

5-7-2001

Arbiter, May 7

Students of Boise State University

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Undergraduate Blues Graduates discuss the values, hassles of earning degrees

by Wendy Venable

The spring semester is wrapping up, the sun is shining, final papers and projects are almost completed and almost turned in. Exams are underway. School is almost through.

This is a harsh time of year to sit still in a classroom, but students at Boise State have plowed through, yet another semester. How many more until graduation? No one wants to ask. No one wants to tell. But there are those out there, somewhere, that are done. There have got to be.

The National Center for Education Statistics shows that 25 percent of students who enroll in postsecondary education after high school drop out within the first three years, without a degree. Typically, those same students may have only completed less than one half of the school's requirements for a college diploma.

1999 statistics also show that only 32 percent of men and women between the ages of 25 and 29 have earned a bachelor's degree or higher.

Attendance and enrollments have increased at a rapid rate throughout the years, but something happens before those same students walk down the aisle in a cap and gown. The faces disappear.

Sergio Myers, a communications major who graduated from Boise State in 1997, now owns a television production company in Los Angeles called 7 Ponies Productions which features reality-based series and documentaries. He has helped produce documentaries on the Kennedys and Linda Blair, and has composed an independent piece on the Heaven's Gate cult. His first documentary won some awards. He orchestrates his own Gothic/Rap music in his signature band, Infamous Houdene. He made it through college. He

graduated at little ol' Boise State. Besides humoring those Californians about what university he attended (oh no, no Ivy-League here in Idaho), he admits there were no regrets.

"College was definitely the best thing. Just to have it under your belt," Myers said.

He also advised to undergraduates, "Utilize as much as you can with what you have. Hone in on your talents. Find a niche, just find something there. Make it happen."

Myers was 28 when he graduated, packed his car up and drove to L.A. He camped outside of E! Entertainment Television until they hired him. His education might not have made any difference in his success, but then again,

it just might have made all the difference.

Vaughn Lemoine admits that an education shows that you are a goal-oriented person. He graduated BSU last year with a B.A. in criminal justice administration. Now he works for Target Corporation in assets protection as the building head of security and a theft and fraud investigator.

For his internship, he worked for Boise's Finest as a patrol deputy serving court orders.

"There is absolutely no way I'd be where I'm at without my degree," Lemoine said. "That piece of paper - it opens doors."

A m y

Hutchinson Harwood dropped out of college in 1994 because she felt as if she were spinning her wheels. She needed redirection and to find herself again. "If you don't know what you really want to do, you get lost," she said.

She had started her first years of college as an athlete playing golf. After she quit school she found a job in a lobbyist office answering phones.

"I got hooked on it," she said. Her family, friends and co-workers supported her decision to go back to school. She went back with something she had been lacking the first time: drive and focus. She graduated in 1999 with a degree in political science and is currently applying that degree as a public information officer at the Idaho Lottery.

She suggests to undergrads who are basically feeling the same way she did to, "Talk to the teachers, sit down and ask them how they got to where they are. They are such a valuable resource."

"Want to work at 7-11 until you die?" asked Dan Kaiser, a

37-year-old who is graduating this semester from the two-year nursing program at Boise State. He already works at St. Lukes and is obtaining the degree to strive forward in what he is

already doing as a career.

This was his fourth attempt to finish school with a college degree.

He has finally achieved it, but does not feel like it is anything to really celebrate for. "I'm just trying to get a job. I've done so much already in my life. This is a means to an end. This is for my family."

Kaiser graduated from high school in 1982 and claims that society has changed a lot since then. He looks at underclassmen and can see how frustrating starting out can be.

"How do you know what you want to do when you're 18 or 20 or 24? How do you know?" Kaiser said. "Take a couple years and work," he suggested. His own experience and age is proof that you are never too old to finish with school.

"Find something interesting in what you want to do, then go educate yourself," he suggested. To him, that is the key to many doors in life, an education. "If you don't think so, go get a job at the beat factory," he added, "and realize that job sucks."

Summer is upon us. Take a few months off, explore. Drive to the coast. Rollerblade, camp, hike, fish, do. Oh, yeah, work. Students usually have to do that as well, sigh. In any case, lose yourself in whatever form necessary to prepare to get back in the grind. Classes starts again Aug. 27. Your face should be there among the masses.

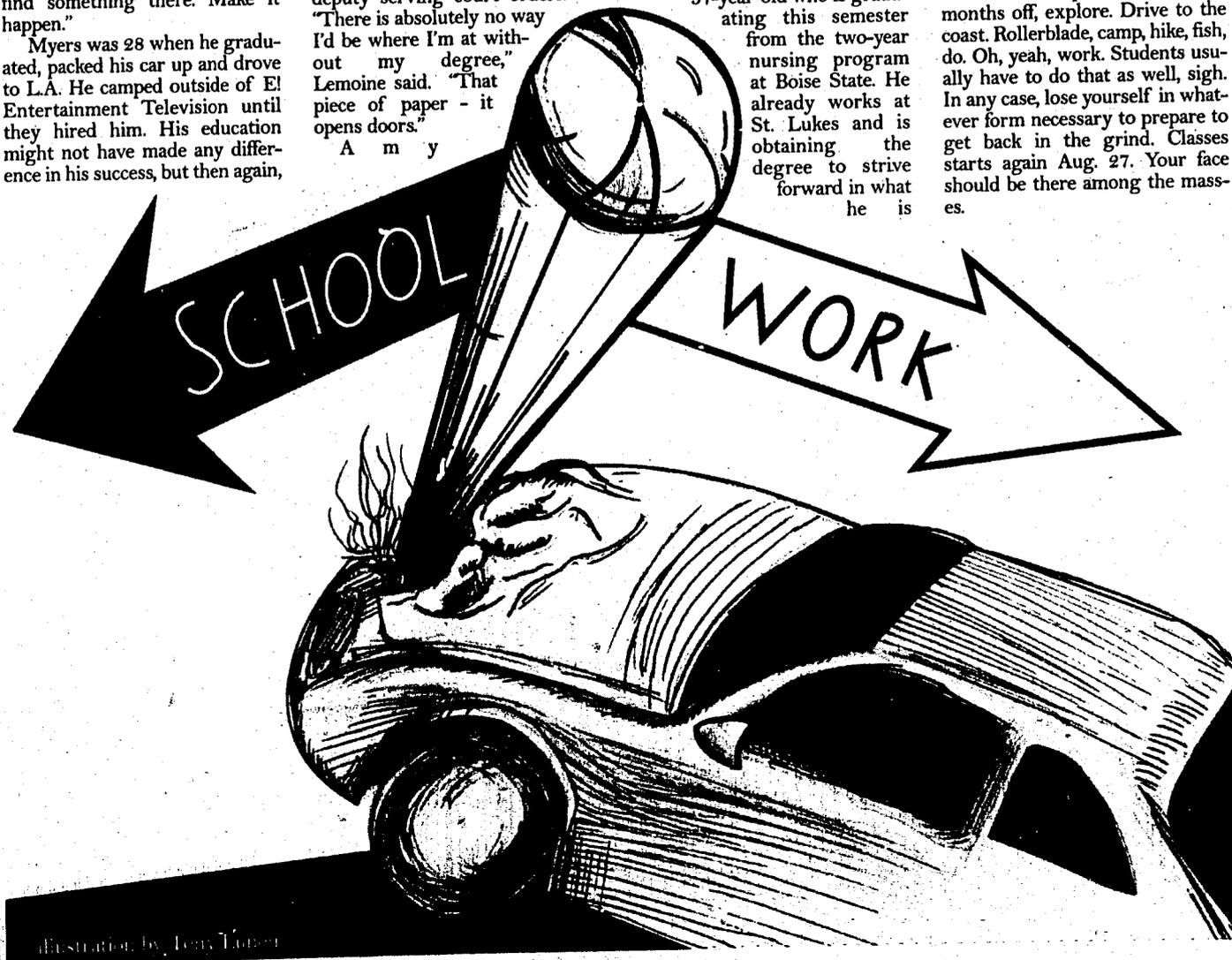


Illustration by Tony Turner



RETRO FLASH

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☾ **4 - 9 pm - Happy Hour**

2 for 1 Domestic Drafts / \$1.00 off everything else

☾ **7 - 9 pm Live Music with EZ Loader**

☾ **9 pm - Best of the 80's / Disco Dance Party**



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Don't Forget

Next fall
the Arbiter
will publish
2
issues
each week

Get
Your
Copy

Every

Monday

and

Thursday



A²
Arbiter

Letters to the Editor

Student should retract article alleging special treatment of athletes

We are writing this letter in response to the article that ran in last week's Voices section of the *Arbiter*. The article was entitled, "Athletes Receive Preferential Treatment on Campus." Upon reading this article, we were shocked and ashamed. The *Arbiter* should be reprimanded to the fullest extent for publishing an article containing unsubstantiated information.

Furthermore, the author of the article should be prosecuted for her slanderous lies and assumptions. We are students in the communications class in which she referred to. To set the record straight, the tutor, Beth Tupper, volunteered her free time to the entire class on several occasions before tests, and throughout the course of the semester. She was also more than willing to provide assistance in classes besides this particular communications class.

