

2-16-2000

Arbiter, February 16

Students of Boise State University

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weekly
Arbiter
February 16, 2000 Volume 13 Issue 1



four decisions



ON SALE
MONDAY FEB. 21ST

For the First Time in Idaho

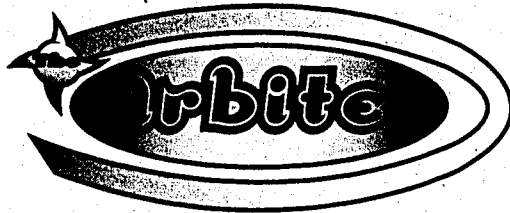
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from

the

editor

Legislation requiring parental or judicial consent for minors seeking an abortion has come up for the third year in a row at the Idaho Legislature. This time, however, the bill sailed through.

Even before the RS was introduced, Gov. Kempthorne stated that he would sign it into law if no amendments had been offered and so far none have. Looks like this one's on the books.

Parental involvement laws cause decision delays, either because teens fear telling their parents or because of the inevitable stoppages in going to court for a judicial bypass hearing. The risk of death from abortion increases 30% with each

week of gestation from 8 weeks to 20 weeks, according to the American Medical Association.

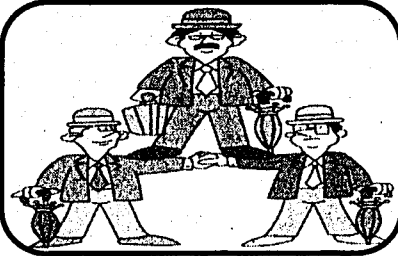
And what about those teens who become pregnant through incest, or who live with abusive parents? Some minors may be physically or emotionally harmed if required to involve a parent in the abortion decision. This legislation provides what's called a judicial bypass procedure to get around such situations. The provision permits a teen to request a waiver of the parental involvement requirement.

Great idea. Let's force young, traumatized girls to experience even more fear, shame and anxiety as they reveal private details of their lives to complete strangers.

Once again our government has made an ill informed decision which will likely cause grave consequences to teens all across this state.

news

Pyramid power?
Don't get sucked in!



cover

Four students, four
decisions



age

BSU thespians hear of
high honor.



sports

Bronco gymnasts
set record.



staff

box

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Biter of the week goes to our production diety, Stephanie Pittam, who did nearly everything this week including compensating for those who didn't contribute their share. She saved Editor Hill's life and sanity. Thank you!

The opinions presented in advertisements, editorials and cartoons within reflect the views of those who created them and are not necessarily the views of *The Arbiter* or its staff

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.

Pyramid scheme separates students from their shekels

Jim Steele

news writer

The latest illegal pyramid scheme, the "Pit Stop" pyramid, has led to four arrests by the Boise Police Department and nervousness among some Boise State students who were duped into participating.

The Pit Stop asks individuals to provide \$2,000 with the promise of eventually making \$16,000. The problems are that pyramid schemes always collapse and are illegal under Idaho law.

"Every pyramid collapses," Brett DeLange, the chief of the consumer protection unit of the Idaho Attorney General's office, says. "When they do, a lot of people are left seriously hurt."

Some Boise State students have been involved in the scheme. Margaret Lezamiz, who provides legal services for students through the Associated Stu-

dents of Boise State University, says that "several" students have spoken to her regarding their participation in the Pit Stop.

Lieutenant Jim Maxsom of the Boise Police Department says, "It seems to have crossed virtually all lines, rich, poor, student to housewife," although he declined to comment on the extent of participation among students.

The scheme asks people to provide \$2,000 to be seated at the "pit crew" level of the Pit Stop. Eventually, as they bring people into the Pit Stop, the earlier members move up to the

"mechanic," "pace car" and "lead driver" level, where they are given \$16,000.

The structure of the Pit Stop differs from many traditional pyramids. Every participant has the potential to eventually become a ringleader.

However, like with any pyramid scheme, the success of the Pit Stop requires the constant introduction of new individuals. Eventually, there won't be any more people interested in participating and many, if not most, will lose their money.

In this case, literally thousands of people would have had to have invested over a million dollars for the pyramid to begin to start returning money to the participants, Boise Police Department Lieutenant Jim Tibbs says.

The people arrested so far were in leadership positions in the Pit Stop. In late January, four arrest warrants were issued, and one participant was taken into custody while three others turned themselves in. The structure of the Pit Stop makes it difficult to tell how high in the pyramid the people arrested actually were.

"The investigation is ongoing, but I don't foresee any arrests in the near future," Maxsom says.

Participation in the scheme is a

TIPS TO AVOID PYRAMID SCHEMES

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- Beware of promises about high profits or claims about "miracle" products.
- Be cautious about references; they could be "shills" of the promoter.
- Don't pay money or sign contracts in a high-pressure situation.
- Check out all offers with your local Better Business Bureau and state Attorney General.

felony, which can be punishable by five years in prison.

"Your so-called friend is asking you to commit a felony and risk your money," Bob Cooper, a spokesman for the Attorney General's office, says.

For people who simply gave \$2,000 to the scheme, the best course of action is to try to get the money back and call the state attorney general's office, Maxsom says.

DeLange, the chief of the Consumer Protection Unit, says that the attorney general's office has no plans to go after individuals who simply put money into the scheme.

"The ones who did the promotional pitching and recruiting ... are the ones we're going after," he says.

For people more involved, Maxsom says there is always the potential that charges could be filed, but the best advice is still to return the

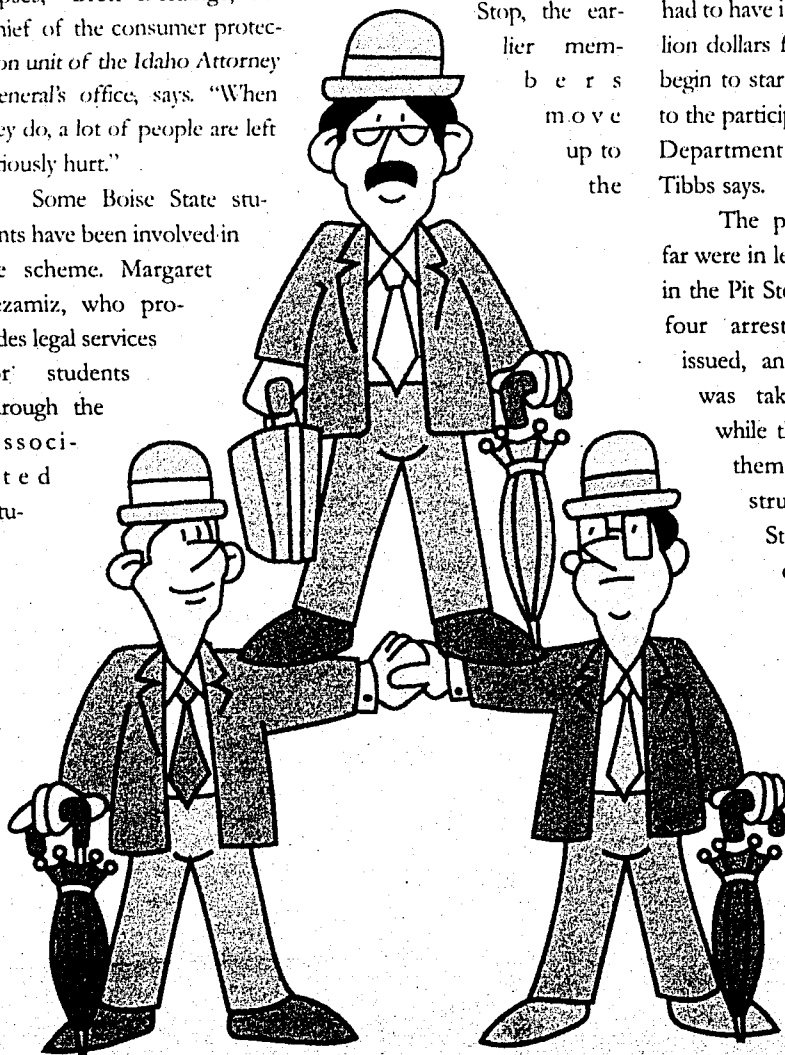
money.

"If they proactively try to return the money and cooperate, I could foresee, but I couldn't make any promises ... that it would be a lot better for them if they can show ... that they have tried to do what's right," he says.

Participants in the Pit Stop may also incur tax liability.

"Since the payments are made with the expectation of monetary return, it is unlikely that the payments can be considered true gifts under federal and Idaho income tax laws," Deputy Attorney William A. von Tagen says in an Idaho Attorney General's office press release.

"Consequently, the payments will probably be considered taxable income to the recipients and a tax liability will result," he says.



Too good to be true? Travel scams hit hard

Jim Steele

news writer

As the time for planning spring breaks and summer vacations nears, travel agents recommend remembering one truism: you get what you pay for.

Some people fall victim to travel scams which forces them to give a credit card number up front and then settle for subpar accommodations, if they are lucky enough to get off the ground. Others get caught paying rock-bottom prices for airfare but having to rent expensive hotel rooms or travel at undesirable times.

"If it looks too good to be true, it probably is," Bob Harmon, the co-owner of Harmon Travel in Boise, says.

Harmon cited one ad that has been playing on Boise-area radio stations. According to their hotline, Holiday Travel of America sells round-trip airfare from Boise to Hawaii for \$149. Travelers must go in pairs, and will be responsible for paying about \$150 per

night, per couple, to stay in three to five-star motel rooms.

However, a representative says there is a catch: "The only restriction is we require 60 days advance notice."

There seems no reason to believe that Holiday Travel of America is not a legitimate company. It is a member of the Better Business Bureau, although the BBB has received some complaints about this company.

However, the important element to remember with travel certificates from any company is that they don't guarantee a certain date and there may be difficulty in arranging a travel date.

"It's not like you have actually purchased a vacation," Sonja Kidney, a marketing and events coordinator at the BBB, says of any travel certificates.

So far, Margaret Lezamiz, who offers legal services through the Associated Students of Boise State University, hasn't heard any complaints regarding travel scams. How-



ever, she recommends planning vacations through a reliable agency.

The United States Postal Inspection Service warns of another type of travel scam. People are contacted through the mail and asked to call a company to claim a vacation. However, that company may require membership in a travel club or payment of an extra service charge.

