1-21-1998

Arbiter, January 21

Students of Boise State University
Keeping the dream alive
Human Rights Week at BSU

opinion Thoughts on another spring semester at BSU
news Students speak out about abortion legislation
arts Posies and music to watch the boat sink by
sports Lady Broncos dominate CSU at Fullerton
PRIMUS
BLINK-182
LONG BEACH
DUB ALL STARS
FEATURING THE REMAINING MEMBERS OF
SUBLIME
NO USE FOR A NAME
February 15th
Bank of America Centre
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THIS MONDAY
Reverend Horton Heat
$12.50
Let's Go Bowling
January 26th
Union Block Concert Club
SPECIAL CD RELEASE PARTY

trans atlantic crush
Friday, Jan 23rd
Union Block
Concert Club
89 at the door
All ages (full bar with ID)
Come Support the Local Scene
Top Ten least likely predictions for 1998

by Asencion Ramirez
Opinion Editor

10. Your advisor will make more money than BSU's football coach.
9. In February, Elvis will launch his "Bacon and Banana Comeback Tour."
8. Buster Bronco will be taken ahead of Peyton Manning and Ryan Leaf in the NFL Draft.
7. Bill Gates will give up his fortune and take up modern dance.
6. The devastating weather system, "El Niño," will be followed by three stronger, even more frightening systems known as "El Buceo, El Foco, y El Malo."
5. The Spice Girls will win the best female actress in a comedy Oscar for their work on "Days of Our Lives."
4. Dennis Rodman will defeat Martha Stewart by a landslide to become Idaho's next governor.
3. MTV will begin showing music videos.
2. Helen Chenoweth won't say something dumb in front of the national media.
1. The world will come to an end right...
Looking for meaning in MLK/Human Rights Week,

Is the celebration premature?

by Ascension Ramirez
Opinion Editor

The first week of school of the spring semester always brings with it a sense of urgency. For some, it is time to rectify the poor academic performance of fall. For others, it is simply the stress of getting into the "swing of things" again. For others still, it is the attempt to cram a celebration of hundreds of years of blood, sweat and tears of the Civil Rights Movement into a single week. However, celebration usually comes at the end of a project. Has the Civil Rights Movement accomplished all it set out to do? What is left to accomplish? How will that be accomplished? Is the Movement dead? Should it be allowed to die?

In the rush to put together a worthy celebration these questions are sometimes ignored. If anything, now should be a most critical and cautious moment. While laws and amendments have attempted to make an honest effort to change attitudes, some issues are not legislated. Minorities are still cut out of the Constitution, the fact remains that in the Treasure Valley. Maybe you stayed here in the area. Whatever not quite as palpable and disorderly as the weather not quite as bicipital and disorderly as the Treasure Valley. Maybe you stayed here in the area. Whatever not quite as bicipital and disorderly as the Treasure Valley.

So, in short, we have fewer holidays, crappy weather, cutting the description short at "irrelevant". For some, it means less romance than marching on the capitol, but surely it would be more productive.

Another issue arises at the discussion of whether or not the Prioritization of minorities. What qualified people are passed over in favor of minorities? Someone once said, "Nothing worth having ever comes easy."

 -- By Brandon Male
College Life

Here we go again, yet another year and another semester at our institution of high-learning, although judging from the behavior of some of those intrepid students out there, cutting the description short at "institutional" would not be an injustice. Maybe you went somewhere for the holidays, somewhere that features warm weather people and an earthquake at one corner of the map surely affects the rest.

Education in all sectors should be a goal of the Movement. Granted, it seems less romantic than marching on the capital, but surely it would be more productive.

Part of the problem is that, almost from the get go, spring semester is taken up by the inhumanly bleak month of February. It is so devoid of good cheer that we had to jump the birthdays of two American historical leaders together in order to manufacture a holiday. That's right, St. Valentine's Day does not count; any day associated with paper hearts, the sexual habits of birds and a bloody mob bit (look it up) is not a real holiday, no matter what the Hallmark goose-steppers have to say. Then comes March, which is only redeemed by a built-in excuse for uninhibited drinking and turning your local river green without fear of retribution from your local environmental agency. After that, what do you have to look forward to? Easter! People rising from the dead and bunnies leaving eggs; what kind of holiday is that? Only the vaunted spring break offers any real escape from the burden of learning.

Perhaps the root cause of the problem, however, is the fact that spring is not much of a season to be spending inside. When the leaves are turning, the moon and stars begin to be visible, but at their peak, staying inside with books and people quoting things with various degrees of intelligibility doesn't seem like such a bad idea. Once the leaves are getting green, the bars are getting crowded.

Electrolux. Even if you're not as outdoorsy type, it's still nice to feel the world start to thaw. If you're unfortunate enough to be stuck in a crowded room with large windows, you get to watch the world unfold to a soundtrack of American History, Biology, and whatever else you happen to be spending your time in. This is not how you want to be spending your precious time. So, in short, we have fewer holidays, crappier weather, and the onset of spring. Other than that, your semester will undoubtedly be much the same as the last one. If you had a good time last fall, then you should have no problem "percolating" and "perambulating" your way through the rest of the semester. If not, however, then I suggest you stock up on party mixings and people with whom you can share them.

You will, most assuredly, need such assistance.

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The Department of Unsolved Mysteries

by Damon Runzler


In case you're not familiar with him, Webb Hubbell is one of President Clinton's creepy lawyer friends from Arkansas. He used to work at the Justice Department until he went to jail for cheating his clients or biting Marv Albert—something like that. Regardless, if you get a chance look at him closely. He appears to be made out of pill-bows and inner tubes. If I had to offer a diagnosis, I'd say he's pregnant with septuplets. Janet Reno was slightly irritated by the sight of a big marshmallow man running around by Demon Hunzeker

creepy lawyer friends from Arkansas. He used to work at the Justice Department until assassination and creatures from outer space. Even if you're on a secret mission, eti-

ty. I understand the temptation to make fun of Clinton. Presidents are supposed to raise need to know the hypotenuse of a triangle. and you'll never need to know who killed

Munson" ...,...but it sounds like "Webb Hubbell" when he introduces himself, because he's hiding erasers and billing records in his jewls.

Anyway, Bill Clinton appointed him to a vague position at the Justice Department, and according to Mr. Hubbell's book, Clinton asked him to sneak around until he found out who killed JFK and if space aliens really exist. Consequently, every day on his radio show for the past two weeks Rush Limbaugh has been ridiculing the President's curiosity. I understand the temptation to make fun of Clinton. Presidents are supposed to raise campaign funds so they can get reelected to raise more campaign funds. Normally, we don't consider the commando-chief in dispatching a puffy spy on a secret mission to

slip through the X-files. But this is only an appetizer. Additional cover-ups will be exposed in my soon-to-be-released book "Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about the JFK Assassination."

Beavis and Butthead as contemporary American criticism

by Asencion Ramirez

Frankly, it was the best thing to happen to MTV since they stopped showing music videos. For thirty minutes a night, millions seven to ten minute-

utes for commercials, they assaulted their viewers' senses and insulted their sensibility. However, Beavis and Butthead are unfailingly delirious and seldom appreciated for pointing out the follies, failures and follies of American popular culture.