We, the authors of this letter, have called upon Beth to tutor the athletes because of their conflicting schedules, which require them to miss class. It is appalling to think that someone could possibly accuse Beth of being anything other than the honest person she is. We, as members of the Communications 304 Research Methods class, challenge Miss Tania Schlepp to come forward and formally apologize to the entire communications department, Beth Tupper and Prof. Laurel Traynowicz. Neither Beth nor Laurel deserves to be portrayed in such an ignorant and uninformed fashion. As Juniors in the communications department, we are ashamed to be associated with a fellow student and newspaper as half-assed as this incident has shown them to be. Perhaps the *Arbiter* ought to take this class from Prof. Traynowicz in order to learn the proper research methods of journalism.

Sincerely,

Darci Rowland, Lacy Moore, Heather Bryant, and Natalie Wilson

Student retracts article alleging special treatment of athletes

I am writing this in response to the article that I wrote which appeared in the last edition of the *Arbiter*. This is an apology to all the BSU athletes and the tutor, Beth, who was included in my article.

I was completely misinformed as to what took place at the tutoring session. After Beth defended herself to our entire class, my sources admitted to having been incorrect. I also should have done more investigating before writing something like that. Not only did I make the athletes look bad, but I also hurt Beth.

At the tutoring session, the athletes were not in fact given any of the answers to the test. They received the same information as the rest of us did. Beth practiced fair treatment with both athletic and non-athletic students.

From this, I have learned to thoroughly investigate sources. Failing to do this has caused the athletes and Beth a great deal of anger and hurt. I just want everyone to know that I am sorry.

Tana Schlepp

cont. on pg. 7

2001 is a year to remember for Idaho higher education

by Matt Stokes

Two hundred thirty-six million dollars. The biggest higher education budget ever. A year to remember for higher education. Does that sound like a "slap in the face" to you? Does that sound like "lawmakers turned their backs on students"? Does that sound like lawmakers see us as "mindless sheep"? Quite the contrary!

I find it interesting that the *Arbiter* would write an opinion piece on a subject for which they haven't even reported the facts. Such was the case in an editorial entitled, "Lawmakers: support students today for tomorrow" (April 25, *Arbiter*).

As lobbyists for ASBSU this past year, we worked with the state's lawmakers on issues dealing with higher education. During that time the *Arbiter* wanted to do a story on our work at the capitol building. I set an appointment, but the reporter didn't show. Then, rather than write an article reporting the facts, they leave you with nothing more than a small opinion piece pitting you against our legislators. This is simply irresponsible.

It is important for you to know what really happened at the legislature this year. It is time to set the record straight.

Their article states that legislative session "began with hope when Gov. Kempthorne announced his recommendation for the most generous higher education appropriation in years." This is one thing the article got right. The governor was a champion for the cause of higher edu-

cation throughout the session. But he was not alone. There were many champions for the cause of higher education this year. Let's give credit where credit is due.

The legislative session started quickly for higher education with the passage of the Promise Scholarship. Sen. Lee of Rexburg sponsored this bill. (The Promise Scholarship is the state-funded program that awards \$500 a year for two years to graduating high school seniors with a 3.0 GPA or a 20 on the ACT who continue their education in Idaho.)

The focus shifted quickly to BSU's proposed west campus. We were seeking \$9.3 million dollars to construct this building. Each university in Idaho also proposed a major new building project - each was approved for a total of about \$65 million dollars.

Rep. Kent Kunz of Pocatello spearheaded the "Dollars Follow the Students" campaign. This is the proposal to change the way that higher education funds are distributed to the various universities. Currently, Boise State has the largest student population and receives a very small "piece of the pie," while the University of Idaho has much fewer students and receives a much bigger portion. Doesn't something seem blatantly wrong with this? Does this sound equitable? Of course not. That's why we pushed so hard for it.

We were very disappointed that this resolution did not pass, but applaud Rep. Kunz for his valiant efforts in making funding for higher education more equitable. Also in support of more

equitable funding were Rep. Ellsworth, Rep. Hadley, and Sen. Gagner, who co-sponsored the resolution. Others supported it. We hope that Rep. Tillman will follow through on his commitment to sponsor the bill next year if nothing happens in the State Board of Education. A victory on this resolution would be a victory of enormous proportion for each student at Boise State.

There were many other victories for higher education this year. Faculty salary competitiveness is one of them. Two million was earmarked to help universities keep their best faculty.

Each victory for higher education boasted many legislative supporters. It would be impossible to name them all here.

If all this sounds like a "slap in the face" to you, you are entitled to your opinion. But what are we whining about when we got almost everything we wanted? What are we going to say when we don't have such a great year? As Gov. Kempthorne signed the budget in BSU's Engineering building, he said that this is a year to remember for higher education. I agree with him.

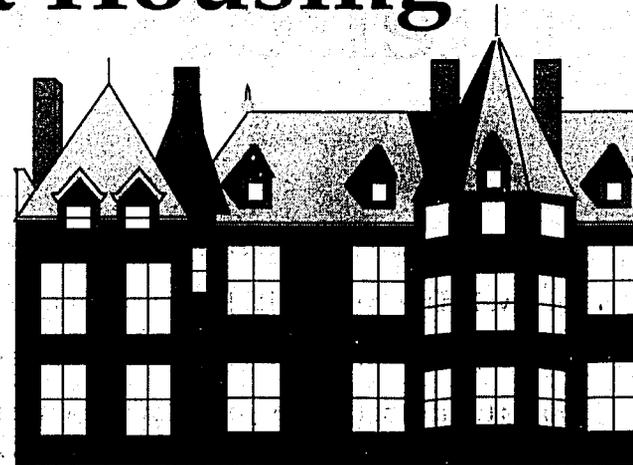
Before students can be involved, they need to be informed. In this the *Arbiter* has failed this year. We are not mindless sheep. Lawmakers don't see us as mindless sheep. Let's not write editorials as mindless sheep.

-Matt Stokes is the assistant ASBSU lobbyist

Student Housing

Dorm style units furnished includes: utilities and cable with HBO, one block from BSU, have own phone. Share bath with one other. Share kitchen with three others. No RD and no RA's.

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Athletes do not receive preferential treatment

by Beth Tupper

It is appalling any person is so easily slandered without substantiated facts. I am publicly admitting to Boise State students and the Communication Department that the tutor referred to in the article printed on May 2, 2001, "Athletes receive preferential treatment on campus," is myself. I assist Laurel Traynowicz in the Communication 302 course.

The Athletic Department hired me to assist student athletes in the CM 302 class, because they are required to miss classes and study sessions due to games and practices. Our tutoring sessions have been held every Tuesday morning from 8-9 a.m. during the spring semester. This is a convenient time for all of us, as the students have

the class directly afterward at 9:15 a.m. In addition to operating these tutoring sessions on Tuesday mornings for the athletes, I have also been offering open study sessions prior to each course test, which have been open to ALL students enrolled in the course. These open sessions are a favor for Professor Traynowicz, as she lost her teaching assistant early in the semester.

In response to the accusations of giving test answers to the athletes that I tutor, prior to the test, I can only say, "What was your source of information?" I conduct my tutoring sessions the same way I do open study sessions, which the author of the article has attended in the past. I examine previous tests the professor has administered (which are available to any stu-

dent who has a friend or acquaintance that has taken the class previously) and tutor (meaning I teach) the concepts included on the exam.

The author also inquired about the difference in grades between herself, other students in the class, and these "assisted" athletes. Two of the athletes involved in the tutoring sessions have granted me permission to divulge their grades, without me even asking their permission. Although it would not be appropriate to include specific grades here, I can say that their test scores are below average. There is no advantage for the athletes over students who attend my regular study sessions.

The two reasons I asked to conduct the Tuesday, April 24, 8-9 a.m. session with athletes only was because that was our

regularly scheduled time to meet and also to answer any specific questions they may have with regard to what they are learning. If I remember correctly, I did not tell people they could not use the communication lounge, I just asked that they study on their own so I could focus on my job, tutoring the student athletes.

Now to address my personal integrity, which was blatantly questioned and attacked. As a senior in the Communication Department, I will be graduating this spring, barring any ramifications that may surface from the previous accusations. I have been a teaching assistant for a year now, and am respected by my peers as an intelligent individual whom they can count on for guidance and advice. I do not condone cheating, plagiariz-

ing, or taking the easy way out. I support my friends and colleagues by conferring with them on assignments and outlining a plan of attack together.

For this reason, I know that these unfounded accusations will not haunt me, as there is no factual basis for them and they are unsubstantiated. I have written this letter to convey that there are acceptable procedures to follow in researching an issue and coming to a conclusion. Relying on assumptions to judge situations is not one of these procedures, nor is it taught in CM 302 research methods.

Beth Tupper, though not specifically named in last week's guest opinion, "Athletes receive preferential treatment on campus," received a personal apology from the author.

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Letter attacking gays is off-base and inaccurate

by Taylor Newbold

In response to Scott Tomlinson's letter (May 2) attacking the staff members of the *Arbiter* by calling them "atheist homosexuals," I have a few words of my own in response to some of Mr. Tomlinson's comments.

