6-29-1999

Arbiter, June 29

Students of Boise State University

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from the editor

Welcome to your first look at Boise State University and The Arbiter!

This issue of The Arbiter is not the typical layout you'll see in the fall. We designed the paper specifically around the needs of new students here for orientation. Inside you'll find information about finding somewhere to live, tips on how to manage your money (now that mom and dad say “Get a job!”), how to find your way around campus, how to keep active with recreation and activities in Boise, and some ideas on tapping into the fun the Treasure Valley has to offer.

We hope you enjoy this issue of The Arbiter. We are always looking for new talents to function as writers, an office manager, web page designers, photographers and advertising sales people. So if you're interested or just want to say hi, please stop by The Arbiter offices at 1605 1/2 University Drive. Have a great summer and a fantastic year at Boise State University!

Our next issue will be out in mid-August so keep an eye out and continue reading!

staff box

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news

So you're a college student. Now what?

cover

'Rental', it rhymes with mental. We'll show you why.

a&e

The Work Ethic: time to give it a rest!

sports

ORC for fun: any cheaper and it'd be sinful

The Arbiter is the official student newspaper of Boise State University. Its mission is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues impacting the community. 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 each, payable to The Arbiter offices.
Boise State or bust!

Stephanie Matlock
News Editor

Welcome to Boise State!

Before becoming immersed in the BSU community through clubs, sports, activities and classes, you must first complete several preliminary procedures. The Arbiter provides a quick guide for new students:

Admission

Classes at BSU for the 1999 fall session begin August 23. Degree-seeking students registering for the fall semester must complete all admission procedures by Wednesday, July 21. The process includes submitting an application, providing high school or college transcripts and, for some students, taking the ACT or SAT entrance exams.

Students taking only one or two courses may complete a shorter admission process. They can complete admissions up until the start of classes on Aug. 23.

Admission applications may be picked up at the New Student Information Center located in the Student Union Building. Online applications are available at Boise State's web page at http://www.boisestate.edu.

For students waiting to begin classes until the spring semester, the admission deadline is Nov. 24.

Gateway to Your Future

New freshmen, nontraditional, transfer and readmitted students must register for classes during Phase One of the Gateway to Your Future Orientation session, presented by the Boise State Gateway Center.

Students should have been mailed an assigned date to attend the orientation sessions. If the scheduled weekly programs are inconvenient, a Saturday session will be offered on July 31 at 9:00am.

Gateway to Your Future orientation takes place in the Student Union Building, with free parking in the general permit area of the Pavilion parking lot.

An information session will start off the orientation process, with a welcome to BSU and information regarding campus policies, services and programs.

Orientation sessions for parents of new BSU students are available at 9 a.m. and noon every day of Gateway to Your Future.

Classes

Advisors will be available during registration to help new students choose a course schedule.

The Cluster Program is recommended for incoming freshman, transfer students with fewer than 27 credits and part-time students. A cluster groups 20 to 25 students together to participate in a Freshman English composition class, a Freshman Year Experience seminar (GENED 197), and varying third classes, depending upon the cluster. Other classes may be selected in addition to the cluster courses.

The Gateway Center promotes the Cluster Program as a way for new students to experience "positive social [and] academic associations with faculty, staff and fellow students, proven to enhance student success and persistence."

Other courses designed for incoming students include a self-paced Library Skills course (GENED 102) and a Reading and Study Skills class (GENED 108).

Freshman Year Experience Seminar (GENED 197) and Second Wind (GENED 114) both provide information about the university, allowing students to explore major and career possibilities, gain assertiveness and learn computer skills in a small, interactive class setting. Second Wind is aimed at non-traditional students 25 years and older.

Placement Exams

During the registration portion of Gateway to Your Future, placement exams will be given to those students needing them.

Depending upon ACT or SAT scores, some English and Math courses may require placement exams. Chemistry, Modern Languages, Computer Information Systems and Computer Science courses also require similar tests.

Boise State uses the COMPASS exam for English, Math, Chemistry and Computer Science placement.

Photo ID is required for any placement exam. Depending upon the exam, the cost ranges from two to ten dollars, payable at the Information Desk in the Student Union.

Tours

Tours of the Boise State campus are available each day during the Gateway Orientation program. Groups leave the New Student Information Center in the Student Union Building at 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

Phase II

The next portion of orientation begins on August 19 and continues through the first ten weeks of the fall semester.

The Phase II activities will allow new students a chance to start off the academic year with peers, mentors and strategies for success, according to the Gateway Center.