The travel club, it warns,

may impose more handling charges or restrictions on when the trip can be booked. If you do make it off the ground, you could arrive at the sunny destination with accommodations in a substandard motel.

"Don't fall for it," the Postal Inspection Service warns.

Local travel agencies that are members of the BBB will help customers sort through the options before purchasing a

travel package from one of these companies, Kidney says. Most of the illegitimate companies operate from out of the area.

Local travel agents who maintain membership in the Better Business Bureau include Four Seasons Travel, Global Travel, Harmon Travel and Morris Travel.

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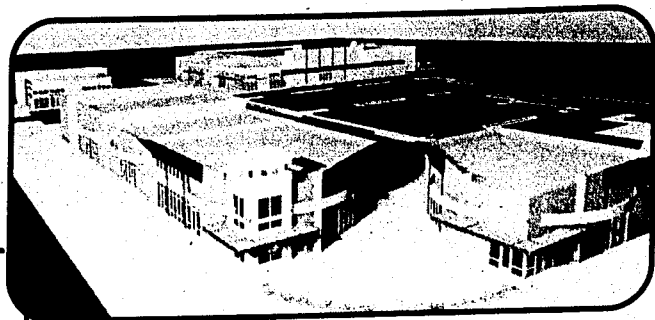
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? Ask The Real Deal ?



Rendering of Capitol Village by Erstad Thornton Architects.

Jim "the Real Deal" Steele

Besides Office Depot, what's going in at the corner of University Drive and Capital Boulevard?

So far only the lease for Office Depot has been signed at the new Capitol Village Shopping Center, but many of the businesses will cater to students. Tim Thornton of Thornton Oliver Keller says

the center will include "the types of businesses that would support the student population as well as people from downtown looking to get out for a bite to eat."

There won't be any drive-through restaurants in the center, but expect a full-service restaurant, espresso shop and other service retailers like a hair salon and cellular telephone store, Thornton says.

Office Depot will open in early April, and the rest of the shopping center will accept tenants later that month.

To make room for Capitol Village, the Boise Inn was demolished and Siam Cafe is moving out. The building Siam Cafe occupies will be remodeled in a style consistent with the rest of the center.

Siam Cafe is moving to the Eastgate Shopping Center in eastern Boise. It closed late in January and will reopen in a little over a month, says Si Senethavilay, a manager.

"We would rather stay (at the current location) but ... we don't have a choice," Senethavilay says.

I've heard rumors that there's a caboose buried under the Communication Building. Are they true?

Although we can't verify this by digging up the Communication Building, it seems unlikely that these rumors are true.

"I don't think so," says Tom O'Donnell, Boise State's grounds adviser. O'Donnell has worked at Boise State for 30 years and retires at the end of

February.

Dave Cooper, Boise State's manager of architectural and engineering services, agrees. "If there is anything like that, it would be very unusual."

However, some of the land that became Boise State has an interesting history. Much of the area from the Albertson's Library to Capitol Boulevard once functioned as a dump. When the Morrison Center was built, crews discovered several old car bodies, Cooper says.

Have a question? If there's something you want to know, whether related to Boise State or not, ask the Real Deal. E-mail your question to JimSteele@juno.com; bring it to The Arbiter's offices across from the Student Union Building; mail it to 1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725; or fax it to 426-3198.

Dorm residents test free taxi service on weekends

Jake Campbell

news writer

Students living in Boise State's residence halls can now take free taxi rides on Friday and Saturday nights between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. thanks to a new service, Safe Ride.

The Residence Hall Association announced that the program will start by March 1. Initially, Safe Ride will consist of a two-week pilot program run with ABC Taxi, and shuttle students to and from the dorm

and throughout Boise.

Everyone attending a meeting held by RHA on Sunday night supported Safe Ride.

Safe Ride is expected to cost the residence halls \$100 to \$200 a night. It will be paid for with \$11,000 accumulated from a \$25 fee charged to students staying at the dorms.

The two-week pilot program generated enthusiasm among dorm residents, according to Justin Shuck, one of the lead organizers.

"Residents can use it for any reason. The goal of Safe

Ride is to provide safe transportation to and from the dorm, be it car troubles, bad weather or intoxication," according to Shuck.

Dick McKinnon, Director of Housing, attended the RHA meeting to finalize Safe Ride. He asserts that the program does not condone drinking, although some students worry that it might.

Students will drink no matter what, and if so, they should do it as safely as possible. Safe Ride can provide another way for them to get

home safely, McKinnon believes.

Details have not been finalized, but expect to see advertising in the upcoming weeks on Safe Ride. The media campaign hopes to make every student aware of the simplicity, safety and convenience of Safe Ride.

"The response to Safe Ride is great. We have not had any negative comments, I expect a lot of people to use it," says freshman Casey Boothby, who helped coordinate a survey last week. "The majority of the

residents ask why it hasn't been done before."

Boothby noted that many colleges such as the University of Minnesota and University of Oregon have maintained similar programs successfully for years.

After the two-week pilot program RHA will look at the results of Safe Ride using a survey students can fill out at the end of each taxi ride. That information will help tailor the program to Boise State's needs.

SPB speaker raises controversy, security concerns

Jessi Loerch

associate editor

“We want people to be inspired to act,” says Tegwin Millard, explaining the Student Programs Board’s decision to host Sarah Weddington speak during its *Legislating Lives* lecture series.

Twenty-seven years ago Weddington was the attorney who won the Roe vs. Wade case before the U.S. Supreme Court. The court’s decision guaranteed women the choice to terminate or continue a pregnancy.

“She has a phenomenal history of activism,” says Millard. “Sarah is a great catalyst...and inspiration for action.”

While Weddington will undoubtedly discuss the Roe vs. Wade case, Millard explains that her discussion intends to encourage citizens to become

active in their government.

Weddington’s priority will be the students of Boise State University. According to Millard, Weddington received other offers while in Boise, but turned them down to spend more time with students.

Weddington has visited Boise State once before. In 1994 she debated Phyllis Schafley, a conservative spokeswoman, about a variety of issues.

Weddington has fought for many years to ensure the equal treatment of women. She served in the Texas House of Representatives for three terms. During her time there she helped reform Texas rape statutes, passed an equal credit bill for women, endorsed legislation which gave teachers pregnancy leave and helped prevent passage of any anti-abortion legis-

lation. She also helped ensure that mothers and fathers would receive equal consideration in custody battles.

While Weddington is a nationally known attorney and speaker, her opinions don’t please everyone. In fact, Millard

says that extra security will accompany Weddington’s speech. Millard explains that the history of violence towards abortion activists and providers warrants the extra security. When professor Phoebe Lunde taught a reproductive issues

class at BSU her life, and the life of students in the Multi Purpose Classroom facility, were threatened, Millard says. She adds, “Intolerance will not be allowed.”



Sarah Weddington

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Taxation without recreation? Funding for student center leaves unresolved questions

Wolf Hoffman
news writer

The student recreation center continues to draw closer to becoming a reality.

Joyce Grimes, director of campus recreation, says the architectural drawings are 95 percent complete. Demolition of the block located between University Drive and Belmont Street commences in March, and construction of the facility begins in May. She also says completion is expected in July of 2001. The grand opening should coincide with the beginning of the Fall 2001 semester.

According to Grimes, the cost for the site and facility is \$10,450,000; with equipment and amenities, the total bill amounts to \$15 million.

Grimes also sits on the Board of Governors for the new student recreation center. The student committee serves an advisory capacity on the Board. The board makes all decisions in regard to policies drafted and applied to the governance of the recreation center.

Grimes says input will be garnered from a 23 member body, to include members of the following entities: the

Alumni Association, classified staff, professional staff association, athletics department, director of the SUB, faculty representative, Residence Hall Association president, vice president of finance and administration, vice president of student affairs, the ASBSU president, vice president, two senators and senate pro tem, and six student-at-large members.

"All policies should be written by March 22," Grimes says.

Full-time BSU students paid fees of \$17 in 1996-97; \$45 in 1997-98; \$65 in 1998-99;

\$65 in 1999-00; and \$65 will be assessed for the 2000-01 school year.

Part-time students paid \$1.50 per credit hour in 1996-97; \$4 in 1997-98; \$6.50 in 1998-99; \$6.50 in 1999-00; and \$6.50 will be assessed for the 2000-01 school year.

These funds have been taken out of student fees to help finance the recreation center. Many students who will graduate before the recreation center opens ask whether they will be able to come back and use the facility on a pro-rated basis, to get something in return for their money.

Grimes could not answer that question at this time but says, "Matt Bott, ASBSU president, commented that he would really like to get it resolved before he graduates [in May]." She also says, "We're working our tails off meeting twice a week to get this thing done."

In furtherance of her dedication to this project, she adds, "I've been impressed that we have a very bright, thoughtful group of students who want to protect the policies of the building for the campus community."

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Online universities provide degrees, but critics question quality of education

Kate Hoffman

news writer

Times are changing, and with them the definition of higher education. More and more students find themselves pursuing a college degree online rather than on-campus. The current trend to convert all aspects of life into higher technology leaves institutions such as Boise State with a dilemma: creating or avoiding the virtual university.

As higher education moves towards cyberspace President Charles Ruch acknowledges this transition. "The world has changed. Most of the economy of the future is going to be tied to high technology," he says. "Schools have to be more inclusive in their ways of delivering educational opportunities."

Addressing these opportunities, PBS's Adult Learning Service aired a Feb. 3 satellite broadcast titled "Virtual Universities: Online and On-target?" Boise State faculty members were essentially given a televised tour of five different virtual universities in an attempt to determine if such institutions could provide a meaningful college degree. "Few subjects today are as controversial as that of online learning institutions," points out Pamela Quinn, the satellite broadcast's mediator. "Distance learning is challenging all the old conventions."

Boise State faculty members such as James A. Taylor, dean of the College of Health Sciences, voice strong views on this controversial subject. "There is a huge vacuum that

the virtual university cannot address. The networking that develops among students and faculty, and the thousands of unplanned events that occur during any semester, cannot happen when a virtual student sits alone interacting with a machine. A university education is far more than an accumulation of credits."

"Few subjects today are as controversial as that of online learning institutions," points out Pamela Quinn, the satellite broadcast's mediator. "Distance learning is challenging all the old conventions."