It's easy to dismiss them as loud, obnoxious, sopho-

morie and simply stupid without even giving them a sec-

ond glance. It's easy, because creator Mike Judge suc-

cessfully painted Beavis and Butthead as the local neigh-

borhood hooligans everyone wants to ignore. They were the kids in the back of your ninth grade English class; the ones everyone was sure could

at a high school level. Hell, they were lucky if they got a read at all at level three. They're the kids who show up in the hall sniffling glue and the afters

school appearing from school entirely. When you go to
college, they're the names you recognize in the

section of the local paper.

It's this criminal and infantile behavior that fires of the B and B critics. Some claim that it

need to be demonstrated on television. Others,

that this behavior spurs real idiots to imitate.

Don't bother me, though. I'm just surprised and relieved to know the Justice

Department is able to solve the mysteries of the world. I thought Justice officials

simply issued the occasional indictment and spent the rest of their time brushing

Botech Davilman dust off their clothes. But Bill Clinton is vastly well-informed, so I'm

going to follow his lead. Evidently, the Department of Justice is a guarded warehouse

stocked with solutions to the most perplexing riddles ever thrust upon humanity. We're

finally blessed with an oracle. Like anancient village; we !lowhave an old wise woman to

dispatching a puffy spy on a secret mission to destroyed if we discovered that he simply sneezed really hard.

Incidentally, I don't understand the interest in solving the Kennedy assassination.

Even if God released divine footage of Oswald acting alone, very few people would

accept it. Conspiracy theories are too fun, and they would still prevail. In fact, just to

confuse an, Satan would write a book about the O.J. connection. It would include pic-

tures of Kennedy kissing a baby which looks remarkably similar to Nicole Brown-

Simpson. I mean, who cares who killed JFK? It's useless information—you'll never

need to know the hypotenuse of a triangle, and you'll never need to know who killed

JFK. Besides, some things are better left unknown. Kennedy's legacy would be

destroyed if we discovered that he simply sneezed really hard.

But, thanks to President Clinton's persistence a few government officials are begin-

ning to reveal some of the secrets that, until now, were concealed by the Justice

Department. One of them has been sending e-mail to me. He goes by the name el'

Deep

G

F

S

P

Entertainment

One afternoon Beavis and Butthead put their unbridled energy into sections Band B

and other small screen. Is this the point of a

remarkable, or strangely, those in charge of programming allowed television to be

buried in poorly acted, overproduced and graspless

videos. American public was content to absorb without

asking why are we watching this stuff? Is there more important in a critical view of

the American lifestyle were the stereotypes B and B
took outside of their home to small, school

and other places. A cursory glance seems it difficult
to grasp what excesses like "Frog Borrow All the Money"

to say about our culture. Mike Judge, however, exposes the

failures in the machine that allow them insignificant, but

when added together bring the future into perspective.

One afternoon Beavis and Butthead put their unbridled

energy into sections Band B. Is this the point of a

times.

In another episode the boys take the neighbor's rented

steam roller and drive it into and through their high

school. Does a real life example really need to be cited?

American youngsters in every neighborhood and small
town revel in the destruction of property, especially

schools and other institutions built with public funds for

the greater good.

It is difficult to divine the greater message, if any.

The nation is full of idiots both on and off the

small screen? Or is it that something needs to be done

before the nation becomes overrun by morons who will

one day manage Social Security? America's weapons

arsenal and major league baseball? Or, perhaps, it is that

children are difficult creatures to understand? Children

need attention and parenting every step of the way. If left

unsupervised, ill-advised and otherwise ignored, they
can

The words "butt-munchin" and "corn-hollo" are just

in funny.

a personal note:

the first murder I ever met was a kid from my sixth-

grade homeroom. Mike was like Beavis without the curly
day. He was really funny and quite harmless. The last

I saw him was at the memorial swimming pool. We

had a lot of laughs and memories about homeroom-

day. A couple of years ago he was arrested for the

murder of his stepfather. I wonder where he went wrong.

with more bad than good. Unknowingly, or strangely,

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buried in poorly acted, overproduced and graspless

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One afternoon Beavis and Butthead put their unbridled

energy into sections Band B. Is this the point of a

times.
2 letters. . . !

To Whom It May Concern:

I write to applaud and disclaim some of the comments of Opinion Editor Ascanio Ramirez. It is both necessary and credit worthy for his service to the students of Boise State University in a leadership fashion, as it is also necessary to let the truth be known from the opinion of someone who has been affected by the good editor’s comments in more than one way.

I have found, in my short tenure of service to student and community organizations, that they provide an avenue of opportunity unparalleled by any other. Every organization (and BSU accommodates 140 of them) has a purpose. The purposes of each group are facilitated by the members of which the organization is composed of. No one club or associated group of individuals is paramount to another. In realizing this, I think it brings all of BSU’s organizations stronger together, knowing that each has a mission, each is seeking to provide freedom for all 15,000 students’ wants and needs, giving everyone a comfortable atmosphere in which they may facilitate the pursuit of their dreams and desires, making them a more well-rounded individual and contributor to society.

Mr. Ramirez, The Arbiter is this kind of organization—just as Kappa Sigma Fraternity, the Associated Student Government and other groups which you have put down, are. I am a member or some of the affected organizations of which you have disparaged in a very wrong fashion. I am a brother in the Kappa Sigma Fraternity for life. I am a representative of the students on ASBSU working very hard to promote the ideals of student government in all the various areas, and I am president of the Blue & Orange Legacy, an organization that assisted, and with great success, made Homecoming an extraordinary event.

I stand in defense of the organizations I represent, as I am sure you do as well, for The Arbiter. Because we take pride in the ideals we pursue, naturally it is easy to see why one would take offense to comments that are done in poor taste, and do not represent an accurate illustration of the important things each of these branches in my life strive for.

I also stand in defense of mine and your Associated Student Body President T.J. Thomson. Mr. Thomson is not only 1) a believer in student involvement, but 2) a man committed to his platform for success at Boise State University, and 3) a personal friend of mine. Our staff has demonstrated enormous success in facilitating the needs of the wide variety of students who consider BSU their home. Student government is a difficult job, in the same respect as a writer for a newspaper is. But we all work hard to bring to students an opportunity to explore, and to find themselves in a world becoming more complex each day.

Yes, ASBSU has come into trouble in recent months, but the findings of allegations have been found false, and many great things have been achieved aside from the few facts that student government has faced. Why has there never been an article in response to this issue, I ask?

Yes, Kappa Sigma Fraternity has been heavily involved in all walks of campus life—helping young children on Halloween night, cleaning up our community—as a whole, and on an individual basis. Why has there never been an article in response to the good deeds that this organization presents? It is no wonder there is a general consensus the fraternities are bad, polluting of the body and mind, and now find unfavorable impressions in American society.

Yes, Blue & Orange Legacy has tried, in its short tenure, to promote school spirit. Why not an article on the success of this fledgling group? Boise State University is enveloped by a wealth of interest groups that give all of us a chance. I applaud the efforts of the student organizations and clubs. I wish there was an even greater awareness of the time and energy put into many BSU events and activities, and to the powerful forces inherent within this school.

Certainly The Arbiter is not error-free. The Arbiter must struggle too, as all of us do at some point. But I would challenge the organization to spend a day in my life perhaps. I am Steve Steading. And I can say, Mr. Ramirez, that I am proud, to call myself a Kappa Sigma brother, student leader, and friend to all those who strive to go above and beyond, and achieve the dreams they pursue with a diligent mind and spirit. Thank you.

