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The Arbiter encourages reader response
Letters to the Editor
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‘Biter of the Week . . . Business Advisor William Hart is leaving Boise State University to pursue greener career pastures. Hart spent several years with The Arbiter, helping us through the financial thick and thin. Thank you!

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September 16, 1998
Suicide prevention hotline offers training

The Idaho Suicide Prevention Hotline will offer free crisis intervention training to the public beginning Saturday, Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. Training sessions will continue on Saturday, Sept. 26. Training sessions are located in the Communication Building.

Sessions will cover myths and facts about suicide, warning signs, intervention strategies, ethics and community resources.

University students are eligible for practicum or internship credit for taking the training and becoming volunteers. Training is open to those who wish to become volunteers, and anyone else interested in dealing with suicide. Volunteers can take calls in their own homes.

Suicide is a major cause of death among Idahoans, and the state suffers from the sixth highest per capita rate of suicide in the nation.

The hotline operates from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily and serves all of Idaho. The number is 1-800-564-2120. All calls are confidential.

The hotline is staffed entirely by volunteers. Its financial support comes from private donations, as well as the United Ways of Ada and Canyon counties.

For more information, please contact Peter Wollheim at 426-3532, or 1-800-564-2120.

Idaho writers to present an evening of poetry and prose

Two nationally renowned writers are returning to their roots this week with two evenings of original literary presentations.

Richard Shelton and Marilynne Robinson will offer readings Sept. 17-18 at the Student Union Ballroom at Boise State University.

A native Idahoan, Robinson won national acclaim with her first novel Housekeeping and will perform at 7 p.m. Sept. 18. Shelton, a native of Boise and author of Going Back to Bisbee will discuss "The 'New' West: Redefining Our Literary Heritage" at 7 p.m. Sept. 17.

Both presentations are free and open to the public.

Shelton, a professor of English at University of Arizona, penned several poetry collections, including The Tattooed Desert (1971) and The Bus to Veracruz (1978), which was nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Going Back to Bisbee (1992), won the Western States Award for creative non-fiction in 1992.

Housekeeping (1980), won Robinson the Ernest Hemingway Award for First Novel and was also nominated for the Pulitzer Prize. Her most recent book, Mother Country (1989), is a non-fiction account of radioactive pollution in Great Britain. Robinson currently teaches English at the University of Iowa.

Both programs are presented by Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honors Society. Additional sponsors include the Idaho Humanities Council, Idaho Commission on the Arts and the Log Cabin Literary Center BSU English Majors Association, English department, College of Arts and Sciences, Student Programs Boards, Honors Program and Financial Advisory Board.

Building a partnership

Thanks to an annual fund-raiser held by the Associated General Contractors of Idaho, a new building to house educational programming for the Morrison-Knudsen Nature Center will get a helping hand from a group of Boise State construction management students.

More than 40 hours of labor by members of BSU's Construction Management Association was purchased by Rex Trammel of Trammel Inc. at the AGC auction this winter. Trammel then turned around and donated the labor hours to the MK Nature Center for its use.

For the Nature Center Project, students are identifying the materials, quantities and length of lumber needed to construct the 20,487-square-foot Conservation Facilities Building. The new structure is being built in a partnership among the Department of Fish and Game, Boise School District and Boise State.

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Deniers of Holocaust look to campuses for recruits

Doreen Martinke

The Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust (CODOH) runs ads in campus newspapers offering $250,000 to anyone able to arrange a debate on national television. The proposed discussion between their organization and the Anti-Defamation League of B’nai B'rith focuses on the Holocaust, which CODOH denies ever occurred.

Members of CODOH do not believe masses of people, including six million Jews, were executed during World War II. They cast doubt on the eyewitness accounts from survivors of concentration camps.

Organizations such as this one, Zirinsky argues, "totally ignore the facts of history." Instead, they "carefully organize" their information as truths in order to repudiate known details of events.

CODOH believes the story of Anne Frank to be a work of fiction. Members base this view on the fact that parts of the diary were set down with a ball point pen, which was not invented at the time the journal was written.

"This information gives only portions of the story," Fink explains. Anne Frank's father made notations in the margins with a pen of this type, but not within the text of the diary itself. The diary has been tested and found authentic.

Executive Director of the Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Center, Mary Peterman, explains the ball point pen marks were made during authentication of the diary's "authenticationalive" to tell the tale.

CODOH is "misconstruing facts. Teaching children to respect one another is much more important than promulgating hate and encouraging violence," Peterman says.

Freedom of speech allows groups such as this to operate, but Peterman does not agree with their rationale. "Any reasonable person can make their own decision," she says.

"How can anyone deny the Holocaust occurred when there are people still alive today who survived it?" Fink asks. "No one denies slavery existed, even though no former slaves are still alive to tell the tale."

Dedication remembers Hay's legacy, service

Carissa Wolf

Two giant, incomplete rings rise from the earth, join and then expand. Much like the relationship between student and teacher, the university and its community, the sterling silver rings begin as separate entities, meeting for a moment only to branch away, opening to new possibilities. Expansion of the mind and commitment to education, as portrayed through the eyes of an artist, serve as a reminder of the legacy of Janet Hay.

On Sept. 9 legislators as well as university and community members gathered to unveil the Janet Hay Memorial Plaza, "Eternal Wind" and recall the relentless dedication and love Hay possessed for educating Idahoans.

"As a newcomer to Idaho, I did not get to know Janet, but I have heard of her legacy... Her life exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. We are so grateful she used her many talents to help her community," Boise State University President Charles Ruch told the crowd as they gathered around the memorial, some taking shade under nearby trees while others relaxed on newly constructed benches.

Hay was memorialized as a tenacious educator, legislator, community activist and state policy maker. Those who spoke of Hay recalled an exceptional leader whose passion for education touched many in the university, community and state.

"[Janet] was a practitioner of self-discipline... to me, Janet was a prime example of what it means to be a public servant... [She] was passionate in her belief that every child deserved the best education," Gov. Phil Batt recalled.

"Trained in science at DePauw University and Indiana University, Hay began her career as a research assistant at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis and then at the University of Washington. After moving to Idaho in 1961, Hay taught at Albertson's College of Idaho. While raising her three daughters, Hay became immersed in their education and the system that backed it, emerging as a lifelong advocate for educational issues."

In conjunction with the dedication of Hay's memorial, the Idaho Board of Education and the University of Idaho will formally place the memorial and dedicate the plaza.

BSU officials hope students will use the plaza to relax

League of Women Voters, Hay chaired a statewide study of school financing and was subsequently appointed to the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the University of Idaho. She was later appointed commissioner for the Education Association of the States and was a member of the Accreditation Commission on Colleges for the Northwest.

Hay helped advance Idaho's quality of education, especially in the areas of science and scientific research, with her 1984 appointment to the Idaho House of Representatives, where she served for three terms.

Now, Ruch points, "Eternal Wind" sits east of the Albertson's Library as a symbolic reminder of Hay's love of mind. "[Janet] had the ability, the integrity and the tenacity, to follow through [in her service endeavors]... she was at master at that," Batt remembered. Batt noted, "[The memorial] will stand a tribute, so we will know what we owe her."

"At times," Ruch said, "students will gather here to engage in lively conversation. At times, they will come to reflect."

Batt noted Hay's commitment to learning and community ideals reflected in "Eternal Wind," not only in its structure, but its location as well. "[Eternal Wind] is intended to be a place of ideas... at school and in public."

Hay's husband, Dr. Robert Hay, provided many of the resources for the memorial and spoke of the sculpture's artist, Nobuyo Okuda. Okuda befriended the Hay family while attending BSU, where she graduated in 1984. Other sculptures by Okuda are on display in Glendale, California and Tokyo, Japan.

ASBSU President Christine Starr, reminded attendees of Hay's timeless effort and dedication in the academic sphere. "Students should be forever grateful for [Hay]'s unending contributions to education... students... and the community," Starr said. "It's only fitting that the memorial be placed at a place most frequented by students."

September 16, 1998
**ASBSU introduces first legislation of the year**

**Jesi Loerr**

ASBSU continued its work for the student body during the Sept. 3 meeting.

Senator Justin Thomas introduced the first senate bill of the 1998 fall semester, which calls for the transfer of $317.44 from the contingency fund to the grant fund. The Communication Department received grants last year, but students turned receipts in late and the money was transferred to the contingency fund. Thomas’ legislation was sent to the Budget and Finance committee.

ASBSU President Christine Starr updated senators on the Student Recreation Center. A decision regarding its location should come as early as December, with groundbreaking by Homecoming 1999. Starr led senate discussion on the possibility of renaming the Multi-Purpose Building. Students’ input will weigh heavily in the final decision as they are expected to create and decide on a new title. Mid-October has tentatively been set for voting on the revised name.

Starr also announced Maria Salvatierra’s resignation from the position of Election Board Chair. This position is currently open.

The next senate meeting will take place on Thursday, Sept. 17 at 4:00 p.m. in the ASBSU Forum. All BSU students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.

**False fowl fail to foil feathers, feces**

**Katie LeBlanc**

An owl landed on the roof of Albertson’s Library, about five years ago. It’s maintained a perch there ever since. It is not dead. The owl is plastic.