"I think [virtual universities] are here to stay," states Robert Luke, chair of the physics department, "but I don't think the quality of education is as good without the personal interaction."

Lynn D. Russell, dean of the College of Engineering, agrees. "[Online] instruction will expand rapidly but never replace one-on-one instruction from a face-to-face instructor."

However, some Boise State faculty members believe this sort of program does have its place. "I think the virtual university has a future, especially in subjects where the content is fairly stable, persons interested in learning though

cyberspace are self-motivated, and faculty and equipment are available," says Wenden Waite, chair of Elementary Education and Specialized Studies.

Jane Ollenburger, dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs, sheds another light on the subject. "The ease and accessibility of online courses make them a meaningful choice for many individuals who may find coming onto a campus difficult." Virtual universities in fact largely target nontraditional students.

According to Douglas Johnstone of Western Governors University, the best candidates for a virtual university are self-disciplined, with a clear sense of purpose and a willingness to work in seclusion. This does not characterize most traditional students. "Typically young students tend to do better in the social environment of a residential college." The average student enrolled at the University of Phoenix Online is thirty-five years old, with a successful career.

Such statistics seem to indicate that nontrads thrive in a virtual college environment. Mike Klinkhamer, the president of Boise State's Association for Non-Traditional Students, disagrees. "I truly feel that nothing can come close to attending a 'campus' style school. The friendships, the group studies, interaction with peers and professors, organizational functions, school functions...I really feel that actual interaction with some of the 'younger' students

on campus actually revitalizes me."

ANTS's advisor, Sharon Meriwether, expands on Klinkhamer's sentiments. "I feel there are certainly advantages for busy non-trads in online courses, but I also feel that an important part of a college education is the interaction with fellow students and professors." She states that nontraditional students seem more likely to graduate if they get involved in school activities, something not possible on a virtual campus.

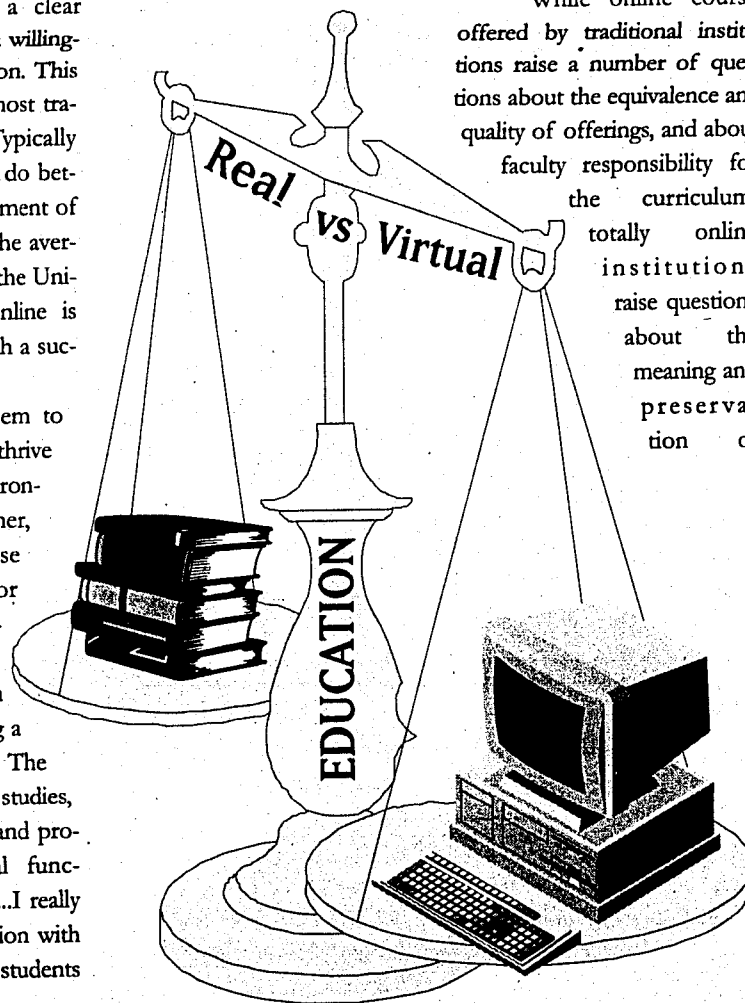
The needs of the actual people involved remain of paramount importance in the minds of those debating virtual

universities. "Like all technologies, this has great promise as long as those who use it do so with the intent to improve the learning experience for the student, not just develop it for the convenience of the teacher or for reasons of economics alone," Taylor warns.

"I hope we take the time to be sure we are doing the right thing for both the faculty and the student," agrees Luke.

Some critics, including James Perley and Denise Marie Tanguay of the American Association of University Professors, feel that challenging these conventions also challenges the integrity of the educational system.

"While online courses offered by traditional institutions raise a number of questions about the equivalence and quality of offerings, and about faculty responsibility for the curriculum, totally online institutions raise questions about the meaning and preservation of



online continued . . .

higher education itself," state Perley and Tanguay in an article concerning the accreditation of virtual universities. "Such institutions raise the specter of a higher-education system that is nothing more than a collection of marketable commodities."

Perley and Tanguay believe these institutions cannot truly be considered colleges since they lack full-time faculty members and a traditional system of governance. They also fear that virtual universities promise the impossible or unethical — "advertising the easy A, the fast track to a degree, the

quick fix for the resume" — but deliver a mediocre imitation of an education. "The goal of higher education is to produce a student who is capable of independent and creative thinking and decision making, not merely a receiver of knowledge that has already been recorded."

Steven Crow, executive director of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, believes that critics of virtual universities oppose not the quality of online education but its potential to usurp faculty control. However, virtual universities need not necessarily

redefine the role of the professor. "Faculty members might need help to master the technology and to design World Wide Web sites," says Crow, "but the faculty-led classroom model is translated into the asynchronous environment of Internet instruction."

A critical point is whether virtual universities can provide a satisfactory college experience without benefit of social interaction. Crow answers optimistically, "Those who believe that high quality education requires face-to-face interaction will always question the performance of virtual institutions. However, many faculty mem-

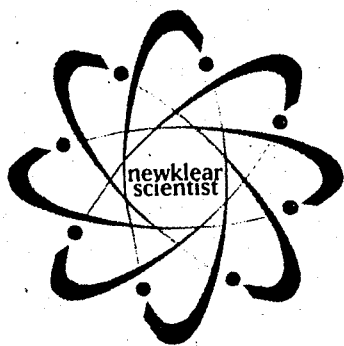
bers and students say online programs actually enhance interaction. Their positive, firsthand experiences undercut simplistic denials of the effectiveness of distance education."

President Ruch discusses a blueprint for BSU's development online. "Boise State is including [online education], encouraging departments to find out what course content, taught by what faculty members, using what technology works for what students," he explains. "Think of it as a continuum. On one hand the only place you go for higher education is on a campus in a class-

room. On the other side, higher education is 100 percent over the Internet, satellite television or radio. Now think of all the points in between where you can mix and match. If I were to predict, I would say that in the future we will have all those options available for individuals and they will be able to choose."

Additional information on this subject, including links to the home pages of five virtual universities, can be found on the "Virtual Universities: Online and On-target?" web site at

<http://telelearning.dcccd.edu/virtualuniv>.



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Bronco athlete is a true full-time student

Dave Stewart

sports writer

Boise State football and basketball player Jeb Putzier just might be the busiest man on campus. Competing in two sports and pursuing a degree in English secondary education keeps Putzier on campus approximately fifteen hours a day.

"I don't want any special treatment and I don't want to be hated just because I'm an athlete. Actually, we're really lucky here."

"On Tuesdays and Thursdays we run at 5:45 in the morning for football and then go to study hall at 7:00. Then, I have class until 10:30 and go straight from there to lift weights. I get about half my lifting done before I have to go to basketball practice and then I go do the other half of my lifting for football. After that, I have to go straight back from there to study hall for basketball, and I go eat dinner and come back and study some more," Putzier explains.

During the remaining days of the week, Putzier arrives on campus before 7:00 a.m. and stays until around 9:00 p.m. He does not mind the busy days, however. Putzier has kept active since his days at Eagle High School, when he competed in baseball and track as well as football and basketball.

"I was in four sports, plus I worked so I was just as busy in

high school. This is normal for me," Putzier says.

Putzier finds ways to save himself a little time in the day and still manage to get everything done.

"I have peanut butter and jelly and bread in my locker," Putzier confesses. "I grab a quick sandwich and a Powerbar for lunch."

Even with his breakneck schedule, Putzier has managed to receive acclaim as an athlete. As a Bronco wide receiver, he led the team in receptions as well as receiving yardage and, got selected to the Big West All-Conference second team.

Putzier relishes his role as a two-sport athlete. He understands how few players ever get the chance to play both football and basketball at the collegiate level.

"I was really fortunate when coach Jensen came and asked me (to play basketball). One day I heard there were only like eight or ten Division 1 athletes doing it," he says. "A lot of people do track and field as a second sport, but football and basketball is a lot less common."

One of the benefits of playing two sports, as Putzier sees it, is how techniques and skills learned in one can carry over to the other.

"To be a more complete football player, I had to learn more lateral movement and coach Jensen does a lot of that with me...my blocking, especially, that's the main thing. It is going to help me with," explains Putzier.

Time management seems critical for a lifestyle like this. Try as he may, sometimes there are activities even he cannot find enough time for.

"The only thing I'm suf-

fering with is sleep," he admits.

But, he keeps going on. Even many of his teammates seem surprised that he has so much gas in his tank.

"I see a lot of guys when we get finished lifting or practicing and they're saying 'Jeez, I'm glad that's over' and I say, 'Well, time to get going to football or basketball' and they just think 'Jeez,'" Putzier adds.

He says he feels happy to live in Boise because it allows him to stay close to his family. He gives assistance to current Eagle High football players, including his younger brother, who plays offensive line.

"I'm pretty good friends with them and close enough in age to them that I can be really

close to them and help them out," Putzier says.

His long term career goal is to coach college football, so he appears pleased with his opportunity to mentor high school players.

The transition from playing on the Big West and Humanitarian Bowl champion football team to the basketball team that has been down on its luck was a little troubling for Putzier.