First of all, Mr. Tomlinson, you are correct when you say that homosexuals are not a race, but you are very mistaken when you say that homosexuality is, "an act" and "a choice." According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth are more than four times as likely to commit suicide. Do you honestly think that these individuals *choose* to be homosexual and therefore *choose* to be miserable enough to want to kill themselves?

Humans do not have control over biology when it comes to sexual orientation. I don't choose to have a fever - it just happens. Mr. Tomlinson, you talk about

how the *Arbiter's* so-called pro-gay agenda is, "a direct enemy of Christian ideas and doctrines." I have read the Bible thoroughly and not once is Jesus recorded saying anything remotely close to condemning homosexuality. When someone who is at the very center of your religion does not condemn nor even talk about homosexuality in any sense - your argument that homosexuality, "is wrong...just as plainly wrong as killing someone." begins to crumble. Christ did, however, say many things about committing murder.

Mr. Tomlinson, you say that if the *Arbiter* keeps up their "objective reporting" that the *Arbiter* "might convince us that killing is a choice." Well, last time I checked killing someone is a choice - I don't know too many people that are forced into murder. You say that the *Arbiter* is, "directly contributing to the downfall of society and of humanity." And you leave it like that.

Next time you try to persuade

people to think your way why don't you try backing your arguments up with some evidence. Since your opinion is obviously religiously motivated it has no place when it comes to talking about human rights. The fact of the matter is that since this society and its government was founded on the notion of the separation of church and state, to encode a secular law ideas that have purely religious purposes, is a clear violation of the principle of the separation of church and state. Until you can come up with a sound reason why society benefits by the outlawing of homosexual activity of any kind, then there is no moral basis for such a law if one accepts the principle of religious freedom as encoded in the doctrine of the separation of church and state. It is a good thing that you are graduating, Mr. Tomlinson, because this campus could use one less self-righteous, naive, bigot like yourself.

Board Application
Form 2001-2002

Return to: Student Activities,
Student Union Building, 1910 University Dr.
Boise, ID 83725-1335 426-4240



Name _____ Date ____/____/____
Last First M.I.

Address _____
Street City State Zip

Local Phone _____ Home Phone _____

Best time to call _____ E-mail _____

Student ID # _____ Class Fr ___ Soph ___ Jr ___ Sr ___ Grad ___

Major(s) _____ Expected Graduation Date _____

How many credits are you currently taking? _____

What is your cumulative GPA? _____

Are you committed to other positions/jobs (paid or volunteer)?

YES ___ NO ___

If yes, what position(s) _____

_____ How many hours per week? _____

Position Interest

Please indicate your top three choices

___ Assistant Director (2.5 GPA needed)

___ Health Care Issues Coordinator

___ Youth and Education Issues Coordinator

___ Environment/Animal Issues Coordinator

___ Hunger/Homelessness Issues Coordinator

___ Outreach Coordinator (2 positions available)

Experience (please include answer on a separate piece of paper)

1. Describe any previous volunteer experience.
2. Describe any leadership positions, educational or otherwise, which you have held.
3. Describe any experience in planning or promoting campus/community events.
4. List two reference names and phone numbers.

Minimum Requirements

1. Attendance at weekly VSB meetings, throughout year.
2. Participation in VSB officer training.
3. Commitment from date of hire to May 15 of subsequent year.
4. Must have and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.25 on a 4.0 scale.
5. Must be enrolled in at least three (3) credits.
6. Minimum of 5 scheduled office hours (between 8:00-5:00) plus 4 flex hours per week.

Read and Sign

I hereby certify that the information on this application is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the information on this form will be made available to the Volunteer Services Board and the VSB advisor. I understand and accept the obligations outlined in the minimum requirements printed above. I also understand that misrepresenting my background on this application is grounds for dismissal.

I hereby request that the registrar release, to the VSB advisor, my cumulative GPA and the number of credit hours I am attempting this semester. I understand that the registrar may release the information at any time and that this release may remain in effect until I request, in writing, that it be canceled, or when my appointed term has expired.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Return applications to Student Activities Office-Student Union

The Boise State University Volunteer Services Board in affirmation of their commitment to the principles of multicultural enhancement are supportive of the concepts of nondiscrimination, affirmative action, and equal opportunity as they relate to race, creed, native origin, gender, sexual orientation, age and physical ability.

Parting Words: The Progressive's Hand Guide

by **Lesleigh Owen**

My journey as writer of a weekly feminist column draws to a close as I head off to California for some sunshine, political activism, and grad school (not necessarily in that order).

With a little bit of time and a lot of primal scream therapy, I may finally come to terms with the loss of my weekly rants. It's you I worry about. I must admit to a nagging concern over awakening one morning in my sunny bungalow (that overlooks the ocean, of course) to the sound of several blank-eyed, extended-armed Idahoans chanting, "F-Spot, F-Spot." (What? It could happen.)

I sympathize with your grief, my children. After all, what will you do without my whiny articles to give voice to your grief and torment over the conservative climate of Boise? Who will help cushion you against the rapid-fire of Jerel Thomas' right-wing clichés? Who will handily separate the *Arbiter's* news section from its sports? For those desolate, angst-ridden moments when you crave noth-

ing but the metaphorical sound of my voice, I urge you to keep this article folded in your pocket. Think of it as a year's worth of articles, all scrunched into a convenient, travel-sized container. (Does my philanthropy know no bounds?)

Come July, I would probably pen an article gently inviting you to participate in the Pride March. (Pay no mind to the technicality that I normally don't write articles in July.) For anyone who craves bonding with others over a common purpose and goal, the Pride March provides a solidarity rush that will leave you instantly addicted.

Skipping ahead to the beginning of next semester, I would most certainly tackle the inadequacy of our traditional educational system. Enter the forgotten aspects of history, those fascinating little tidbits that get swept under the carpet if we don't grab them, shake them out, and tout them with pride. Never forget, my lonesome Leftists, that Columbus plundered, not discovered; Lincoln lost little sleep over the tragedy of slavery; and half of history rests on

the backs of its invisible female half.

National Love Your Body Day pops up sometime around the beginning of the semester. I'd undoubtedly spend one article lecturing women and men alike to stop conceiving of their identities as prisoners locked within their cranial towers. We need to expand the current, anorexic ideal and recognize it's not merely what's on the inside that counts but the gorgeous combination of what lies inside and out.

Right around November and December, you would bear witness to my increasing bemusement as I observed our normally-docile citizens of Boise transforming into mall-clogging, item-snatching, plastic-wielding power shoppers. My disillusionment would eventually boil over, launching me into some diatribe or another about our culture of acquisition and consequent worship of crap.

As the days grew longer, so of course would my gripes about the upcoming Idaho legislative session. For the sake of brevity, I'll sum up: Why, God,

why must Idaho remain crushed in the cold clutches of conservatism?

On Valentine's Day, I would surely compose a witty and gut busting article on how Valentine's Day has traditionally focused on happy-go-lucky, chocolate-munching hetero couples. Not all celebration-worthy couples are hetero, I would point out, just as not all hetero couples are worthy of celebration. Okay, maybe not exactly "gut busting."

Come March, some of my irritation would dissolve as Women's History Month soothed my furrowed brow and seduced me with promises of forthcoming, gender-equitable activities. By month's end, however, I would fly into a rage as some idiot like, say, Senator Grant Ipsen crammed yet another anti-abortion bill through the legislative backdoor.

April heralds the arrival of showers, flowers, and National Poetry Month. Poetry-glutted and issue-laden, I would ply you with social commentary in the forms of quatrains, limericks, and iambic pentameter. Here's a

snippet to get you through the long, wet month of April: "You seal me in an envelope/ And try to mail me home/ No stamp's enough, cuz I'm too tough/ I've got the world to roam." Consider yourself dazzled.

In between all these flashes of brilliance, I would definitely toss in some articles on the myth of the universal "he," the consequences of hate and war crimes, and the frustrating lack of vegetarian restaurants in Boise. An article or two mocking George W. seem almost too obvious to mention.

Almost feels as if I never left, doesn't it?

As the silhouette of our fearless heroine fades into the setting sun so ends the saga of that feminist and progressive voice known as the "F-Spot."

Thank you, Boise State. I'll miss you.

-Lesleigh Owen has been an Arbiter columnist since Goddess was a child. We'll miss you too!

cont. from pg. 4

Convoluted defense for rejected ad

Your defense for refusing to include the Generation Life insert was really convoluted. First, you cite editorial policy that the *Arbiter* did not take any political advertisements. Could this be a written policy that you devised to suit your own political purposes? The reason I ask is that a year ago the Human Life Alliance put in an advertising supplement with the same basic content and the *Arbiter* was happy to take their advertising money. We must conclude that these policies are generated from semester to semester and editor to editor, perhaps flavored by the biases of the editor. At best, your policy is inconsistent.

You very conveniently failed to mention that there was a signed contract that you broke, and the reasons for breaking it was not stated as being "we do not publish political advertisements." And even if that was the cause why did you sign it in the first place? For all of you that care about the truth here is the stated reason the advertisement was not run.

"Regretfully, the *Arbiter* has decided not to run the ad Love Matters due to the potentially controversial nature of the ads' content. Further, the ad content was of an editorial nature and we wish to avoid any possibility that the reader may see the ad as staff produced."

Plus, the next time you use the word "propaganda" please explain why it does not apply to your article as well!