In an effort to frighten away the pooping pigeons that gather on Boise State rooftops, the Physical Plant placed two-foot high owls on top of various roofs on campus, including the Administration Building and the Library. Both attracted flocks of pigeons, causing major drain and sanitation problems.

Dick Ross, a janitor at BSU, said the roof drains hook into storm sewers and plug up when birds congregate and excrete. At one point, a 40 to 50 gallon pool of bird feces, feathers and carcasses sat on top of the Administration Building.

“I’ve pulled pigeon carcasses out of the muck. There’s nothing pleasant about it,” Ross says.

So the owls landed. The problem is that they only work for about two weeks. They each sit on a ball bearing and the wind is supposed to make the birds pivot. That stopped a few months after they were placed on the roof.

Today, the owl on top of the Library is the only remaining bird.

Ross thinks if there were a group of owls instead of one, and if their positions changed every week, that might get the job done. He says he even pondered dressing the owls up with army gear and ammunition.

“If we had a squadron of owls, they’d be pretty effective.” There is an alternative to plastic owls—barbed wire. This pigeon-fighting method is too expensive, though. Moreover, Ross has received continuous resistance from animal rights activists and environmentalists on the BSU campus, claiming the wire is harmful to the pigeons.

He says the Physical Plant’s main concern is keeping the buildings comfortable and safe. Ross has faith in the owls and hopes to work out all the kinks to keep the roofs and students of BSU as pigeon-poop-free as possible. Why?

“I’ve had more fun with those owls,” he says.

**Heavy storms wreak havoc on Pavilion**

**John Three**

Heavy rains over the Labor Day holiday weekend caused flooding in the BSU Pavilion. Initial assessments indicate that a broken seal on a drain pipe allowed water to enter the building.

Greg Marchant, Events and Marketing Manager for the Pavilion, says he received a call from Campus Security shortly after 7 p.m. on the evening of Sept. 6, informing him that a fire alarm had been activated at the Pavilion.

Marchant says when he entered the Pavilion he discovered “water an inch deep flowing down the lobby hallway floor.”

Upon further inspection Marchant found water in the Arena, the weight room and in the BSU Children’s Center’s rooms. The Children’s Center’s kindergarten day care program is housed in the Pavilion.

The fire alarm activated is located in the day care center and when the drain pipe’s seal failed the alarm sensor malfunctioned, Marchant explains.

Marchant immediately began mobilizing a clean-up effort. Jon Zarneke, Custodial Superintendent, and Ric Johnston, Senior Mastercraftsman, arrived on the scene and worked on repairing the drain pipe. Meanwhile, Pavilion and BSU staff began mopping up operations to remove what Marchant estimates was 2,000 gallons of water.

Janet Davis, BSU Children’s Center Kindergarten Program Teacher, says she was called in Monday morning and found the Pavilion day care center unusable because of the damage. The Pavilion Health Center offered its building as a temporary site for the program. After notifying the parents of the 15 kindergartners, the program resumed operations Tuesday Sept. 8 at the Health Center in the spare vacant rooms.

Davis says the only addition the Student Health Center could make was to install a portable toilet for the children outside the building.

“The people helping were wonderful,” Davis comments, “especially Dexter King, Executive Director of the Pavilion. He’s been over several times to check on us and see if we needed anything.”

Marchant adds that Debbie Kling contributed greatly to the effort as well. He says the university has sent out a contract for repairs on the drainage system with the help of the Physical Plant staff, and that damage was limited to wet carpeting.

“We had to take up one half of the basketball floor on Sunday,” he says. The floor sustained no damage.

A second rain storm on Labor Day Monday caused some additional water to enter the Pavilion through the damaged drain pipe. However, that cleanup proceeded promptly.

Marchant says he was impressed by the cooperation and team spirit displayed by the staff of the Pavilion and the campus departments which aided in the repairs and cleanup. He estimates damage extended only to carpets and that normal Pavilion activities were only mildly affected.
Idaho Civil Liberties Week to examine censorship, capital punishment

Stephanie Matlock

In celebration of the Bill of Rights, some open events promise to enlighten Boise residents during the last week of September. The second annual Civil Liberties Week, presented by the American Civil Liberties Union of Idaho, will coincide with the Hyde Park Street Fair.

The ACLU activities intend to focus on "current topics that we present free of charge," says Lynn McCollum, program director for the organization. Last year, she adapted a similar month-long celebration from Oregon into last year's successful launch of Idaho Civil Liberties Week. McCollum worked closely with the Log Cabin Literary Center and the Boise Public Library to organize this year's event.

"The Censor's at the Door" purposely coincides with the American Library Board's Banned Books Week. Readers for the evening include Karen Baker, Executive Editor of The Idaho Statesman; Josephine Jones, a published poet and middle school creative writing teacher; Richard Klautz, chair of BSU's drama department; Paul Schaffer, Punishment Racist? will fuel debate on Wednesday night, Sept. 23. Copresented by Idahoans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Dr. Craig Hemmens of the Boise State University Criminal Justice Department will lead the discussion at the Mennonite Hyde Park Church at 7 p.m.

On Thursday night, Boise criminal defense attorney Tom McCabe will present information on what you should know before you are pulled over by police, during his workshop titled "Blue Lights and Civil Rights." The BSU Student ACLU Club cosponsors this event, to be held in the BSU Student Union Building at 7:30 p.m.

McCollum also notes attacks on "Dr. Suess's latest book, which was banned in a Washington school because these little kids were being taught to love trees!"

"It could be any author!" McCollum points out.

In an effort to critique and examine Idaho's capital punishment laws, "Is Capital Punishment Racist?" will fuel debate on Wednesday night, Sept. 23. Copresented by Idahoans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty, Dr. Craig Hemmens of the Boise State University Criminal Justice Department will lead the discussion at the Mennonite Hyde Park Church at 7 p.m.

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"It could be any author!" McCollum points out.
Empty chair debate excludes Rickard, dissed by Kempthorne

Barry Malone

Two months shy of election day, Republican gubernatorial candidate Bob Huntley held what he called a "series" of debates with Republican gubernatorial candidate and current U.S. Senator, Dirk Kempthorne.

On Sept. 9, Huntley hosted an empty chair debate in Boise State University's Jordan Ballroom. Facing a room filled with approximately 75 people, Huntley challenged an empty chair in which Kempthorne would have sat had he accepted the invitation to debate Huntley in a public forum.

In a letter marked July 16, 1998 addressed to Kempthorne, Huntley invited the senator to ten ninety-minute debates across Idaho. Kempthorne declined this offer and as the letter stated, "At each forum there will be a chair labeled with our respective name—if either fails to show, the forum will proceed with the empty chair."

The Idaho Statesman on July 21, 1998 quotes Kempthorne's campaign manager Jeff Malmen as saying, "We don't feel it's his (Kempthorne's) job to get Huntley's message out."

The Huntley camp responded to this with stickers questioning "Where's Dirk?"

Meanwhile, after Kempthorne declined to participate, Dr. Peter Rickard, an independent party candidate, requested inclusion in the debate. Huntley chose not to let Rickard in and offered to debate him another time at Rickard's expense.

Huntley opened the empty chair debate by talking about his stance on educational reform in Idaho. He intends to raise teachers' salaries from forty-fifth in the nation to thirty-four in 1999 by increasing the state's budget by $17.5 million. That money would come from Huntley's plan to reduce the sales tax from five to four percent and cut out 40 percent of state sales tax exemptions.

Huntley has yet to clarify which sales tax exemption recipients would be cut, stating only that current agricultural exemptions would remain in place.

Huntley also discussed his plan to remove the earthen portion of the four dams on the Lower Snake River to aid the salmon and steelhead recovery effort. According to Huntley, removing the dams would "bring the salmon population back to the 1960's level and would bring in $173,000,000 into Idaho's economy."

He added that the measure aims to allow for development of an infrastructure needed to revitalize Lewiston and rural Idaho economies.

Huntley supports the Idaho National Environmental Engineering Laboratory's creation of the Integral Fast Reactor. This upgrade, going through the design process in 1994, is intended to replace the EBR-II reactor.

Government officials want to burn plutonium and weapons-grade uranium so neither can be used in weapons but will still supply energy. Then, four years ago, they pulled the Integral Fast Reactor from the table because critics feared that creating new fuels and burning the old ones could pose a threat of nuclear proliferation. Huntley hopes to bring the Integral Fast Reactor project back to the INEEL's attention.

Huntley wrapped up the one-sided debate by declaring his position on abortion. "Such a personal decision should be left up to the woman and not the legislature," he stated. Huntley claimed that a legislature with an 85% male population is not the appropriate body for making that decision.

Huntley ended the meeting by taking questions from the audience and confirming the challenge from Independent candidate Rickard. He accepted all questions. A time and place for the debate with Rickard have yet to be announced.

College Republicans and Democrats assemble on campus

Breca Smith

The College Republicans are alive and well at Boise State University. Already they have grown from 10 to 30 members, thanks to the effort of Justin Thomas, senator-at-large who presides over the group. He manned a booth last week in SUB to recruit new members.

"We don’t have a defined mission statement," comments Thomas, "but we want to educate.

Thomas believes the College Republicans benefit students by informing them about important issues and by putting them in contact with their state representatives.