Yours truly,
Steve R. Steading
Kappa Sigma Fraternity
ASBSU Personal Selection Director
President; Blue & Orange Legacy

Letter to the Editor

Editor,

It is not surprising that anti-gay activists are now focusing on gay youth and their children. Their self-styled crusades and campaigns are based upon advocating the perpetuation of the current system of “special rights for heterosexuals.”

The judge in the Hawaii gay marriage decision cited the mountain of clear evidence that lesbians and gay men make good parents. That reality is that kids raised by committed gay couples compare favorably with their peers brought up in traditional “straight” households. The reality also is that there are far more children looking for adoptive parents than people willing to adopt them. Adoption officials have to deal with reality. Their options, when considering the best interests of each child, should not be limited by preconceived notions. We are a diverse society in which many children are not destined to be part of the Ozzie and Harriet Nelson family.

You don’t choose your relatives, but you can choose to make a real family out of the one you have. The proof of family values is how the family acts in its own. I wonder how many families, this holiday season, welcomed their gay members home.

Unfortunately we live in a society that often seems to prefer prejudice to knowledge. If people would lose some of their hostility toward gays and lesbians, gay parents and their children will do just fine.

William C. Stoons

COMING SOON: A day in the life of Steve Steading !?!

who says we don't aim to please?
LAB HOURS SPRING 1998

(All lab hours are subject to change due to staffing availability)

Business Building
B-209 (385-1201) Laser Printer cards are required and can be purchased in B-117. Contact the lab for the latest information.
Mon. - Thurs. 7:30am - 10:00pm
Friday 7:30am - 7:00pm
Saturday 8:00 - 6:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Communications Building
C-114 (385-3816)
Mon., - Wed., & Friday 10:00am - 7:00pm
Tues. & Thurs. 8:00am - 1:30pm
4:30pm - 7:00pm
Sat. & Sunday Closed

Education Building (Placement Testing Only)
E-418 (385-1435)
Mon. - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm
Sat. & Sunday Closed

Liberal Arts Building
LA-204 (385-1246) Laser Printer cards are required and can be purchased in LA-228 or from the lab monitor on duty.
Monday 12:30am - 1:30pm
4:00pm - 9:00pm
Tuesday 7:30am - 9:00am
12:00pm - 1:30pm
3:00pm - 6:00pm
Wednesday 12:30am - 1:30am
2:30pm - 9:00pm
Thursday 7:30 am - 9:00am
12:00pm - 1:30pm
3:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday 12:30am - 1:30am
4:00pm - 6:00pm
Saturday 11:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday 11:00am - 9:00pm

Math/Geology Building
MG-110 & MG-122 (385-1172) Word-processing and e-mail access is not available in this lab. The lab contains ASCII and X-terminals connected to UNIX computers. Students must obtain an account to access these computers.
Mon. - Thurs. 7:30am - 11:00pm
Friday 7:30am - 7:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 6:00pm
Sunday 10:00am - 11:00pm

Multipurpose Classroom Facility
MF 121 Laser printer cards are no longer required.
Mon. - Thurs. 7:30am - Midnight
Friday 7:30am - 6:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - 3:00pm
Sunday 9:00am - 9:00pm

Lab closed during spring break: March 21 - 28.

Petersen-Preco Learning Center
Pavilion (385-3077) OPEN DEC. 7AM - 27th
Mon. - Thurs. 7:30am - 10:00pm
Friday 7:30am - 4:30pm
Saturday Closed
Sunday 4:00pm - 10:00pm

Public Affairs/Art west Building
PAAW-125 (385-3816)
Monday 8:00am - 9:30am
11:30am - 1:30pm
Tuesday 8:30am - 10:30am
12:00pm - 1:30pm
Wednesday 8:30am - 1:30am
3:30pm - 5:00pm
Thursday 8:30 am - 10:30am
1:30pm - 5:00pm
Friday 10:30am - 4:00pm
Sat. & Sun. Closed

Simplot Micron Institutional Technology
SMITC (385-3808)
Monday - Friday 8:30am - 4:30pm
Sat. & Sun. Closed

Technical Services Building
TS-219 (385-3084)
Mon. - Thurs. 9:00am - 9:00pm
Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 10:00am - 4:00pm
World War II hero speaks at celebration dinner tonight

As an African-American, retired U.S. Army Capt. Vernon Baker has fought for freedom, for his country and for others with his skin color. Baker is just one of three living African-American recipients of the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest honor for battlefield valor, awarded him for his service during World War II. President Clinton recognized Baker's heroism at the White House in 1997.

Baker will serve as the keynote guest speaker for the 1998 Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Celebration Dinner at 7 p.m. tonight, in the Student Union Jordan Ballroom.

Baker, an Idaho resident, fought with the Army's 92nd Infantry Division, the last all-black division to go into combat for the United States. He was nominated for the Medal of Honor following the Battle for Castle Aghinolfi along Italy's Gothic Line in 1945, but lost the nomination. He later received the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second-highest honor for battlefield bravery. A study conducted by the U.S. Army determined that Baker and nine other black World War II soldiers had been denied the Medal of Honor because of racism.

The program will also include "Within the Silence," a one-person play about the United States' imprisonment of Japanese-American citizens in 1942. Tickets to the dinner and performance are sold through Monday. The event is sponsored by the Organization of Students of African Descent. For more information, contact 385-1448.

BSU hosts Suicide Prevention Hotline volunteer training

The Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline will offer crisis intervention to the public on Saturday, January 31st, continuing on Sat., Feb. 7. Both sessions begin at 10:00 a.m., and take place in the Communication Building on campus.

The training is offered free of charge, and there is no obligation to serve as a volunteer afterward.

BSU students may receive practical or internship for taking the training and serving as volunteers.

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Idahoans ages one to 44. For more information contact Peter Wollheim at 385-3532. The hotline number is 1-800-504-2120.

All calls are handled on a strictly confidential basis.

Student housing available for spring semester

It's not too late to arrange for on-campus housing for the spring semester at BSU. The office of Student Residential Life reports that rooms are still available in all residence halls.

Lifestyle theme floors are a feature of dorm life at Boise State. Themes include fitness and wellness, outdoor adventure, academic emphasis and values.

For further information, contact Patti Anderson with Student Residential Life at 385-3986.

Year's first faculty concert features classical, jazz music

Boise State University music professor Richard Maynard will be the first featured musician of the year as the music department continues its faculty artist series Thursday, Jan. 29.

Maynard will play his saxophone to the tunes of classical composers Ibert, Desenclos, Hartley, as well as performing several jazz standards.

The concert will be held in the Morrison Center Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 for general admission, $3 for seniors and free to students, faculty and staff.

Call 385-3980 for more information.

Broadcasting club holds first meeting of semester

The Boise State Broadcasting Club announces its first meeting of the semester, scheduled for Monday, Jan. 26 at 7 p.m. in the Ah Fong Room of the Student Union Building.

Members will elect officers, review the club constitution, outline goals and directions for the spring semester “and take input on ways we may hasten the downfall of western civilization and replace it with something cooler.”

The broadcasting club intends to increase student and citizen access to media outlets. The meeting is open to everyone.

BSU's best student musicians offer concert

The BSU music department's best performers will be showcased during the Chair's Honor Recital, Friday, Jan. 30.

BSU faculty chose the top students in each performing area—voice, brass, woodwinds, percussion, piano, strings and guitar—to present a number during the concert.

The event will be held in the Morrison Center Recital Hall at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $5 for general admission, $3 for seniors and free to students, faculty and staff.

