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Lawmakers have known about this problem for years, and, instead of making it a top priority, they’ve shoved the issue under the table until now—when the situation has blown up in their faces.

When the state reported a $75 million dollar surplus earlier this year, the first thought that came to lawmakers’ minds was “Oh, it seems we’re over taxing!”

I don’t think so. It looks as though we’re underfunding numerous programs and departments. So next time you hear the rhetoric that legislators are working hard to give you a tax break, think of where that money’s coming from—directly out of the pockets of those who help educate our next generation.

The state of Idaho went on trial this week for what plaintiffs allege is a failure to live up to a constitutional responsibility to provide school environments conducive to learning. For the past two weeks, lawmakers have scrambled to find a solution to Idaho’s crumbling schools problem—so far, to no avail.

The situation appears to be getting worse. A middle school in Wendell shut down earlier this month after officials determined the facility posed a significant safety threat to the children inside. Now students there are forced to attend classes in the same building as the high school—all because our state legislature can’t seem to get it together.

Petty theft pinches pennies; prosecution pending.

BSU’s udder decision.

Campus life versus the R-E-E-L world.

Women rock, men sulk.

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.
Lawmakers defeat measure opponents say would have jeopardized student's political influence

Erica Hill  
editor in chief

Members of the House State Affairs committee narrowly rejected a proposal by Representative Bill Sali that would have clarified a constitutional stipulation that prohibits public funds be used to influence the general population about a particular candidate or initiative. Opponents of the measure argued the proposal would have further encouraged a climate among university students, who already remain relatively uninvolved in politics, to refrain from participating in the process.

“This bill is perfectly targeted at preventing students from organizing in groups together as a coherent voting block and exercising their organizational assembly speech rights,” says ASBSU lobbyist Cara Lechner. “The reality of what could have happened is that students would feel inhibited from participating.”

House Bill 682 died on a ten-to-ten vote Monday morning, amidst a consortium of student leaders and lobbyists from Idaho’s four universities. The near passage gave hope to supporters of the measure, who say they may bring the issue back during the next legislative session.

Laird Maxwell with Idahoans for Tax Reform, who supported the bill, says using taxpayer dollars to advance political strategies is wrong. “Student fees are forced upon students. Either they pay them or they don’t go to school. Then, some of these misguided students want to take that forced money and use it to forward their own personal, political agendas and that’s wrong.”

Opponents of the bill took offense to its “vagueness” and the possible implications it could have for clubs and organizations which strive to motivate students in the political arena. Rep. Sali, however, says the bill’s intent is not to discourage participation, but to prevent the dissemination of legally defined public monies towards a particular political agenda.

“The current case law states very strongly that this is wrong,” says Sali.

The issue came to the Kuna lawmaker’s attention in 1994 when BSU students used some of their appropriated funds to print campaign flyers, political tracts, fact sheets, position papers and notices in opposition to the ICA initiative which was designed to eliminate funding to schools that present homosexuality as an “acceptable behavior.”

As a result, Sali sought the opinion of the Attorney General’s office as to what can be considered public funds. Deputy Attorney General William Von Tagen with the Intergovernmental and Fiscal Law Division responded that mandated fees do fall under the public funds category. He concluded, from a variety of case law, that those monies “should not be expended to support or oppose candidates or elections issues.”

In the case of mandated student fees, the expenditure of funds in support of certain political activities is not strictly prohibited, provided that safeguards are built in for students who oppose the stance being taken by student government or by any organization funded by student government.

What could affect that conclusion is the pending decision on an appeal regarding the Southworth v. Grebe case out of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In 1996 students filed suit to contest the use of mandatory student activity fees to pay for 18 groups whose missions the students oppose, including the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Campus Center, the Women’s Center, and the Madison AIDS Support Network. The plaintiffs claimed that university funding of organizations which engage in political and ideological advocacy violated their First Amendment rights. The lower courts ruled in favor of the plaintiffs. They asserted that the students’ right to not finance political or ideological activities outweighed the university’s authority to promote the educational mission by promoting a free exchange of ideas.

Guest

By

ASBSU President Matt Bott

Dear students of Boise State University,

March is turning out to be an exciting and busy month, to say the least. First off, thanks to the hard work of ASBSU Lobbyist Cara Lechner, we are celebrating a recent victory in the defeat of House Bill 682. As you may know, this bill had the potential to severely restrict students and student organizations in involving themselves in political activity on campus, and fighting for student issues across the state.

It is my hope that students across Idaho will continue to work together towards issues such as the increase in student loan debt and the decrease in the state percentage of funds that go towards higher education in Idaho. It is also my hope that as election day rolls around in November, students and their families will be sensitive to these issues, and will elect more state legislators who are mindful of these issues.

Also upon us in March is the University’s spring budget year’s fee-proposal hearings. The hearings will be held on Tuesday, March 14, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Hatch (A) ballroom. These hearings provide an opportunity for students to speak for or against the various fees which have been proposed. Please be assured that the Executive Budget Committee does listen to and greatly considers the viewpoints of the students who testify. Much to Boise State University’s credit, and compared to our sister institutions in the state, we have a fee proposal process that is open to student input, and it is a shame that more students don’t bother to show up to let us know what they think.

Individuals presenting oral testimony are asked to provide a written copy of their testimony to the hearing officer.

On March 22nd, ASBSU will be hosting the 14th annual Faculty Recognition Dinner. This event is designed to recognize outstanding faculty members, and show our appreciation for their commitment to excellence at Boise State University.

Last student elections, ASBSU election packets are currently available at the ASBSU desk in the Student Union Building for those interested in running for a college senate seat, or for the president and executive board positions.

In closing, I wish you good luck on midterms and I hope that you have a very relaxing spring break.

Sincerely,

Matt Bott

ASBSU President
ASBSU seeks more input on student fee hike proposals

Boise State senators have taken issue with the process through which students get informed about possible raises in fees. For the past two weeks *The Arbiter* has run a full page ad delineating current fee increase proposals, coupled with the date of a hearing during which students can submit a request to testify to the office of the vice president for Student Affairs, Peg Blake. However, some student leaders feel this ad does not go far enough in explaining where the fees are going.

"How are you supposed to come up with any intelligent thoughts on something you've never seen?" senator Boz Bell asks. He calls the figures printed in the ad "ambiguous numbers by ambiguous groups."

Bell serves as one of the sponsors of a new ASBSU Senate resolution, part of what he hopes will represent a multi-pronged attack to allow students and leaders more input on fees and greater knowledge as to where these rising costs will go.

Bell composed the resolution along with senators Angela Babcock, Cole Buck and Francisco Pedraza, which lists as its purpose "to request from the various groups proposing fee increases a copy of their proposal and where the money will be allocated." It goes on to say that "whereas all students are affected by fee increases, and ASBSU serves as the voice of students, that they should have detailed access and review to these proposals prior to the March 14 hearing."

Several senators and onlookers felt the resolution alone did not go far enough. Many wanted a chance to contact representatives of organizations requesting fees to ask them to speak to Senate before the resolution passed. It was suggested that Senate would provide "a lot stronger input" if it followed with a bill.

"If they ask us as students to pay more, they should give us a breakdown of where those fees are going," Buck said.

ASBSU senators were nearly unanimous in praise of Greg Blaesing, who was open with both the Senate and student press in divulging and justifying a $6 increase in Student Union Building fees. Joyce Grimes and Geoff Harrison of the Outdoor Recreation Center also came before ASBSU to justify its fee increase. The center seeks additional funds for new employees to supervise areas and get the ball rolling on new programs. It was the hope of many that eventually all groups requesting increases in student fees come before the Senate.

The proposed increases in will cover the Children's Center, the student computer fee, the intercollegiate athletics, the residence halls, the Distinguished Lecture Series, the Keith Stein Marching Band and Campus Recreation.

The Volunteer Services Board also seeks a $2 per semester raise to allow for service awards to be given to its organizers. *The Arbiter* wants a $1 fee increase for full-time students in order to begin publishing twice weekly.

