

12-13-2000

Arbiter, December 13

Students of Boise State University

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Vol. 14 Issue 12
December 13, 2000

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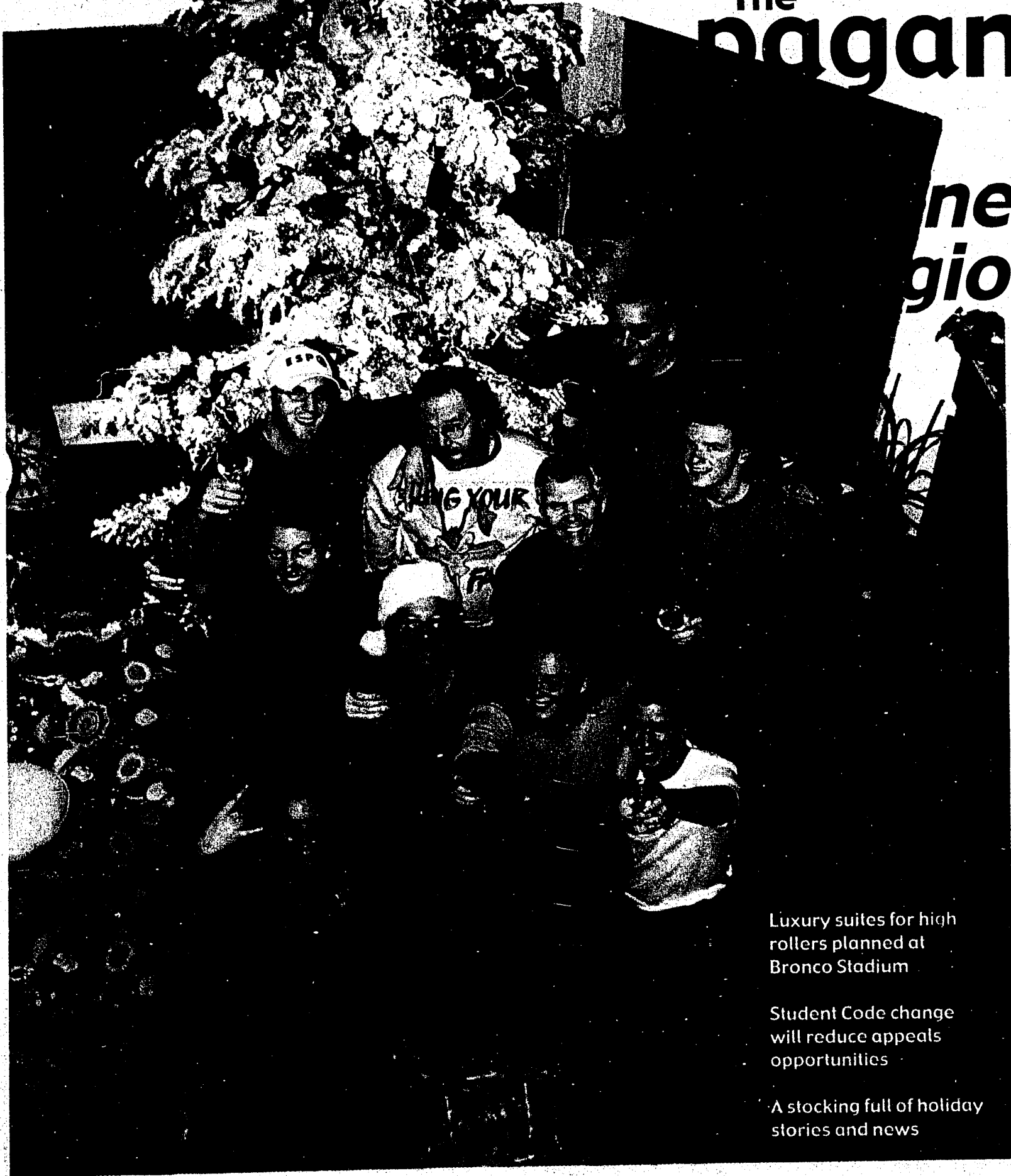
Arbiter

photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*

The pagans

new gion,

but they would not submit to no parties



Luxury suites for high rollers planned at Bronco Stadium

Student Code change will reduce appeals opportunities

A stocking full of holiday stories and news

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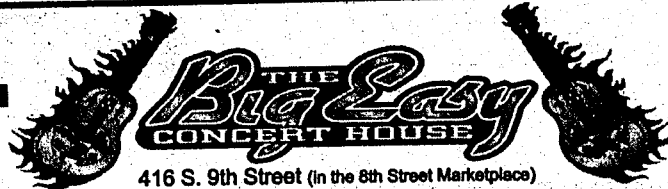
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December 13, 2000

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Correction:

In our December 7 issue, in the Sports section, Shaunard Harts was misidentified as Shernard Harts and David Mikell was misidentified as David Michaels. *The Arbiter* apologizes for these errors.

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The Arbiter is the official student newspaper of the students of Boise State University. Its mission is to provide a forum for the discussion of issues impacting the campus and community. The Arbiters budget consists of fees paid by the students of Boise State University and advertising sales. The Arbiter is distributed to the campus and community on Wednesdays during the school year. The first copy is free. Additional copies are \$1 each, payable to the Arbiter offices.

Angela Davis to keynote MLK week

Arbiter wire services

Boise State University will host the 12th annual Martin Luther King, Jr./Human Rights Celebration from Jan. 15-20, 2001. Angela Y. Davis, known internationally for her work to combat oppression in the U.S. and abroad, will deliver the keynote address at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 19 in the Student Union Building.

Davis began her political activism as a child in Birmingham, Ala., and continued as a high school student in New York. In 1969 she received national attention when then-Gov. Ronald Reagan was instrumental in removing her from her teaching position in the philosophy department at UCLA due to her social activism and membership in the Communist Party.

In 1970 she was placed on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List, charged with kidnapping, conspiracy and murder and was the object of an intense manhunt. Her trial was one of the most famous in recent U.S. history. A massive international campaign during her 16-month incarceration led to her acquittal in 1972.

Today, Davis remains an advocate of prison abolition and is an outspoken critic of racism in the criminal justice system. She is a member of the Prison Activist Resource Center and is currently working on a comparative study of women's imprisonment in the U.S., Netherlands and Cuba.

Davis is a tenured professor in the history of consciousness department at the University of California-Santa Cruz and is the author of five books, including an autobiography. Her academic interests include feminism, African American studies, critical theory, popular music culture, social consciousness and the philosophy of punishment.

For more information, contact Rob Meyer, Associate Director of Student Activities at 426-1224.

Code of conduct undergoes changes

New plan will streamline judicial process and limit appeals

by Christina Latta

the Arbiter

The Boise State Code of Conduct has been subject to a comprehensive review process in the last year. The original code, written in the 1950s, had not been extensively rewritten since its adoption.

"Only patchwork revisions have occurred over the years," said Richard Rapp, associate vice president of student affairs.

Rapp, along with many other members of the Boise State community, has been part of the task force evaluating the code.

Dr. Peg Blake, vice president of Student Affairs, formed the Code of Conduct Task Force. Two years ago she realized that the Code had some serious deficiencies.

"The current system (as of this year) was the same as it had always been," said Blake. "It is pretty bureaucratic and requires students to do a lot of legwork."

Members of the Task Force traveled to a national institute to examine how to implement a current, effective code of conduct.

"We wanted to know what does and does not work," said Rapp.

At the institute, the Task Force was able to compare nationwide codes of conduct. A "national model code" was presented as the current national standard.

The drafting process took over one year as the task force consulted different student groups, faculty members, and outside sources. The new Code of Conduct is in the final stages of approval and went to the President's Cabinet on Monday, Dec. 3 for a final read-through. If approved, the new code will go into effect July 1, in time for the fall semester of 2001.

Most of the changes made to the code concern bureaucratic procedure and will not noticeably affect most students.

"We wanted to make the code cleaner, faster, and more equitable," said Blake. "The current

process is so cumbersome that people don't use it."

Reducing the number of available appeals was one of the major changes. Under the old code, up to three appeals of any decision could be made. The new code reduces this number to one.

"We are not doing away with a student's rights," said Blaine Eckles, Boise State's conduct adviser. "Very few people appeal decisions."

Another administrative change occurs within the judicial system. Right now, a Housing Judicial Board hears complaints from anyone living in campus housing. The ASBSU Judiciary hears cases concerning assault and other serious offenses. The new code combines the two bodies into one.

A conduct board will hear cases concerning specific violations of the code and will consist of one faculty member, one staff member, and five students - at least three of whom are expected to be from on-campus housing.

Some students are concerned about the elimination of the Housing Judicial Board. Jenni Plewa, an ASBSU Senator, questions how this change will affect those living in campus housing.

"Members of the J. Board have to live by the rules students are breaking," Plewa said. "Someone from off-campus wouldn't understand some of the issues."

The "J. Board," as it is called, is made up of students living in the residence halls. Plewa claims that this situation gives the J. Board members an advantage over those who are students at BSU, but do not live on campus. While Plewa understands the need to streamline the judicial process, she wonders if the new plan might overlook the important issues.

"Which is more important? Expediency or justice?" said Plewa. "I think justice."

However, members of the Task Force tend to disagree. Eckles, does not see the combining of the two bodies to be a problem.

"Misconduct is misconduct," said Eckles. "Students are your peers."

Changes within the Academic Dishonesty Policy will likely affect students the most. The former policy was localized, meaning faculty members and the dean of the particular college wherein the cheating and/or plagiarism occurred would deal with the problem directly. The process will now be handled by the Conduct Board.

Formerly, each college kept separate records concerning cheating or plagiarism. This decentralized method resulted in varying levels of punishment and could allow a student to cheat throughout various university departments without ever being caught.

"There are big inequities with the current system," said Dr. Blake. "We needed to standardize our response."

As such, records for the various "Academic Dishonesty Offenses" will now be kept in a centralized location, making tracking possible.

The current Code of Conduct is "somewhat underutilized" according to Eckles. "The new Code should simplify and make the process easier to use."

Most students do not know the content of the Code of Conduct or even know that it exists, but Blake, Rapp, and Eckles, along with the other members of the task force, hope that the new code will be more accessible. They are quick to point out that it is not intended to eliminate students' rights.

"We just want the campus community to be able to manage its own problems," said Rapp.

However, the new code may not be implemented as smoothly as expected. The Student Policy Board will continue to oversee the code over the next year to see how well it works.

"There are things that look good on paper, but a year from now, we may have to re-evaluate," said Rapp.

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Alcohol policies in practice

Student residential advisers enforce restrictions in dorms

by EvyAnn Neff

the Arbitrator

Imagine you're in your home. You probably feel comfortable walking around in your underwear or picking your nose. You can sit back, relax, and put your feet up while listening to some tunes on the radio and sipping a tasty drink. Now picture an officer of the law living just down the hall from you in another room.

This isn't a prison scenario, or a nightmare about living with your parents forever. However, this does give an accurate depiction of life in the dorms. The role of law officer, however, is played by a fellow student and sometimes even a friend. Resident Advisors are the link that connects campus

policies with the people that they affect.

R.A.s aren't just law enforcers. "We're here to ensure the safety of the residents and be a resource for the residents," said Tobin Steiskal, R.A. at Towers Hall.

As R.A., Steiskal also has to enforce campus alcohol policies. "I don't think that we know about three quarters to 80 percent of what goes on that's illegal in the dorms. R.A.s don't have the capacity to contain it

fully, to stop it 100 percent."

When a student moves into the dorms they sign an agreement with the school in which they give up certain rights. One of these rights is drinking in their room or anywhere on campus, with the exception of Morrison Hall residents. Also, by signing their name they are agreeing to allow BSU staff into their room at any time.

When R.A.s do suspect drinking in a dorm room they knock on the door and identify themselves. If they find students drinking they will write up an incident report which explains what and who they saw in the room. Steiskal says in an average month there can be between 5 and 15 incident reports for one dorm.

If it's the first time someone is caught with alcohol in the dorms the police are rarely involved, even when minors are found drinking.

When an incident report is filed the individuals involved can either have a hearing in front of Judicial Board or the Resident Director of their dorm.

Students living in the dorms are expected to respect the rules and policies of the campus, but the system does give them a second chance.

Students living in the dorms are expected to respect the rules and policies of the campus, but the system does give them a second chance.

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT UNION AND ACTIVITIES

Finals Relief

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

The full event schedule can be viewed in the SUB in front of Moxie Java.

partial Event Schedule

Wednesday, December 13
 FREE Characterist, Mrktg Booth #1, 11:30-3pm
 - Sponsored by SU&A
 Cram Snack, Braval 9:30pm-gone
 - sponsored by SU&A and Fine Host
 FREE Massage, Wellness Stop, 11:30am-2pm, 7-9pm
 - sponsored by SU&A

Thursday, December 14
 FREE Characterist, Mrktg Booth #1, 11:30-3pm
 FREE Massage, Wellness Stop, 11:30-2pm, 7-9pm
 Cram Snack, Braval 9:30pm-gone


Friday, December 15
 FREE Palm Reader, Mrktg Booth #1
 - sponsored by Student Programs Board
 FREE Massage, Wellness Stop, 11:30-2pm

Saturday, December 16
 Play dough, Mrktg Booth #2
 Dr. Fin Al Panching Bag, Ticket Office

Sunday, December 17
 Night Owl Breakfast, Table Rock Cafe, 10pm-12am
 - \$1.50 with student ID, Free with BSU meal plan,
 sponsored by Student Residential Life

Monday, December 18
 FREE Massage, Wellness Stop, 11:30-2pm, 7-9pm
 Cram Snack, Braval 9:30pm-gone

Tuesday, December 19
 FREE Massage, Gipson
 11:30-2pm, 7-9pm
 Cram Snack, Braval 9:30pm-gone



Dr. Fin Al has released his evil ally, Testress, on Boise State, but never fear, the Relief Duo is here to protect you from Dr. Fin Al's wicked scheme! No Doze and Informator unite in a Finals Relief battle to end all assignments during dead week.

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BSU departments brighten Christmas for needy families

Last year 40 families received gifts from their wish lists

by Mike Winter

the Arbiter

BSU's Professional Staff Group, one of four groups of employees at the university, came up with an idea that made a significant difference to the Christmases of 40 families with a mom or dad who is a BSU student.

Academic departments and administrative offices pool resources anonymously to provide gift certificates, food, and gifts for BSU students.

Students who would like some financial assistance to better provide for themselves or for their families during Christmas can come to the Administration Building, Room 215 B, and fill out a "wish list."

Students can remain anonymous if they prefer.

Betty Hecker, BSU's director of Affirmative Action, and her assistant, Trudy Leninger, administer the program. They coordinate the receiving of gifts and giving them to the students.

"Most students come with their kids in mind," said Hecker, "but we can usually help with just about anything, from a brake job to a turkey."

Students don't have to "qualify." There's no checking. Just fill out what is needed.

Last year more than 40 departments and offices joined in. Some were combined to provide for those with more needs.

"This year so far we have more people willing to give than students," Hecker said.

So if you, or anyone you know, could use a little help this year, contact Betty or Trudy at 426-3648 or visit them at Admin 215B.

BSU fall crime report

The following is a list of suspected crimes reported to Boise State University Campus Security between Sept. 15 and Dec. 6.

Crime	Date	Time	Location	Disposition of Complaint
Bike Theft	10/21	1335	Heights Apts	Investigation
Burglary	10/21	1700/1200	Business Bldg	Investigation
Bike Theft	10/21	1320	Boise Ave	Investigation
Bike Theft	10/31	1205-1235	Library	Investigation
Bike Theft	10/30	800-1010	U. Manor	Investigation
Burglary	10/28	00-44	U. Manor Apts	3 suspects arrested
Petit Theft	9/15	NA	MPF building	Investigation
Bike Theft	10/18	NA	Towers Dorm	Investigation
Burglary	10/21-2	1700-2000	Campus Ln	Investigation
Theft	11/3	1430-1600	PAAW School	Investigation
Property (damage)	11/1	0800-1300	Parking Lot	Investigation
Hit and run	11/7	1700	U. Dr./Lincoln	Investigation
Petit Theft	11/8	1745-1800	SUB	Investigation
Collision Report	11/10	1150	Chaffe Hall t	Information
Vehicle Accident	11/7	1700	U. Dr./Lincoln	Information
Missing Property	11/29-30	NA	Chaffe Hall	Information
Petit Theft	11/9	300	Chaffe Hall	Investigation
Injury tp Prop.	11/14	1330	Towers Dorm	Investigation
Petit Theft	11/16	1200-1500	MPF building	Investigation
Vehicle Vandalism	11/21	1146	Parking Garage	Investigation
Officer Safety	11/17	900	BSU in general	Information only
Lost Property	11/22	1730-1920	Math Geo Bldg.	Information only
Injury to Prop.	11/22	1730-1920	SUB	Investigation
Petit Theft	11/29-30	1700-1100	Village Apts.	Investigation
Petit Theft	11/30-12/1	1700-1100	Village Apts.	Investigation
Property Damage	12/6	945	Admin bldg	Information/Investigation

Compiled by Arbiter Staff

Boise State forensics team earns awards in two competitions

Boise State University forensics team members competed in two competitions in Louisiana recently, earning awards at both.

The first and smaller of the two tournaments was the Louisiana Tech (Ruston, La.) Individual Events Tournament. A speech-only competition, it featured 28 schools from nine states. Boise State finished fourth behind West Florida State, Morehead College (Atlanta), and Central Missouri State. The rest of the top 10 schools, in order, were Arkansas State, Tulane, University of Louisiana-Monroe, Cameron (Okla.), Arkansas, and Texas A&M.

Top finishers for Boise State were: Brooke Baldwin, first in speech to entertain; Brook Smith, second in informative speaking and fifth in extemporaneous speaking; Imran Ali, fourth in informative speaking; Tobin Steiskal and Rachel Wheatley, sixth in duo interpretation.

The second tournament was the Louisiana State University-Shreveport Red River Classic, a speech and debate tournament with 30 colleges from Louisiana, Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Florida, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Idaho competing. Boise State finished first in individual events sweepstakes, fifth in debate sweepstakes, and second in overall sweepstakes.

Boise State's team captain, Baldwin, was named the tournament's outstanding competitor and received the prestigious Pilot Award. She was also named to the All-Tournament debate team, along with her debate partner, Steiskal. They finished second in the tournament's open parliamentary debate division. The Boise State team of Ali and Ken Rock placed third in open parliamentary debate.

The top finishers in individual events for BSU were: Carla Emery, first in informative speaking; Baldwin, second in Duo Interpretation; fifth in persuasive speaking, fifth in speech to entertain, and seventh in impromptu speaking; Ali, second in duo interpretation, and fifth in informative speaking; Wheatley, third in rhetorical analysis and sixth in persuasive speaking; Smith, third in informative speaking, and seventh in extemporaneous speaking; Steiskal, sixth in extemporaneous

speaking, and eighth in impromptu speaking.

Although Boise State's eight-person traveling squad was smaller than most of the teams at both tournaments, that disadvantage was offset by the fact that every Boise State competitor was entered in at least five, and in some cases as many as seven different events.

Central Missouri, West Florida, and Arkansas State had 18 or more students competing.

Flu shots now available

Flu shots are now available at the Health & Wellness Center, 2103 University Drive. They will be available from 8:30 - 4:30, Monday - Friday. Cost is \$12 for faculty/staff/spouses and \$8 for students. The flu shot is free for students enrolled in the student insurance plan.

You do not need an appointment to get a flu shot. However, they will be given on a "first-come, first-served" basis. Be advised that you are asked to wait for 15 minutes after the injection is given - so please plan your time accordingly.