For more information, call 385-3980.

ASBSU calls for donations

The ASBSU is sponsoring a Teddy Bear drive to help children in need. Donations will be collected on Feb. 14 all day at various locations on campus. Bin locations will be listed on posters, or look for the decorated barrels and bins in each building on campus.

College of Technology sponsors forum

The Dean of the College of Applied Technology is sponsoring a Bachelor of Applied Science student forum designed to address concerns of students currently enrolled, or who plan to enroll, in the Applied Science program.

One concern participants will address is the amount of core classes needed to complete the bachelor's degree. Currently, any core classes taken for an associate's degree cannot be counted toward the Bachelor of Applied Science Degree.

For this policy to change, students are invited to attend the forum and voice their concerns. It will take place in the SUB, Room Hatch CD at 4:30 p.m., Jan. 28, 1998.

Boise Rotary Club invites scholarship applicants

The Downtown Rotary Club of Boise currently offers applications for Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships for the academic year 1999-2000.

The scholarship is for one academic year abroad. It provides funding for round-trip transportation, tuition, fees, room and board, educational supplies and language training (if necessary) up to a maximum award of $23,000.

The scholarships are designed to further international understanding and goodwill. They can be used in 154 countries and 35 geographic regions where Rotary clubs are located. During their studies abroad the scholars act as ambassadors of goodwill through appearances before Rotary Clubs, schools and civic organizations.

The Rotary Club's most recent Boise award winner is conducting graduate work in Cyprus, in conjunction with the United Nations, working on conflict mediation between Turkish and Greek Cypriots.

This program is well-suited for upper level undergraduates and graduate students whose career plans would benefit from international experience. Interested students should contact Paul Tadhggher at 888-6202. The deadline for a completed application is March 15, 1998.

BSU students have new options for international studies

Boise State University students now have an opportunity to study abroad or enter internships while traveling in China, Spain or Chile under new offerings from the Division of Continuing Education Studies Abroad program.

Students can enroll to study during summer term, for a semester, or for a full year at Sichuan University in Chengdu, China. The university there offers intensive language studies in addition to courses in art history, economics, history and other subjects taught in English. One BSU student has already been chosen to attend the first summer session of this new exchange program.

New internship opportunities are also available in Chengdu; Bilbao, Spain; and Santiago, Chile. The for-credit internships are the first such offerings through Studies Abroad and allow students a unique cultural experience as an exchange student.

Internships will be open in business areas in Chile, most fields in Spain and in English as a Second Language in China.

For more information, contact Josie Bilbao, the international education coordinator with the Division of Continuing Education, at 385-3652.
Governor addresses top issues of concern to Idaho
Higher education little priority for lawmakers this year

When Governor Philip E. Batt assumed office in 1994, almost immediately he found himself swimming in the dirty waters of the nuclear waste turmoil. Batt was pleased to come clean in the Jan. 12 State of the State address, announcing the improvement of Idaho's environment, while at the same time urging state lawmakers to keep environmental quality a top priority. "One of my goals has been to establish state government as a servant of the people. We have a responsibility to protect the environment, enforce safety standards, and to extract enough tax money to meet educational and social needs," Batt announced, marking the opening of the Second Regular Session of the 54th Idaho Legislature. While placing emphasis on social concerns, Batt hit even harder on Idaho's environmental prosperity, maintaining Idaho's progress isn't without need for improvement. "We still have much to accomplish. Most important environmental indicators are, in general, showing continual improvement," he explained during his fourth and final address. "The quality of hazardous waste generated per year has been significantly reduced; air quality violations have declined; and water quality indicators are showing good progress."

Batt asked citizens and legislators to view these improvements in light of the increased state population and industrial growth—factors which usually cause a decline in environmental quality. In an effort to establish a balance between economic growth, human health and the environment, Batt proposed establishing a separate Department of Environmental Quality, which, he says, will stay within Idaho's constitution and be comprised of 20 departments. The current DEQ falls under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and Welfare. Under the proposed separation, the department would work directly with the governor. The DEQ monitors water and air pollution and also wields the power to fine individuals and companies that pollute the air. Batt hopes that a DEQ will continue current efforts to improve air quality while serving as a vehicle to change Idaho's "emphasis on natural resource protection from the bottom line only, to protection and sustainability." In addition to devising plans for continual environmental improvement, Batt looked to preserving Idaho's wilderness for future generations. He already had signed the 200th anniversary of Lewis and Clark's expedition and is working to obtain a showpiece state park on the Loch Trail, a well-preserved original campsite of the Lewis and Clark party. Recently Batt drafted a designation for portions of the Salmon and Selway rivers as "Outstanding Resource Waters," including a couple of tributaries. Although Batt urged lawmakers to preserve and protect the state's environment, he doesn't see the reintroduction of wildlife in that equation. According to Batt, Idaho citizens who have contacted him oppose the reintroduction of grizzly bears by a margin of more than 20 to 1. "Our citizens and elected officials have spoken clearly: We do not want grizzlies reintroduced. A lot of folks don't want wolves either. And if we're going to have wolves, the US government would provide the Nez Perce Tribe with adequate funds to monitor them. We don't need them in Salmon city limits," Batt said, denouncing the federal government's reintroduction attempt.

"It's not just environmental issues"

Although the environment commanded the most attention in Batt's address, social issues also received prominent focus. Mainstage on Batt's agenda was the need for corrections reform. Although he praised Idaho's tough sentencing laws, Batt stressed that the overstocking of inmates isn't entirely necessary. "...it does not make economic nor humanitarian sense to lock up people inappropriately. There are at least two distinct classes of felons. First are those heartless criminals who maim and kill and rape and commit disgusting sex crimes. Most of them do not find themselves to rehabilitation. Putting them in the pen is about as good as we can do. The other class is also dangerous, but it comprised mainly of misfits, losers and offenders sometimes referred to as good times. Batt explained.

The second group of felons, Batt said, are often drug-dependent and drift in and out of prisons. Yet a large percentage of these felons, he explained, can be "shocked, or castrated or disciplined into a useful mode." Batt formed the Committee of One to study the prison problem. Based upon the suggestions of that group—comprised of judges, prosecutors, sheriffs and laymen—he concluded that changes can be made without sacrificing the safety of the public.

"...several hundred people can be released and we can save tens of millions of dollars...We can find..."
Abortion Issue

W

Discussion about the legalities of abortion is a hot topic in the United States. The Supreme Court's decision in Roe v. Wade in 1973 made abortion legal in the United States, but the issue remains a topic of contention to this day.

Trends of the bill

The bill, which is currently under consideration in Congress, would place new restrictions on abortion. The bill would require doctors to provide additional information to patients, including a financial estimate of the costs associated with the procedure.

The bill would also require doctors to perform a 'bail out' procedure if the patient changes her mind. This would force doctors to perform the procedure even if the patient no longer wants it.

The bill has been met with opposition from pro-choice advocates, who argue that it is a violation of women's rights. Pro-choice advocates argue that the decision to have an abortion should be a private one, and that women should be able to make that decision without interference from the government.

Supporters of the bill argue that it is necessary to protect the lives of the unborn. They argue that the procedure should be performed only when it is medically necessary, and that the procedure should be postponed if the patient changes her mind.

The bill has been introduced in Congress several times, but has not yet been passed. It is not clear whether it will pass in the current session of Congress.

