining star. It stands beside a life-size nativity scene that will be unveiled on Christmas Eve.

Another 40 smaller trees arrived Friday to decorate Pope Benedict XVI's private quarters, as well as Vatican offices.

Christmas trees have only been placed in the square since 1982, when Polish-born Pope John Paul II began the northern European tradition.

Mountain Meadows research materials donated to museum

HARRISON, Ark. (AP) — A gift of more than 100 books and other research materials to the Boone County Heritage Museum has expanded the museum's collection on the Mountain Meadows Massacre, in which 120 members of a wagon train from Arkansas were killed in Utah in 1857.

The gift from Scott Fancher and Harley Fancher of the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation, includes 119 books, 72 maps and photos plus magazine articles and audio and video related to the massacre.

The expedition members, led by Capt. Alexander Fancher and John Baker, were in Mormon territory at a time when church members have been attacked in other states and were preparing for the arrival of federal troops who were dispatched to put down a perceived rebellion.

Arkansas members of the Fancher-Baker wagon train were headed for California when they were attacked during a stop at the meadow. After a weeklong gun battle, the group was tricked into a fake truce by a local church leader and killed by a Mormon militia on Sept. 11, 1857.

Descendants have been at odds with the church for decades over the meadows and how the massacre should be memorialized.

The collection donated to the Boone County museum was assembled by Burr Fancher, Scott Fancher's father and an authority on the event.

The Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation has worked to put reference material about the massacre

into a number of locations, including the Paiute Cultural Center in Cedar City, Utah. According to a recent historical account, Mormon militia enlisted members of the tribe in the final attack on the group, which occurred after they were led from their encampment in a supposed truce.

The only survivors were 17 young children, who were thought to be too young to describe what happened. Two years later, the children were taken by the federal government and reunited with members of their extended families in Arkansas.

Among the books given to the museum is the new Arkansas history textbook that is being used in the state's public schools. Harley Fancher's wife, Diann, was instrumental in getting the account of the massacre, long forgotten in the state, back into the textbook.

Scott Fancher, like Harley Fancher, a descendant of the expedition's leader, said the Mountain Meadows Monument Foundation has marked the graves of the 17 young survivors of the massacre.

Harley Fancher said the donation to the museum was a priority for the group.

"Boone County is very special to us," he said at a Nov 21 ceremony. "This is where we started."

The Fanchers also presented a plaque of appreciation to Marilyn Breese of the Boone County Heritage Museum. Her support and assistance in getting out the information about the massacre had been invaluable, they said.

RELIGION BRIEFS

Conservatives form rival group to Episcopal Church

WHEATON, Ill. — Theological conservatives upset by the liberal views of the Episcopal Church are forming a rival denomination.

The new Anglican Church in North America will include four Episcopal dioceses that recently split from the U.S. church, along with break-away Anglican parishes from Canada.

The announcement Wednesday in Wheaton, Ill., comes after decades of debate over what Episcopalians should believe about issues ranging from salvation to sexuality. Tensions erupted in 2003 when Episcopalians consecrated the first openly gay bishop, New Hampshire's Gene Robinson.

The world Anglican Communion is a fellowship of churches with roots in the Church of England. The Episcopal Church is the Anglican body in the United States. But the new North American church says it represents true Anglican beliefs.

Anti-religion holiday sign draws protests

OLYMPIA, Wash. — An

anti-religion sign in the Capitol Rotunda is drawing protesters to Olympia.

Redmond pastor Ken Hatcher of the Antioch Bible Church called an 11 a.m. news conference Friday. The Olympian reports he'll place his own pro-Christian sign in the Rotunda to mock atheists.

A Federal Way man, Steve Wilson, plans a protest at 2 p.m. Sunday on the Capitol campus. The Tacoma News Tribune reports he became involved after hearing Bill O'Reilly of Fox News say displaying the sign alongside a holiday tree and a Christian nativity scene is "political correctness gone mad."

The sign from the Freedom From Religion Foundation calls religion "myth and superstition."

Meanwhile, the holiday tree lighting ceremony is 6 p.m. Friday.

Educator who allowed prayer named principal

JACKSON, Miss. — An educator once fired for allowing prayer over a public school intercom is once again in charge of a school in Jackson.

Bishop Knox was named interim principal of Bailey Middle School this week, and is set to serve through the end of the academic year.

Knox was principal of Wingfield High School in November 1993, when he allowed a student to read a prayer over the intercom.

He initially was fired by the superintendent at the time, Ben Canada. The Jackson School Board later reduced Knox's punishment to a suspension and reinstated him.

Knox has worked in the Jackson Public Schools central office as the executive director of the office of pupil assessment and appeals.

UNC-Chapel Hill library drops Christmas trees

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — No Christmas trees this year at the two main libraries at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

The News & Observer of Raleigh reports trees have been in the lobby of the Wilson and Davis libraries for years.

Associate provost Sarah Michalak decided against the trees. Michalak said she eliminated the displays after getting questions and complaints from employees and library users about the Christmas display.

Michalak says she acted after finding there are no Christmas trees in the libraries at Duke and North Carolina State University.

She says it doesn't seem

right to celebrate one particular set of customs. She says libraries contain information from around the world about all belief systems that is offered without judgment.

Student Derek Belcher complained the decision is just political correctness.

Catholic hospital financing deal falls through in Boston

BOSTON — The Archdiocese of Boston's six hospitals are laying off 160 workers at the same time a \$100 million financing deal has fallen through.

Caritas Christi Health Care announced a deal in October in which Ascension Health of St. Louis would buy \$100 million in a larger public bond offering.

Brian Carry, Caritas Christi's chief marketing officer, tells The Boston Globe that the deal was frozen because of the nation's economic crisis. Caritas Christi is unable to sell bonds.

A deal for Ascension to acquire Caritas Christi earlier this month, as did a tentative one with another Catholic health care system, and Caritas Christi decided to continue operating on its own.

— Wire reports

Priest urges parishioners to confess if they voted for Obama

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — A Roman Catholic priest urged his parishioners to confess if they voted for Barack Obama with knowledge of the president-elect's support for abortion rights, drawing a dissenting view from his bishop and further stirring a debate about Catholic political responsibility.

"If you are one of the 54 percent of Catholics who voted for a pro-abortion candidate, you were clear on his position and you knew the gravity of the question, I urge

you to go to confession before receiving communion. Don't risk losing your state of grace by receiving sacrilegiously," the Rev. Joseph Illo wrote in a Nov. 21 letter to 15,000 parishioners at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Modesto.

He delivered a similar message during a Mass. Illo said in an interview he sent the letter because Catholic teaching requires that people go to confession when they commit a mortal sin.

The Most Rev. Stephen

Blaire, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Stockton, where the parish is situated, disagreed. He said Catholics did not need to confess if they voted for Obama after considering many issues. Confession would be necessary only if someone voted for a candidate specifically because of his or her support of abortion, Blaire said.

Illo clarified his position from the pulpit Sunday. He said if parishioners intentionally had supported any candidate who backs abor-

tion rights — not just Obama that stance — "may" need confessing, the *Modesto Bee* reported. Last month, a Catholic priest in South Carolina drew attention for telling parishioners they should refrain from receiving Communion if they voted for Obama because of his pro-abortion rights position.

During the 2008 campaign, many bishops told Catholic politicians and voters that abortion should be the most important voting consideration.

Russian Orthodox Church patriar dies

MOSCOW (AP) — In his nearly two decades at the head of the world's largest Orthodox church, Patriarch Alexy II oversaw a religious revival in Russia and healed a major church rift, but his death leaves a long-running dispute with the Vatican unresolved.

Alexy's death Friday at age 79 deprives the Russian

Orthodox Church of its dominant figure, whose stern, bearded mien gave him an almost medieval aura of inflexible righteousness. He often complained that Rome's Catholics were preaching adherents among a people who traditionally would have been Orthodox if atheistic Soviet rule had not impeded them.

Wirthlin

Continued from page C1

Ireland and Africa.

An emotional church president Thomas S. Monson stories from Wirthlin's life and church service, saying there was never a more "loyal, trusting and dedicated friend than Joseph B. Wirthlin. He always went the second mile."

"I shall miss him," Monson said.

A native of Salt Lake City, Wirthlin played football for the University of Utah in the 1930s. Wirthlin's jersey, bearing the No. 4, long hung framed in his church office, Monson said.

Wirthlin graduated from

the university with a degree in business administration. In 2001, he received an honorary doctorate from church-owned Brigham Young University.

In his secular life, Wirthlin was president of a family-run wholesale meat distribution business. He was also president of a business and trade association in Utah.

Wirthlin married Elisa Young Rogers Wirthlin on May 26, 1941, in the Salt Lake Temple. She died in 2006. The couple had eight children.

The family planned a private burial at the Salt Lake City Cemetery.

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Novel

Continued from page C1

would appeal to men as well as women.

"It takes you right back to those Roman times and how they lived," she said. "It keeps you reading."

The 190-page volume, published through Vantage Press in New York, is Hagerman's second book. Yet it is only one of many publishing ventures. He also has written for the *Saturday Evening Post*, *Guidepost*, *Decision Magazine*, and the *Times-News*, to name a few.

Hagerman, who lives in Wendell with his wife, Dorothy, is a retired dentist who earned his DDS at the University of Michigan and practiced dentistry for 38 years. He and Dorothy, who have been married for 61 years, have two living children.

Now at age 84, Hagerman says he does not plan to write

any more books but continues to submit articles for magazines. It wiles away the time and gives him something creative to do.

Of the book, *Phibes*, he says, "It's got some love in it. It's got some interesting stories and I am pleased with how it came out ... I think the story has merit."

Andrew Weeks may be reached at 208-735-3239 or aweeks@magicvalley.com.

ST. JOHN 3:16
Keep Christ in Christmas
J.C.H.T.M.R.K.

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Listen & Watch

Florida revival draws criticism, and thousands

Man claims he has gift of healing

By Travis Reed
Associated Press writer

LAKELAND, Fla. — Todd Bentley believes God acts through him to cure cancer, heal the deaf and raise the dead.

So do hundreds of thousands of people who visited his raucous revival meeting, in a huge tent in the middle of Florida.

The 32-year-old Canadian, tattooed to the fingers and neck, puts a palm to the forehead of the sick, desperate and faithful. Bentley yells "Bam!" they collapse and he proclaims them cured. Attendees dance in the aisles, shout to Heaven, laugh, shake violently and cry.

Such revivals aren't new, but Bentley's stage show has become a phenomenon in the religious world — for both its pull and the criticism it has attracted — in just a few months.

He claims to have medical proof of mass healings, but has not produced widely convincing evidence. His tactics, sometimes violent,

have made skeptics even of Pentecostals who believe in concepts that aren't accepted by all branches of Christianity such as speaking in tongues, miraculous healing and spontaneous twitching from the Holy Spirit.

"Some of the language used during the Lakeland Revival has created an almost sideshow atmosphere," wrote J. Lee Grady, editor of the Pentecostal magazine *Charisma*. In an online column, "People are invited to 'Come and get some.' Miracles are supposedly popping like popcorn." ... Such brash statements cheapen what the Holy Spirit is doing.

When Bentley performs healings, often wearing jeans and a T-shirt, aides bring the sick up both sides of an elaborate stage. The preacher's assistants tell the audience each person's condition and how far they came to be cured: from Europe, the West Coast, up to the Northeast and beyond.

Bentley gives the credit to God, but Christian critics say he rarely opens a Bible or sermonizes about

Jesus Christ. They worry he is too little about conversion, too heavy on his own hype and too focused on self-proclaimed miracles.

"How can you be too focused on miracles?" Bentley shouted to another packed house.

The revival sprung from Bentley's April visit to a Lakeland church for a speaking engagement. He has traveled the world as head of Fresh Fire Ministries, based in Abbotsford, British Columbia, but never received a fraction of this exposure.

Thanks to Internet streaming and live broadcasts on the satellite channel GodTV, Bentley's revival has outgrown four venues in Lakeland and drawn more than 400,000 in-person from around the country and world, promoters say.