Student Government

Peterson hopes to achieve campaign platforms by spring

Student-run bookswap, lobbying efforts top priorities

by Sean Hayes

the Arbiter

Nate Peterson and Rachel Wheatley came into office last April with a 200-vote lead and plans for radical changes at Boise State. They wanted to allow students to vote on fee increases by BSU administrators, to initiate a "bookswap" where students could buy and trade texts independently of the Bookstore and planned to conduct and publish teacher evaluations. Currently, those evaluations are not available to students.

Peterson said progress is being made on all counts and his campaign to increase lobbying to the State Board of Education and the state legislature is taking shape.

He said coordinators have been hired to put the bookswap and faculty course evaluation plans into effect. The initiative to vote on student fee increases will be conducted by the Election Board Chair.

While these changes will not come into effect this semester, Peterson said he is laying the groundwork.

"We're trying to get the infrastructure going, I'm expecting the first bookswap next semester. I'm expecting also that we'll be gathering data

for the faculty course evaluations for spring."

Peterson said, "From my point of view, this is the beginning of the infrastructure. And, it's probably going to take two to three years, after this it's going to take further commitment because these positions could be cancelled at any time. The following president and vice president will have to take these up, or I'll have to re-run."

Peterson said he will support a presidential and vice presidential candidate who are committed to "service oriented" projects to benefit the campus at large.

"I think that the future of any viable student government on this campus is going to have to be service oriented, whether that's providing bookswaps, legal services... I'd like to see the budget continually going toward providing services for students," Peterson said.

On the issue of creating a lobbying body for Boise State in the state government, Peterson pointed out the recent first



photo by: Rafael Saakyan the Arbiter

Nate Peterson

meeting of the Idaho Student Association. The ISA conference, held at BSU, marks the first time colleges and universities have come together across the state to discuss strategies of lobbying for increased attention on education.

Peterson's term ends in April, and he said if he does not see a candidate running who matches his philosophies - he may run again.

Higher Education

Most loan borrowers debt-free four years after graduation

Report finds most students financially able to make loan payments

by Carissa Wolf

the Arbiter

About half of all undergraduates in the early 1990s left college with some student loan debt. The National Center for Education Statistics recently reported most of these students were debt free within four years after graduation.

NCES report, "College Quality and the Earnings of Recent Graduates," found about 50 percent of all 1992-93 bachelor's degree recipients borrowed to help pay for their undergraduate education, and about one-half of the 29 percent who went on to graduate school borrowed, either as new or continuing borrowers.

NCES's report notes that by 1997, approximately 62 percent of the students who received their bachelor's degree in 1992-3 were debt-free within four years after graduation (46 percent had never borrowed at either level and 16 percent had borrowed but no longer owed).

Of the 1992-3 graduates, 33 percent who borrowed money to pay for their undergraduate education, but did not enroll in graduate school or seek other advanced degrees, owed an average of \$7,100 by 1997 and were making student loan payments averaging \$151. NCES found most graduates were well-positioned financially to make these payments: 88 percent gained full-time employment by April 1997 and earned an average salary of \$35,300. A survey by Institutional Assessment at Boise State University found almost half of Boise State graduates earned above \$25,000 in 1995. The national median debt burden (monthly payments as a percentage of monthly income) was 5 percent. NCES found married graduates tended to reduce debt burden.

NCES found borrowing did not appear to affect major lifestyle, purchasing or saving choices but undergraduate borrowing did appear to have a slight negative effect on graduate enrollment by 1994. The effect, however, disappeared by 1997.

Find out how much you'll be paying the Department of Education after you graduate. Find an interactive link that can help you calculate current interest rates and monthly repayment figures at <http://www.ed.gov/DirectLoan/>



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Higher Education

Women lead men in pursuit of higher education

Studies show narrowing income gaps

by Casey Burkett
the Arbiter

Women continue to dominate men nationwide in pursuing their education beyond high school. Census Bureau statistics show women ages 25 to 29 holding their lead in educational attainment.

Although men and women's high school graduation rates are tied at 83.4 percent, 5 percent more women are continuing their education as of March 1999, figures show.

While men with a bachelor's degree still earn considerably more than women - \$20,000 a year - women have been increasing their lead in further education consistently since 1995, seeing a 2 percent increase from 1997 to 1998.

On the financial front, the earnings gap seems to be steadily decreasing. In 1975, men were earning nearly two and a half times as much as women, but only twice as much in 1980. The gap substantially widened in 1994, and narrowed momentarily in 1996. By 1998, men earned only one and a half times as much as women.

What does this portend for the future?

"Educational attainment is one of the most important influences on economic well-being," says the Census Bureau web site. "More education tends to be reflected in greater socio-economic success for individuals and the country."

The Census Bureau says this, in turn, could level the playing field in the work force.

At Boise State University, 55.8 percent of the student population are female and 44.2 percent are male.

Average earnings for men and women with a Bachelor's degree

	Men	Women	Difference
1998	\$55,057	\$31,452	\$23,605
1996	\$46,702	\$28,701	\$18,001
1994	\$46,278	\$26,483	\$19,795
1992	\$40,039	\$23,991	\$16,048
1990	\$38,801	\$21,933	\$16,868
1980	\$23,340	\$10,628	\$12,712
1975	\$15,758	\$6,963	\$8,795

For more information about gender demographics in higher education check out

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/socdemo/educ-attn.html>

The Club Hop

SAGE advocates women's rights, raises awareness of gender equality

by Dayle McNabb
Special to the Arbiter

The Feminist Empowerment Club at Boise State University, which began three years ago, ended last year because of conflicts among group members. This year, some of the remaining members wanted to start fresh, so on Sept. 20 the group officially changed its name to SAGE: Student Advocates for Gender Equality.

The acronym is no coincidence, explains Lesleigh Owen, who came up with the name, "I love the acronym, not only because the words it represents are wonderfully expressive, but because I am thrilled with the idea of us as sources of wisdom, peace and beauty. Knowing and loving the members as I do now, we are sages: wise, loving, generous and beautiful."

The members of whom she speaks are 10 women, but the club always welcomes new members, including men. The SAGE constitution explains that the group will not discriminate on any basis.

"I would say our primary

goals includes working for gender equality, not only in our culture but in our group and ourselves as well. I enjoy thinking of us as a megaphone for women; too often, women remain silent, or their voices are so quieted and muffled, no one pays much attention to them," Owen said. "We bring gender issues, both obvious and

"...too often, women remain silent, or their voices are so quieted and muffled, no one pays much attention to them."

- Lesleigh Owen

obscure, to the fore, but we also struggle to highlight women and men themselves."

In an effort to reach their objectives, this year SAGE has hosted a rally to protest violence against women, and included five guest speakers.

They have also shown two films to discuss feminist spirituality and the 300-year period of witch burning during the times that many historians label the Renaissance and the Enlightenment. On Dec. 7, SAGE sponsored "Take Back the Night," a march that protests female-aimed violence. In the week before the march, the group held activities to educate themselves and the public on domestic abuse, rape, hates crimes and self-injury such as cutting and eating disorders.

SAGE also plans a celebration of Lesbian/Gay Month and National Love Your Body Day.

"We aim to allow our members and the people we seek to represent forums for both acknowledging/dealing with past pains and moving forward to protect others from these experiences," said Owen.

The SAGE web site, www.fempower.org/sage, includes an explanation of their constitution, current projects, an article entitled "What does feminism mean?" literature from its members, and a way to contact SAGE.

SAGE meetings are held at 7 p.m. on Thursdays in the SUB.

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the Club Hop

Getting down to business with Alpha Kappa Psi

by **Clint Thompson**
Special to the Arbiter

Alpha Kappa Psi, a national professional business fraternity at Boise State is the leader for business majors when it comes to social and professional interaction within the community.

"We offer a lot of activities that help build leadership skills," said club President Luis Monge. Honored with the Circle of Excellence Award for the 96-97 school year for increasing membership by 40 percent, the co-ed fraternity sought to change leadership positions more often to allow members the opportunity to be more active and involved.

"One of the benefits of our fraternity are the positions we

offer to our members to help build skills in business and leadership," said Monge.

Besides the activities within the fraternity, there is also plenty of involvement in the community. Alpha Kappa Psi is a member of the Boise Chamber of Commerce and participates in BSU's Into the Streets activities, the Festival of Trees and the Boise River Festival. School activities include Homecoming, tailgates at football games, and hosting speakers throughout the year.

Alpha Kappa Psi has been established at Boise State since 1969. For more information, check out the national web site at www.akpsi.com. The club's office may be reached at 426-3367.

"One of the benefits of our fraternity are the positions we offer to our members to help build skills in business and leadership," said Monge.

Random Interviews

Students look for some direction

by **Jim Toweill**
the Arbiter

Design major ponders choices

JT: Your name?
KK: Kelsey Kemper
JT: What's your major?
KK: Graphic design.
JT: What do you plan to do with graphic design?
KK: Um...I'm not sure yet. I'm a freshman and I just kinda figured that out.

JT: So you might change your major?
KK: Yeah.

JT: Anything else interesting about yourself that you'd like the whole campus to know?

KK: Uhh...no.
JT: So there's nothing interesting about you at all?
KK: Heh heh...um...I dunno, I'm really interested in the arts. I like photography and design.

JT: Do you have a job at all?

KK: I worked full-time in the summer (to save up).

JT: So what do you like about BSU, if anything?

KK: Um...I dunno. I like the town; that's why I came here.

JT: So where are you from originally?

KK: Twin Falls
JT: Is there anything you particularly don't like about BSU?

KK: I dunno...not really. This wasn't my first choice.

JT: So what was your first choice?

KK: BYU Hawaii.

JT: Is there anything you feel strongly about, like politics or religion?

KK: Hmm...no.
JT: No?
KK: Not at this moment.

Undeclared juggles work, parking

JT: State your name:
SB: Sean Burroughs.

JT: And what's your major?
SB: I have an undeclared major actually.

JT: Are you a freshman?
SB: Yeah.

JT: So do you have any direction at all?

SB: Not really, I might do a business major because it's really open and there are a lot of things you can do with it.

JT: Are you enjoying your time at BSU?

SB: It's all right. I'm not as involved as I'd like to be, because I work and stuff.

JT: Where do you work?
SB: I work at a shoe store in the mall.

JT: Do you enjoy it?
SB: Not really. It's just an easy way to make money and sit around and do homework while I work.

JT: So is there anything you don't like about BSU?

SB: Obvious stuff, like parking issues. I think it's a good school, but it's a difficult transition from high school.

JT: Do you have any beliefs you hold strongly?

SB: I just think my Christian religious beliefs kinda base everything that I think about, like my political background and everything I stand for.

JT: So would you consider yourself a conservative?

SB: In some issues, I would. When it comes to money, I think I'm more on the side of the Democratic, more free for the people kind of stuff. When it comes to moral issues like abortion, and things that relate to morality in my opinion, I relate it more to church stuff than other things.

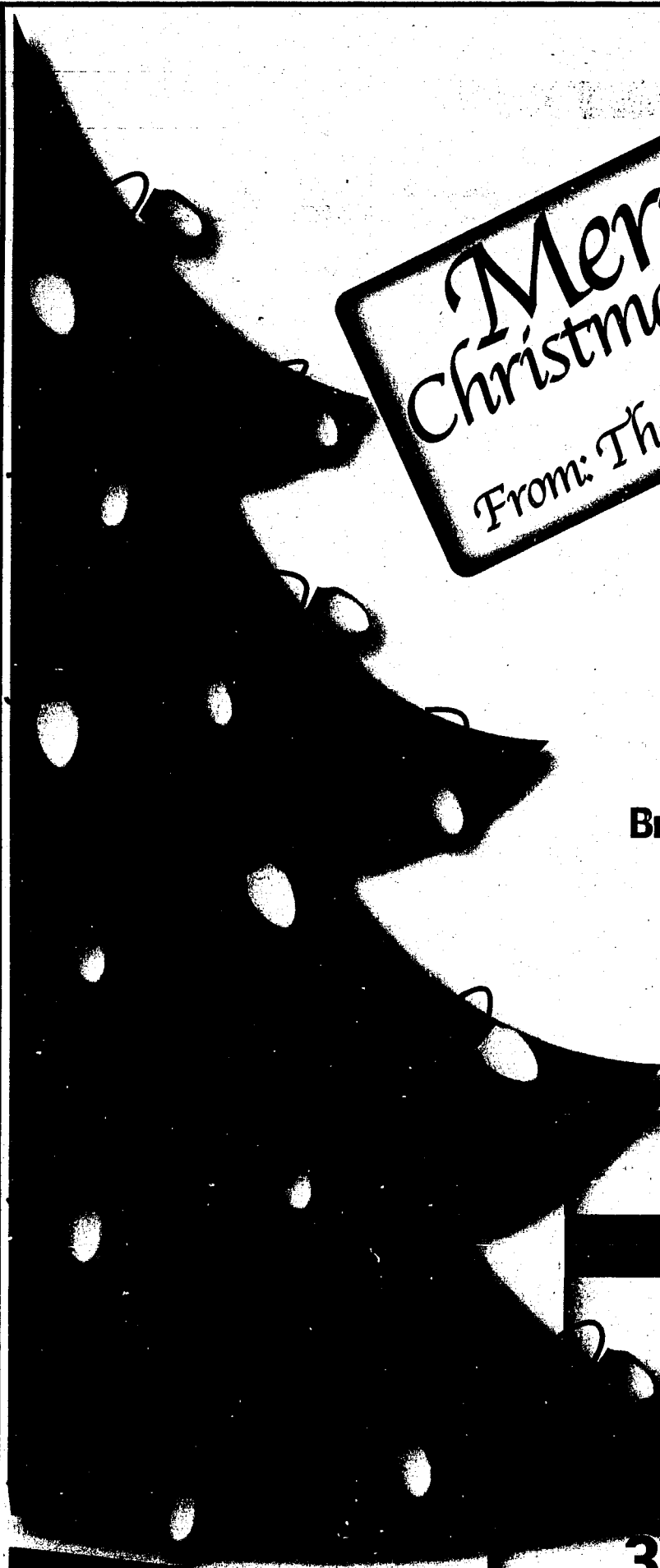
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Professor garners recognition for achievements

by Laura Wylde
the Arbiter

Jennifer Williams, an educator at Skyview High School in Nampa, and adjunct professor at Boise State's Canyon County campus, has been recognized three times since September for her outstanding accomplishments.

She received the Governor's Award in September for art education. This award is given every two years to 16 recipients. Two weeks later, at the State Art Convention, Williams received the Secondary Art Teacher Award of the Year. She will represent Idaho in the National Art Education Association in New York within the year.

A \$2,000 award came to Williams from Northern Life Insurance, which has developed "Unsung Heroes," an award program to recognize outstanding teaching.

"I was just thrilled," Williams said.

Out of 100 applicants, three educators were chosen for recognition for their efforts, and Williams was chosen to receive the top honors.

"I have been overwhelmed," she said. "It has been quite an amazing fall!"

She said that winning the awards was humbling. "As I go to other places, I realize so many people work as hard or harder than me. There are these people who have so much love and passion for their work, who never get recognized. I have been blessed with these awards. It is not because I am the best, I am just lucky."

Williams' awards have not been for one single act; they are an accumulation of a life's work. "The awards represent what a person has done for art in his or her life," she said. Twenty-seven years ago, Williams developed a mobile art workshop, "Project Van Go" which provides schools, most specifically those in rural areas, with an art outreach program. For the first 20 years,

Williams funded the program; only recently has she received grant money for her efforts.

Williams was teaching high school in Mountain Home at the time the program was started. Some children in a rural town would attend school in Prairie until eighth grade, and then attend Mountain Home High School. The children often told Williams of their wishes to have had art in their school in Prairie, which triggered an idea. She rounded up a couple of students, packed some lunches and drove up to the "little red school house on the prairie" for an afternoon. This was the start of Project Van Go.

One of the greatest assets of the program, according to Williams, is the chance it gives kids to teach kids. "It is so great to watch the kids bond with each other," she said. "When kids are teaching other children, it is teaching at its finest."

Since then, Williams has traveled to two-thirds of the schools in Idaho. She visits mostly rural schools that have as few as three children attending. During the first years of operation, Williams would travel locally, visiting small towns such as Prairie, Pine, Atlanta and Bruno. Starting out, Williams was funded by what she found in her pocket, estimating program costs at a minimum of \$2,000 a year.

"Grant money has only become available within the past ten years, and so at the start, everything came out of my pocket," she said. "Whenever I had time, I would take my own money and my own vehicle for this shoestring project."

Word of Project Van Go spread like the wildfires Idaho saw this summer, and soon Williams was traveling all over

the state. In 1993, Williams received an award from US West, declaring her Teacher of the Year. From this, she was awarded \$15,000 to use for her program. "I really traveled more, and further."

The beauty of Project Van Go is that the workshops are of no cost to the school. Williams also plans to use the money from the Unsung Heroes awards to pay for substitute teaching on the days she is traveling with her workshop. "It will not cost the school districts anything now," she said. The workshops are free, and she even buys her students meals on the road.

Williams takes students from

her high school classes along with her on the workshops. One of the greatest assets of the program, according to Williams, is the chance it gives kids to teach kids. "It is so great to watch the kids bond with each other," she said. "When kids are teaching other children, it is teaching at its finest."

The students do not seem to mind accompanying Williams on the trip. "I've taken trips (with students) where we drive for five hours to get to the school, teach for five hours and drive back all in a day's time." She added, "I cannot say I have had a bad workshop. We have, however had bad trips." She mentioned times when they had gotten lost, had flat tires, and encountered wildlife, but "the beauty of the trips becomes the surprises."

cont. on pg. 15

BSU professor publishes book about growing up in poverty

Review by Jim Towell
the Arbiter

Boise State adjunct professor Angeline Kearns Blain says, "poor people, because they're treated so badly, have to steal sunshine and have that in their own lives."

If most of us made the same statement, it would probably still be true, and it might sound nice, but wouldn't mean much coming from people who have never really had to live in poverty.

But Angie Blain is someone who speaks about poverty from experience — a particularly sad and often demoralizing experience — which she has chronicled in her recently published book, "Stealing Sunlight."

Blain grew up in the slums of Dublin, Ireland during the 40's and 50's, where living conditions were less than satisfactory.

"Rats lived in the walls of our room and under the floorboards...there was the worry of slippery piss-soaked floors patterned with gobs of green and yellow phlegm... The six of us would cover up under a pile of old blankets...till sleep blotted out the dreariness and stilled our pangs of hunger."

The climate was especially difficult for women and girls. The title of the book refers to a saying that the men of Blain's community had, "girls steal the sunlight from the day."

With unabashed and vivid description, she relates the stories of her youth, and her community. These are stories of despair, social injustice, birth, death, unhealthy occupations, madness, and insidious disease; as well as the struggle for joy against all odds, and the kindness and humorous social interactions of neighbors and strangers.

Eventually it contains a story of triumph, as Blain tells of her (this is going to spoil the ending) travel to America, where she did find a better quality of life.

But these are not just stories to be read merely for entertainment. The book contains much cultural and historical value.

"It is now being viewed by some scholars in Ireland. It is considered to be a significant contribution to Dublin society," says Blain.

And there are definitely a lot of things to be learned from this book that are still relevant to our world today; even in a place as far removed from Ireland as our home state. Blain says, "The poor are pushed out just as they are (now) in Idaho. I just read an article about what's going on...the gap between the rich and the poor, and of course the most vulnerable group in any society are young mothers and children..."

With more than 20 percent of Idaho's children below the poverty line, some of the situations described in this book are closer to home than most of us realize.

"Stealing Sunlight" is available at Borders, as well as through Books Ireland via mail order. If you have trouble finding it, contact Angie Blain—she probably won't mind helping you locate a copy.

Some holiday toys not for tots

by **Melissa Hammel**
Massachusetts Daily Collegian
(U. Massachusetts-Amherst)

(U-WIRE) AMHERST, Mass. - Christmastime is just around the corner, but there might be more under the tree than parents bargained for when it comes to children's toys.