And by the way, why don't you tell us what your position is when it comes to the pro-life, pro-choice issue?

And lastly, seeing that speech is free, I wish that I hadn't paid for the full-page life story by Andrew explaining the "I agree with Andrew" campaign. Can I have a refund?

Rick Schell
Campus Crusade for Christ

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toll free: 1-877-429-8282
e mail: staff@ermlc.com
web: www.ermlc.com



Cut down trees to stop global warming: Only benefit of trees is what we make them into

by Jerel Thomas

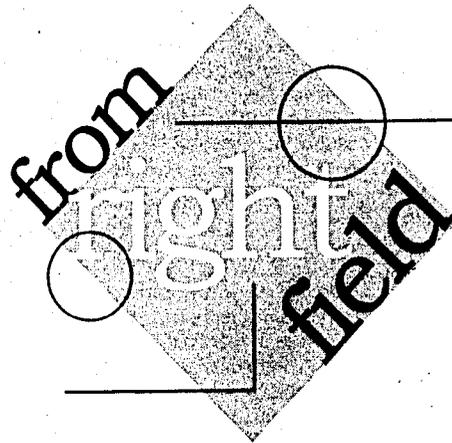
Now that it's starting to get hot outside we are going to start hearing these environmental freaks preach to us about global warming. (Ever notice how global warming is never an issue during the cold of winter?) Our leftist counterparts will soon start in with apocalyptic prophecies of polar ice caps melting and the world turning into a desert all because of the greenhouse effect.

And of course, this will lead to them encouraging everyone to go out and hug a tree because, in their view, we wouldn't be in this mess if we would just quit cutting down trees.

I'm here to inform everybody that global warming is a

false phenomenon based upon junk science. An international team of scientists has found "serious discrepancies in the temperature measurements, suggesting that the amount of global warming is much less than previously believed." Scientists have been measuring the temperature of ocean water to predict the rise in global warming. However, one would believe that if global warming was happening, there would also be a rise in air temperature. Air temperature data collected from the same spots as the water temperature data reveal that there is no link between the water temperature rising due to global warming.

Perhaps the most amazing aspect of these findings is that they have been virtually ignored by the major media. Preaching doom and gloom of



planet is big business. Leftists have been predicting planetary destruction since the 1960's. (That's over 40 years ago for you victims of outcome based education). We've been told for over 40 years that the oceans were going to dry up and that

we would need gas masks to protect us from the stench of rotting fish. We've been told the ozone hole is going to widen and that we were all going to burn. Leftists like Al Gore have gone as far to say that the internal combustion engine is the greatest threat to mankind.

Perhaps someone should inform Al Gore and the rest

of the environmental freaks that more greenhouse gases were put into the atmosphere by the Mt. Pinatubo eruption than mankind has created in their whole existence! Aside from that, where is all of the doom and gloom that has been

prophesied for the last 40 years?

In closing it should be noted the study showed that some areas of the planet are experiencing global COOLING. Guess where these areas are located? Yep, the areas that have been clear-cut! You see, the more baseball bats we make for Mark McGuire, the better off the planet. Trees actually contribute to global warming! The only way to stop it is to cut down trees to make more paper, baseball bats, tables, chairs and houses.

I now am forced to believe that the best thing about trees is what we turn them into after we cut them down. So move out of the lumberjacks way, tree-hugger! After all, he is just trying to curb global warming.

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Students question approval of Ruch's \$150,000 retirement compensation

Foundation says U of I, ISU presidents will get a better deal

by Julie A. Garcia
and Sam Garcia

During an executive session held April 20, the State Board of Education and Boise State Foundation members unanimously decided BSU President Charles Ruch would receive his supplemental retirement compensation package of \$150,000.

Within three months after retirement the foundation will put \$50,000 into an account for the next three years. Ruch would have the option of withdrawing those funds in a lump sum or asking the foundation to buy an annuity for his retirement years.

Larry Burke, director of University Relations, said Ruch was not in a position to say much about the matter. He also said because the decision was made in an executive session, Bob Fritsch, BSU's Foundation director was asked to leave the meeting.

Presidents at the University of Idaho and Idaho State University will receive similar retirement packages. Fritsch said, "What they did far exceeds what we're doing."

According to a recent survey administered by ASBSU, students are greatly opposed to what was originally being called a bonus, but now is being referred to as a retirement package. Of the 1,810 students who participated in the survey, 174 felt Ruch deserved a bonus, while 1,393 believed he did not.

The surveys were conducted before the confirmed dissemination of information regarding where the funds came from to pay for the package. Nevertheless, the survey showed 729 students generally feel dissatisfied with the administration's allocation of resources and management of finances at BSU.

According to BSU Foundation President, Roger Michener, "All of our money comes from donated sources. Some are dedicated and some are non-dedicated," he said. "The retirement fund will come from two sources, yet to be determined exactly how many dollars each way. We had a group of people who have offered to donate funds dedicated to this supplemental pay for the president and if there's not enough donated to that cause, any additional will come from interest accrued from

non-dedicated funds."

Fritsch did not comment on who has offered to donate to the retirement fund, but said the Foundation could not begin soliciting funds until the State Board of Education approved the plan.

Ruch is the last of Idaho university presidents to have his salary augmented by private money.

"We should take the \$150,000 bonus that Ruch may get to produce a 24-hour library and 24-hour computer lab before this campus will advance," wrote one student in the ASBSU survey.

"Take Ruch's bonus and distribute (it) to deserving instructors," wrote another student.

"Ideally, I think a bonus should be restricted, as far as the money that goes to the bonus should come from money raised specifically for the purpose of rewarding someone for outstanding services and leadership to their institution," said ASBSU President Nate Peterson. "This bonus contract leaves room for other funds to pay for this, including interest from the general fund account (raised on behalf of scholarships) and capital investments from Boise State University."

Fritsch said the State Board of Education "talked through (the retirement plan) long and hard," and considered Ruch's performance before approving allocation of the funds.

Student and faculty opinions were not regarded in the consideration of Ruch's supplemental retirement compensation package.

Michener said the foundation grappled for an entire year with the question of taking on this issue themselves or leaving it to the state to decide. Ultimately, they decided by watching the example of other colleges, particularly University of Idaho and Idaho State University that it would be an issue for the committee members to finalize.

The amount of the Ruch's supplemental retirement package is about one-third of what university of Idaho gave their president Bob Hoover, and 50 percent of Idaho State University President Richard Bowen's supplemental package.

Michener mentioned that Boise State's growth in enrollment was a prominent deciding

factor.

"From every measurable aspect, you name it, I think you'll find that Boise State does extremely well (when compared) with every other university in the nation. It exceeds for new programs, new buildings, new degrees, accredited engineering programs and new growth," he said.

Peterson attributes most of BSU's growth to the fact that Boise "is the third fastest growing region in the country. That's what's driving Boise State, nothing more, nothing less."

Peterson said the average BSU student doesn't tend to be someone coming from out of state, northern Idaho or southeastern Idaho.

"They tend to be students living in the region, working full-time. I would like to see the numbers on the increases enrollment growth of people who just came here just to be at Boise State University," he said.

"There was never a question as to whether or not Ruch was performing well because we think he's an excellent president," Michener said.

He said whatever evaluation standard you use, the foundation felt Ruch measured up extremely well. "The University is running well, it really doesn't have what I would call major problems," he said.

Out of the 111 written com-

ments submitted by students during the survey, many of them asserted that Boise State's problems were plentiful, and major. Among the most frequent were the lack of parking, PeopleSoft technology, below average instructor salaries and perpetually growing student fees.

"BSU needs serious policy changes that are student oriented, not money and faculty oriented. I've been to other schools, and this is the worst," wrote one student. Another student wrote, "The BSU administration has consistently disregarded student opinions and concerns and done whatever it pleases. This I have noticed over the course of 20 years of off and on attendance here."

Some students disagreed that Ruch had shown outstanding leadership.

One student wrote, "I feel that it is unfortunate that students might not receive scholarships and buildings may not be built as fast because we're going to compensate someone who's making \$146,000 a year - moving into a mansion on Warm Springs worth half a million dollars - and who hasn't proven his leadership to anyone besides committee members who are definitely not involved in the well being of the university."

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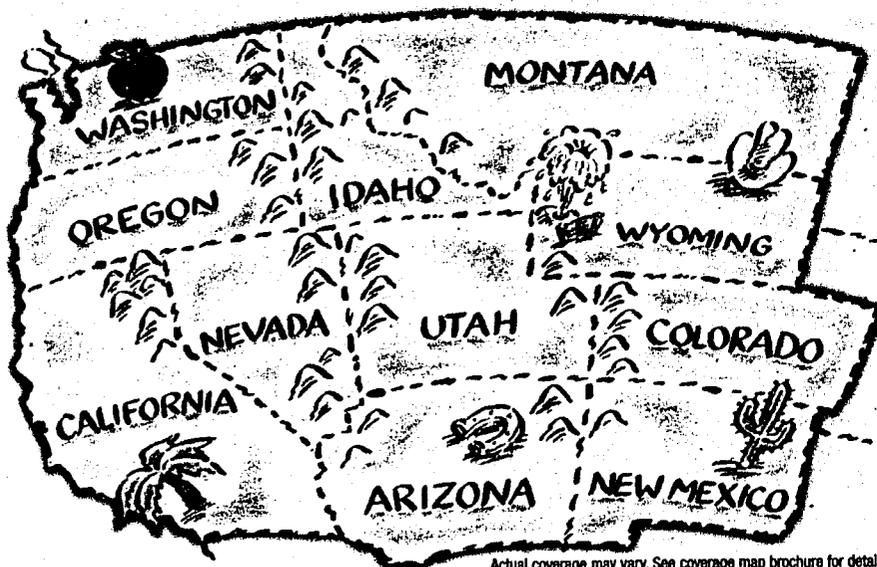
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Satellite campus at Mountain Home base provides commuters with an alternative

by Jennifer Tiede

The community at Mountain home Air Force base consists of civilians, dependents, active duty military, and students.