GodTV estimated its viewership has more than doubled since it began televising the event each night, and Web hits have risen from 25,000 to 200,000 weekly, Bentley's own page is now getting 8 million hits a month, he said.

But the case of Internet communication cuts both ways for Bentley. Critics circulate a YouTube video from Lakeland of him kneeling a supposed terminal stomach

cancer patient in the abdomen, saying God told him to. In another clip, Bentley explains how he kicked an elderly lady in the face, choked a man, banged a crippled woman's legs on a platform, "leg-dropped" a pastor and hit a man so hard it dislodged a tooth.

The criticism has grown so acute that Bentley addressed it directly on stage earlier this month. He said he has used those extreme methods only about 20 times in 10 years of preaching, and those cases were taken out of context. Each person was healed, not hurt, Bentley insisted.

"People just can't understand why God would tell me something like, 'Kick that woman in the face,' who was not injured and hundreds were healed," Bentley said. "Or the incident where I did hit a guy so hard one time that he did hit the ground and his tooth popped out."

"But what people don't know is that he was a dentist. There's a whole miracle that took place in his body. He was healed of cancer and he became a (ministry donor) after the incident of knocking his tooth out, because he knew it was God. And he said, 'I never felt a thing.'"

The claims of healing range from disappeared tumors to a man who says he can now see out of a glass eye. In more than 20 cases, Bentley says, his revival has even literally resurrected the dead. Such claims have been made by evangelists in the past, but they are not common and some Pentecostals reject them.

Expecting critics, Bentley's ministry distributed a list of 15 people it said were cured, and vetted by his ministry, with all but three of their stories "medically verified."

Yet two phone numbers given out by the ministry were wrong, six people did not return telephone messages and only two of the remainder, when reached by The Associated Press, said they had medical records as proof of their miracle cure. However, one woman would not make her physician available to confirm the findings, and the other's doctor did not return calls despite the patient's authorization.

Bentley also insists he hasn't accepted a cent from the nightly offerings in three months at Lakeland, instead putting it into the ministry and living on his regular salary from Fresh Fire.

According to records from the Canadian Revenue Agency, the ministry as a whole made \$2.7 million in 2006 revenue, the most recent year available.

Bentley would not disclose donors from the revival, but said it carries a \$25,000 daily operating cost. Offerings aren't taken until four hours or so into the nightly proceedings, he notes, when all are tired and some have left.

To those who doubt the healing claims, his asks: If you believe in the Bible's miracles, why can't you believe they're happening today?

"Miracles and healings are evidence," Bentley said. "They are signs of the Kingdom, and if we don't have signs then all we have is a bunch of theology. How one individual wants to interpret Scripture and how another individual wants to interpret Scripture."

The revival is similar to years-long events in Toronto and Pensacola, Fla., in the 1990s, said Vinson Synan, a professor of church history at Regent University, and sympathetic to the ministry and living on his regular salary from Fresh Fire.

Healing is Bentley's focus — more on healing, less on conversion — and appearance, he said.

"What I see is exhortation — encouraging the people to worship and to praise, exhorting peo-

ple rather than teaching and preaching in the traditional sense," Synan said. "I told my class he's the most unlikely evangelist you can imagine, compared to the curly haired Billy Grahams and

Oral Roberts, who were attractive people. This guy's kind of short, fat and bald, with tattoos on his arms. He looks like a hippie ... In a way it's a positive, because he's very much of the common man."



Todd Bentley touches a woman's forehead during a revival service in Lakeland, Fla., June 12. Bentley believes God acts through him to cure and heal sick people.

our kids with a stuffed with good education this Christmas season. Under the Newspaper In Education this year we'd like to give every student the best textbook money can buy, the . We aren't asking for a full of just whatever you can spare. And every you donate (-) make a big difference. You'll be like to a guide to a better education. Call Lucinda at 735-3294 or email lfreesborn@magicvalley.com to find out how make a difference by donating.

Christmas in Church

Children's Musical
Sunday, Dec 7
9:30am & 11:00am
The Christmas Candy Store
Join the children as they study and tell the different names of Jesus.

Carols by Candlelight
Sunday, Dec 14, 6pm
Join us for this traditional carol of Christmas service and learn the stories behind some of these much loved songs.

Christmas Eve Service
Wednesday, Dec 24, 7pm
Celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. Season with family and friends as we take the opportunity to reflect on the birth of Jesus and share in communion.

Christmas Worship Services
Sunday, Dec 21, 9:30am & 11:00am
ERIC & Hilpin
Celebrate our Savior's birth and His Christmas with meaningful songs and family.

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7:00pm Dec. 3rd
7:00pm Dec. 10th
7:00pm Dec. 17th

Christmas Eve Services
8:30pm Family Service
10:00pm Candlelight Service

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A New Earth, A New Creation: God's plan for Saving the World.

In these times of uncertainty and distress, there is an old message of hope, peace, joy, and love. The true message of Christmas is about God's plan for redeeming the world through the love and peace of his son Jesus Christ.

Please join us for worship during Advent
Sundays at 10:30am • Nov. 30, Dec. 7, & Dec. 14

Crossroads United Methodist Church
205 Madison Street East, Kimberly, Idaho
For more information about our Holiday scriptures, please visit our website: crossroads.org

Sunday, December 21st, Our young peoples Christmas play • 10:30am
Adult Sunday School 9:30am
Worship 10:30am (including Children's Church for younger children)

A Service of Light in the Midst of Darkness, December 21 • 6:00pm
Christmas is not a merry time of the year for everyone. For some it is a time of sorrow, stress, or loneliness. On the longest and darkest night of the year, we offer a quiet meditative worship service that makes for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ.

Join us on Sunday, December 21, at 6:00pm for a candlelight service.
O come, let us adore the One who will bring light into our darkness.

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Oakley, Paul, Rupert

Mini-Cassia COMMUNITY

C6

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 6, 2008

TIMES-NEWS • SECTION EDITOR ERIC LARSEN; (208) 735-3220 ELARSEN@MAGICVALLEY.COM

Inducted Parr joins state Hall of Fame

By Judy Albertson
Times-News writer

A well-known face in Burley, Joan Parr, was inducted into the Idaho 4-H Hall of Fame at this year's 4-H State Leaders' Forum.

Parr has been described as "bleeding green" because of her commitment to 4-H and the Family and Consumer Science program in Cassia County and across Idaho. For more than 30 years she has been a dedicated home

economist who goes far beyond her profession. The award came somewhat as a surprise to Parr.

"It was exciting, I feel absolutely delighted. It's a real honor," Parr said.

Parr started work in Cassia County in 1971, focusing on 4-H, food safety, food preservation, leadership, child development and communication skills. She developed new leaders' orientation resources, worked with the leaders association, served

on a number of committees, including 4-H curriculum, Extension Advisory and Diversity.

"I worked with the University of Idaho leaders and a group of teens for a long time organizing events for 4-H. I enjoyed working with the people — not just the leaders, but the youths and the 4-H program coordinators as well," Parr said.

Parr implemented new programs in Cassia County such as Communication

Rodeo, Buller's Club, home economics judging contest, family fair and school enrichment programs. She was county chair and interim director for District III.

"4-H gives positive life reinforcement to both the youth and adults who participate," Parr said.

Never one to stay idle, Parr has still been active helping out. She has done some judging and helped in the Master Gardner program in the Minidoka

County spring classes.

"I'm just available to help when they need me," Parr said.

Currently she is busy with a remodeling project at home.

Upon accepting the award, Parr thanked 4-H volunteers who make the 4-H program possible. She quoted Margaret Mead, saying, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."



Joan Parr

PUMPKIN PROJECT



Girls from the Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation program recently baked 75 pumpkin rolls and pies as a community service project. The rolls and pies were put into Thanksgiving baskets for families that need assistance for the holidays. Curtis Hirsch Realty donated supplies for the project. Pictured, from left, are Leah, Alesna, Alicia, Nicolette, Victoria and Wednesday. Mothers and employees from Juvenile Probation helped with the project.

MINIDOKA VIEW

Raising the bar

By Dan Rogers
For the Times-News

After years of attending track meets, I know what happens when the bar is raised during the high jump competition.

Some athletes shake their heads, others give it a try, and still others run up to the bar and never jump. State Idaho Standards Achievement Tests testing has been a lot like that high jump. Every year we train, compete and look at our results. The hard work is paying off and last year we made it over the bar in many areas.

At Minico High School, success is measured by our academic achievements. Four years ago we were not even getting close to the bar. As a faculty we met and decided we needed to implement changes.

This included the addition of all-year (three trimesters instead of two) English classes for the ninth- and 10th-grade students scoring below basic on the ISAT. Our math department began after-school math labs and all-year algebra classes. Our C-Core policy is no longer a mystery to students and our student athletes must continue to show progress in their classes or risk academic probation. Friday help sessions, peer tutoring and teacher training focusing on instructional intensity have all been the result of trying to get over the bar.

The majority of our students are now clearing the bar. Last year our 10th grade class met proficiency in reading and achieved safe harbor in mathematics for a 10 percent increase in scores from the previous year. This fall, Minico received a certificate from the Idaho State Department of Education congratulating the school for a 27 percent increase in reading scores among Hispanic students. These are areas we have worked hard to improve. The result of our training is evidence that we are on the right path.

Yes, there is still room for improvement. We continue to work with our Limited English Proficiency students through our English as a Second Language program and peer tutors. Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol training has given our teachers the chance to go into other classrooms and learn models and effective teaching strategies from their colleagues. Additionally, a full-time computer lab is available for students needing intense instruction for specific ISAT subject areas, as well as for credit recovery and remediation.

The bar will continue to rise next year when we implement the new graduation requirements for the class of 2013. These new requirements will include an added year of science, a math class taken during the senior year, a senior project, and the ACT, SAT or COMPASS test taken by the end of students' junior years.

Higher expectations at Minico High School are not going to diminish. Our expectations are like that high jump bar ... we can always raise it a little bit more.

Dan Rogers is principal of Minico High School.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Declo to hold city office open house

The City of Declo and North Cassia Rural Fire District will hold its annual canned food drive today and Declo.

There will be a ribbon cutting at 4:30 p.m. The public is invited to come and take a tour of the new facilities.

Century Cinema begins canned food drive today

Century Cinema in Burley will hold its annual canned food movie drive today and Declo.

The movies start at 10 a.m. with three to choose from: Kung Fu Panda (PG), Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (PG-13) and a special surprise movie.

Admission is two cans of food and anyone may attend. All food goes to the Mini-Cassia Christmas Council. All concession proceeds go to Coats For Kids. Information: 678-3131.

BJ Duplicate Bridge announces winners

The B) Duplicate Bridge Club



The residents of Springs Plaza Apartments recently enjoyed a holiday dinner prepared and served by the Springs Plaza Board of Directors. This is an annual event which started 12 years ago and is always anticipated by the residents. Board members are: Doug Newton, president; Norma Morrison, vice-president; Janelle Kerbs, secretary-treasurer; and directors Guy Fisher, Harvey Reisman, Ray Strubberg, Marvonn Newton and Joanne Pfy.

In Rupert announced the results of Tuesday play.

North-South: 1. Bill Goodman and Chuck Hunter, 2. George and Nancy Gibson, 3. Marian Snow and Lila Umman, 4. Steve Sams and Kent Gillespie.

East-West: 1. Marlene Temple and Shirley Harris, 2. Mildred Wolf and Shella Hubsmith, 3. Barbara Carney and Wilma Shockey, 4. Dee and

Jane Keicher. Games are held at 1 p.m. Tuesdays at the Rupert Elks. For partners and more information, Steve Sams, 878-3997 or Vera Mal, 436-4163.

Oakley's Hale earns public speaking award

Jonathan Hale, a junior at Oakley High School, has been awarded first place for public

speaking by the Idaho Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts.

Hale's trek began by entering his speech "Water is Life" at the county level where he placed first before advancing to the regional level, where he also placed first, then on to the state level. The state speech contest was held in Coeur d'Alene where all of the top contestants from other Soil Conservation Districts in the state of Idaho gathered.

After all of the speeches were delivered, Hale had come out on top.