According to a survey done by Massachusetts Public Interest Research Group (MASSPIRG), hazardous toys can still be found across the country despite the 1994 Child Safety Protection Act. A nationwide annual survey released by

the group explained that although there were signs of improvement in the toy industry, there were still roughly 152,000 visits to the hospital due to toy-related injuries. The survey, which is in its 15th year, has seen the recall of 68 toys in the past.

The report cautions against purchasing toys without first looking at the potential safety hazards that go along with them. "Keep in mind that the government doesn't test all toys," the report stated. "Most toys are packaged in ways that make it difficult for the purchaser to identify potential safety

hazards in the store."

The survey, which was released last week, has four categories, which include choking hazards, balloons, toxic toys and scooters, and a warning on Internet purchases. In the area of choking hazards, the survey cautions that small toy parts, balloons and small balls continued to be the leading cause of deaths from toys. According to the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) at least 190 children have died from playing with toys from 1990-1999; in 1999, of the 16 children that died playing with toys, nine of those died from choking.

"Children are needlessly choking to death on toys and dangerous toys can still be found on store shelves," Maggie Hillis of MASSPIRG said in a

statement. "Consumers should remember that just because a toy appears on a shelf, or doesn't appear on PIRG's list, doesn't mean that it is safe."

Another hazard to children is balloons. Since 1990, 56 children have choked to death on balloons. Some of the products include Winnie the Pooh or Baby's First Birthday balloons. These are particularly attractive to toddlers who often try to consume them. Also, the group warns parents that some toys contain toxic chemicals known as phthalates that are added to plastic toys as a softener. The chemicals are often linked to liver and kidney damage. Several European countries have already banned the chemical.

"It is outrageous that a scientist who buys a bottle of

phthalate chemicals receives a full hazard warning, but a consumer buying a mouthing toy with phthalates often finds it labeled non-toxic," Hillis said. "Young children should not be chewing on toxic toys."

Scooters are dangerous too. The group found them to be responsible for more than 26,000 injuries and two deaths. Also in the report are warnings against Internet purchases, which may or may not be safe for young children. For more information on toy safety and well as tips for purchasing toys, look at the full report at www.toysafety.net.

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Kent State U., other schools deal with online porn viewing

by Mark Cina

Daily Kent Stater
(Kent State U.)

(U-WIRE) KENT, Ohio - One student checks his e-mail. Another works on a paper. A third downloads pictures of naked women straddling each other.

It's not that scenarios like this have been a large problem at most universities. Usually, only a handful occur each semester. However, they are causing more colleges and universities to grapple with ways to deal with students who download pornography.

Pornography has been an issue since schools were equipped with Internet access. Today, it's just as volatile.

Kent State University dealt with various isolated incidents

last year:

* One pornographic video, made by two students in Verder Hall, was aired on ResNet, which provides Internet access to residence halls.

* Two investigations were conducted on two students rumored to have been accessing child pornography — state and federal offenses — from their dorm rooms. (There was insufficient evidence in both instances to pursue the matter beyond the initial investigation.)

* Four complaints were filed on students accessing pornographic materials from their computers.

The tough part is that the university cannot police students, said David Futey, senior local area network administrator for residence services, who

handles all Internet complaints.

Although material viewed may be offensive, he said the university cannot punish students who view pornographic, or inappropriate, materials from their personal computers, unless it violates state or federal laws, like child pornography.

Nothing can be done unless others feel harassed or if it makes for a disruptive environment, Futey said.

"It's a concern everywhere," he said. "Every college and university has problems."

Students have the right to view any sites they want on their computers. If the university interrupted that, it would be "a violation of the First Amendment," said Tim Smith, director and founder of the Ohio Center for Privacy and the First Amendment at Kent

State.

"They are almost adults," he said. "The university would be hard-pressed to enforce their version of morality on these students."

Futey said the reason pornographic-site viewing has increased is a three-part answer. One is because of the growth of the Internet and business sites providing pornographic information; second is because of the development of web browsers which make graphics easier to download; and third is because of the university's increased bandwidth, which allows for greater data exchange.

"That was not available three or four years ago," Futey said.

Overall, Futey said, pornography is not that monstrous a problem at Kent State because of the measures the university

takes.

University policy states that "ResNet network access is a privilege that can and will be revoked if actions by an individual are detrimental or inappropriate to the network and its functioning." According to the policy, violations could result in suspension from the network resource, suspension or termination from the university and prosecution under applicable civil and/or criminal laws.

Policy for computer labs is different because students are using public property, Futey said. He said if students are offended by others viewing offensive sites, lab supervisors will ask them to close the sites or leave. Policy for the lab states that "actions that result in the disruption of or detract from

cont. on pg. 17

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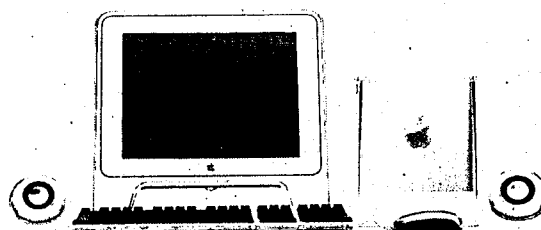
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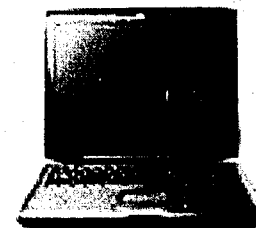
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"Think

Indiana U. activists take on Boy Scouts over anti-gay ban

by Jennifer Wagner
Indiana Daily Student

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (U-WIRE) - Recently, the national Boy Scouts organization, Boy Scouts of America, has come under scrutiny for its sexual orientation and religious discrimination policy. In June, the Supreme Court voted 5-4 to make it official: Boy Scouts nationwide have every right to decide who can join and who can't.

At a Bloomington rally six Eagle Scouts - some straight and some homosexual— turned over their Eagle Scout awards as a protest of the discrimination policy. Two weeks ago, those in support of Scouting equality celebrated a minor victory when the United Way of Monroe County voted to pass an anti-discrimination policy. Because the Hoosier Trails Council refused to sign the

policy, it will no longer receive a percentage of the general United Way funds each year. Instead, the only way local Boy Scouts can benefit from contributions is through the designated donation program, where benefactors must specify to which charity they want their money to go. The Boy Scouts could lose up to \$22,000 of United Way support this year.

Ellen Brantlinger, IU professor of education, became accidentally involved with the United Way debate after she read about the Boy Scout ban on homosexual and atheist leaders three years ago. When she gave her donation that year, she asked that none of it be given to the organization.

Brantlinger was then called in for a meeting with several other donors to discuss their decision not to support the Boy Scouts.

"(They) made the case that the Boy Scouts did good work," Brantlinger said. "I and the oth-

ers protested, saying their work was undermined by their discriminatory policy."

The entire country has begun to feel the heat from both sides of this controversy, as well.

After three years of pursuing legislation against the Boy Scouts' discrimination policy, U.S. Representative Lynn Woolsey (D-Calif.) introduced her Scouting for All Act to Congress in July.

"The Boy Scouts' mission according to its charter is to teach boys," Woolsey said in a statement to the press. "That's not discrimination, that's defining a mission. What is discrimination is deciding that some boys are OK and some are not."

The bill, which was voted down September 13, would have revoked the Boy Scouts' congressional charter, an honorary title given to organizations that serve charitable, patriotic or education-

al purposes. More than 90 organizations, including the Girl Scouts of America and the Boys and Girls Clubs of America, hold congressional charters.

After one Manhattan school withdrew its support for the Boy Scouts, officials in New York began to question the propriety of having a discriminatory organization within the school, according to a Sept. 28 *New York Times* article. New York schools are trying to work out an anti-discrimination agreement between the city and its local Boy Scout council.

With the all the confusion and controversy surrounding this issue, many people believe there is no room for change within the Boy Scouts.

But Steve Sanders, Indiana state coordinator for the Human Rights Campaign, the nation's largest gay and lesbian political organization, believes the organi-

zation will alter its message.

"I think eventually they will change, though it may take 10 or 20 years," Sanders said. "Society is coming very rapidly to understand that homosexuality is, for most people, simply the way they are born, and that there is nothing inherently wrong about it. There will always be a minority who will insist on believing what they want to believe and who simply aren't interested in facts or science, and the longer the Boy Scouts maintain this policy, the more marginalized they will become in many people's eyes."

"It's unfortunate for them," Sanders continued, "that right now, through their own doing, being an anti-gay organization is probably the thing they are best known for nationally."

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Goat left at U. Montana returns home

by Nate Schweber

Montana Kaimin (U. Montana)

(U-WIRE) MISSOULA, Mont. - A goat found wandering around the University of Montana Adams Center was finally returned home after her abductors called Animal Control and confessed to the goat-napping.

Paula Nelson, supervisor at Animal Control, said she found out the goat belonged to the KOA petting zoo at 5450 Tina Ave., after the thieves left a message on voice mail late on the night of Nov. 15.

"They said, 'You knew who (the goat) belonged to; we left a note,'" Nelson said. "But if they (Public Safety) didn't find it, or we didn't find it or the goat ate it."

Public Safety officers found the goat wandering around the Adams Center on Nov. 11. Both Nelson and Public Safety Lt. Charles Gatewood said the goat

was well behaved and seemed to be used to people.

Laurie Wisby, general manager of KOA campground, said many people come to her petting zoo to touch and feed the

**'You know darn
well where that
goat came from.
We left you a note;
you're just trying to
trick us into jail.'**

goats. She said this was the first goat ever stolen from her.

"I don't know what the deal was, but we're not going to step up security now," Wisby said. "People could probably steal

him again."

She added that the goat was unharmed. She did say it was a tad expensive to get the goat back from Animal Control because KOA had to pay for the hay bought to feed the goat.

Nelson said after she got the phone message, she contacted the KOA. Employees from the petting zoo came out and identified the tan, black and white-speckled goat as theirs.

Nelson said the callers didn't reveal any motive for the goat napping.

"It was just a caller who identified himself as a representative of a certain group — which nobody has ever heard of — who said, 'You know darn well where that goat came from. We left you a note; you're just trying to trick us into jail.'"

Nelson said though she has no idea who the caller was, she has notified police, and they are investigating.

Porn star Nina Hartley talks sex to UC-Berkeley students

by Sarah Mourra

Daily Californian
(U. California-Berkeley)

(U-WIRE) BERKELEY, Calif. - Nina Hartley, a well-known porn star and self-proclaimed feminist, told a crowd of 250 people this week that women who want better sex should take matters into their own hands.

"In our culture we are brainwashed to think 'bad penis, bad penis,'" she said in an on-campus speech at the University of California at Berkeley on Monday. "We say to men, 'I feel uncomfortable, what are you going to do about it?' I realized that I had to take responsibility for my own orgasm and get rid of my Cinderella complex that some guy somewhere was going to make me feel alive."

Hartley, a 12-year sex business veteran who has been in more than 550 pornographic movies, is a Berkeley native and registered nurse. At 21, she became a stripper and said she quickly fell in love with the sex business.

"I am always happy to hear about people who grew up on my movies," she said. "At least they are watching a woman who is having fun."

Although many women criticize her for her profession, Hartley said it has helped her gain understanding of sexual relationships.

"I'm a star, and I'm a known slut," she said. "And I have realized that what men want most is a willing, happy woman — most men are just waiting for us to say yes."

She emphasized the importance of knowing oneself before becoming sexually involved.

"It is very important that you all masturbate a lot," she said. "We know the men do, but women have been trained to ignore all sensation below the belly button. Women need to realize that if it makes you wet, it makes you wet."

Hartley described the romance novel as female pornography, and the porn movie as a male fantasy in a society full of misleading females.

"In the real world, men have to jump through a lot of hoops to

get sex," she said. "Women's bodies are saying yes, but their words are saying no. In porn movies, women want it just as bad as men do. It is not 'how much money do you make, how big are your shoulders' but rather 'I'm horny, you're cute, we have time.'"

Answering questions from eager audience members on topics such as sex with the disabled, tips on getting into the sex business and her role in "Boogie Nights," Hartley explained how



photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*
women can enjoy pornographic movies.

"For guys out there who like to watch 'Anal Gang Bang Part III' with their friends, that might not be what you want to watch with your girlfriend," she advised.

Describing herself as "poly-amorous," she said the sex business has been a dream job that has enriched her personal life.

"Porn taught me how to say what I wanted," she said. "I liked the casual nature of the sex in pornography because it allowed me to be actively bisexual and curious about the body."

Hartley encouraged the audience to experiment sexually, but warned against confusing sex with love.

"It doesn't have to be love to have healthy, respectful sex," she said. "This is the time to experiment and try new things. If you are really horny and need a study

break, then go ahead."

Heralding the benefits of her Hitachi vibrator, she encouraged males in the audience to befriend sex toys.

"Guys, don't be intimidated by sex toys," she said. "They are your buddy in a fox-hole. They keep going when you can't."

Along with a healthy dose of sex advice, Hartley denounced capitalism and advocated the decriminalization of prostitution.

"If all women who wanted to get rid of prostitution would just enjoy fellatio, that would get rid of 50 percent of prostitutes' business right there," she said.

She said she strongly believes in having safe and sober sex.

"I don't f--- drunk people; there is no sport in it," she said. "My own code of ethics is to treat a person respectfully."

Although Hartley spoke passionately about being comfortable with one's body, she admitted to undergoing plastic surgery.

"If I had not been a performer, I would not have gotten a boob job," she said. "In some positions they look really icky, and I see how fake they look on my chest."

She said she loves her job and has no regrets, but admitted she has had to make some difficult decisions because of her career.

"At one point in my life I thought I would one day have kids," she said. "But then I realized that between the ages of 13 and 18 they hate you anyway, and I didn't want my kid to come home one day crying 'Mommy, Johnny's mommy says you're a whore.'"

Hartley ended the talk on a note of female sexual empowerment.

"Pussy does rule," she said. "Know it, own it, but use your power for good, not evil."

The speech was sponsored by "Take Back the Night," a UC Berkeley student group dedicated to raising awareness about rape and domestic violence.

The Gem State

Consumer guides issued by BBB

by Laura Wylde

the Arbiter

During the holiday shopping season, or whenever buying advertised products that are not brand new, the Better Business Bureau has developed a long-established code of advertising for retailers.

According to BBB code, any previously owned or used product should be labeled as such. The term "rebuilt" should only be used on a product that has been entirely disassembled, repaired and reassembled.

The term, "reconditioned" should describe only those items that have been repaired or adjusted to put the product in satisfactory working condition without being rebuilt.

A product labeled "as-is" relieves the seller of any responsibility or defect. The buyer must take caution in examining "as-is" products, exercising responsibility for understanding all faults of the product.

The BBB code also requires merchandise on sale that is either defective or below standards to manufacturer's requirement to be advertised clearly as damaged goods. Items advertised as discontinued by the manufacturer should include only new merchandise that is no longer produced or those items a retail advertiser will cease to offer after clearance of existing inventories.

When buying new products, the bureau advises, customers should be aware of the items they are purchasing. Cases have been reported of jewelers offering previously un-priced, newly stocked merchandise at a "sale" price. Having no prior price to mark down, this is faulty advertising.

When buying any product, the customer must always be on the defensive. It is advised to take caution when considering products to ensure their quality. Understanding the cautions of advertisements and quality helps customers ensure that a "great bargain" is in all actuality a good deal.

If you encounter false advertising, contact the Better Business Bureau at 342-4649.

Prof. garners recognition cont. from pg. 11

Williams says the best part of working with the project is the children.

"Kids are what they are, up front and honest. They love art, and bringing it to them is nothing but a win-win situation." She told a story of a girl in Yellowpine, who told Williams that it was the best day in her whole life, and that the little girl "even did her homework so she could do art."

With 29 years of teaching high school and a sporadic 22 years of college level educating, Williams is a firm believer that, "art must be shared! I educate in a hands-on manner, and I believe you have to take art into the community. I'm always on a quest to do exactly that."

Out in the field, Williams teaches kids the basics of art design and interpretation, including bits of history with whatever project she is sharing. She feels like she is teaching "human things, along with art. Kids have to take a risk to see their projects and have them judged by others."

Aside from her work with Project Van Go, Williams spoke of her husband, and four teenagers. "Life is full." They have been her support during her career, and she said they do not get enough credit for her accomplishments.

Williams would like to see Project Van Go continue and even gain momentum. "There is such a need for programs like this, not solely for art either. It would be nice to see people sharing geology, or English and writing, or music and dancing with kids." She mentioned that the time investment might be a factor as to why similar programs have not been born. "Money, time, and hassles with administration are potential reasons people do not do programs like this," she said. However, Williams mentioned people in other states have called to get information on her program, and would like to see people continue to carry the ball. "As long as I teach art, and even after, I would love to have other people keep Project Van Go going."

A Christmas story Christian celebration rooted in Pagan 'riotous drinking and partying'

Constantine replaces one party for another, professor says

by Sam Garcia

the Arbiter

On a chilly winter afternoon, Dr. Charles Odahl, professor of ancient and medieval history and director of classical languages at Boise State sits in his office among the bookshelves filled with a plethora of knowledge about fourth century history and Roman emperor Constantine the Great.

The music of Enya greets the ears of those who enter. In the corner a small coffeepot sits hot, waiting to be poured. On a portable burner next to this is a teapot, ready for use. Odahl seems well prepared for drinks, he smiles and chats between sips of coffee from a scarlet jolly Starbucks cup.

From the markings on his cup, it is apparent that it is once again that time of the year — Christmas that is — the subject of

which the professor speaks so passionately. According to Odahl, the history of the Christmas holiday goes beyond Christ. Traditions like gift giving and wreaths that many take for granted during this season are deeply rooted in pagan culture, which has been largely discredited by Christianity.

As shoppers break out the credit cards and people make flight reservations to go home for the holidays, the historian relaxes in the warmth of his office and relates the true story of Christmas.

The early Christians did not begin celebrating the birth of Christ with a special winter festival until the middle of the 4th century A.D. when Constantine became the Emperor of the Roman Empire in the year 312.

Over

the next twenty-five years he would strive to ultimately Christianize the entire land and eventually this would lead to the first official Christmas celebration in 336.

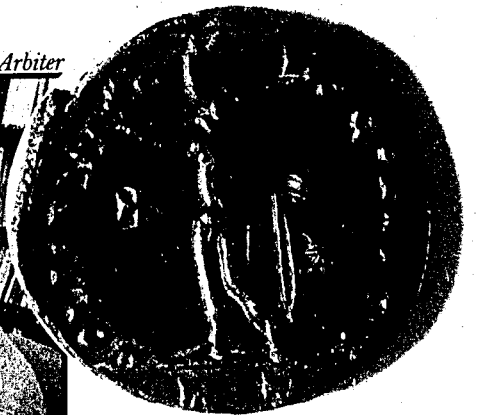
The first part of Constantine's plan to bring Christianity to the attention of the pagan populace of the Roman world was to build giant, aesthetically pleasing churches throughout the empire. Eight major churches were resurrected to pay homage to famous martyrs such as apostles Paul and Peter. Meanwhile, several more public churches were built in Constantinople (now Istanbul), Constantine's new Christian capital of the east.

Between the years 326-327, Constantine sent his mother Helena on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land to build churches with imperial funds commemorating the important sites of Christ's life. The Church of the Nativity was

photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*



Dr. Odahl showing Latin student Elizabeth Congdon some ancient coins and lamps from the fourth century when the Christmas celebration replaced the pagan winter festivals.



er for gift giving and feasts to celebrate the productive powers of the god.