"It's disheartening. We have a great basketball team. Our record doesn't show how good we are. When we get to Reno we're going to show people how good we really are. We've lost a lot of close games. With ten more points, we're

maybe second in the conference or something right now. It's disheartening."

When it comes to classes, Putzier wants to be considered just another student and not viewed as different because of his status as an athlete.

"I like the teachers here. I've never been unfairly dealt with. They just treat me normal, which I like," admits Putzier. "I don't want any special treatment and I don't want to be hated just because I'm an athlete. Actually, we're really lucky here."

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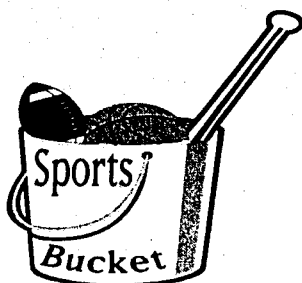
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Bronco men's hoop team pulls out last second win at New Mexico State

As junior shooting guard Clint Hordemann was mobbed at half court by his Bronco teammates following Sunday's last second victory over New Mexico State, he had a simple explanation for the madness.

"It felt good coming off my hand."

In what may very well prove to be the turning point in a conference season which started out so horrific, and is now headed in a completely dif-

ferent direction, Hordemann drained a three-pointer with five seconds to play and the Broncos trailing 65-63.

A 35-footer by New Mexico State's Eric Channing as the buzzer sounded fell harmlessly wide, and the Broncos celebrated an improbable come from behind win on the road, snapping the Aggies 14-game home win streak. The victory marked BSU's third in a row, and raised the team's Big West record to 4-6. Just two weeks ago the Broncos sat at 1-6 and were given up for dead in the race for the Big West Tournament. Now, the team is tied for fourth place, is just two games out of second place, and set to host four straight home games.

Sunday's win on national television via ESPN2 is best described as a team win. Nobody scored more than 14

points, but five players scored at least eight points. Different players stepped up at different times, all leading to the one point victory.

The situation appeared desperate at the 13:46 mark of the second half, when athletic junior Kejuan Woods picked up his fifth foul of the game. Woods, the team's third leading scorer, had scored eight points in eight minutes of play, but was whistled for a pushing call as he tried to get through an Aggie screen. Not only did the Broncos lose Woods for the rest of the game, but the foul occurred after a Channing three-pointer which raised the NMSU lead to 10 points.

Junior swingman Delvin Armstrong cut the lead to eight on an alley-oop lay-in from teammate C.J. Williams. Armstrong then hit a 15-foot baseline jumper to trim the lead

further, followed by a running one hander in the paint. By the time he hit a clutch three-pointer with 9:52 to play, Armstrong had scored nine of his 13 points in a four minute span and Boise State had tied the game at 49-49 behind a 16-6 run.

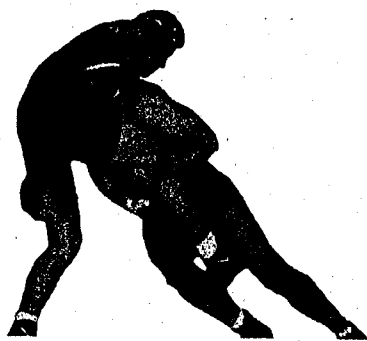
The final nine minutes of the game would provide six ties, and an entire game worth of drama. Boise State grabbed a two point lead with 4:37 to play, as point guard C.J. Williams knocked down a three-pointer and then drove the length of the court for a lay-up. But, New Mexico State answered with four straight points and a two-point lead of their own.

Aggie senior point guard Billy Keys kept the Broncos at bay, nailing two free throws with 40 seconds to play, keeping New Mexico State up 64-62. On Boise State's ensuing pos-

session, Abe Jackson missed a baseline three-pointer with 24 seconds to play. In a battle for the rebound, Hordemann came down with the ball and was fouled attempting a put back. He hit one of two free throws, cutting the lead to 64-63 with 20 seconds to play.

Boise State was forced to foul Keys with 16 seconds to play. The 89 percent free throw shooter missed the first foul shot, before sinking the second to give the Aggies a two-point advantage. It set up a wild finish, that culminated with Hordemann's three-pointer.

Boise State next hosts North Texas on Thursday. It's the first of four straight home games, and an opportunity for the Broncos to continue a season reversal. Tip-off for the North Texas game is set for 7:30 p.m. on Thursday night.



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Gymnasts host record-setting weekend

Pete Erlendson
sports writer

The Boise State gymnastics team enjoyed a record-setting weekend as BSU scored a 195.775 on Sunday against Stanford, good enough for second best in school history and the Broncos best performance on the year. Also, sophomore Tiffany Weston tied three school records this weekend, all

9.95s.

BSU fell to Stanford 196.825 to 195.775, but the Broncos don't feel too bad about bowing to the #10 team in the nation. On Friday BSU lost to #22 Florida 195.85 to 195.575.

Boise State currently ranks #31.

"I'm really excited about how my team is performing right now," smiles head coach

Sam Sandmire. "Especially on bars, because we've struggled a little bit on bars this year and this is the first time in a couple weeks that we hit and we hit all the routines."

Senior Kelly Riley launched off the afternoon for the Broncos on the vault with a 9.725. Sophomore Tiffany Weston followed with a 9.7, then a 9.6 by freshman Breanne Holmes, an impressive 9.8 by Jamie Johns, and a 9.275 and a 9.825 by juniors Jessica Berry and Debbie Thompson respectively.

Thompson's performance on the vault landed her a third place finish.

Next came the bars, and Berry scored a 9.825. Holmes landed a 9.8 and Weston received a 9.725 for her performance. Johns and junior Annie Kaus placed in a three-way tie for third place on the uneven parallel bars with a 9.875. Riley closed out the bars with a 9.65.

The next event the balance beam, four inches wide and four feet off the ground.

Freshman Kara Walsh, competing in her first event of the night, scored a 9.275. Johns earned a 9.775, followed by Holmes and Weston's 9.85 and 9.35 respectively. Thompson landed a 9.75 and Berry received a second place finish with an awesome 9.9.

"I think we're doing really good," analyses Thompson. "We keep doing better, progressively as the season goes on, which our team tends to do and it has done in the past."

The 5'3" Weston tied two BSU records Friday night against Florida with a 9.95 on

the floor and beam. Both records are good enough to tie for first place.

"We've been working really hard to improve ourselves and I think we've been doing that, and with the hard

"They just keep getting better every week, so I have really high expectations for them now. ... They have kind of a spirit about them that I think they are going to be hard to stop."

schools coming here we've been able to step up to them and do our best," reflects Berry. "We still haven't hit all four for four, but we're still working on that and I know when we do we'll be right up there with the other schools."

The final event for the Broncos was the crowd-favorite floor routine. Holmes earned a 9.8 and Riley scored a 9.825. Johns received a standing ovation to her 9.9 performance and, before the fans could sit down, Thompson trumped Johns with a 9.925 and a two-way tie for third. Berry followed with a 9.325 and Walsh brought in a 9.7. But the highlight of the afternoon was Weston's 9.95 floor performance, once again tying the Bronco record in the same weekend, and placing first in this event.

"It's exciting and I love being out there," says Weston.

"I feel that my confidence is building a lot. I just need to step up."

"I know I can land a ten. So, I'm just going to continue to push and go out there and have fun and enjoy it while I can. I'm planing on breaking that (BSU school record of 9.95), ... I know I can do it, so we'll just see," predicts the sophomore.

And what does the BSU coaching staff think of Weston?

"Tiffany is in a class by herself," exclaims Sandmire. "She does the most difficult tumbling of anyone in the country. She shows it off, she sells it. She's just a real fiery performer.... She's just a real crowd pleaser and a team leader too. She's only a sophomore but she's really kind of a spiritual leader on the team."

The Broncos now travel to Penn State Feb. 19, and then to the University of Minnesota Mar. 4. Boise State's next home meet is Mar. 7, as BSU welcomes Utah State.

BSU will host the NCAA national championships Apr. 13-15.

"This team, in the beginning of the year, I didn't really expect them to come out as strong that early," says Sandmire. "But they did and they just keep getting better every week, so I have really high expectations for them now. ... They have kind of a spirit about them that I think they are going to be hard to stop."

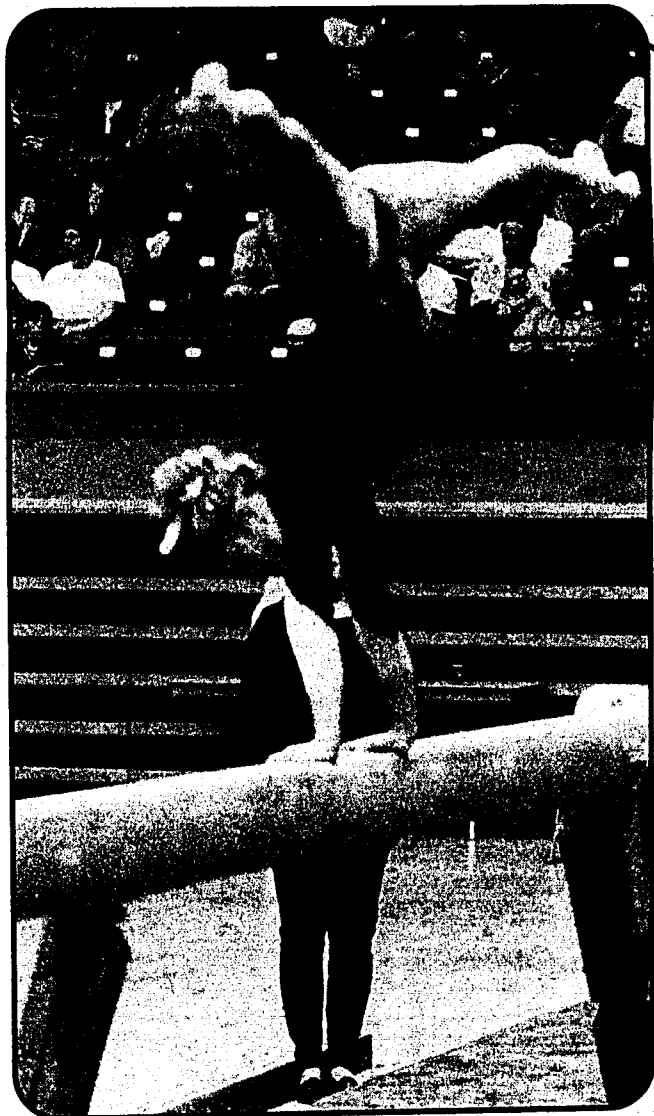


Photo by: Jim Allen/The Arbiter

Sophomore Jamie Johns finished second overall against the Gators with a career best score of 39.35.