According to the ad published by the vice president of Student Affairs' office, proposals regarding these increases will remain available for viewing during regular business hours at Room 210 in the Administration Building. Students interested in testifying should submit a request to this office before the March 14 hearing, to be held between 1 and 3:45 PM.
Dorms protest stolen pennies

Penny war. Three water jugs containing about $900 of loose change were stolen from the Table Rock Café in the Student Union Building. Of the four dormitories competing, the Towers, Driscoll and Chaffee hall containers that held the most money were taken. The containers were reported missing Sunday morning, but Chaffee Hall Resident Director Jody St. Clair said the jars could have been stolen as early as Saturday night.

The Penny War was a benefit for a local family which recently lost their daughter to leukemia. The family retains a $30,000 debt from hospital bills.

Andy Williams, a senior at Boise State and Chaffee Hall resident advisor, says whoever took the penny jars had to have help. “I could hardly lift the Towers Hall jar. It had to have been about 75 pounds.” Williams says the situation is heartbreaking. “This is the saddest thing I have ever seen in my entire life. It actually felt good that we were doing something good for others and to have this happen is tragic.”

Williams is not the only angered by the theft. Freshmen Alicia Hochhalter also expressed her frustration. “I find it disturbing because we put effort into help this poor family only to have the money stolen. I can’t believe someone would be so selfish.”

The sheriff’s department has no suspects at this time.
ISPE gives awards to outstanding juniors in College of Engineering

The Idaho Society of Professional Engineers has honored three students in the College of Engineering at Boise State University.

Richard Hansen in civil engineering, Julie McDowell in electrical engineering and Tyler Clements in mechanical engineering were named the 2000 winners of the Outstanding Junior Engineering Student Awards at ISPE's annual Engineers' Week Banquet earlier this week.

Nominees were chosen based on their grade-point average, class performance, participation in professional organizations and other activities.

The three winners each received an engraved plaque presented by ISPE's Joe Canning, vice president of B and A Engineers Inc., a member of the Boise State College of Engineering Advisory Board and a national director of the National Society of Professional Engineers.

Hansen is employed by the Department of Water Resources and serves as a member of the Boise State Civil Engineering Club.

McDowell sits as president of the Boise State chapter of the Society of Women Engineers. She has started an internship at Micron Technology this summer. She previously had been employed by GE Supply.

Clements remains employed by Engineering Inc. and is a member of the Boise State Mechanical Engineering Club.

Runners-up for the awards were Lucas Payne, civil engineering; Mac Chester, electrical engineering; and Adam Olson, mechanical engineering.
Leadership Quest: strategy for creating strong leaders

Autumn Haynes
guest columnist

What do over 2,000 Boise State University students have in common? They all participated in this university's largest leadership program, Leadership Quest. The training serves to fulfill the BSU mission statement which declares "as a student of Boise State, you have an opportunity to receive an education that will prepare you not only for employment and career advancement, but also for participation in society as an active informed citizen."

The Student Union and Activities implemented the program in 1989 in an effort to fulfill this promise. Maureen Sigler, whochaired the first Leadership Quest Committee, created the concept of a one-day conference. They unanimously agreed to dub the program "Leadership Quest" which now boasts an 11-year history with 2,112 graduates. The conference did not gain its fame and fortune overnight, however. A university of strategists pooled their resources to create some specific goals.

Goal setting

Leadership Quest embraces five educational goals. First, it hopes to stimulate the discovery, examination, and refinement of personal leadership capacities. Second, the program creates an understanding and increases the impact individuals’ skills have on organizations. Furthermore, it aims to cultivate an active citizenry on campus and in the community. Finally, it encourages the exploration of all perspectives surrounding diversity on teams and in a community.

Leadership Quest stands apart from other programs because it is a university produced program organized through the BSU President’s Office, Office of the Vice-President of Student Affairs, Associated Students of Boise State University, the Bookstore, the BSU Foundation, the Alumni Office and several other university departments work in conjunction with Student Union and Activities to produce this conference. Professors campus-wide sit on the planning committee, serving as an integral part of the nomination process. This process offers another distinction with the BSU Leadership Quest program.

"Each student participant is first nominated by an organization or department on campus. The students nominated have been identified, by those who know them well, as an established or emerging leader. With broad input from people all across campus, students are identified and invited to participate," says Sigler.

Participants seem to appreciate the nomination procedure. ASBSU Graduate Senator and three-year attendee of Leadership Quest, Liz Drennon

Networking and making the connection

Leadership Quest encourages participation and networking. Drennon explains that she feels motivated by other people's successes because "my participation and the contacts I've made with

Nationally recognized facilitator Tracy Knofla will present the one-day Leadership Quest.
other student leaders serves as an inspiration to go forward.”

Senior Physical Education major Leah Talla attended Leadership Quest 1999. She believes that the “in-depth review on how to be a good leader was excellent.”

Sigler recalls one student in particular who attended the conference. “She was a non-traditional student who was a freshman. She came up to me after the program and said, ‘It costs a lot to produce this program, didn’t it? I’m sure glad Boise State was willing to invest in me.’ This student went on to get extremely involved in several academic student organizations and continued her involvement all the years she was on campus.” Senior music major and ASBSU Senator At-Large, Boz Bell attended in 1998. Bell believes the event offers a benefit to Boise State. “It’s a way for students to empower themselves. . . it gives them a model to succeed in life.”

Spotlight on Tracy Knofla: Leadership Quest presenter

Nationally recognized facilitator Tracy Knofla will present the one day Leadership Quest. She has conducted hundreds of presentations, seminars and workshops for colleges and universities in 48 of the 50 states. Idaho will mark her 49th state. Knofla is a co-owner and featured presenter for High Impact Training. According to its brochure, High Impact Training is a Minnesota based company that “provides professional quality training and breakthrough learning experiences, with immediate impact and lasting results, for individuals and organizations committed to success.” Knofla utilizes interactive training methods and emphasizes a fun and humorous setting.

Knofla received her bachelor’s and master’s degree in Recreation and Leisure Studies from Southern Connecticut State University. She has worked at Indiana University Southeast as coordinator of student activities and director of the university center. She has also served as director of therapeutic recreation at several long-term care facilities in Connecticut. During her career Knofla has worked with students in fraternities, sororities, student government, the program boards, as well as over 50 other student organizations.

Knofla’s expertise in a plethora of areas fits with the established leadership track, a new program that will be implemented this year for BSU students who have attended Leadership Quest before and continue to serve as student leaders. Knofla and participants of the established track will explore strategies for motivating others as well as developing skills to cope in times of chaos. Knofla will guide emerging leaders through sessions focusing on issues including goal setting, recruitment, retention and motivation. All participants will join Knofla in identifying their core values through the development of a personal mission statement.

The next workshop will be held on:

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Gay youth slain—Matthew Shepard repeat?

Friends began to notice when Alex Smith wasn't at any of his usual hangouts in Vancouver, Wash., and then worried when he didn't make his usual appearances online. It was an absence that would never be filled again. Smith was found at home in his apartment with stab wounds on his face and arms, and a gunshot wound in his groin area. He had been attacked, and lay dead in his home for three days before being found.

"He was one of the most beautiful people you could ever meet," says Kina N., a close friend of Smith who requested her last name not be used for fear of attack. "Some people ... said that his only fault was that he was gay."

Smith, an exceptional pianist and whiz on the computer, came out as a gay man to his parents in his early teens. This time he was asked to leave home; he lived with his grandmother until he turned 18.

"She bought him a piano and some new furniture," says Kina. "He was really proud to be living on his own."

"I am sorry to inform you that we have another Matthew [Shepard]," says Ani Ignoffo, president of Boise State's Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity. "I'm scared to return home [to Vancouver]." She says the fear of attack for being gay or lesbian is increasing on campuses all across America.

Kaelen O'Shea, a spokesperson for Idaho Youth Network, says that his organization receives dozens of calls about on-campus harassment.