Activities planned include a residence hall barbecue and carnival/dance on Aug. 20. A hypnotist will perform in the Special Events Center on Aug. 21, with a rally and ice cream following.

A banana split party for students enrolled in GENED courses will take place Sept. 1, kicking off the three-day "Great Banana Chase," a campus-wide treasure hunt for packets of study supplies.

Academic skills workshops for all new students will be provided as students begin to feel comfortable with their new classes. The workshops will take place in the SUB on Thursday, Sept. 9 from 4 to 7 p.m.

Student success is the continued focus of orientation events, even during the tenth week of classes. "Wise Choices Workshop for Academic Success" will be held on Oct. 26 in the SUB.
New students ask: can someone just point me to the bathroom?

Jesi Loerch
associate editor

Throughout the summer and into the fall, as new students arrive at Boise State University their new environment can appear daunting. But many resources on campus can help make the transition to college life a little easier.

The Information Desk in the Student Union Building, located across from Movie Java, opens daily at 7:45 a.m. and operates until 9 p.m. During the school year the hours extend until 10 p.m. The staff at the Info Desk can answer nearly any question or direct students elsewhere, if necessary, to find the right answer. The Information Desk also offers Select-a-Seat service, bus passes, Bronco Bucks, tickets for sporting events and discounted movies. Also, students can mail letters and packages weighing up to two pounds in addition to dropping off anything off campus mail.

The Bookstore, also located in the Student Union, sells textbooks for courses at BSU in addition to school and art supplies, computer software and general reading materials. The Bookstore operates during the summer from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays.

The counseling department helps with both academic and personal issues, along with academic workshops including stress management strategies, text anxiety tactics, and career and life insights. Watch for the flyers for more information, beginning about the second week of the semester. All workshops are free.

The Gateway Center also offers academic advising and resources. It sponsors several activities to help students become both comfortable and effective during their time at BSU.

Welcome to Campus calendar of activities

Activity: Student Housing Events
For: All students living in student housing
Date: August 19-20
Activity: Academic support activities
For: All students
Date: August 20
Description: Gateway Orientation Leaders will provide campus and library tours and peer advisors will host last-minute academic advising sessions.

Activity: Non-traditional student session
For: All new non-traditional students
Date: August 21 9:30 a.m.
Description: A session to help non-traditional students prepare for classes.

Activity: Information stations
For: All students
Date: August 23-27
Description: Information stations around campus will be set up to help students

Activity: Great Banana Chase
For: All students
Date: August 23-27
Description: Campus-wide treasure hunt for packets containing academic supplies; students finding bags can keep the contents. Six bags will contain a plastic banana which can be turned in at the Gateway Center for a prize.

Activity: Banana Split Party
For: All GENED students
Date: September 1 6:30 p.m.
Description: A chance for GENED students to mingle and meet faculty and administrators.

Activity: Academic skills workshops
For: All new students
Date: September 9 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.
Description: Academic success workshops covering a wide variety of topics.

Activity: Take a professor to lunch/coffee
For: All new students
Date: September 6-10
Description: Student can use coupons to take a professor to lunch, giving them a chance to interact.

Activity: Academic Department and student services fair
For: All new students
Date: September 13 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.
Activity: Student activities fair on the quad

For: All students
Date: September 15, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Activity: Career fair
For: All students
Date: October 13, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Description: Treasure Valley and national employers will speak with students.

Activity: Wise Choice Workshop
For: All students
Date: October 26, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Description: Workshops for academic success
Dad . . . I need more money

Paul Clitheroe advises students to bank their money before even touching it. “You’ll never save if you try to save with cash out of your pocket,” Clitheroe points out. “Organise for a regular amount to go straight from your bank account each payday to an account. You can do that with as little as $100 a month, and I reckon most of us can afford $30 a day nowadays.”

Except, perhaps college students. So Clitheroe suggests trying “the old piggy bank method”—just put a couple of coins in each night and rush them to a bank every time you reach $20 or so.

And to make sure you make it to the bank, Clitheroe suggests setting a goal. “Many young people have trouble saving but then when they decide to go overseas and have to save, say, $5,000, on almost every occasion they do—once they have a purpose.”

After developing a standard savings routine, the next step is to manage the remaining cash. Mara Bun, of the Consumers’ Association, says the key lies in knowing the difference between ‘need to have’ and ‘nice to have.’ “The difference is constantly fudged by advertising, but a good budget will ensure that you keep control.”