Retired educators report on Christmas programs

The Mini-Cassia Retired Educators' November meeting was hosted by Ray and Cheri Archibald who presented their programs on Operation Brotherhood and Operation Angel, which help provide a merry Christmas for servicemen and women. Their presentation included a slide show featuring military personnel receiving their holiday gifts. The retirees made a donation to their projects.

Please see COMMUNITY, Page C7

82-year-old diabetic, worried about cramps, seeks advice

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have a recently acquired doctor in whom I have little admiration or faith, sad to say. I'm an 83-year-old man with type 2 diabetes and I'm medicated pretty well. I walk sometimes but usually get little exercise. I am starting to have bad cramps at night, and my legs are getting very weak. I fear losing my feet and lower legs.



ASK DR. GOTT
Dr. Peter Gott

Please advise me. DEAR READER: As you are aware, type 2 diabetes is

noninsulin dependent and is the more common form. The pancreas continues to produce insulin, but the body develops resistance to its effects, resulting in a deficiency. While the condition can affect people of every age, it most commonly occurs after the age of 30. Age, weight and heredity are major risk factors for type 2 diabetes.

Long-term complications can result in poor circulation, which might lead to heart disease, stroke, infection, poor vision, kidney failure and nerve damage. A person might experience gradual weakness of the arms or legs, tingling and accompanying pain of the hands and feet, difficult healing of the skin, infection and more.

The leg weakness and cramps are among your list of unpleasant side effects. You admittedly do not exercise on a regular basis, and this activity is extremely important for all diabetics. Make a plan that works for your lifestyle. Perhaps that translates simply to walking around the block every day. If you have access to a swimming pool at a community

center, take advantage of the resource. Perhaps a stationary bicycle indoors will work. Your circulation is likely impaired. While you may not be able to reverse the situation completely, you can definitely take steps to improve it. Start now. There are several remedies for the leg cramps. The first

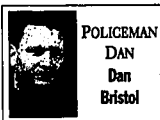
Please see DR. GOTT, Page C7

Tips for keeping crime out of your holiday

While the holidays are a time of giving and receiving, they can also become a season for stealing. Thieves and car artists love the holidays because it is the time of year they know that we feel the most inclined toward giving and spending. My hope is that you can give some advice or ways to avoid getting scrooged this holiday season.

Let's start with dealing with charities. Probably the best way to check whether a charity is legit or not is to go to the Better Business Bureau Web site and check the name of the charity there. If anybody has complained about the charity in the past, the information should be there. I would next check with the office of the Idaho Attorney General if you have questions about a charity. It could be that charity is already being investigated.

Charities usually are not in the business of high-pressure hype. Be leery of charities that try to get you to decide now or tell you



POLICEMAN
DAN
Dan
Bristol

they just need your credit card or check or your account number. If a charity tells you it can't send you information in the mail to help you decide whether to give, stay clear. A safer way to give to charity is stick with the local ones you know.

Next, I want to discuss gift cards. Be aware that buying a gift card from a company that has or will file for bankruptcy means that gift card could be declared worthless. It is legal for bankrupt businesses to refuse gift cards.

If you buy that gift card from the store remember to check the scratch-off area on the back whether the personal identification numbers are. If the back is scratched off don't buy it, take it to the service desk and report it. What they

like to do here is to get the number and check it online. With the number gets credited with an amount, they have instant access to that card and can use it to buy something online. They usually then return the item for a refund of the money.

If you send a check as a gift by mail, be sure to find out if the recipient got the check. Thieves like to get checks out of the mail and then whitewash out the amount and who it is written for. They then put in the amount they want and write in who they want as the recipient. These culprits are not easy to catch unless they write the check to themselves, though that does not help.

One final piece of advice is to check your accounts even closer during the holiday season. That way if you notice an irregularity you can fix it immediately because you will more than 90 days, you will probably end up being responsible for payment. Just remember this holiday season that if some-

thing doesn't feel right then it is okay to take a step back and look at the whole picture. It's your money and only you have the final decision of who gets it.

Officer down

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

- Officer Alex Del Rio, Hollywood Police Department, Florida
- Deputy Nick Pham, Monroe County Sheriff's Office, Florida
- Sheriff Brent Lee, Trinity County Sheriff's Department, Texas
- Reserve Officer Curtis Jones, New Orleans Police Department
- Officer Robert Davis, San Antonio Police Department

Be safe, I'll talk to you next week.

Dan Bristol is a Heyburn Police sergeant. E-mail your questions to policedan@yahoo.com.

Veterans to see more coverage for back care

Minimally invasive back surgeries—including percutaneous vertebroplasty and kyphoplasty—are now covered under TRICARE for beneficiaries with pain from fractured vertebrae. This may replace spinal fusion, an invasive surgical procedure, for treatment of fractured vertebrae.

The policy change is retroactive to March 1, 2007. Usually occurring in patients with osteoporosis, many vertebral fractures heal on their own with bed rest and anti-inflammatory medication. In about three months. It is only when pain persists beyond three months that surgery is recommended.

The traditional treatment was spinal fusion surgery, which requires up to 12 hours in the operating room with days of hospitalization afterward. Percutaneous vertebroplasty and kyphoplasty are outpatient surgeries which have patients back to relative normalcy in 24 hours.

Although minimally invasive, all surgeries come with risk and decisions need to be discussed with a doctor. Approval must be obtained from a provider for either surgery.

Beneficiaries with questions about this procedure and its coverage under TRICARE should contact their primary care manager. Go to

VETERANS CORNER

George Schwindeman

<http://www.vicare.mil> for information.

VA budget sees historic boost

Though he signed it into law on Dec. 26, President Bush was not finished with House Bill 2764, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 (Pub. 2008-108 Washington Wire). He agreed to release \$3.7 billion in emergency funding for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs contained within the bill, and was required to sign off on it by Jan. 18.

The money was classified as war-related funding, and therefore, does not have to be offset by cuts in other programs. President Bush and Congress are to be congratulated for this historic boost in funding. Veterans of Foreign Wars Commander-in-Chief George Liskick said, "The increase brings VA's fiscal year 2008 discretionary budget to \$45.5 billion, and represents a \$6.6 billion increase from 2007. It is the largest annual increase in VA's 77-year history."

George Schwindeman is a veteran who lives in Rupert.

CITIZENS OF THE MONTH



Courtesy photo

Report Elementary November Citizens of the Month for fourth- and fifth-grade students included, from left: first row, Sara, Aagii; second row, Makana, Celeste, Brooke; third row, Luke, Yesenia, Juan Pablo, Eloisa; and fourth row, Brayden, Derek, Braeden, Alex, Liana.



Report Elementary November Citizens of the Month for first through third grade students included, from left: first row, Erin, Giselle, Blake, Braden; second row, Myra, Zoya, Sadie, Taliana, Ricky; third row, Brooke, Makyah, Kylee, Ximena, Ashley; and fourth row, Kody, Anyssa, Zachary, Logan, Madison, Maria.

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Recent activity from Minkidoka County 5th District Court included the following:

FELONY SENTENCINGS

Adrian Wright, 28, criminal conspiracy, \$117.50 costs, \$5,236.71 restitution, 3 years probation, 3-7 years prison time, 41 days time credited; 8 counts drug stamp tax violation, dismissed by prosey device, \$97.50 costs, \$23.50 restitution, 2 years probation, 10 days jail, 1-3 years penitentiary time, penitentiary suspended; Petit theft, dismissed by prosecutor; Probation violation, guilty. Kevin J. Haggart, 28, grand theft, \$97.50 costs, 3 years probation, 27 years penitentiary time, penitentiary suspended.

FELONY DISMISSALS

Kevin J. Jones, 43, forgery, dismissed by prosecutor; Forgery amended to false personation (misdemeanor), withheld disposition.

MISDEMEANOR

Eddie Garcia De Leon, 34, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license, 4 months probation, 2 days suspended jail; carrying concealed weapon without a license, dismissed by prosecutor; 25, possession of controlled substance (felony) amended to possession of drug paraphernalia with intent to use, \$200 fine, \$865.50 costs, \$100.96 restitution, 15 months probation, 90 days jail, 85 suspended, 5 days time credited, 5 days McWork ordered, then suspended; probation violation, guilty; contempt of court, dismissed by court; probation violation, guilty, 3 days jail, 20 days suspended sentence to discretionary sentence.

(felony) amended to fraud-insufficient funds check (misdemeanor), \$100 fine, \$72.50 costs, 12 months probation, 30 days jail, 85 suspended, 2 days time credited. Jose Rodolfo Cuevas-Onesto, 23, burglary (felony) amended to unlawful entry, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 145 suspended, 35 days time credited; Malicious injury to person, 24 months probation, guilty, 190 days jail, 32 days time credited.

Christina Mamala, 38, driving without privileges amended to driving without privileges (second offense), \$150 fine, \$122.50 costs, drivers license suspended 365 days, 24 months probation, 60 days jail, 40 suspended, 3 days time credited, to serve 17 days work release authorized; contempt of court, dismissed by court; IPV probation violation, 2 days jail.

Joel Rodriguez, 18, driving without privileges, \$200 fine, \$125.50 costs, drivers license suspended 180 days, 12 months probation, 30 days jail, 28 suspended, 4 days McWork in lieu of jail; contempt of court, cell phone restoring, guilty, \$50 fine; IPV probation violation, guilty, 28 days jail.

Shanna Kathryn Wilkinson, 31, driving without privileges (first offense), \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$92.50 costs, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, 2 days time credited; contempt of court, guilty.

Shanna Kathryn Wilkinson, 31, driving without privileges (third offense) amended to driving without privileges (first offense), \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$92.50 costs, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, 2 days time credited; reckless driving, dismissed by prosecutor; contempt of court, guilty.

Jose Rodolfo Cuevas-Onesto, 23, providing false information to a creditor, \$200 suspended fine, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 148 suspended, 32 days time credited; Failure to appear for misdemeanor citation, dismissed by prosecutor.

missed by prosecutor. Amanda Munoz, 20, injury to a child (felony) amended to injury to a child (misdemeanor), \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$210.50 costs, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 176 suspended, 4 days time credited; contempt of court, 1 day jail, 1 day time credited.

Daniel Taylor Johnson, 34, theft of labor/services/use of property, \$133.32 restitution, 14 months probation, 90 days suspended jail; theft of labor/services/use of property, dismissed by prosecutor; probation violation, guilty. Juan Antonio Rebolledo, 29, domestic battery/assault with child present amended to battery, \$700 suspended fine, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 175 suspended, 2 days time credited, 3 days McWork in lieu of jail; injury to a child, dismissed by prosecutor.

Juan Antonio Rebolledo, 29, driving without privileges (third offense) amended to driving without privileges (first offense), \$500 fine, \$300 suspended, \$90.50 costs, drivers license suspended 180 days, 24 months probation, 180 days jail, 175 suspended, 2 days time credited, 3 days McWork in lieu of jail.

Possession of controlled substance, \$300 suspended fine, \$335.50 costs, 6 months probation, 30 days jail, 28 suspended, 1 day time credited; Possession of drug paraphernalia, guilty, contempt of court, dismissed by court.

Holly Sue Ann McCulston, 35, failure to purchase/invalid drivers license, \$150 fine, \$110.50 costs, failure to appear for misdemeanor citation, dismissed by prosecutor. Herbert Scott Aguilar, 48, driving without privileges (third offense) amended to driving without privileges, \$300 fine, \$125.50 costs, drivers license suspended 180 days, 18 months probation, 180 days jail, 178 suspended, 4 days other time, probation concurrent and sentence consecutive, 4 days McWork in lieu of jail.

Joshua D. Tamayo, 20, drivers license violation, \$100 fine, \$75.50 costs; contempt of court, dismissed by court. Ben Hickey, 20, failure to notify upon striking futures on highway, \$200 fine, \$125.50 costs, \$240 restitution, 12 months probation, 90 days jail, 88 suspended, 2 days time credited; providing false information to an officer, dismissed by prosecutor. Jose Rodolfo Cuevas-Onesto, 23, possession of controlled substance, \$500 suspended fine, 24 months probation, 365 days jail, 333 suspended, 32 days time credited. Alejandro Rocha-Montali, 21, drivers license violation, \$100 fine, \$75.50 costs. Sebastian Corona-Mota, 22, resisting or obstructing officers, \$100 fine, \$75.50 costs, 6 months probation, 30 days jail, 28 suspended, 2 days time credited.

