

5-5-1999

## Arbiter, May 5

Students of Boise State University

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# The Arbiter

May 5, 1999 Volume 12 Issue 29 First Copy Free

WEEKLY

Former surgeon  
general Jocelyn  
Elders lectures at  
BSU Thursday  
night  
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Damon is graduat-  
ing. Catch his sec-  
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Arbiter **Boise Weekly**



**The Arbiter**

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The Arbiter encourages reader response

Letters to the Editor

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**'Bitters of the Year . . .** All *The Arbiter's* graduating seniors have been essential to this year's paper, and we'd like to thank them for everything. Asencion, Doreen, Damon, Jeremy L., Kelly A., Brad, Sean and Enric, we will miss you all more than you know. Good luck, and come back to see us! Also, Stefanie is leaving us for warmer pastures (*Fresno?!).* She has done a great job here as office manager, and we don't want her to go!!

**Letters policy:** Letters should not exceed 300 words in length, should be typewritten and must include a phone number for verification. Guest forums are welcome. Contact the editor in chief prior to submitting commentaries.

*The Arbiter* is the official student newspaper of Boise State University. Its mission is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues affecting students, faculty and staff. *The Arbiter's* budget consists of fees paid by students and advertising sales. The paper is distributed to the campus on Wednesdays during the school year. The first copy is free. Additional copies cost \$1.00 each, payable at *The Arbiter* office. All articles written by *Arbiter* staff are copyrighted by *The Arbiter*.

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Hunting asteroids for fun and prophet the restaurant Magna Doodler  
Chambers exist Solving the mysteries of BSU's student health insurance  
Remembering Bergquist: his life and contributions Freshman CAMP student earns national award

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## Boise State selects new ambassadors

Thirty-six students have been selected to serve as Boise State University Ambassadors for the 1999-2000 academic year. The Ambassadors are a select group of dedicated students appointed to represent the student body and help with various university activities sponsored by the Alumni Association, Enrollment Services, BSU Foundation, University Relations and the President's Office.

Ambassadors are involved in campus tours, student recruitment, Homecoming, career fairs, the Gene Harris Jazz Festival and various alumni and donor events.

The new Boise State University Ambassadors are Angela Babcock, Arco; Brooke Baldwin, Katie Mills, Idaho Falls; Matt Bott, Centreville, Va; Jazmin Boutelle, Irvine, Calif.; Anna Cash, Sandpoint; Matt Clifford, Mullan; Laetitia Dercle, Paris, France; Candice Echeita, Ann Keidel, Sarah Heavin, Anthony Nguyen, Boise; Eric Elliott, Moscow; Michele Fattig, Wendell; Anna Figueras, Barcelona, Spain; Vicki Jo Fretwell, Jordan Valley, Ore.; Kelly Hagans, Canby, Ore.; Autumn Haynes, Twin Falls; Boise: Kevin Hiatt, Vale, Ore.; Cara Lechner, Winnemucca, Nev.; Nonja Markus, Granbury, Texas; Janae Maughan, Irma Nava, Paul; Jennie Myers, Kuna; Rob Perucca, Flower Mound, Texas; Valerie Rainis, Maple Valley, Wash.; Janna Reeve, Pocatello; Jamie Rubel, Hailey; Brad Saito, Weiser; David Schultz, Grangeville; Kristi Smith, Baker City, Ore.; Jaime Thompson, Lodi, Calif.; Brenda Waters, Elko, Nev.; Rachel Wheatley, Rigby; Kimberly Woods, Cataldo; Taryn Zastrow, Albuquerque, N.M.

## Suicide Prevention Hotline volunteer training

The Idaho Suicide Prevention and Hotline service will again offer free training to potential volunteers and the general public on Saturday, May 22, and continuing Saturday, June 5, both beginning at 10:00 a.m. BSU students may obtain internship, practicum or independent study credits for working as crisis intervention volunteers. For more information call 426-3532.

## Boise State student, staff win national awards from migrant educators

Boise State student Joey Victoria and Boise State retention counselor Alma Gomez have been selected as national award winners by the National Association of State Directors of Migrant Education.

The two received their awards at a national migrant education conference in Little Rock, Ark.

Victoria, 20, was honored as one of three outstanding HEP/CAMP students in the nation. She is a sophomore pre-med major who grew up in Rupert helping her migrant-worker parents in the fields.

Victoria was nominated to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges in 1995 and 1996, has made the dean's list and works part time at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Gomez, a former migrant and CAMP student, was honored as one of five outstanding support staff in the nation. A retention counselor for CAMP, Gomez, who is pursuing her second master's degree, also is an artist and has donated her paintings to numerous local and national migrant causes including the

HEP/CAMP Association and the Idaho Farmworker Appreciation Day.

Gomez also has volunteered countless hours educating young migrants through art presentations and organizing Mexican-American art exhibits and conferences.

This is the second year in a row that a student and staff member from Boise State's HEP/CAMP programs have won the national awards. There are 20 High School Equivalency Programs (HEP) and six College Assistance Migrant Programs (CAMP) in the nation. They provide assistance to migrant farmworkers and their families in earning high school diplomas and college degrees.

## Free crash course in environmental and political leadership

Want to make the world a better place? Now is the chance. This is June Campus Green Vote and the League of Conservation Voters Education Fund are going on a training tour teaching political skills to protect the environment. The Northwest Summer

**"Summer Training Academy gave me the confidence I needed to lead a successful campaign."—  
Brianne Haven**

Training Academy will be in Seattle, WA from June 29-July 2, 1999.

"I learned more in one week at the Summer Training Academy than in my entire four years of college," says Amy Fisher, a 1998 Academy graduate.

Through an intensive week of skills sessions, lectures, role-

plays and campaign simulations, participants will learn how to plan a campaign, organize a voter registration drive, influence the media and turn college students out to vote on election day. "If you are a campus leader or have recently become involved, I highly recommend you apply this year," adds Fisher.

Three hundred applicants will be selected to attend. Students are chosen based on their involvement with environmental issues and interest in political campaigns. Tuition is free, however, participants are expected to put their newly acquired skills to use back on campus and in their communities.

Last year, Brianne Haven, a student at the University of Michigan, used her skills to lead a collaborative campus effort to register thousands of students to vote. "Summer Training Academy gave me the confidence I needed to lead a successful campaign," explains Haven.

The deadline for the 1999 Summer Training Academies is right around the corner—May 7.

To apply online, go to [www.envirocitizen.org](http://www.envirocitizen.org). For more information, call (202) 234-5996.

## Students to bring technology to one-room schoolhouse

Six second-year Boise State business systems and computer technology students and their instructor will take an overnight trip next weekend to tiny Atlanta, located on the edge of the Sawtooth Wilderness Area. Their mission: set up a network computer lab and install eight refurbished computers in Atlanta's one-room schoolhouse.

It all started earlier this year when Claudia Swander, who teaches all the students and all the classics in Atlanta's elemen-

tary school, contacted BSCT program head Dan Cadwell and asked about the possibility of rebuilding some donated computers for the school. Cadwell approached fellow instructor Don Jones, who asked his students if they would agree to not only rebuild computers but also travel to Atlanta and set up the lab.

Since January, the students have worked to refurbish the computers. Some of the machines required memory upgrades while others needed hard drives. Each computer required a NIC card and proper connections for the future network link.

**Students agreed not only to rebuild computers but also to travel to Atlanta and set up the lab.**

The BSCT students and Jones, will leave on May 7 in Jones' motor home. Although Atlanta is only 60 miles from Boise, it's about a three-hour trip. They will spend that evening installing the network in the school and camp out for the night. The next morning they will finish their work.

Jones will be retiring later this month after 29 years with the university. "He is actively working to make this program succeed right up to his last day," says Cadwell.

According to Cliff Ogborn, director of fiscal operations for School District 193, the school in Atlanta has six to 10 students, depending on the time of year. He also notes that the school was reopened this year after being closed temporarily for a few years due to lack of enrollment.

# Dr. Joycelyn Elders to speak at Boise State

Stephanie Matlock & Trisha Bennett  
News Editor/News Writer

Just months after the "Enough is Enough" anti-drug crusade converged at the BSU Pavilion, Dr. Joycelyn Elders will speak out at Boise State about rethinking the "war on drugs" and other controversial topics. Elders will present a talk on "The Politics of Sex, Drugs, Health and Human Rights" Thursday night at 8 p.m. in the Student Union.

The former U.S. Surgeon General advocates comprehensive sex education, AIDS awareness and endorses adoptions by homosexuals.

"She is no friend to the religious right," says Jack Van

Valkenburgh, Executive Director of ACLU of Idaho, which is a sponsor of Elders' appearance. ACLU of Boise State is also a sponsor.

President Clinton nominated Elders for Surgeon General in 1993. During her confirmation, she explained her goals: "I want to change the way we think about health by putting prevention first. I want to be the voice and vision of the poor and powerless. I want to change concern about social problems that affect health into commitment. And I would like to make every child born in America a wanted child."

She resigned in 1995 amidst controversy surrounding her liberal viewpoints and her response to a

reporter's question saying she advocated educating young people about masturbation. After leaving the Clinton administration, Elders accepted a position on the national board of directors for ACLU. She's also been a member of the national boards of Planned Parenthood, Advocates for Children and Families, Drug Policy Foundation and United Methodist Women.

**"I want to change the way we think about health by putting prevention first. I want to be the voice and vision of the poor and powerless."—  
Joycelyn Elders**

Elders received a college scholarship at the age of 15 and graduated at 18. She went on to study pediatrics and endocrinology at the University of Arkansas Medical School, where she later became a professor.

"This is a society so uncomfortable with our own bodies and sex. She understands that and is willing to confront the problems at their roots," Van Valkenburgh says. "Her message will be one that will carry on for decades to come."

Her different perspectives and points-of-view are worth listening to, says Michael Blain, advisor to ACLU of BSU. He believes her stance on the U.S. drug policy—"A failed policy," he says—is what's needed.

Van Valkenburgh said Elders is vehement about reevaluating the criminalization of marijuana and other drugs and thinks it should be dealt with the same as other medical problems.

# BSU students attempt to send relief to Iraq

Matt Armstrong

Special to The Arbiter

Ten students from the BSU's Progressive Student Alliance tried to send packages to the people of Iraq, last Tuesday April 27 at the downtown post office at Eighth and Bannock. The packages contained food, water, clothes and medical supplies.

Their efforts were short-lived because of the sanctions imposed by the UN and U.S.; the maximum mailing allowed is a 12-oz. package, the size of a basic letter.

After they were unable to send the goods, the students walked through a metal detector and took the packages to Republican House Representative Helen Chenoweth's office on the fourth floor of the post office. Chenoweth wasn't present, so they left a letter of protest with the supplies.

Before going in to mail the packages, the students picketed with signs reading: "125 Children Die Each Day," "Stop Iraqi Sanctions," "Iraqi Sanctions are Mass Murder," "How Many More Must Die?" and "Iraqi Sanctions are Approaching Genocide".