Often students with low-paying jobs feel they can’t exercise that kind of discipline over their money because they don’t earn enough. Riley says he would save “if I could just get a job that paid me more than two bucks a month.”

But Di Collins, the head of public and consumer affairs at American Express claims that peoples’ ability to save has little to do with what they earn. “People often comment that the more they earn, the more they spend. Don’t allow lifestyle spending to increase faster than income.”

She says, “Many people think, ‘I can afford a stereo, car or holiday and I’ll pay for it later.’”

According to Riley it’s a daunting task to follow, which takes serious discipline. But it can be done. “I started out with some cookies from my mum and clean underwear. Now I’ve saved enough money to buy a car and am working on getting a loan for my first house.”

It’s that kind of success that Bun says she hopes to see more and more from students. “Although most people recognise that a budget is a good thing, they don’t get around to doing it for fear it will reduce their freedom. But without a budget you’re operating in the dark and not capable of making rational financial decisions.”
Rental nightmares keep new students up all night

Erica Hill
editor in chief

Moving away from home can appear heartbreaking and financially challenging. But finding somewhere to live proves the scariest part of leaving for college, according to senior Lucas Cooper. "I thought it would be so easy to just pack up and move into a place, but I soon found out it's really hard to start out." Cooper is one of many students who simply didn't plan ahead of time, something the owner of a local home and apartment finding service says is step Number One.

Kathy Sparks claims many students make the mistake of assuming they can just move in wherever they want.

"We are very leery about renting to young people. We've had so many experiences where kids don't pay their rent on time, have parties and trash the place."

Sparks says it's that uneasiness that forces them to ask for a co-signer.

"We have many rentals available but we can no longer afford to take that kind of a risk."

Sparks says that in the past, when the company did rent to young tenants, they were forced to evict them and themselves pay for damages to the property.

"It ruins the students' credit if rent isn't paid on time. Plus if they go to look for another place to live, they can't use us as a reference."

And few landlords will move in wherever they want.

"They'll come into the office after an eviction notice or to reclaim their security deposit full of excuses. The most common is 'I didn't know.' All they have to do is read the contract."

That's also the advice from Idaho Legal Aid, which offers tips to new tenants and an outline of rights every renter should know.

But if plunging into car- ing for a home seems a little overwhelming, take advantage of on-campus living.

Boise State's campus features four dormitories that house a total of eight hundred students. Chaffee Hall is the largest of the four with a 420-bed capacity. Residential Director John Tucker says moving onto campus during a student's first year will help them through the transition.

"I've had so many students tell me the dorms offer the best opportunity to make connections, make friends and build a community."

A student advisor lives on every hall to offer counseling to troubled students.

"They can come talk about roommate issues, personal problems or even school nightmares. It really helps to get new students acquainted with college life and teach them how to deal with these problems when they have a house of their own," says Tucker.

Ten Tips Every Tenant Needs to Know

1. Bringing the following information when you meet prospective landlords will give you a competitive edge over other applicants: a completed rental application; written references from landlords, employers, friends and colleagues; and a current copy of your credit report.

2. Carefully review all the important conditions of the tenancy before you sign on the dotted line.

3. To avoid disputes or misunderstandings with your landlord, get it in writing. Keep copies of any correspondence and follow up an oral agreement with a letter, setting out your understanding.

4. Protect your privacy rights. One of the most common and emotion-filled misunderstandings arises over a landlord's right to enter a rental unit and a tenant's right to be left alone.

5. Know your rights to live in a habitable rental unit and don't give them up. Landlords are required to offer their tenants livable premises.

6. Keep communication open with your landlord. For example, if the landlord is slow to make repairs talk with them to see if the issue can be resolved short of a nasty legal battle.

7. Purchase renters' insurance to cover your valuables. The landlord's insurance policy will not cover your personal losses.

8. Make sure the security deposit refund procedures are spelled out in your lease or rental agreement.

9. Learn whether your building and neighborhood are safe, and what you can expect your landlord to do about it if they aren't. If a crime is highly likely, your landlord may be obligated to take some steps to protect you.

10. Know when to fight an eviction notice and when to move. Unless you have the law and provable facts clearly on your side, fighting an eviction notice is usually short-sighted.

Sources: Nolo Press 1998
How to combat those 'couch potato' blues

Justin Endow

Starting out at Boise State University can be a cerebral, life-expanding experience. But most new students don't care about school right now. Summer still abounds and it's time to discover what Boise life is all about.