The club's first official meeting on Sept. 9, convened in the Boyington Room in the SUB. Representatives from Dirk Kempthorne's campaign, Mike Crapo's campaign and the Ada County Republicans were present, rallying students to get in touch with lawmakers.

As its primary goal, the group seeks to urge the student body to become actively engaged in the political process. "During the past week and a half I've had probably a dozen phone calls from different campaigns asking for help from the College Republicans," explains Thomas. "I want to take that information and deliver it to the group so they have the opportunity to get involved."

Thomas exhorts students to pick a campaign and acquaint themselves with current issues.

"My biggest focus is going to be education," he emphasizes. "We have a program set up where we can register students to vote."

Thomas contends that most students don’t even know where to vote. He intends to equip them with that information.

In addition to educating, Thomas seeks to engage people in an open exchange of ideas. College Republicans bond some students because of its political affiliation, and Thomas regrets that people often dislike him for his views.

"Things are getting better," he says, "because I welcome open dialogue with anyone who challenges my ideology."

The group will meet every other week until October when it will meet weekly as the Nov. 3 election draws closer. There will be a marketing booth set up in the SUB seven business days preceding the election to get the news out.

"We don’t want to upset anybody, but we do want to make some noise," stresses Thomas. "We want to get them fired up to vote." (The College Republicans) is a strong organization and we want to make a difference.

The College Democrats are gearing up for the coming elections as well. That group’s first meeting convened yesterday in the Alexander Room. Steve Steading, organizer of the group, expected at least 40 prospective members show up.

Today, the Democrats will oversee a lemonade stand in the SUB where they are urging students to register to vote. Dan Williams, Democratic candidate for the U.S., will be on hand to talk about issues of concern to students, including education, student loans and child care.

Bob Huntley, running against Dirk Kempthorne for Idaho Governor, has asked the College Democrats to organize a forum for his campaign and for issues pertaining to specific needs of the students. Steading emphasizes the need for students to rally in support of their candidates.

"We have been behind the scenes for a good two years," states Steading. "We are now trying to regroup and let students know there is a balance. The university is not dominated by one party or another. We want to recruit as many students as possible and get them voting since this is an election year."

Steading hopes to create some energy among the College Democrats and get members excited about their party affiliation. He emphasizes the need for the organization to stay active year round, not just during an election year.

"We want people to come out for fund-raisers and other events," notes Steading, "but we want the student body to know where the Idaho Democrats stand on political issues at all times."

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Contact Editor in chief Kelly Millington Teal at 345-8204 for details.
what's going on?

Friday, September 18—Student Organization officer cards are due!

Saturday, September 19—The Broncos take on Portland State in the Bronco Stadium, beginning at 7:05 p.m. Another good reason to go: the "College Recognition" program will honor the College of Business and Economics. And if football is not your game, attend the Boise Philharmonic recital featuring Rachel Barton on the violin. The music plays in the Morrison Center Main Hall.

Tuesday, September 22—See Hyenas at 7:30 p.m. in the Special Events Center. This film costs students, faculty and staff $1, while the general public pays a mere $2.

Wednesday, September 23—Goodbye hot weather—it's the first day of fall!

Saturday, September 26—Are you going to the Idaho Herb Faire? Parsley, sage, rosemary and thyme... The faire starts at 10 a.m. and runs until 5 p.m. at Storey Park in Meridian. Look for lectures, workshops and vendors touting their herbal knowledge, plants, products and garden-related items. For more information, call 887-1784.

Thursday, October 8—National Depression Screening Day takes place. The Counseling Department invites BSU students to drop in at the Wellness Center for a free depression screening from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. The screening includes a written self-test, video presentation and confidential screening interview with a mental health professional.

Send submissions for What's Going On to arbiter@bsumail.idbsu.edu, fax to 426-3198, or mail to 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725. The Arbiter cannot guarantee publication.

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fast
and furious
is how I spend
the afternoon.
not my cash.

"So I got this. The AirTouch Prepaid Cellular Card. No monthly
fees, no credit approvals, no contracts. I just pay up front and go. Thirty bucks gives
me up to 50 minutes of local calling time. It tells me how many minutes I have left before
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with AirTouch, I get coverage wherever I go. Which is out there, let me tell you."

AIRTOUCH
1-800-AIATOUCH
Letters to the Editor

Compliments to The Arbiter

To the editor:

I sent the following email to Vicki Holbrook at the Idaho Press Tribune [a couple of weeks ago] regarding the lack of coverage of BSU sports in the paper. Personally, I think their coverage is as follows:

Tribune regarding the lack of coverage of "The Arbiter BSU sports in the paper, reject any advertising copy deemed unacceptable for publication. The paper is designed as a forum for discussion and intellectual stimulation, often brought on by unpleasant ideas and theories.

On a different note, The Arbiter is jostling its format around a bit. We are placing the news section in the front of the paper, then moving on the calendar, the opinion section, and so on. We hope this appeals more to our sister Treasure Valley institutions of higher education, but I believe Boise State University deserves to be recognized by this paper. Boise is the largest school in my county residents currently. A BSU or are alumni. BSU is also a part of the county and will soon be a even greater presence with its Glassy Joe Field in the Boise State North Base in Bronco Stadium.

Imagine my disappointment this week when I eagerly turned to the sports section hoping to find out about BSU teams only to find that BSU apparently does not exist. The Looking Ahead seven day schedule has listings for every team in the valley except for Boise State University. I must protest! I don't mean to be petty, but I do want them to be included. I look forward to finding out about the teams and the scores and the results of the games. This weekend was a great weekend for sports! We had three coaches in their debuts--Coach Julie Orlowski inaugurated the first season ever for women's soccer at BSU. Coach Mark Rosen led the BSU women's volleyball team against Idaho State at 4:00 p.m. at the Bronco".

Please explain to the editor:

In The Arbiter's August issue, you published an ad on page 22 that offered $250,000 to the person who could convince a national network TV channel to broadcast a debate between a group named CODOH and the Anti-Defamation League. CODOH pleads for its right of free speech and open debate and wants to discuss what it calls the "one-sided Holocaust allegations." CODOH clearly states its members do "no longer believe in the gas chamber stories," and they question the testimonies eyewitnesses gave after World War II. As a citizen of THE ARBITER, September 16, 1998

From the Editor

The Arbiter has, thus far, received two letters regarding recent ads placed by CODOH, the Committee for Open Debate on the Holocaust. Our advertising policy is as follows: "The Arbiter reserves the right to reject any advertising copy deemed unacceptable for publication. Advertising simulating editorial style must carry the identification "This is a paid advertisement" on each page the ad appears."

We know the ideas presented by CODOH are silly, and we neither subscribe to nor appreciate them. However, The Arbiter does not believe in self-censorship. The paper is designed as a forum for discussion and intellectual stimulation, often brought on by unpleasant ideas and theories.

On a different note, The Arbiter is jostling its format around a bit. We are placing the news section in the front of the paper, then moving on the calendar, the opinion section, and so on. We hope this appeals more to readers, especially those who want their news right away.

Please continue writing to us. This week we feature our first Guest Forum of the semester—be sure to check it out! If you would like to submit your own Guest Forum, please do so typed, double-spaced, or on disk.

Unfortunately, we cannot accept handwritten entries.

Once again, we appreciate hearing from people around campus. Keep it up!

From the Editor:

The Arbiter's Complete, Unedited and Unexpurgated Souvenir Copy of the Kent Starr Report With All Thirty-Eight Boxes of Supporting Evidence

The Arbiter's Complete, Unedited and Unexpurgated Souvenir Copy of the Kent Starr Report With All Thirty-Eight Boxes of Supporting Evidence.
Guest Forum
Stop stereotyping Islam and Muslims

Adil Al-Bagawi, Student Association President, and Zainab Al-Wadi

The Arabic word of Islam in literal terms means “complete submission to only the will of God.” It is derived from the Arabic wordسلم meaning “peace,” both inner and outer. A Muslim therefore, is not only one who submits, but also one who is at peace, seeks peace, and promotes peace. Islam is not terrorism, it is compassion. Islam is not oppression, it is justice. Islam does not disregard human life, it is humanity. Islam is not a cult nor is it a fad, it is a faith, a brotherhood with a following of one billion. It is a way of life.

Islam is not ignorance, it embraces knowledge. Islam was not spread by the sword. It is not compulsion. Islam is voluntary, simply an invitation. Islam is not Arab, it is cosmopolitan. Islam is not jealousy, greed, or pride. Instead, it is charity, benevolence, and modesty.

Islam does not exploit its women as sex objects. Islam is the first women’s liberation movement. Islam is not Louis Farrakhan. It is not Saddam Hussein. Islam is not arranged marriages or racial supremacy. Islam is dignity, it is goodness. It is a mystery.

Islam is misunderstood. Islam is a war, a bloodless war waged against the devil and temptation, not against innocent women and children. It is the practice of morals, patience, self-restraint, and respect both for oneself and for others. It is knowing pure from impure and having the strength to openly defend what is right and condemn what is wrong. I am a Muslim and Islam is my way of life. It is my faith by my own will, not by my parents’. No, I don’t feel as though I’m missing out on “the fun.” Islam preserves my dignity and my honor by condemning dating, drinking, and the like.