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refers patients to one of four abortion providers in Idaho. None of the four doctors licensed to perform abortions in Idaho will do so past 16 weeks of pregnancy.

If a woman in Idaho wants an abortion past the 16th week of pregnancy, she must travel out of state for one.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, of the 1970 abortions obtained by Idaho residents in 1995, 802—almost half—were performed outside of state. Only five of these were performed after the 20th week.

The CDC reports that of the 802 abortions obtained outside of Idaho, 618 were done in Washington, 150 in Utah, 32 in Oregon, one in Kansas, and one in Mexico. The agency also estimates that Montana doctors performed 30 abortions on Idaho residents. The numbers aren't certain because Montana has failed to forward reports for Idaho residents who obtained the procedure in that state during 1992-1995.

The CDC also noted that in 1995, 89 percent of national abortions were performed during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy, with 54 percent in the first eight weeks.

The New York-based Alan Guttmacher Institute, a company that researches abortion statistics, indicated that their research shows half of all American women will have at least one abortion within their lifetime. Forty percent of these women, AGl reports, were using birth control.

What the legislation would do

Proposed abortion legislation by the Idaho Family Forum, a conservative advocacy group, would require that minors obtain parental consent prior to an abortion, that fetal tissue be saved, that a second doctor witness abortions, and that medical personnel take more tests prior to performing the procedure.

The IFP's proposed amendments would clarify Idaho law concerning abortions, making them more difficult to obtain and requiring that abortion doctors be more accountable for their services.

Despite numerous efforts to contact the Idaho Family Forum, calls were unheeded. Dennis Mansfield and Zane Johnston, IFP lobbyists, failed to return phone calls, and IFP representatives refused to disclose information or comment over the phone.

Despite the IFP's silence, its proposed legislation is causing outrage within Idaho's community of civil and women's rights advocacy groups.

Opponents of the proposal say the IFP's legislation would simply duplicate Idaho law, while adding unnecessary, time-consuming and costly requirements, serving only to hinder access to abortion services in Idaho.

He also pointed out that if the IFP legislation passes, abortion costs will likely increase, and women would have a more difficult time finding a doctor willing to perform the procedure.

How Idaho law currently views abortion

Since July 1, 1977, Idaho abortion providers have been required to file detailed reports with Vital Statistics and the CDC. According to the CDC, state and national abortion numbers in 1995 were at their lowest since mandatory reporting requirements went into effect in 1977.

The reported numbers of abortions in Idaho increased from 708 during the first half of 1977 to a high of 2706 in 1981. That same census during 1995 in Idaho was 970.

Abortions in Idaho occur at a dramatically lower rate than the national average. In 1995, the state reported 55 abortions per 1000 live births. Nationally, 334 abortions took place per 1000 live births.

Some student activists' points of view

While legislators gear up to debate the effort abortion bills would have on Idaho's future, some campus organizations are planning ways to voice their opinions.

I think the [proposed legislation's] goal is of shaming and pseudo-criminal abortions, and I think that is wrong," said Joshua Graham, Vice President of the ACLU of BSU. Graham plans to participate in demonstrations and help educate the public about the proposed anti-abortion legislation, with views as a dangerous threat to women and civil liberties.

"Basically, what they want to do is make Idaho abortion-free—and that's an attack on women, women's bodies and women's choices," Graham said. "Van Valkenburgh, President of BSU's ACLU chapter, says the club is trying to work with other human and women's rights organizations to build coalitions and resist any abortion legislation."

The ACLU of BSU and the Feminist Empowerment group also took part in the Jan. 21. Roe vs. Wade Celebration, sponsored by the Idaho Women's Network.

Campus Christian groups, which primarily focus on strengthening Christian fellowship, say they will sit out this abortion debate. Kelly Watts of the College Christian Club said members "usually don't get involved in politics, we primarily stick to religious issues."

The Campus Republican group has not announced any intent to take action in support of the proposed legislation.
Celebrated author, poet, cultural theorist and Chicana-feminist, Gloria Anzaldua, will serve as the keynote speaker at Boise State University's 1998 Martin Luther King, Jr./Human Rights Celebration.

As honored writer from the Rio Grande Valley of south Texas, Anzaldua draws from her life experiences of living on the American/Mexican border, combining reality with popular folk tales to inspire critical thinking on current humanistic issues. Unafraid to dispute contemporary social taboos, Anzaldua will challenge audience members on issues of sexual and spiritual identity, racism, feminism and multi-ethnic literacy as they relate to the United States and Idaho.

Author of Borderland/La Frontera, and several children's picture books, Anzaldua weaves English and Spanish prose together to reinterpret famous Mexican folk tales, and relate the stories of her childhood, growing up in a migrant Hispanic family in south Texas.

Nationally recognized, Anzaldua received a national Endowment for the Arts Fiction Writers Award and the 1992 Sappho Award of Distinction. Borderland/La Frontera was chosen as a Best Book by the Literary Society.

In Borderland/La Frontera, Anzaldua blends fragmented, post-modern prose into what she calls a "crazy dance" of a variety of styles. Prose, poems, endnotes and anecdotes, mix with several languages for effect. For example, Anzaldua melts formal English, working class and slang English, with Spanish, Chicano Spanish, Tex-Mex and Pachuco to describe her experience of feeling torn between two cultures.

Adominating theme in Anzaldua's writing circles around the social, spiritual and individual complexities that impede a life trapped between two societies. In her poem Borderlands, Anzaldua laments:

"To live in the borderlands means you are neither hispana india negra espanola ni gabacha, a mestiza, half-breed caught in the crossfire between camps while carrying all five races on your back/ not knowing which side to turn to, run from."

Making Face, Making Soul/Haciendo Caras: Creative and Critical Perspectives by Feminists of Color, edited by Anzaldua, presents a compilation of 70 works by women that examine issues of race, class and sexuality. Then, reinterpreting a famous Mexican legend, Anzaldua tells the story of the ghost woman through Prieta, a young Mexican-American girl, in Prieta and the Ghost Woman/Prieta y la Morocha. Friends From the Other Side/Amigos del otro lado, Anzaldua's second children's picture book, follows Prieta and Pablo, a Mexican boy, as Prieta defends Joaquin from the neighborhood kids who ridicule him calling him "mexico" or "wetback."

In an Albuquerque NuCity Weekly interview (4/11-17/94), Anzaldua described how writing seemed a logical place to examine her political ideals. "I always felt I would be an artist...I decided that a more direct way of getting my work across was with words," she said.

"I always had this political sense of there being ideas behind the art. There was an agenda for me that was political: I was looking at our situation, our lives and trying to make them better by putting my concerns out there verbally," Anzaldua explained.

Given Anzaldua's emphasis on bilingual education and attention to multi-cultural diversity, Robert Meyers, Assistant Director for Student Activites, feels Anzaldua will serve as an important and much-needed guest at BSU's Human Rights celebration.

"We're living in a state where we're seeing an increase need to be bilingual," Meyers explained. "In children's books...there's such a lack of bilingual reading."

He said that Anzaldua's children's books can help bridge the gap between Hispanic and American cultures for young readers.

"Because Mexico makes up Idaho's largest and fastest-growing minority population," Meyers thinks Anzaldua's visit to Boise will provide an invaluable opportunity for many area residents.

"Her own personal experiences...being an individual who grew up in a southern Texas migrant family are so familiar to many Hispanic families living here in Idaho. I think she can relate well with our population," Meyer said.