"From as young as eight years old, clear in to the college level, those perceived to be gay or lesbian are frequently the targets of violent and often times sexual crimes."

BGLAD is attempting to raise $1,000 for the Alex Smith Memorial Trust Fund, which was established by some of Smith's close friends. "We need to send a message that people in Idaho care," says O'Shea. "We care and are very afraid."

According to a website established in honor of the slain man, www.xpmag.com, money raised will help build a memorial for Smith. The remainder will go towards philanthropic contributions in his name.

Gay Mormon kills self outside church

A troubled gay Mormon who killed himself at a Mormon church in Montana is the latest in a series of acts in recent years. The church's condemnation of homosexuality.

Smart's friends say the letter also criticized the church's support of an anti-gay marriage ballot measure.

The 32-year-old was found by an officer Feb. 25 on a covered walkway behind The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Police say a gun was found beside the body.

A suicide note written by Matsi stated that he had long prayed that his sexual orientation would change, but eventually he gave up hope.
BSU aims for paramedic program

Jim Steele

With a partnership with the College of Southern Idaho in the works and recent approval by the health sciences curriculum committee, Boise State remains hopeful that a new paramedic program can come into place by the fall 2000 semester.

The health sciences curriculum committee approved the Paramedic Certificate and Associate's of Science degree in February, and the proposal must now go before the university curriculum committee and the faculty senate, and eventually pass review by the provost and president.

If it makes it through that process, it will go before the State Board of Education.

Lonny Ashworth, chair of respiratory therapy, hopes the proposal can make it through the university system by April and pass the state board review in May or June.

"There's a significant amount of public support for the program," he says. "The individuals who have worked on this have done a thorough job of assessing the need for paramedics, and we're optimistic at this time."

The proposed program at the CSI in Twin Falls is at about the same stage as Boise State's. Both schools have sent notices of intent to the State Board of Education.

The curriculum at both schools would resemble each other, and students could take the first year at CSI and the second at Boise State, or vice versa.

About 175 students have shown interest in the program at Boise State, but only about 20 would be accepted per year.

"As is true with most health science programs, we have limited enrollment because of the limited clinical facilities," Ashworth says.

Although admission requirements have not been developed to get into the program at Boise State, but only about 20 would be accepted per year. "As is true with most health science programs, we have limited enrollment because of the limited clinical facilities," Ashworth says.

Although admission requirements have not been developed to get into the program, students would have to become emergency medical technicians.

If approved by the State Board of Education, students could begin taking freshman year courses this fall.

Some general courses will be required for the degree, with the respiratory therapy and paramedic courses offered in the second year.

Boise State and CSI's programs would represent the only paramedic programs at a public school in Idaho.

Information about the program is available on the Internet at http://respder.boisestate.edu/paramedic.htm

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Recent BSU graduate earns international honor

Sara Mitton

Last November Boise State student Mikela French visited Washington D.C. to engage in a lengthy interview with officials such as Ireland’s ambassador to the United States and a college president. Of 260 national student applicants, she was one of 20 flown to the nation’s capital in an attempt to become a Mitchell Scholar. Soon after the interview, French learned she and eleven others has been selected to receive this honor.

The scholarship, named in honor of former US Sen. George Mitchell for his contributions to the Northern Ireland peace process, resembles the Rhodes Scholars program. Mitchell scholars study in Ireland or Northern Ireland. In addition to attending an Irish university at no charge, the twelve chosen will receive an $11,000 stipend and additional funds for traveling in Europe.

French graduated from BSU in December with a degree in English. To apply for the scholarship she had to write an essay, compile a résumé of accomplishments, and submit transcripts and six letters of recommendation. After being chosen as a finalist, French attended the intense interview in Washington D.C. The selection committee included Ireland’s ambassador, a former American ambassador to Ireland, several university professors and a college president. French says she tried to concentrate on first names when they introduced themselves and just see them as people. “I didn’t pay attention to the titles,” she comments. Students were chosen based on academic performance, commitment to service and potential for leadership.

Her involvement at Boise State contributed to her impressive résumé. French was a student senator, a reporter for BSU Radio, and NASA/Idaho Space Grant Consortium Scholar. She volunteered for the Boise City Arts Commission, the Boise Contemporary Theatre Company and the Discovery Center of Idaho. In addition, she organized a ballet program at a homeless shelter called “Nourishment for the Soul.”

In August, French will enroll at Queen’s University in Belfast to study for a master of arts degree in Irish studies. She looks forward most to meeting people and experiencing the language. French hopes to research the history of a Belfast theater, Charhanc, founded by women as a means of developing stronger roles for females. “What they did and the way they expressed themselves is so invaluable for what I want to do in my life,” says French. She plans to write her master’s thesis about the theater company and some day produce a radio program with the interviews she records and excerpts from their plays.

The Mitchell Scholar describes how BSU helped her earn this achievement. She especially appreciates professors Helen Lojek and Angie Blaine for their advice and help in the application process. Other BSU officials and professors offered support and wrote recommendation letters. “I can’t thank BSU enough,” she comments. “I felt like everyone was pulling for me.”

The other eleven students chosen as Mitchell Scholars graduated from schools such as Harvard, Georgetown, Penn State and UCLA. French says she feels the award gives BSU the recognition it deserves, despite the unfavorable reputation the university tends to have. “It speaks accurately of how awesome our university really is and what world class professors we have.”

French hopes to see beautiful landscapes in Ireland and possibly visit Spain with the $3,000 allocated to the scholars for travel. She is not sure when she’ll find time to travel, but plans on booking an open-ended plane ticket.

BSU grad and recent Mitchell scholar Mikela French now heads to Ireland
Emotionally drained BSU women prepare for BWC tourney

The Boise State women's basketball team lacked emotion and focus on senior night Saturday against the University of Pacific, and in turn lost a tough one 69-55. The Broncos (7-7, 14-13) finished the regular season and now travel to Reno, Nev. to play Long Beach State (12-3, 18-9) in the Big West tournament.

"It definitely hurts to lose this game, and I feel really bad that we didn't come out and win for the seniors," says a somber sophomore Crista Peterson. "But our season isn't over by any means and we are just totally focused on the tournament right now. The past doesn't matter anymore, we're going to go into the tournament and we're going to win. We're just looking on to the future."

BSU plays Long Beach State in the first round of the tournament today, Wednesday March 8.

"Right now we just go into the tournament 0-0, anybody can win at this point," says senior Reyna Fortenberry.

Boise State has played LBSU once this season in Long Beach, Calif. on Feb. 4, and BSU lost 70-61.

"I think we can go all the way," forecasts Fortenberry. "I believe we will get to the championship game and I believe that we will win. But right now we need to come together, we need to focus and we need to focus on that game."

Focus? BSU wasn't focused against Pacific, and they had a share of the Western divisional conference title on the line. What makes Boise State think that it can concentrate against Long Beach State?

"I think right now we were focused on our one game season that's ahead of us. With a couple of wins in the tournament we can really turn things around where we feel really good about the things we did this year. So we're really looking to learn from the past from our season that we've had and really start fresh right now, taking the good, hopefully leaving the bad behind and come out strong against Long Beach."

The Broncos will have their hands full Wednesday afternoon against the 49ers. What's it going to take to beat this same team they lost to in overtime during last year's opening round of the tourney?

"Rebounding, handling their pressure, defensively looking to shut down Smith," comments head coach Trisha Stevens.

LBSU's leading scorer is center 6'8" Rhonda Smith, averaging 21.8 points per game and 7.5 rebounds.

Against Boise State earlier in the year, Smith was held to 2 of 8 shooting with 8 points and 4 rebounds.

BSU was out-rebounded 50-38 by LBSU, thus telling the story of the season. Boise State got out-rebounded 35-27 in the game with Pacific. Usually when the Broncos win the battle of the boards, BSU wins, and when it doesn't, well, it often suffers nights like last Saturday.