Four students, four decisions

Abortion

Chelsea met Chris the month of her 20th birthday.

"I really liked him, he really liked me and things seemed great."

Until the night the condom broke.

"I just knew I was pregnant," she says.

The two broke up shortly afterwards and a month and a half later Chelsea underwent three pregnancy tests—all turned up positive. She told Chris a few days after the results came back and he urged her to do whatever she felt was right.

"I considered keeping it and getting an abortion but I realized that if I kept the baby, I would have to drop out of school, move back home with my parents and the child would

have no father. The options just didn't seem to be going in that direction."

Chelsea also says she was using drugs and alcohol at the time. More and more the decision seemed obvious.

"I wouldn't have been a good parent and that's unfair. It's wrong to bring a child into the world where he/she would be hungry, uneducated and have screwed up parents."

Abstinence

Twenty-one year old Riley has never had sex.

"I feel like there's more to relationships than just physicality and my religion offers many, valid reasons why I should remain abstinent."

Riley remains active in the LDS religion and holds dear a promise that if she waits,

she will one day be able to get married in the temple.

"Plus I don't have to worry about sexually transmitted diseases and getting pregnant."

Riley claims she has had boyfriends who have pushed for more but reaffirms that she will wait until she's married, unlike some former church members who have rebelled and ended up unmarried and pregnant.

"Who really wants that? I personally don't want to have to deal with that kind of situation at this point in my life and certainly not by myself. But certainly abortion would not be part of the equation."

Adoption

Fifteen year old Sarah hid the pregnancy from her

parents, her boyfriend and classmates for six months despite the daily morning sickness at school.

"I was just completely terrified of being in trouble," she says.

Sarah ended up getting pregnant after her first time ever having sex and now, eight years later, the decision she made remains a major factor in her life.

"Abortion didn't feel like an option because my father is a strong Catholic but now, when I look back on it, I know my mom would have helped me and been supportive of whatever I decided to do."

Billy now lives with his adoptive parents. Sarah has kept contact with them for years although Billy doesn't know her as his mother.

"I can't speculate if I made the right decision but it certainly was one that was hard and has bothered me for eight years. I wouldn't recommend it to anyone."

The situation has taken such a toll on Sarah's adolescence that she turned to drugs, began to act out and had to be placed on anti-depressants.

"It was a decision that has been very terrible and affected everything I do."

Keeping the baby

Carrie learned she was first pregnant when her best friend convinced her to take a pregnancy test with her.

"I just did it so she wouldn't have to alone. After I peed in the cup, I left it in the bathroom and didn't think about it again until my room-

mate told me I'd better check it out."

Carrie went home that weekend for Thanksgiving and says she felt too terrified to tell her parents because they had been through this before. Carrie underwent an abortion previously during her and Steve's three-year relationship, but this time the two weren't together.

"The abortion hurt and didn't want to put my mom through that again, so I decided to have it."

She finally confessed to both her mom and Steve. He convinced her to move in with him. But after three months Carrie couldn't stay with him anymore, and decided to move in with her parents.

Three months after giving birth to Pete, Carrie considered giving him up for adoption.

"I was very depressed, confused, alone and extremely poor. I didn't have any child support and basically starved."

But Carrie's mom convinced her to keep Pete and now Carrie says she doesn't regret the decision.

"I was so messed up with no direction, until the baby came. He forced me to do something with my life, get counseling, become independent and stubborn. You have to grow up when another life is at stake. It's just not possible to raise a child on \$5 an hour."



The question of abortion: two opposing views

Nicole Prehoda, Planned Parenthood of Idaho

The choice of whether and when to bear a child is a deeply personal one. For too long women have had to organize, against extraordinary opposition, to gain access to the basic tools that help us make reproductive choices. At Planned Parenthood we're looking to expand women's reproductive health choices, give families more options and better tools for preventing unplanned pregnancy, and ensure that women's reproductive health care no longer sits on the sidelines of our entire health care system.

Did you know that women pay 68% more in out-of-pocket health care expenses

than men, with reproductive health care accounting for much of the difference? Most insurance policies don't cover prescription birth control. Yet birth control is basic health care for women and could save insurance companies money by preventing unplanned pregnancies. Ten states have passed laws that force insurance companies to provide the coverage. Only twenty years ago, women had to fight to get pregnancy covered by insurance policies. Progress.

And what about the women who don't even have health insurance? Services like birth control, cancer screening and STI testing are essential to

women to be able to prevent unintended pregnancies, yet federal funding only allows the state to serve about 50% of the women estimated to be in need of the service. Idaho is one of a very few states in the country that provides no state funding to help augment sliding fee-scale family planning programs.

Even getting pharmaceutical companies to distribute new forms of birth control can be a political nightmare. Did you know that doctors have known about emergency contraception for over 25 years but the very first product marketed and packaged as emergency contraception came out just under two years ago? Emergency contraception pills (ECPs) are a higher dose of birth control pills taken within

three days after unprotected sex, and can reduce your chance of pregnancy by 75%. They have no effect on a woman who is already pregnant. Only now are public education programs beginning that let this "secret" out. (P.S. Regular birth control methods are still more effective and ECPs don't protect against sexually transmitted infections.)

Last month a report came out that said the U.S. has the lowest abortion rates in 20 years. Abortion rates will continue to go down as use of birth control becomes more common, people begin to discuss sexuality openly and honestly, and as more families begin to plan their families. There are still Third World countries where abortion is illegal—but yet their abortion rates are

much higher than ours. Making abortion illegal or harder to get will not make abortion more rare—rather, desperate women will return to back-alley procedures. But sometimes access to abortion becomes more of a practical matter than a legal one. In Idaho there are only four abortion providers and they are all over the age of 55. Few medical schools will teach abortion and abortion providers face severe harassment.

Until public policy reflects the fact that women can be trusted to make thoughtful, moral decisions about birth control and childbearing, and then gives them the tools to make those choices, the pro-choice community will still have a lot of work to do.

Nancy Bloomer, Idaho Christian Coalition

Individuals on both sides of the abortion debate agree that the decision is the most difficult one a woman would ever have to make. Why is it so trying?

The answer to that question really pumps at the heart of the abortion debate. You see, if the Pro-Choice/ Pro-Abortion activists' claim were true that the medical procedure known as abortion is merely removing a blob of tissue, then there would be no further discussion of the matter. I have never met anyone who had to wrestle with the moral dilemma of removing other blobs of tissue such as tonsils or an appendix. Yet women do regret having abortions and they can never go back and change that decision. In the US alone there are 4,200 abortions a day now, the most commonly performed

medical procedure. The Pro-Abortionists/ Pro-Choicers act as if they are stating a universal truth when they say "It is up to the woman to decide for herself, freedom of choice." Realize there is nothing intrinsically noble about the concept of choice. Mark Crutcher, a pro-life attorney, describes the argument this way: "In the 1858 Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln debated over slavery. Douglas emphatically rejected the characterization of him as being pro-slavery. Douglas said, over and over again, that he simply felt the federal government had no right to tell the people whether they could own slaves or not. Throughout the entire debate, he maintained that he was in no way pro-slavery, but simply believed that individuals should be allowed to make their own choices

about whether to own slaves or not. Douglas constantly berated Lincoln for his oft-stated opposition to the Supreme Court's Dred Scott decision, which upheld the right to own slaves. In other words, Mr. Douglas was pro-choice.

The issue is not choice, but what's being chosen. Everybody is "anti-choice" about something. Every single law ever passed restricts someone's right to choose a particular activity, but that's exactly what it was meant to do. The real question is pretty simple: If our society is going to allow free choice in the matter of whether one human being has the right to kill another, why do we have laws at all?

Now if, as a society, we agree that our government's primary responsibility is to protect one individual human being from another, it becomes obvious that the first thing we

have to decide about abortion is whether the unborn is a living human being or not. The only way the government can say that the option of killing it lies only with the mother is to first decide that the unborn is not a living human being. For the government to say it doesn't matter whether abortion is right or wrong is morally disgraceful. If abortion is wrong—it is murder! Any government which says, "even if abortion is murder, we are going to leave it for the individual to decide" has completely abdicated its most fundamental responsibility.

Today women are paying the consequences of the revolution that has tragically resulted in abortion on demand.

Just some of the emotional and physiological consequences alone of abortion include sexual dysfunction, suicide attempts, alcohol abuse,

drug abuse, child neglect or abuse, divorce and chronic relationship problems, repeat abortions and a higher risk of breast cancer. The list goes on, all veiled under the lie that abortion is a gift to women and once performed, the woman's problems are over.

Throughout history, major social change has started on the college campuses. The social issue of our day is protecting life. Your voice, especially in encouraging the women who find themselves with an unplanned pregnancy to consider options other than just abortion, will have more of an impact on our society than any laws.

To find out how you can help a friend who needs help dealing with the consequences of abortion, or may be pregnant now, call Idaho Christian Coalition at 336-5900.

Omens of war remembered

A foreboding photo hangs on an inner wall of the Boise Art Museum. Three bodies sit slumped in a dark room, numbered identification plates hung on their chests. At a glance, it looks as if they stare, with emaciated faces, at the lens of the camera.

Jessica Holmes

a&e writer

The photograph chills blood. The placard for the picture describes the scene, "The catacombs. Rome, Italy,

1939." The slumped skeletal bodies are ancient remains in cryptic tombs. The chill comes from the photo's eerie likeness to a scene taken six years later in a Nazi concentration camp.

The skeletal bodies of starving men, slumped in shadows on the upper tier of a wooden bunk, staring, with hollow eyes, at the lens of a camera. The resemblance is uncanny.

Look to a photo on the left. See Hitler's stern mustached face through the windshield of a convertible car, Goering in tow, during a Munich street parade.