Anzaldua's lecture will be held on Friday, Jan. 23 at 7 p.m. in the BSU Student Union Ballroom. It is free and open to the public.

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Schedule for the remainder of Martin Luther King Jr./Human Rights Week

Wednesday, Jan. 21

Noon—Live entertainment featuring world-beat musicians Gypsy Flames, Student Union Fireside Lounge.

2:40-3:30 p.m.—"Addressing the Issues of Sexual Orientation in Teacher Education," Student Union Barnwell Room. Issues will include homophobia, health, sex education, and the need for increased awareness and appreciation of diverse values and ways of life in the educational setting. This workshop will be presented by Dr. Margaret Muller, BSU professor of elementary education and specialized studies; Dr. Cal E. Spear, BSU health, physical education and recreation professor; and Dr. Stan Steiner, BSU elementary education and specialized studies professor.

3:40-4:30 p.m.—"Gender Bias in Idaho Courts," Student Union Farnsworth Room. Craig Hoppens, J.D. will discuss the biased treatment of female witnesses, litigants and attorneys based on the findings from the 1997 Survey of Perception of Gender Bias in Idaho Courts.

7 p.m.—Celebration Dinner, Student Union Jordan Ballroom. The evening features the one-act play Waiting for the Silence" and guest speaker Word War II hero Vernon Baker, First Lieutenant Baker was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Clinton, for his heroism in 1945.

Tickets cost $10 for students and $15 General at Select-A-Seat. Sponsored by the Organization of Students of African Descent.

Friday, Jan. 23

1:40-3 p.m.—"Voices," Student Union Barnwell Room. "Voices," a video discussion exercise, process beyond awareness and sensitivity to address inter-cultural relationships and the barriers of fear and hostility.

7 p.m.—"Keynote speaker Gloria Anzaldua will present "Creative and Critical Perspectives," Student Union Jordan Ballroom. Described as a Latina poet, author and cultural theorist, Anzaldua uses popular folk tales to inspire critical thinking on current issues of the day. She will celebrate and challenge the audience on the issues of sexism and spiritual identity, ancient/feminist and multi-ethnic literacy as they relate to Idaho and the United States.

Anzaldua has taught creative writing, feminism, Chicano studies and Mexican American/Mexican folk studies at the University of California at Santa Cruz and Vermont College. She has been a writer-in-residence at Minneapolis, MN., as well as artist-in-residence at Pomona College. She has also served as a contributing editor for Sinister Wisdom, since 1984, and sits on editorial boards for various national publications.

Anzaldua is the first Hispanic speaker at Boise State's Human Rights Week in eight years.

8:30 p.m.—Book signing with Gloria Anzaldua, Student Union Art Gallery.

Saturday, Jan. 24

8 p.m.—"Inca Son Rhythm of the Andes," Special Events Center. Inca Son presents traditional music and dance of the Andes Mountains in authentic and vividly colorful Inca attire. Each song and dance imparts a bit of the rich background and meaning of Andean folklore. Tickets are available at Select-A-Seat for $5 for BSU students, faculty and staff and $10 General. Sponsored by the BSU Student Programs Board.

Sponsors of this year's Martin Luther King Jr./Human Rights Celebration are Hewlett Packard, Alberston's Corporation, Idaho Power, Idaho Human Rights Commission, N.A.A.C.P.-Boise Branch, Idaho Statesman, Ada County Human Rights Task Force, Idaho Commission on Hispanic Affairs, BSU President's Office, Associated Students of Boise State University (ASBSU), Hui-O-Aloha, Organization de Estudiantes Latino-Americanos, Organization of Students of African Descent, Student Programs Board, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Health and Social Services, College of Engineering, College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, College of Business, the department of modern languages, the department of sociology, Student Special Events, Boise State University and Activities and Volunteer Services Board, College of Applied Technology, and the BSU Bookstore.

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Sign language advocates want it classified as foreign language
But other experts say signing belongs where it is

by MINDI RIDGEMAY SPECIAL TO THE STAR-ADVERTISER

About a half a million people in the United States use American Sign Language (ASL) in their daily lives, yet Boise State University offers only two sign language courses—through the communication department: Introductory and Intermediate.

The fact that ASL is offered through the communication department and not the modern languages department has been the subject of some controversy lately, some claim that by not offering ASL in the modern languages department, BSU helps to perpetuate long-standing stereotypes about sign language.

Mary Ellen Ryder, a BSU linguist, said that "of all languages and dialects in this country, sign language is the most stigmatized.

Ryder pointed out that sign language may borrow words from English, but it doesn't make it the same language. English sentences use a word order of subject-verb-object to function, while ASL operates as a predicate-classifier language. That means it combines verbs, subjects and objects in one gesture, changing the word order of the sentences. They cannot be the same language if the word order is different.

The second stereotype, Ryder said, holds that all sign languages are the same, whether in the United States, Russia or Great Britain. However, the different languages are not mutually intelligible, meaning that signers from around the world cannot understand each other's language.

The third misunderstanding, and the most destructive, according to Ryder, is that sign language is not a language at all. Language, by definition, makes someone human, Ryder explained. Saying that sign language is not a language would be to say that the signer is not human.

Ryder added that productivity also makes a language. Not only is sign language productive, she said, but it also contains grammar, conveyed through facial expressions. She said that past studies have missed this fact.

She continued to explain that sign language should be considered a foreign language because it contains different dialects for separate regions of the country, such as California to Georgia.

Brandon Tuck, a sign language interpreter and linguistic scholar, questions why some experts deny sign language as a foreign tongue.

"There's empirical language evidence supporting ASL's inclusion with the modern languages, but the validity of its foreignness is doubtful," Tuck said. "A brother who is deaf has been signing almost all his life. To pursue ASL courses satisfying his foreign language requirement in linguistics, he must either take the course at Idaho State University or at Western State University in Monmouth, Oregon."

Tuck said ISU receives money from the state for its speech pathology program, but not for its sign language program. Since speech pathology advocates hearing aids and not sign language, neither ISU nor the state pays for its business and education program. Yet ISU allot money to a sign language program.

"They are getting money and not utilizing it," said Tuck, "and we aren't getting it, but we would utilize it if we did."".

BSU's sign language instructor, Suzanne Buckley, recognizes the ongoing battle with ISU over the allotment of funds. She said she would like to see sign language validated as a second language at Boise State, and would prefer to see it offered in linguistics or in the education department.

Tuck said he would rather see sign language in linguistics, saying the education department would treat it as special education, rather than "getting into the culture of the deaf community."

The long process of moving the sign language courses out of communication and into another department is not a consideration for Dr. Marvin Cox, Chair of the Communication Department.

"Sign language is a very specialized mode of communication," said Cox. "It is offered as a service to the community."

Florence Moorhead-Rosenberg, Chair of the Modern Languages Department, said there was no overarching ideology when it came to placing courses in a department. "Things just ended up where they ended up," she said.

For one thing, the modern languages department did not exist at ISU in the 1980s. It was instituted in 1991, and Rosenberg said there are historical reasons for placing sign language in the communication department, that is, where most universities place it.

"Of the recent trend by state legislatures to support the acceptance of ASL as a foreign language seems to have gone unmentioned in Idaho," Rosenberg said the sign language courses are well-attended and need to be left alone.

"The communication department has dealt nicely with it and has been doing so for quite some time," said Rosenberg. "Why mess with it if it's not broken?"