"We lost against Long Beach down there because we didn't rebound. And flat out, it's going to come to it if we want to win we're going to have to rebound and if we don't we're going to lose," predicts Stevens.
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Senior provides strong presence for Broncos

By Dave Stewart, sports writer

Boise State's women's basketball team has big hopes for the conference tournament. Stephanie Block is one of the biggest. At 6'4", Block, the tallest player on the team, is also one of the players expected to provide a scoring punch for the Broncos.

Growing up in Oregon, Block began playing basketball while in fourth grade. Three years later she started playing organized basketball and caught the attention of Glencoe High coach Mark Neffendorf.

"My high school coach really got me into it," Block says. "I met him when I was in eighth grade. I was tall and skinny with not much weight to me, and he got me into playing physically and knowing a little bit more about basketball."

Neffendorf exerted a positive influence on Block as she matured as a basketball player. It was under his guidance that she began to develop the confidence she shows on the court for the Broncos.

"He was very aggressive, a very good teacher, and a very good coach who cared so much about us. He really knew the game and taught me everything I know," Block recalls.

Attending Boise State was not high on Block's list right out of high school. She visited a few colleges around the region and found herself less than impressed at the prospect of playing basketball at the ones she looked at. That is when Bronco coach Trisha Stevens decided to try and recruit Block.

"It just happened that Trish called me when she found out I wasn't happy with the other places I visited," Block explains. "So, I came on a visit here and I knew right away. On my other trips I wasn't very excited about anything and didn't want to go anywhere."

She had almost ruled out the idea of playing Division I basketball before her trip to Boise.

"I was just going to stay near home and play at a community college. Then, I came on a visit here and loved it. I loved the team and loved the coaches, so I came here," Block says.

Block has helped the Broncos by putting up numbers at both ends of the court. She is a player whom opponents dread both on offense as well as defense.

"I think I'm a defensive threat, but I'm an offensive player. I enjoy playing both, but I think I'm stronger as an offensive player," Block explains. "I guess I'm the 'go to' player this year and I love that. It's great."

It seems that Block is not the only one noticing her role as a scoring powerhouse for the Broncos. Opposing coaches apparently lose sleep putting together game plans to slow her down.

"The teams are scouting us more and playing better defense. They double team or triple team me, but that just opens things up for my team mates. I like the pressure put on me. It makes me play better. If I don't have pressure, I don't play as well," Block says.

The pressure will mount this week as the Broncos prepare for their trip to Reno to compete in the Big West Conference tournament. Their first round game, on March 8, will take place against Long Beach.
State, a familiar opponent for the Broncos. BSU was ousted from the first round of last year’s conference tournament by LBS.

“We played them the first round last year. They’re a pretty rough team, very physical. They have a 6’8” girl and that should be a main focus. I think we just have to play solid basketball,” says Block. “We’ve lost to them the last two times but I think we know what to expect. If we play the way we can, we should win.”

This season Block is one of six seniors on the BSU team. Saturday marked the last game in the Pavilion for the seniors. The void the departing six will leave in the team is not one that Block expects will destroy the program.

“They’ll rebuild. I don’t think they have that much rebuilding to do. They’ll be a good team next year,” predicts Block.

When it comes to what she has planned for the years following her college basketball days, the decisions are not yet made.

“I’m going to go into law enforcement either way, but I might go play in Australia. I’ve had some offers to play there,” says Block.

She will graduate in December with a degree in Public Affairs/Sociology with a minor in Law Enforcement.

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while Idaho goes as the fourth because of a season split with both Nevada and Boise State.

Saturday night’s game at Utah State was decided in an eight-minute stretch of the second half, with both Nevada and Boise State.

Saturday night’s game at Utah State was decided in an eight-minute stretch of the second half, which saw the Aggies go on a 19-4 run. Following a Delvin Armstrong 18-foot baseline jumper, which tied the score at 44-44 with 12:42 to play, USU followed with 12 straight points.

The first five of those came via the foul line, where Utah State shot 40 in the game to BSU’s 15. Following little-used forward Andre Mahorn’s third made free throw in a 20 second span, point guard Bernard Rock stretched the Aggie lead to 11 points with back-to-back three-pointers.

Utah State’s defense looked even more impressive than its offense during the second half, holding the Broncos to just three completed field goals through the first 13 and a half minutes. Boise State ended the second half shooting just 37 percent from the field, and never got any closer than the final margin of 12 points after USU’s 12-0 run at the midpoint of the second half.

For the first 30 minutes of the game, BSU looked like a team that just might play its way into the Big West Tournament. The Broncos went six-of-seven from three-point range, including three by sophomore forward Abe Jackson, in building a 34-30 halftime advantage. It marked the first time in 16 Big West games in which Utah State trailed at intermission.

Boise State built the lead to six points early in the second half, but then went cold from the field. The Broncos knocked down just three-of-10 three-pointers in the second half, and slowly lost touch with the Aggies on the scoreboard with turnovers on three straight possessions midway through the second half. These propelled the Aggies on their game-changing run.

Jackson led the Broncos with 23 points, going five-of-nine from three-point range. He ended the 1999-2000 season as the third highest scoring sophomore in school history at 16.2 points per game, while his 72 made three’s represents the second highest single season total in Bronco history.

Justin Lyons was BSU’s only other double figure scorer in the game, going five-of-14 from the field in scoring 11 points. The Tucson, Arizona native ended his Bronco career scoring in double figures in 14 straight games, and put together a senior season which should result in All-Big West Conference honors of some kind.

Bronco gymnastics score 193.35 in Minneapolis

The Boise State women’s gymnastics team scored a solid 193.35 at Minneapolis on Saturday. The host Golden Gophers won the dual meet with 194.45.

The Broncos’ top all-arounder, sophomore Tiffany Weston, who scored 38.075 to take third. Classmate Jamie Johns followed with 37.2 for fourth.


As a team the Broncos were steady on all four events, scoring a 48.0 on vault, a 48.75 on bars, a 48.075 on beam, and a 48.525 on floor.
As Boise State moves toward an expansive university with increasing enrollment, a smaller professor/student ratio and fuller classrooms, the mentality of the process itself continues to mutate. The most recent indication of this change started when BSU President Charles Ruch suggested the commencement committee begin looking at how to restructure the event as to “streamline” the ceremony.

“We had to figure out how to have the touch of a small institution with the reality that BSU is now big,” says Ruch. “We wanted to recapture the magic.”

Now, instead of the traditional graduation of separate colleges, this year students will promenade through a two-line format that Ruch says will “keep the ceremony moving at a brisk pace.” The usual lengthy speeches have also been eliminated.

The initial intent of returning to this format used in years past was to cut more than an hour from the length of the ceremony. But an attempt in 1994 to implement an integrated ceremony failed because of complaints that the duration of the event proved greuling.

After The Arbiter initially broke this story in January, communications student Peg Richards wrote in to express her discontent with the changes. “Whether my opinions matter or not, this is my graduation. I have earned the degree and would like to spend my time with individuals within my college, not the entire university,” she writes. “I want to share this moment with people I have attended classes with and have exchanged valuable discussion time with. I do not want to be treated as a cow within a herd, shuffled about and prodded for three to four hours. I like it or not, an affair with 1,000 to 1,200 graduates will take longer than 2 to 2 1/2 hours.”

Ruch claims a decision to move back to the old ceremony stems from two reasons. “First, the size of the college ceremonies has grown such that only a few on-campus venues can accommodate the crowds. As a result, for many people commencement became an all-day event. Second, there was no appropriate time to hold the Commencement Convocation, which
resulted in low attendance.

But some students remain disgruntled about the changes.

"My whole family planned on watching me walk across the stage and accept my diploma. Now they'll likely be forced to sit in the nosebleed section and squint to locate me on a big television screen," says senior Jake Smith.

Smith echoes the concerns that many students have expressed concerning this year's changes and have repeatedly characterized the ceremony, plan as a "herding technique."