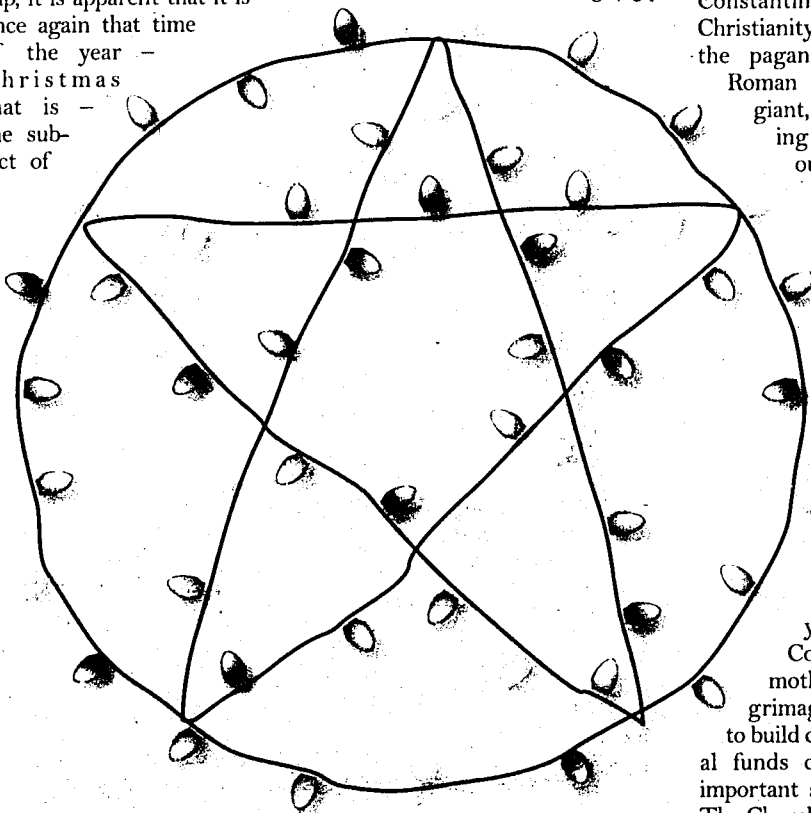
The festival for the winter Solstice for Sol overlaps with the Saturnalia between December 21-25. This is the time when candles are lit for the god of light and one giant and final feast honors his birthday on December 25.

Odahl says, "Dispensing with the worship of these gods was one thing, but getting rid of the winter festivals and their enjoyable customs was another matter."

The solution that Christian church leaders and emperors devised for this problem was the creation of a Christian winter festival that would replace the pagan ones, but keep some of the popular customs alive.

The date chosen to celebrate the first Christmas was December 25 because no one knew the precise date Jesus was born. Odahl points out, "The Church arbitrarily chose this December date so that Christ, the 'real light of the world' and 'sun of righteousness' according to the Bible, could displace the sun god Sol as the object of special veneration during a winter festival."

Between recalling times of Christmas past, Odahl showed a coin illustrating a three-year period during the transition of paganism and Christianity. Sol is



cont. on pg. 17

Winter Recreation 2000-2001 Guide

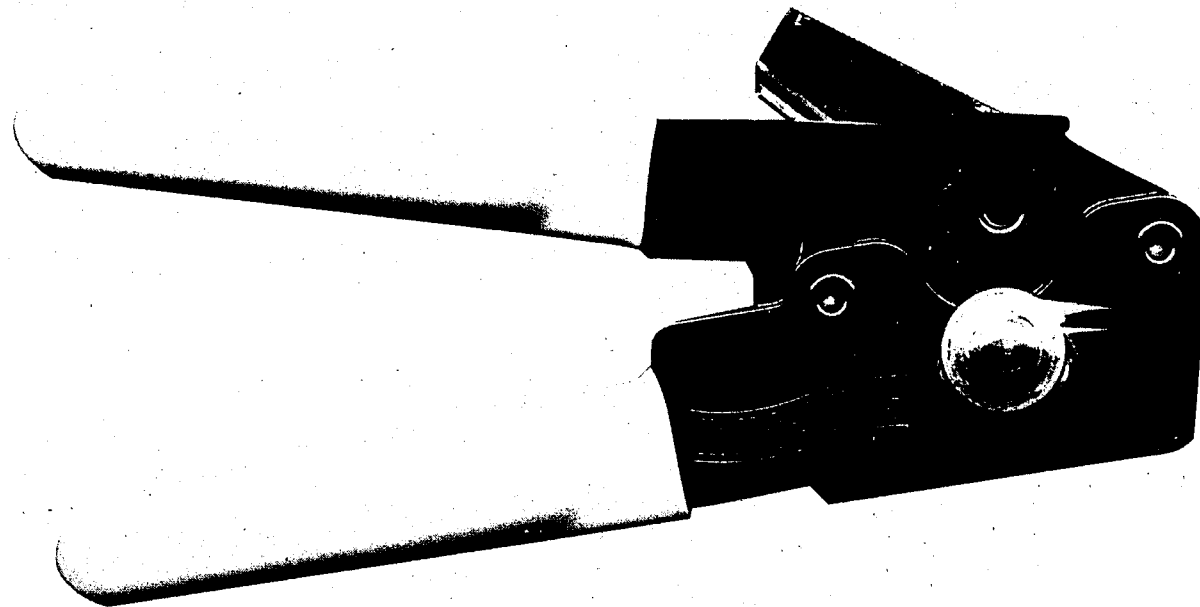
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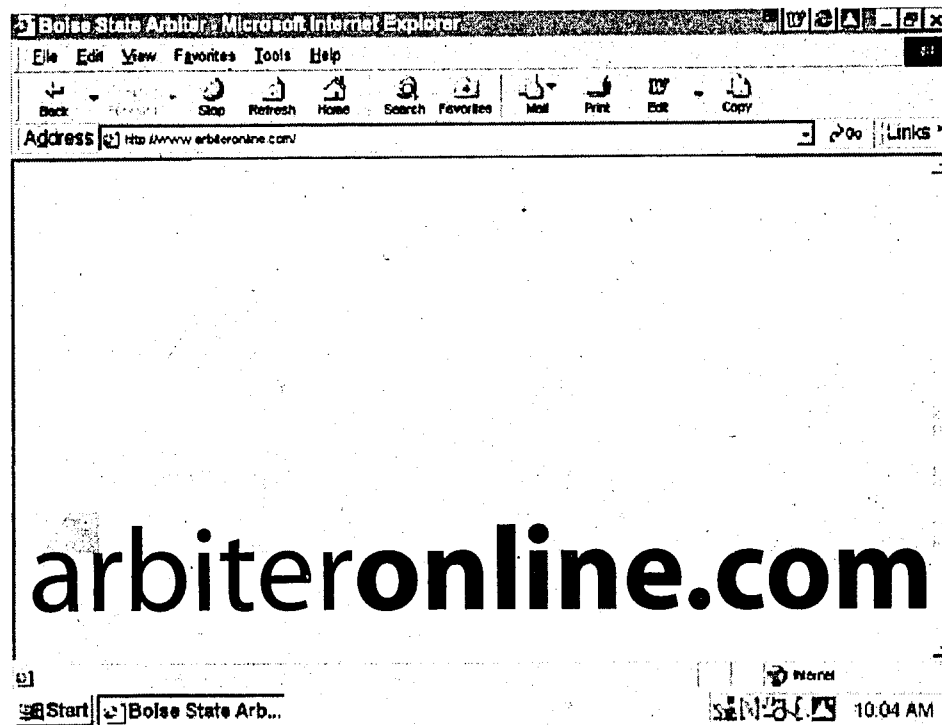
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page 7	How to wax your single plank
page 8	Hunting: A different perspective
page 10	Winter Festival in McCall
page 11	BSU Outdoor Rental Center has Your Winter Equipment

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Snowboard Design Competition

Finalists

All right, you've had your chance. We selected our favorite submissions of your snowboard designs. Congratulations to Sarah Liechty, our top pick. She'll be receiving a free Papa John's pizza, and just maybe someday you'll see someone carving frozen hillsides on one of these boards.

Zebrina Thompson



Tiffany T.



Sarah Liechty



Ed Rex



Tips to drive by

Observing storm warnings and adequate preparation can make traveling in hazardous weather conditions less dangerous. To take full advantage of weather forecasts, learn and understand terms commonly used.

Freezing Rain and Freezing Drizzle: means rain solidifies as it strikes the ground, forming a coating of ice.

Winter Storm Watch: means severe winter weather conditions may affect your area. Freezing rain, sleet, or heavy snow may occur either separately or in combination.

Winter Storm Warning: indicates severe winter weather conditions are imminent.

High Wind Watch: indicates sustained winds of at least 40 mph, or gusts of at least 50 mph or greater, are expected to last for at least one hour. In some areas this means strong gusty winds occurring in shorter time periods.

Heavy Snow Warning: means expect snowfalls of at least 4 inches in 12 hours or 6 inches in 24 hours. Heavy snow can mean lesser amounts where winter storms prove infrequent.

Blizzard Warnings: are issued when considerable falling and/or blowing snow accompanies sustained wind speeds of at least 35 mph. Visibility is dangerously restricted.

Travelers' Advisories: mean falling, blowing, or drifting snow, freezing rain or drizzle, sleet, or strong winds may make driving difficult.

Wind Chill: is the effect of wind, in combination with actual temperature, which increases the rate of heat loss to the human body.



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little ski areas that rock

OK so you have skied or snowboarded Bogus. Everyone needs a little change in scenery from time to time and the winter and spring breaks are a great time to get away, forget about school and try some new ski areas. While many might think of well-known areas such as Sun Valley or Vail, how many college students can really afford the \$59 a day lift ticket prices? What you will find here are six small ski areas, within a days drive from Boise, that provide a wide variety of terrain for almost every skier and snow-boarder at a great price!

1 Bridger Bowl:

Location: Bozeman, MT.

Terrain Park: No

Half Pipe: No

Leash Required: Yes

Annual Snowfall: 350"

Number of Lifts: 6

Number of Trails: 61

Lift Price: \$31

Rating: One can hardly talk about Bridger Bowl without mentioning its famous ridge. A 400-foot vertical hike takes you to a spectacular view and some of the best in bounds extreme skiing. A warning though, this is for experts only! You need an avalanche transceiver, partner and shovel. Even without the ridge, Bridger offers great skiing and snow boarding, with many exciting trails. A definite must ski!

2 Discovery Basin:

Location: Anaconda, MT.

Terrain Park: No

Half Pipe: Yes

Leash Required: Yes

Annual Snowfall: 200"

Number of Lifts: 4

Number of Trails: 38

Lift Price: \$24

Rating: Discovery Basin offers one of the best-priced family skiing in the Rockies. At \$24 a day, the price proves hard to beat for the amount of varied skiing/snowboarding you can experience on this hidden mountain. The front side has a wide variety of runs for everyone in the family, while the backside contains the double black diamonds. This is where untracked powder can still be found at one in the afternoon.

Another must ski!

3 Grand Targhee:

Location: Jackson Hole, WY.

Terrain Park: No

Half Pipe: No

Leash Required: Yes

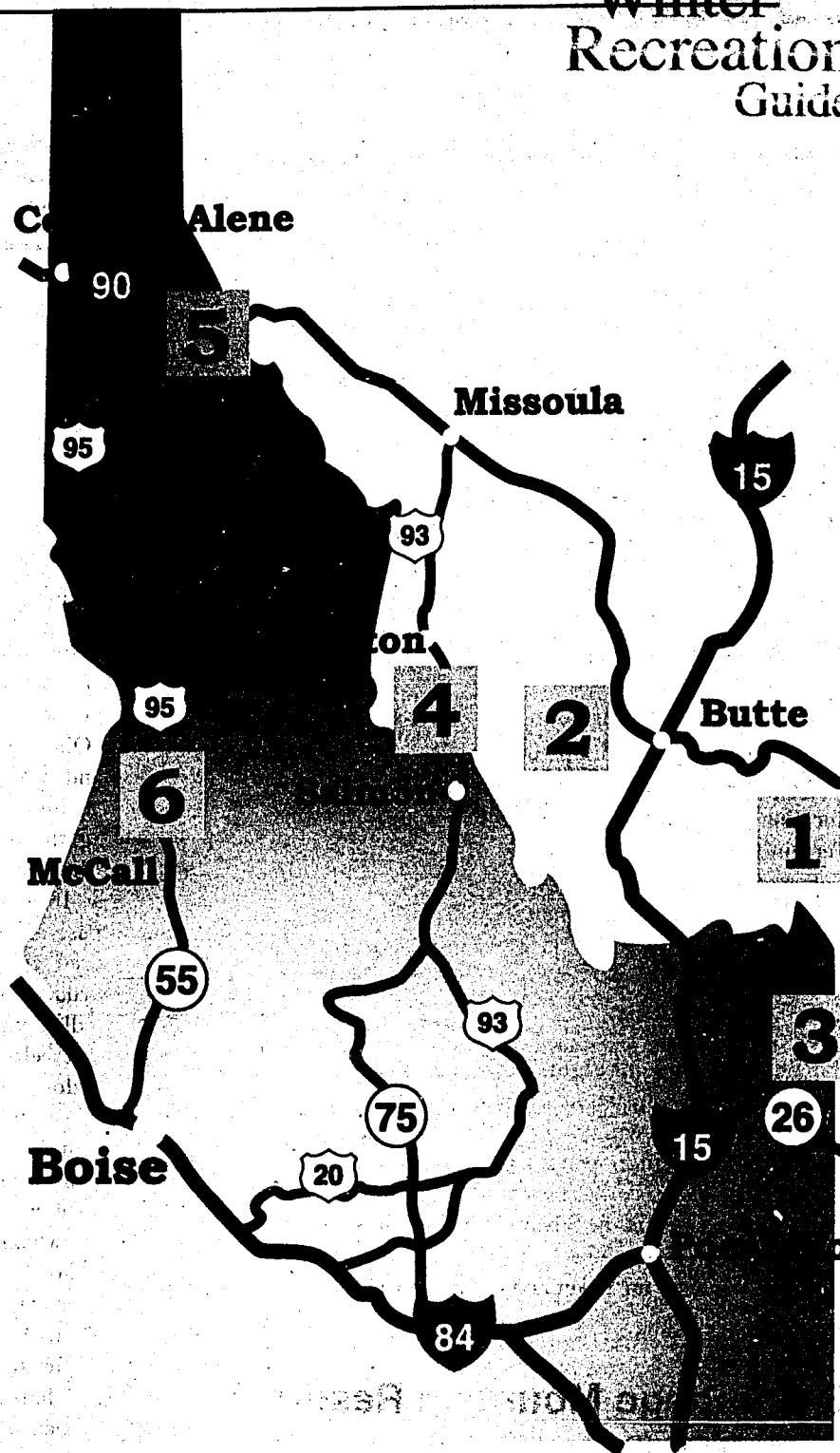
Annual Snowfall: 504"

Number of Lifts: 4

Number of Trails: 62

Lift Price: \$42

Rating: Some of the best powder in the Rockies can be found at Grand Targhee. At 504 inches of annual snowfall, you will be hard pressed to find many days where trees or rocks take a bite out of your board! Targhee offers more of an advanced area but also provides a nice central location if you decide to snowcat in Yellowstone or splurge and spend a day over the hill at Jackson Hole.



4 Lost Trail Powder Mountain:

Location: Montana-Idaho border on highway 93.

Terrain Park: No

Half Pipe: No

Leash Required: Yes

Annual Snowfall: 300"

Number of Lifts: 4

Number of Trails: 18

Lift Price: \$19

Rating: If anyone could challenge Targhee on the quality of their powder, it would be Lost Trail. The name aptly fits this out of the way ski area, which boasts the lowest price I have ever seen in my 23 years of skiing. Granted, you don't get a wide assortment of trails, but the quality of the skiing makes up for it in spades! Due to its location, lodging would be recommended at the Super 8 in Hamilton, Montana or in Salmon, Idaho.

5 Silver Mountain:

Location: Kellogg, Idaho.

Terrain Park: No

Half Pipe: No

Leash Required: Yes

Annual Snowfall: 300"

Number of Lifts: 6

Number of Trails: 50

Lift Price: \$29

Rating: With bragging rights to the world's longest gondola, Silver Mountain bestows skiers with access to 2,200 vertical feet. Combine this with two mountain peaks and three bowls to ski or snowboard in, you are guaranteed to have a good day! And just in case the snow conditions don't meet your expectations, there is the Silver Guarantee: if snow conditions aren't what you expect, return within 1 and a half hours of buying your ticket and get a snow check for another day of free skiing.

6 Brundage Mountain Resort:

Location: McCall, ID.

Terrain Park: Yes

Half Pipe: No

Leash Required: Yes

Annual Snowfall: 300"

Number of Lifts: 5

Number of Trails: 38

Lift Price: \$30

Rating: Brundage offers a nice family resort with just the right mix of trails. Many US Olympic Skiers have made their tracks on Brundage's fresh powder. Perhaps the area's best-kept secret is its snowcat skiing. Here is where you will find waist deep, untracked powder.

How to Wax a Snowboard

by Erica Hill

Before waxing a snowboard, take care of minor repairs and other details. Major surgery, of course, comes first. This means delaminations, blown edges, and pulled-out inserts must be addressed, which usually requires the situation to get worse before it gets better. To make sure it's done right, pass the responsibility onto an expert.

Once that's complete, sand and file the affected area immediately surrounding the repaired damage or the board won't ride properly. If your board has minor base damage that can be repaired with a polyethylene extruder gun or p-tex drip candles, you may want to have it belt-sanded first. Boards don't need to be grinded every time they're tuned, but it may take out some small nicks that will be a nuisance to try and fill. Also, snowboards are not flat, so don't even try to grind it or expect to have it ground flat.

After the base repair, conduct a finish grind with fine grit such as 120.

Now it's time for tuning, which entails filing edges and waxing. This may be the only maintenance you choose to do, and if done regularly it will dramatically enhance the performance of your snowboard. The edges should be filed any time your board is ground on a belt sander or they no longer hold a sharp corner. The edge is sharp if it feels smooth when you run a fingernail down the length of the edge.

Finally, it's time to

wax. Double-check to be sure you remember everything because once you wax, that's it. Wax is great for lubricating and protecting the base, but it keeps any sort of repair from holding and it clogs up files. This is why it's important to clean any excess off your board before repairing or filling.

You don't have to grind your board or file the edges every time you tune it. But you should at least keep them sharp and repair any major damage before it allows snow to turn into water and seep into the internal structure. On the other hand, waxing is something that can be done almost every time you ride.

-Chris Hanson contributed to this story.





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A woman's sport:

Hunting fosters confidence, respect and challenge

by *Stephanie Bodden*
the *Arbiter*

Saturday, Nov. 4: It is just before dawn; the pink fingers of the sun begin to stretch slowly over the horizon, and I have to shield my eyes with my gloved hand as I survey the land spreading out before me.

Checking to make sure my bandanna is arranged to protect my ears from the cold, I note that the wind is coming from the east. Perfect, I think. The ground crunches under my heavy boots as I tread lightly on the frozen ground.

My dad descends the rock face into the lower part of the draw, waiting patiently for me at the bottom. He begins to pick through the brush and the rocks, staying close to the walls, not wanting to draw attention to himself as a lone figure out in the open.

I follow behind him, the ground crunching as I step lightly in his footprints. We climb up the other side of the shallow valley, careful not to loosen any rocks as we search for footholds.

Once on the top of the ridge, my dad stops slowly, and scans the area around us with his binoculars. We are silent, listening for any movement, any indication that nature is stirring. After a few minutes, my dad motions for me to follow him, and I suppress a small yawn.

The sun has continued its upward creep, and the rays shine down, casting a shimmer on the landscape. This is the only decent reason for me to ever get up early, I think to myself. No other activity could raise me at dawn with the welcoming smile I have during hunting season.

I adjust my rifle, assuring myself that it is in a comfortable and safe position on my shoulder. We hike for a couple of hours, disappointed that we are seeing so many fresh signs of mule deer, but not the animals themselves. Although we see a few groups of deer, none are close enough to get a shot, and the land is so flat, it is difficult to "sneak" anything. After a few hours, the sun is overhead, but there is still a brisk breeze, and to the west, a storm threatens. Snow would be good; we could see tracks better, and animals would be more visible against the landscape.