Do not feel sorry for me because I do not date or because I do not wear shorts and tank tops. I feel elevated to know that I have not been enslaved by the male gaze. Men do not see a pair of legs when they talk to me—they see me and what I stand for. Do not assume I feel deprived because I do not eat pork or drink. These are all my own decisions to make. The way I live my life can be chosen by no one but me. These rules are not forced upon me. I do not feel as though I am being held back. I know that I am free, and am at peace. Waalaikum assalam—may you also know peace may you know and understand Islam, and then, perhaps you will be able to understand Muslims.

Applying at Boise State University

Idaho Writers

- Richard Shelton
  Thursday, September 17th
  7pm
  BSU Student Union Building
  Jordan Ballroom D

- Marilynne Robinson
  Friday, September 18th
  7pm
  BSU Student Union Building
  Jordan Ballroom D

Free and Open to the Public

Featuring Live Entertainment By
Witless Drivel
Jen Bresnahan – Vocals & Guitar
Damon Hunzeker – Guitar & intermittent grunts

For more information call Helen Lojek @ 385-1328

No one ever accused academics of being adults

Ascension Ramirez

Hate clichés: for instance, the spiel about “Those who can, do; those who can’t, teach.” Besides being unfair to those professionals who chose to go directly into the field of education, it sounds like encouragement for those who can’t do either. It’s also a round of ammunition constantly fired back and forth in the skirmish between some academics and the academics who want to certify those academics for teaching.

The truth is that many who are teaching shouldn’t even be doing so.

Everyone has probably had an experience with a professor or other instructor who was positively awful; a teacher so inept at working with people that, as student, you were probably scarred for life in that field of study. I’ll admit that mine was math, repeatedly, and not just here at the university. Too often I butted heads with instructors who told terrible math jokes, couldn’t communicate concepts and moved at speeds on the chalk board comparable to Mach One. There were a few of them claiming to be former aerospace engineers or CIA specialists who, for some reason or another, decided to leave their original vocations and teach in Idaho.

I guess they were those who couldn’t . . . do either.

I’m not the only one who’s come to this realization as colleges and universities add semesters of methods classes and educational psychology while some consider extending student teaching to a year-long project. Besides training, state boards of education require special certification for those wanting to teach secondary education and lower. On campuses such as ours, doctorates are being required of instructors in many fields before they are allowed into the classroom.

Is this creating better instructors? Who knows? It’s still too early to measure the results of extra classroom hours and sensitivity training. I’ll probably never see it, but somehow it’s comforting to think that my progeny and future generations will be learning from someone other than burned-out rocket scientists tired of tinkering with machines and who decided to tinker with young minds instead.

The other dilemma that comes to mind is, “Are education majors the only ones who can teach?” No, not really. I mean, who would you rather take a soccer camp from—your kid’s coach or supersstars Mia Hamm and Alexi Lalas? Granted, these two may not have the coach’s bedside manner, but they’ve got an item or two to teach you about the game. Then, there’s a good chance they’ve dealt with enough different coaching and management styles to know what works or ruins a player’s confidence, or kills a team’s cohesion. Could they, upon retirement, get a job at your local high school coaching your child’s team and teaching phys. ed.?

Not likely, because they are not, as far as I know, P.E. majors. I guess it’s education’s method for making the field of instruction the exclusive territory of ed majors. I guess that’s their way of paying back for all those teacher jokes and clichés. Someone once said, “Academic politics are the most intense because nothing’s at stake.”

Nothing, except the student.
Halls provide opportunity but criminals remain dormant

Carissa Wolf

Nestled behind the thick bushes of the Boise River, encircled by a network of busy streets, Boise State University residence halls provide massive criminal opportunities for the seasoned deviant. Thousands of unattended vehicles, bicycles and a high concentration of female co-eds, coupled with sparse security, may seem alluring to the average criminal. Enticing as the campus may seem however, thrill seekers and law breakers tend to steer clear.

"We do not have any violent crime to speak of," Campus Security Director Bob Seibold points out, "but we do have some instances of theft."

Seibold assures that when parents send their 18 year-olds to reside on the campus of BSU, "they are safe."

According to the Ada County crime log, the highest concentration of criminal activity around the campus occurs in outlying neighborhoods. Even then, offenses typically involve domestic disputes and theft. Domestic violence is one of the most difficult crimes to prevent, Seibold explains, as the act has already occurred by the time a report is filed.

The Ada County Sheriff's Office and the Boise City Police make no comparisons of neighborhood crime rates, but Seibold suspects the campus area fares normally in distribution of offenses.

Currently, one to two campus security officers roam BSU from 4 p.m. to 7 a.m., Monday through Friday, and increase shifts on weekends to 24 hour coverage with at least an officer on duty. Student Residential Life employs separate officers responsible for manning residence halls specifically. Though the officer-to-student ratio is low, Seibold finds security efficient and sees no reason to increase patrols even in light of a recent murder along the Greenbelt and a date rape close to campus this summer.

"We have never had an Incident on campus to question whether security needed to be beefed up," Seibold says.

When a violent crime occurs nearby or in the community, Seibold explains that campus security does increase its surveillance, though officers are always keenly attuned to university activities.

"Our awareness is always at a high level. We are always [very aware] as to what is going on in the neighborhood and in the park," Seibold comments.

Are getting what you pay for?

The cost of living on campus

Doreen Martinick

Boise State University presents four options for single/unattached students in search of rooms in residence halls on campus. J.B. Barnes Towers, popularly known as Towers, and Chaffee, Driscoll and Morrison Halls provide coed or separate-sex floors in various combinations of room suites.

Driscoll and Morrison Halls offer single and double rooms arranged in suites of up to 12 students. Towers consists of two rooms combined in suites of four students. Chaffee Hall, meanwhile, contains a limited number of single rooms in addition to the usual doubles. Students living in suites share bathroom facilities.

The cost of living in these residence halls for eight months varies. Students' total expenses range from $3500 to $4000 per year, declares Toby Stekskal, a Resident Advisor in Towers. In addition to room and board, students have computer access in each dormitory, trash chutes, lounge and game areas and laundry rooms with pay-as-you-go washers and dryers.

Residence hall charges include room and food. Food plans with different options offer students a choice of the number of meals only, or a combination of meals and Flex Dollars which may be used for snacks purchased in the Union Food Court. Costs vary for single or double rooms between $3215 and $3961 for the 1998-99 academic year.

Off-campus living costs compare favorably with the room and board charges of the residence halls. One-bedroom apartments in downtown Boise range in price from $310 to $525 per month. Utility bills, such as power and gas, average $80 per month. Telephone charges vary, as they do for student use on campus. Also off-campus, few landlords if any add extra charges for water, sewer, trash pickup and lawn maintenance.

One of the drawbacks of living on campus comes from the lack of readily available food. Students are forced to go to Table Rock Cafe, Union Food Court or Subway. They may find these closed after 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and after 5:30 p.m. during the remainder of the week.

Gay Barzee, Technical Records Specialist in the office of Student Residential Life, explains that all residence halls contain a common kitchen. The facilities consist of a refrigerator, stove, oven, and microwave for students to use at any time.

He also notes that campus security, residence hall security and campus police maintain a close working relationship with the Ada County Sheriff's department and the Boise City Police. Thus, if any major incident occurs, the campus has a strong network of backup to rely on.

This campus was called upon last spring when a man telephoned Intermountain Hospital, threatening to rape a female resident on the seventh floor in Towers. BCP was dispatched to respond to the threat, and though the call was later determined a prank, some students involved in the evacuation of Towers felt their safety was compromised by the police.

After notification of the threat, BCP responded to the call by evacuating Towers via fire alarm. Stephanie Batten was in her seventh floor dorm room and didn't hear the alarm. In an effort to clear Towers of all suspects and possible victims, police went door to door, forcing clearance of everyone in the building. Batten questions BCP methods that afternoon, and says the evacuation seemed more threatening than preventative.

"They just kicked in the door, pointing guns in our faces," Batten recalls. No knock, no polite request, just a sudden boom, and Batten was confronted with armed officers forcing her to leave. "And I was in my underwear!" Batten explains.

The incident so severely frightened Batten that, "two days later I left the dorms . . . I was really pissed and really scared. I didn't really know what was going on . . . I think they could have handled it differently. They could have had the RA's (resident advisor) come to the door."

Campus Security wasn't involved in the armed evacuation of Towers, but did assist in escorting students out of the building.

Campus police Sgt. Gary Rouse says the dormitory clearing followed police protocol, and "It was simply precautionary on the police's behalf." As far as the officers were concerned, Rouse says, the potential rapist could have lurked in any of the rooms.

Seibold explains this incident was isolated, as are most severe threats on campus. For instance, last year, two bomb threats came to the attention of campus security. One came during the memorial service of police officer Mark Stall at the Pavilion, the other occurred 18 months ago. Both threats were investigated and, like the rape alarm, both panned out as pranks. Seibold says such hoaxes are infrequent on campus, and recalls few similar incidents during the past 15 years.

Finally, Director of Residential Life, Dr. Richard McKinnon, suggests hall residents purchase renter's insurance to cover the cost of their belongings in case of theft, breakage, or 'acts of God.' In some cases, a student's personal items may be covered under a rider attached to their parents' insurance policies. Students living in off-campus housing should also purchase renter's insurance for the same reasons.