"It's like they don't really care who we are or what we've accomplished," says senior Angie Johnson.

Ruch admits the changes also reflect the ever growing university which has just reported an enrollment hike for the ninth consecutive semester.

The ever-increasing number of students attending BSU also has forced the university to modify its evaluation of instructor performance. One BSU professor admits that "pats on the back" come only after being identified as a productive professor—one who maintains high retention rates and packs the students in.

"For instance, if an instructor just offers lectures in one of the university's cattle courses that have computer-generated tests and no essays, they have a better shot for more release time as opposed to a professor who teaches intensive one-to-one classes. It's based on sheer numbers."

The graduation changes and mutations in the mentality of professor/student performance reflect a much larger societal move towards mass production and an emphasis on quantity over quality. Merit pay in many corporations has less to do today with the product and more to do with numbers. For instance, a recently released memo to a local car dealership states "raises will be determined on length of employment and number of vehicles per season sold."

A number of students are protesting the recent graduation changes which were implemented with the input of several student leaders on the Commencement Committee and outside comment by those concerned. One student has set up an email for anyone wishing to express their concerns or even support at unfairgraduation@yahoo.com.

Boise State's enrollment increases for ninth semester in a row

In the fall semester of 1999, Boise State set a record enrollment of 16,216 students, the first time ever that an Idaho university surpassed the 16,000 enrollment mark.

As typically happens in the spring semester, enrollment decreased, although only by 229 students, to 15,987.

This semester marks the ninth consecutive semester that Boise State posted an increase in its enrollment over the previous year, meaning that spring semesters are being compared to spring semesters and fall semesters compared to fall semesters.

In addition, enrollment in the last six semesters has been at a record level over enrollment one year before.

"This spring semester was just a continuation of the trend that we have seen over the last nine semesters," says Boise State Dean of Enrollment Services Mark Wheeler.

Of the 15,987 students, 13,534 are undergraduates, 1,584 graduate students, and 869 applied technology students.

Boise State has been working to grow at about 2 percent per year, and has met that goal. That growth rate helps the university to plan on what facilities will be needed and makes budgeting easier because it helps the university know how much funding will be provided.

Based on a 2 percent growth rate, Boise State will have about 18,000 students in about five years.

"If we're going to have 18,000 students, we're going to need to have some things in place on campus," Wheeler says.
Starving Artists Gallery showcases an eclectic mix

Jessica Holmes
\textit{a\&e writer}

Down wide stone steps, through a glass door labeled "441 S. Main; Starving Artists Gallery," Kathleen Duffy, artist, stands with arms outstretched to position a funnel-shaped light onto a collage of photographs. Tricia Hall, hair gathered in a knit orange beanie, brushes yellow paint over bald spots on a hung but not quite finished piece. Time: 5 p.m. First Thursday, a day when art junkies emerge from the holes of Boise to walk the Las Vegas-like art strip on Main Street, arrives tomorrow. The Starving Artist Gallery undertakes the trial of arranging their third show since opening in January. Rows of diverse paintings line the floor. Member artists mill the small rooms pointing to blank wall space, querying, "Should we put that piece here?"

The rooms of the gallery seem as eclectic as the paintings on the floor. Some feature walls of gray stone, some painted drywall, some wood lining. The floor varies from faded wood parquet diamonds to bright maroon carpet. Fluorescent plastic-covered lights hang from the ceiling.

The basement belongs to Lee Ann Garton. It has housed her massage parlor and, most recently, a computer business. When Garton called her friend, artist Mary Lou Schiers, and asked if she would like to start a co-op gallery, the space almost immediately converted into an art studio.

Membership in the budding gallery grew quickly. Artists paid the $40 dollar fee and set up shop. The final mix of individuals had provided a diverse array of genres.

"We want to create an alternative experience to traditional galleries by remaining open to as many different artists and types of art as possible," comments Schiers.

Hall earned a BA in ceramics and pottery at BSU in 1995. Jaime McAffee will receive his BA from BSU in May. On some abstract pieces he attempts to "show what sounds would look like."

"The Starving Artists Gallery is a good opportunity for students starting in the professional world to get their work shown, especially on a First Thursday," he says. "A lot of people go from school to here."

At age 52, Schiers walked down the aisle last spring with a BA in fine arts. Artist Mike Horkley, after working alternately as insurance salesman and teacher, now focuses on sculptures and landscapes.

"About five years ago I was basically medically retired," Horkley explains. "I did not want to stay at home and vegetate in front of the TV, so I do art. Very few people get to do what they love."

Duffy tongues the modern palate. "Self" reads a gray letter sign stolen from a dump at a back street gas station. Strips of machine processed pictures, black and white photos taken in a booth at K-mart, surround the word. The real faces of America are shown in four perpendicular photos—shoppers looking for bargain bin items at a multi-purpose outlet.

"Maybe self-portraits are a way to get rid of the ego," Duffy speculates. "My self-portrait surge took place at the K-mart on Park Center Blvd. I became compulsive. I began to tell others. The idea—200 photographs of myself, my peers and strangers. The catch: I provide the dollar and keep the photo."

She accrued 165 photo strips. On one a mother and her child smile. A man sits stanch and slack-mouthed throughout all four photos. Many display Duffy's freckled face and light hair, Duffy in a tiara, Duffy applying lipstick and Duffy with props. The photos compelled the viewer to stand before the collage and pick out each piece.

Attempting to curate a show a single day before opening night fills the air with anticipation. Energy runs high at Starving Artists Gallery. Soon, the small studio hopes to expand outside.

"In the spring; when the weather gets warmer, we have several projects to do outside with the public," remarks Schiers. "Projects such as demonstrations with some of the artists doing their art, some art classes. In our gallery we encourage the public to interact with our artists, and to become part of the creative process. In the near future we are planning to have an art auction to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society."

The gallery is located in one of the many suites of the Belgravia building, home to, among others, Daze Between: A Shop for Heads, and the Italian restaurant Renaissance.

The gallery operates Wed.-Sat. 2-6 p.m.
The concert itself proved superb, and most Boise State Students did not notice the chaos. Instead, they noticed the young age of some concertgoers. "I felt like I was in high school again," remarked freshman Lauren Vogel.

"Realistically, MXPX was too big, and too youth-oriented to headline at the SUB. Signs that say "NO MOSHING, NO CROWD SURFING" will not deter this crowd, but only encourage it."
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Michael Douglas plays Professor Grady Tripp, and the name fits: Grady seems on a constant trip throughout the movie. Judging from the amount of pot he smokes, he'd probably be most likely to teach at Reed College. Grady wrote a successful novel years ago, back when he was considered a "wonder boy," and still finds himself having to deal with high expectations. The situation doesn't get better when the annual literary festival takes place, and his editor, played by Robert Downey Jr., comes to town.

Life becomes more complicated when Grady finds out that his lover, Sara (Frances McDormand in her first major role since Fargo), becomes pregnant. She's the chancellor of the university, and also the wife of his boss, the head of the English department. Outside the classroom, Grady helps two of his students: the talented writer, but compulsive liar, James (Tobey Maguire), and Hannah (Katie Holmes), whose love story is a little unclear in which direction the movie wants to head. Michael Douglas as Grady presents the central character who holds the movie together; others fade in and out of Grady's consciousness. As a result, most characters, with the exception of the brilliant Tobey Maguire as James Lee, remain rather one-dimensional. Many relationships could be developed in more depth. However, this doesn't necessarily represent a weakness. It can also provide a striking example of how closely Wonder Boys resembles reality, especially on campus.

Many moviegoers may be in for quite a surprise when watching Wonder Boys. Not only does Michael Douglas play a rather unconventional role, but the director, Curtis Hanson, also undergoes a significant change in style and subject matter. His last project, the brilliant film-noir L.A. Confidential, won numerous Academy Awards. The only connection between his two movies lies in a Hollywood superstar, Marilyn Monroe. In Wonder Boys, a robe worn by Monroe on her wedding day appears as memorabilia and gets stolen. Seemingly insignificant, the robe serves as a symbol for the message of the movie. With his liberation of the robe, Grady also celebrates his own realization of the importance of breaking out and not staying pinned down.