My dad and I decide to hike back to the truck, where his buddy Merv should be waiting, and we'll decide what to do after we eat some lunch. We begin to walk around a few large boulders into the back part of the shallow canyon we had originally followed in at the top, when my dad whispers excitedly, "Steph!"

I step around him to his side, and a four-point buck is staring at me from 250 yards away, with a decent-sized doe next to him. As always happens, I become nervous, and my hands start to shake. I lower myself to rest the rifle on a rock, and my shaking begins to subside as I take a few deep breaths.

I put the crosshairs on the doe's shoulder, making sure the buck is completely out of range, and I pull the trigger. Click. I have forgotten to put a round in the chamber. Never before have I felt so dumb while I was hunting.

Amazingly, the two deer continue to stare at us. I am so anxious then that my dad chambers the bullet for me because my hands don't want to work. I take some more deep breaths, and then level the crosshairs again. I touch a round off, but do not see the doe fall.

Upset that I have missed, I chamber another round. For some odd reason, the two deer do not move. Confused as to where the danger is coming from, the buck stands in the same position, while the doe noses the air.

I know I have another shot. As I begin to sight in again, my scope falls upon two more does, and I wonder where they have come from. At the same time, my dad whispers,

"Wait... a couple more just came around the corner from the draw." That is why the other two haven't bolted.

One buck and four does begin to mill around a little bit in front of us.

I see a figure step out in front of the group, a little off to the side, and I look at her through the scope. I have a clear shot at her, and she just so happens to be the biggest doe in the bunch.

"I'm going to take her," I say to my dad. I line up the crosshairs on her shoulder, not wanting to miss again, or to make a gut shot. I inhale deeply, then exhale only half way as I gently squeeze the trigger of the .243. Instead of looking up from the scope, like I usually do after a shot, I listen to my dad's advice and continue to look through it. I see the doe

I put the crosshairs on the doe's shoulder, making sure the buck is completely out of range, and I pull the trigger.



The author filled her doe tag with this mule deer on Nov. 4 in Unit 45 near Bliss.

flop over in the sage, and the rest of the group bounds off, only the buck pausing to look back.

Although it is nice to have meat in the freezer, to me, hunting is not about the killing. In my family, it's a tradition to teach the kids about the basics: firearm safety, respect for the

outdoors and the wildlife, and survival.

I never grew up with any "gender roles," so it never mattered to anyone that I'm a girl. When we hit age 11 or 12, depending on when our birthdays fall, we take hunter's safety/hunter education classes.

From that point, we decide

whether we want to pursue the sport or not. I've had the privilege to go out in the field with my dad ever since I started walking.

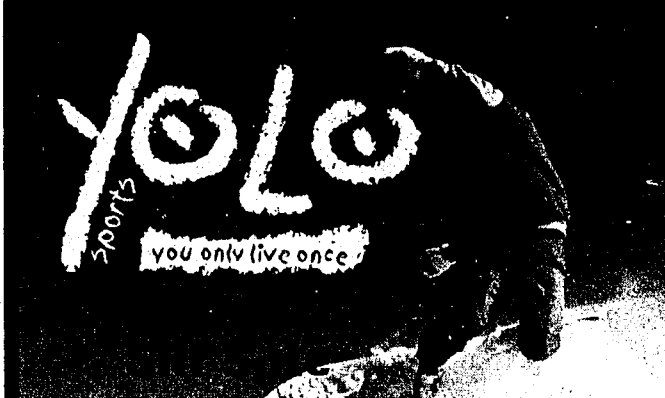
When I was younger, I used to step in my dad's bootprints so I wouldn't sink into the snow. Now that I'm bigger and taller, I step in them because it is usually the quietest route. I've learned a lot from hunting, too. I know how to survive in the middle of nowhere should I ever get lost, and I know how to respect and conserve the environment, respecting nature in the process.

One of the most important things many hunters, especially kids, could benefit from is learning a respect for weapons. The hunting background I have been given has provided a strong foundation for many other things in my life.

I've had to stand up for what I believe, because it's such a controversial area, and that has provided me with a strong voice to fight for my beliefs. Hunting has also given me an incredible self-confidence. It

I see a figure step out in front of the group...I have a clear shot at her, and she just so happens to be the biggest doe in the bunch.

It never mattered to anyone in my family that I was a girl. If I liked hunting, then I got to go.



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never mattered to anyone in my family that I was a girl. If I liked hunting, then I got to go. It's a pastime that garners a lot of mutual respect among its participants, and the respect I feel is often because I am a female out in the field, in a generally male-dominated area.

In Idaho, I am one of 33,000 women who bought a hunting license this year. In fact, female hunters have numbered above 30,000 for the past several years.

These have accounted for about 12 to 14 percent of all licenses in recent years (a proportionate number when considering the variety of licenses—fishing, youth, etc.).

The growing number of those who hunt, especially those who are female, reflects a growing respect for the outdoor life. The experiences I've been fortunate enough to have on the field have carried over into all areas of my life, especially in a world where there are many obstacles to be overcome.



Snowy "daze" and starry nights in McCall, Idaho

Winter Carnival fun for all ages

McCall Winter Carnival a 75-year-old tradition returns to the dazzling winter wonderland of McCall, Idaho. The 10-day long festival commences on Jan. 26.

Day one, of the McCall Winter Carnival begins with the wild and crazy "Mardi Gras Parade" at high noon.

After the parade, stroll through town to check out the spectacular snow sculptures, sure to make you smile, laugh and stand in awe.

End your day with a fun-filled night at the game tables of Monte Carlo Casino Night.

Set in the idealistic setting of downtown McCall and the surrounding area, one is sure to be swept into the Christmas card beauty and the Norman Rockwell warmth.

The McCall Winter Carnival is best known for the amazing snow sculptures that decorate the town. Varying in size from a large home to doghouse size, each one is unique.

The incredible artistry and imagination of the scenes created out of snow are sure to delight the minds of young and old. Created by local and out-of-area artists they are not to be missed.

Maps to help you locate all the sculptures, describing the piece of art and listing the artists names are available at the downtown McCall information booth.

The first week of the festival focuses on the Mardi Gras theme, while the second week is entitled Snow Daze.

The Snow Daze theme centers on all the different ways to play in the snow.

Brundage Mountain, located 8 miles from McCall offers challenging slopes and stunning vistas. Brundage will be

hosting "Take Your Daughter to the Slopes;" demos skis will be available along with free lessons.

If downhill is not your style, then check out the Little Ski Hill or Ponderosa State Park, where you can don cross country skis or hike on snowshoes.

Ponderosa State Park will have cross-country demo skis available and free lessons.

If you prefer indoor sports, make sure to check out the new McCall Ice Rink. Demos will be available throughout the weekend.

Everyday fun activities include: snow sculpture viewing, sleigh rides, snowmobiling, elk viewing, snowshoeing, and both nordic and alpine skiing.

There are activities for all ages, Teen Dances on the weekend, Music on Main Street, a Wine Tasting and Charity Auction, the ever popular Hairy Beard and Sexy Leg Contest, the Kid's Snowman contest, the not to be missed Snowshoe Golf and Bingo, just to mention a few.

Little did Cory Engen, local resident and Olympic ski champion know, that his revolutionary idea of 1924 would turn into such a success. His goal was to help cure the winter blues, and liven up the town. Seventy-five years later over 100,000 visitors annually enjoy the fun and frolic of the McCall Winter Carnival.

For a detailed schedule of events check out McCall's Chamber of Commerce web site www.mccall-idchamber.org/toplay/carnival/, or call (208)634-7631.

If you are planning to attend and stay overnight, make your reservations soon; many lodging places are already booked full.

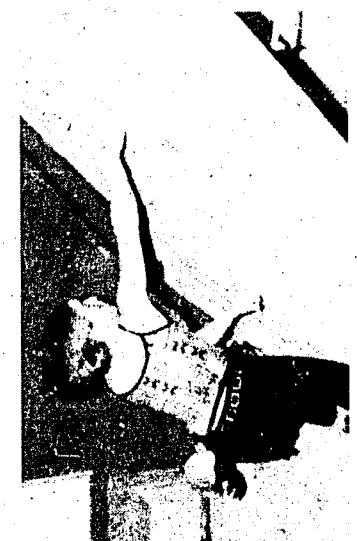
The McCall Winter Carnival is an annual event that will remind you how fun winter can be. Once "Carnival-bitten" you will find yourself returning year after year.

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Outdoor Center is Geared-up for Winter

by Wendy Venable
The Arbiter

"What did you do last weekend?" is posted on the wall-size corkboard as you enter the Campus Recreation Outdoor Center. Beneath it are pictures of students, faculty, staff and Alumni that come to the Outdoor Center at Boise State to get the "lowest rates in town," according to Geoff Harrison, board director for two years. That is what makes the Center such a success and a bargain for the students of Boise State.

"We're here for the campus," Harrison states, proud of the changes and the tight-knit group of "incredibly knowledgeable" staff that run the tiny corner past the pool hall in the SUB. "Our programs are student-led, we train students how to do it," he emphasizes about the programs available for many winter and summer activities. There is no excuse now, for staying home and watching football.

The Outdoor Center rents a variety of sports and winter gear for many kinds of outdoor plans. Snow shoes, cross-country skis, snow pants, sleeping bags, backpacks and even ice-axes if you are ready for a bolder venue, are all available. They do not rent downhill skis or snowboards, though. "We're a human-powered place" Harrison states, also noting that during this transitional time of year, before skiing kicks in, there is still so much out there to do. If you are looking for a partner-in-crime, check out the partner board where you can hook up with another student to seek out your passions. There is also a Climbing gym located in the Kinesiology building—a great

winter activity to keep in shape with or just to try out, if rock climbing might be a new interest. It is free for students with a \$2 equipment rental fee, and new climbers need to first attend the climbing belay class on Thursday nights at 7.

Although they have not sent out the new seminar schedule, last year's was a huge success. They offer programs at incredible rates to



learn to snow shoe, climb, cross-country, or just participate in a backpacking weekend or kayaking with a group. Stop by during their hours to check out what is coming up after the holidays. If you are looking for companions that carry this lust for life they sponsor the Outsiders Club who hold meetings and weekend trips of all kinds, year-round. Stop by again for details. One of their most exceptional value deals is the "12 Days of Christmas" where you can rent anything available from Dec. 21 through Jan. 3 for only a four-day fee.

Their school winter hours are Mon-Sat from 3-7p.m. You can make reservations a week in advance, but you must stop by in person and have 50

percent of the rental reservation fee due up front. This is non-refundable in case your plans change for that weekend. Do not forget your Student ID, their incredible rates are reserved for the carriers of that plastic, little card. So, if you can not remember, or can not enthusiastically answer what incredible adventures you had last weekend, you had better stop by and meet Geoff or one of his staff. They should be able to set you up with something more spontaneous than Prime Time.

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enjoy

Fun Facts about Christmas

Compiled by Sam Garcia
the Arbitrator

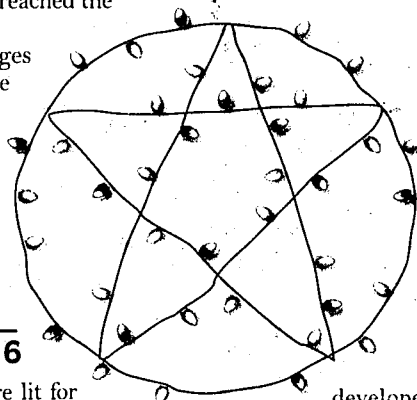
Christmas Trees ~ During the Carolingian Era in eighth century Germany, St. Boniface converted the Saxon Germans to Christianity. It was a tradition of the Saxon to worship the fir tree sacred to Odin. Boniface chopped the tree down to show that it had no power. He then encouraged the Saxons to bring small fir trees into their homes and light candles on them in reverence to baby Jesus at Christmas.

Santa Claus ~ An old bishop named Nicholas lived on the coast of ancient Asia minor (modern Turkey) during the fourth century. He was known mainly for his generosity to poor children and sailors. December 6th was an established feast day to honor him that eventually spread west in the Middle Ages. His festival gradually merged with Christmas and he became the patron of gift giving. In Dutch, he was known as Sinter Claes but when his name reached the New World, it was exchanged for Santa Claus.

Holly & Mistletoe ~ A legend arose in the early middle ages that Christ's crown of thorns was made of holly. Mistletoe was a plant of peace and a correlation was made to Christ's title, "Prince of Peace."

Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer ~ The original story was written in 1939 by Robert L. May as a Montgomery Ward Christmas book. Ten years later, the popular song was created by Johnny Marks and Gene Autry.

Manger Scenes ~ St. Francis of Assisi started these in central Italy in 1223.



A Christmas story cont. from pg. 16

engraved into the coin, however the iron cross sits right next to him. Soon, he would be removed from all coins and be replaced by Christian emperors and symbols.

Throughout the fourth and fifth centuries, this winter festival honoring Christ would gradually develop and eventually replace the winter festivals of pagans. Today, green wreaths are hung in honor of the Christian holiday in place of

Saturn while candles are lit for baby Jesus instead of the sun. The Gospels told of "Wise Men" bringing gifts to the baby Jesus in Bethlehem and Christianity preached an ethic of selfless giving, so the tradition of gift giving during this season continues as well.

Odahl says the Church had long had its own special communal meals and so a special feast in honor of Christ was easily

developed to replace those in honor of Saturn and Sol. "They just had to be cleaned up a little with less riotous drinking and partying!"

Dr. Charles Odahl is currently working on a 750 page manuscript about Constantine and the Christian Empire (London and New York: Routledge) to be published early next year.

Porno cont. from pg. 13

the cluster being an educational environment will result in removal from the cluster at a minimum."

Senior Robin Shura has told about a half-dozen students to turn off pornographic sites over the three years she has worked in the library computer lab. All students she has asked have complied, she said.

"We remind them that these labs are intended for academic use," she said. "Most readily comply."

Senior Shannon Dazey, who is computer cluster coordinator, said she has never had any problems. Computer labs are designed in a way to deter others from accessing inappropriate sites.

"The computer lab is open, so it kind of discourages people," said Dazey, who works in

the Towers lab. "Most people who come in here study or work on papers."

Futey said the lab set-ups do prevent some students from looking at inappropriate sites.

"We try to maintain an educational pursuit of the labs," he said. "You're less likely to access pornographic material when, in a quick glance, 20 people can see what you're doing."

He said the two unsupervised labs on campus are more prone to problems. Two years ago in the Korb Hall lab, students printed pornographic pictures and left them in the lab. Eventually it stopped, thanks to peer pressure, he said.

Students and faculty at Southern Utah University dealt with an incident in March in which a student was kicked out of a computer lab for view-

ing Web sites dedicated to Hitler and pornography. The students claimed he was using the lab to do research for a class project.

It sparked debate on the school's computer-use policy, which prohibits students from using computers to "acquire, store or display any obscene, racially offensive, threatening, harassing or otherwise objectionable material."

Neal L. Cox, dean of students at Southern Utah, said it raised a lot of questions about the purpose of campus computers.

"The issue has certainly subsided," he said. "It's less of a problem because it came to the surface in such a volatile way. Students became sensitized as a result of this."

Player Profile

Life at full tilt with Annie Kaus

by Melissa Kingsland
Special to the Arbitrator

"Free time" does not exist for Boise State senior Annie Kaus. Kaus is a full-time student, a member of the Boise State gymnastics squad, member of four clubs and she has a part-time job on the side.

Kaus began gymnastics when she was five years old and she says she will most likely be finishing her career after this season with the Broncos.

The Boise State gymnastics team has won the Big West conference for the past two years, and they have qualified for the regional tournament for the past 13. Kaus has high expectations for the team and for herself during her senior year.

"My aspiration for my senior year is to go to nationals. We have been very close in the past and we deserve to go this year," Kaus said.

The team must qualify for the regional tournament and place first or second to be sent to the national championships.

This season is important for Kaus personally as well. "My plan is to compete all-around as long as I stay healthy," Kaus said.

She has been injured during every season during her college career and has never been able to compete in all five events.

Kaus has competed since her freshman year and last season she was voted team captain. She says that bars are her best event because she has had so many ankle injuries in the past and the bars were the only event in which she could compete. She won second place on the bars during the Big West conference championship last year.

The team is practicing every day preparing for their season that begins in January and lasts until April.

When she isn't tumbling and flying through the air, Kaus is busy planning and attending meetings. She is the president of the Student Athlete Advisory Committee, and a member of the Intercollegiate Athletic Advisory Committee, the National Criminal Justice Honor Society and the Criminal Justice Association.

Kaus plans to double major in Criminal Justice and Psychology. She says that her main area of interest is criminal profiling.

"My long term goal is to be in the FBI and right now I have a long way to go," Kaus said. After graduating from Boise State, she plans to attend either law school or graduate school.

"Then I have to get experience for three years somewhere in law enforcement or the court system before I can even apply for the FBI," Kaus said.

Kaus has been honored as an Academic All-American every semester and she received an academic excellence scholarship from the criminal justice department.

Before gymnastics practice three days a week, Kaus works part-time at the Bureau of Land Management.

When Kaus does find some free time, she enjoys snowboarding and wakeboarding.

"When I am done with gymnastics, I just want to wakeboard all of the time," Kaus said.

Meet Tawnya "Smalls" Gray

by Renae Hall

the Arbiter

Boise State seems to be holding all the aces this year and Tawnya Gray is one of them. Standing at 5'9", this senior, go-get-'um guard from Fairfield, California, is raring to go this year after much of her last year was spent on the bench due to surgery for a foot injury.

"Smalls" graduated from Fairfield High School, where she averaged 17 points, five rebounds, three assists and two steals per game during her senior year. She broke many of her high school records; one of which was her career scoring

with 1,742 points.

Gray was the 1996 MEL conference Player of the Year, a four-time, first-team, all-conference selection, twice voted Daily Republic's Solano County Player of the Year, and the Vallejo Times Herald's Player of the Year.

On and off the court she is a leader. Not just a top athlete, she also made the honor roll all four years of high school.

"Smalls" has been at Boise State for the past four years and while she has been here she has been a significant part of the women's Bronco basketball team. The last season we really got to see Gray in action with no foot injury holding her back

was her 98-99 season.

In her 98-99 season she finished as the team's second leading scorer, six times led the team in scoring and three times in rebounding. Her personal best in scoring was topped while playing North Texas where she earned 23 points and reached her best in rebounding against both BYU and Georgia with 13.

Gray an extremely dedicated player and is a crowd-pleaser. Her attitude on the court lightens the game, and her slicing moves and hang time impress all that watch her.



photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*

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Koett and run: winning coach goes for the gold

A fan reflects on Koetter's move to Arizona

Commentary by Lyn Collins
the Arbiter

What makes a great coach? People would come up with several definitions, but it boils down to two things. First, a great coach is someone who inspires those around them to do their best, by giving their best. And second, someone who does what is best for the team and keeps them focused. I really have to admire a man, such as Koetter, who has inspired so many people; even those who have never met him.

It is now official, Koetter will be coaching at Arizona State next year. This leaves BSU searching for the fifth coach in six years. Coach Koetter, like the rest of us, deserves to advance in his career as far as he can go. And let's face it, the fact is, in the Big

West conference we can not come close to offering the kind of salary or compensation that the PAC 10 or Big 12 can offer. Because of this, will BSU ever be able to find and hold on to a great coach or continue to be a pit stop?

Our football players are already up in arms about the serious injury to Justin Brown and now they are losing their coach again. It remains to be seen how this will affect the players' attitudes at the Humanitarian Bowl. The only light at the end of this dark tunnel is that Coach Koetter will be coaching the game. Koetter has done an incredible job here at BSU and is greatly admired by players and fans alike—he is a great coach.