MISDEMEANOR DISMISSALS

Manuel Hernandez, 62, failure to purchase/invalid drivers license, dismissed by prosecutor. Thomas S. Sceaniak, 37, driving without privileges, dismissed by prosecutor. Lorenzo R. Figueroa, 45, possession of drug paraphernalia, dismissed by court; Public nuisance offense, dismissed by court.

Ricardo Gonzalez, 28, failure to purchase/invalid drivers license, \$132 forfeited bonds, dismissed by prosecutor. Sandobal Jimenez Ambriz, 29, resisting or obstructing officers, dismissed by prosecutor; Failure to purchase/invalid drivers license, dismissed by court.

Adelaido Avila Duckett, 26, resisting or obstructing officers, dismissed by prosecutor. Jami L. Armstrong, 37, misuse of the telephone, dismissed by prosecutor.

Ross Gene Newcomb, 49, misuse of the telephone, dismissed by court. Maria Susana Cordova, 22, failure to carry drivers license on person, dismissed by court.

Community

Continued from page C6

Also present at the meeting was state president, Connie Bunch, who updated the members on the events on the state level. She also announced the new Web site for the state: www.idahoretreduccators.org. The State Convention will be held in Post Falls in April 2009. Charlie Brown, state executive director, gave an update on the teacher retirement system funds. The next meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Monday at Connors Cafe in Heyburn. There will be a special Christmas program. All retired educators are welcome to attend.

DeMary Library book notes

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

Fiction: "Eleventh Man" by Ivan Dolg

Driven by the memory of a fallen teammate, TSU's 1941 starting lineup became legend in Montana football history. Two years later, the "Supreme Team" is caught up in WWII. Ten of them are scattered around the globe in the war's various theaters. The 11th man, Ben Henking, has been chosen to chronicle

the adventures of his teammates for publication. He chafes at the assignment, not knowing that it will bring him love from an unexpected quarter.

Fiction: "Lucky One" by Nicholas Sparks

A brush with death leads a young man to the love of his life. Is there really such thing as a lucky man? He has to prove it when he believes he's found one in the form of a photograph of a smiling woman he's never met, but who he comes to believe holds the key to his destiny.

Fiction: "Extreme Measures" by Vince Flynn

Casey, an officer of the Marine Corps and operative in an elite counterterrorism team, fought the war on terrorism in secret without acknowledgment of his part in the war. He has been forced to lie to his loved ones, but he has soldiered on, saving thousands of lives. The one thing he never saw coming was that his own government was about to turn on him.

Non-Fiction: "Murder By Family: The Incredible True Story of a Son's Treachery and a Father's Forgiveness" by Kent Whitaker; "Mystical Traveler: How to Advance to a Higher Level of Spirituality" by Sylvia Browne.

Dr. Gott

Continued from page C6

is simply to remove the wrapper from a bar of soap. Place the soap under your bed sheet at night, where your legs ordinarily rest. This should eliminate the cramps. Some people have had success with rubbing a bar of soap on the calves of their legs. Do what works best for you. Pick a fruit or a dill pickle incorporated into your diet may help prevent muscle cramping. Both products are available in grocery stores. Numerous drinks (including pickle juice) contain electrolytes. Read labels at your local market before making a selection.

If your medication keeps your sugar levels under good control, I urge you to con-

tinue with the medications prescribed. If you are dissatisfied with the physician you are seeing, request a referral to another primary care physician or to an endocrinologist, a specialist in the field.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Living with Diabetes." Other readers who would like a copy should send a self-addressed, stamped, No. 10 envelope and \$2.00 Newsletter, PO Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

Readers who would like to contact Dr. Gott may send their mail directly to: Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016. If readers want a newsletter, they should write to the Ohio address.

Car bomb kills 20 in northwest Pakistan's Peshawar; suspected U.S. missile kills 3

PESHAWAR, Pakistan (AP) — A car bomb devastated a busy street in this northwest-Pakistani city on Friday, killing 20 people, injuring scores more and unroofing a region already dangerously on edge following the attacks on India's commercial capital. Further adding to the ten-

sion, a suspected U.S. missile strike reportedly killed three people in a stronghold of the Taliban and al-Qaida near the border with Afghanistan. Escalating violence is destabilizing Pakistan's northwest as just as the country faces accusations from archrival India that the gunmen

behind the carnage in Mumbai last week were trained in Pakistan and steered by militants based there. Neither the motive nor the culprits behind the Friday evening blast in Peshawar were clear. But provincial government chief Haider Khan

Hoti said "external forces" could be to blame — a comment understood in Pakistan to mean India. The bomb went off near Peshawar's famed Storytellers Bazaar early Friday evening, wrecking a Shiite Muslim mosque and a hotel and setting a string of vehicles and

shops ablaze. Mohammed Bilal, a 28-year-old goldsmith being treated at a city hospital for a gash on his face, said he saw a white van explode in the street as he was walking home. "Something struck me in face, and I fell down. There

was fire and smoke and the cries of the injured people," Bilal told an Associated Press reporter. Television footage showed survivors frantically carrying bloodied victims through the rubble to private cars and ambulances as fire crews tried to douse the flames.

Pearl Harbor

The attack on Pearl Harbor

(or Hawaii Operation), as it was called by the "Imperial General Headquarters" was a surprise military strike conducted by the Japanese "Imperial Japanese Navy" navy against the United States' naval base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the morning of Sunday December 7, 1941, later resulting in the United States becoming militarily involved in World War II. It was intended as a preventive action to keep the U.S. Pacific Fleet from influencing the war Japan was planning to wage in South-east Asia against Britain, the Netherlands, and the United States. The attack consisted of two aerial attack waves totaling 353 aircraft, launched from six Japanese aircraft carriers.

The attack sank four U.S. Navy battleships (two of which were raised and returned to service late in the war) and damaged four more. The Japanese also sank or damaged three cruisers, three destroyers, and one minelayer, destroyed 188 aircraft, and caused personnel losses of 2,402 killed and 1,282 wounded. The power station, shipyard, maintenance, and fuel and torpedo storage facilities, as well as the submarine piers and headquarters building (also home of the "Station Hypo" intelligence section) were not hit. Japanese losses were minimal, at 29 aircraft and five midget submarines, with 65 servicemen killed or wounded.

The strike was intended to neutralize the U.S. Pacific Fleet, and hence protect Japan's advance into Malaya and the Dutch East Indies, where Japan sought access to natural resources such as oil and rubber. Both the U.S. and Japan held long-standing contingency plans for war in the Pacific which were continuously updated as tensions between the two countries steadily increased during the 1930s, with the Japanese expansion into Manchuria and French Indochina greeted by steadily increased levels of embargoes and sanctions from the United States and other nations.

In 1940, under the authority granted by the Export Control Act, the U.S. halted shipments of airplanes, parts, machine tools, and aviation gasoline, which was perceived by Japan as an unfriendly act. The U.S. did not stop oil exports to Japan at that time in part because prevailing sentiment in Washington was that such an action would be an extreme step, given Japanese dependence on U.S. oil, and likely to be considered a provocation by Japan.

Following Japanese expansion into French Indochina after the fall of France, the U.S. ceased oil exports to Japan in the Summer of 1941, in part because of new American restrictions on domestic oil consumption. President Franklin D. Roosevelt had earlier moved the Pacific Fleet to Hawaii and ordered a military buildup in the Philippines in the hope of discouraging Japanese aggression in the Far East. As the Japanese high command was (mistakenly) certain any attack on the United Kingdom's Southeast Asian colonies would bring the U.S. into the war, preventive strike appeared to be the only way for Japan to avoid U.S. naval interference. An invasion of the Philippines was also considered to be necessary by Japanese war plans, while for the U.S., reconquest of the islands had been a given of War Plan Orange in the interwar years.

While the attack accomplished its intended objective, it was completely unnecessary. Unbeknownst to Isoroku Yamamoto, who conceived the original plan, the U.S. Navy had decided as far back as 1935 to abandon 'chasing' across the Pacific towards the Philippines in response to an outbreak of war (in keeping with the evolution of Plan Orange). "Plan Dog" in 1940, which emphasized keeping the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) out of the eastern Pacific and away from the shipping lanes to Australia while the U.S. concentrated on defeating Nazi Germany. The attack was an important engagement of World War II. Unintentionally occurring before a formal declaration of war (which had been scheduled to be delivered shortly prior to the attack beginning), isolationism to the acceptance of participation in the war being unavoidable. The lack of warning led Roosevelt to call it "a date which will live in infamy".

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INSIDE: Local roundup, D2 | Scoreboard, D3 | NBA and Rodeo, D4 | College football, D6

Super Romario: Brazilian paces CSI men

By Mike Christensen
Times-News writer

Romario Souza is still grasping the English language. As for his handle on American basketball, that's coming along just fine.

The 6-foot-9 freshman from Minas Gerais, Brazil, made the most of his first career start at the College of Southern Idaho, scoring a game-high 31 points and grabbing 13 rebounds as the 11th-ranked Golden Eagles earned a 105-77 win over Salish Kootenai (Mont.) College at the Boise Office Equipment Invitational.

"He was huge," CSI head

coach Steve Gosar said of Souza. "He played really well. He sealed well and when he got it he didn't dribble it, he just put it right on up."

Souza came in averaging just 5.4 points and 3.8 rebounds in 16 minutes a game, but with All-American forward Daegwon Montreal sidelined with a bruised Achilles and both Jamelle Barrett (bruised knee) and Aziz Nelaye (back) seeing limited minutes with injuries, CSI needed someone to step up.

Souza did just that, netting 11 points during a 17-1 run in the first half that turned a 10-5 deficit into a 22-11 lead.

"We knew we had a size

advantage inside and we were able to take advantage of it," said Gosar.

The Brazilian big man wasn't the only one to step up for CSI (8-1) on the front line. Max Carrier, 6-6 forward out Canyon Lake, Calif., was slated to redshirt, but saw his first action of the year and contributed 18 points and a game-high 17 rebounds.

"He had a whole of a game," said Gosar. "He plays so hard in practice and that's how he played tonight."

Carrier entered the game with 4:10 left in the first half and had eight points and four boards by intermission, helping CSI to a 57-39 half-

time lead.

"I guess the ball just came my way this game," said Carrier. "I played hard, but it just came my way and I got lucky."

Salish Kootenai (5-9) crept within 63-54 on John Young's layup, but a 14-3 burst put CSI back in control.

Jay Watkins had 17 points for CSI, including four emphatic slams. He also snatched 11 caroms as the Golden Eagles had a 59-26 edge on the boards. Dane Fisiur led the Bison with 24 points.

"It wasn't pretty, but we'll

Please see CSI, Page D4



The College of Southern Idaho's Jay Watkins dunks the ball during the first half of play against Salish Kootenai College Friday night in Twin Falls.

JUSTIN JACKSON/
Times-News

2008 8-MAN FOOTBALL MVP



HEATH ADAMSON

Carey Football

By Bradley Galt
Times News writer

Whether he was running, catching, blocking or tackling, playing healthy or playing hurt, Heath Adanson was determined that nothing would stop him from winning the Class 1A Division II state football championship.

Not any Sawtooth Conference opponent. Not Kootenai. Not ailing ankles. Nothing.

And nothing did. "A lot of hard work usually pays off at the end," said Adanson.

Two weeks ago, the Panthers defeated the Kootenai Warriors 46-12 at the Kibbie Dome in Moscow to cap a 12-0 season and reclaim the 8-man title.

During that contest, the Carey senior running back battled through the pain for 169 yards on the ground, 63 more through the air and six total touchdowns.

Now, he's a two-time winner of the *Times-News* 8-man football player of the year.

"Nothing was going to stop Heath from winning the state title this year," Carey head coach Lane Kirkland said. "He demonstrated that as you watched him play. He had a bad ankle and had it a little bit all year long."

"I was visiting with a guy who said he's like Jim Thorpe — he might limp and get up slower, but he'll explode at the snap of the ball. You'd think you might have to pull him out, but he just willed himself to push this team back to the top. I think that's what it was all about."