People living at BSU encounter fewer parking problems and spend less time traveling to and from home. On-campus housing offers a wide variety of people to meet, easy access to sporting events, the library, computer labs, and other campus activities.
Fine Host dishes out a mixed tray of goodies for students but hours and lack of variety pose some problems

Sadie Habibs  News Writer

When it comes to food, Boise State University students hold a cafeteria tray of mixed emotions. Some feel they’re in hog heaven while others would prefer eating slop with the pigs. Randy Johnston, Resident Dining Manager for Fine Host, feels the contracted food service dishes out quality food, good customer service and a positive environment.

“We’ve upgraded employee/customer relations and we’re trying to have a more happy and helpful atmosphere,” states Johnston.

Fine Host came to BSU almost three years ago, replacing Marriott Food Services. As part of the contract, Fine Host poured $1 million into the Student Union Building and helped establish the current Union Food Court.

Students now enjoy alternatives to Table Rock Cafe, the main student dining hall, because the Snake River Grill, Moxie Java, Fresh Express, Owyhee Roaster, Pizza Hut and Rapz all contract with Fine Host. The food service handles the Moxie Java Cart in the Business Building and Subway in the Science and Education Building.

But most on-campus students eat at Table Rock Cafe. The dining hall opens at 7 a.m. and closes at 7 p.m. A visit to Table Rock in the late morning finds students milling around from station to station, jotting trays and contemplating food choices from among the sandwich, pasta, grill, entree, salad and dessert bars, plus soft drinks, juice and milk.

“We have a continuous feeding program which allows for more freedom. There are no restrictions on what you want,” Johnston notes.

Some students say Table Rock is far from home cooking, and its menus border on the monotonous.

“We’re tired of the same old stuff,” one student says while grabbing a quick breakfast. “I eat cheeseburgers and sandwiches all the time. Their clam chowder is good but we need more variety!”

But only a few years ago, Boise State did not offer students the meal variety it does now. Before, students had to eat one entree or one vegetable dish, compared to the three options currently offered.

“Kids don’t realize what they have,” Johnston comments.

Fine Host may not give students all the food they want, but that fact comes mainly from the restrictions to which it must adhere. Chefs must create dishes that meet health and nutrition standards. And those foods have to suit the pickiest meat eater to the strict vegetarian.

Students pile their plates with food but never finish eating what they take. Table Rock ends up throwing food away, so Johnston feels limiting entrees is one way of controlling the amount consumed while keeping costs down.

“We want to make sure you really want it,” he said. “I think this is great food.”

One student complains that Fine Host’s chips taste stale, while another enjoys the all-you-can-eat policy. Some commuter students say they’re glad Table Rock stays open because otherwise they would not receive a decent meal.

“I like it. It’s not gourmet but it’s not slop,” one comment.

Fernando, a BSU student, takes three meals a day at Table Rock. The soccer player often misses dinner because of practice.

“I wish they wouldn’t close so early,” he says. Fernando and many other students with evening classes would extend to 8 p.m., but Fine Host does not establish its own schedule. Boise State administrators look at the number of students living in the dorms and their schedules, picking times they feel work for the majority of residents.

Student Residential Life officials did make changes to Table Rock hours this year. Originally, the cafeteria was opened until 7 p.m. Friday evenings but closed at 5:30 p.m. Sunday nights. Virtually no one visited the cafeteria on Fridays. Many more students wanted to eat at Table Rock on Sunday nights but, because the cafeteria closed early, they missed meals. Now, Table Rock closes at 5:30 p.m. Fridays and stays open until 7 p.m. on Sundays.

Johnston hopes that students will be more involved with Table Rock this year. He wants to hear both negative and positive comments to keep upgrading the cafeteria. If a student does not like what they are eating, Johnston wants to know why. And he says he does not oppose students bringing in family recipes or offering suggestions on what to cook. Those recipes would have to be cost-effective and meet health guidelines.

“We want Table Rock to be fun and if students have any ideas we want to hear them,” Johnston mentions.

Table Rock does plan some creative programs this semester. For instance, officials say a steak night and a pancake lunch will be coming up in the near future.

But Johnston’s ideas go beyond food and specialty nights. He would like Table Rock to become a place of school spirit, a location where students from various groups can unite. Last year’s Student Election Night at the cafeteria was an attempt to do just that. Candidates campaigned while students listened and ate.

“It’s really hard to bring groups together and be creative without disturbing anyone’s meal too much,” Johnston says.

There are other food options besides Fine Host’s services. Dorm residents have access to their own kitchens.

However, Chaffee is the only hall that does not offer a kitchen because it was not part of the original design.

Student Residential Life Director, Richard McKinnon, says providing kitchens in Chaffee is not a priority.

“It’s expensive to put in the hoods. The kitchens were mainly created for summer school students,” McKinnon points out that dorm students must purchase a meal plan anyway.

Students with ideas or concerns about food services visited Testing one of the campus emergency phones with officials Sept. 14 at 12:30 p.m. at Table Rock.

“We’ll adjust the menu where we can and make improvements that don’t have expenses,” McKinnon says.

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<td>Saturday-Sunday</td>
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<td>Brunch</td>
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A poke in the eye

Where the wild things are

Melissa Albert

Labor Day is the cruelest holiday. Like a bachelor party, the three day weekend allows one last defiant declaration of freedom before the long term commitment ahead.

Every year I take the long weekend to bid farewell to summer in some remote place. Last year I spent the holiday at my sister’s cabin in the mountains northeast of San Diego. Though I grew up in Southern California, return visits bring to mind a few lines from Longfellow’s Hiawatha: “I beheld the westward marches/Of the unknown, crowded nations/All the land was full of people...” Hordes of vacationers everywhere, impossible to escape.

Out on the lake we kept our casts short so as not to land in the laps of the occupants of neighboring boats. The lake trout were farm-bred and fond of Power Bait, a smelly putty substance the color of rainbow sherbet with added sparkles. Back at the cabin, the radio played non-stop pop hits and no one could be coerced into a hike. They had carried the buzz of the city with them like a virus and, unable to shake it, spent all day trying to drown it, from the breakfast champagne to the last glass of port.

So this year I invited my sister to Idaho for Labor Day. We loaded my van with tents and gear, leaving Boise before sunrise. By mid-afternoon we were following the Clearwater River to the Gospel Hump Wilderness.

Jenny marveled at the half-empty campgrounds. “If this were anywhere near L.A., there would be people fishing cheek-to-cheek along this river.”

My van has guts but low clearance, and I banged my oil pan twice before we reached a campground where Jenny insisted that we stop. Though I felt hell-bent on driving to the summit, I relented and pulled into a campsite.

she sighed. “This is amazing.” A black bear streaked across the road. Gradually we went from pavement, to gravel, to a steep, rocky jeep trail.

Deeper into the forest we motored, in four wheel low, churning up rock slides and washouts. My van has guts but low clearance, and I banged my oil pan twice before we reached a campground where Jenny insisted that we stop. Though I felt hell-bent on driving to the summit, I relented and pulled into a campsite. I turned off the engine and a mossy silence enveloped us.

After we pitched our tents, organized our provisions, rinsed off in the creek, looked over the map again and built a fire, we sat. Now what? A beer? Game of cards? Another trip to the creek? I couldn’t relax. Just like the year before, the pace of urban life clung to me long after I’d left the pavement and the power lines. First I hadn’t wanted to get out from behind the wheel, and now it took a great deal of self-discipline to just sit and do nothing.

The urban environment is full of artificial stimuli which our brains and bodies have come to accept as “normal.” The natural environment, by contrast, doesn’t flash words and lights, doesn’t tantalize us with brightly-colored, sumptuous images. The woods, indifferent to my arrival, did nothing overt to attract my attention. I felt a little shock to my senses, so accustomed to the daily assault and the process of filtering out masses of trivial and excess information. They demanded entertainment; they threatened imminent boredom.

Camping without television, radio, dirt bikes or mechanical toys requires curiosity and imagination. As we hiked past long-abandoned mining claims, Jenny and I tried to imagine these woods full of miners, horses and heavy machinery. We speculated on their social lives. We tried to identify plant species and stopped to inspect bright minerals embedded in the rock. After two hours we rounded a bend and caught a break in the pines. At about 8,500 feet we faced a massive granite dome with two distinct caves in the rock clefs and a steep skirt of sharp talus. Who or what may have used those caves? Bears? Indians? Renegades? People on ATVs rumbled past us all morning long. We saw no other hikers. But the landscape doesn’t unfold with the same degree of anticipation when you’re zipping through it at full throttle. When we finally hit the summit at Hump Lake, we felt sweaty and conspicuous among the ATV crowd, but also profoundly grateful and rewarded to have seen anything we’d seen so far. The summit athletic, elegant.

When we returned we found trout and toad and june bug, and then sat on the clean water just to watch the fish rise.

The people on ATVs there were ten, or more, grouped together at the other end of the lake. Most of them remained seated on their four wheelers. Two men on dirt bikes rode up to the lake, looked at it for about two minutes, and headed back the way they came. Jenny and I hauled our stringer out of the water and began our descent. One after another, the ATVs passed us on the way down. Some of them had never even dismounted. A few more passed.