The Idaho Progressive Student Alliance, along with students on 100 other college campuses, dedicated the week of April 25 through May 1 as a week of actions aimed at lifting the UN-imposed sanctions and stopping the U.S. and allied bombing of Iraq. Students across the country participated in marches, rallies, vigils, teach-ins and circulated petitions to pressure the U.S. government to end its support for sanctions against Iraq.

The organizer of the event,

Jenn Atkinson, a Boise High School senior and member of P.S.A., says,

"I'm down here because around 300 children die in a day and that's too much." She adds, "This needs to be a central issue and not just a side note in the newspaper once a month."

Martin Stephan, graduate student in the Master's Public Administration program at BSU says, "These sanctions represent what's wrong with our foreign policy—we don't have a foreign policy based on stabilizing these countries—we need to stop spending billions of dollars on missiles, bombs and war." He emphasizes, "Almost 5,000 children are dying every month because of our sanctions and we really have to be accountable for that, and make sure our decision makers know that that's not foreign policy—that's murder."

This month, the U.S.-led sanctions will kill 4,500 infants and toddlers, according to UNICEF reports. Since 1991, more than one million people have died due to the scarcity of food and medicine and the spread of water-borne diseases—all direct consequences of the sanctions.

When asked on *60 Minutes* about the death of half a million children in Iraq, Defense Secretary Madeline Albright responded, "We think the price is worth it."

The return address labels on the packages of goods were addressed to Albright in Washington, D.C.



Jocelyn Elders talks about the war on drugs and other controversies tomorrow night in the Student Union.



# MFA program off to good start with Noodles reading

Matt Moorman

Special to The Arbiter

On Monday, April 19, three recently selected candidates from the inaugural class of Boise State University's Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing Program presented their work at Verbose City, a monthly literary meeting at Noodles Restaurant, 8th and Main, in downtown Boise.

It was a coming out party for the new MFA program. Pug Ostling, Noodles' owner and by far the MFA's (and, perhaps, Boise's) foremost literary philanthropist, introduced novelist and MFA program director Robert Olmstead, and his featured writers, to a well-heeled audience of professors, attorneys and businessmen.

It was not an unfamiliar scene: a banquet room, just off the bar away from the main dining room, a podium stood under a dimmed light bulb. A writer, Heather Parkinson, read from chapter six of her novel-in-progress, *Cheatgrass*. At these moments, nothing comes between the writer and the audience—the real or imagined comfort of writerly isolation is gone, there are no outside distractions save the odd clink of glassware and the discreet comings and goings of the phantom waiter.

Reading in such a setting pro-

vides a kind of "litmus test for my work," Parkinson says. "I

enjoyed the energy and support of the audience's response. It gave a sense of completion, like the words could actually stand by themselves."

Agreeably, in terms of audience reception, the evening was a smash success. A performance of Tamara Shores's American College Theater Festival Award-winning play, *Why Don't We Fish*, led the night off, followed by Parkinson's reading. Meghan Kenney closed with *The Last Thing I Need*, a hilarious short story about mimes, grand theft auto and contemporary relationships.

"It was the best student reading I've been to in twenty years," Olmstead remarked afterward.

In part, this brief public exposure to new MFA candidates and the quality of the work presented explains why the level of competition for MFA slots remains so high. The program selected only a fraction of the thirty-seven "nationally competitive" writers who applied, according to Olmstead, due to the availability of the program's limited resources.

"We had to look three years out," says Olmstead. "Right now we're looking at six book-length manuscripts to be ready for pub-

lication in that amount of time."

The program offers six assistantships (four teaching, two editorial), and the number of candidates selected for next year's inaugural class was based partly on the program's long-term goal of being able to provide for as many candidates as possible. In addition to competition for assistantships, Olmstead says, there is a tremendous demand for seats in creative writing workshops for "studio writers," or non-matriculated writers from both the university and the community itself. Such talents can invigorate a program, in that their diverse life experiences often add to and complement that of the university, and can provide a more well-rounded perspective to the workshop environment.

The MFA candidates, though, form the heart and soul of BSU's creative writing program. Karena Youtz, MFA neophyte, received her MA in English from Albertson College and feels thrilled to place among those selected. Considering the level of competition for available slots, Youtz says she is relieved to rank among those shouldering the mantle of the inaugural class.

"A lot of people worked hard to get this program off the ground," Youtz explains. "I'm looking forward to the structure the degree plan offers."

Parkinson

agrees.

"Olmstead's presence gives the program a lot of stability. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to focus on serious writing."

Olmstead comments that the program has been heavily marketed on a national scale.

"We've been writing lots of cheques," Olmstead comments, smiling. "And the time has come to start cashing them."

**"I enjoyed the energy and support of the audience's response. It gave a sense of completion, like the words could actually stand by themselves."**

Heather Parkinson

Olmstead heads a small but nationally recognized faculty that includes novelist Mitch Weiland and recently recruited poet, Janet Holmes, from Macalester College at the University of Minnesota, whose most recent work, *The Green Tuxedo*, won the Ernest Sandeen Prize in Poetry.

Boise State's MFA program offers a terminal degree, qualifying the graduating writer to teach literature, composition and writing on a collegiate level. The program requires a combined forty-eight hours of literature, linguistics or rhetoric classes, writing workshops, electives and a six-credit thesis project. A candidate must choose a degree tract from fiction, nonfiction or poetry. Criteria for admission to the program are based primarily upon the strength of an applicant's writing sample, but BSU's basic Graduate College admissions requirements must also be met.

The program also offers two publications, *cold-drill* and *The Idaho Review*. The latter, a national literary journal, features the work of heavyweight writers such as Ann Beattie, Richard Bausch, and BSU's own Olmstead. *cold-drill*, BSU's literary magazine, features student and faculty fiction, nonfiction and poetry.

Next fall, after years of inevitable but necessary administrative and bureaucratic wrangling, the Creative Writing program will finally get off the ground. The new MFA program will usher in a new era for Boise State University, one known for its invaluable contribution to the art, craft and instruction of young writers.

For more information on the Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing at BSU, contact the MFA office, c/o Robert Olmstead, 228 Liberal Arts Building, 1910 University Drive, Boise, Idaho, 83725. Also, check out the program's website at <http://english.idbsu.edu/mfa/>.

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Amy Ambrose  
Miss Idaho USA 1999

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# Boise State bids farewell to a professor, former dean, community activist, actor

Doreen Martinek

News Writer

Dr. Robert Sims of the history department has seen Boise State University grow in many ways over the past 29 years. Since 1970, he has watched and aided in its transformation from a college to a university.

Sims decided to retire this year for health-related reasons. Last June he was diagnosed with cancer and has since received radiation therapy. He was recent-

ly given a clean bill of health by his doctor, but felt the need to curtail some of his teaching duties.

In 1985, Sims helped establish what was then called the School of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, and was rewarded with appointment as its first dean. He is the author of numerous articles and books and a noted scholar and academic. For many members of the Boise State community, university life will not be the same without him.

"He's my hero and role

model. He's calm, reasonable, and not easily rattled. I admire that. He's everything I'm not," says Sims' colleague Dr. Todd Shallat. According to Shallat, as the "senior guy in the department, a lot of experience will be lost" without Sims on hand.

Luckily for Shallat and others at the university, Sims will not completely absent himself from Boise State. "They're letting me keep an office here for a while, mainly because of the six graduate students I'm still working with," Sims explains.

Students and colleagues alike cannot compliment Sims enough.

"He's known among students and professors as the best we have as far as a comprehensive American historian," Shallat declares. "He's the last of his generation in that he knows about all areas of history, not just one particular point."

Dr. Hope Benedict, a former student and now an adjunct history professor, says, "Dr. Sims is the most balanced, comprehensive professor I've ever had. Period."

Sims and Benedict share memories of a short attempt at a theatrical career in 1986. "We acted in a play directed by Fred

Norman, director of the Morrison Center at the time, based on the epic Civil War poem 'John Brown's Body' by Stephen Vincent Benet. Hope and I, along with Dr. Charles Taylor, Boise State's former Vice-President of Student Affairs, practiced every day for six months, for our one performance on Feb. 1, 1986. It was very traumatic," Sims recalls, "especially since I had just been appointed dean. But then-president of Boise State, Dr. John Kaiser told me to do it. You don't argue with the boss."

Sims says he has many accomplishments at Boise State of which he feels proud. However, his greatest achievement, he says, is the "great students I had graduate" from under his tutelage. Outstanding students have "something to do with the instructor, I hope," Sims smiles.

Shallat describes Sims as a "student of American culture," pointing to his interest in American literature and music, especially jazz. "He has the ability to make connections between literature, history and culture."

Sims also serves on the Frank Church Advisory Committee, helping fund-raise for an endowed chair at the college. "We have about \$700,000, but need to double that," he explains.

Sims' involvement does not end with Boise State. He also served as chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission in Boise during the 1980s. He aided in the city's focus on urban renewal. During his retirement Sims plans to visit his grandchildren, and continue work on a book concerning the Japanese-American World War II internment camp located in Minidoka, Idaho. "The camp was known as 'Minidoka' or 'Hunt'," explains Sims, "after the Wilson-Pierce-Hunt explorers who camped in the area."

"Bob believes everyone should have a sense of civic responsibility," Shallat says. "He encourages student participation and volunteerism in the community as a critical part of a university education."

The highest praise a professor could ever hope to hear comes from Benedict. "If I thought that some day I could be even one-tenth the professor he is, I'd be grateful," she declares.

Shallat, who believes he never would have been hired if not for Sims, describes him as having "class. He's a real gentleman. I'm going to miss him when he retires."



Sims plans to travel and continue writing a book on a WWII Japanese-American internment camp in Idaho.

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For information, call 426-1681 or 336-1010.





# Peterson introduces campaign reform legislation

Mike Winter

Special to The Arbiter



Something about this year's ASBSU elections really bothered Senator-at-Large Nate Peterson. Two of the three candidates who ran for president and vice-president had financial support from local businesses to help run their campaign.

"Business has no business being involved with ASBSU," Peterson stated in an open discussion last week in the Senate work area. "It's unfair to the candidates who may not have the connections or savvy to get business support. And it leaves open the possibility that campaign favors would need to be returned someday."

So Peterson has introduced, for discussion, Senate Resolution #18, "Elimination of Campaign Contributions and Sponsorships."

According to the statement

of purpose posted on the legislation section of the

"One fellow not long ago, who ran for president, spent literally thousands of dollars on his campaign. No one else had a chance."—Nate Peterson

ASBSU bulletin board in the Student Union building, SR #18 would "eliminate campaign contributions, sponsorships, and any other type of aid given to students participating in any of the ASBSU elections."

"Business has nothing to do with ASBSU and therefore should have nothing to do with ASBSU

elections," the statement continues.

"But what about the person who has less personal means than another?" asked a colleague in on the discussion. "If you wipe out business support, the guy with more personal means will still have an advantage."

Peterson agrees. He plans a follow-up resolution to limit campaign spending to a low, reasonable amount that anyone running for office could manage. "It is the duty of the ASBSU to promote fair and constructive competition," the statement of purpose says.