It was Adanson's third appearance at a third Division I college stadium for a championship. He started as a sophomore on defense two years ago with the squad

8-man football: Position MVPs



Tel Clark, Richfield

Best of the rest: Dyan Brooks, Hagerman; Trevor Peck, Carey; Mark Pickett, Oakley.



Sake Sagers, Oakley

Best of the rest: Justin Cooper, Oakley; Braden Otley, Raft River; Todd Peck, Carey.



Luke Wood, Richfield

Best of the rest: Ian Fadness, Lighthouse Christian; Luke Hubert, Dietrich; Colten Wadsworth, Oakley.



Bridger Barrett, Raft River

Best of the rest: Brian Babbitt, Oakley; Jaren Stoddard, Dietrich; Morgan Knight, Hagerman.



Payson Bedke, Oakley

Best of the rest: Jesus Guerrero, Hansen; Michael Lezarm, Richfield; Rio Manning, Raft River.



Ryker Fairbanks, LHC

Best of the rest: D.J. Anderson, Richfield; Cody Nye, Raft River; Spencer Peterson, Oakley.



Patrick Knerler, LHC

Best of the rest: Gonzalo Zarate, Carey; Chase Dille, Lighthouse Christian; Tel Clark, Richfield.

Coming Sunday: 11-man MVP awards

that won the 2006 title by defeating Salmon River at Holt Arena. He scored a touchdown on a fumble recovery. The following year, Adanson was a team captain and two-way starter, he would not be denied.

the ball. At Bronco Stadium, he nabbed a pick-6 for the Panthers, but Salmon River had his revenge. In 2006, again a team captain and two-way starter, he would not be denied.

His senior season numbers put him at No. 3 on the school's single-season scoring list. He carried 129 times for 1,056 yards (8.2 yards per carry) and 18 touchdowns and caught 13 passes for 285 yards (21.9 yards per carry) and five touchdowns. He returned two punts for touchdowns (he also returned two kick-offs for scores but both were called back). On defense, he had 105 tackles, with 22.5 for a loss of yards, sacked the quarterback 12.5 times and forced two fumbles. His high school career will boast 45 touchdowns and 13 2-point conversions. Those 296 points put him second on Carey's career scoring list. With all these numbers, it could be assumed that Adanson was the team.

He was not. Though he could have taken every snap and made a play, Adanson would often take the back seat to his teammates and trust in them to get the job done. Gonzalo Zarate and Antonio Garmino accumulated more than 1,700 rushing yards when Carey's career scoring list. With all these numbers, it could be assumed that Adanson was the team.

"He helped propel us on that last play as a blocker for Gonzalo," Kirkland said. The Panthers were behind 29-26 on fourth-and-goal. Adanson volunteered to block for Zarate, and the play was called. Twice the Panthers ran Zarate behind Adanson and twice they found the end zone for the touchdown and 2-point conversion.

Carey's 34-28 win was more than another Sawtooth Conference victory. It was a testament that Adanson would do whatever was needed for the sake of the team.

Lucet, CSI pull away from Foothill

By Mike Christensen
Times-News writer

College of Southern Idaho sophomore All-American Soana Lucet is best known for her play in the post. Visiting Foothill (Calif.) Community College will remember her for much more after Friday night's 92-71 CSI win at the Boise Office Equipment Invitational.

Lucet swished a trio of treys and scored 17 points during a game-changing second-half spurt that saw CSI's narrow 42-38 lead balloon to 20 at 71-51 on a 3-pointer by LaCale Pringle-Buchanan.

Foothill never got closer than 14 from there.

"I want to be just as dangerous outside as I am inside," said Lucet, who

made four 3-pointers on the night, scored a game-high 34 points and added nine rebounds.

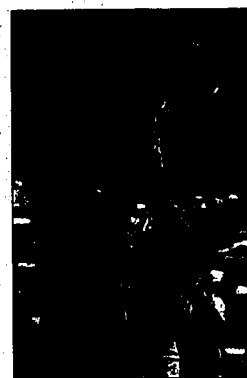
Lucet said the key to second-half runaway was the Golden Eagles' ability to push the ball against the Owls.

"They wanted to pressure us to try and come back, but we took advantage by pushing the ball and I got open shots," she said.

Lucet wasn't the only one to have a big night. Freshman Shauneice Samms stuffed the stat sheet with 18 points, 16 boards, seven blocks and five assists.

"She is so active," said CSI head coach Randy Rogers. "She's always around the basketball. She's my Dennis

Please see LUCET, Page D2



College of Southern Idaho's Soana Lucet takes a shot under heavy defense from Foothill defender Kiana (40) Friday night during the first half of their game in Twin Falls.

ASHLEY SMITH/
Times-News

Skyview wears down Bruins

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

This was the ultimate litmus test game for the Twin Falls boys basketball team.

Fresh off their convincing win at Burley, the Panthers were behind 29-26 on fourth-and-goal. Adanson volunteered to block for Zarate, and the play was called. Twice the Panthers ran Zarate behind Adanson and twice they found the end zone for the touchdown and 2-point conversion.

Carey's 34-28 win was more than another Sawtooth Conference victory. It was a testament that Adanson would do whatever was needed for the sake of the team.

the sophomore Dranglins. Twin Falls (1-1) trailed just 55-50 with a minute left, but Dranglins swooped in from the right wing for a layup and then Rowse said of his shot and Twin Falls' response. "We're excited to get out of here with a win, and we're just going to try and keep getting better game to game."

"I think that a little bit, but they kept fighting," Rowse said of his shot and Twin Falls' response. "We're excited to get out of here with a win, and we're just going to try and keep getting better game to game."

Jon Pulsifer played like a young man possessed, scoring 18 points and chasing down seven rebounds.

Please see BRUIINS, Page D2

Party goes on as NASCAR scales back celebration

NEW YORK (AP) — Jimmie Johnson coolly entered an Irish bar jammed with NASCAR fans and promptly ordered a round of beer for everyone.

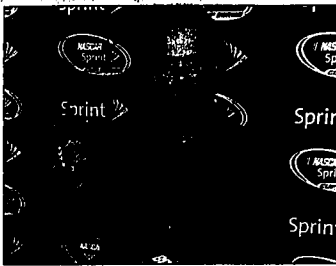
"Pint glass raised, he toasted the rowdy crowd.

Johnson clearly came to New York this year ready to party.

"And why not? His third consecutive NASCAR championship this season tied Cale Yarborough's 30-year-old record, and 127 other fans but focused a Californian doesn't appear ready to slow down anytime soon.

"Yes, I want to win a fourth," Johnson said.

"Right now, I'm a part of history. I'd love to make history, but not pulling the Babe Ruth and pointing over to the outfield and saying I'm going to hit it over here, but hell yeah, I want to win a



Sprint Cup Champion Jimmie Johnson attends the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series Champion's Party in New York on Thursday.

fourth. We'll see."

His festive mood is part of the territory during NASCAR's weeklong celebration to the champion, which

all of his career putting forth a buttoned-up, professional persona is finally comfortable showcasing his playful side.

His whirlwind tour of New York has been one big party, at a time when NASCAR could really use one.

The sport is trudg'ing forward during this economic crisis, which has quickly rocked the entire industry. Teams are struggling to find sponsorship, and the lack of funds led to hundreds of layoffs following the Nov. 18 season finale.

The Big Three automakers had a second round of meetings before Congress this week to plead for a financial rescue plan, and there's genuine concern General Motors might not make it to the end of the year.

"Please, don't forget to support our domestic auto manufacturers," Chad Knaus said

in his acceptance speech as championship-winning crew chief. "Those guys are having a hard time, and they need our support right now."

So, yes, the party has roared on this week, but there's a definite feel that it's been scaled back a bit. The annual champions lunch at famed 21 Club was scaled down to Foley's NY Pub & Restaurant, where Johnson brought the pints for the grateful crowd.

"We wanted to really get back to a grassroots level," said NASCAR spokesman Ramsey Poston.

But the cutbacks are everywhere. Ford and Chevrolet both canceled their annual Friday night parties, NASCAR scaled back on the employees it brings to the awards show and several other organizations cut down their attendees — or aren't coming at all.

"It's kind of hard to have a party in the midst of a lot of misery," said championship-winning car owner Rick Hendrick.

A car dealer as well as a NASCAR team owner, Hendrick is nervous about the state of the automotive industry but believes Chrysler, Ford and GM will continue their involvement in the sport.

But Hendrick is also worried about the NASCAR industry as a whole.

"I think the Big Three, that important to all of us, but the bigger picture is overall sponsorship," Hendrick said. "I think the folks that aren't sponsors, they're looking to reduce expenses everywhere. We'll feel it all the way around. Anything we can do to help all sides of it is going to be important."

Maddux to announce retirement Monday

The Associated Press

Greg Maddux has thrown his last pitch.

The four-time Cy Young winner will announce his retirement Monday at the baseball winter meetings, near his home in Las Vegas.

Maddux, who turns 43 in April, ranks eighth on the career wins list with 355. He went 8-13 with a 3.22 ERA over four seasons with the San Diego Padres and Los Angeles Dodgers.

Maddux made three relief appearances in the playoffs for the Dodgers this year — he pitched a 0.00 ERA over four innings — and then filed for free agency amid speculation he would retire.

On Friday, confirmation came from the office of Maddux's agent, Scott Boras. Maddux's family and Boras will hold a news conference at the hotel where the meetings are being held to announce one of baseball's greatest pitchers is finished.

Next month, the Dodgers general manager Ned Colletti left open the possibility that Maddux would return for a 24th season in the majors.

"I told Scott we'd love to have him back, and we're not going to be closing the door on Greg Maddux anytime soon," Colletti said at the time. "I've known him for a long, long time. I respect who he is and admire him for what he's done. I know the impact he has on a club and on a franchise."

Maddux finished one win ahead of Roger Clemens on the career victory list. Overall, Maddux has won 355, 355, 355, and 316 ERA, and is considered a certain first-ballot Hall of Famer when he becomes eligible after five years.

Noted for impeccable control, Maddux won two Young Awards from 1992-95 and earned a record 18 Gold Gloves while with the Chicago Cubs, Atlanta, Dodgers and Padres.

"Maddux was an eight-time All-Star and won at least 13 games in 20 straight seasons, a streak that ended this year.

"The last-place Padres traded Maddux to the Dodgers on Aug. 19 for two future first-round picks named or cash, and went 2-4 in seven starts for Los Angeles. His last start for the NL West champions was a gem — he beat San Francisco, giving up one run and two hits in six innings.

"He's remarkable," Dodgers manager Joe Torre said after the 2-1 victory. "I've watched and admired him from across the field. Tonight was a game-high 33 points to pace

Ming scores season-high in win over Warriors

HOUSTON — Yao Ming scored 19 of his season-high 33 points in the fourth quarter, and Ron Artest added 28 points to help the Houston Rockets beat Golden State 131-112 on Friday night.

Ming also had 14 rebounds and five assists. Rafer Alston and Von Wafer scored 18 points apiece and the Rockets went 13-of-21 from 3-point range to hand the Warriors their eighth straight loss.

Stephen Jackson scored 26 points before getting ejected with 1:35 left. Corey Maggette scored 23 points, and Jamal Crawford added 22 for the Warriors, who shot 45 percent (45-93) from the field, but got out-rebounded 44-33.

Golden State coach Don Nelson was ejected late in the third quarter and Houston finished the game with a 30-11 run to reach a season-high total of 89.

MAGIC 98, THUNDER 89
ORLANDO, Fla. — Dwight Howard had 21 points and 23 rebounds to lead the Orlando Magic to a 98-89 victory over the Oklahoma City Thunder on Friday night.

Jameer Nelson added 15 points for Southeast Division-leading Orlando, set to open a five-game West Coast tour on Monday night against the Los Angeles Clippers.

Russell Westbrook had 19 points for Oklahoma City, and Kevin Durant added 16. The Thunder are 2-18.

LAKERS 106, WIZARDS 104
WASHINGTON — On a poor shooting night, Kobe Bryant came through when the Los Angeles Lakers needed him the most. And then he nearly let it about 10 seconds later.