"Boise has such a wide variety of things to do," says Jed Young, a Boise native and white water rafting guide. "In five minutes it's possible to find somewhere to fish, in 10 you can be mountain biking in the foothills, and within an hour there are places to kayak and raft."

Along with the outdoor recreation, Boise hosts professional sports teams, a state-of-the-art movie complex, a huge waterpark and Shakespeare. And for the consummate athlete, there are numerous club and recreational sports.

Recreation

A variety of outdoor activities present one of the greatest assets of southwest Idaho. And summertime in Boise means it's time to take advantage of them.

"The conditions and the quality of sporting in this area far exceed that of other cities much bigger than here," says Young, 22. "I've always believed people make their own fun, but having so many options makes a real difference."

Whitewater runs lie just a few hours away. The Payette River carries its share of raging rapids, and nearly a dozen outfitters offer guided tours of a half-day, or multi-day treks for the more adventurous. The seasoned veteran of class four doesn't tantalize, Boise has its own quasi-wilderness setting—the Greenbelt. Running along the Boise River from west Boise to Sandy Point, it provides the best scenery, the safest route and the easiest access to the river and all of Boise's major parks where volleyball, disc golf, horseshoes, and barbecues abound. The open space seems endless between Ann Morrison and Barber Park.

At Barber Park, rent rafts or inner tubes and float the Boise River. Or go up to Sandy Point beach and take in some rays on the sand. While they're not high intensity, death-defying excursions, these two sites do provide unique ways to spend an afternoon in the sun.

Family Activities and Culture

Roaring Springs Water Park opened this summer, ready to do some major business. Boise has been without a real water park for years and this one offers something for everyone.

Roaring Springs boasts 14 slides, a slow moving stream, a wave pool, an activity pool and a kids' town. The park expects to draw crowds with a four-lane ride called Pro Racer in which people will slide down headfirst on a mat. Double Trouble, a shorter slide with a six-foot drop off, should also prove a favorite.

And don't forget Roaring Springs' six-foot wave pool.

Standard day passes cost under $20 for adults, comparable with other full-day attractions in the area.

Boise Parks and Recreation offers every possible solution to the couch potato blues. The city department runs arts and crafts classes, tennis lessons, pick-up basketball games, volleyball, flag football and soccer, to name a few. Competitors in these high intensity sports range from ex-high school benchwarmers to former small-college starters.

Boondocks, right next door to Roaring Springs, offers more of the solid ground style of recreation, including miniature golf, bumper boats and go-carts.

If you want to stay indoors consider going out to one of a number of paintball or lasertag facilities and playing war. But day passes to these places hit the pocketbook a little harder than other choices.

For something a little tamer, try the comedy or drama of the Bard at the Idaho Shakespeare Festival. This summer the company performs its most successful production, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The play, set in the 1960s, features Beatles' songs.

Boiseans boogie to local talent in downtown Boise
music and hippies. Shakespeare’s bloodiest tragedy, “Titus Andronicus,” the comedy “A Winter’s Tale,” and Moliere’s “Scapin” also hit the stage this summer.

Nightlife

For starters, don’t spend time in Boise during the warm weather months without hitting Alive after Five on Wednesday evenings. Businesspeople and students alike converge on the Centre on the Grove to eat, drink and take in some tunes. Without this event many people might not survive the workweek during the summer.

After kicking back all while on the Grove partygoers will often head directly downtown to any one of a number of bars and clubs such as Old Chicago, Bittercreek Alehouse, The Ram or Table Rock Brewpub.

To shake your groove hit one of a wide variety of dance and/or live band clubs. Blues Bouquet, Hannah’s, Tom Ginney’s and J.T. Toad’s all offer live bands on a regular basis, and The Balcony, Sixth & Main, Bogie’s and the Radio Room feature dance music. Shorty’s C & W plays all country, and it even has a mechanical bull.

Old Chicago and The Ram do not allow minors in the bar area after 9 p.m., but at Old Chicago underage college kids frequently mingle with the twenty-somethings in the restaurant area.

Bogie’s is the most well known 18-and-over club, usually features hip-hop style dance music but occasionally hosting country music nights and live bands.

“People here are open and they like to have fun,” Young says. “It’s pretty active for the under-21 crowd, and everyone participates. People don’t hang around and look at each other.”

So don’t get caught just standing there. Get out and make something happen.
Summer solstice suggests sweet ways to break into a sweat

Doug Dana sports editor

Ah, summer vacation, a time when student thoughts tend to wander from term papers, tests and instructors to sun, fun and recreation. As the weather improves the variety of programs and activities available at Boise State increases.