Many students that attend the Boise State campus in Boise are unaware of the various locations of study available. The educational facility on the air base provides an alternative to the 45-minute drive from Mountain Home to Boise.

On the second floor of the Base Education Center at 665 Falcon, one office, five classrooms, and a computer lab are utilized by nearby BSU students. Mountain Home high School also lets BSU students have access to their labs for science courses.

Director of Extended Studies Linda Urquidi says that the Mountain Home division of BSU was formed in the 1960s.

"It was originally started in the junior high school and then moved over to the flight line area in the old Base Education Center," Urquidi says. "Then it moved to a renovated building formerly occupied by the base legal offices a few years later and then on to its current location two years ago."

The people who attend school

on base are not always active duty military. On-base education also attracts spouses of active duty military and civilians. Civilians have to acquire a base pass before they are able to attend classes.

"I would say that more than two-thirds of our students are Air Force or dependents," Urquidi says. "We draw students from as far away as Sun Valley, Twin Falls, Grandview, and Boise."

Boise State/Mountain Home Area Coordinator Sarah Murray says that the courses offered on the air base are limited. Most of the classes are core or freshman classes, which makes it a little more difficult to get a degree. They also offer computer workshops and classes through the Knowledge Network.

Four opportunities to attend BSU on base are available each year. They offer a 12 week session once in the fall and twice in the spring. There is also a five week session in the summer.

The amount of instructors required on base can vary from year to year. The need for instructors is based on the classes that are offered and the number of people that want to attend BSU on the air base.

Most of the instructors on

the base are attained through BSU in Boise. A master's degree in teaching a particular subject is required to work at any BSU location. There are a few instructors on base that did not acquire the position through the Boise campus.

"We have three retired military and one dependant of active duty military," Murray says regarding the teachers on base. "The rest came through BSU."

Some of the people who attend the Mountain Home facility are not impressed with program.

"They only offer freshman classes," complains Staff Sgt. Stevens. "And the teachers suck."

Stevens is not willing to drive to Boise daily for teachers that don't "suck."

"The program started at the request of the Air Force," says Urquidi. "First with a few classes, but soon with a full array of classes from many departments."

The Mountain Home facility may not be preferable to everyone in the Air Force, but it offers an option to those who cannot make the long commute.

Information sent over the web can come back to haunt you

by Sunny Beach

"Been looking for love in all the wrong places? Try a search. You'll be pleasantly surprised."

This line comes from Realpersonals.com, one of the many sites that claims can help web surfers find their matches.

Real Personals says that it offers over 250,000 ads, at a national and local level.

"Personal ads are fun to look at and read, but I would never meet anyone that I met over the Internet, in person, it's too dangerous," said Mae Kluck, a student at Boise State.

Last year a Texas A&M university freshman was shot in the back of the head and dumped in a remote area after meeting a girl he had emailed online. In reality, detectives say,

the girl did not exist, but was a 31-year-old man using pictures of young girls to entrap victims.

Wildangel.com, a web site for people interested in using personal ads to meet people, warns against posting photographs on the net. According to the site, a person can click on a photograph and take it from that web site. Once a picture is posted, there is no guarantee that the picture will not end up somewhere else.

Wild Angel also warns against giving phone numbers over the net. Wild Angel suggests that you do not call someone Collect, or call someone's toll free number. In either case, your phone number will show up on the person's bill. To protect against being a victim, the

site suggests using a background checking service. The Internet offers a variety of these services.

For \$39, at Whoishe.com you can find out the current and previous address information, date of birth, names of relatives and others who have used the individual's address. For \$75, the report can include such information as AKA's, phone numbers, driver's license information, professional licenses, properties, vehicles, bankruptcies, liens and similar information.

On Checkemout.com, with just a name, someone can find out your current address. This service costs \$49. For \$100,

cont. on pg. 13

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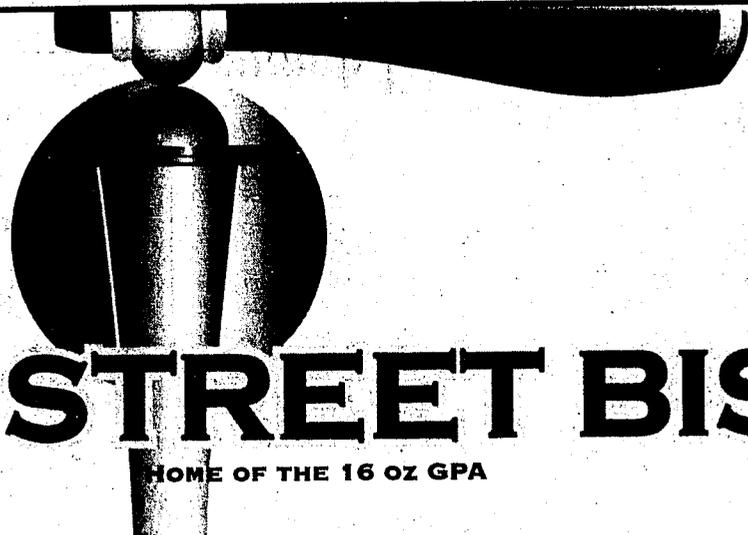
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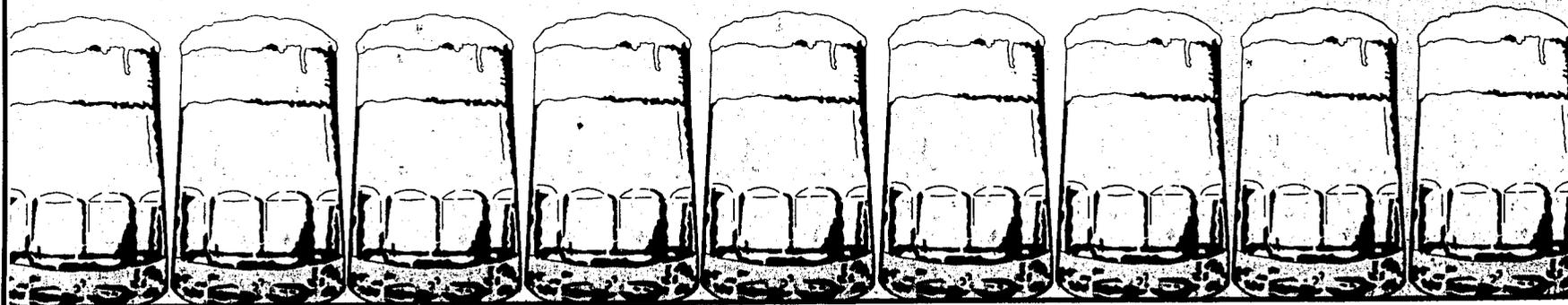
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Bryce Alves
Sara Davis
Mark McDonald
Tracy Garlock
Joeli Adriani
Scottie Draper
David Johnson
Jeremy Egbert
Chris Smith
Jay Holmquist
Ashley Ginther
Trina Smith
Amy DeMers

The following students were awarded scholarships by the Art Department:

Matthew Anderson,
Katherine Cepek,
Matthew Brunicardi,
Melody Eisler-Eby
Melinda Gilbert
John Hardesty,
Jackson, Jennifer
Jason Large
Emily McClintock
Carrie Quinney
Molly Schmaljohn
Adrienne Shurtleff
Laura Soper
Lora Stoyanova
Erin Simmons
Ted Walker
Lauren Kistner
Erika Liebel
Lisa Roggenbuck

The following students were honored as Distinguished English Majors by the English Department:

DeAnn Ball
Elisa M. Carlson
Skyler Christenson
Anna Daley
Rebecca S. Dibben
Karen Dunlop
Amy A Floto
Richard E. Fulks, Jr.
Amy Gardner

Amy L. Garrett
Kim Gilbertson
Damien D. Heard
Amy Hepworth
Amber M. Hibbard
Mark R. Hitz
Kelley Johnson
Peggy M. Jordon
Melissa M. Keith
Rob Kelley
Syliva Knarr
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Sue McClintock
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Cheryl L. Needs
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Sean Petterson
Mary Jean Renstrom
Szabina Revelle
Brian C. Sherman
Marvin Smith
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Micheal A. Terry
Jennifer D. Tower
Jamoe Wagner
George Williams
Jonathon Wood
Kimberly Woods
Robin Young
Karena Youtz

Educational value in question: What is the worth of a teacher?