It may not be broken, but categorization, said Ryder, tells people something about sign language. It is important for the deaf community to be recognized.

"There are no living groups of people isolated by Latin being placed in the history department," said Ryder. "'It's a dead language. But there is a large group of people isolated by sign language not being considered a real language."

Ryder explained that when sign language is placed in the communication department, it says sign language is a "weird form of communication."

If officials placed sign language with linguistics, it would be in the English department and seen as a form of English.

In the education department, people might mistake sign language for a special needs form. Ryder said that in the modern languages department, sign language would finally be placed in a category explaining exactly what it is: a foreign language.
Boise State University campus crime report, provided by the on-campus sheriff's office

This crime report records criminal activity on campus from 12/16/97 to 01/14/98:

12/16/97: 12:00 noon—Burglary at Student Union
12/16/97: 1:45 p.m.—Burglary at Library
12/24/97: Malicious injury to property at Student Union
12/25/97: Grand theft at University Village
12/27/97: 2:13 a.m.—Open container at Lincoln and University
12/28/97: 9:00 a.m.—Burglary at Pavilion
12/31/97: Theft at Chaffee parking lot
1/1/98: Theft at University Heights
1/1/98: 10:15 p.m.—Burglary at University Heights
1/2/98: 11:00 p.m.—Grand theft at Applied Technology
1/4/98: Theft at Student Union
1/5/98: 11:00 p.m.—Malicious injury to property at Math/GeoScience
1/8/98: Battery at Morrison Hall
1/9/98: 1:30 a.m.—Minor consumption of alcohol at Admin Building

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Governor continued

we can save tens of millions of dollars. We can find more effective ways to divert those who abuse alcohol and drugs into a better life, and at the same time show that taxpayer some mercy," Batt said.

In response to the attention Idaho has been receiving because of the handful of hate groups making their home here, Batt denounced any acceptance of hate groups within the state.

"They range from eccentric to anarchistic. The hatred which comes forth from such evil people as the Aryan Nations is beneath contempt. We denounce such blatant racism and resolve that we will do all we can, within the constraints of free speech, to discredit these pseudo-Idahohans," Batt said.

Education important, too

Citing education as the state's top priority, Batt asked legislators to consider bills, funding, and innovations to increase teacher pay, make schools more competitive in technology, and improve Idaho's educational standards.

The topic of education, which took up a small portion of the address, is actually in an admirable condition, according to Batt.

"Our schools are up to the challenge... We have an unbecoming habit of belittling the quality of our schools. Our students are ready to compete with all comers. Our literacy rate is high," he argued.

The status of Idaho's higher education was not addressed in Batt's speech. No comment was given relating to funding, budget, or standards in Idaho universities, and little legislation is expected to be introduced in the 1998 session pertaining to higher education.

Avoiding partisan questions, Batt also made no mention of the proposed abortion legislation. Three abortion bill proposals have recently drawn media attention, and are expected to draw plentiful debate on both sides of the issue.
Your UNREAL Horoscope

The feel good hit of the season!

by MARK DAVID HOLLADAY
POLITICALLY, FASHIONABLY AND AERODYNAMICALLY INCORRECT

"You have to go through a few personal Armageddons to become a person." — Baron Arbor

Aquarius: (Jan. 20—Feb. 18) To enhance your pleasure zone, change the lyrics of popular songs to reflect your devious mind. Remember, Idaho radio truly is 32 flavors of Hanson.

Pisces: (Feb. 19—Mar. 20) Talk to the people holding your key to happiness this week — listen to the voices in your head.

Aries: (Mar. 21—Apr. 19) Start a new BSA organization for fun — something like the Associated Students of Boise State for the Ethical Treatment of Balloon Animals.

Taurus: (Apr. 20—May 20) Looking for love on all the wrong placemats? Try mail-order mates instead.

Gemini: (May 21—June 21) The next time someone tells you to "knock on wood" tell them you'd rather avoid a sexual harrassment suit.

Cancer: (June 22—July 22) If you win the lottery keep your acceptance speech short.

Leo: (July 23—Aug. 22) Did you have a nice holiday season? We thought so.

Virgo: (Aug. 23—Sept. 22) Simon and Simon were not brothers in real life...only on television.

Libra: (Sept. 23—Oct. 22) Mothballs are surprisingly large.

Scorpio: (Oct. 23—Nov. 21) Choose to become a more serene being to move closer to your god source.

Sagittarius: (Nov. 22—Dec. 21) If you don't give up those feelings over sorry, disappointed, distressed unfilled actions performed or unperformed you'll only regret it.

Capricorn: (Dec. 22—Jan. 19) Social work is a good way to get friendly advice from people in tune with the universe.

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A decade ago, Kenneth Stringfellow and Jonathan Auer began their first bona fide band after years of making music together in their youth. From the midst of the Seattle sound (led by bands such as Nirvana and Pearl Jam) emerged a Bellingham, Wa. group offering a culmination of pure vocal harmonies overlaying intricately engineered guitar riffs and pop-rock style. The group became known as The Posies. Going into Year Ten of their careers, The Posies are calling it quits. The group that earned alternating bass players, changing labels and even becoming part of another band is finally departing, but not without first leaving their fans with one last album: Success.

The Posies’ poppy rhythms and fresh sound gradually became more and more appreciated as they received radio airplay and stellar reviews in The Rocket and Cashbox. Prior to the addition of Rick Roberts on bass and Mike Musburger on drums, Auer and Stringfellow probed many different forms of music before creating their own unique guitar-pop pop. The duo meshed together a style which notably became the sound of The Posies.

What’s in a Name?

As with ‘Toad the Wet Sprocket’, The Posies’ name was a last-minute joke. Stringfellow commented in an interview that “The Posies” was a “crazy joke.” He recalls, “We just thought it was a stupid name in a way. It had a kind of annoying charm to it... We had to commit to something to put on the tape covers, so we said, ‘All right, let’s commit to that. That’ll do!’” A promoter for The Posies added that at one point, the band considered calling itself The Puppies. Good choice guys.

Signing a Label:

Their first album, Failure, was originally released on cassette via their own label, “23 Records,” and later debuted on PopLlama Records. PopLlama is also signing for the Young Fresh Fellows. Stringfellow consists of Auer and Stringfellow performing all the vocals and instrumentation, and taped mostly in their living room. Roberts and Musher came along as The Posies were approaching completion. In the months that followed, the Posies attained a few promising opening slots and soon began making a name for themselves in the Seattle/Bellingham music scene. It wasn’t long after the PopLama release of Failure when Gary Gerch of Geffen Records (the same man who signed Nirvana) signed The Posies with an offer to record on the Geffen imprint DGC. In September of 1990, Dear 23, the breakthrough album for the band, was released.

Some of their best work ever was featured on Dear 23, including tracks like “Golden Blunders”, “Any Other Way” and “Suddenly Mary.”

Personnel Hell

Despite the growing number of records sold and the steady climb in the music industry, The Posies suffered a few setbacks with certain members. In Fall of ’91, The Posies said farewell to bassist Rick Roberts. Stringfellow claims Roberts always had intentions of forming his own band and was fed up with being “somebody else’s bass player.” Subsequently, The Posies style couldn’t handle a prima donna, and with the alluring prose and poetry of Auer and Stringfellow they didn’t need another song writer. The group borrowed Sky Cries Mary bassist Joe Howard, who played with them for a couple of months, but remained with Sky Cries Mary. Then, Dave Fox of Flop joined the team for the recording of the 1993 release Frosting on the Beater, and was later kicked out and replaced with the returning Joe Howard, who saw the band through the release of Frosting on the Beater. They also replaced drummer Mike Musburger with Brian Young in time for the recording of their fourth album Amazing Disgrace. Bassist Joe Skyward also joined the group on Amazing Disgrace.