"One fellow not long ago, who ran for president, spent literally thousands of dollars on his campaign. No one else had a chance," Peterson explains.

Any candidate found guilty of accepting contributions would be disqualified from the election, the proposed resolution says.

"There's been some concern about enforcement in the past," comments Senator Kara Janney, "but I don't feel it would be a problem. You could tell if someone was spending a lot. We could also have some reporting requirements."

The bill would eliminate campaign contributions and sponsorships.

One idea currently gaining favor, proposed by Devin Kelly, is a general campaign fund that could accept contributions from any source and would be administered and also funded by the ASBSU. Monies would then be divided equally among the candidates.

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# Desert Studies Institute provides summer workshops

Heather Herrick

Special to The Arbiter

Boise State University's Desert Studies Institute will provide students and others with the opportunity to learn about Idaho's desert environment during its upcoming summer workshops.

The Institute, started in 1997, offers ten two-day long workshops for one hour of credit each. BSU's Anthropology Department and Celebration Park, located about an hour southwest of Boise, cooperate to teach the classes. The institute offers sessions on geology, historical geography, resources, archeology, politics and other issues concerning Idaho's desert.

Mark Plew, co-director of Desert Studies Institute, says the classes are especially appropriate because so much of Idaho contains desert. The Institute helps fill a void of desert studies programs.

Celebration Park is one of the few parks that deal with

desert environments, he points out. It includes a number of archaeological

sites and provides an introduction to Idaho archaeological history.

Most of the workshops include a field trip to the park and challenging course work for the students. "We've tried to ensure they have a strong academic experience," notes Plew. Students from last year's workshops appreciated these elements, according to Plew. "The reviews of the Desert Studies Institute were very positive."

Plew points out that each year the institute tries to bring in someone from out of state to teach. This year raptor-expert Pat C. Benson from the University of Witwatersrand in South Africa will teach a class titled "Observations on Cape Vulture Biology."

Other teachers for the workshops come from BSU's geosciences, anthropology and political science departments, the U.S. Dept. of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the

University of Nevada and the Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument.

Politics may not be the first issue that comes to people's minds when they think of studying the desert, but political science professor John Freemuth believes the two are related. It is through politics that decisions are made affecting deserts, he says.

Freemuth's workshop this summer will focus on how decisions are made about deserts and the role of science in public policy as it relates to these environments.

Plew notes that the program, open to everyone, is designed to educate the public on the need to protect resources.

To learn more about the Desert Studies Institute contact Continuing Education at BSU or refer to BSU's Summer Programs 1999 catalogue.



Photo by Jim Allen/The Arbiter

It might not look exciting, but the desert maintains a tight political and environmental hold on Idaho. This summer's Desert Studies Institute will incorporate these issues and more.

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# Letter to the Editor

## Coach Dilley fired unfairly

To the editor:

I sent this letter to Gene Bleymaier, Athletic Director at Boise State after track and field Coach Mike Dilley was fired earlier this semester.

Coach Dilley represents everything that is right about collegiate athletics. He is a man of integrity, principle and loyalty; a fierce competitor, an unbelievable motivator, a team player, and an athlete's coach. I have trained with a number of coaches in my running career and have never seen any of them give of themselves to the extent that

Coach Dilley gives to his athletes. He has a passion for the sport and a deep personal and professional commitment to his athletes.

Running is the means by which Coach Dilley makes us better people. He teaches perspective: "See the forest through the trees," he tells us. "Personal goals must complement team goals. One bad day does not define you as a runner. Have full belief in yourself and do not be afraid to go for it. You will be held accountable for your actions, both good and bad. The secret is there is no secret. Training is a means to an end."

He makes sure goals are personal—so you try that much harder to achieve them. Most importantly, he takes care that the lessons we learn apply not just to running, but to what our lives will

be when running is no longer our main focus. The dedication and desire required to be a good distance runner is the same dedication and desire that propels people to achieve their goals in life. Coach Dilley inspires that dedication and desire. He teaches us traits every parent would love their kids to develop.

People are willing to give up a lot to have a coach they believe in. Coach Dilley has had athletes give up full ride scholarships to Tulane and Clemson to be with him here in Boise, and others are leaving because he is not going to be coaching here anymore. They do not think the future is going to be as good as the past four years.

Melinda Campbell, an awesome high school talent who could have gone to any college in the nation, came to BSU because of Mike Dilley. She is on her way to becoming BSU's greatest ever female student-athlete. She has only completed three semesters but already been Academic All-Conference every semester and is maintaining a 3.7 GPA. Athletically, she has been All-Conference four times, Conference Champion twice, a two-time NCAA qualifier, and an All-American.

In addition, last year she won the USA National Junior Cross Country Championships and went on to the World Junior Championships where she finished 21st, the top American. With five semesters of competitions left before she graduates one can only imagine the mark she would have left on the record books. But the day she found out about Coach Dilley's dismissal, she applied for a release and it was granted. How ironic is it that she is going to transfer to the University of Washington, Mike Johnson's previous job, to be coached by Greg Metcalf, a former athlete of Mike Dilley?

In light of his success as a coach and his stellar reputation with the athletes he mentors, I can only assume he has been misrepresented to you. I believe some high-level political machinery triggered this judgment before you were able to acquaint yourself with Coach Dilley in any capacity. I think you'll agree either of those situations would not facilitate a good decision. Prejudging somebody usually results in a poor reflection of their character and indicates something about yours. If you wanted an opinion of Coach Dilley you should have taken the time to get to know him, formulated one of your own based on his results, or asked the people who deal with him most—his athletes.

The BSU track team members need a coach and an institution they can believe in. They need someone true and honest. They need someone who will keep their promises. They don't need someone looking out for selfish interests first. They need a mentor. They DO NOT want someone who is going to undermine people and have their credibility questioned, or throw keys and phones in temper tantrums. Some of the athletes have been through three coaching changes. They have seen enough to know what they want and what they do not want in a head coach.

How interesting is it then, that the whole team showed up in your office one day while the nationwide search was ongoing to show support for Mike Dilley, even the sprinters and field event personnel? The quality of the person and the way they treat others are an immeasurable compliment to their expertise. Perhaps that is why you appeared so nervous the day you told the team about Mike Johnson's hiring. I had never seen anybody so "confident in their decision" so nervous telling somebody about it. But I also tend to think you were nervous because you let someone else influence you and you knew it was not a popular result, or perhaps the

right decision.

Coach Dilley's secret to success is simple. He takes a vested interest in the student-athletes and their priorities. He defines his goals with their goals in mind. He loves, respects and gives his absolute best to his athletes. In return, we give him our love, respect, and absolute best. Coach Dilley's accomplishments are secondary to ours. Every single one of his coaching accomplishments have come from his unselfish drive to make all his student-athletes the best they can be. Gene, instead of firing Mike Dilley, why not change your ideals to be more like his? Make your job your passion. Trust me, if your organization was built around a symbiotic relationship with your student athletes and their coaches, your life and job would be much more successful and fulfilling.

Coach Dilley has been overlooked twice for Head Track Coach by your organization, and now your organization is allowing someone to release him. Overlooking a man who stands for what Coach Dilley stands for illustrates that BSU's priorities in this case are not with the student-athletes and their futures, but rather with egos and politics.

Collegiate athletics are amateur sports. With coaches like Mike Dilley they are pure and honest and presented in a way that develops a more complete person. It has been said by Avery Brundage, President of the International Olympic Committee (1952-1972) that "Amateur sport is a delicate and fragile thing. It is an enlargement of life but it must be pure and honest or it is nothing at all."

Sincerely,

Richard Lee  
Concerned Citizen and  
Former BSU Athlete

The Arbiter • May 5, 1999

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# The spot

Lesleigh Owen

Columnist

While thousands spent their Sunday afternoons frolicking and jamming at "Spring Fling," I celebrated it by wooing several sassy journal articles and bogeying with one or two scintillating research papers. By the time my friend dropped by at ten at night, I was too pooped to prattle.

As we reclined on my loveseat, I stared at the ceiling and allowed her soothing voice to lull me back into social consciousness. After a few moments, the haze lifted enough for her words to register.

"What the hell are you reading?" I gasped.

"This Cosmo I found on the

table," she said.

I begged her to stop, I pleaded with her to spare a bit of mercy for a bone-weary

bud, but she remained unmoved. For the next hour I listened to article after article of the most eyebrow-raising material I've encountered since renouncing *Melrose Place*.

(Since you ask, I'd purchased the magazine a month ago in order to write an essay on symbolic images in trendy magazines. Take that, add a pinch of nonexistent domestic dedication, and you have the perfect recipe for a month-old magazine collecting dust on my kitchen table. I'm surprised you even had to ask.)

Stuffed between Claritin and

Cosmetique ads, the first article with which she assaulted me addressed that sobering, age-old concern: Should we tell our current babes how many partners we've bagged? To deal with the gravity of this critical social issue, women and men such as "Simone," "Kevin," "Darla," and "Mitch" stoked the fires 'neath the ol' grey matter in order to cook up some insightful responses. "I've always tried to be polite and give at least a rough estimate..."; "No. Chances are, you'll both end up lying anyway..."; "Ladies, lie with a low number, or else we'll end up imagining all sorts of sick scenarios involving you and the college swim team..." Rough estimates? The college swim team, Melvin (28, veterinarian)? Good Lord, man, at least hook us up with

a group that won't leave us seasick. (Personally, I've always had my eye on the debate team. Rreow.)

For those who have always agonized over the rumor but lacked the courage to verify it, *Cosmo* takes it upon itself to remind us just "Why It Pays to Be a Babe" (by Nancy Etcoff, author of *Survival of the Prettiest*). Ms. Etcoff spends half the article bemoaning the "PC party line" doled out to malleable college students in their Women's Studies courses. "Beauty is all about vanity," she imagines Women's Studies professors ranting (while glaring at their male students, of course), "and primping and preening are desperate attempts to bolster self-esteem". Well, that's all bull." Although deprived of such sage statements in any of my WS courses,

I agree with her assessment of them. From feminists to self-help authors, it seems many of us can agree that the multi-billion dollar cosmetics, clothing and diet industries rest on foundations a little more concrete than, well, vanity. In discussing the density and stability of these foundations however, Ms. Etcoff and I regretfully part ways. While I agree with her that "women are heavily rewarded for their attractiveness," she and I appear to differ in the degrees of celebration with which we greet this statement.

From there, I became an apprentice in the art of "taking your mouth moves to the max," I snuggled into a movie couple's bed to experience "big screen sex secrets" and pondered the profound



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The Starbucks across from the BSU Stadium on Broadway opens Sunday, May 9 at 7 a.m. and won't close until 11 p.m. Thursday, May 13.

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notion that "sometimes breaking the rules wins over the boss." Meanwhile, the accompanying pictures gleamed with superskinny, white, twenty-something waifs whose hair stayed attractively tousled even when not recovering from the effects of "his love addiction."