The pictures were taken by a young American student traveling through Germany, Italy, Spain and other countries of Europe on a small motorcycle or by bicycle in 1937 and 1939. He was a member of the masses with a camera in hand. It was a time in Europe when tension was simmering to a boiling point. In Italy, gas masks hung on large propaganda posters over the public baths. In Spain, the glass of shop windows were posted over with patriotic war slogans and public anti-aircraft instructions. In Germany, on one side of the street Nazi soldiers marched holding swastika insignia and on the other citizens stood with arms rigid and upraised, hands flat.

The student, Charles Williams, studying economics and German, must have realized he stood on the brink of something big. However, he would have had no concept of how universal and haunting his untrained snapshots would appear to an audience sixty years later.

Williams left the negatives buried and ignored in a Boise attic. His son, Holland, a Boise actor and professional photographer, unearthed them decades later, now suffering from neglect and age. Holland repro-

duced the images on computer, patched the gaping holes, sharpened the contrast, and now ink jet prints from the original negatives are matted and displayed at the Boise Art Museum.

"It was just one individual going through his attic and he found a piece of history," remarks Heather Ferrell, assistant curator. "Within one's own family, you may have the same bit of history that you're not even aware of, that you stumble upon."

The exhibit is presented in conjunction with Community Connections, a series linking art with the community. The display is running in tandem with *Anne Frank: A History for today* at the Idaho Historical Museum through March 5.

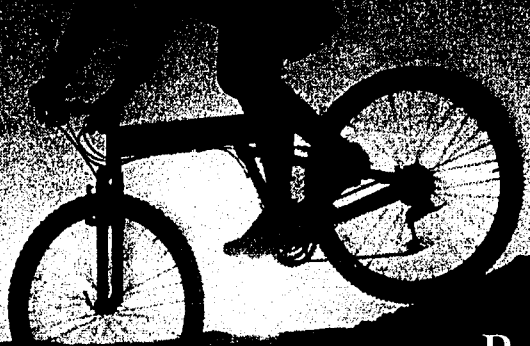
Charles Williams' photographs will be hung through April 2.

"With local displays like this, there is very little accessory information," states Ferrell. "They are mostly images, posing questions."

The photographs speak for themselves. They tell the tale of tension and rising war through a local layman's eyes.

The Boise Art Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on weekends from 12 p.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is \$4 for adults and \$2 for seniors and students.

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A Doll's House and King Stag recognized for excellence

Jessica Holmes

a&e writer

Drama students swarm BSU like a B-grade "invasion" movie. Young high school thespians and college-age actors converged on campus February 14 - 20 as BSU hosts the Idaho Invitational High School Theatre Festival and, for the second time in six years, the Region VII Kennedy Center/ American College Theatre Festival and Northwest Drama Conference.

The large titles foretell big events.

Idaho, Oregon and Nevada collect 300 students in campus halls for the 34th annual Invitational. Speakers bestow trade secrets in seminars, and young apprentices explore acting hands-on in workshops taught by the Theatre Arts department's faculty members, students, and invited guests. The event gratifies the actor's eye and wallet. It features a performance of *Progression*, a musical dancing/ acting work by two BSU graduates, and offers the opportunity for

students to compete for university scholarships.

"This is our most important outreach event," states Richard Klautsch, Theatre Arts department chair. "It provides the students with a chance to look at our department, and it provides us with the opportunity to look at some of them. We want students to come as freshman and stay in the program for four years. We can invest in them, and they can invest in us."

Investing in BSU's Theatre Arts department is a profitable move. Accolades cling to the department side like barnacles on a ship. Ejudicators who travel the states of Region VII—Alaska, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming—and sit through numerous college performances, chose two BSU productions to compete for a spot in the national conference, held at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. during the month of April. They select only four productions from the entire region.

Stage lights will again focus on *A Doll's House*, directed by Klautsch, and *King Stag*, directed by Theatre Arts professor Micheal Baltzell. The University of Portland's production of *Ring Round the Moon* and Eastern Oregon State's *Twelfth Night* will likewise enter the actors' arena.

"We're flattered to have two productions in this event," comments Klautsch.

In the last seven years five BSU productions, including this year's selections, have placed as regional qualifiers.

Full scale plays couple with smaller seminars and competitions. The festival hosts individual design, playwright and acting awards. Five students from BSU, Eden Teagle, Lynn Berg, Justin Ness, Amy Welsh and Carrie Mansell, compete for national honor in the Irene Ryan acting awards.

Ryan is the late star of the popular television sitcom *The Beverly Hillbillies* who died on stage in 1973 during a performance of the musical *Pippin*. She left an endowment to pro-

vide scholarships for outstanding student-actors, a program now administered by the Kennedy Center, sponsor of the ACTF.

The Region VII ACTF also includes a keynote address by a notable actress, Mary McDonnell. Oscar-nominated McDonnell's impressive background includes a co-starring

role in *Dances With Wolves* and an Obie award.

"Hosting these festivals raises our profile," Klautsch says. "They heighten our visibility and credibility by bringing faculty, student scholars and craftspeople together in a single place to honor and learn from each others' programs."



Richard Klautsch

Photo by: Jim Allen The Arbiter

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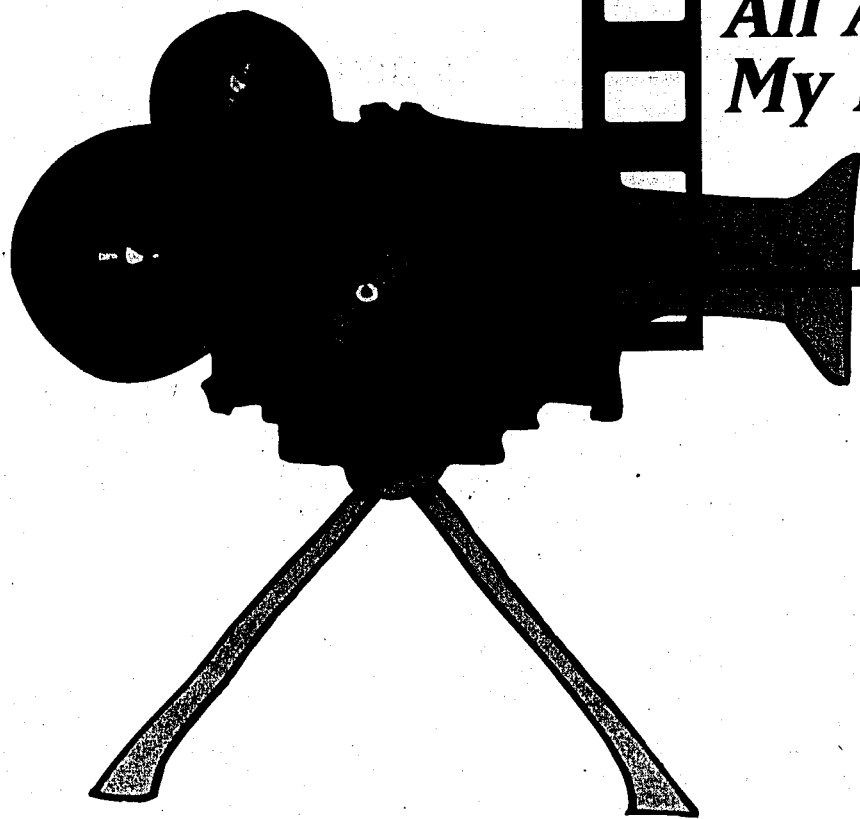
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Valid Feb. 16-20th

review of Flicks

Dominik's



All About My Mother

Dominik Brueckner
a&e writer

A suggestion for anyone lucky enough to have a female Spanish friend: Take her to a movie. Go and see *All About My Mother*. While such company would greatly enhance the pleasure of watching this subtitled movie about Spanish women, it's not necessary. With or without her, moviegoers will experience an engaging, moving and fresh film.

Pedro Almodvar directed his thirteenth movie with *All About My Mother*, and it promises to be his best and most successful to date. After the debut it garnered attention from movie critics worldwide, receiving mention as a candidate for the Academy Award for Best Foreign film. In the top ten movie list for 1999 by *Entertainment Weekly*, Lisa Schwarzbaum ranked it at No. 1. Almodvar is considered to be in his prime as a moviemaker, and in *All About My Mother*, the reasons are obvi-

ous. With a difficult balance between humor and tragedy, he introduces the audience to the questions of female identity, the importance of friendship and the coping with loss.

The film starts with Manuela (played by Cecilia Roth), a single mother in her thirties who raises her son Esteban. All she tells him about his father is that he "died long before you were born," but Esteban still insists on finding out about him. Before he can, he gets run over by a car and

(or need) a climax; the ups and downs representing reality suffice. But this depiction reaches far beyond the surface and touches the audience in unexpected ways.

The most astonishing achievement of Pedro Almodvar seems that, as a male director, he manages to produce a movie almost exclusively about the problems and challenges of women. He succeeds because of excellent performances from all actresses, especially Antonia San Juan, who provides the comic highlights of the movie. Innovative cinematography, for example the camera angle from the perspective of Esteban after being hit by a car, brilliantly emphasizes the film's realism. It may not suit everybody's taste—it's certainly not Hollywood but in its complexity and honesty, movie lovers should feel glad it has found its way into our cinemas.

Lastly, some insider information for those who couldn't find a Spanish friend to see the movie with: Pedro Almodvar, a hugely popular person in Spain, could easily win over the best actresses to play the lead roles. Rumors circulate that he might be gay. Penelope Cruz, who plays Sister Rosa, works as a model. The feminist issues in the movie also portray a recent trend against the macho attitudes of Spanish men. And, in case some people found difficulties keeping up with the subtitles: Yes, that's actually how fast Spanish people speak.

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Sunday, Feb. 20 vs. Nevada, 2 p.m.

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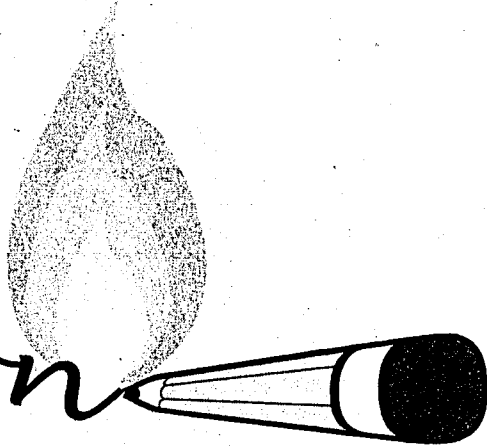
These positions require full-fee paying students
with a minimum 2.25 cumulative grade-point average,
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Applications must be submitted to Bob Evancho, BSU Office of News Services, E-724,
1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725 no later than 5 p.m. February 28 for the editor position
and March 6 for the business manager position.