Bryant banked in a running 12-foot jumper over

Caron Butler with 25 seconds left Friday night, then went 1-for-2 on foul shots 10 seconds later, but the best-in-the-West Lakers eked out a 106-104 victory over the Wizards.

After Bryant's miss at the line — he made all 13 other free throws he took — Butler had a chance to win it for Washington, but missed a 3-point attempt shortly before the buzzer.

Bryant was 5-for-17 from the field and finished with 23 points, seven rebounds and seven assists. Butler led the Wizards with 26 points.

NETS 113, TIMBERWOLVES 84
EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Vince Carter scored 18 points, and Yi Jianlian and Devin Harris each had 16 to help the New Jersey Nets rout the Minnesota Timberwolves 113-84 on Friday night.

Jarvis Hayes added 14 points, Keyon Dooling had 12, and Bobby Simmons and Brook Lopez had 11 each in New Jersey's fourth victory in five games.

HAWKS 98, KNICKS 95
ATLANTA — Marvin Williams scored 18 points, and the Atlanta Hawks beat New York 98-95 on Friday night, avoiding overtime when the Knicks' Al Harrington missed a last-second 3-pointer.

Joe Johnson added 17 points for Atlanta, and Josh Smith scored 12.

Harrington led New York with 27 points. The Knicks lost despite holding an opponent under 100 points for the first time in 12 games.

CAVALIERS 97, PACERS 73
CLEVELAND — The wigs were fake. Everything else helped the Cleveland



Houston Rockets' Yao Ming (11) fights off Golden State Warriors Ronny Turant (21), Corey Maggette (50) and Jamal Crawford (6) Friday during the first half of their game in Houston.

Cavaliers was very real.

With thousands of Cleveland fans wearing curly red-headed hair pieces in his honor, Anderson Varejao didn't miss a shot and scored 17 points in the first half as the Cavaliers, despite getting a season-long 11 points from LeBron James, won their seventh straight, 97-73 over the Indiana Pacers on Friday night.

Unbeaten after 11 home games, Cleveland has won 15 of 16 since starting this season 1-2. The Cavaliers, who have won by an average of 22 points during their streak, have beaten Indiana nine times in a row.

GRIZZLIES 93, CLIPPERS 81
MEMPHIS — Team Rudy Gay scored 16 of his 25 points in the second half to help the Memphis Grizzlies

snag a seven-game losing streak with a 93-81 victory over the Los Angeles Clippers on Friday night.

O.J. Mayo added 20 points, and Hakim Warrick had 14. Baron Davis led the Clippers with 23 points and eight assists, and Zach Randolph had 21 points. Marcus Camby finished with 15 points, 10 rebounds and six assists for Los Angeles in the Clippers' seventh loss in eight games.

CELTICS 93, TRAIL BLAZERS 78
BOSTON — Ray Allen scored 19 points and Rajon Rondo followed his first career triple-double with 16 points, eight rebounds and seven assists on Friday night to lead the Boston Celtics to a 93-78 victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Boston's 11th straight win — its longest streak since its

championship-winning season of 1985-86 — snapped Portland's six-game winning streak. It was the first time the Trail Blazers lost with Greg Oden in the starting lineup since the season opener, when he left scoreless with a sprained right foot after less than 13 minutes.

But Oden struggled with four fouls and had just five minutes left when he rebounded in 18 minutes before picking up his sixth on a questionable call with about 4 minutes left.

76ERS 96, PISTONS 91
AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Donyell Marshall's 31-point performance with 35 seconds left gave the short-handed Philadelphia 76ers a 96-91 victory over the Detroit Pistons on Friday night.

Philadelphia was missing scoring leader Elton Brand, who strained his hamstring Wednesday night in a loss to the Los Angeles Lakers.

Andre Miller led the 76ers with 18 points, and Louis Williams had 16.

Richard Hamilton had 19 for Detroit, and Al Jefferson finished with 17.

BUCKS 101, BOBCATS 96
MILWAUKEE — Richard Jefferson made two free throws and a sprained right ankle, and Jefferson added 22, and Luke Ridnour had 14.

Jason Richardson scored 20 points, Emeke Okafor and Raymond Felton each had 19 and rookie D.J. Augustin added 13 for the Bucks. The Bucks made five free throws in the final minute.

— The Associated Press

CSI

Boise Office Equipment Invitational
Continued from page D1

take it," said Gosar.

Already riddled by injuries, the Golden Eagles got more bad news when forward Jason West went down hard with a back injury with 7:12 remaining. He was carried off the floor after a lengthy delay, but is expected to be available for tonight.

The Golden Eagles, who are also without freshman guard Carmel Folk (broken wrist), face Harcum (Penn.) College today at 8 p.m.

EASTERN UTAH 91, HARCUM COLLEGE 82
Chandler Pearson made five 3-pointers, pulled down eight rebounds and scored 17 points to lead a balanced offensive output for the College of Eastern Utah in a 91-82 win over Harcum (Penn.) College.

Six Eastern Utah players scored in double figures as Darrington Hobson had 16 points and nine rebounds, while Mike Scott scored 14 and tallied 11 assists.

Antonio Bumpus netted a game-high 33 points to pace

No. 23 CSI 92, Foothill CG 71
Men's games
CEU 91, Harcum College 80
No. 11 CSI 105, Salish Kootenai College 77

Today
Women's games
Leithridge vs. St Stars, Noon
No. 19 Sal Lake CC vs. Foothill CC, 2 p.m.
No. 23 CSI vs. Columbia Basin, 6 p.m.

Men's games
CEU vs. Salish Kootenai, 4 p.m.
No. 11 CSI vs. Harcum College, 8 p.m.

Women's games
CSI 87, Salish Kootenai 28, 3-point game
Harcum College 82, Foothill CG 71, 3-point game
24, Haring 14, Jones 10, Scott 12, Allen 10, Wells 1
Andrew 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

Tonozzi, Harrell make it 2-for-2 at NFR

LAS VEGAS (AP) — Team ropers Garrett Tonozzi and Kinney Harrell won their second straight round in the Wrangler National Finals Rodeo on Friday night.

Tonozzi, from Fruita, Colo., and Harrell, from San Antonio, Texas, had a 3.9-second round. They had 4.6 Thursday night, and have earned \$33,533 for two rounds.

Tonozzi and Harrell entered the NFR as the 15th and final qualifiers for the event. Due to their qualifying spot, they were the first team out in the first round. But winning that round put them in the second-to-last spot in the second round.

"They roped pretty much doing the same thing," Tonozzi said. "Whether we're first out or last out, it doesn't matter. ... Being first out last night, I was a little bit late. Tonight, I got to watch 11 or 12 guys go before me and I kind of got the rhythm down

better and got a really good start."

In the down roping, Tyson Durely of Colbert, Wash., followed a second-place finish in the first round with a first-place effort in 7.2 seconds. Durely topped his average at 19.4 for two rounds. Josh Peck of Pueblo, Colo., topped the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association season's standings with \$153,771 while Hunter Herrin of Apache, Okla., finished second with \$134,390.

In barrel racing, Cassie Moseley of Farwell, Texas, who was second in the first round, won the second round in 13.05. Jill Moody of Perry, Okla., who was the first round, won second in 14.21. Standings leader Lindsay Sears of Canada failed to place among the top six for the second consecutive round.

Final results are available online at Magicalvegas.com.

Even the best of coaches need a mulligan in Year 1

ATLANTA (AP) — Nick Saban and Urban Meyer both took a mulligan in their first seasons.

Saban's debut at Alabama was marred by a four-game losing streak at the end of the regular season. Heck, the Crimson Tide needed a victory in the Independence Bowl just to eke out a winning record.

Meyer's opening season at Florida was more successful, though the Gators still managed to lose three Southeastern Conference games, including a bitter defeat to former coach Steve Spurrier that kept them out of the league championship game.

Even with the best of coaches, it usually takes a year to really get things rolling. But watch out in Year 2.

SEC Championship Alabama vs. Florida 2 p.m., CBS

You. You need to get an understanding of the players," Meyer said. "There are usually schematic changes that take a little while to get used to. Absolutely. That's truth. That's real."

Saban should know, having been through it before. At LSU, he posted a respectable 8-4 record his first season, but the Tigers lost big to Auburn and Florida and were even beaten by UAB. The following year, they won their first outright SEC championship in 15 years and went on to the Sugar Bowl.

"It's a tough transition year," Saban said. "You're trying to change a culture in terms of the way people do things. It's more difficult for the older players to probably adjust to and adapt to that, and those guys are probably the guys who provide quite a bit of leadership, and are looked to for leadership. It may be the most difficult group to buy in."

But those recalcitrant seniors are only in the way for one season. When everyone reports the following year, a coach — especially the good ones — begins to lighten his grip on the program. He's got

another class of his own signees. He's had enough time to win over those who might have been resistant to change, or send them packing.

"The next year, maybe the Juniors are sort of more willing to buy in and make the change and change the culture, and provide the leadership that the coach would like to make the changes," Saban said. "Because change is inevitable when you change staffs, but whether you choose to do it or not is a choice."

Those Juniors-turned-seniors certainly bought into Saban's program, even though Alabama's regular season record in 2007 was exactly the same (6-6) as the mark that led to Mike Shula's firing the previous year. In a way, that lack of success worked in the new coach's favor.

"We really didn't do it the way coach Saban wanted us to do it, and we saw the results," Crimson Tide safety Rashad Johnson said. "Once the summer came around, you could just see a different look in the guys' eyes, of the seniors now, and the way that we were working, just trying to get better every week. Everybody bought into the system."

Victims last year, Tigers trying to play spoiler

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Just one more win, and that's all Missouri needed last season. Beat Oklahoma and the Tigers would play for their first national championship.

They couldn't pull it off. The Sooners pulled away in the second half and won the Big 12 championship, sending Missouri to the Cotton Bowl instead of the national title game.

Missouri coach Gary Pinkel said Friday. Missouri entered last year's game ranked No. 1 in the BCS, on the cusp of playing in the national title game after winning the Big 12 North with an emotional 36-28 victory over rival Kansas the week before.

Oklahoma squashed Missouri's BCS hopes with stifling defense and a bruising running game, outscoring the Tigers 24-3 in the second half to win its second straight conference title. Ohio State and LSU ended up with the invites to the national championship.

Big 12 Championship Missouri vs. Oklahoma 6 p.m., ABC

When the teams meet again Saturday at Arrowhead Stadium, it'll be the Sooners (11-1, 7-1) chasing the BCS dream. Oklahoma enters the game ranked No. 2 in the BCS — No. 4 in The Associated Press poll — after earning a spot in the conference title game by winning a three-way tiebreaker over Texas and Texas Tech in the Big 12 South. Texas beat the Sooners 45-35, but lost 39-33 to Texas Tech, a team Oklahoma beat 65-21.

That meant no head-to-head advantage, so the winner of the Big 12 South came down to the fifth tiebreaker: BCS rankings. Oklahoma leapfrogged Texas in this week's standings, finishing .0218 ahead of the Longhorns after being third the week before.

The shake-up gave the Sooners a clear shot to the BCS title game and stirred contentious debate across the country and in particular in Oklahoma and Texas, where fans took the argument to

the sky, editorialized on banners being pulled by small planes.

All the talk has left the Sooners feeling a little slighted just for winning. "It's probably a little bit of motivation," Sooners quarterback Sam Bradford said. "I still think that we feel like we have to go out there and prove something to everybody, and prove to them that we deserve to be in this game."

Once they finally get on the field, the Sooners will be overwhelming favorites.

Oklahoma is the only team to win five Big 12 titles and can become the first to win three straight. The Sooners followed their loss to Texas on Oct. 11 with six consecutive wins, averaging 59.5 points. Oklahoma also has won its last six games against Missouri and is a 17-point favorite on Saturday.

"You've got no chance, the Tigers are being told — and they kind of like it. "You draw from that a little bit. You want to prove people wrong," Pinkel said. "We've talked about that as a football team and if you're a competitor, that's added incentive for sure."