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us going up, stopping to ask where we caught the fish, what bait did we use, and did we really hike all the way from the campground?

Anticipation built again as we neared the campsite on our aching legs. The prospect of a dip in the creek and a cold beer made the stairs come as beautiful as anything we’d seen so far. The scent of dinner filled my head. A made the swimming hole and threw in PowerBait and went to the campsite. The fish rose.

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When thinking about the first night in camp, when I felt so eager to fish that I woke up three times mistaking the light of the full moon for the rising sun, I long to carry that kind of enthusiasm into every aspect of my life. If only I could approach each class with the excitement I felt returning to camp after that long hike. How different it would seem if I studied media theory as keenly as I’d studied the lake for rising trout. But I spend so much time wading through junk mail, telephone solicitations, commercials, and traffic, tuning out other people’s conversations and generally trying to ignore much of my environment, that my senses feel dulled most of the time. At the end of the day, it’s so easy to flip a switch and unleash a stream of hot and cold running entertainment. The imagination atrophies; curiosity gives way to cynicism. I struggle to keep focused, organized and on schedule. And always, in the back of my mind, I wonder how I can get back there one last time before the snow flies.
"Eternity: Smoking or Non?" I was staring so hard at the bumper sticker on the car in the left lane, I noticed the red light only in time to screech to a stop. I was dumb-founded... heavy on the "dumb." It took me a good two minutes to figure out what the hell it meant. More slogan for a new restaurant chain? Then, insight blinded me to the target of the Christian/atheist bumper sticker war.

I might not have noticed the bumper sticker if I weren’t a feminist. Really. Like a soldier who tattoos “Mom” on his arm to prove undying loyalty to his company, I proudly purchased my first feminist bumper sticker after my initial use of the f-word to describe myself. Kind of my own initiation ceremony. Smoothing the creases from that little blue rectangle somehow endowed me with Supersight. Remember how suddenly everyone in junior high had braces after your visit to the orthodontist? It’s just like that. It’s amazing how many BS-endowed cars you suddenly notice, each seeming to reference, revise or refute another. Ever since that proud day so long ago, I’ve become a witness to the silent, heated battle of the BS.

My first memory of the religious war is, of course, the "I’m Pro-Life," "I’m Pro-Choice and I Vote," "I’m Pro-Life and I Pray," "Keep Your Rosaries Out of My Ovaries," "It’s a Child, Not a Choice" BS. Since then, various other cuties have popped up like well, fertilized mushroom-spores. The most obvious examples? Yeah, you know where I’m going with this. Those damn fish. The first generation of stick fishes wasn’t so offensive. Then some genius came up with the idea of welding two tiny legs onto some of them and scribbling "Darwin" in their tummies. The battle lines were drawn. I’ve since seen a couple of rebuttals: a Darwin-fishie within a circle and a slash and the Jesus-fishie eating the Darwin-fishie. Well, evolutionists, it’s your move. What next—a steaming Jesus fish with a side of tartar sauce?

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The web offers a terrific source of vinyl ammunition in the atheist-versus-Christian fight to the finish. Apparently deciding terror is the greatest of motivators, some of these online bumper stickers use Bible scriptures to scare people into repenting their Pre-Choice, evolutionist ways and turning coat in mid-war: "Repent, For the Time of Judgment is at Hand!" Not that some of the Leftists, I’m distressed to say, manage to keep their hands clean of rhetorical bloodshed. "If Going to Church Makes You a Christian," a bumper sticker from a leftist web site asks, "Does Going to the Garage Make You a Car?"

Now, it’s not that I expect, or even want, to see a chrome Jesus fish and Darwin fish holding fins and swimming into the sunset. Still, I’d hoped to find BS students less susceptible to verbal raspberries. After all, we’re progressive thinkers, relentless pursuers of wisdom. Right? Ever the diligent researcher, I spent an entire twenty minutes perusing two BSU parking lots for enlightening BS. I’d passed by two "Commit random kindness and senseless acts of beauty" (What’s the matter with these people? Hasn’t someone told them there’s a war going on?) before finally spotting some juicy ones. "Atheism is a non-prophet religion," one car proclaimed. Fire One. "No Jesus, No Peace. Know Jesus, Know Peace," said another. Counter-fire. "Doing my part to piss off the religious right." Fire Two. "Got Salvation?" ("No thanks, I’ll take some milk," my unfortunately-biased research assistant said.) Counter-fire.

Hey, I’m down with the importance of these symbols. In a culture where billboards seem considered literary classics and we learn life’s lessons during prime time hours, visual symbols are vital for quick identification. Priests have their little white collars, gangs have their colored kerchiefs, and we have our bumper stickers. BS draws invisible lines among members of those groups which can’t always afford the big ammo like political funding and holidays honoring their bigwigs.

Bumper stickers aren’t just about marking your social turf. See, I’ve got this theory on road rage. All I need is a $3.2 million grant from some federal agency and a bunch of research volunteers. I’ll become a millionaire proving my hypothesis that BS-endowed vehicles are involved in a much higher percentage of road rage incidences than BS-deprived ones. Imagine this experiment: You’re safely ensconced behind the wheel of your Mercury Sable. You have a "My Boss is A Jewish Carpenter" bumper sticker and an entire school of silver fishes swimming around it. Suddenly, a purple Geo Tracker swerves into your lane, cutting you off and forcing you to slam on your brakes to avoid smashing into it. Already infuriated, your Supersight kicke you and draws your attention to the Tracker’s "God Was My Co-Pilot, But We Crashed in the Desert and I Had to Eat Him" bumper sticker. Your knuckles grow white as your fingers indent themselves into your leather steering wheel cover. Next thing you know, you’re beating your Bible against the rolled-up window of the purple vehicle and screaming the lyrics to "Onward, Christian Soldiers." Bumper stickers are great calling cards. Exposure makes small groups look big and big groups look obsessed. For endangered groups, (like, oh, I don’t know feminists in Idaho, maybe) they create a bond of commonality. Unfortunately, BS has also become a weapon in the great Christian/atheist social war; meanwhile, the rest of the middle-of-the-roaders and less confrontational Christians and atheists just try to avoid the crossfire. Not that I, with my three feminist bumper stickers, and you, with your silver fishes, aren’t guilty of superficiality. Driving behind someone and reading her/his fender, we’re always issuing silent "yays" or "nays." It’s either ally or enemy—the BS War takes no prisoners.

Never make the mistake of underestimating the power of BS. Just the sight of one can make others forget everything else they’ve ever learned about you and engage in highly irrational behavior.
The Soviet Reunion Tour

Damon Hunzeker

Last January, in order to ward off a perjury indictment, President Clinton emphatically told his adoring public, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman--Monica Lewinsky." He even pounded on the podium for dramatic effect. At least I think that's why he did it. Maybe "that woman" was hiding inside the podium, because six months later he recanted the earlier assertion.

It sounded something like this: "Ah shucks, I guess I really did have sex with that nutty chick. But come on, man, she's hot. How could I resist her? Hell, she was packin' Kryptonite. So something called an "economic dictatorship" in which the government would infuse the nation with new rubles. It makes sense to me—if you go broke, print some more money.

But here's the point: it's the exact opposite of Clinton's suggestion. It's like warning your kids about drugs and then watching them break out a box of Crack Flakes for breakfast. And the there, the Northern Ireland Assembly had worked out a tentative peace agreement. The leader of the IRA, Gerry Adams, called it a "significant development" and appeared willing to begin the process of disarmament. Then, as soon as President Clinton arrived, Adams said the IRA has no intention of disarming and bragged about possessing over 100 tons of machine guns, mortars and Semtex explosives.

Anyway, nobody trusts Bill Clinton and it's all Monica Lewinsky's fault. But I think the president should use his lack of credibility to do some good in the world. Obviously, everyone is inclined to take the road less Clintonized. So, from now on, his speeches should be full of the old reverse-psychology method.

For example: "It's a pleasure to be in Baghdad. Thanks for inviting me, Saddam. And by the way, don't stab yourself in the neck with that fork."

Within minutes, Hussein will be convulsing in the depths of a self-inflicted jugular wound.

Or, in Russia: "Ah, the Kremlin looks beautiful this morning. By the way, I miss the powerful Soviet Union. All of these silly nations with rapidly changing names are too complicated. You guys should get back together, kind of like KISS. They have a new album out, you know. You guys could be doing the same thing. Fire a few nukes off in our direction. Or hell, invade New York. You could call it the Soviet Reunion Tour. The kids will dig it.

But don't go through Ticketmaster. They're a bunch of capitalist pigs. What a rip-off."

After a few speeches, the warheads will be dismantled, the economy will function without restrictions, and Vladimir Zhironovsky will be listening to Paula Cole.

Two Cents and Change

This week's episode: "Broken Records, Broken Hearts"

Ira Amyx & Dale Slack

We sat crouched in the computer lab looking over our shoulders for possibly violent readers, hoping no one would notice us. No one did.

It's not Friday. It's not Tuesday. It isn't Monday. Is today Thursday? Ope! It's a weekday, though! In case you just picked up The Arbiter for the first time, we would like to introduce ourselves.