Okay, okay, I'll admit it. By the time we reached one of the last articles, "His G-Spot," I was hanging on my friend's every word. Wait, wait, come back! I can explain! You *Cosmo* virgins out there have no concept of the sexual powderkeg sizzling between those glossy, 9" x 11" covers. Every aspect of the magazine, from content to layout, grabs hold of the reader and whisks her through an ever-mounting sensational feast. It begins when we start pawing through advertisements for slices of fleshy material. Soon, we're snatching guilty peeks into celebrities' sex lives and sinking our teeth into tantalizing advice columns.

Next thing we know, our hands are fumbling through slippery pages in search of the roadmap to our male partners' elusive G-Spots. Whew!

As much as it hurts to say it, I found a certain guilty pleasure in listening to my friend extol the virtues of firm thighs, eye contact and spermicide. Listening to those intimate, even shocking discussions, I felt like a naughty nine-year-old all over again, sneaking into her older sister's room and rifling through her diary. Quite intentionally, *Cosmo* elicits in its readers' memories of such educational quests. Only now, rather than risk an angry older sister or an embarrassed best friend, it does the hard work for us, researching and reporting on these all-too-often-ignored relationship- and women-centered issues.

As much joy as I derive from mocking its shallowness, *Cosmo* serves a purpose in providing us a forum to view our interests. Too

often, friends, partners and F-Spot columnists scoff at women's "obsessions" with relationships and beauty, rarely stopping to uncover and examine their roots. Knowing women need a voice, *Cosmo's* melodramatic columnists and subjects invoke memories of our long-ago, whispered confessions. Then, it amplifies them for everyone to hear.

Of course, the privilege doesn't come cheaply. First of all, although allowing us a place where we're not ridiculed for succumbing to the overwhelming social pressure to look and act perfectly, it still contributes, and damn heavily, to those pressures. Secondly, or as a postscript to the first, the women whose lives it seeks to illustrate don't represent you or I, with our two jobs, Sunday research papers and less-than-steamy sex lives.

*Cosmo's* approach reminds me of those junior high girls and boys who sat at the popular cafeteria

table, giggling, tossing their heads and just generally out-beautifying the rest of us. It stares down at us from the mountainous height of that table, tossing us enough "how-to" scraps to keep us scrambling and panting for more. Feeling ugly, sexually inadequate, bored, occupationally frustrated, or just generally unpopular? Step right up, little lady; *Cosmo* knows how to make it all better.

Like those days of yore, targeting these socialized senses of inadequacies pits us against everyone else who measures up more or less than do we. Now, instead of obsessing over dates for the dance and Pep Club tryouts, we fret over bewitching our male bosses and probing our honeys' erogenous zones. Or so *Cosmo*, the popular kid, would have us believe.

Its layout, its tantalizing titles and shocking vocabulary work together to present a perfectly glossy, perfectly sophisticated and

perfectly scandalous smorgasbord (or cafeteria table, if you wish) of pictures and situations. All that perfection, couched in issues that women need to discuss. Perfectly irresistible, right?

Stay strong, sisters. Just keep reminding yourselves that like your hazy, ten-year old memories of those gorgeous girls and boys, *Cosmo's* sensationalistic articles portray an ideal, a stereotype that none of us can ever really attain.

Oh, I know: easier said than done. I'm no exception. When my friend asked to take the magazine home I made up some excuse about using it for my next article. I think we both knew that the second she left, I was diving lips first back into the kissing article.

Letting go ain't quite as easy as it sounds; otherwise, people like Max Factor and Armani couldn't adorn their kitty cats with collars that cost more than you or I make in a year.



## Let your voice be heard!

**Don't just float through school without ruffling a few feathers. Voice your views with us. *The Arbiter* is a powerful medium that serves as a force for change. So, if you're adventurous enough, simply submit a resume and three writing samples to our office located across from the sub below the Women's Center.**



# 1999 commencement hard-earned re

## Newman balances single motherhood, work and education, dedication rewarded with degree

Stephanie Mallock

News Editor

**K**athryn Newman was 19 years old, uneducated and married with two daughters. And before long, she found herself a single mother of four children. Without a college education, she says, none of the jobs she had would provide for her and her kids.

In the summer of 1993, she agreed to take a summer class with her sister. Newman enjoyed learning and signed up for two more courses, deciding to become a full-time student majoring in accounting. "I could struggle for four years," she says, "or I could struggle for many years."

She chose the four.

Newman says it was difficult raising four daughters—Nicole, 19; Janet, 17; Athena, 8; and Carolyn, 6—by herself and while

attending school. She says they helped her through it. The older girls babysat the younger ones while Newman took classes only offered in the evening.

Without much free time, Newman turned responsibilities such as working, studying and housework into family affairs. She says she and her daughters would "play school" and then do homework together. She fondly remembers snuggling with her daughters in bed and studying.

Newman says it would have been impossible to make it through school without fellow student and friend Stasia Davis, who has two children close in age to Newman's youngest daughters. They often studied together or took turns babysitting while the other attended classes or worked on a project.

The professors in the business department, Newman says, were

wonderful and encouraged her to continue her education, even when she felt tired or discouraged. Aside from her children, Newman didn't have much family support; the business faculty supplied that for her. "I know I couldn't have done it without them," Newman says.

Especially important to her is Dr. Gordon Pirrong, her advisor through all four years. "Gordon was the greatest advisor in the world," says Newman. She adds that he never wavered in his belief in her and, with that kind of

support, "Pretty soon you start believing it yourself."

Newman has supported herself and her family through her college years with work study and tutoring, as well as internships. She interned at Micron and Leavitt and Christensen. She's currently an office assistant in the accounting department.

Despite working, studying and raising her daughters, Newman got involved in numerous organizations and committees. She is president of the Business Policies Team and also served as

president and vice president of Beta Gamma Sigma, a business honors fraternity. She has participated as a volunteer in the Boise River Festival, Paint the Town and Rake-Up Boise. "Everyone knows I have kids," she explains, "so I just bring them with me!"

She plans on sharing the excitement of graduation with her children. They had to make as many sacrifices as she did, she reflects.

After graduation, Newman will begin a master's in the tax program.

Photo courtesy of University News Services



Kathryn Newman earned a degree in accountancy with the help and support of her four daughters.

## Commencement to be broadcast over Internet

Jessi Loerch

News Editor

**E**ach year as graduates walk the line, the process seems the same: a speech, the reading of names, and a handshake for all, followed by the traditional tossing of caps. But for those who participate in graduation the process means much more. Each ceremony is different and special to those who participate in it.

This year, in addition to the new names and faces, there has been one more new aspect added to the ceremony. The University Commencement Convocation and each college's individual commencement will be broadcast live over the Internet. Additionally, parts of the ceremonies will be saved and archived so they can be viewed at a later date.

Skip Knox, BSU Web Master, created the concept for live broadcast. Knox emphasizes that this broadcast must be looked at

as an experiment.

Neither he nor anyone else working with him has ever attempted a live broadcast before. Preliminary tests of the process were successful but Knox still worries about last minute technology problems or glitches.

The broadcast will include sound, allowing family or friends to hear the graduates' names as they get announced. The graduation broadcast can be found at <http://wdl.boisestate.edu/commencement>

The University Commencement Convocation will be held May 15 at 10 a.m. in the BSU Pavilion. The convocation brings together graduates from all colleges to listen to speakers and award degrees. Welcomes and congratulations will be offered and President Ruch will confer the degrees. The Foundation Scholar Awards will also be presented. Helen Lojek, English professor will receive an

award for teaching; Martin Schimpf, chemistry professor, for research/creative activities; and Sherman Button, Health, Physical Education and Recreation professor, for service. The Silver Medallion Awards will also be given for outstanding service to the university. Additionally, the ten doctoral students will be hooded. Ross Talley, from the College of Engineering, will serve as the student speaker.

Each individual college will then hold their commencement ceremonies at either 1 p.m. or 4 p.m. At that time the names of each graduate will be read, students will shake hands with the dean of their college and receive their degrees.

Bill Lathen, Dean of the College of Business and Economics says, "We would like [the graduates] to walk away knowing that the faculty and participants and the audience are celebrating a great, great day in their lives."

# The Arbiter

May 1999

# GRADUATION INSERT

Boise State's 65th convocation/commencement will be held in the Pavilion at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 15. Individual colleges will hold their ceremonies later in the day. Informal receptions take place after each college ceremony. Following are the individual times and places for the university's colleges:

## 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

- College of Education, Morrison Center
- Sella College of Applied Technology, Jordan Ballroom
- College of Business and Economics, Pavilion
- College of Engineering, Special Events Center

## 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

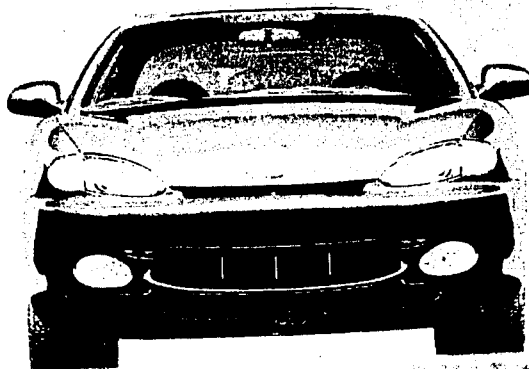
- College of Arts and Sciences, Morrison Center
- College of Health Sciences, Jordan Ballroom
- College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, Pavilion

**Photographs** - Arrangements have been made for a professional photographer to record the moment candidates are awarded their diplomas. A passport-sized, color proof will be mailed approximately one week. No obligation to buy.

**Parking** - Check inside for our parking map. All reserved & metered parking lots will be open for commencement patrons.