Hasselbeck, Jones, Hill doubtful

RENTON, Wash. — Seattle quarterback Matt Hasselbeck and left tackle Walter Jones are doubtful for Sunday's game against New England. And former Pro Bowl guard Mike Wahle went on injured reserve Friday.

Coach Mike Holmgren said after practice that Hasselbeck still is bothered by the back problem he's had for most of this season. The Seahawks (2-10) do not expect him to play against the Patriots (7-5). The three-time Pro Bowl passer has missed five games this season with a bulging disk in his back and nerve problems down his leg.

When asked if Hasselbeck's back pain is as bad as before, Holmgren said: "Not as severe. But it's some of the same symptoms, yes."

Backup Seneca Wallace took the first-team snaps for the 33-year-old Hasselbeck on Friday. Wallace is likely to make his fifth start of the season against the Patriots.

Jones, 34, has missed practice all week to tend to a bad knee. The eight-time Pro Bowler has started all 12 games despite pain.

Yet Holmgren emphasized Hasselbeck's absence is for medical, not preservation, reasons.



Seattle Seahawks quarterback Matt Hasselbeck is sacked by Dallas Cowboys linebacker McMillan Ware on Nov. 27 during the third quarter of a game in Irving, Texas.

dietary supplement StarCaps. The union argued the NFL didn't properly inform players about what it knew about the product. The NFL's attorneys argued that that claim, and others, had been considered and rejected in a process set out by the league's collective bargaining agreement.

LIND OPEN TO BILLS PLAYING MORE GAMES IN TORONTO TORONTO — The executive who lured the Buffalo Bills into playing in Toronto foresees having the team make more than one regular-season stop a year north of the border — especially if the NFL goes through with its proposal to lengthen the schedule.

"Depending on the arrangements, I wouldn't mind one more game here," Rogers Communications vice chairman Phil Lind told The Associated Press on Friday. "Especially if the NFL's going to nuke two of their preseason games, I would think for certain we would have one of those games."

Lind was referring to preliminary discussions within the NFL of adding one or two more games to the 16-game regular season by shortening the preseason. That proposal, though, is in limbo until the league negotiates a new col-

lective bargaining agreement with the NFL Players Association.

Lind also continued to ally fears his company is intent on purchasing the Bills and relocating them to Toronto. He instead suggested the Bills could become a true two-city entity, an arrangement that would secure the team's long-term financial viability in the region and end speculation of the franchise being a candidate for relocation.

— The Associated Press

Nutt, Ole Miss working on extension

JACKSON, Miss. — Mississippi is working on a contract extension to keep football coach Houston Nutt amid a report he's a top candidate at Auburn.

Nutt and athletic director Pete Boone are negotiating the deal and it will be announced when it is completed, a person with knowledge of the talks told The Associated Press on Friday on the condition of anonymity. The person asked not to be identified because an announcement hasn't been made.

Nutt signed a four-year, \$7.4 million contract when he took over at Ole Miss last season after resigning at Arkansas. He made \$1.7 million this season and the Rebels went 8-4.

The Birmingham News reported Friday that Auburn was looking at Nutt to replace Tommy Tuberville, who resigned Wednesday.

Nutt told the Northeast Mississippi Daily Journal and the Marion-Lexington of Jackson that neither he nor his agent, Jimmy Seaton, has had contact with Auburn officials. The Birmingham News report was based on unidentified sources.



Mississippi coach Houston Nutt talks to quarterback Jerrod Sead (40) on Nov. 22 during the first half against LSU in Baton Rouge, La.

leading the Cardinals to the Orange Bowl in 2006.

Louisville began the season 5-2, including an upset of South Florida on Oct. 25. A five-game losing streak followed, culminating in a 63-14 loss to Rutgers on Thursday. It was the team's worst loss in more than 20 years and dropped Louisville to 5-7.

JAYHAWKS HEADED TO INSIGHT BOWL LAWRENCE, Kan. — The Kansas Jayhawks are headed to a bowl game for the second straight year, another step in their continuing campaign to become a foot-

ball powerhouse.

It's the first time the Jayhawks have gone to two straight bowl games.

Less than a week after rallying past No. 19 Missouri 40-37 in the regular-season finale, Kansas announced on Friday that it had been authorized to begin selling tickets to the Insight Bowl.

"They'll meet a Big Ten opponent in Sun Devil Stadium in Tempe, Ariz., on Dec. 31."

"It means a lot to us. I feel like that's one of those barriers that people can't hold against us any more," defensive back Darrell Stuckey said.

— The Associated Press

FEDERAL JUDGE BLOCKS SUSPENSIONS

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A federal judge on Friday blocked the NFL from suspending five players for violating the league's anti-doping policy by using a banned diuretic, clearing the way for them to play Sunday.

U.S. District Judge Paul Magnuson said he needed more time to consider the case after hearing several hours of arguments from the league and the NFL Players Association.

"I've got to read the background material," said Magnuson, who noted he received a 20-page filing from the NFL earlier that morning. "Justice cannot function in this way."

Magnuson gave no indication when he would issue his written ruling, but did note there was no evidence of steroid use by the players. "We're not talking about steroids in this case. Period," he said.

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GREAT OUTDOOR LIGHTING BRIGHTENS THE SEASON FOR HOLIDAY GUESTS

From twinkling candles glimpsed through a window to trees and shrubs decked in brightly colored strands, light can be the warmest welcome for your guests during the holidays. And if you've been thinking about enhancing the lighting above and around your front porch or door, the holidays are a great time to put that thought into action.

"People spend more time than ever before in the outdoor spaces of their homes," says Rick Seidman, president and chief executive officer of QuoZel Inc. of Goose Creek, S.C. "The front and back entry areas have become living spaces frequented by friends and family. This has led to consumers wanting to decorate and light these areas with the same importance as the inside of their home."

Attractive exterior lighting not only enhances your enjoyment of your home, it adds curb appeal and value, and can welcome guests with a feeling of warmth and security all year round. Good lighting is especially important during the holidays, when more guests will be coming to your door, the experts agree.

Homeowners thinking about upgrading their exterior lighting should keep some basics in mind, including scale, style, visibility and planning.

"Frequently, you see homes with outdoor lanterns that aren't large enough for the home or the area it's lighting," says Rick Wiedemer, Jr., certified lighting consultant and president of Hinkley Lighting in Cleveland. "When choosing a lantern to hang above your door, consider viewing your home's entry from the curb or coming up the driveway as a guest would."

A good rule of thumb for choosing a right-sized lantern is to pick one that is at least a third the size of the door, says Mark Rottnier, president of Aristic Lighting and Designs in Norcross, Ga. "That means if your door is 7 feet high, your lantern should be 27 to 30 inches long," he says. "If you decide to go with a lantern on either side of the door, then each should be about 25 percent of the door's height."

Appropriately sized lanterns not only provide ample illumination for the area you're trying to light, they also impart elegance to a facade, says Joe Rey-Barreau, education consultant for the American Lighting Association (ALA) and an associate professor at the University of Kentucky's School of Interior Design. "They really are a show of confidence."

The style of the lighting is also important, the experts agree. The style of your outdoor lighting should match both the design of your home's exterior and the lighting design inside the



Image provided by Sea Gull Lighting Products, LLC (www.SeaGullLighting.com).

house.

"Lighting should be selected to accentuate the architecture, not detract from the beauty of the structure," says Jeffrey R.

Dross, senior product manager with Kichler Lighting in Cleveland. What's more, he adds, "It's important the entryway lighting has a relation with driveway

lights, landscape lighting, deck lighting and the rest of the lighting on your home. You want to avoid the ' flea market ' approach where all the pieces are different."

If your home is colonial, Victorian, traditional, craftsman or contemporary, be sure to look for lighting that pairs well with the architectural style. For example, if the exterior color palette is warm, then brown or bronze light fixtures may be more appropriate. Dross points out.

Don't be afraid to incorporate some trends into your exterior lighting design. Some hot exterior lighting trends include the addition of crystals to different style fixtures, and - for upscale homes - natural gas lanterns in copper or brass. Layering several types of lighting at an entry is also popular, Wiedemer says. For example, if your door has an overhang, you may place recessed lighting in the overhang, paired with decorative lanterns on either side of the door and path lighting leading up to the door, he says.

"There's more variety than ever in outdoor lighting," Rey-Barreau says. "Pluralism is the trend."

Homeowners looking to temporarily enhance their outdoor lighting for the holidays have a host of options as well. Rottnier likes the idea of putting exterior lights on a dimmer to create a warm, comforting mood.

Wiedemer recommends adding low-voltage landscape lighting, which is easy to install and can be moved or added on to in the future.

Attractive outdoor lighting can be a great way to welcome your guests at the holidays, the experts agree. "A warm glow by your front door indicates your personality, and the personality of your home," Rottnier says.

To learn more about exterior lighting trends, designs and options, or to find a local American Lighting Association showroom, log on to www.AmericanLightingAssoc.com or call (800) BRIGHT IDEAS (800-274-4481). ALA is a trade association representing the lighting industry.

- Courtesy of ARACentent



Photo by Hinkley Lighting

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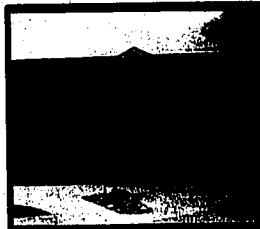
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THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"You do that again and you will be grounded so long they will call you Rip Van Winkle"

— David Elkind

WEST

- ♠ J 7
- ♥ Q 9 8 4
- ♦ Q 10 6
- ♣ A 10 7 3

EAST

- ♠ Q 9 3
- ♥ A 10
- ♦ A 9 8 7 4
- ♣ K 5

SOUTH

- ♠ K 10 8 6 5 2
- ♥ K 7 2
- ♦ K
- ♣ 6 4 2

NORTH

- ♠ 12 6 A
- ♥ A 4
- ♦ J 6 5
- ♣ K 5 3 2

This deal from the Board-A-Match Teams final in San Francisco at last year's Fall Nationals produced an unusual ending.

Defending two spades, West led a low diamond to East's ace, dropping South's king. East shifted to low heart, ducked to West's queen. A heart was returned to East's ace, and South won the third round. Three rounds of spades put East on lead, and now a second diamond was played.

What was the right way forward now? South knew West had about an eight-count for his double, which therefore meant that he had the club ace, but declarer still didn't know if West had the diamond queen or the club queen. Still, on the ruff of the second diamond, West had parted with the diamond 10. Since West had an honest face, South decided that this was a true card. If West was out-of-on to have started life with the diamond queen as well.

Accordingly, South played a club, going up with dummy's king when West played low, and now ruffed a diamond, felling the queen.

In this three-card ending, West had three clubs to the ace left, dummy had the doubton club, East had a master diamond, while West held the bare club queen and two losing diamonds. South's low club lead now produced a position known as a winkle: If West plays low on the club, East wins and must play a diamond (and declarer can discard the losing club). If West goes up with the club ace, he crashes his partner's game, and dummy is good.

604 Unfinished Apts. and Duplex

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KIMBERLY with TWIN, 2 b. 2. \$285/m. 751-6554

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KIMBERLY 3 bedroom 1 bath, pet's + pool. Call 208-212-1876

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KIMBERLY New 3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage, no smoking, no pets. \$550 + dep. Call 208-539-7426.

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Rent is based on income. **Goosecreek Manor/Sawtooth Apts.**

73 E. 22 Street, Burley, ID 83418

Call 208-733-0473

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Move in by December 31st and deduct \$200 from your 17' full month rental!

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176 Maurice St. N. Twin Falls 734-4195

Fabulous 1 and 2 bedroom apartments

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, kitchen apt. \$425. http://www.rasmussen.com Call 208-733-0473

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, new paint/garage, gas heat, spotless, no pets. \$425/mo. \$500/dep. 733-6408

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, range & fridge. Some units. Gas heat, W/D hookup. No pets. \$425+dep. 734-8811

TWIN FALLS 1342 & 1334 Emerald Circle 2 bdrm room apt. \$525. In-cludes water. 734-4334

TWIN FALLS 1st Month Free 2 bdrm/2 bath \$500 2 bdrm/2 bath \$525 Call Today!