Analysis by Jon Lundy

Education is something that our country has spent much effort and many resources to promote over the years. Various celebrities are shown daily in the mass media informing the youth of the United States to "stay in school" while different political influences use the education platform as a way to increasing support.

When one takes a look at the finances however, which our society equates with importance, those that educate are at the bottom of the pay scale. Surveys conducted over and over again have shown that two of the top five most important professions are consistently doctors and teachers.

It is then interesting to see that two jobs that are seen as the most regarded in terms of importance are so drastically situated on the two ends of the salary scale. How can a society that claims to value education so, allow those that are so vital to its existence to make so much less than those that entertain it?

"It doesn't make much sense. As a society we tend to push education but we don't pay those that do it, but then we go and complain about the education system," said BSU basketball player Joe Skiffer.

Sociology professor Michael Blain explained that the current extreme monetary stratification has caused such things to happen. "There are dramatic differences in every sector of industry and you have to look at the averages to get an accurate portrayal of the incomes," said Blain. According to the National Education Association, CEOs of a large U.S. corporation in 1960, on average, earned

cont. on pg. 14

cont. from pg. 11

even more detailed information can be obtained.

"When I was younger I would use my name or mention little details without even realizing how dangerous it can be to give your real name and age over the Internet," said Leah Kirk.

"I only use the Internet personal ads and chat rooms to meet people when I am bored," said student Chuck Gidney. "The problem with using the personal ad services on the Internet is that recently when I was on the net I clicked on a girl's posted message and a pornography web site appeared on the screen.

"Another problem is that you never know if the person you are chatting or e-mailing is really what, or who they say they are. You could think you are talking to a young girl and it could really be a man."

Trudy Stubbs recalls an incident where her 14-year-old daughter posted a message on a teen board. Stubbs said that her daughter received several replies from teens that wanted a friend to e-mail. However, Stubbs found one of the letters disturbing. She said it was from a 39-year-old man who wrote, "I have an imagination, if you know what I mean."

"I was disgusted that a man that age would write such things to my teen daughter and was not kicked off the site," said Stubbs.

Audrey Copeland says uses the Internet to meet people. She says she's had mostly good experiences.

"You just need to be really careful," Copeland said. "I have made some life long friends through the Internet. I do not have a problem with meeting people online, as long as you are careful and do your homework."

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Mentors provide mutually beneficial experiences

by Amy Brueggemann

He stands there, eyes squinting, she sizes up the stranger before him. He looks down at his scuffed cowboy boots, and buries them further in the sand. Finally, holding out his hand, he speaks. "Hi, My name is Josey. Josey Wale Weber*. I'm an outlaw."

Though it may seem like something from pages of the Wild West, it is not. It is the day in the life of a modern first grader—a first grader who is meeting for the first time the person who will be his mentor.

Josey, like many other school-aged children in the community, meets with his mentor at least twice a month and corresponds, by telephone or e-mail, at least four times.

"It's a lot of fun," says Josey of the mentor meetings. "We play and draw and so all kinds of stuff. He even helps me with my homework. He's real cool."

Being "cool" is just the beginning of ways mentors influence the lives of those they mentor. According to a Public/Private Ventures study of Big Brothers/Big Sisters, "youth who meet regularly with their mentor are 45 percent less likely than their peers

to start using illegal drugs and 27 percent less likely to start drinking. They are one-third less likely to hit someone."

Also, according to a Prison Fellowship Study, mentoring reduces criminal or delinquent behavior up to 80 percent. The kids, however, are not the only ones who benefit from the mentoring experience. Karla West, a licensed counselor at the Counseling and Testing Center at Boise State, stresses the importance of mentoring for all involved. "The mentoring relationship is reciprocal—the mentor learns as much from the mentee the mentee learns from the mentor."

Jamie Jensen, a BSU student who has mentored within the school district, agrees. "I feel that mentoring has not only enriched (the mentee's) life, it has enriched my own life as well; and that was something that I didn't expect when I first started."

Not that it is all fun and games. Many of the children who are mentored have many needs—needs that require a lot of patience and support. Elizabeth James, a graduating senior at BSU, admits, "It's been good, but it's been hard. The little girl I mentor needs a lot of

attention, and sometimes I am just worn out."

Despite the hardships, James and her husband Stephen continue to support the mentoring program. James admits that her husband's experience has been more positive than her own, but hopes to one day find the satisfaction that her husband has attained. Having mentored the same boy for quite some time, Stephen has built a bond with his mentee. "Stephen has helped him through some tough situations, and gained his respect. Now he calls to say hi sometimes. He knows that he can call when he needs something, and he can call just because he feels like it."

Of course, James believes there are other perks to mentoring besides personal gratification. "It looks good on your resume." Her new employer thought so as well. "It was one of the things that helped me get the job—public service is very important to their company."

Apparently, the trend of companies to encourage volunteer activities such as mentoring is escalating. Bonnie Way of United Way, Boise Chapter, said, "Mentoring is on the forefront of public relations in our large corporations of America today."

Yet, despite the personal gratification and resume enhancement, mentors continue to be in short supply. Pat Hazard, director of the mentoring program at Taft Elementary school, stresses the lack of mentors for her school alone. "We are always searching for mentors. At one point we had 48 mentors, and 85 kids that needed to be mentored."

One of the best ways to find a mentoring program is word of mouth. Also, one may contact an area school or church group to see if they support a particular agency or have a mentoring program of their own. There are the known mentoring groups as well, such as Big Brother/Big Sister. And, should researching seem too daunting a task, there are agencies that specialize in placing

volunteers, such as BSU's own Volunteer Services Board.

In spite of the effort, mentoring is worth it—not only for the mentor and the mentee, but for society at whole. The National Mentoring Partnership encourages getting involved in the lives of children because of the great difference it makes. "Mentoring can mean the difference between success and failure for a generation at risk. Mentoring can mean finding a compass—a guide through choppy and uncertain waters."

*Name changed

cont. from pg. 13

\$190,000, or about 40 times more than the average worker in his factory. CEOs by 1990, on average, earned \$2 million; 93 times the average wage of the factory worker.

"This is obscene and disgusting. You can probably make similar calculations for sports stars like Michael Jordan," said Blain.

A high school teacher who wished to remain anonymous said that she made around \$34,000 a year and has been teaching for close to 10 years. She says she gets to school around 7 a.m., an hour before class, teaches four classes of about 30 students each, stays after the final bell rings for about an hour and a half, then goes home and does homework for about two hours. This schedule is repeated five days a week and homework is also done on weekends.

On average, children spend most of their waking hours with educators and get most of their basic social awareness from them. The majority of the raising of children is often left to the teacher while the parents are busy working or caring for other children. The before-mentioned high school teacher also said that, "What incentives do students see that would make them want to be teachers when they can concentrate on extracurricular activities and make much more?"

With the importance we place on children as the leaders of the future one might wonder why we don't compensate teachers better than we do.

Several education majors said they weren't going into the education profession for the money and they knew all too well of the low teachers salaries. One said "most people teach for the intrinsic rewards and the hope that maybe they will teach somebody who goes onto great things."

Some argue that the low pay of teachers insures that those that truly wish to educate will be the ones that do it. However, history has shown that lower pay equals lower quality of employees. Should there be such a gap in salaries where a janitor, not to devalue the importance of maintenance technicians, for a large company makes more than a math teacher at a large school? Should someone who hits a ball real far make more than someone who teaches a child to read and write?

"It's hard to say how much someone deserves, but there shouldn't such a huge difference in what people are paid," said Skiffer.

Perhaps the problem is not that teachers make so little and others make so much, but that the difference between them is so great.

"It all comes down to a commitment to service in education and it seems that as a society we don't value service enough when the averages don't equal," said Blain.



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Feminist theory and music conference to hit Boise State this summer

by Sam Garcia

Boise State will host the sixth annual Feminist Theory and Music Conference July 5-8.

An assortment of musicians, music scholars, performers and educators from around the world will come to campus ready to discuss and perform music from a feminist perspective. The conference will provide unique opportunities for participants to interact with performers and presenters about current issues in feminist theory and music.

One can expect to see several performances of new and old music, largely composed by women at the FTM6 conference. On opening night, "Women Composers at the Millennium" will be the featured concert. Music selections

are to be finalized by an international committee late in May.

The theme at this year's conference is "Confluence and Divide." The goal of the conference centers on confluences and divides in feminist theory and music. Theoretically speaking, confluences of rivers and divides in the land are perpetually altered by external forces, which are experienced and interpreted in multiple ways.

Elizabeth Gould, assistant professor of music at BSU is responsible for bringing Feminist Theory and Music 6 to Boise State. She also heads the professional organization Gender Research in Music-International, which holds its meetings at FTM conferences.

The first Feminist Theory and Music Conference was presented at the University of

The goal of the conference centers on confluences and divides in feminist theory and music.

Theoretically speaking, confluences of rivers and divides in the land are perpetually altered by external forces, which are experienced and interpreted in multiple ways.

Minnesota in 1991 shortly after the release of Susan McClary's book "Feminine Endings," a gender analysis of orchestral music. After that, conferences have been held every odd-numbered year. In 1993, FTM was held at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester, New York.

The University of California-Riverside hosted the conference in 1995 and in 1997 the University of Virginia. The 1999 FTM conference was held in London, England.