I'm Ira: watcher, observer, onlooker, spectator, beholder, bystander and ignoramus. I'm Dale. Mark McGwire! Let's hear it for the man! Woo hoo! He broke the big bad record! Last we heard he hit 62 homers; by now, who knows? Maybe 70, maybe 75 or 80. The sky's the limit, so again let's hear a round of applause for Mr. McGwire.

The coincidences are astounding. Oddly enough in 1961, a columnist for CSI's newspaper, The Peeler, offended 61 people. We are well on track to beat that record! Thus far in the season, we have offended 59 people, and we still have a good 30 games left. That's not good enough! We want to do it right frickin' now! So, like Mr. McGwire, we will swing the bat with all our might (well we would, if we had arms)! So here is a list of phrases partially guaranteed to put us over the hilt:

1. I'll give you $250,000 to help me prove the Holocaust is a hoax.
2. Live on stage this week, "The Covenant Players" present... Thus far in the season, we have offended 59 people, and we still have a good 30 games left. That's not good enough! We want to do it right frickin' now!
3. "Puppets for Jesus." Is this suggesting that Jesus is a mere piece of cloth an opening at the bottom? Use your imagination.
4. "Christ Got Around." Are you offended? Were we! We didn't make these up folks! These are signs we have seen in the SUB, in The Arbiter and outside our church. Three-fourths of them were advertisements for church services of all things! Beef.

Well, we have a tiny return. To finally guarantee that we break the offense record, here is a short list of ours designed to provoke thought and tick people off. Students, if you're reading this we have some ideas... for ways to make you cranky.

1. The Care Bears added nice touch to the eighties.
2. Organized religion is the Devil's biggest tool.
3. Dentures are damn sea
4. Most Hawaiians are fat
5. Old people smell l
6. "Get off your ass and get a job, you homeless person!"
8. Reaganomics work!
9. You should eat dinner with your family, so you can communicate problems and maintain a healthy bond.
10. Mohammed ate bacon.

Anyway, enough of that nonsense! Now on to more pressing issues like the Iran Contra Affair, Jon Benet Ramsey and Waco.

We were noticing the other day how excited people get about their majors. Some computer analyst comes up and is just spilling over to tell you about the new spreadsheet capabilities of the Palm Pilot, a Poli-Sci Major wants to share the gospel of Trick-Down Economics, and a theatre major is about to bust because of Bertold Brecht. We understand, we're poli-sci and theatre majors. But it really does get old. Keep it to yourselves. Then there are the Undecideds. They have nothing to get excited about, and we feel for you. Really, we do. So we're providing, as a public service, this handy pocket guide to majors at BSU. Cut it out and save it. Or not.

Political Science—a vision of the future:

Whether you want to be president or just the guy who plays hold music for the IRS's tax information line, you'll need training to be the best!

That's what the Political Science (or "Poli-Sci" as the hip call it) department offers you! Learn to lie, cheat, philander and steal and not only get paid, but be loved by a majority of Americans! It's all here at BSU.

I hear Jell-O makes a good cheesecake. But then again, Jell-O lies.

Theatre—The smell of greasepaint, the roar of the crowd and enough gossip to keep your mother occupied?

Were you always the shepherd in The Christmas Pageant? That's probably because your youth pastor, like us, knew you weren't any good, but in sticking with Jesus' philosophy of acceptance, let you in anyway. Well, no more pity roles! Enroll today in the Theatre Arts Department, and learn to act (it goes well with the Poli-Sci major—you can learn to lie with a straight face). Also you'll be involved in rumors and scandals with plot twists so bizarre, they make Mammet look bland in comparison.

Criminal Justice—law, society and you:

Do you stand in front of the mirror practicing the phrase "Been drinking tonight sir?" Would you like to become a real lawyer or even a prosecuting attorney? Then this is your major.

Learn to act almost distressingly polite yet also brutally accusatory at the same time! Learn to tell a fake ID from a real—well, you'll learn those other two anyhow.

Creative Writing—Norman Mailer, Kurt Vonnegut and probably not you:

This is a new major here at BSU. We're not sure what they teach really, but we get five dollars for mentioning it.

Communication—become a voice in someone's head:

You too can appear on television, in newspapers or even on the radio. Be careful. It's a sad, sad, world of betrayal, lies and unemployment. They keep you on for two years, you play their games, you give your best work, and not only get paid, but be loved by a majority of Americans! It's all here at BSU.

We hole-hardened rekoment that you take English as your major. Thank you for listening.

Bob, Bob, Bob, talk about kicking a dead horse, or beating a dead dog, or electrocuting a small child.

We're not impressed. Why, last week Dale had an empty chair debate with John F. Kennedy, King Louis XIV and William Jennings Bryan. He won!

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Wisdom Nugget

"The most advanced technology is often indistinguishable from magic."

—Arthur C. Clarke

You Might Be A Yuppie if...

If you think shag carpet is a basketball player...
Grease! Even after 20 years the magic never changes

March 27, 1998 marked the 20th anniversary of the 1978 film Grease starring Olivia Newton-John and John Travolta. On Sept. 24 and 25, Theatre for Idaho will offer Boiseans yet another opportunity to hang out with Sandy, Danny and the Rydell High gang.

The encore presentation will be held in the Morrison Center. Tickets prices, available at any Select-A-Seat location, vary depending on seat location.

Grease! fever hit America 20 years ago like lightning, sending young and old alike back to 1959. The story, set in Anywhere USA, revolves around a struggling, luko and innocent Sandra Dee, who meets that summer and falls in love with T-Bird Danny Zuko. The two meet over the summer and enjoy a short but sweet romance, making Grease! the most profitable movie musical in film history.

In 1997, it ranked as one of the top ten video titles sold in the U.S. So far, over 20 million double soundtrack albums have been purchased and more than $1.2 million of those sold in 1996 and 1997. And Grease! has landed in the top five on the Billboard pop charts for 24 consecutive weeks as of February 1, 1998.

Grease! lovin'!

The question, of course, is "Why?" What proves so appealing about a 1950's take-off on the bizarre and exaggerated antics of high school hogglins? Editors of the Grease Is the Word web page assert "Grease! lets us see, with unerring authenticity and total lack of sentimentality, the way kids actually look and feel during those witch-hunting Korean War days that we look back on as somehow being both placid and plastic."

Boise State University Theatre student Erin VanEngelen remarks, "I like it. I think it comes pretty close to depicting an era that we didn't live through, and hopefully reminds our parents that they used to be like us!"

Political Science major Rob Perucca, says, "I think it's appealing to the younger audience because it shows the carefree days of high school. And it shows a time where it's cool and okay to rebel against the standard norms of the society as well as the consequences of making [poor] decisions."

Fellow Political Science student Amy Stack enjoys Grease! purely for entertainment purposes mentioning "[it's] pretty cheesy. I like the Beauty School Dropout [number]." Stack doesn't believe the story line gives an accurate representation of the 50's.

"I hope people don't associate some cheesy [musical] with our generation." Three male representatives of the freshman class

How it all came together

Originally a five-hour amateur production written by Jim Jacobs and Warren Casey, Grease! was performed by a small Chicago community theatre called the Kingston Mines. During a show in the summer of 1971, two young producers from New York approached Jacobs and Casey with a proposal.

After cutting its length to a reasonable two-hours, Grease! opened February 14, 1972 in New York and ran consistently for over the seven years. The play's big screen debut took place in 1978, grossing more than $340 million at box offices around the world and $50 million in the U.K. The encore presentation will be held in the Morrison Center.

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unanimously agree, "[Grease!] is a chick flick!"

**Alone and the anti-Greaser**

Some critics argue that "Summer Lovin" feeling isn't as catchy as it was 20 years ago. Roger Ebert with the Chicago Sun-Times labels Grease! as, "Just an average musical, pleasant, upbeat and plastic."

The Associated Press review of the re-release of the film says, "Grease!, at least to the non-believer, seems merely a relic of the nostalgia obsession of the 1970's that inspired movies like American Graffiti! and The Way We Were."

And Julie Hinds of Knight Ridder Newspapers writes, "Grease! is, in essence, a zesty smidge of fluff. It falls prey to Happy Days plastic interpretation of the 50's that reduces the decade to a Disney theme ride."

**Is it the one we want?**

So what is this love/hate relationship Americans share with Grease? Could it be the numerous sexual innuendoes and chauvinist stereotypes we encourage our hormone-raging teenagers not to indulge themselves in, or our love of fairy tales? Could it simply be cheap entertainment? Whatever the reason, Boise State University students don't seem to mind the fact that Theatre for Idaho is bringing Grease! to Boise on the skittails of the re-release, the Nampa Community Center performance and last year's Morrison Center show.

VanEngelen does protest saying, "It's overkill. They could be using the money to bring in something else that hasn't been seen."

Stack admits catching the movie on TV when she doesn't have anything better to do. But whether the fever still abounds, only attendance will tell if Boise still craves yet more "Grease!"

**Whittaker brings 'inspired music' to Boise**

Scott Huntsman

*Arts & Entertainment Writer*

International superstar Roger Whittaker will bring his brilliant music and rich personal history to the Morrison Center September 17 at 7:30 p.m. He may not be a household name to most Americans, but since 1969 the singer has been a superstar to citizens in Canada and Great Britain.