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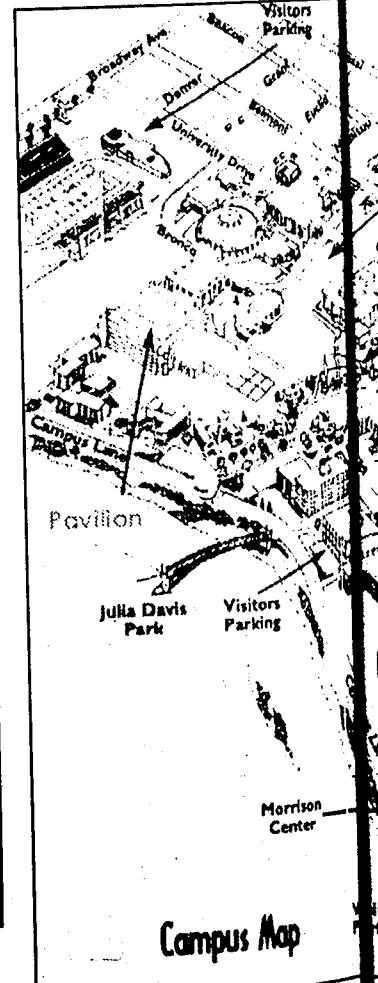
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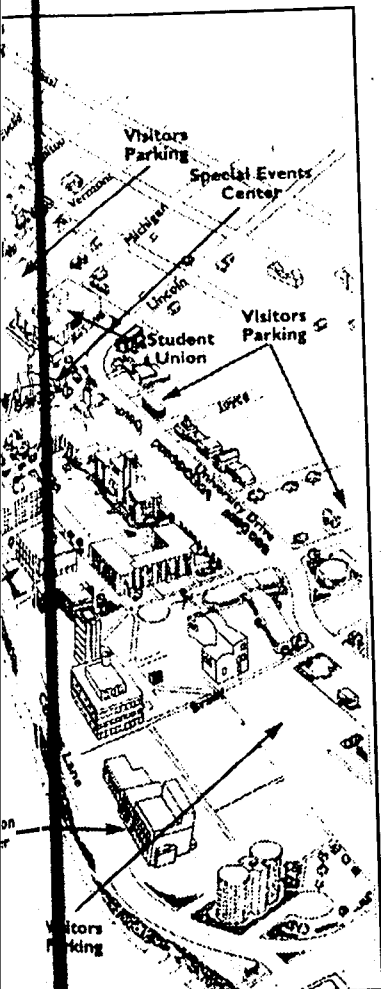
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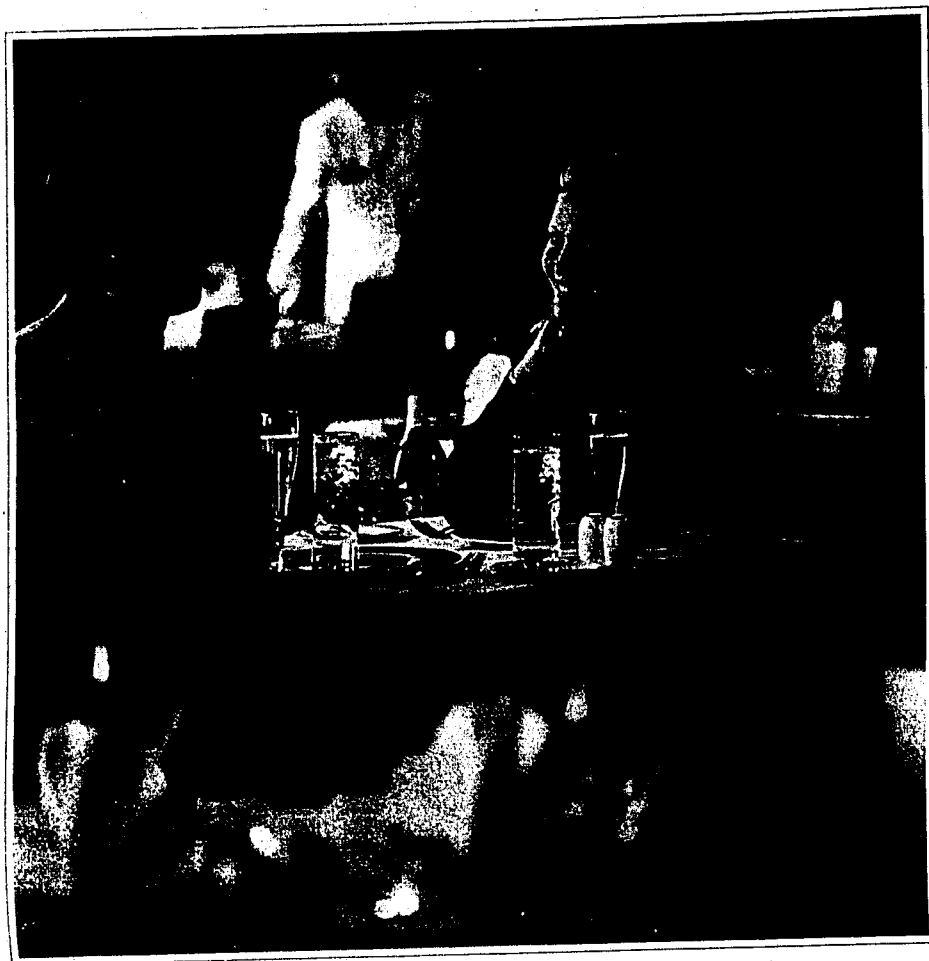
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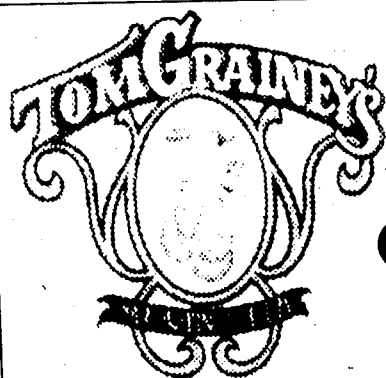
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# ard for three Boise State students

## nmidova moves on to medical school after earning degree, will return to Slovakia to visit family

News Editor

ch  
Schmidova has an impressive list of accomplishments that follow her. She was a Top Ten Scholar, on the dean's list with honors for six semesters, elected as a member of the Phi Phi Honor Society. Schmidova will graduate on May 15 with a degree in biology, which she completed in only a half years.

Boise State this year and has been accepted into the University of Utah and University of Washington medical schools. This marks an amazing accomplishment for any student but Schmidova did it while speaking her third language and living thousands of miles from her native country. Schmidova came to America from Slovakia, to a city where she knew few people and had to start her schooling from scratch.

English is Schmidova's third language, and when she arrived

in Boise, she knew few people. Schmidova had to make all new friends while learning to live in an entirely different culture. She was enrolled in college in Slovakia but when she decided to come to America, lost all the credits she had already earned. But Schmidova didn't waste any time once she entered BSU, taking an average of 18 credits each semester and enrolling each year in summer school, all while holding down a job as a waitress and also conducting research.

In August, Schmidova will

move west to attend medical school at the University of Washington. Her cat Petyo, who she rescued from a parking lot while he was only a kitten, will accompany her. Schmidova has a special interest in endocrinology but has not yet decided which field of medicine she will pursue.

she would lose track or forget her goals. Schmidova says they have big plans for her. Her graduation and acceptance to medical school have made them feel much better says Schmidova, who keeps in contact with her family by e-mail, writing them five times per week. She tried calling them when she first arrived in Boise, but soon discovered that a ten minute phone call cost more than she made in an hour and switched to e-mail.

After Schmidova graduates on May 15 she will travel to Slovakia to visit her family. Her eyes light up when she talks about seeing them. She smiles when she remembers the chocolate she will be able to enjoy in her country. "I don't understand how American women live off this chocolate. It's like dirt scraped off the road and put back together," she exclaims.

Photo courtesy of University News Services

**"I don't understand how American women live off this chocolate. It's like dirt scraped off the road and put back together!"—Karin Schmidova**

Schmidova's parents were concerned with her decision to come to America. They worried

## Boise State grad and Bliss resident Diaz finds new career in office work

BSU News Services

he breaks and air-conditioned buildings may appear a norm in most office settings for Iris Diaz, they are luxuries.

is the oldest of six children. Bliss residents Crispin and Diaz, migrant farmworkers as mushroom cultivators at Valley Foods. Like most of farmworkers, the Diazs work the fields each

however, now spends days in the climate-controlled Bureau of Land Management offices in Boise.

graduating from Bliss High School in 1997, she entered an administrative office technology program in Boise State's College of Applied Sciences. While living in Boise

she began work as an office trainee with BLM; later she expanded her training in the same office with an internship through Boise State. The situation worked out so well that Diaz will be promoted to a full-time personnel staffing assistant with BLM, immediately after she receives her associate's of applied science degree on May 15.

When she arrived at BLM, Diaz says she felt "shocked" by the comforts and advantages of working in an office. "It was so much different than what I was used to," she says. "The pay is so much better and we actually got breaks during the day, and air conditioning beats [working in] the sun any day."

Diaz, 19, was able to stay on course with her education thanks to the kindness of Gloria and Travis Queen, a Boise couple she

now lives with. "I started out living in the dorms," she remembers, "but it was too loud all the time. I found it hard to study and stay focused. At church, I met Gloria and she had an extra room and was willing to give it to me because her kids were grown up and had moved out. They have been very kind to me and have never asked for any rent."

Diaz's new career path has inspired her younger siblings. "My sisters have begun setting some goals and thinking about college," she notes. In fact, her sister Martha, who graduates from Bliss High this year, plans to pursue a bachelor's degree in accounting at Boise State.

"I'm very excited about having her come here to Boise," Diaz says enthusiastically. "We plan to get an apartment together."

One with air conditioning, no doubt.



**Karin Schmidova will attend medical school at the University of Washington beginning in the fall.**



# After the beep

Damon Hunzeker

Columnist

Does anyone you know often call home to retrieve phone messages while in your company? If so, they probably hate you. Otherwise, they wouldn't be interested in who else is trying to talk to them. It's akin to sitting in a bar while your companion routinely looks around the room, wondering if anybody else is trying to get their attention. ("Oh, you're in favor of clean air, huh? That sure is interesting. Frankly, I'd rather get hit in the head by a flying whiskey bottle than hear one more syllable stumble off your tedious lips.")

More importantly, I don't understand their obsession with electronic missives. I mean, it's not like answering machines are still a novelty. They are, however,

a bit creepy. When I return home and press the button on my

machine, I can't help but feel like my home has been violated. Voices have been polluting the air while I was gone. People have been talking in my house to nobody. It drives my dog crazy. I can see the Pavlovian look on his face. When the phone rings, he wonders if the invisible people are going to start talking again. Then he thinks I've gone insane because I circumvent their visit by placing a strange device on my ear while talking to myself. In fact, my last dog lost his mind over the situation. One day I returned from vacation and pushed the answering-machine button. After listening to all 56 unnecessarily verbose messages, I noticed my dog had committed

suicide. There he lay on the kitchen floor, with his head in the oven. I don't know how he cut his head off, but I do know this: the body-less voices are to blame.

Such travesties are likely contributing to the trend of using the answering services provided by the phone company—which I think is even more creepy. It's no longer household pets listening to your messages. Now complete strangers in office cubicles know everything about you. If you ever meet someone from the phone company, you'll get that weird feeling usually reserved for picking up pictures of your naked girlfriend from the film developer.)

Please don't misunderstand me. I'm fond of verbal communication. Without it we would all be staring at each other vacantly, trying to interpret various winks and hand gestures. Like primates in trees, we would assume we know what the other bipeds are trying to convey and then, in the

absence of actual understanding, start picking bugs off their feet. But humans have always functioned on a higher level. If a cave-man became interested in a girl, he cleverly threw a rock at her to see how she reacted. If she responded with a favorable wink, they enjoyed glorious sex. But, of course, if she greeted his rock-tossing with a cryptic hand gesture, he confidently began to remove bugs from her feet. So I guess we're not that different from monkeys after all.