Anyone interested may register for the entire conference and be admitted into all the

events except the banquet for which a separate ticket may be purchased. The scheduled keynote speaker for that event is Roberta Lamb. Discounts are offered to students or those with financial need and further assistance scholarships will be made available in June. The web site for registration is at music.boisestate.edu/FTM6/.

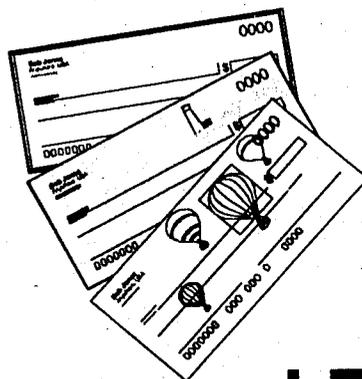
Tickets to concerts and presentations will be made available prior to each event for anyone not registered. A full program will be posted on the web site when it is ready.

Anyone wishing to volunteer this summer for the Feminist Theory and Music Conference can contact Lauren Tweedy at tweedy911@yahoo.com or at 342-4931.

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Award winning slam poet visits Boise State graduating class

by Laura Wylde

Boise State had the honor of being exposed to the entertaining wit of National Poetry Slam Champion Taylor Mali on Tuesday, May 1 in a celebration created for the upcoming graduating class.

Mali holds three National Poetry Slam Champion titles, and is featured in Paul Devlin's documentary "Slam Nation." Recently, Mali's efforts have been focused toward filming his one-man show "Teacher! Teacher!" for the cable television channel, PSNBC.

"Taylor Mali is a master of observation," Autumn Haynes, Student Activities coordinator for the Student Union, said as she introduced the poet on Tuesday. "He hones in on the most common contradictions, and spins them into art."

Mali's poems focus on his experience as an educator. Mali holds a master's degree in English from Oxford University, and left his job teaching math to tour and evolve as a poet.

He performed many poems

from his newest CD, "Poems From the Like Free Zone." The themes behind his art focus on how we as a generation are slipping from the realm of articulation and education. His poem, "Totally like whatever, you know?" begs us to "speak with conviction, to say what you believe in a manner that bespeaks the determination with which you believe it. Because contrary to the wisdom of the bumper sticker it is not enough these days to simply QUESTION AUTHORITY. You have to speak with it, too."

Taylor's poetic presence captivated the audience, enticing them to laugh with his spoof of spell check, to awe at the splendor of what he believes the profession of teaching entails, and to feel empowered to become a scholar. "Being around someone who moves you with educated words, I found myself becoming aware of my actions because his performance is so strong," Haynes said.

Haynes brought Mali to BSU as a ploy. "Poetry is the next wave on a college campus,"

she explained. Haynes is planning a slam poetry contest on Feb. 14 of next year. The winner of the student contest will open for the next poetry show featuring another slam poet Mums, who is featured on the HBO series "OZ."

Slam poetry intrinsically is an art form for the campus. Evolving from urban prose, slam poetry has morphed into an academic competitive art form. The competitions themselves have strict procedural rules, and "an ever changing style," Haynes explained. She said, "people are now experimenting with various styles of poetry, from the political to the ballad."

Mali is an excellent example of the persuasive powers of this generation. "He is not polite," Haynes said. "He is not cautious, his wit, his wisdom inspire listeners to challenge themselves and the world around them."

In Mali's own words, "You want to know what I make? I make a difference, what about you?"



Taylor Mali brought a no holds barred style of poetry to the Student Union Building on Tuesday, May 1st.

photo by: Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*

This concert is literally for the birds

by Arbiter staff

A concert to benefit research and education programs at the Idaho Bird Observatory, which is affiliated with Boise State University, will be held from 5 p.m.-9 p.m. on Thursday, May 10, at the Blues Bouquet, 1010 West Main.

Five musical acts, including Ken Harris, The Buzzard Brothers with Miss Rebecca, Quarter to Blue, The Usual Suspects and The Hoochie Coochie Men will perform, and noted raptor author William S. Clark will sign field guides and books. A donation of \$5 at the door is suggested.

The Idaho Bird Observatory was established in 1993 by Marc Bechard, a Boise State biology professor and by Greg Kaltenecker, who earned a masters degree in raptor biology at Boise State, after it was discovered that Boise sits almost directly beneath a major bird migration flyway. The Boise ridge supports one of the largest known concentrations of migrating raptors and migrating neotropical songbirds in the West, according to Kaltenecker, IBO director. The IBO is funded through donations to the BSU Foundation and other grants and provides many education, research and volunteer opportunities.

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STUDENT

The following section of the paper has been taken over by a select group of people. We don't know who they are... Really... Its not us honest... Anyway the following is a humorous break from the norm. All the stories are fictitious (made up). If you don't believe us we can not be held responsible for your stupidity.

ADVISORY

For entertainment purposes only!

Tinky Winky sues Christian Coalition for defamation of character

Two years ago Reverend Pat Robertson and The Christian Coalition pleaded with parents throughout the nation to stop letting their children watch the popular BBC children's show *TeleTubbies*, citing that Tinky Winky, one of show's main characters, was in fact homosexual and a bad influence on the impressionable minds of our nation's youth. Ever since then, the *TeleTubbies'* popularity has waned, until today they are virtually unheard of.

But yesterday, in a Federal District Court the *TeleTubbies* fought back. Tinky Winky filed motions naming Pat Robertson and The Christian Coalition as defendants in a lawsuit, claiming defamation of character and emotional distress. While Tinky Winky was unavailable for comment, his legal representative, fellow *TeleTubbie* Lala made this statement to the assembled press, "La la. La la, la."

Reverend Pat Robertson has refused to publicly respond to the statement, however The Christian Coalition's own legal representative, a Mr. Pikachu, was quoted as saying, "Pika, pika."

New information leads officials to believe China did not steal nuclear secrets— they were purchased on E-Bay instead.

Recently uncovered information has lead investigators to believe that China is in fact innocent of allegations involving the theft of sensitive nuclear information. However it seems that they did purchase the information through the Internet auction site E-Bay.

The information in question was apparently auctioned off by 13 year old Timmy Wilson of Vermont, who obtained the sensitive information from an undisclosed government website. While China was the recipient of the information they were far from the only bidder in the brief and heated 'bidding war' which took place early last year. Other bidders included Iraq, Pakistan, Libya, Israel, and Bob from Arlington, Texas.

Bob was the initial winner of the auction however, due to a "deadbeat bidder" status on the Internet auction site, his bid was removed from consideration. Iraq was the next highest bidder, but problems with the Play Station 2s that power their nation's defense network pre-

vented them from creating a PayPal account with which to transfer funds. China, won by default when Saddam Hussein's payment period ran out.

Timmy Wilson used the \$270 sent to him by China to purchase a new bicycle, but the Internal Revenue Service has seized this item claiming that Timmy failed to file proper income tax returns for the monies received from the People's Republic of China.

Church hazardous to health—guilt-ridden suicides on the rise

Increasing numbers of guilt-ridden worshippers committing suicide have lead some researchers to believe that church may be hazardous to one's health. While the problem is most common among those of the Catholic and Jewish faiths, increasing numbers of suicides have been observed across all theological lines.

Researcher Dr. Dee Septian made the connection while sitting in Sunday service one morning. "I was sitting there, and I realized I'd rather kill myself than listen to all the guilt loaded [crap] that was being forced on me by the preacher," states Dr. Septian, "it was at that point that I realized that our congregation numbers had been steadily shrinking—come to think of it, it wasn't Sunday service after all, it was a funeral, and the lady had killed herself—shortly after another funeral the week prior—and that guy had killed himself, shortly after..." Soon thereafter Dr. Septian began studying the incidence of suicide and its relation to regular church attendance, and noticed a frightening correlation. "Church goers are five times more likely to commit suicide than atheists, due to pent up guilt, while Catholics are 27 times as likely." When asked about the certainty of her study Dr. Septian admitted, "Well, I'm actually just guessing at the number for Catholics—I couldn't find any alive to interview or study."

In an effort to determine how the religious community would react to this information we interviewed Bishop Ray Morse, of the Our Despondent Lady church. When Bishop Morse was provided with Dr. Septian's findings he replied simply by stating, "That's so depressing! I feel somehow responsible," before abruptly ending the interview. Moments later a loud bang was heard from his office. Telephone calls requesting further interviews with Bishop Morse have gone unanswered.

Follow up: after several years away from church Dr. Dee Septian returned to church services shortly after our interview



regarding her research. Subsequent phone calls requesting further interviews have gone unanswered.

Budget cuts force US military to adopt new weapons system— Laser Tag

In the Pentagon today a group of high-ranking military officers met with the press to explain plans to overcome crippling military budget cuts made by the Democratic presidency over the last eight years. General Kilum of the US Army explained how the budget cuts had so drastically affected his branch of service that they no longer could afford to practice with live ammunition. Admiral Kirk of the US Navy voiced similar complaints, while General Cat of the United States Marine Corps tried desperately to figure out how to spell his name.

In the end, the group of military officers announced that all branches of military service would dispose of their current weapons systems, due to high operational and maintenance costs, and instead adopt the Laser Tag game as their new weapons platform. The panel of officers is expecting some resistance from those soldiers who will have to operate the new system, but believe that the current budget situation leaves little choice.