Contact Bob Evancho at 426-1643
(bevanch@boisestate.edu) or
Brad Arendt at 345-8204
(barendt@boisestate.edu)
for information about
application requirements.



Damon



Reflections upon heroism

Damon Hunzeker

Columnist

I find the sudden eruption of sycophantic, drooling admiration proffered to Senator John McCain absolutely mystifying. Actually, I'm already going to retract that sentence. Rather, I'm mystified by the reasoning behind the acclaim. I, too, admire the man immensely. Anyone who endured five years subjected to the hands of Hanoi torturers and declined being released before his American cohorts deserves respect, praise, approval, commendations, et cetera. But he's not a war hero.

In recent memory, at least three senators come to mind who we have elevated to the status of war heroes—Bob Dole (lost the use of his arm in World War II), Bob Kerry (lost his leg in Vietnam), and, of course, John McCain (captured and tortured for five years in Vietnam). These are intrepid battle heroes? While they are indeed impressive, the idolatry is misplaced. I'm pretty sure

Shania Twain could take those guys in a fight. I mean, isn't the object of war to capture and shoot the enemy? If so, McCain should be demoted from "hero" to "good tryer."

I thought heroism in a given pursuit indicated exemplary performance. If you get shot down, you're a casualty of war, not a hero of war. But if McCain is a hero to veterans, Bill Clinton is a hero to adulterers, because, like McCain, he waged a good try but, embarrassingly, got caught. Just to illustrate the point, the following comprises a cursory list of people who showed up to fight, and, using the war-hero logic, should now be hailed and praised by colleagues in their particular fields of endeavor: Walter Mondale, the Utah Jazz, Susan Lucci, Charlie Brown, Milli Vanilli, Jerry Cooney, Al Capone, Germany, Japan, Iraq, and Tonya Harding.

If you try to revive a drowning victim, and then, before getting the chance to perform CPR, fall into the pool

and die, are you a hero? No. Everyone would say, "Well, that was a nice try, but—yuck. How embarrassing."

I believe people such as John McCain benefit from laudatory war-hero accolades, because there's no such thing as Rambo. Nobody busts into P.O.W. camps with machine guns blazing to pull off successful rescue missions. Hollywood invents those people when, in reality, hostages are released after sluggishly protracted negotiations between guys in suits who wear glasses and wouldn't know how to use a machine gun if it included a point-and-click function.

Nonetheless, as I mentioned earlier, Senator McCain's ability to withstand years of torture rivals anything I can imagine in the realm of brute strength and unwavering will. But he never talks about it. And there's something about his reticence that I find disturbing—kind of like he made it up. I'm beginning to think he just lost his map somewhere in

the Asian jungles and subsisted on leaves and monkey dung for half a decade. Because if he truly was a prisoner of war, he would have a few stories readily available. But he seems to want us to forget about it.

REPORTER: "Senator McCain, I know this is difficult, but could you tell us what it was like to be in the Hanoi Hilton?"

McCain: "Uh ... yeah ... P.O.W., that's me. Let's talk about Social Security."

REPORTER: "Well, I know it's not easy to discuss, but you're an inspirational figure. I think people would be interested to hear about your adventures."

McCain: "Yeah ... crazy war stories ... sure was tough. Uh ... can we talk about fund raising activities?"

Usually, if a person is involved in something as significant as a Vietnamese hostage term, it becomes a defining and lasting moment in one's life. For instance, when Barry Williams makes a television appearance, he doesn't hide the fact he was once Greg Brady. He exploits it. Similarly, I would expect Senator McCain to regale and inspire us with tales of his battle wounds. Instead, he decides to run for president on the most boring platform in history—campaign-finance reform.

If I were captured by the enemy in Vietnam and lived to tell about it, I would actually tell about it. I wouldn't say, "Whoa! That was rough. Now let's get right down to eliminating the influence of soft money in political campaigns." I would become a fiercely stoic proponent of freedom. My

speeches would propel voters to become indefatigably resilient individuals and to abhor stifling regulations upon their lives, to believe in their own worth and the power of free will, to live freely without infringing upon the rights of others. I would talk about Nietzsche and remind everyone that what doesn't kill us makes us stronger, and I'd let the little people, such as Al Gore and George W. Bush, worry about special-interest lobbies and negative ads.

McCain, however, seems to be singularly motivated by tedious policy detail. How can someone whose freedom has been stolen and had both of his arms broken without medical attention give a rat's ass how much of your money you decide to give someone running for office or how mean-spirited the campaign ads are? You would think someone of that caliber would rise above the meaninglessness of the current debate. But he participates and encourages the twaddle. ("You're negative." "No, I'm not. You are." "Huh-uh. You are." "No, you are.")

Incidentally, at what point does a campaign ad against negative ads become a negative ad itself? ("My shameless opponent has been launching negative ads at my campaign. None of it is true, because he's a big fat liar. Vote for me. Unlike my retarded opponent, I promise not to go negative.")

Anyway, support McCain all you want, but let's abandon the linguistically corrupt notion that he's a war hero. If he reveals that he has a bunch of communist hostages in his basement, he'll be a war hero. Otherwise, he's a veteran who made a mistake and turned into a colossal bore.

The **H**spot

Lesleigh Owen

Columnist

I swear, you can't go anywhere without someone advising you to do something "mature" and "responsible": don some sunscreen, get a checkup, wear a condom, grab an umbrella, presoak your dishes. You know — the kind of preventative measures our mothers used to call to us as we zoomed out the door on our way to the video arcades.

The older I get, the more I thank my mother for yanking me by the ear into some of the handier habits of adulthood.

Go ahead, call me my mom, but sometimes it amazes me how much messiness one little act of prevention can forestall. Look at two the most common types of cancers affecting American women today: skin and breast cancers. While not full-proof, when we take a little time, dab on a dollop of sunscreen, and perform our monthly breast exams, we manage to thumb our noses at these terrifying bullies. You can see why it kind of shocks me, then, to note that cervical cancer, one of the lesser-known varieties and almost completely preventable if detected early enough, still clocks in at six percent of all reported cancers.

Although the number of cases of cervical cancer has declined in the last five decades (probably thanks to all those mummies dragging their daughters in to the doctor's office once a year), it still affects 15,700 women a year, accord-

What Would Mother Do?

ing to the National Cancer Institute. While that statistic certainly can't hold a candle to the 180,000 women annually diagnosed with breast cancer, its own brand of tragedy lies in the eighty-five percent of cases the NCI estimates could have been prevented.

Like all cancers, the cervical variety doesn't just pop up one day like crocuses in February. Unusually, however, it appears to result almost exclusively from a virus, specifically the Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Although scientists have documented about eighty different brands of this wonder bug, approximately thirty of which infect the genital tract, only a small handful actually help scoot their owners onto the path of cervical cancer.

HPV, however, takes its own sweet time before blossoming into full-blown malignancy. Most women infected with HPV suffer no ill effects as the virus takes its course and dies a benign death. The unlucky ducks who inherit just the right kind and allow it just the right conditions to flourish, however, just might develop a smattering of abnormal, precancerous cells on their cervix. Doctors characterize this first stage of cell development as Low-Grade Squamous Intraepithelial Lesion (SIL) and the second stage, which sports greater numbers of precancerous cells, as (you guessed it) High-Grade SIL.

The metamorphosis between Low-Grade SIL and cervical cancer can take several years, conveniently allowing a

woman plenty of time to test for these or any kinds of abnormal cervical cells.

The average age range for a woman diagnosed with Low-Grade SIL spans from twenty-five to thirty-five. Since the average age of the Boise State student swims right around that twenty-five mark, this issue hits home for many of us. Fear not! For those old fogies who fall within that range, and even for those who don't, a simple solution can set our elderly minds at ease: get tested for it. Oh, I know, I'm nagging you to squeeze yet another responsible chore into your well-padded schedule. At the risk of reminding you of dear old Mom, you'll thank me later.

Admit it; you know the test I'm talking about. The test whose name we dread speaking, whose very mention brings up images of duckbills, sterile white rooms and forced conversations with too-cheerful doctors while we stare up at the ceiling. The Pap test. This joy-challenged test remains the number one most effective method for detecting abnormal cervical cells, regardless of their stage of development.

Let's be honest — Paps don't rank right up there with moonlit walks and homemade vanilla ice cream in terms of pleasantness, but think of them as your annual assertions of control over your body's destiny, as ten-minute investments in your future. Your mom would.

Kim Painter's article "Women Dying of Pap Underuse" in *USA Today*, mentioned research findings that indicate half the women diagnosed with

cervical cancer had never took a Pap test. Many other sufferers had dodged the test for years.

If, after enduring the dreaded Pap, a woman's test comes back positive for cervical intra-epithelial neoplasia (or CIN, a fancy term for abnormal cells), she shouldn't panic. CIN often disappears on its own; her doctor will simply order one or two subsequent Pap tests in the coming year or so. Even if those remain positive or if the CIN increases, a local gynecologist assured me, her doctor will then take preventative measures in order to nip this particular nasty right in the bud, sometimes quite literally. Even at this stage, the doctor told me, a woman's chances of developing cancer remain remote.

The key, in case you missed it, lies in early detection.

For those really ambitious women out there inspired by the ease of prevention, I encourage you to dedicate a little time to fortifying your bodies' defenses against the HPV virus. Researchers have concluded that HPV finds a wonderland of possibilities in the bodies of smokers, birth control pill-users and women who began having sex early and continued the trend. For those who just can't give up their pack-a-day or who find a little comfort in oral contraceptives, don't worry; just make double sure not to skip your annual appointments.

In light of its preventability, I've spent some time pondering why we never hear anything about this disease. Sure, it's a little more low-key than the cancer biggies, but infinitely more treatable. Maybe

it's the ugly picture that the Pap test brings to mind; it's a little easier for Olivia Newton John to extol the virtues of standing in the steamy shower once a month and leisurely examining her breasts. It's quite another, I suppose, for Cyndi Crawford to appear on television, purring about the joy of lying flat on her back while a doctor uses a tiny spatula to scrape cell specimens off her cervix.