A final judgment on Wonder Boys depends heavily on how much the moviegoer accepts the world and characters presented to him. Don't expect a tight drama. To quote god/Ebert again, "[Wonder Boys is] European in its preference of character over plot." However, if approaching the movie like an extended and observant trip across campus, one gets rewarded with colorful characters, smart dialog and a few good laughs.
Entertainment moves from the big screen to the computer monitor

Brittney Raybould
a&e editor

Over the last ten years, the Internet has overtaken and changed the world. Suddenly, sports fans don't have to wait for the evening news. Up-to-date scores are just a mouse click away. But sports scores constitute only the tip of the online iceberg. Want to view the latest exhibition at an art gallery? Go online. Curious about what will happen in the next episode of that new, web-based drama? Hit the "GO" button and instantly, another world fills the computer screen. Interactivity between the viewer and the Website has become one of the hot topics in the online industry.

Slowly, but surely, entertainment has made its move into the online world. Why leave home if the computer provides a window to the world? Because unfortunately the virtual world can't claim perfection - yet.

Part of the problem with online entertainment involves the software used for viewing. The loading time alone can be a source of frustration. Websites do not consistently use the same type of viewing software. Add into the equation the wide variety of equipment that people use to surf the "Net," and it becomes clear why so many kinks remain in the system.

Given the size of the web, viewers will often run into poorly produced web pages. Serving as yet another roadblock in online entertainment, bad web design only confuses and irritates users. The lure of attracting new consumers only encourages companies to do more and think bigger. The side effects from not paying attention to detail and quality results in a variety of shoddy bulky sites that do allow easy navigation, uninformative content and the possible loss of potential clients.

Web-designers have hit upon a way to draw browsers in and keep them. Give viewers something to do when they get to the Website and they will stay longer, which makes advertisers happy, and hopefully, the person will come back more. The content of Websites no longer seeks to just inform, it requires the active participation of the viewer. The ability to let surfers actually participate interactively on Websites has caused the number of solely user-based pages to increase.

The beauty of the web lies in its capability to bring never before seen information into the homes of millions. How many average Americans living throughout the country will have the opportunity to visit the National Gallery of Art? The Internet brings the art into homes without people ever having to get on a plane. The gallery's Website uses the magic words "interactive tours" to entice the viewer into delving further into the site. The design and presentation of the web page include links to specific information about the pieces of art viewed. Click on the item of interest, and the tourist immediately heads to another page filled with information. Everything from the exhibition history of the piece to a full screen image can be found. Not only do works of art have a viewing audience online, but they can also be sold over the Internet.

The likelihood that online galleries will eventually replace the regular, real life version is not very probable. Buyers still have the desire to view works in the flesh before making a purchase. However, the potential use of online galleries for struggling artists, or artists without access to gallery representation, comes as a blessing for many. Sites containing online pictures of work often serve as a way to attract the interest of potential clients. The drawbacks when selling art online often involve the financial aspect. A few artists practice "word of honor" contracts between the client and seller. This practice occurs, in part, because of the difficulty involved in setting up a secure connection for credit card interactions.

The web serves not only as a venue to draw viewers, but also independent film creators. Online film production has increased greatly in the last few years. The use of the web as a medium for reaching audiences has only begun to be explored. The potential of online galleries for struggling artists, or artists without access to gallery representation, comes as a blessing for many. Sites containing online pictures of work often serve as a way to attract the interest of potential clients. The drawbacks when selling art online often involve the financial aspect. A few artists practice "word of honor" contracts between the client and seller. This practice occurs, in part, because of the difficulty involved in setting up a secure connection for credit card interactions.

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Goldfinger
Stomping Ground
6.5 out of 10

Goldfinger's newest release, Stomping Ground, shows a distinct lack of originality, and its three decent tracks out of 14 aren't enough to save the whole album.

Goldfinger formally released one song from the album called "99 Red Balloons." The group Nina originally released it in the mid-80's and recorded it twice, once in English and once in German. Both versions are still played during retro-music hours on the radio.

Goldfinger remakes the classics in both languages. The versions prove the gems of the album.

The song, "I'm Down," starts off slow and then moves to an upbeat and rhythmic speed. The catchy tune is one of the better tracks on the CD.

Track eight, "San Simeon," can only be explained as a diamond in the rough. Goldfinger should have strategically released it earlier.

But, they plan to release next "Counting the Days," track six on the disc. The song counts through the days following a break-up with a lover. Counting songs like this one are repetitive, annoying and overdone by artists. The trend probably started with the "Step by Step," a song by New Kids On the Block, and can now be found in the catalogs of most bands.

"Bro," track seven on the album, gives their version of heavy metal a pathetic attempt. Screaming out garbage that doesn't make sense or sound appealing does not attract listeners. Listening to it won't treat stereo speakers well either.

- Goldfinger changes the words of an old folk song on the last track to show how original they can be on their album, probably in an attempt to be humorous. Children change words like that at summer camp. They probably wrote the song back during summer camp, too.

The rest of the tracks are typical, upbeat ska music that Goldfinger usually does. If you like them for some reason other than good music, go ahead and buy the album, it releases on March 28.

Goldfinger shows signs of taking desperate measures in Stomping Ground. They did not offer the original spunk of their second album, Goldfinger. The lack of originality proves disappointing.
Notice is hereby given that a proposal has been presented to increase General Education fees. The proposal calls for increasing the Matriculation Fee by $70.00 per semester for full-fee-paying students, $7.00 per credit hour for part-time students, plus proportionate increases in other miscellaneous General Education Fees. The current fees, proposed increases, and amount of revenue such increases would provide follow:

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*Revenue not available from summer 2001 fees until FY'002

Proposals regarding these fee and rate increases are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Room 210 of the Administration Building.

Hearings on the proposed increases will be held in the Hatch-A Ballroom of the BSU Student Union on Tuesday, March 14, 2000. The timetable for hearings is as follows:

1:00 p.m. - General Education Fee
1:15 p.m. - Intercollegiate Athletics Fee
1:30 p.m. - Student Computer Fee
1:45 p.m. - Children's Center Fee
2:00 p.m. - The Arbiter Fee
2:15 p.m. - Campus Recreation Fee
2:30 p.m. - Outdoor Program Fee
2:45 p.m. - Volunteer Services Fee
3:00 p.m. - Student Union Operations/Activities Fee
3:15 p.m. - Keith Stein Blue Thunder Marching Band Fee
3:30 p.m. - Distinguished Lecture Series Fee
3:45 p.m. - Student Housing Rates

All interested persons may submit oral testimony at the above times or written testimony before the March 14 date. Anyone wishing to testify in person may sign up at the hearings or in advance at the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs. Persons presenting oral testimony are asked to provide a written copy of their testimony to the hearing officer.

Peg L. Blake
Vice President for Student Affairs
Boise State University
1910 University Drive
Boise, ID 83725
Welcome to Hee Haw University

Damon Hunzeker
Columnist

long ago abandoned the idea of learning anything from a presidential campaign. If you already know that children are our future and that negative ads are really icky and uniformity, I was wrong. People in the South are different. South Carolina provides the microcosmic revelation of my newly acquired curiosity about all things Dixie-ish.

First of all, they still want the Confederate flag to fly over their statehouse. Granted, not every South Carolinian matches with the defeated Confederacy, but enough of them exist to legitimize the debate. They're about 140 years too late, though. I mean, what's the point? Hey, South—you lost. It's over. Nobody even associates your goofy flag with the Civil War these days. General Lee is forever immortalized as a car on “The Dukes of Hazard,” and your flag is its hood. It's time to grow up and embrace the Union.