But eventually, we learned to emit marginally lucid grunts. Then, after a few hundred years of breathing through our mouths and dangling our modifiers, eloquent speech emerged. This served us well until the advent of telephonic communication, which made it possible to speak to someone while inattentively looking at your belly button. (Maybe that's just me.) However, the horrific offspring of telephones—

answering machines—have rendered verbal communication even more artificial. Now you don't even have to speak to the person directly. You can just exchange answering-machine messages—or "play phone tag," as the hip kids like to say. All of this would be OK—it works with letter-writing—were it not for the unpleasant reality that human beings are scared of recording devices, and consequently, they sound timid and silly when exposed to them. This probably sounds familiar:

"Oh. Hi. Um, I think I got the right number. I almost forgot what I was going to say after all those beeps. But um ... gosh, there was something I was going to tell you. Uh ... the ... Sorry for talking so long. I'm like, 'What was I gonna say?' And you're probably going, 'Helloooo! You're wasting my tape!' Well, give me a call when you get back. It's about 7:30. Oh wait—it's only 7:00. This

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day has gone sooooo slow. Anyway, if I'm not here, you can leave a message. OK, thanks. Um, bye."

I don't know why they insist upon telling me what time it is. If I'm listening to the message, the time at which it was recorded has become irrelevant. I want to know what time it is, not what time it was. Imagine if people spoke to each other in real life the way they do on answering machines:

"You've reached Tim. How are you?"

"Hi, this is Jimmy. It's about 10:30. Uh ... I was just wondering what's going on ... Give me a friendly nod when you make eye contact. If I don't respond, it just means I've drifted off to my own special world. But I'll be right back."

I wonder if world leaders ever communicate with phone messages: "Hey, Slobodan. This is

Bill. Looks like we're playing phone tag again. Anyway, just seein' what 's up. Uh ... I heard you were killing Kosovar refugees or something like that. And ... God, I hate talking to these machines. Anyway, I was thinking about accidentally blowing them up already—so, you know. Don't bother. Um ... well, just give me a call. Bye."

Answering machines can be deceptive, too. If you speak to someone face-to-face, you're afforded the opportunity to question them and assess the situation to the best possible degree of accuracy. But when you listen to a tape, you're at the mercy of the recording. It's a one-way conversation, a monologue offering no room for cross-examination.

A skilled practitioner of the answering machine will often fool you into believing you're about to get involved in something pleasurable. For instance, I

pushed the message button a few days ago and was greeted with this: "Hey, I'm going fishing tonight. I found a great spot. I won't be home by the time you hear this, but if you want to go, meet me at Arrowrock Dam." That sounded pleasant, and because my other option for the day consisted of hanging around in the park at something called "Spring Fling" while listening to a bunch of dirty hippies pound on bongos, I decided to kill fish, or at least forge an attempt. I went to the assigned destination and discovered that my friend had invited a stranger. I hate strangers. During the course of some customary small talk I discovered that he had moved here in order to avoid going back to jail. I explained that we have jails, too. But he ignored my logic and launched into a diatribe about never getting caught by The Man.

If my friend would have

extended the invitation to me directly, I could have asked, "Are there going to be any escaped fugitives with us? Because I don't feel like constantly looking behind my back to see if Tommy Lee Jones has us in his sights."

But I had already committed myself to the enterprise. So I fished. Incidentally, you can get the same exhilarating rush from standing in line at the airport. Finally—disgusted, bored, and frightened all at the same time—I began to absorb the scenery. A piece of Styrofoam floated by. Maybe, I thought, I'll grab it, affix a PLEASE SAVE ME note to it,

and send it on its journey. A message taped to a Styrofoam cooler lid isn't quite as pretty as a message in a bottle, but it's a hell of a lot more romantic than leaving a stuttering plea for help on someone's answering machine after waiting for the stupid beep.



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# The benevolent Basement Gallery helps students sell

Chris Tremblay

Arbiter Intern

The Basement Gallery, located at 928 Main St. beneath the Idanha Hotel, will host an exhibit of some of Idaho's most promising university art students, beginning the first Thursday in May.

Jurors Cynthia Sewell, assistant curator of the Boise Art Museum and Chris Schnoor, local writer and art critic, had the difficult task of distinguishing the best from the rest from

entries submitted by visual art students from five different Idaho schools, including NNC, U of I, ISU, Albertson College and Boise State. Sewell and Schnoor gave the thumbs up to 21 artists and 30 pieces of art total.

Basement Gallery co-propriators Rick Friesen and Perry Allen actualized the concept of a students-only art show. Friesen says, "Students don't have a lot of opportunities to exhibit around here," when

asked why the show must go on. Boiseans may have noticed the triumphant guffaws at the occasional Noodles or Koffee Klatsch art exhibit, but neither offers exposure to a large group of students.

Boise State art student Ted Walker maintains that, "The Basement Gallery is a first rate gallery. Profiling just visual art students is doing something for the community." The jurors selected a watercolor of Walker's, his first portrait from life.

The exhibit really amounts to a show of generosity. Friesen believes that students selected get to practice life skills such as "entering juried shows, pricing work realistically and learning how to deal with art galleries"—proficiencies they can't learn in college. This works contrary to a gap in BSU's curriculum: the need for job experience remains unfulfilled for visual art students at Boise State.

**"The Basement Gallery is a first rate gallery. Profiling just visual art students is doing something for the community."**

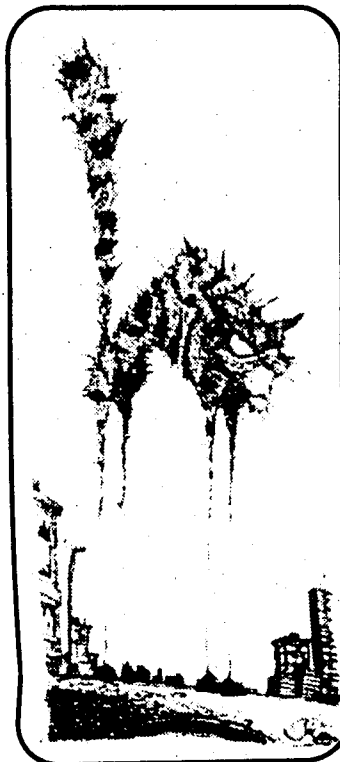
**—Ted Walker**

Boise State offers zero internships to visual artists so they can practice the tasks

including an acrylic illustration of the band Sonic Youth, executed along with friend Bill Carmen in AR 462. Lanningham wanted to do something "Rolling Stone-worthy." The experience will give Lanningham the feedback he needs, helping to answer questions about his own artistic worthiness.

The opportunity for students such as Walker, Olson, and Lanningham to participate in an art exhibit at the Basement Gallery gives them an actual experience similar to how the Great Wheel grinds outside these safe college hallways.

Friesen and Allen hope this Thursday's event establishes itself as the first of an annual occasion. They plan to select the best from the rest again next year, and for many years to come.



**Lanningham's  
"Alley Cat," litho print**

involved in a visual arts occupation. As Walker puts it, the Basement Gallery "gives students a chance to have a shot at real life before graduating as a visual artist."

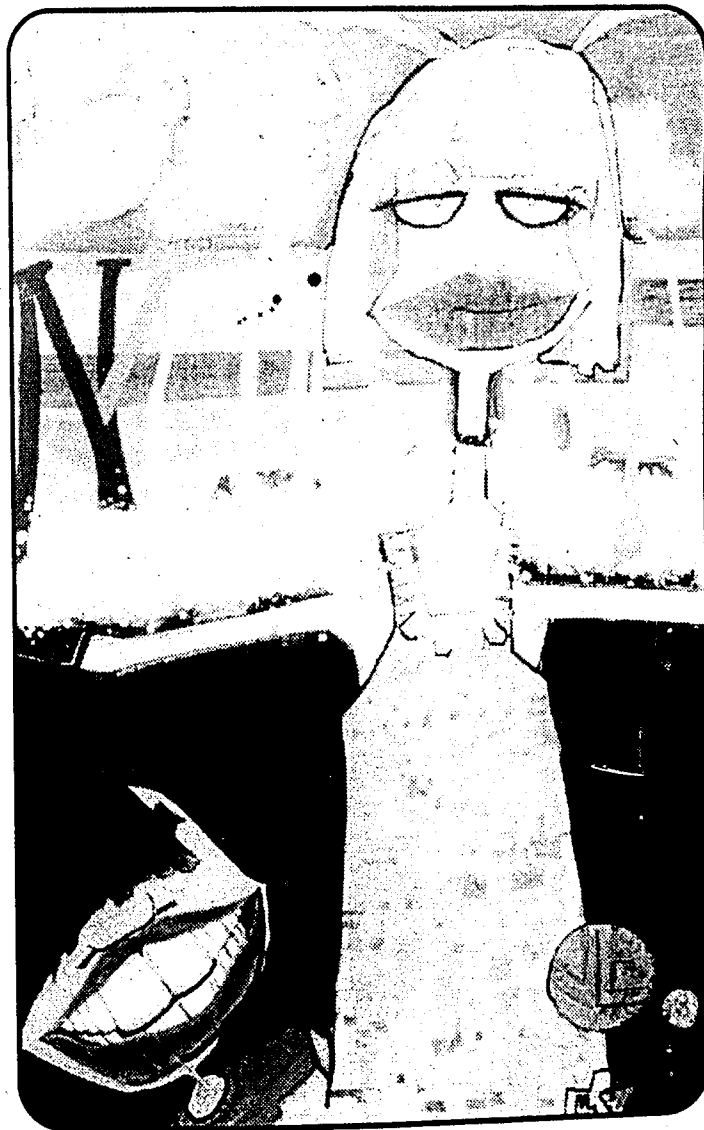
Sewell and Schnoor selected many forms of visual art for the exhibit, including photographs and drawings.

Boise State's Corrin Olson submitted a black and white photo series of nude females, "dealing with our emotional connection to our bodies." One of her photographs, titled "Simplicity in Nature," depicts an hourglass image of a woman's buttocks and back. Olson felt "really excited" about being selected.

Three of graduating student Jeremy Lanningham's pieces qualified for the exhibit,



**"Ha Ha," intallio  
print by Lanningham**



**"Sonic Youth" in acrylic and ink by Jeremy  
Lanningham**



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## In search of Shakespeare and Van Gogh

Justin Endow

Arts & Entertainment Editor

Our biggest and baddest assignments of the year weigh heavily upon us as the semester nears its end. We slave and lose sleep over them, and they're often worth no more than any other assignments we've suffered through during the year.

Whether putting together the final touches on a breakthrough landscape scene or tightening the last lines of the one great sonnet that will rival Shakespeare himself, everyone wants a little more to come out of all the work they put in. Now, for all you Bronco poets and artists, we have a variety of outlets through which the world may revel in your brilliance.

It's time to submit your work to national contests and shows. You know you want to, and besides, what have you got to lose? You're already getting only two hours of sleep a night anyway. Why don't you make them worth something?

For the aspiring painters, the Happy Canyon Northwest Regional Art Show will be held in Pendleton, Ore. September 11-18.

Prudence Roberts, curator of American art with the Portland Art Museum, will judge exhibits. The slides will be juried by Keiko Hara, professor of art at Whitman College, and Tori Ellison, a Seattle-based artist, curator, arts writer and educator.