What’s the obsession with 23?

Posies fans may still wonder why the band always makes references to the number 23. Failure was originally released on the self-produced “23 Records,” and was catalogued on PopLama as PL2323. The name of their song-publishing arm is “Twenty-three Songs Music.” The name of their second album is Dear 23, and the catalogue number for Success reads PL3232 (2323 backwards). Stringfellow reveals that its something they got from the “Illuminatus!” trilogy. In these books, important people die on the 23rd day of the month, and there’s a global conspiracy running the world behind the scenes and finding ways to make people paranoid... such as putting 23’s everywhere. The Posies kept the spirit going by making their fans crazy with the 23 obsession. It has worked.

An American Top 40 Hit?

Stringfellow claims that the last thing on his mind when creating music is how popular it will be, but you can imagine his level of enthusiasm (sarcastically speaking) when Frosting on the Beater single “Dream All Day” hit the charts. During The Posies gas-
Titanic Soundtrack invokes emotion from the movie

by ERICA HILL
ARTSWRITER

From what has become one of the most popular holiday releases of all time comes an equally impressive soundtrack. The “Titanic” CD is everything a motion picture soundtrack should be. It comes full of the sounds behind many of the emotional scenes of the movie instead of just popular radio hits designed to sell the CD. Although the soundtrack does include one radio hit by Celine Dion, it is the only one of 15 geared at selling the compilation.

James Horner composed, produced, orchestrated, and conducted 14 of the 15 cuts and also performed various instrumental solos. Horner composed and produced the Celine Dion hit as well.

This album is almost exclusively instrumental. Classical music fans will appreciate Horner’s sense of musical style, but if you’ve never seen the movie the CD will generally mean nothing. If you have seen it, however, this CD will bring the vibrance and sorrow of “Titanic” to life again.

James Cameron, director of “Titanic,” said the soundtrack is all he had hoped. “It deftly leaps from intimacy to grandeur, from joy to heart wrenching sadness, and across the full emotional spectrum while maintaining a stylistic and thematic unity.” The tracks are structured in the same pattern as the events in the movie. It begins with songs such as “Southampton,” “Rose” and “Leaving Port.” These represent the first half of the film and tend to sound jovial and energizing. The latter half, however, depicts devastation and sorrow.

Horner’s use of rhythmic vocals—performed by Sissel and synthesizers over traditional classical instruments such as clarinets and drums—help amplify the emotions felt during these scenes in songs such as “A Life So Changed” and “My Heart Will Go On.” He also combined loud, sharp drums, bass-filled horns and screeching violins during the intense scenes of destruction.

Horner’s ability to combine these two completely different styles of classical music and still evoke almost as much emotion from the listener as the movie, proves he is not only a fabulous composer, but his skills at compiling an album seem impeccable. The “Titanic” soundtrack presents more than just a compilation of music unrelated to the movie itself—it offers a series of events which bring the film right to your own stereo.
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1998
Young Broncos starting to mature

by TERRY CHRISTENSEN
Sports Editor

With a team returning everybody, expectations will always be high and rightfully so. From the coaches on down to the players, everyone agrees a veteran team should do better than the previous year.

Such is the case with the Boise State women’s basketball team. After completing last season with a 9-17 mark, the Broncos have equaled that win total through 16 contests this year. Upon defeating Cal-State Fullerton 71-56 Sunday, Boise State improved their overall record to 9-7 and 3-1 in conference. They also posted their eighth victory in the last nine games.

The dynamic duo of seniors Kim Brydges and Kelle Lewis led the Bronco charge with a combined 37 points. Brydges led all scorers with 20 points while constantly being a thorn in the Titan side. She yanked down four rebounds plus stole CSUF passes. Brydges made the most of her free throw opportunities nailing 6-7. Lewis connected on 6-17 from the field including 2-7 three pointers. Red shirt freshman Stephanie Block tied a career high with five swats of opponent shots.

Cal-State Fullerton put four scorers in double figures led by Kris Sigg and Erin Whiteside with 13 apiece. Nashira Shaw pulled in nine rebounds in addition to her ten points.

Boise State went into half time leading 32-29 following a 7-0 run by CSUF. Justine McMahan sneaked behind the Bronco defense twice for lay-ups in the final 23 seconds.

However the Broncos would reverse their fortunes to start the second half, bolting out on their own 7-0 streak. CSUF kept the pendulum swinging, mounting another run to tie the score at 43-43 with 12:40 to play.

After exchanging baskets and then falling down by one, BSU slammed the pieces of the puzzle together. Brydges nailed a couple of buckets in low, fueling a 16 point surge securing the victory for Boise State.

Boise State welcomes old nemesis Idaho for early bragging rights in the Gem state battle. The Vandals match Boise State’s 3-1 conference record and are 7-10 overall. Idaho stole two from the Broncos last year, 69-65 in the BSU Pavilion and 67-66 at Moscow. Thursday night’s tip off is 7:00 p.m. in the Pavilion.
by TERRY CHRISTENSEN  
Sports Editor

I cannot believe the semester is winding up again. Unfortunately I dropped the ball in the sports department therefore complete game coverage of the men’s basketball season won’t appear in this issue. Fortunately, I am sure a mistake of this caliber won’t happen again. Until next week, here are a few tidbits to chew on to begin the new year:

• Senior Roberto Bergesen hit a jumper with time expiring on the clock to give the men’s basketball team a 76-74 victory at Cal-State Fullerton. Boise State split the California road trip and are home for a couple of days before traveling to Utah State. Overall the Broncos are 11-6 and 3-1 in conference. The Bronco-Aggie tip-off is 7:05 p.m. on Thursday night.

• Houston Nutt accepted the head coaching position at the University of Arkansas. Something tells me a raise of $400,000 and the chance to return to your native state would sway anybody’s loyalty.

• Volleyball made a few changes; gone are former head coach Darlene Bailey, interim coach Mike Waller and assistant Melanie Kopka. Mark Rosen from Northern Michigan takes the reins as volleyball head coach. Kopka takes the head job at Drexel University in Pennsylvania (her alma mater), meanwhile Waller explores other options.

• Defending Big West champion Bronco gymnastic team finds the 1998 season throwing early twists. BSU currently sits at 0-2 after stumbling versus Utah State last Saturday night. The Aggies posted a 190.65-190.2 triumph in front of 1,800 fans in the BSU Pavilion. Boise State travels to UC-Irvine for a dual meet on January 30th.

• The Bronco wrestling team watched victory slip from their hands in the final seven seconds versus Wyoming. Leading 2-1 going into the final period of 190 LB weight class, the Cowboys scored a two-point take-down and two-point nearfall to win the match. More importantly, they forced a tie with Broncos 18-18 after forfeiting the heavyweight match. BSU drops to 3-4-1 on the season. Up next: Portland State Vikings in Bronco Gym, Saturday at 2 p.m.

• Boise State men’s tennis team will also be in action this weekend when they host the University of Montana. Match begins at 6 p.m. on Saturday night.

Look for full coverage of all Bronco athletics in the next issue of the Arbiter.

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