Numerous clubs both on and off campus provide an opportunity to meet new people and try unique activities. Combined with the exceptional possibilities that only living in Idaho can offer, there are really no reasons to stay inside this summer.

Do your plans for this summer include catching some surf break at Sunset Beach, or climbing Mt. Kilimanjaro, but your bank statements scream “Feed me?”

Like most students you probably can’t afford to spend the summer body-surfing off the shores of Hawaii and sipping Mai Tais. But picture yourself soaking in some of Idaho’s untropical rays while floating down one of its world-class white water rivers with a nice, cold (insert beverage of your choice here).

So where can you find all this rafting gear, anyway? Stop into the Outdoor Rental Center, located inside the Student Union Building adjacent to the game area.

Picture yourself soaking in some of Idaho’s untropical rays while floating down one of its world-class white water rivers with a nice, cold (insert beverage of your choice here).

They have it all, from life vests and helmets to roll-up tables and coolers for your, uh, beverages. Of course, they feature rafts and inflatable kayaks; the ORC even rents out canoes.

The Rental Center offers in-line skates, Frisbees, volleyballs, softballs, basketballs and horseshoes. You can even play host to your very own croquet tournament.

Can’t afford Motel 6 for that special evening? The ORC rents camping supplies galore, all for less than a hotel room...cable not included.

Gear at the Center costs “half the price, compared to the rest of Boise,” says Geoff Harrison, ORC Director. “We’re the cheapest deal in town.”

The ORC also provides a resource library that includes

Clubs on Campus

Outdoor Recreation:
Alternate Mobility Adventure Seekers:
Jason Lingard 426-4678
Flyfishing Club: Dawn Jones 363-9264
Kayak Club: Shawn Grossman 342-6256
Rock Climbing Club: Brian Whitney 345-9340

Martial Arts:
Aikido Club: Daniel Schmidt 321-8533
Kodokan Judo Club: Rafael Suskyn 343-1814
Martial Arts Club: Lawrence Spear 338-9951
Shotokan Club: Jim Christopher 376-6340
Tae Kwon Do Club: Paul Stephenson 336-0453

Team Sports:
Baseball Club: Colin Walker 395-0760
Lacrosse Club: Alain Rodrigues
Rugby Club: Adam Matthews 342-1557
Soccer Club: Oystein Vold 424-1730
Women’s Soccer Club: Leigha Pitcher 385-4635

Whoa!:
Powerlifting Club: Michael Knudsen 343-8223
Rodeo Club: Steve Damico 426-0640
Skydiving Club: Tasha Tjarks 467-9724
Bowling Club: Michael Pea 426-1456
Cue-Ball Club: Laura DaCruz 385-0573
Paintball Club: Geyin King 426-3459

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national forest maps, trail descriptions and routes. The library contains books, magazines, videos and numerous other outdoor resources.

In addition to their smoking hot deals on all kinds of outdoor equipment the ORC will offer a Wilderness Orientation Program on Aug. 12-18, 1999. Geared toward incoming freshman and transfer students, the program will focus on making a smooth transition into college life at Boise State.

According to program literature, "the Wilderness Orientation Program is a seven-day backpacking trip that will introduce you to the college environment through wilderness travel. While in a beautiful informal setting, new students to BSU will have an excellent opportunity to form new friendships and discuss their hopes and fears about starting college. You will be led by current students and the Outdoor Recreation Center staff who will be able to share their insights about college life at Boise State. The seven-day Wilderness Orientation program is an invaluable experience for incoming college students."

This fall the ORC will offer a variety of outdoor activities, as well as non-academic weekend workshops. Summer hours will commence about May 20th, Friday-Monday 10-8pm and Tuesday-Thursday from 1-7pm. You can reach the ORC at 426-1946.

Perhaps you're already an avid outdoor adventurer looking for people to explore with. The Outsiders Club enjoys a wide array of activities. In the past they have volunteered to help the Bureau of Land Management and the Gene Harris Jazz Festival. The Outsiders have also gone on numerous trips to Idaho's multitude of natural hot springs.

Anyone interested in joining the Outsiders Club for a little adventure should contact club President Kyme Gehman at 426-1946 or 389-1174.

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**Time to jump into a summer sport**

You will be led by current students will be able to share their insights about college life at Boise State.

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Starting this fall The Arbiter web site will make avaible a place where students can post messages to buy, sell and trade text books.

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http://arbiter.idbsu.edu