Koetter has the potential to be a coaching superstar. I would not want to stop him from

becoming a coaching legend any more than we would try and stop Bart Hendricks or Dempsy Dees from joining the NFL. I understand that Koetter is at the point in his career where he can make the next leap forward. We do not want it to happen, but we wish him all the best. With two Big West championships and two coach of the year awards, when Koetter moves on to bigger and better things, he will never be forgotten. Personally, I look forward to watching him shine no matter where he is.

Lyn Collins studies criminal justice and works as the Arbiter Account Maintenance Manager when not following sports. Collins rarely misses a football game.

Bronco Athletic Association prepares for WAC

Increased attendance, publicity expected

by **Melissa Kingsland**
Special to the Arbiter

With BSU moving to the Western Athletic Conference next year, athletics are going to be bigger and better. The Bronco Athletic Association is planning a project that will help accommodate this status by adding a new feature to the football stadium.

Bob Madden, executive director of the BAA, is in charge of implementing the programs that most benefit Boise State athletics.

"Down the road, we are looking at creating a new press area and luxury suites for the stadium," Madden said.

Madden said the press box

needs to be updated because BSU will be getting more press attention once it is in the WAC, and the current press area is not large enough at this time. He said that the plan includes completely taking down the present press area and building the new press box with added luxury suites for more seating.

Before the BAA starts working on the press area, they are currently wrapping up their purchase of the former Idaho Sports Medicine Institute building. They are still leasing the ISMI facility and have remodeled it to accommodate the football program, Madden said. He said that they plan to buy the former ISMI before any other big projects get under way.

"Our goal right now is to be financially stable," Madden said.

The Bronco Athletic Association has 3,000 members and has raised millions of dollars for Boise State athletics. The BAA originated at BSU in 1968 as a booster club.

Since then, the BAA has developed into a highly successful fundraising program for Boise State Athletics.

The BAA has raised money to help fund a variety of Boise State projects, but its main emphasis is to raise funds for scholarships for student-athletes. For the 1999 and 2000 school year, the Association raised \$900,000 for scholarships. They also host an auction every other year in conjunction with the Boise State

Alumni Association to raise scholarship money for non-athletes as well as athletes, Madden said. The next auction is planned for May 5, 2001 at the Boise Center on the Grove.

The BAA has also made an impact with the money that they have raised for what Madden calls "capital projects". The BAA raised \$ 5.5 million for the stadium expansion, \$5 million for the Pavilion, \$540,000 for the expansion of the library in 1991, and \$200,000 for the weight room project, Madden said.

The BAA raises this money through a variety of means. The most crucial area for scholarships is the annual membership program. Boosters pay a certain amount of money to BSU athletics annually that is used for scholarships, Madden said.

The endowment program is

another source of income and the BAA currently has 280 endowment funds.

"The endowment funds come from money that we collect and then invest. Each year earnings from the endowment are used to help fund the scholarships," Madden said.

The BAA also receives planned gifts and enhancement funds. Planned gifts are future commitments for Boise State Athletics. Enhancement funds are donations made to particular sports for the program to use beyond their regular budget, Madden said.

Any questions about upcoming events or joining the Association should be directed to the BAA office at 426-3556, or via e-mail at ddeltoro@boises-tate.edu

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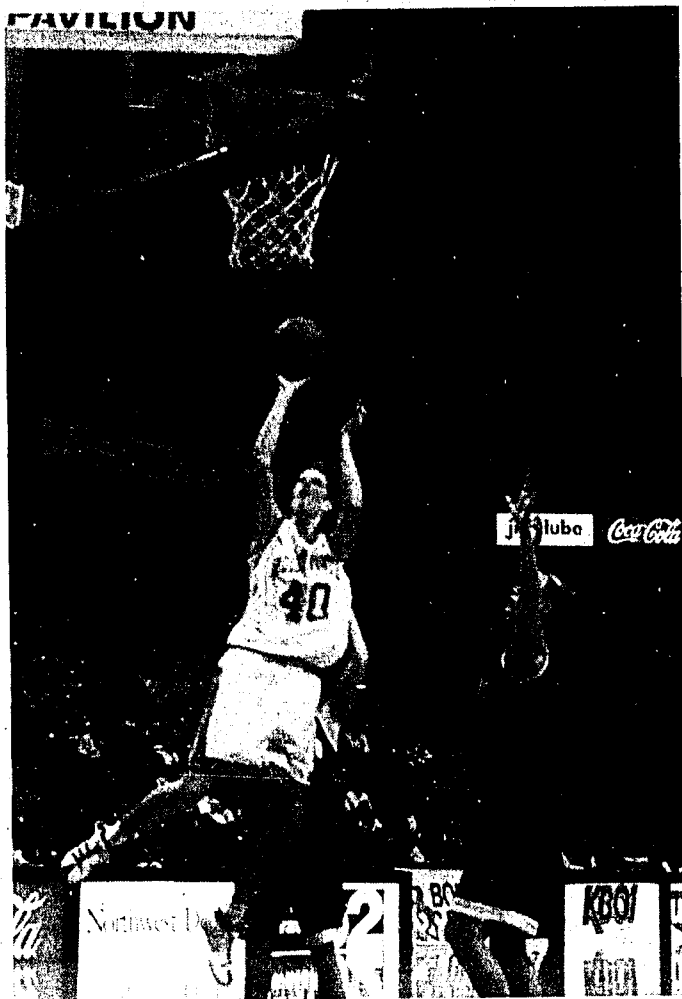
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Bronco Women's Basketball Beats Portland State.



by Lori Hays
Boise State Athletic Department

photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*

The Broncos improve to 2-4 in this young early season and Portland State drops to 1-6. The Broncos will be home next to host Fresno State in a week (Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m.).

The Broncos and the Vikings played an extremely tight game in the first half, with the Broncos leading by one (31-30) at half-time. Both teams came out in the second period and traded baskets for the first five minutes, before the Broncos went on a run, pulling ahead by 11. Portland made a strong come-back attempt but the Broncos' rebounding kept the Vikings at bay.

All five Bronco starters were in double figures in scoring at the end of the game. Tawnya Gray led both teams with 18 points. She also had seven rebounds, four assists and four steals. Crista Peterson added 13 points, seven rebounds and three steals. Abby Vaughan and Camille Woodfield each had 12 points. Vaughan also had six assists. Andrew Swindall had 11 points and led the rebounding with eight boards.

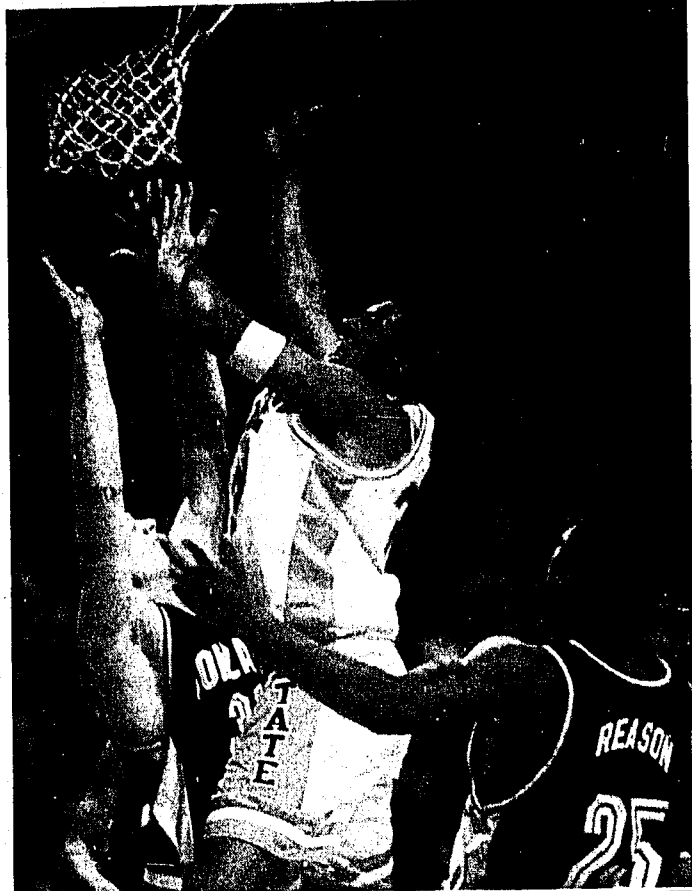
Portland State was led by Heidi Hatcher who had 14 points, seven rebounds and two steals.

Both teams hit well from the floor as the Broncos were 25-52 for 48.1 percent and the Vikings were 23-49 from the floor for 46.9 percent. Boise State had 32 rebounds and Portland State had 25.

Bronco Men's Hoop Team Extends Win Streak to Five with Blow-out of Gonzaga

Junior forward Abe Jackson scored a career high 29 points, while senior forward Kejuan Woods tied his career high with 22 points, as the Boise State men's basketball raced past Gonzaga, 94-69 Dec. 9 night in the BSU Pavilion. The 25 point win was the worst in ten years for Gonzaga, and came with four key Boise State players battling a strange stomach virus that sidelined Jackson and fellow starters Joe Skiffer and Richard Morgan for team practice on Dec. 8. - Brad Larrondo, Boise State Athletic Department

photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*



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Letters to the Editor

One sided on the IMF

I have come to notice that there has been repeated coverage on the negative effects of the IMF. Mr. Bryson's article on page 4 of the Nov. 15 issue of the Arbiter was a weak attempt at objectivity. I'm getting so tired of this one-sided writing style. He could have at least included a pro-IMF opinion. Come on!

Nikki Clifton
International Business Major

Bryson educates

Bryson's article was very educational (the Arbiter 12/17/00). I've heard of the sweat shop troubles, but like many people have been relatively apathetic. This seems like an issue where I could very simply be an activist by no buying items produced by "bad" companies. Is there a web page that identifies manufacturers like Nike so that I know what not to buy?

Josh Rychert
Editor of the 19th International Workshop on
Bayesian Inference and Maximum Entropy Methods
(MaxEnt '99)
Boise State University
Electrical Engineering Dept.

Street Swise

Interviews and photos by Daniel Wolf
the Arbiter

What was your most
memorable holiday
moment?

Toby Steiskal - Senior

"Last year we took a ton of people who had meals left on their block plan at the end of semester. And we invited some people from the community house for two or three nights and brought them down to eat. A mother and father thanked me for doing this and said 'it's such a positive thing you're doing' and I sat down at table and cried for five minutes."



Sam Essen - Junior

"It's not the holiday that counts its everyday that matters."

LeAnn Reddick
- Junior

"The year my friends from China came to visit me for Christmas."



Guest Opinion

Student Radio says "Thank You"

by Jen McDougle
the Arbiter

On November 22 Boise State University student radio held a benefit at the Neurolux featuring five bands. Student radio wants to give a big fat "Thank You" to everyone involved.

All of the music was amazing and hot. Veronica and The Mental Foreplays, Kimm

Rogers, Flackjacket, Clock, and Triphonic III kept everyone happy and groovy from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

We would also like to thank the Neurolux for working with us, the Arbiter for being there as an accessible medium for our announcements and discussions, every place around town that put up our poster, everyone that attended the show and supported student radio, the people

at student activities that helped get business done (Stephanie, and Rob), and all the musicians for making a really great show.

We're excited that there was so much support shown for student radio, and hope that you'll be listening!

STUDENT RADIO! airs
Mon-Sun, 8-10 p.m. at 730 AM
on your radio dial.

Idaho's Budget Surplus

the Legislature v. the Citizens

by Judith Brown
Special to the Arbiter

The Idaho Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee met in Twin Falls recently, in part to discuss Idaho's budget surplus. Hopefully they will help to close the gap between the legislature's priorities and the priorities of Idaho citizens.

We first noticed this gap last winter, when the legislature enacted a \$29 million tax cut package that essentially "spent" half of last year's budget surplus. Even at the time, the people I chatted with weren't saying that they wanted or needed a tax cut. Most of the people I talked to, said they would rather see the surplus spent to improve education in our state.

I continue to wonder about the gap between the legislature's priorities and what I was hearing in my conversations over the summer. Meanwhile, it has become clear that next year's legislature will have an even bigger surplus to deal with—now thought to be about \$290 million—and another tax cut is said to be a sure thing. How could we find out what Idaho citizens really want from the budget surplus?

A booth at the Western Idaho Fair in late summer provided an opportunity. We set up a "bean counting" exercise and asked the people how they would like to see the surplus

spent. A whopping 3,500 people participated in the booth over the course of the fair's 10 days. While not a random sample, the participants certainly represented a broad cross-section of Idaho families. Here's what these families told us:

By far and away their top priority is improving education in Idaho. The education jar got 29% of the beans, more than twice as many as any other jar.

Second place in the bean count went to improve health care in Idaho (14% of the beans) and third place to a personal income tax cut (11% of the beans), with improved services for young children.

There is some sentiment for a tax cut for families, but it is not first priority. Furthermore, the "ins and outs" of different tax cuts—how different families would benefit from an increase in the grocery credit or a state earned income credit as opposed to a cut in personal income tax rates—are not well understood. When these effects are explained, support increases for tax cut alternatives targeted to middle- and lower-income families as opposed to upper-income families. Fully half of the benefits from a cut in personal income tax rates (passed on a temporary, one-year-only basis by last year's legislature) go to the richest one-tenth of Idaho families.

The benefits from an increase in the grocery credit would be shared much more broadly, yet the House Revenue and Taxation Committee refused to even consider this option last year.

There is essentially no support for a cut in the corporate income tax. At barely 1% of the beans, this was the loser in the bean count.

Increased spending on prisons (4% of the beans) was the second least-popular spending option. A frequently heard comment was "I'm putting my beans in education now, so they won't be needed for prisons later!" yet the Idaho Department of Correction has issued a funding request that could gobble up \$90 million of the surplus.

Overall, these citizens would like to see the budget surplus used to redress under-funding of education and health care in our state, and they value these priorities above a tax cut.

Many, many participants in the bean count said, "Thanks for asking my opinion." Many also expressed skepticism that the legislature would listen. Here's hoping they have underestimated the responsiveness of Idaho's citizen-legislators to Idaho's citizen-taxpayers.

Judith Brown is the director of the Idaho Center on Budget and Tax Policy.

Answering the porno question

by Lesleigh Owen

the Arbiter

I always wanted to be one of the cool feminists. Sure, feminists are never truly cool in popular culture; we whine too much about under representation and exploitation in the workplace, throw statistics on physical and sexual violence into sports discussions and question the functionality of the economic system to which we devote forty hours a week. Plus, let's face it — we're no fun to watch TV or movies with.

Still, I planned on allowing my partner the space he needed to explore the facets of pornography. Sure, I knew it was anti-feminist. Sure, I wrote letters to *Penthouse* with every other feminist when its sexualized violence became well known. Still, I always questioned feminists' claim of pornography as the height of degradation and exploitation; I mean, God, hadn't they switched on the boob tube lately? I couldn't imagine anyone finding pornography any more sexist and degrading than prime time TV — only more overtly so.

Bearing all this in mind, when my companion brought home a porn movie, I agreed to watch it with him. We viewed the film together, my usual

grotesquely enlarged pink and red parts pulsing across the nineteen-inch television screen; he showed less engrossment while doing his taxes than he did for seventy long minutes of faked orgasms.

In short, I felt ignored in favor of silicone breasts and mouths pursed in eternal "O"s. I found myself uncomfortable with the two-dimensional world of appendages and orifices, and perhaps too surprisingly for a feminist, I also discovered I felt ashamed of myself as a sexual partner.

I looked, surreptitiously, of course, for any signs of amusement or exasperation on my partner's face and found nothing but intense concentration, similar to how I imagine I must look when writing my term papers. Was he comparing the symmetrical perkiness of the stars' breasts to my own home-grown servants of gravity? Was he weighing the decibel level of the female performers against my more modest vocalizations? Was he weighing the safety and sexiness of high heels as bedroom accessories when I usually find myself too lazy to even paint my toenails?

Although a unique subject matter, the flavor of these questions was all-too-familiar; I ask myself similar ones every time

I could feel him visually and emotionally devouring the grotesquely enlarged pink and red parts pulsing across the nineteen-inch television screen; he showed less engrossment while doing his taxes than he did for seventy long minutes of faked orgasms.

"How sexy do you think you look after eight hours at work?" such ads, usually managing to squeeze in a bikini-clad woman or two (dozen), all but shout. "For the love of God, woman, stop relying on nature! If you wanna look like Rebecca Romaj-Stamos, get thee to the cosmetics aisle!" These messages set up a completely illogical but nonetheless compelling syllogism: you want sexiness, this product represents sexiness, so buy this product and become sexy.

Yeah, yeah, like we don't learn that in Women's Studies 101, right? Well, sure, but what I never really thought of was the obvious question we must ask themselves *after* buying Nikes, Maybelline or Ray-Bans: "Okay, I've sexified myself and won a night in the hay with this groovy person, but now that I got her/him, what do I do?"

Female sexuality has always been an item on the bidding block, but it's been female sexuality as defined by appearance, by that which suggests and attracts. Female sexuality as a performance, although deified in our culture as the end to justify any means, nonetheless remains a somewhat nebulous concept in popular culture.

Like the fairy tales say: You may have to transform yourself

and a few mice, remain unconscious for 100 years or so or even munch on some poisoned fruit, but anything is worth getting that prince in the end.

Our culture spends so much time constructing the act of desire and attraction that the story ends once we finally achieve it. Not so with pornography! *Gee, girlfriends*, it says to us, *are you unsure just exactly what you're supposed to do now that the palace's bedroom door has shut and the Tommy Hilfiger clothes have come off? Don't worry your pretty little heads about it, because here I come to save the day!*

For God's sake, isn't it enough to share your every waking moment with the impossible ideals of airbrushed Cindy Crawford and wickedly oiled Antonio Sabatos, Jr. *without* extending the impossible ideals to your between the sheets activities? I don't know about you, but I'm not real keen on worrying whether my face should contort in glorious pleasure or uncontrolled passion or whether my intimate parts gleam just the right shade of bright, feminine pink.

Bearing that in mind, I asked my partner not to rent those movies anymore, a gesture I'm sure brings a lump of pride to many feminists' throats.

Has my view of pornogra-

phy changed? I do know I'm finished with it, kaput, adios, hasta la vista, babeh. Do I think it objectifies women? Duh. Am I finally ready to come to the light and acknowledge pornography's perniciousness over that of, say, the new *Charlie's Angels*? Not necessarily.

Pornography has no place in my life, but really, neither do those other media forms. I agree that it objectifies women and allows men a distance from us wide enough to foster the fertilization of rape and rape fantasies. I think the same thing, however, of prostitution, welfare reform and gendered language. Newsflash: we live in an unequal society. Television, movies, magazines and pornos team with gender inequality because, tadaa!, they emerge out of a misogynistic culture. You want to stop rape and woman hate? — Stop focusing exclusively on the media; instead, keep your gloves on and start duking it out with the cultural misogyny they represent.

I *have* changed in my toleration for pornography. I don't. It's a guilty, giggling, roller coaster ride on which I will never again set foot. I'm too busy with my feminist activism, with proving to this culture that womankind is more than the lazy, self-indulgent, bon-bon-popping welfare queens against whom politicians rage. We're more than the dirty, vein-hungry prostitutes lauded as a male right of passage; more than the voluminous breasts and coltish legs that sell us everything from Lexus's to toothpaste; more than three convenient holes, waiting for men to fill them with whatever body part is handiest.

Okay, I'm not exactly a hit at Christmas parties, but that's okay. I think I've finally come to terms with the fact that as a feminist, coolness will always manage to elude me.

The **H** spot

cracks about high heels, big blonde hair and orgasms that ranked between six and seven on the Richter earning me only thinly veiled impatience. I found myself growing more and more uncomfortable as we watched the movie together in an increasingly intense silence. I could feel him visually and emotionally devouring the

I bring my groceries to the checkout stand and catch a glimpse of the glossy covers of *Cosmo* and *Elle*. Television, movies, magazines, billboards all seethe with messages of women's and men's proper roles and functions. Within one day, according to about-face.org, the average American consumes over 1500 advertisements.