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- Spectacular view of the Canyon
- Resort Style Pool and Spa
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610 Storage Warehouse	610 Storage Warehouse	610 Storage Warehouse	610 Storage Warehouse	604 Unfurnished Apt. and Duplex	604 Unfurnished Apt. and Duplex	604 Unfurnished Apt. and Duplex	605 Rooms For Rent	
TWIN FALLS Great location! Pkwy 3 bdrm, 1 bath, 2200 sq. ft. sun lit b'nt apt. private entrance, \$685. or 2 bdrm, 1 bath, over 2000 sq. ft. fenced yard, partial u/a. paid. \$625. Mut. see 208-404-3077	TWIN FALLS Large clean 1 bdrm, WD hookup, no smoking of 1918. \$435 + dep. post. 208-420-0460	TWIN FALLS Love where you live! 1, 2, & 3 b'drm apartments, w/airport, storage, fitness center and pool. For information call Sarango Apartments 208-733-1606	TWIN FALLS Newer 2 & 3 b'drm, 2 bath apartments. Corner of 4th & Madrona \$100 off 1 st month's rent! Starting at \$625 a month + deposit. Call 208-961-1446	TWIN FALLS Near Perrine School. \$500 month + \$400 security dep. 208-420-4655	TWIN FALLS Nice 3 b'drm, 2 bath, garage, AC, water, sewer incl. \$650 + \$500 dep. 733-7110	TWIN FALLS Studio apt. No smoking, dog, alcohol or pets. \$300 + \$300 deposit. 208-734-4226	TWIN FALLS Very clean 2 b'drm, 2 bath, W/D, no smoking, no pets. \$600 mo. + dep. Call 208-490-1990	TWIN FALLS Very quiet 1 b'drm, 1 bath, no pets. \$525 + \$300 dep. 208-212-1676

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DECEMBER ONLY EXTRAORDINARY BUYS SPECIALLY REDUCED A MINIMUM OF 5%

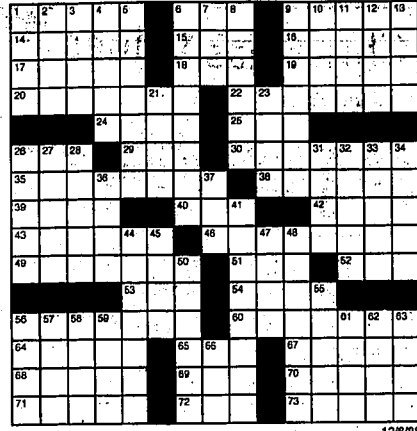
524,900 NOW 531,300 KIMBERLY Affordable, Affordable, Affordable! Never before have one acre lots been so affordable. This deal can only last a month or until they're gone. So don't wait, make your move today for building your dream next year. Merry Christmas! Call Shari Goodhart at 539-5845	594,900 NOW 580,155 IRWIN Cute and Affordable! Completely Remodeled within the past 2 years. Features include 2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath, Wood Stove, Overized 1 car garage, Fenced Backyard, Covered Patio, Basement for Storage and more. Call Tami Gooding at 308-8264	524,900 NOW 510,800 TWIN FALLS GIVE THE GIFT OF LUXURY this Christmas with this fully updated 2 bed home with new flooring, electric, plumbing, windows, doors, insulation, new heater, garage, GR, editing and more. When this is up and on the tree under it! Call Tracy Woolman at 420-3222	474,900 NOW 509,155 SHOENON OWN FOR LESS THAN RENT!! Classic cute with hardwood floors, well maintained & updated, new exterior paint. You will feel so secure and cozy! Full basement for expansion. MLS# 98322993 Call Gaea "Gaea" Lefe at 586-2186
529,900 NOW 515,015 IRWIN Unwrap the Savings! Why not unwrap this beautiful new split 3 bedroom home for Christmas? What a great gift for your family! This home sits on a large lot & has room for RV parking. MLS# 98366663 Call Shari Goodhart at 539-5845	529,900 NOW 515,015 TWIN FALLS 1712 Maplewood Drive This great 2 story home on a corner lot features 3 bedrooms & 2 baths with the master on main level, 2 private patios, auto sprinklers, central air, one best plus newer pool, carpet & paint. MLS# 98318381 Call Tami Gooding at 308-8264	529,900 NOW 510,800 TWIN FALLS LIKE NEW, BUT BETTER Wonderful 3 bed 2 bath, over 1800 sq ft with jettid tub, fenced backyard, 3 car garage with wood deck, main floor Bonnie B has the key 731-7304 MLS# 98385192	518,900 NOW 508,100 TWIN FALLS GREAT LOCATION!!! Beautiful ranch style home with over 1,820 sq. ft. on one level. 3 beds, 3 baths, full fireplace. Spacious dining area and kitchen. Nice corner lot in great subd. Just like new - you'll love it! Call John Irwin at 731-6510
529,900 NOW 519,905 TWIN FALLS Great Multi-Level Home Located on a corner lot this 2,456 sq ft, 4 Bedrooms, 3 Bath home includes a formal living room, family room, pentry, covered deck, updated kitchen when appliances, tile flooring new central air. MLS# 98374770 Call Tami Gooding at 308-8264	529,900 NOW 519,905 TWIN FALLS Huge Holiday Reduction! Reduced for the month of December! 4 bedrooms 2 bath home with a gorgeous updated kitchen on the Rock Creek Canyon Rim waiting for you to move in. Master suite overlooks a stunning. Shop behind house. MLS# 98370071 Call Linda Virginia 308-7721	522,500 NOW 509,000 TWIN FALLS Definitely a December Deal! Just what you need for the Holidays! 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, modern kitchen, dining room, front room, family room, deck with hot tub, 2 dog runs, pasture & water, RV space, shop, garage & pool! MLS# 98369568 Call Linda Virginia 308-7721	529,900 NOW 522,610 TWIN FALLS Shopping for a Great Deal? Looking for a home property with a bonus shop? This 2-acre property boasts a large 4 bdrm home w/ vaulted ceilings throughout plus a den area. Priced well below appraisal, it's beyond a great deal! MLS# 98373699 Call Shari Goodhart at 539-5845
529,500 NOW 525,000 TWIN FALLS Happy Holidays for YOU! Reduced over \$20,000 dollars! This wonderful country charmer is waiting for you to snuggle in for the Holidays. We have made it possible for you to get into this 4 bedroom home situated on 1 acre now! MLS# 98376559 Call Linda Virginia 308-7721	5246,900 NOW 5228,000 JEROME Possible Lease Option Here is open space lot close to Twin Falls? Formal Living Room, Family Dining, Great Country Kitchen, Sun Room, Family Room Multi beautiful landscape. Call Jesse Williams at 539-4861	529,000 NOW 529,750 TWIN FALLS Holiday Special December Only! This beautiful 3 bedroom, 3 bath home on .5 acre lot is only available at this price during the December "HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS" promotion. Call for details! MLS# 98385002 Call Donna or Stacy Beth at 420-4504	528,900 NOW 537,500 HAGERMAN Don't Miss Out on This Beautifully cared for home on the outskirts of Hagerman, wrap around porch, Wood flooring, sky lights, Triple garage, 4 bedrooms 2 bath with bonus room on 1/2 acre. MLS# 98371743 Call Rosary Ross at 539-6795
529,900 TWIN FALLS Spacious Affordable Home! Approximately 2,420 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 & 3/4 baths, nicely reduce home features living room, great room of kitchen, family room in basement, newer kitchen, large, mature yard, excellent location. MLS# 98380660 Call Betty or Jill Stone 420-0630, 428-2485	529,900 TWIN FALLS THE BEST FOR YOUR FAMILY Offered in this 1520 sq ft, 4 bed 2 bath family home. Lots of space w/ master bedroom on main level, great kitchen, well in pentry, upper level room for family fun. Excellent location. MLS# 98371996 Call Gayle Anderson at 308-8224	529,000 NOW 529,750 TWIN FALLS BEAUTIFULLY LANDSCAPED With large private backyard and patio, outside outlets for holiday lights. Large honey great room with gas fireplace. Ready for immediate occupancy. Call Erik Anderson at 428-0125	529,900 NOW 532,500 JEROME PLeasant COUNTRy ACReage Shade trees & sweeping lawn accent this 2700 sq ft, 4 bed 3 bath home on 1.7 acres. 30x40 RV barn & 30x22 shop w/ office & parts room for the auto/workshop enthusiast. Room for your horses. Call anytime for your viewing. MLS# 98375102 Call Erik Anderson at 428-0125

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ACROSS
 1 Graduating group
 6 Gear tooth
 9 Vaporized water
 14 Marx brother
 15 Set down
 16 The Velvet Fog
 17 "The Jelisons" dog
 18 Org. of Federer and Roddick
 19 One of the archangels
 20 Movie house
 22 Sorrow
 24 Bangkok man
 25 Caps ending?
 26 Whopper
 29 Sea eagle
 30 Sacred words
 35 Approved openly
 38 Stepped lively
 39 Ova
 40 Chinese religion
 42 Great landmass
 43 Furry marsupials
 46 Desert stinger
 49 Flashing lights
 51 Stage prompt
 52 Supermarket's letter
 53 "Norma"
 54 Urgent letters?
 56 Part of EDT
 60 Kissimmee's neighbor
 64 HI, on HI
 65 Star Wars, initially
 67 "Siddhartha" writer
 68 Commotions
 69 John's Yoko
 70 Facilitates
 71 Begin
 72 Flowed
 73 Naked or raving mad?

DOWN
 1 Chew the fat
 2 Bind with cord



Friday's Puzzle Solved

C	A	S	E	D	J	A	R	L	O	T	T	O
O	N	C	U	N	I	O	P	E	R	A		
D	I	O	R	S	D	I	D	U	P	S	E	T
A	T	T	A	C	K	D	O	G	V	O	T	E
S	A	T	I	R	E	N	E	A	R	S		
B	U	S	B	L	O	T	C	H	T	O	D	O
A	S	I	D	E	X	Y	Z	R	E	N	D	S
L	E	N	A	C	Y	R	A	N	O	E	Y	E
I	S	S	E	D	E	R	O	T	C			
G	A	S	E	S	S	A	L	A	A	M		
P	A	T	H	S	V	E	G	E	T	A	B	L
A	B	A	T	E	E	G	O	R	B	I	T	
R	E	P	E	L	R	U	E	R	E	E	V	E
S	T	A	R	S	Y	E	S					

3 Comic Johnson
 4 Fat avoider of rhyme
 5 Comforter
 6 Single-reed woodwind
 7 Mare's morsel ingredient
 8 Fertilizer
 9 Learner
 10 Undecided
 11 Small Great "Lake"
 12 Iowa city
 13 Allen and Blanc
 21 Dumbos' wings
 23 Lamentor's cry
 25 Onions' kin
 27 Gold brick
 28 Allan Poe
 31 Golf hazard
 32 WWII riveter
 33 So long, senorita
 34 Penn and Astin
 36 Christiania, now
 37 German article
 41 Important event
 44 Side by side
 45 Brown quickly
 47 Kick out
 48 Arrives at
 50 Detection device
 55 Pants fold
 56 Digs in
 57 Scads
 58 Whiskey spritz
 59 God with a hammer
 61 Greek peak
 62 Addict
 63 Cubicle feature
 66 Fingernails

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 GMC '07 Sierra SLT, Duramax diesel, crew cab, short bed, heated leather seats, fully loaded \$35,000. 208-324-0089

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

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sunroof, spoiler,
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Immaculate, leather,
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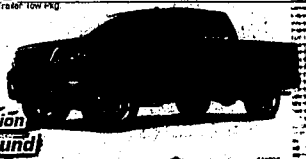
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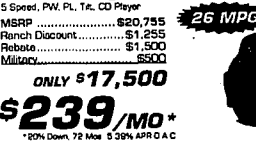
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Tow Pkg, Fog Lamps, Satelite Radio

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Roof Rack, Tire Pressure Monitoring System, Auto, A/C, CD

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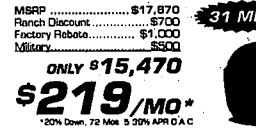
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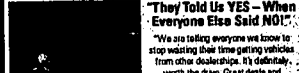
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