I've also wondered why more of us don't skip into our gynecologists for annual exams, eager to earn our clean bills of cervical health. If you're like me and all medical decisions boil down to a dollar sign, I offer a couple of solutions. Full-time students and those with BSU insurance can pop into the BSU health center and engage in wild and reckless exams: all free! Part-timers shell out a minimum of \$110 for the visit and exam. For non-students and those who can't readily scrape \$110 together, you always have the option of visiting. Planned Parenthood, a great political and medical organization that determines individual rates on a sliding scale basis.

Now, I can't make you run to the nearest phone and dial your gynecologist. The responsibility for this choice lies completely in your lap. After all, this is your decision and your future; I can't presume to know what's best for you.

Nope, I can't do that, but I can make a deal with you: you call your doctor and make an appointment today, and I won't call your mother. Fair enough?

GUEST

BY

OPINION

Representative Ken Robison, Democrat in the Idaho Legislature

Two paths into the future are being offered to the Idaho legislature. One leads to an improved education system, good jobs for graduates and an economy bolstered by educated and trained men and women.

The other path, with a large tax cut, would mean

opportunity for children curtailed with inadequate funds in the future for schools, universities and professional technical schools. It would also mean continued rapid fee increases for college and university students.

Evidence abounds telling legislators that the existing education system is inad-

express disagreement with the decision for a number of reasons, some of which are listed below.

1) It is understood that this promotional tool is being used because it is "so effective." In response, it is noted that there are an unlimited number of successful and creative marketing techniques that may be utilized in place of this particular choice that would be equally if not more effective. To not consider other options for successful promotion is not realistic or

equate in quality and quantity, in this age of technology and expanding knowledge. Investments are required over the next several years to build an education system that matches Idaho's needs.

1. Existing standards pushed by the State Board of Education would raise the bar for the knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school. Investments are required for added on-one-on instruction so that all students can meet those standards.

2. In 1999 the legislature adopted a policy that says all children must be able to read at grade level by third grade. It is likely that added personnel will be needed to meet that goal.

3. Industries are snapping up graduates of one and two-year programs at the state's six professional-technical schools. Existing capacity turns out only about 2,200 graduates a year. The capacity of these schools should be doubled over the next few years.

4. In the last decade student fees at the three state uni-

valid.

2) It has been suggested that the distribution of condoms to students does not "promote sex," rather it promotes the hotline, and if anything, it "promotes protection" from disease and unwanted pregnancy. These matters are irrelevant, as the issue at hand is rather the condoning of behavior, not its promoting. The distribution of condoms (and flavored, at that) condones casual sex.

3) The Student Programs Board is sponsored by Boise State University, and thus the activities of SPB are directly associated with the school and

universities and Lewis-Clark State College have grown twice as fast as state support. The growth of student fees should be curbed. A large tax cut likely would mean a continuation of the recent trend, fees rising at nearly \$200 a years.

5. Only 47 percent of Idaho's high school graduates pursue further education, not enough for the good jobs available and not enough for Idaho industry. A \$1,000 first-year scholarship for most high school graduates would help boost the number.

The state should also be making investments in prevention to slow the growth of the corrections population. Prison numbers continue to grow at a rate that will require annual increases in the corrections of \$10 to \$15 million.

While Idaho has enjoyed several months of strong revenue growth, there is no assurance that this will continue. After the \$50 million property tax cut of 1995 the state went through two years of budget holdbacks.

its students, faculty and employees. By distributing condoms—even with an underlying intention of humor and for the shock value it creates—BSU and all its students, faculty and employees become associated with condoning all that surrounds the item, including the condoning of casual sex.

I DO NOT wish to be considered as condoning such distribution or behavior. I have visited with the Student Programs Board and was grateful to engage in discussion regarding my feelings on this matter. However it was decided to continue with their initial decision and continue distribution. I am

To allow investments that are needed in education, tax cutting should be targeted and limited. The governor's proposal for continued reduction in the marriage tax penalty fits that prescription. So would legislation to gradually extend "circuit breaker" property tax relief from age 65 to 62.

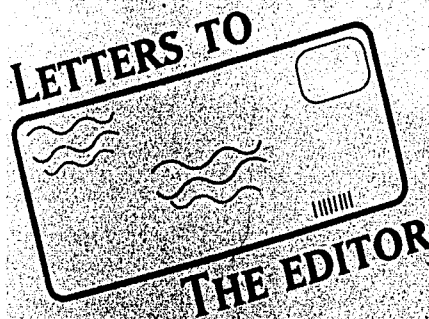
Tax cuts of \$20 to \$25 million would be accomplished at the expense of investments Idaho should be making in education. Unless the corrections cost spiral is slowed, such cuts could make it difficult to even maintain the status quo for public schools, higher education and professional-technical education.

The issue is not tax cuts versus "big government." Sixty five percent of the state budget goes for education so reducing revenue means reducing support for education. The issue is tax cuts versus investments for Idaho's children in public schools, community colleges, universities and professional-technical schools.

once again, making the request that the Student Programs Board reverse its decision to promote the SPB Hotline through the labeling of condoms and cease any further distribution. If anyone wishes to address SPB regarding the issue, you may reach them by writing:

Student Programs Board
Boise State University
Student Union Building
Boise ID, 83725
Thank You,

Anna Cash
Student



SPB: shame on you

Dear Editor,

This letter wishes to address the BSU Student Program Board's decision to promote their Hotline by distributing flavored condoms in the Student Union Building labeled "For a good time, call..." I wish to

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people" is a common theme.

It's not the water, it's the

Capricorn: (Dec. 22-Jan.

19) Take a cruise to the Tropic

of Cancer. Bring lots of sun-

screen.

Aquarius: (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

Let the journey begin with the

first class Stabones. Stop at

the Tropic of Cancer.

It's not the water, it's the

people. (Jan. 20/19)

the person member (wearing
red) to the things out first.

Aries: (Mar. 21-Apr. 19) It's

OK to love Mickey Mouse.

But they'll take you off those

Disney cruises if you try to

LOVE Mickey Mouse. Don't

forget.

Taurus: (Apr. 20-May 20)

A cruise is just the thing you

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Friday.

Gemini: (May 21-June 21)

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line food is now safer to con-

sume than air travel itself. Live

dimensionally and fly the fiendly

Cancer: (June 22-July 22)

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of Capricorn. Get your

Leo: (July 23-Aug. 22)

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that include the river boys.

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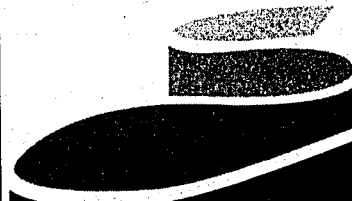


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Mark Holladay

amused@collegeclub.com

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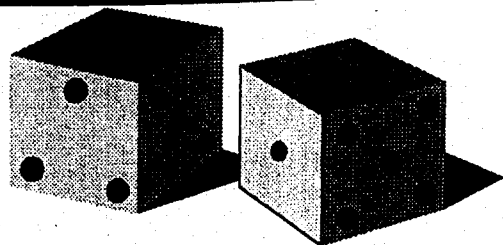
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Job Title: Night Clerk Typist
Start Date: N/A **Job Number:** 3809 **Wage:** \$8.00/hour to begin, with a 90-day probationary period. **Hours/Week:** Hours are 6:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Sometimes the end time is earlier depending on job flow. 12 - 20 hours/week with vacation and sick leave. **Primary Duties:** This person will type in the birth and death announcements briefs for the city desk, answer sports phone calls and input scores and sports briefs and other typing and compiling of information as assigned. **Minimum Qualifications:** Must be computer literate with good keyboard skills, must be able to work independently. Drug test required before starting work.

Job Title: Teller **Start Date:** ASAP **Job Number:** 3763
Wage: D.O.E. **Hours/Week:** 20 to 25 hours per week. **Primary Duties:** Cashiering, customer service, and basic bank teller responsibilities. **Minimum Qualifications:** Applicants must have previous cash handling experience, the ability to meet deadlines and have good customer service skills. Familiarity with computers is desired.

Job Title: Runner **Start Date:** ASAP **Job Number:** 3774 **Wage:** \$6.25/hr
Hours/Week: Flexible, can work around school. Need a morning person. **Primary Duties:** Deliver to courts, various office duties. **Minimum Qualifications:** Ability to work independently and follow instructions. Good driving record.

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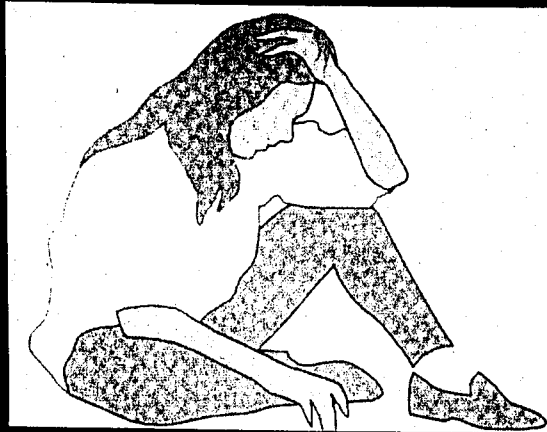
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If you want to find out more information about Norwest Financial, we will be having an informal career seminar from 6-7 PM. on Monday, February 28 in the Johnson Room at the Union. We will be serving free pizza and soda for those who attend.

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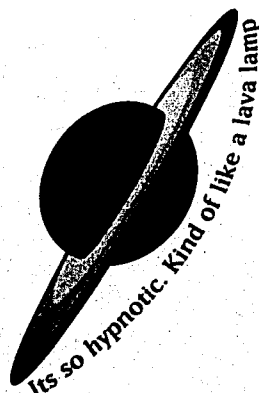
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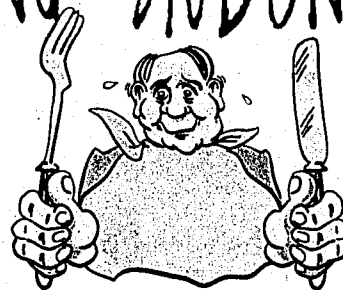
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