You people couldn't even defeat the Yankees in the World Series, let alone in the Civil War. Why would you want to emblazon a symbol of defeat on the Columbia statehouse? By that logic, maybe we should stick Strom Thurmond in the Oval Office, even though he lost the election 52 years ago.

In addition to its fervent fans of the Confederate flag, South Carolina also provides sanctuary to a group that wants to secede from the Union—again. Don't misunderstand me; I don't deny their right to do so. I believe they had a right to secede the first time. After all, voluntary association is perhaps the most fundamental tenet of a free society. But you have to advance a convincing case for secession, because the enslavement of a class of people cancels out freedom of association and states' rights. You can quit your health club, but you can't point a gun at the janitor's head and force him to go with you.

If the South wants to wage a war between the states again, they're going to have to pick a good reason. America seceded from England, because King George was harassing his people and eating out their substance with tyrannical taxes, among other infringements upon liberty. Arguably, the IRS is committing the same acts nowadays. That's a legitimate reason to disassociate yourself from the rest of the nation. But they should at least get a new flag, because as it stands, the secession-hungry South Carolinians look like a bunch of inbreeds without a cause still nostalgically clinging to 19th century dental care. Besides, it's simply impractical. I don't think South Carolina would be a very successful nation. North Carolina would be overflowing with refugees from its embarrassing neighbors down the street. And the remaining inhabitants of South Carolina would be educated at Bob Jones University.

That's the other thing I've learned about the South recently. They don't think it's weird to send their kids to something called Bob Jones University. I understand they probably didn't want to scare potential students away by coming across as overly pedantic, but they could have called it Robert Jones University. I don't know of anybody named Bob who has attended college, much less founded a college. I take that back. Once, I heard a guy named Bob say, “Lookin here, boys, behind them trees! I founded a college! Let's piss on it! Yee Haw!”

Bob Jones University sounds made-up. It reminds me of something from which Bo and Luke Duke could have graduated. But evidently, presidential candidates have been delivering speeches at this cauldron of buffoonery for decades. Only this year, however, did anyone decide to do a background check on Bob Jones. Surprisingly, it's not a secret club established by a slack-jawed mechanic in his backyard. They have an actual campus with students and a website. If you click on their website, you'll find out that Catholicism is a Satanic cult, which I find strange—because, for a bunch of devil worshippers, they sure do seem to enjoy God. But if it's true, if Catholics kneel at the altar of Mephisto, they should give the Pope a scarier hat.

I saw Bob Jones III, President of Hee Haw University, on “Larry King Live” the other day. Mr. Jones announced the end of the University's religious-based ban on interracial dating. Fortunately, they've also decided to stop excluding black students, so lifting the ban may actually present some practical value.

The prohibition on interracial dating sparked a brief debate in the presidential campaign. Alan Keyes, with his patented eloquence, delivered a speech at BJU in which he told them they're a bunch of backward, mouth-breathing hicks. Then the Criminal Justice Department hung him. I don't understand people who oppose interracial romance. It should be encouraged and applauded, because it reminds everyone that, beneath our surface differences, we're all part of the same horny species. Aside from that, a religious sanction against interracial sex condemns ugly members of the faith to loneliness. If you limit your potential mate to someone of your own race, you may end up spending a lot of time in porn shops.

Different cultures have different standards of beauty. If you're alone in South Carolina wishing another Bob Jones student would look your way, you should maintain hope that somewhere across the Atlantic a beautiful native of Uganda is praying for a toothless Dixiecrat to come along and sweep her off her feet. And if that doesn't work, you can always be gay. Basically, don't burn any bridges over the sea of endeavor.

Larry King asked Bob Jones III if the school teaches Tennessee Williams. Mr. Jones said they don't read Williams because he was such a nasty fella. So Larry asked if they study Shakespeare. Mr. Jones said, “Oh yeah, we's gonna teach our students to read up the Bard real good—especially that Negro character Othello. That 'll old story'll teach y'all what happens when you copulate interracially. Ya both end up dead.”

Anyway, perhaps my fondness for Southern culture hasn't come across as clearly as I intended. It's just that I'd prefer to associate the South with Muddy Waters and Mark Twain, as opposed to John Wilkes Booth and Boss Hogg.
Leslieh Owen

Columnist

adies and gentlemen, welcome to Women's History Month! What a fine looking bunch we have here! To introduce all you eager history nuts to the wonderful world of women's "herstory," as we call it around here, we've included a guided tour of American women's more obscure accomplishments. Throughout the tour, I will highlight a few of the lesser known and previously unheard tales that helped build the foundation of women's herstory.

Before embarking on the tour, please tuck your hands safely inside the tour bus, refrain from loud talking and feel free to voice whatever questions happen to pop into your noggin. Ready? Here we go.

Please note on your right the 1773 poetry book Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral. It might interest you to know that it not only serves as the first American book of poetry, but also the first penned by an African-American. Note the author's name: Phillis Wheatley. You may recognize... Yes! Too true; Phillis Wheatley doesn't sound very African, does it? Like most slaves, Phillis' masters changed her name to satisfy their British-bred tastes.

On your left, you may notice an old, decrepit schoolhouse. It once belonged to a young white woman named Prudence Crandall, who opened it in the early 1830s to assist young women in learning the teaching trade. In 1833, local townspeople greeted with horror and outrage the news that the school had admitted a young African-American woman. In response, Prudence Crandall decided to open the school exclusively to young African-American women. The townspeople erupted in a frenzy of legal action and violence, prompting their governor to enact a law illegalizing exclusively black schools. After all, such schools clearly constituted discrimination against whites, right? After having Ms. Crandall arrested, the townspeople vandalized the schoolhouse, poisoned its well water and threatened the lives of anyone seen entering the building. One year after the school's doors had opened to the possibility of black women's education, the townspeople forced Prudence Crandall to slam them closed.

Quickly, look back to your right. Whew! We almost missed it! I'm sorry; Yes, that's right; you can't see anything. Imagine if you had missed the unmarked grave of Josephine Carpenter, a black slave who never wrote poetry, never escaped from her master and never lived to hear the word "Reformation." The seventeen year old arrived in America in 1841 on the ship "The Josephine" and was sold immediately into the service of a southern rancher. She later bore two children, both of which bore an odd and unmentioned resemblance to the rancher himself, and worked in his kitchen at least fifteen hours a day, seven days a week for eighteen years. Josephine used to hum in the kitchen all day long, despite harsh commands to remain silent; her kitchen mates said the water refused to boil unless she stayed there to hum it into a dance. She died in 1859 and now occupies the grave you don't see before you.*

Just a few feet in front of the grave, don't overlook the very first Woodhull and Claflin's Weekly. Co-authored in 1872 by presidential candidate, stockbroker and mystic Victoria Woodhull, this publication stirred up a nationwide scandal by publicly advocating free love, short skirts and legalized prostitution. The public outrage surrounding the publication, in addition to rumors of polyandry, forced Mrs. Woodhull out of the presidential race.

If you look to your left once again, you will all notice a book sitting before a smoking clinic. Published in 1911 by bacteriologist Dr. Alice Hamilton, it provides the first explicit outline of the dangers of lead poisoning to factory workers. In direct counterpoint to this volume on workers' health, the smoking tenth floor of the Asch Building in New York's Washington Square once served as a factory for the Triangle Shirtwaist Company. Male supervisors kept their mostly female subordinates locked within the building until the very end of their shifts. When a fire broke out in 1911, a few women managed to escape by jumping across alleys to other buildings, while fire fighters chopped down, one set of doors and rescued others. Many workers did not make it. The courts quickly exonerated both the male employee who had started the fire, and the Triangle Shirtwaist Company, for contributing to the deaths of 146 women.

On your right, many of you will note with pride the first birth control clinic, opened in 1916 in Brooklyn by Margaret Sanger and Ethel Byrne and closed down within ten days. Margaret Sanger, who would later start the foundation known today as Planned Parenthood, knew opening the clinic violated the Comstock Law, passed in 1873 and forbidding the "trade in, and circulation of, obscene literature and articles of immoral use." She correctly assumed that the clinic would operate for a very few days before her arrest. During the ten days that it remained open, however, over 500 women took advantage of its birth control services.