Media may include watercolors, oils, acrylics, mixed media, drawings, ceramics, fibers, metals, photographs, prints, wood, glass and beadwork. Artists may submit a total of three pieces of artwork, from which three may be accepted. Slides must be postmarked by June 30.

Cash awards will be presented in the categories of Best of Show, Gold, Silver and People's Choice. For more information, call (541) 278-9201.

Poets must keep their works to 21 lines or fewer, and in most cases they may encompass any subject.

•The Bards of Burbank, one of America's foremost poetry societies, spon-

sors a free poetry contest as an annual tribute to the muse of poetry.

"Our contest is open to everyone who has ever written a poem," says poetry director Kevin Scribner. "We especially encourage undiscovered talent and to this end we are offering a whopping \$1,000 grand prize."

To enter send one poem of 21 lines or fewer to: Free Poetry Contest, 2219 W. Olive Ave., Suite 250, Burbank, Calif. 91506, by May 10. The contact number is (213) 462-8908.

•If religious poetry floats your boat, a \$1,000 grand prize is being offered in a free contest sponsored by New Jersey Rainbow Poets. This contest boasts 28 prizes totaling \$2,000.

Entries must be submitted by May 17. Poems may cover any subject and style, as long as they contain a spiritual inference, and should run 21 lines or shorter. Send the entry to: Free Poetry Contest, 103 Wood Ave., Suite 70, Linden, NJ 07036, or enter online at [www.freecontest.com](http://www.freecontest.com).

•Hollywood's Famous Poets Society sponsors a free contest awarding \$1,000 to the winner.

For more information, call Chuck Nash at (213) 962-8870. To enter, send one poem on any subject and any style to: Free Poetry Contest, 1626 N. Wilcox Ave., Suite 126, Hollywood, Calif. 90028, or enter online at [www.famouspoets.com](http://www.famouspoets.com). The deadline is May 31.

•Celestial Arts, which will award \$25,000 in prizes this year, offers a \$1,000 grand prize to the winner of its free poetry contest.

"Even if you have never entered a competition before," says poetry editor Michael Thomas, "this is an opportunity to win big. Even if you have written only one poem, it deserves to be read and appreciated."

For more information contact Thomas at [mike@mighty.net](mailto:mike@mighty.net). To enter, send one original poem on any subject, using any style to: Free Poetry Contest, 1257 Siskiyou Blvd., Suite 4, Ashland, Ore. 97520, or enter online at [www.freecontest.com](http://www.freecontest.com). The deadline is June 7.



# '99 Spring Fling had everyone up in arms

Chris Tremblay

Arbiter Intern

**S**pring Fling reared its pretty head again. Where were you?

At the Ann Morrison bandshell Sunday, the 11th annual Spring Fling dropped like an explosion into the hearts of all participants. They enjoyed a free festival, which is nearly unheard of, with Northwest heavy hitters Calobo, a happy instrumentation band reminiscent of old Radiator's style; Built to Spill, Boise's best bet for local talent-breaks-onto-your-MTV award; and newcomers Crash Four.

Everyone felt good on Sunday. Even the policemen didn't appear to be in any hurry, smiling from atop their horses as children gathered around to admire them.

The melancholy Doug Martsch whined about his personal aggravations and triumphs, wearing a smile at times. Wow. This celebration of May and the closing of school had people dancing like they couldn't wait to do it some more. Calobo even felt generous and

**Spring Fling came off with the type of festiveness and opulent surprise that can bring students and other people together for the sake of a meaningful cause. Proceeds went to Animals in Distress, women's shelters and the Suicide Prevention Hotline.**

returned to perform four encores after Jennifer Etter, Director of the Student Programs Board at Boise State, briefed a crowd of well over 1,000 on the goodness of partaking in a "pitch in" effort to pick up some trash drifting in the grass nearby. That afternoon the fans cheered at Etter's bribe, amazingly, and helped clean up the mess. The sweaty free spirits danced in the sun, and chanted for Calobo to return.

A bit of controversy lingered over who would headline the show when SPB negotiated last minute financial and booking matters for the event. Apparently Built to Spill and Calobo had a dispute over the head-lining slot, but Etter maintained that SPB tried to give "equal billing" to all acts performing at the event; her way of saying "No comment." And in the midst of such a

sunny "celebration of humanity," as incoming director of SPB Heather LaMonica called the event, why argue with Etter? After all, her knuckles looked cherried with bloody chafe marks. She kidded that, "People weren't donating money, so I just started punching them." Again, why argue with that? SPB considered the event, overall, a thank-you to all students for their SPB support and volunteer work.

This year's Spring Fling made last year's episode seem like an embarrassing dream. The efforts of SPB representatives to improve the lineup, going from the Standards, Rosholt and Stevens, and Stella, to the artists performing this year deserves enthusiastic appreciation.

SPB accomplished several of the goals set forth this year. First, they succeeded in getting us Built to Spill (\$1,500), the

quite hair-raising Colobo (\$3,500), and Boise music scene's fresh meat, Crash Four (\$100). It remains obvious, when considering last year's lineup, that the university spent a bit more money on the '99 Spring Fling.

This year SPB hoped to build its name recognition with students. Also, it

hoped to get a greater number involved in SPB programs. Etter feels they succeeded.

Spring Fling came off with the type of festiveness and opulent surprise that can bring students and other people together for the sake of a meaningful cause. Besides the obvious goodness involved in SPB's insistence that proceeds from the event go to Animals in Distress, a variety of women's shelters around the valley, and the Suicide Prevention Hotline, students and other patrons experienced a celebration without the monetary burden of a gate price. That produced a warm air of respect among the people dancing. Let's hope that, in the years to come, the lineup standards of '99 do not slip back into a less formidable arrangement.



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# Former ballet dancer reaches for the cosmos

Justin Endow

Arts &amp; Entertainment Editor

**J**uan Carlos Diaz-Velez understands how the forces of nature work from two distinct perspectives—as a ballet dancer, performing feats of strength and balance, and as a prize-winning physics student at Boise State University.

"Physics determines how dancers move," says Diaz-Velez, 28, a former principal dancer with Ballet Idaho who now dreams of earning a Ph.D. in physics and

working as a researcher.

Diaz-Velez notes that while ballet and physics seem quite different, he enjoys the challenge of gaining new insights in both.

"What I really like is discovering new ways to dance a part and discovering different methods for working with equations," he explains.

The Boise State junior received a matching grant from the American Physical Society to attend its 1999 centennial meet-

ing, held recently in Atlanta. The convention attracted some of the world's top scientists and researchers, including Stephen Hawking and more than 50 Nobel prize winners.

"Hawking gave a talk called 'The Universe in a Nutshell.' His presentation was open to the public, so he never really got into his theories. His talk sounded a little like science fiction," says Diaz-Velez. "But just being in his presence was amazing. There were so many Nobel prize winners, though,

that the whole week was overwhelming."

At Boise State, Diaz-Velez assists physics professor Charles Hanna with his research into an aspect of the quantum Hall effect, which involves the way electrons behave in magnetic fields. "All I do for Dr. Hanna is input information into the computer," he shrugs with a modest laugh.

Nonetheless, Hanna appreciates the work Diaz-Velez is doing. The professor recommended his student for the matching grant to go to Atlanta.

"He's very hard-working, enthusiastic and dedicated," Hanna remarks of Diaz-Velez. "He's got a variety of opportunities ahead of him."

Diaz-Velez will take advantage of every opportunity that comes his way. He wants a lot more than many of his former fellow performers on the stage.

"I like to be diverse," he says. "All of the dancers I knew ate, drank and slept dance. I kind of think that's a narrow way of living."

For a number of years, however, Diaz-Velez spent a vast majority of his time dancing. He started at age 13 in Guadalajara, Mexico, where his mother still operates a ballet school. His instructor set him up with an apprenticeship in Boise with the former American Festival of Ballet in 1987, and after bouncing between Spokane, Wash., Eugene, Ore., and Charleston, S.C., for eight years, he returned to Boise in 1995 when Ballet Idaho merged with Eugene Ballet. He also danced extensively with Idaho Dance Theater, Boise State's professional company-in-residence.

During these years he performed the lead in a variety of productions including "Dracula," "Beauty and the Beast" and "The Nutcracker."

"JC is honestly one of the

finest dancers I've worked with," remarks Marla Hansen, co-artistic director of the Idaho Dance Theater. "He's a wonderful performer with all the requirements. He's very musical, and he has great turns and strong jumps."

But his love for physics drew him away. "Conceptually I've always really liked physics. I'm fascinated by the idea that you can determine the behavior of things based on rules that govern nature," Diaz-Velez explains.

But what about dance?

"My wife still works for Ballet Idaho. I won't ever be completely away from it," Diaz-Velez replies. "But I never expected to be attached to it for life. It was meant to be a short career."

Particularly, he notes, after his last season, when he danced most of his parts through foot and back pain.

"That last year really helped me make the decision to move on," he remarks. "I had always been interested in other things, and the injuries pushed me to try something different."

Diaz-Velez is particularly fascinated by cosmology, the study of the universe, and astrophysics, which deals with the physical aspects of astronomy. Someday he hopes he can match theories and equations with the best of them.

"I want to study the most fundamental of questions," Diaz-Velez declares. "What's the future of the universe? Why are we here?"

Hansen is among those who think the former dancer might have a shot at coming up with the answers to some of those cosmic questions.

"JC can look at things creatively and re-examine things from a new point of view," Hansen predicts. "So if anyone could pull it off, it'd be him."

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# President's Concert features campus, local artists

Ginny Eggleston

Arts &amp; Entertainment Writer

On April 25, Boise State University's Department of Music presented its annual President's Concert in the Morrison Center Main Hall. The guest of honor, Dr. Charles Ruch, Boise State University president, kicked off the program with a small oration about Boise State's musical talent. True to Ruch's words, the department of music is not lacking in variety and skill. The colorful performance included several selections of Duke Ellington repertoire, hence the title "A Touch of Ellington."

Despite the disappointing ending... the program showcased some of Boise State's most impressive musicians.

The BSU Big Band, directed by Ritchard Maynard, opened with a lively be-bop tune titled "Time Check," written by Don Menza. The band maintained a tight sound despite the fast tempo. With the energy still snapping, Maynard invited Sally Tibbs and Kevin Kirk out for a guest spot.

Tibbs and Kirk perform together at several clubs around Boise, veterans in the business with 27 years of jazz under their belts. Tibbs (singer) and Kirk (pianist) currently play in the Gamekeeper Lounge house band.

Kirk and Tibbs, together with Maynard's group, played "Orange Colored Sky" by Milton Delugg and Willie Stein.

Tibbs' beautiful alto voice did true justice to "Orange Colored Sky," bringing a pleasant, upbeat swing club feel to the hall. Tibbs and Kirk performed only on that piece.

The band finished with an up-tempo Latin chart, "Tanga," written by the late Dizzy Gillespie. Brent Jensen, jazz studies teacher and saxophonist at BSU, made an appearance for this song. Jensen and a young trumpeter both improvised solos. Jensen managed to maintain the tempo easily while the youngster struggled through several complex licks. Despite small difficulties, the BSU Big Band showcased a notable performance.