Whittaker dominated overseas charts with hits such as "I Don't Believe In If Anymore," "New World in the Morning" and "Why" at the peak of his career. But it was not until the release of his album, Last Farewell in 1975 that he made a dent on the U.S. charts. With a Top 20 hit, he sold 11 million copies worldwide.

Although his parents were British, Roger Whittaker was born and spent his younger years in Africa. At age 20 he moved to South Africa to try out a career in medicine, but failed. Three years later he left for Wales to study marine biology and biochemistry.

This career looked more promising, but at age 25 he realized his true calling. While still a young boy in Africa, an Italian prisoner of war had made Whittaker an instrument shaped like a guitar. He was musically-inclined all his life, but until 1961 it was only a hobby.

Now Whittaker will share his inspired music with the Boise audience this Thursday. Tickets cost $25.50 and $28.50 for adults, $23.50 and $26.50 for seniors. They are available through Select-a-Seat or the Morrison Center Box Office.
Pregnant?
and need help...
FREE
Pregnancy test
BIRTHRIGHT
All help is confidential and free
1-800-550-4900
1101 N. 28th Street
Boise Idaho 83702
342-1898

Greetings BSU Students!
Bring in this ad and receive
15% off
your next purchase!
Just a little something
to keep the back to school blues at bay!

Ursa's Saga is Coming
October 7th
☆ Ursa's Saga, the newest stand alone expansion from Wizards of the Coast, will be released October 5th and be on our shelves on October 7th.
☆ Ursa's saga will include 75 card starter deck for $9.95, 15 card booster for $2.95, and 60 card pre-made decks for $8.95.
Pre-Order by September 30th
for 25% Discount.
☆ We will accept pre-orders for boxes of decks and boosters until September 30th.
☆ A deposit of $20 will be required to to get the 25% discount.
☆ Boxes purchased after this date will be available at a 20% discount, on a first-come first-serve basis.

Come Join Us
For Supper and
Exciting Classes
Starting Wed.
Sept. 16th

University Christian Church
1801 University Drive
[across from BSU]

6: P.M. Classes
Biblical Stress Mgt.
Readers Theater
Quilting
Parenting Classes
Youth DV8
Children's Basic Bible

“Puppets for Jesus”
For those interested in “Puppetry”
We are starting a new class being taught by our new Pastor.
This will be an intense training class starting at 4: P.M. each Wed.
Call 343-5461 for more details.
Intramurals continue...

Nate Peterson

There is an entry cost of $10 per team, and a limit of 48 teams.

If soccer is your game and you don't like grass or rain, sign up for the indoor soccer league. Divisions include men's, women's, and co-rec, each with a $20 fee per team.

Games will take place in the Auxiliary Gymnasium, Monday through Thursday evenings from 8:00-10:00 p.m. Leagues are limited to 16 teams.

If you men and women out there have extra time on your hands, sign up for six-player co-rec volleyball. Matches take place in the main gymnasium Monday through Thursday from 6:30-10:30 p.m., beginning Oct. 19, at a cost of $20 per team. Teams play three preliminary matches followed by a single elimination tournament.

Do you have what it takes to make it to the NFL? If not, here's your chance to show off your talents with a football.

Last but not least, and unrelated to sports, is the fifth annual Homecoming chili cook-off, taking place Friday, Oct. 17 from 5:00-5:30 p.m. It will be held in the grass area at the north end of Bronco Stadium. There is no fee for this activity and entries will not be eliminated.

Any clubs or organizations wishing to receive extra funding may want to consider participating in all the sports and competing in the all-sport intramural championship, whereby clubs and residence halls earn points for participation in intramural activities.

Clubs are defined as any student organization recognized by the Students Activities office. Residence hall floors consist of each resident assistant in the halls and his or her residents.

The club or floor with the highest point total for the Fall 1998 semester will receive $150 in cash to spend at their discretion.

Teams earn points for entry (20), participation (10), and championships (win = 12, loss = 8). Individuals may also play individual sports and add their points to the team. Forfeits, however, result in a deduction of points (-10).

Entries for all above sports (including the chili cook-off) open Oct. 7, and close Oct. 14.

Those wishing to sign up for any of these events may do so by visiting the Recreation Center, located in the Pavilion Annex. You can also reach the Rec Center by calling 426-1131.

THE REC

OPEN LAP SWIMMING

HOURS:

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4:40 PM - 6:30 PM

SAT & SUN 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

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Get out of your dorm and into the river

Charlie Jobinaari  Sports Writer

Seven nights and eight days of white water and wilderness amidst the soft, yet all-encompassing roar of the Salmon River—the Boise State Kayaking club took a little over a week to trek through some of Idaho's most secluded wild lands between the towns of Salmon and Riggins.

BSU Sophomore Casey Butz sums up the experience as "one of those relaxing vacations to drop away from society... and solid terrain."

Butz has been kayaking for about a year and joined the BSU club to "go somewhere I hadn't been before."

He doesn't mind spending up to six hours in a sliver-sized boat at speeds of 10-15 miles per hour, attempting to navigate around rocks, trees, and other potential ushers to a watery grave. It all seems less than relaxing, but there is also the scenery to consider.

One of Idaho's great attributes lies in the abundance and availability of its outdoor recreation. Kayaking allows one the opportunity to become an active participant in these spectacles of nature.

As it turns out, there are many advantages to kayaking the river. And, as opposed to rafting, you only have yourself to blame if things go wrong in the water. "Kayaks are more individual. You control where and what you are going to do next," explains Butz.

Another advantage for kayakers is that, via the river, you can see a lot more of the back country. "The Salmon River winds through some of the most beautiful and pristine forest, parts you don't see from the roadside" says Butz.

The Kayaking Club offers students one of the best ways to experience Idaho's great outdoors skills in a less-threatening environment than the river—a swimming pool. BSU offers a beginners' class to develop such skills as "the roll" or "bruising," as well as basic kayaking safety.

Right now, the club is working on securing permits to float some of Idaho's more remote areas such as regions of the Salmon River. Some areas of Idaho's rivers enforce a restriction on the number of floaters allowed per year, making permits difficult to obtain.

However, "With a greater number of people applying, we can plan more trips in advance and we have a greater chance of getting the permits that would allow us to go places where we can't normally travel," says Butz. The club meets every other Monday at 6 p.m. in the Student Union Building food court area.

CORRECTION

Last week's Arbiter ran a story about the rebuilding of the judo club at BSU. The article stated that the only judo class offered was at South Junior High, which is not the case. A judo class does take place on campus on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 12:00. Students enrolled in the class expressed concern over the omission of this fact.

Peter Campbell, advisor to the judo class, has also reinstated the constitution for club status which should go into effect this week.

Message from the Oval Office...

"I regret to announce that Boise State University has terminated its once-popular 'cigars and interns' program.' However, students currently enrolled will receive free copies of It Takes A Village To Satisfy The President."

This notice brought to you courtesy of The Arbiter

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Answers to August 26 puzzle

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The Athlon • September 16, 1998
study break!

HorrorScope
by Iris Amey & Dale Slack
Staff Peacemakers

Virgo (August 23-September 22)
Love is knocking at your door. Turn off the lights and tread lightly—it will think you're not at home.

Libra (September 23-October 22)
You have many skills as a peacemaker. You work best as a mediator. This week, try it with real people instead of the "other people" in your head.

Scorpio (October 23-November 21)
Kiss a mirror, take what you've learned and try to make your next make-out session less embarrassing.

Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)
The pool of success is not going to jump out on to you. You must dive in! It is full of water... Really, why would we lie? Do it. Jump. Come on, that's it.

Capricorn (December 22-January 19)
Things have been tense lately. People around you are irritable, situations are rough. You feel as if you are walking on eggshells. Well, silly, pick the darned things up. You should have thrown them away to begin with, pig.

Aquarius (January 20-February 18)
Life is like a book, with a clear beginning and end. In the middle lie several chapters. This week the chapter in your book is titled, "Why I don't eat sausage anymore."

News Nuggets

The name of the game

Richard W. Miller Jr., 35, wanted in Utica, N.Y., for arson, was captured by U.S. marshals in Arizona in February. According to one of the arresting officers, he asked the suspect if he was Richard Miller. The suspect said no. The marshal said they would have to fingerprint him anyway and they did. At the bottom of the blank fingerprint card, on the signature line, the suspect very helpfully signed his real name, "Richard Miller."

Situation cheesy

Airport police in Sao Paulo, Brazil, arrested Gerardo Gallo in January after a search of his suitcase. They had found packages totaling about 50 pounds of cheap cheese and had become suspicious when they saw Gallo's destination was Switzerland. Asked an inspector, "Why would anyone take so much third-rate Bolivian cheese to a country which is famous for its top quality cheese?" Packaged inside the cheese were about 22 pounds of cocaine.

Social security?
Kelvin Floyd received a modest two-month sentence and a fine in Aiken, S.C., in March for stealing a car. Floyd had wisely known to obliterate the car's vehicle ID number and replace it with a substitute number. However, apparently the best he could come up with was his own Social Security number, which police immediately recognized was bogus.

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Look in next week's Arbiter for . . .

Disabled at BSU
An update on the Boise State Broadcasting Club
How CHIP affects BSU students
Arts and entertainments, sports and more!

Who said going back to school isn't fun?

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