Also on your right, you might see a glimmer of light reflecting off Emily Greene Balch's Nobel Peace Prize, awarded in 1946. One of the two American women to win a Nobel Peace Prize, Ms. Balch's anti-war convictions led her on a lifelong, pro-peace campaign. As a result of her vociferous protestations against the USA's involvement in World War I, her employer, Wellesley College, fired her from her twenty-year professorship. For all her hardships and efforts, however, Ms. Balch did not receive her peace prize until 1946, when she justified the USA's entrance in World War II as a necessary reaction against Germany's "tyranny."

Yes! Right you are. On your left, as this gentleman has pointed out, you might notice an empty coffee mug. This very mug remained empty in 1977 when Iris Rivera, a Chicago legal assistant, refused to make her male boss a cuppa. She based her objection on three little factors: 1. She didn't drink coffee; 2. She could not find "making coffee" anywhere in her job description; and 3. Couldn't her boss separate an office assistant from a home-maker? Her boss fired her on the spot but soon welcomed her back when a "community organization..."

Women Employed, elevated the issue to a national level.

Next to the empty coffee mug, you'll find a party hat that belonged to Lillani Monroe, a police officer from Missoula who attended an office Christmas party in 1995. After years of keeping her private life relatively quiet, Ms. Monroe...
escort a woman named Allison to the party. Most of her coworkers knew Ms. Monroe came from a family of eight children and assumed she had brought one of her sisters along. She soon disabused them of that assumption by introducing Allison as her partner. Several officers later harassed her, most through malicious ribbing and jibes, and her supervisor even informed her that she could do whatever she remained there. She told her Allison to parties and discussed her domestic situation as long as her heterosexual counterparts did the same.*

The party hat signals the end of our tour. In retrospect, you might notice that we failed to include any well-known women's names — not that we had a lot from which to choose. In fact, I must admit I conjured some of these stories (indicated by asterisks), based on my more general and historical readings. In fact, women's names — not that we you might notice that we failed to end of our tour. In retrospect, I wish you all had a lot from which to choose. Still, even my fabricated tales whose courageous and everyday actions define them as heroines but whose voices remain unheard in our history books and in TLC documentaries.

What a fun bunch! I've had a great time with you. I hope this experience has helped you get your feet wet, so to speak, by allowing you to dip your toes into the lesser-known aspects of women's history. Now that we've dispensed with the preliminaries, I wish you all full speed ahead with the rest of Women's Herstory Month.

Oh, and before exiting the bus, please also note the tip jar on your left.

Damon writes bald faced lies

With regard to the letter written by Damon Hunzeker in the Feb. 23 issue responding to Ani Ignoffo. I am extremely offended by Mr. Hunzeker's reckless regard for human dignity. Contrary to what he may think, he isn't God, or for that matter, any other great or important being. And whether he likes it or not, he has no right to judge other people. As far as him being a judge, whatever. That's nonsense. Show me his credentials and I'll gladly apologize. I don't understand why he feels he has to write a bald faced lie in order to bolster his opinion. Even if he were a judge at some point in his life, his jurisdiction and right to judge others ends when he leaves the courtroom.

I've tried to give Mr. Hunzeker's column the benefit of the doubt as a creative attempt at satirizing some of the social issues we face today in order to spur some kind of attention. Regrettably, I must say I am disappointed in the recent coverage of senate dealings, in particular the discretionary funds deficit.

There are several reasons we, as a senate, have overspent our budget. The entire amount of the discretionary fund was given to student organizations or students representing academic excellence at national conferences. Mr. Hayes hypothesized that a possible factor in the deficit was the costly ASBSU retreat held last fall. Regardless of the amount spent on the retreat, that money was taken from the executive budget for which a retreat was already budgeted. In essence, the correlation of ASBSU dipping into discretionary funds for a retreat is inaccurate.

I would like to clarify the statement I made in analogizing my personal life and the spending habits of the senate. As a freshman in college, I learned a lesson on credit card spending and my parents helped me. I felt, that this comparison of my learning how to handle credit could apply to the senate turning to contingency in a time of emergency. Just as my parents would not have taken well to four or five years of emergency credit card payment bail-outs, contingency may not be the source senate wants to get used to turning to. And I am confident that this group of senators will not be overspending anytime soon.

Another point of clarification is the source of the contingency account. That contingency is set aside from ASBSU funds and is not a part of the Student Union Building's funding.

Many readers are probably unfamiliar with the nature of any ASBSU funding and I commend The Arbiter for endeavoring to enlighten the student body. I would request that in the future anyone assigned to ASBSU coverage clarify the details to ensure an accurate reporting to the students. I am always available to answer any questions regarding senate actions.

Thank You,
Angela Babcock
ASBSU Senate Pro Tempore

Explaining the Senate deficit

I appreciate the presence of The Arbiter in our senate meetings. Sean Hayes habitually asked him some pertinent questions during his earlier tenure. I realize that

Letters continue on page 31
Response to Jerel

In response to Jerel Thomas’ verbose opinion piece last week:
1. The basis of religion is faith.
2. Faith is based only on strongly held belief.
3. Therefore, nearly every assertion in his piece is based on beliefs, not fact.

Next time, the writer might consider working with the facts. Just a suggestion, but only because this piece made for some fun reading as I sat in my seventh floor cubicle.

Justin Endow

Damon, you evil bastard

Alright, that’s it! I have had quite ENOUGH! Mr. Hunzeker, this time you have crossed the line you demonic cunt! I will have you know that Rick Rockwell is one of the most beautiful, compassionate, philanthropic human beings currently existing on this planet you scurrilous filthy despot! Mr. Rockwell is just a romantic dreamer living in a world of cynical, lonely, self-abusive freaks like you Damon. You are not fit to clean Mr. Rockwell’s jockstrap with your tongue you despicable worm! How dare you compare those 50 lovely women with prostitutes. All of those women were part of the work for welfare program. Just because they used to be shiftless whores does not give you the right to judge you purrid fecal matter with legs. And Jay Thomas a pimp? I think not. I heard nary a single “shut up, ho” escape his lips. Nor were any of the contestants slapped to the floor for losing. Pimp indeed. You degenerate sycophant! Also, Damon (perhaps Demon is a more appropriate moniker you bottomfeeding scumbag) Why if it wasn’t for Christlike Observer, nearly every most beautiful, compassionate, any of the contestants slapped scumbag? Why if it wasn’t for Christlike Observer, your amazing generosity male Moral Exemplar endowment you would have no value whatsoever. You had better thank Go Almighty for that

Mr. Hunzeker. Oh and while you’re at it, teach that hog to write because you aren’t a hack.

Sincerely,
Stephen Tobias Marmon
President–Rick Rockwell Fanclub
Christlike Observer
Moral Exemplar
PS. I hate you Damon

The Arbiter accepts letters to the editor of up to 400 words. Letters must be signed with a full name and phone number for verification. The Arbiter reserves the right to edit submissions which will be published as space allows. Letters can be emailed to arbiter@email.boisestate.edu, faxed to 426-5196 or brought to our offices at 16051/2 University Drive.

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7.) You don't know the names of your co-workers because they have all been fired or have quit.
6.) People who are less qualified than you for sub-basic job skills are inherently the ones who sign your paycheck.
5.) Finding spare change on the street can mean the difference between your "normal" lunch and a lunch with real food.
4.) You can't get a better job because prospective employers know where you're working.
3.) The only room for advancement in the company is if someone dies—and the releasing grip of an everlasting darkness appeals to you.
2.) The company doesn't enforce it's drug policy or they would have to hire a whole new staff.
1.) Farm workers make more than you do and enjoy their job more.
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Start Date: ASAP
Job Number: 3937
Wage: $7.00 to $8.00/Hr
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