The Meistersingers, directed by James Jirak, came next on the bill. The large group performed two Ellington charts, "Come Sunday" and "I'm Beginning to See the Light." The delightfully entertaining performance even included a few choreographed dance steps matching the music in "I'm Beginning to See the Light," making for a fun stage show.

The BSU Vocal Jazz Quartet and the Vocal Jazz Sextet both did a lovely job on their selected pieces. Both groups chose common charts including "Take the 'A' Train" by Billy Strayhorn, "It Don't Mean a Thing If It Ain't Got that Swing" and "Caravan" by Duke Ellington. The singers' most impressive songs were those they performed a cappella, displaying dazzling vocal acrobatics.

The Symphonic Winds, directed by Marcellus Brown, wound up the night. They opened with a Sousa march, the common intro for most

band performances. The most impressive piece, "A Sea of Glass Mingled with Fire," written by Robert Jager, detailing the creation of blown art glass.

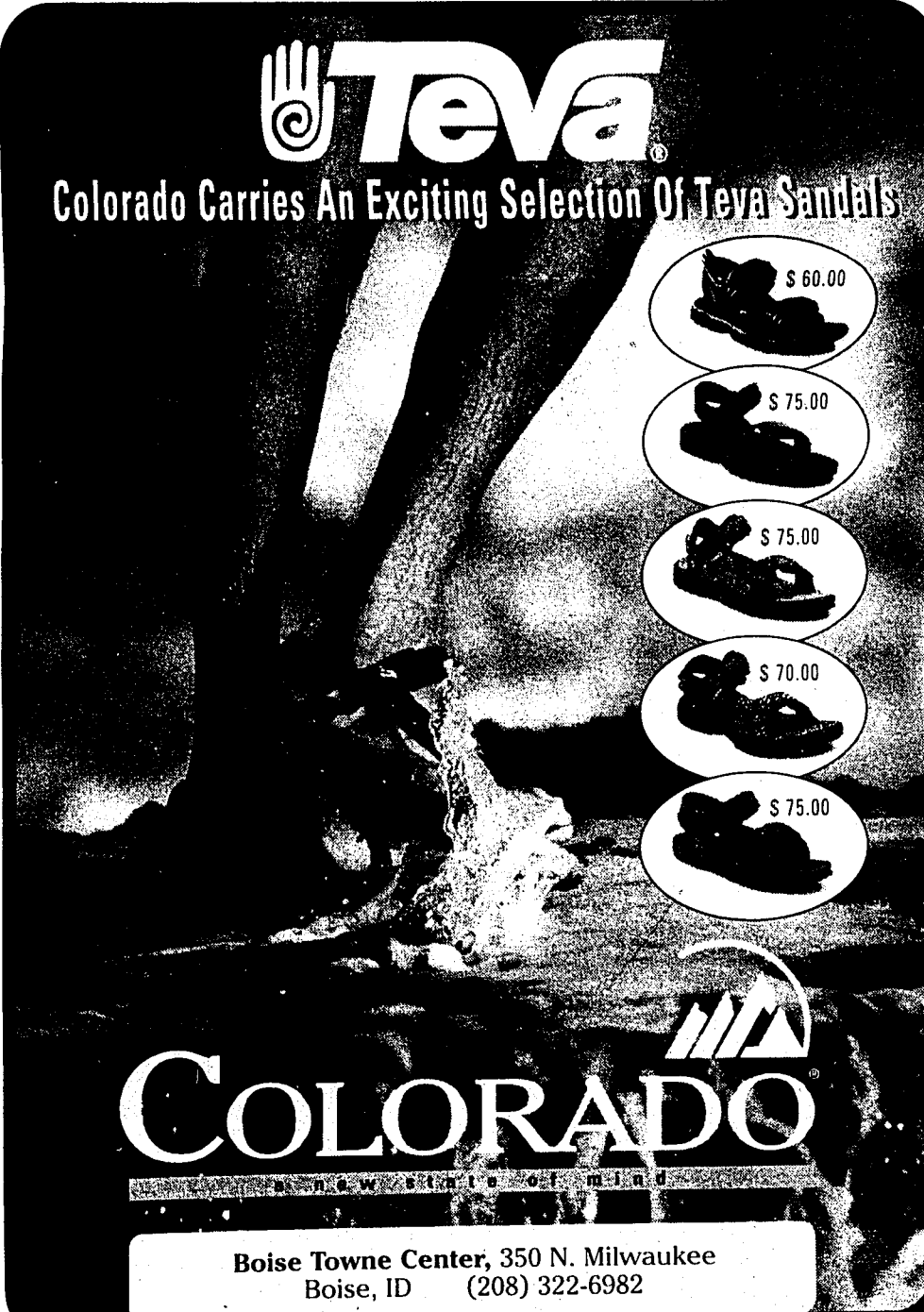
The first movement, "Dance at the Glory Hole," describes hot glass before it is formed, through music. Movement two, "Of Sea Forms, Venetians, and Putti," describes some of the art created after the hot glass is shaped. The last movement,

"The Boathouse Gang," depicts how the large pieces of art are put together on the docks. The performance included slides portraying the glasswork described in Jager's piece.

"A Sea of Glass Mingled with Fire" offered by far the most impressive piece the Symphonic Winds played. They ended with "An Ellington Portrait," arranged by F. Werele. Unfortunately the best element of this piece was

the guest soloist, Brent Jensen. The Symphonic Winds played well, but it took a simplistic, even cheesy cut on Ellington's work.

Despite the disappointing ending of "A Touch of Ellington," the program showcased some of Boise State's most impressive musicians. The President's Concert provides a good representation of all the hard work music students accomplish during the spring semester on campus.



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## Armstrong, Campbell, Wool and Price to return to NCAA championships

Dave Stewart

Sports Writer

Boise State will play host to the 1999 NCAA Track and Field Championships June 2-5. Runners, jumpers, throwers and vaulters will gather at Bronco Stadium to test their mettle against the nation's top collegiate athletes.

Many defending champions will make their way to Boise with hopes of repeating. On the men's side, 400-meter champ senior Jerome Davis of USC, 1,500-meter winner senior Seneca Lassiter of Arkansas and shotput king, junior Brad Snyder of South Carolina, have each posted the highest marks in their

events so far this season. The top women returning champions are long jumping senior Angela Brown of George Mason and UCLA's Seilala Sua, a junior discus thrower. Like the men, these two women have also ranked the best in their events this season.

Four BSU athletes have qualified provisionally to compete at the tournament, meaning they may compete depending on the number of athletes who post automatic qualifying marks. Senior Travis Armstrong is trying to return for the second time to nationals in the men's 3,000-meter steeplechase, while sophomore Melinda Campbell covets a reprise at the nationals

in the women's 5,000-meter run.

Campbell holds the BSU record in this event, with a time of 16:20.92. Joining Armstrong and Campbell, with provisional qualifying marks, is junior Jill Wool, whose mark of 183-8 in the women's hammer throw this year also broke a BSU record which Wool herself had set earlier this season. Finally, senior Leslie Price posted a mark of 5-10.75 in the women's high jump.

The disappointing news for Boise State is that senior discus thrower Jared Rome will likely not compete. Rome's performances had BSU hoping for a championship, but a knee injury makes those hopes look dim.

## Lacrosse gaining respect as intercollegiate program

Douglas Dana

Sports Editor

"It looks very promising," says team president Alain Rodrigue.

As the Boise State Lacrosse team wraps up their second season as the school's official representative, the newly formed group has lots to feel excited about.

In their first season the club has made some major strides in becoming one of the fastest growing and most respectable organizations on campus, garnering an increasing amount of support from both the school and the student body.

This year the team has successfully passed through their probationary first season and made significant progress in their goal of joining the Rocky Mountain Intercollegiate Lacrosse League (RMILL).

"We went down to Utah for a three game series and won two of them, beating Weber State and Utah State, and we lost a close one to Utah Valley State."

Although a handful of the team's games have been cancelled this year due to weather-related travelling problems, the team still holds a winning record during their first ever season.

"Out of those five games that we've played, people have been very impressed with us and the progress we've made in one year."

Currently a graduate student in exercise physiology, Rodrigue first became interested in lacrosse five years ago as an undergrad at Minnesota. Since

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then he's been playing consistently.

Like many players, Rodrigue was originally drawn to the sport because of the high degree of physical contact. But as he played the game longer he found other reasons to continue.

"Now that I've gotten a little better, I'm drawn away from the physical contact and I just like honing my skills—there's a lot of finesse involved," Rodrigue says.

Last year the team combined a handful of BSU students and members of Boise's own men's club team. This season, though, the team has evolved into a cohesive unit of its own.

"The majority of our team are freshmen and sophomores who played high-school football or basketball who weren't going to play those sports at the college level," notes Rodrigue. "This gives them an outlet for that because you don't have to be 6'6" and 240

to play lacrosse. You have to learn the skills, period."

"You have this stick, and the stick is awkward. So once you learn to master that you can get away with not being fast or huge" adds Rodrigue.

Prospective lacrosse players should be prepared to commit some time, as the group is clearly serious about improving.

"As a club team I guess we're probably the most demanding. I've heard that some club teams don't even get together once a week. We practice all year, including the winter months when we move indoors, and then about a month before the season started we were practicing three times a week," says Rodrigue.

Practices typically involve a large amount of drills in order to fine tune players' stick skills, but physical conditioning is also greatly emphasized. Many team members can also participate in run-

ning and strength training activities in addition to the regular practice regimen.

"Between the two practices, the away games, the meetings, the running club and the strength club—these guys are busy with lacrosse!"

During the summer months things slow down a bit as several players leave town. Those who remain in Boise will continue sharpening their skills, taking the opportunity to practice with the local men's team about once a week, according to Rodrigue.

The club wrapped up the season with a banquet last weekend, in celebration of a break-out year and to pay tribute to the many people who have made it all possible. "We owe a big thank you to our coach because he's not getting any money or anything out of it. He just comes out because he loves the sport," says Rodrigue.



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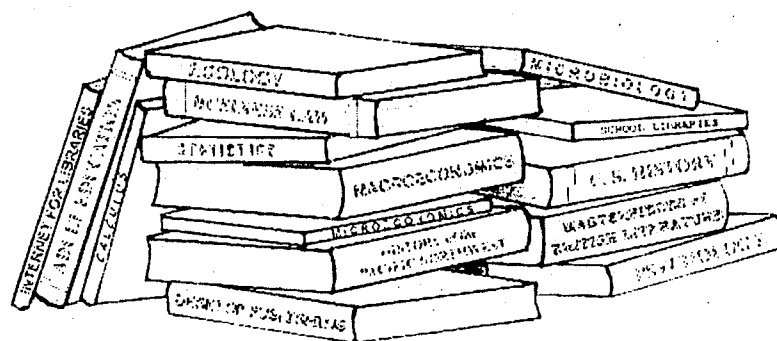
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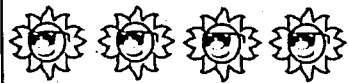
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