Gay rights to anger

by **Lesleigh Owen**

the Arbiter

The call came in at 2:42 p.m. on Nov. 9: "Les, you have to get over to BSU for a press conference addressing rabid anti-BGLADers!" I grabbed my coat and purse, buzzed my boss with the sad details of my mother's sudden illness and zipped out the door before the clock could strike the three-quarter hour.

I managed to grab one of the few available seats as I blew into the Forum Room in the SUB. By the time the press conference started revving its engines a mere fifteen minutes later, only standing room remained.

Eyes squinted, jaws clenched, nostrils flared. Those of us wearing hot pink, "diversity ally" badges glanced

furtively around the room, trying to spot a bare lapel, collar or T-shirt front. *Just who comprises this anti-gay faction?* we all silently inquired, practically sniffing the air like a pack of wild dogs in search of the sour scent of homophobia.

Boise State paraded a veritable smorgasbord of speakers before us, ranging from Jenny Plewa, Senator for the College of Education, to Anj Ignoffo, president of Bisexuals, Gays, Lesbians and Allies for Diversity (BGLAD). Nate Peterson, our illustrious ASBSU president and human rights soldier, read a prepared speech chastising some members of the BSU Alumni Association for their foaming-at-the-mouth reaction to the news of an upcoming BSU football game's tribute to BGLAD. Apparently, Nate and

others explained, each football game allots a few minutes to honor a particularly active and thriving student organization, and BGLAD's time had come.

I listened, rapt, to each voice as it honored the diversity of BSU students and mourned the small group of homophobes staining our community. My notebook paper flapped as I raised my hands high over my head in screeching applause, my exuberant war whoops reverberated off the reporter-wall-papered walls, my head nodded in enthusiastic rhythm with the speakers' impassioned words.

Still, I was bored.

Oh sure, I found myself thrilled with the overwhelming camaraderie and support, and I reveled in every voice raised in solidarity. I have to confess in perfect honesty, however, that I

arrived there that Thursday afternoon thirsty for blood.

From the very first moment I received the phone call at my desk at work, I girded myself for some knuckle-cracking action. I spent the entire trip from my workplace to my car to the Forum Room rehearsing speeches to keep those reactionary, Bible-thumping, Adam-and-Eve-Not-Adam-and-Steve, Romans-chapter-one-quoting, Christian right-wingers shaking in their pews. I rolled up my sleeves, squared my shoulders and entered the room ready to administer some debilitating verbal kung fu.

The only obstacle in my way: every damn person at the press conference glowed with support

for gay rights. Oh sure, I listened on the news to those homophobic troglodytes who'd managed to camouflage themselves, but no raving maniacs leapt to their feet during the festivities, demanding a return of

The spot

Jesus, Joseph Smith, or Paul the Apostle.

Here we sat, seventy or so "allies for diversity," all riled up with no place to vent.

A few students managed to single out Dan Popkey, whose Nov. 7 Statesman article

cont. on pg. 24

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Fuel Your Future

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From the editor's desk

by Carissa Wolf

the Arbiter

Almost a year ago, I accepted an invitation from the Publication Board of Boise State University to "...defend free speech." I accepted the invitation with an invitation.

Last August, I opened the opinion pages to you and invited you to speak. I invited you to speak because I believed you had much to say. I opened a forum for you to rant, rave, criticize, shout and be free because I knew your voice was not always represented in the public discourse.

I invited you to speak because I believe free speech and a free press belongs to the people, not Viacom, General Motors or even to the New York Times.

Too often, in the American press, public relations firms buy journalists' attention with press releases and spokespersons do the talking. The corporate ownership of American newspapers dictates a journalistic reality of predictability, efficiency, and profit. In America, there is often nothing free about the free press.

But I asked you to be free. I invited you to tell your story. I encouraged you to rant when

you saw injustice committed and I asked you to rave when you saw the best of humanity.

It's not every day a press opens to the people. Last August one did.

When I opened the door of the Arbiter, I opened a forum for you. I thank those who have visited the forum.

I thank those who have visited this forum through Inside Reports, guest opinions, analysis, rants, letters and commentaries. I thank **Wade Bundy** for showing us the educational inequities students from low socio-economic backgrounds experience. I thank **Megan Marchetti** for illustrating how full a cheap life can be. I thank **Jeremy Maxand** and **Marty Orr** for providing our readers with critical analysis of the local news media and **Doug Armstrong** for defending his reporters. I thank **Justin Shaw** for his critique of corporate power and **Scott Cameron** and **Anna Hammari** for holding the Arbiter accountable. I thank **Jillana Solcum** for keeping us up-to-date about VSB happenings, **Melissa Wintrow** for opening the Women's Center to readers and **Tam Dinh** for giving us an inside peak at the Multi-Ethnic Center. I thank **Nate Peterson** and **Mike Klinkhamer** for opening ASBSU to readers, and **Al**

Lance for keeping us abreast on consumer safety issues. I thank **Brett Woods** and **Denise Woods** for sharing their rants concerning parking issues and **Scott Huntsman** and **Aaron Kiefer** for the odd tips. I thank **Lesligh Owen** for her consistently refreshing insights into our gendered world and **Jerel Thomas** and **Brian Wheeler** unveiling their right side. I thank **Brett Cottrell** for refuting Thomas and Wheeler. I thank **C. Dale Slack III** for gracing us with his humor and **Brad Schmitz** for encouraging student action. I thank **Francisco Pedraza** for a historical look at a racist America and **Ryan Davidson** for encouraging readers to vote. I thank **Lauri J. Owen** for telling us about the reality of domestic violence. I thank **Arielle Anderson** for explaining the finances of our recycling program, **Scott Bonner** for telling us of the injustices caused by third world debt and **Amanda Rich** for sharing the good deeds of IPSA.

I also wish to thank over a hundred others who accepted my invitation and picked up their pens. And a special thanks to our mentors, and staff. You have shown me that ink is truly a sword of freedom and empowerment. I have learned much from your words.

F-spot cont. from pg. 23

much to ask?

Okay, okay, advocating a bloodthirsty mob mentality probably doesn't appear next to "nonviolent action" in Webster's. Every supporter of gay pride has a right to her or his anger; too much violence has continued for too long with too few repercussions. Still, we need a more constructive, less other-defined means to vent our anger.

But hey, you can't blame a nonviolent activist for a hell raising fantasy or two, can you?

"Football Game Will Honor Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals" first grabbed the community's attention. I spent a few moments of lip-biting tension, hoping they wouldn't truss and rotisserie him like a Thanksgiving turkey, but Rachel Wheatley, ASBSU vice president, swooped in and delivered him from danger.

I don't blame some of the students for seeking a piñata at which to blindly swing. Just a handful of stories about gay bashing, coupled with the lack of legal repercussions for such crimes, can harden even the softest heart. I've heard too many tales of lesbians refusing to cow to macho men and receiving a face full of knuckles in return, too many accounts of

gay men being harassed, their beatings and rapes.

As Sen. Trevor so quaintly expressed it, "It's great that Idaho is waking up and smelling the 21st century." Now that we're waking up, we're realizing the absence of gay bashing on the list of prosecutable hate crimes. Now that we're waking up, we're recognizing how little time, if any, these gay bashers spent in jail for their hateful acts. Now that we're waking up, we're getting angry.

Damn supporters of diversity anyway. All I wanted was one, just one raving lunatic, one symbol of all those men and women who got away with taunting and wounding lesbians and gays. Is one scapegoat too

Diversions

December 13, 2000

25

reflections

O Shit, Tannenbaum

by Mona Morrison
the Arbiter

Oh, no. I just walked in the door, and there it is: a huge, gap-toothed, bare-boned Christmas tree, glaring back at me. I can hear it snarl obscenities, muttering under its sappy breath about getting even for having been savaged with a chainsaw. It's planning to burst into flames while I'm asleep — better keep the water tray filled. Sigh...another Christmas.

Now, don't get me wrong: I love Christmas. It's just that Christmas in general, and decorating in particular, is a lot of work. Plus, as you've probably noticed, it comes at the end of the semester when my thoughts should be less on sugarplum fairies and more on finals and term papers. Who planned this schedule, anyway?

Now, back to the tree project. Its obvious they delivered the wrong one. The tree I picked out was easily four feet shorter than the one they delivered. The lot didn't even have trees this tall the day I was there.

I should've gone to Big Guyz Trees, like my daughter did. I went with her, since buying them is the funnest part. Trees, I mean, not Big Guyz. The guyz really were big, by the way. We hopped out of the car, and up strode the first Big Guy who was easily six and a half feet tall. He offered to help us out in any way he could. We looked at him, looked at each other, and both figured that he only meant

with the trees. He yelled over his shoulder to the other Bigger Guy, and by now I was getting a kink in my neck from staring up at a cowboy the size of Montana. Except they came from Eugene, Oregon. The

Its obvious they delivered the wrong one. The tree I picked out was easily four feet shorter than the one they delivered. The lot didn't even have trees this tall the day I was there.

Bigger Guy tossed trees around like twinkies, finding the freshest, cutest one for us. Meanwhile, the Big Guy rustled up a rope to hog-tie it to the top of my daughter's car, and assured her that it would stay firm and faithful, never failing her. Her eyes became moist and hopeful, but he was still talking about the tree.

Well, back to my current dilemma: I called the tree lot, explaining that somewhere in this city a person was crying his eyes out because the tree that got delivered is much shorter than the one he picked out. The tree lot people were

most grateful for my concern, but nobody had called in tears. (Of course they hadn't: they had my tree, my beautiful, plump, full-figured fir tree!) I was stuck with this gangly, overgrown twig.

It could be worse, of course. I remember the time years ago that I told my second daughter (the one who lucked out with the Big Guyz) that any tree she picked we would chop down and bring home. Word of advice here: don't ever let your five year old have the pick of Kurt's Kut-it-Kwik tree lot. Sawing down that pine took 45 minutes, and that was the easy part. It took three strong men to cram half of it into the back of the green van we called The Pickle. It was jammed in so tightly that only a barrel of Vaseline would have made it fall out. How I got it in the front door by myself is still a mystery, because I had to chop it into three pieces after New Year's to get it out. Once inside, there was a narrow path around it, and room for one skinny sofa. Yes, this current tree could certainly be worse.

One good thing is that there is only one tree in my house. For many years, when I worked as an event planner, I had the task of decorating big spaces for corporate Christmas parties. If you're ever in a similar situation, remember this: trees in the winter and balloons in the summer. Nothing else fills up a

large space so quickly and so cheaply.

So, I bought twenty trees of different sizes, covered them with lights and bows, and brought them home after the last of the events. I gave away a grove's worth, but we still had a small forest in our home. Once again, there wasn't room to move without getting slapped in the face by a branch. My youngest daughter, three years old at the time, mutated into a badger and made her nest in them. She reverted to crawling around on all fours making snuffling

sounds, and napped under their boughs

cont. on pg. 26

The Boise Master Chorale presents Handel's "Messiah"

BSU Faculty join the performance

by Arbiter staff

The Boise Master Chorale is proud to present Handel's "Messiah" on Friday, December 15, 2000 at 8:15 pm in the Velma V. Morrison Center for the Performing Arts. The "Messiah" has become a holiday tradition for the Treasure Valley. Twenty-five years ago this Christmas, the Boise Master Chorale gave its first performance of Handel's "Messiah" as the group's debut concert.

The artistic director of the Master Chorale, Dr. James Jirak, will be conducting the 100-voice Chorale with full orchestra for this year's performance of the "Messiah." The featured soloists are Christopher Raynes, bass; Judy Sadler-Marlette, alto; David Noland, tenor and Laura Rushing-Raynes, soprano.

Jirak, and the Raynes are BSU music department faculty. Dr. James Cook, music department chairman, will perform on harpsichord.

The performance will highlight the first section of Handel's majestic work; in other words, the Christmas portion, which tells of the birth of the Messiah. However, the concert will also include the "Halleluia Chorus" and will conclude with "The Trumpet Shall Sound," featuring perennial favorite, Brad Peters, and the "Amen" fugue.

Tickets are \$15.00 and are available at Select-a-Seat or www.idahotickets.com. For season ticket holders, this is the second concert of the four-performance season.

The Boise Master Chorale has been providing the Treasure Valley area with fine choral music for 25 years. They have appeared with the Boise Philharmonic Orchestra, Ballet Idaho, The Treasure Valley Concert Band, the Biotzetik Basque Choir, and other area arts organizations. The singers come from all walks of professional life and bring with them years of performance experience and dedication to the choral art.

with her blankie. The worst part was, what would the neighbors and trash men think when it was time to dispose of all these trees? We decided to put out a maximum of five at a time. For weeks, each Wednesday night before trash pickup, piles of spindly tree carcasses mysteriously appeared on our curb. I drew the blinds and laid low until they were gone.

Well, this single tree sitting before me tonight is still too dangerous to approach. I better open a bottle of Merlot and think about the situation. Wine helps most things in life, especially hostile trees. Better get a chocolate truffle, too, to absorb the wine. Can't get loopy on a Tuesday night.

My truffle reminds me of two things: the first is a dress I was hoping to fit into. The second is the time I decided to make a chocolate Christmas tree.

Chocolate, as any sane woman knows, is one of the four major food groups: caffeine, sugar, alcohol, and chocolate. All the rest are unnecessary to life as we know it. So, a chocolate tree. I got a white-flocked tree and set about civilizing it. My mother drove over, and helped by stringing yards of malted milk balls for garlands. Together we dipped miniature birds' nests into pots of chocolate, and filled them with M & Ms. Candy canes and

red shiny balls were dipped only halfway, for a little color. Tiny hunting horns were immersed, and reappeared in sweet brown clothes. Snickers bars were tied with ribbons and hung from the branches. Turning the twinkle lights on the tree warmed up the choco-

Christmas tree." And he did it! While we nervous children scanned the horizon for the highway patrol; he sprinted over to a bush, used a hacksaw he found in the back of the wagon, and lopped off a branch. It actually made a beautiful tree, but I lived in dread that he would be arrested on Christmas Eve and hauled off to jail. For a man who never uttered a single swear word and didn't even speed when he was in a hurry, it would have been a sad ending to a straight shot to heaven.

I remembered his lesson, though: creative thought gets you out of

jams.

There was the year that the only tree I could afford was so scrawny I hung it upside down from the ceiling for a unique effect. Tumbleweeds, when sprayed with white paint or flocking, made lovely bushes. My younger brother found a tree once whose branches had been sawed off for wreaths. He brought home the stumpy trunk, wrapped a strand of lights around it, hung a few balls on the three-inch stubs of limbs, and set it in the corner. It added a lot to our Christmas that year - we toasted its spirit heartily, and our own as well.

I guess that's the point. I'll make peace with this year's offering to the Forest Gods, put lights and balls and who-knows-what on it. We'll have a good time under its watchful needles, studying for our finals. You do the same.

Oh Shit, Tannenbaum cont. from pg. 25

I lived in dread that he would be arrested on Christmas Eve and hauled off to jail. For a man who never uttered a single swear word and didn't even speed when he was in a hurry, it would have been a sad ending to a straight shot to heaven.

late decorations, and our house smelled heavenly. Now, that was a good tree!

As you may have guessed by now, I have to rent a storage unit for my Christmas decorations. I don't know where I get my love of the season. My mother, wonderful as she is, never cared much for the mess and bother. Her attitude could have stemmed from their economic circumstances, but at least she made sure that we had a Christmas flora of some sort every year.

In fact, the only law-breaking I ever witnessed from my parents was the time my dad pulled our Rambler station wagon off the side of the road, and looked longingly at some cypress shrubs a few hundred yards off the country highway. "You know," he said, "we could just saw a branch off one of those and make it into a

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BSU student makes ends meet with voice, guitar and new CD

Elizabeth Blin's music "quirky" and "upbeat"

by Jim Towell

the Arbiter

Elizabeth Blin is a BSU student and singer/songwriter who often performs with an acoustic guitar in small, intimate venues like coffee shops. If you're not familiar with her music, you might assume that she's some kind of Jewel-esque folk artist, singing sad and pretty songs about loss, longing and deep-seated despair.

But Blin's music transcends and handily evaporates these stereotypes. In fact, her style is a refreshingly original and nearly unclassifiable combination of jazz, rock, blues, bossa-nova and folk with classical overtones, often sung in her native French. Her own description, "How the French Blues Met the Magic Of Bossa Nova," isn't even close to definitive.

It's hard not to crack a smile when listening to her new CD, "Therapie Bossa Nova." It's danceable, quirky, largely upbeat, unobtrusive, yet still

interesting, mellow without being too quiet, and unyieldingly positive. This is the kind of music that, despite its non-traditional (for Boiseans anyway) nature, will raise your spirits a couple of notches and make you want to kick back and have a margarita or two.

Though her music won't leave listeners feeling heavy, Blin doesn't hesitate to address some substantial issues and themes in her lyrics. She was raised in Catholicism and even considered becoming a nun as a girl, but didn't find the religion to be very down to earth and compassionate toward all forms of life.

"I had philosophical questions about our roles as human beings on the planet, especially about killing animals," Blin said. "It is one aspect of very strong violence that we are used to, and we perpetrate. These are really important values for me; so in my songs, I try not to be preachy, but I just mention 'hey, let's love each other and not kill each other and let's love the animals too.'"

The lyrics on "Therapie Bossa Nova" reveal Blin as a hopeful, deeply spiritual person, concerned with questioning as well as enjoying life.

"Limited in this material body, that put its sticks into my wheels, I taste the new potatoes and rediscover a new flavor...I have chosen a path of ripened reasoning...the world is looking for its roots, its cosmic origins"—from "Corps Materiel" (Material Body).

Blin is also very serious

about making a career in music, which isn't the easiest path to take in life, especially for an artist who isn't playing in a style that is considered commercially viable.

Blin said, "When you choose music as a career, as a means of living, you know you're going to struggle. It's definitely a tough choice in a small city like Boise, because you can't really make a living on your music and that's too bad." She isn't going to 'sell out' though.

"(But) I will not compromise to play in marching bands or to country music, which is very popular around here." And Boise is certainly lucky that she has such a conviction.

"Therapie Bossa Nova" would make a great Christmas gift, and it is available at the Record Exchange, CD Merchant, Borders, The Co-Op and at any of her gigs.

"When you choose music as a career, as a means of living, you know you're going to struggle. It's definitely a tough choice in a small city like Boise, because you can't really make a living on your music and that's too bad."

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DECEMBER 20 • 6 & 9PM • MORRISON CENTER

an **SPX** event

For tickets Call 426-1110 10am-2pm or 426-1766 10am-9pm
Tickets also at the Morrison Center box office and all Select-a-Seat outlets

RC Wilco
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Less talk, more wok

by J. Patrick Kelly
the Arbiter

Panda Express
2203 University Drive
381-0070

Here Szechuan and Mandarin cuisines collide for cafeteria-style service. Unlike the '80s teriyaki joints with shellacked samples, Panda Express' Chinese selections are piping hot and ready to eat. And you don't even have to tell them your order. Just point and make an audible sound, although they appreciate verbiage. The visual presentation makes decision-making fast and easy at this new eatery in the Office Depot shopping plaza on the edge of campus.

I found the pan-Asian plastic

ambiance oddly appealing with its wood veneer and Corian-marble accents. Panda bears great and small adorn the walls: there are even a series of Warholian panda prints! Oh yeah, the rice-paper umbrellas are impressive, too.

The menu is designed for efficiency. The woks constantly sizzle and the hot food is hustled to the steam tables upon request, "more chow mein please!" Amid chaos, this is all done with a smile. The kitchen is open to view, so good attitude and cleanliness are paramount, and the Panda Express sparkles.

Combination plates are the top sellers: Three entrée items (\$5.79), Two entrée items (\$4.79), or one entrée item (\$4.19). All entrees are served with Veggie Fried Rice or Chow Mein, and if you ask nicely they will give you a little of both.

Combo entrée items are selected from the lineup: Orange Flavored Chicken, Chicken with Mushrooms, Spicy Chicken with Peanuts (Kung Pao), Fresh Mixed Vegetables, Beef with Broccoli, Sweet and Sour Pork, and Vegetable Spring Rolls. You can also choose from the Chef's Specials: Black Pepper Chicken, Mandarin Chicken, and Szechuan Beef. All entrees can be ordered a la carte as well.

Two soups are rotated weekly: Hot and Sour Soup and Egg-Drop Soup (\$1.29 at luck of the draw). Side orders are available in two sizes: Chow Mein (\$2.99/\$4.79), Fried Rice (\$2.69/\$4.49), and Steamed Rice (cheap).

Large study groups should try the 2+2 Family Meal: 2 Entrees, 2 Rice or

Chow Mein, and four Spring Rolls (\$18) or the 3+3 Family Meal (\$25), you do the math! A big meal is better than gingko for brainpower!

There is no MSG here, but some of the dishes might be

too salty for the average palate. Hopefully, this will be worked out in the fine-tuning. Minus the extra sodium, The Panda Express is a welcome newcomer to the University neighborhood.

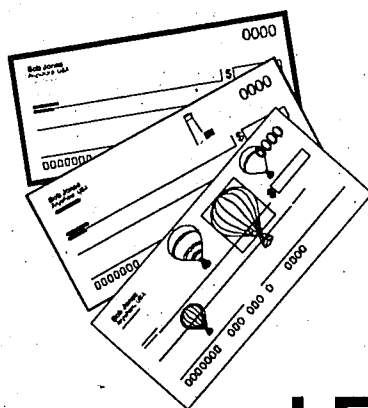
photo by: Jordan Mardis *the Arbiter*



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Arbiter Classifieds



(208) 345-8204 Fax: (208) 426-3884

ads@email.boisestate.edu

For BSU Students/Faculty the first 25 words are free, after that only \$0.25/word. Student rate is non-business advertising. Must show student or faculty Id or include student number.

December 13, 2000

29

MISC.

The Arbiter is currently providing an all new service right here in our classified ads section. A forum for student groups, campus clubs, and BSU organizations to share information on upcoming events and activities. Just e-mail announcements@arbiter-mail.com. Include your group or organization's name, as well as the time, date, and location of the event or activity, and a brief description (25 words or less).

Got something to say?

Say it with a classified ad in *The Arbiter*! We offer free classified advertising for all students and staff of BSU, for any non-business ad of 25 words or less. That's right, **FREE!** Classified advertising in *The Arbiter*... The only thing BSU doesn't charge for ;)

MISC.

Need volunteers for First Night. Make a difference, and be involved with the fun and exciting downtown New Year's party. Ask for Shayne, 336-4996.

FOR SALE

PlayStation 2 for sale. Make me an offer. vote4ali@aol.com or 371-1502.

Moving sale and sub-lease, 334-8771.

All new double size completed bed \$150; desk \$50; chair \$20; lamp \$10. Studio rent, \$340/mo, includes all utilities. 50% off from Dec. 20 till Feb. 28. Share with 3 girls.

HELP WANTED

Wanted:

Bass player for local alternative band. Must be creative. Call Jeff or K.C. at 344-3182.

WILDLIFE JOBS

\$8-19/HR
+ Federal Benefits
Park Rangers, Security, and Maintenance
No experience for some.
For info call
1-800-391-5856 xF345
8am-9pm Local not guar.

HELP WANTED

POSTAL JOBS

\$9-14.27/HR
+ Federal Benefits
No experience, exam info.
Call 1-800-391-5856 xF334
8am-9pm Local not guar.

PART TIME

National company needs reliable individual to handle field work, including delinquency interviews/ inspections of vacant mobile homes. 800-748-3995, fax resume to 800-748-3964.

WILDLIFE JOBS

\$8-19/HR
+ Federal Benefits
Park Rangers, Security, and Maintenance
No experience for some.
For info call
1-800-391-5856 x2008
8am-9pm Local not guar.

HELP WANTED

POSTAL JOBS

\$9-14.27/HR
+ Federal Benefits
No experience, exam info.
Call 1-800-391-5856 x2008
8am-9pm Local not guar.

BSU Women's Center Seeks Writers! Internship credit available.

- Women's History Month project recognizing women making history
- Interview nominees
- Write their stories
- Working timeline Dec. 1 through Jan. 20

Contact Melissa at 426-4259

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

Come Play Santa Claus This Season

Full-time and part time seasonal positions available.
\$8.50-11.25 per hr. depending on position.
Can work into regular positions.
Come make extra cash to start of next semester!
"Contact student employment 426-1745 or Boise Job Service" 334-6233

ASBSU provides FREE ATTORNEY CONSULTATIONS 426-1440

with a local private lawyer for most legal problems you may have, including

divorce/family law
landlord problems
child custody and child support
collection and debt problems
personal injury and insurance
workmen's compensation claims
DUI/criminal

call ASBSU for an appointment Attorneys: Margaret Iezamiz and John Schroeder

HOLIDAY HIRING

...for those who have excellent verbal skills and need a flexible schedule...

- Evening and Weekend shifts
- Part time and full time

\$8 plus BONUS

376-4480

Who do you think should advertise here?

Advertising Account Executives needed for spring

Arbiter
345-8204

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

spherion.
workforce architects

12 Days until Christmas.
Could the Santa at your house use some holiday cash? We have great FT and PT jobs available. Call 345-8367.

Work at home. PC home business. Computer provided. 1-800-295-7775 ext. 1273.

HOUSING

Female roommate wanted. Extremely responsible, clean. No pets, no smoking, no drugs. For more information call 323-4519.

Looking to build an impressive resume? Looking for a flexible schedule with earning opportunities? Looking for a job which offers unique experiences and fun co-workers? Looking to actually make some money? Good, because *The Arbiter* is looking for you too. *The Arbiter* needs people to fill vacancies in our advertising department. If you'd be interested in working as an Account Executive (no prior experience required, will train), call us at 345-8204 for an interview.

Campus Clubs

The Scottish-American Society is a non-profit, community oriented group dedicated to promoting awareness, and celebration of Scottish and other Celtic heritages. Call 331-5675 for more information, or for the times and locations of upcoming meetings.

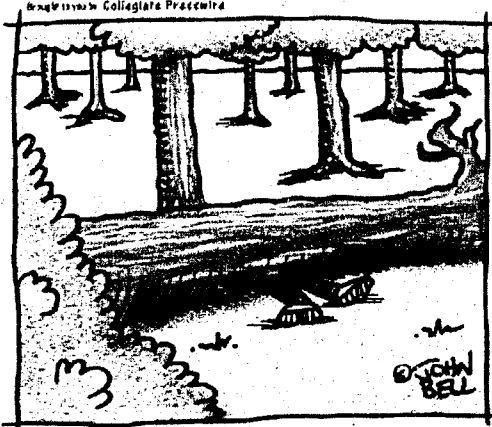
HOUSING

Female student seeking M/F student to share large, attractive two bedroom apartment. Excellent location. Non-smoker. \$250/mo plus 1/2 utilities. Maggie 433-8905.

M/F roommate wanted to share 3 bedroom house. \$300 per month + 1/2 utilities. Smoking OK, pets negotiable. Call 362-8886.

Looking for a place to live?
www.housing101.net
Your move off campus!

The Bell Curve



HE NEVER HEARD A THING.

This week's crossword (& free food) sponsored by:
The Arbiteronline
www.arbiteronline.com

Sick of Ramen Noodles?

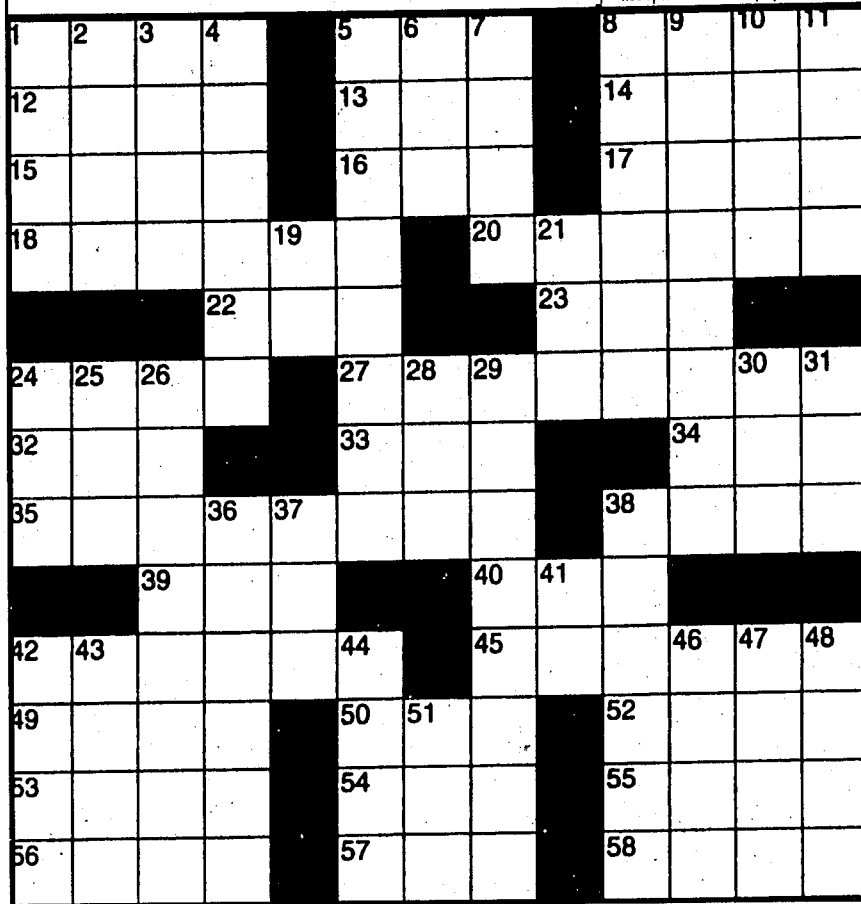
send an email with:

Ramen sucks!

winning email is judged by date & time received, one prize per person. Contest expires 12/22/00 not open to Arbiter employees.

in the subject line to:
ads@arbitermail.com
first email wins a

FREE Shari's Gift Certificate



ACROSS

- 1 Asset
- 5 Diamond VIP
- 8 Office shape
- 12 Bridge position
- 13 Luau bowlful
- 14 Meerschaum, e.g.
- 15 Incessantly
- 16 Cauldron

17 "___ spurs that..."

- 18 Job-seeker's bio
- 20 Bleachers
- 22 Ford or Lincoln

23 Noshed

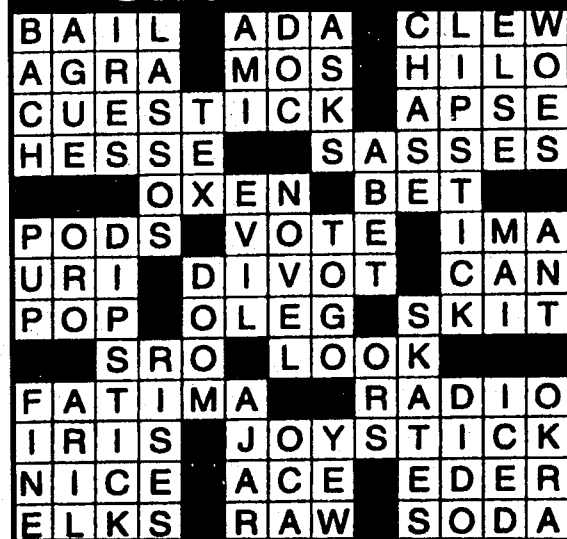
- 24 "South ___"
- 27 Flirtatious female
- 32 Plata's partner

- 33 S.A. nation
- 34 X rating?
- 35 Actress Goddard
- 38 Starring role
- 39 Taradiddle
- 40 Dallas sch.
- 42 With candor
- 45 "Monkey suit"
- 49 Memorization method
- 50 "What Kind of Fool ___?"
- 52 ___ Bator
- 53 Nick's pooch
- 54 Abbott's first baseman
- 55 Hoarfrost
- 56 Lecherous
- 57 Cigaretteless, for short
- 58 Kennel cries

DOWN

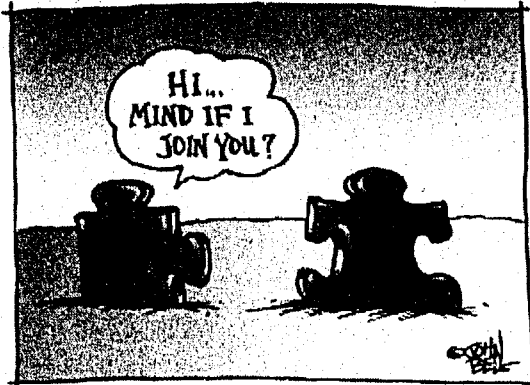
- 1 Juror
- 2 Wash
- 3 Puts to work
- 4 Hit
- 5 Ring tactic
- 6 Jane Smiley novel
- 7 Concealed dangers
- 8 Soporific drug
- 9 Brief sketch
- 10 Like two peas in ___
- 11 Reply to "Shall we?"
- 19 One of the Kettles
- 21 Greek cross
- 24 Jasper John's art style
- 25 Coach Parseghian
- 26 Casino pastime
- 28 Doggy-bag tidbit
- 29 Interrogate
- 30 Afternoon social
- 31 Remnant
- 36 One-dimensional
- 37 Moray or conger
- 38 Life of Riley
- 41 Symbol for a micron
- 42 Evangelist Roberts
- 43 Sit for a shot
- 44 React with ennui
- 46 Lamb's pen name
- 47 Moist
- 48 Change for a five
- 51 Conductance unit

ANSWERS FOR THE 12-06-2000 CROSSWORD

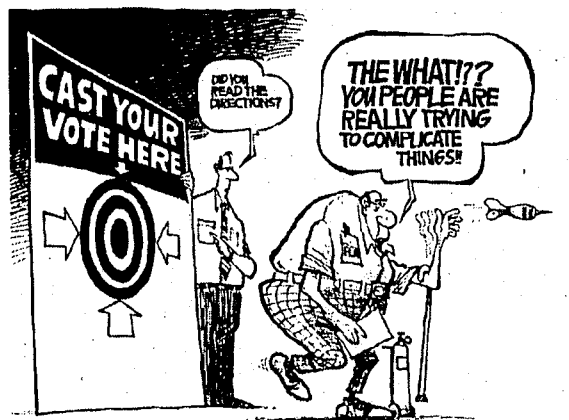


The Bell Curve by 

www.digitalscene.com - Comics and Sportsbook for the DIGITAL Generation!



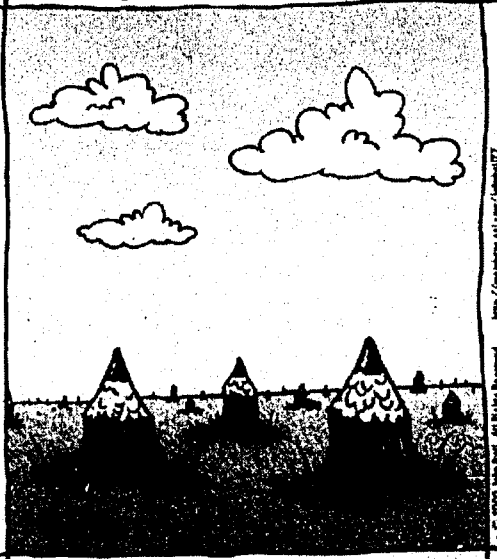
Are you creatively burned out? I know we are...
 send an email with: **something witty**
 winning email is judged by date & time received, one prize per person. Contest expires 12/22/00 not open to Arbitrator employees.
 in the subject line to: ads@arbitrator.com first email wins a **FREE Papa John's pizza**



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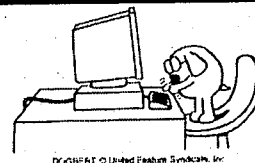
The Bell Curve by 

Drawings by Collegiate Pressures

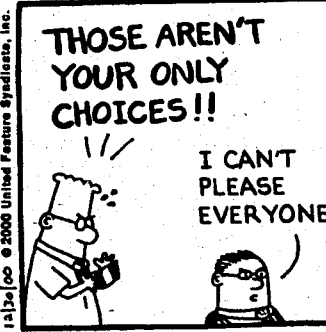
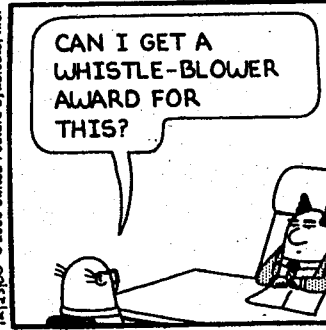
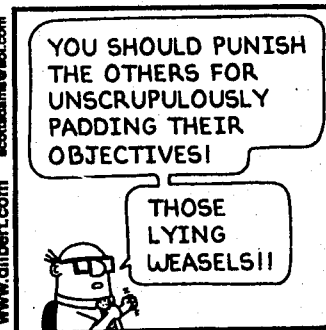
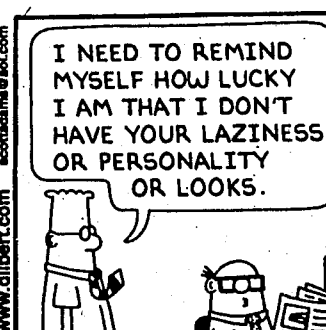
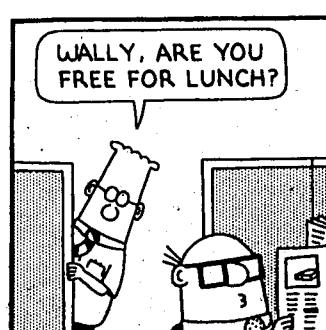
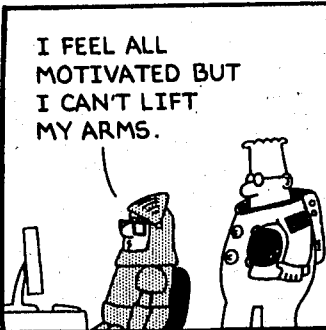
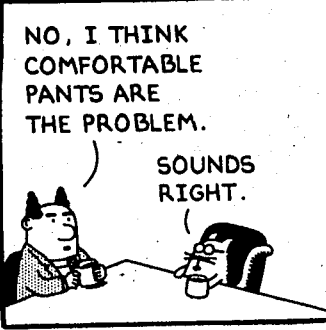


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Dec 14-19 BOOK BUY BACK

1

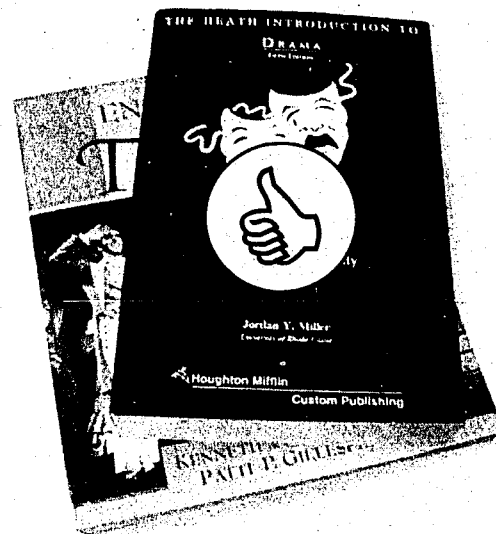
Bookstore

3

Multi-Purpose Building

2

Canyon County Bookstore



426-BOOK
THE BOOKSTORE
Boise State University

- 1) Bookstore: Dec. 14-16 & 18-19 regular store hours
- 2) Canyon County: Dec. 14-15 & 18-19 regular store hours
- 3) Multi Purpose Building: Dec. 14-15 & 18-19 9am-4pm