Several enlisted personnel from the various branches of service were interviewed to find what reactions and repercussions are expected as a result of this bold new initiative. An airman from the Mountain Home Air Force Base, who asked to remain anonymous, stated, "I'm glad about it. These things are *much* better built than our old weapons systems." An unnamed Marine Sergeant from San Diego, California replied to our inquiries by stating, "MARINES! BOO YAA! SEMPER FI!"

While this new weapons system will be the standard for all branches of military service, some special forces units are being permitted to adopt small numbers of somewhat more specialized weapons. The US Army Green Berets have been allowed to place orders for small numbers of paintball guns, and the US Navy SEALs have been authorized to order several pellet rifles.

Canada annexed as 51st state! Quebec to be

returned to France
US Congress announced this week that Canada had petitioned for statehood, and that their petition has been accepted. The only conditions placed upon Canada were the immediate return of Quebec to France, and that all Canadian money is to be exchanged for US currency. The first stipulation is being handled by UPS who have volunteered their overnight delivery service as a means of getting Quebec as far from the United States as possible—There is no word yet on whether France is willing to take Quebec back. The second requirement has raised some concerns however, as it would leave the entire state of Canada with a net worth of \$10.83, spurring some Canadians to call the whole idea "looney."

Canada's current Prime Minister Jean Chretien will be acting as the new state's governor until a new election can be held. Governor Jesse Ventura of Minnesota has expressed an interest in the gubernatorial position of our newest state claiming, "They need someone like me to whoop their sorry [expletives] into shape!"

PeopleSoft problems finally solved

After two years of debugging the PeopleSoft software, which runs Boise State University's computer systems, programmers have finally fixed the fatal flaw that has had BSU employees up in arms for the past several semesters. Solitaire is now accessible through all Boise State administrative computers.

While this still may not fix the numerous registration and financial errors which have plagued the university since the adoption of the software, it will enable university employees to look more busy when not actually doing anything, as well as providing a way to distract employees from the never-ending whining heard from students.

When asked how solitaire would improve the situation for students experiencing various PeopleSoft related problems, one university employee in the Registrar's Office replied, "Who cares?" as she reset her current game in hopes of a better luck on the next one. Several desks away a faint "Woo hoo!" was heard as another employee beat their current game.

Ruch to Peterson, "Bite me!"

In a bold new move, Boise

State University's president, Charles Ruch, has severed all ties with the ASBSU, stating that he could do more by working independently.

ASBSU has yet to comment on the move by Ruch, and it is thought by some close to the current ASBSU administration that no one there has even noticed yet.

Parking problems force administration to consider paving quad

Some members of the Boise State University's administration have observed that the new parking structure has had no noticeable impact on the campus parking situation. Some believe it to be a result of the distant location, others the high prices, and others still, feel that the ever out-of-order change machines are to blame. Regardless of the cause, all are in agreement that something drastic must be done quickly.

That drastic action is a new proposal to pave the quad to be used as another parking area. Many believe that paving the quad may prove to be a perfect solution. In the words of one administration employee responsible for investigating the feasibility of the proposal, "It would provide large amounts of centralized parking, close to all major academic buildings." Others feel that simply paving the quad may not prove to be enough, and are pushing for a new parking structure to be built where the quad is currently located.

Other possible sites for expanded parking facilities include paving the football stadium, transforming some academic buildings into makeshift parking structures, or imposing imminent domain on any buildings within a two-block radius of the campus. The football stadium is considered by some, a poor choice, due to its distance from most academic facilities, and the expected lack of support for the idea. However, BSU administrators are quick to point out that even in the event that the stadium is paved, it wouldn't mean that we could no longer host games locally—some feel it might even provide a greater "home field" advantage.

Administration moves to improve Boise State athlete's academic performance

The administration (ad-men-uh-stray-shun) of Boise State University (yu-na-ver-sit-ee) has proposed a new initiative (en-ish-a-tiv) to improve the less than spectacular (spek-tak-yu-lar) academic (ak-uh-dem-ik) performance (per-form-ans) of some BSU athletes. This new policy will be put into effect in the Fall semester of 2001, and is expected to greatly aid the academic (ak-uh-dem-ik) standing of athletes and other students.

A few of the stipulations (stip-yu-lay-shuns) included in the policy would be:

Lowering the Dean's List to include those with a 2.0, or higher, GPA standing

Allowing students with a 2.2 GPA or better to apply for the Honors College

Grade inflation (en-flay-shun) to match increasing student fees

While some say that this move is catering (kay-ter-ing) to unfair academic (ak-uh-dem-ik) practices, others argue that it would be beneficial (ben-uh-fish-al) to many students at Boise State, of whom only 90% are athletes.

Recent scandals (skan-duhls) involving special tutoring (too-tor-ing) sessions and other preferential (pre-fer-en-chal) treatment of athletes has forced the administration (ad-men-uh-stray-shun) to take a hard look at its policies and try to find a way to appease (uh-peas) all parties. The university's (yu-na-ver-sit-ees) spokesperson stated that this was the most fair method of providing higher academic (ak-uh-dem-ik) recognition (re-kog-nishun) for athletes, while not posing a disadvantage (dis-uhd-van-taj) to the other 10% of the student population (pop-yu-lay-shun).

On-campus credit card solicitors required to distribute additional forms

Most students on campus are familiar with the sight of credit card application solicitors perched around campus, swooping in on any unwary prey like so many starving vultures. Often trading cheap t-shirts, non-renewable calling cards, and easy debt in exchange for tardiness to class, massive carpal tunnel syndrome, and lifelong negative credit ratings.

Now, the BSU administration is requiring that on campus credit card solicitors provide one more piece of paperwork for students to fill out among the many other forms—an instant bankruptcy form. Employees at the Boise State financial offices have decided that it would be best to

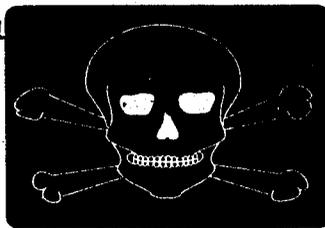
eliminate the needless spending, collections, and long process of students receiving and 'maxing' out credit cards, which they have no real means of paying back. Since student loans would be unaffected by students claiming bankruptcy, and since credit card solicitors will still be required to pay the university to distribute their applications on campus, Boise State felt there was no way that new requirement could be detrimental to them.

Students not wishing to fill out the instant bankruptcy forms will not be required to do so, but are advised that they will, at some time in the future, have to do it. In an effort to simplify collections for delinquent credit card payments, Boise State has also allowed a collections agency, Fat Tony's Collections, to rent a small area on campus to set up a collections sub-office. It is believed that the collections agency will operate in much the same way as the credit card solicitors, in that they will just grab students between classes and "encourage" timely payments.

New elementary school uniforms required to pass 5mph collision test

"Children are our most valuable asset—next to money," states Boise elementary school teacher Ms. Enphorm, "we must do everything in our power to protect them." Increasing safety standards for school playground equipment have forced many schools to spend large amounts of their budgets on newer, safer equipment. Schools unable to afford the ever increasing safety regulations imposed on schoolyard equipment have been forced to look towards alternative methods of protecting the children whose safety they are

Two elementary school students give the new "5mph Impact Safe" school uniforms a field test. The students later agreed that despite the fact that the elbow and knee pads were uncomfortable, going down a slide wrapped in bubble wrap "makes fun noises".
photo by Ted Harmon *the Arbiter*



responsible for.

Some Ada County schools are now combining two popular ideas in an effort to meet the stringent demands placed upon them by increasingly paranoid—err, "safety conscious," educational boards. "Safety is always a concern, and school uniforms are an idea we've been considering for some time," says Principal Ian B. Sull, "with the new safety regulations that have been placed upon us, we simply decided to blend the ideas a bit." The new school uniforms are currently undergoing a testing and evaluation phase, which includes a five mile per hour impact test. Principal Sull claims that the new uniforms have shown tremendous promise. When told that the new uniforms simply look like elbow pads and bubble-wrap held together with duct tape, Principal Sull responded that, "it may just look like bubble-wrap and duct tape, but it's actually the latest in high-tech, high-impact, transparent polymers, combined with super strong, high-tensile fastening devices."

This trend is seen as one that will be adopted by more schools as time wears on. Even as numerous playground devices are being replaced by safer versions, or removed outright, some schools are reporting that many parents have now raised concerns over the dangerous nature of grass found on school yards. One school in California is even reported to be adopting child sized hamster balls for their students starting next fall.

Losing ties wasteful
I am outraged by ASBSU President Nate Peterson's decision to sever ties with administrators. What's wrong with a perfectly good tie? I might agree if only Peterson had decided to sever ties, but to do so in tandem with rejected Boise State administrators is an affront to good taste and manners. While people might understand a student body president neglecting the common social grace of wearing a necktie, I hardly believe our administrators will be taken seriously dressed up like it's casual Friday. And what was the decision to violently sever these ties? If Peterson must discard his ties, he should donate them to good will.

L. Christianson

Peterson's poll inaccurate

The unscientific poll conducted by ASBSU is clearly inaccurate. In response to the question "Do you feel that President Charles Ruch deserves an annuity bonus of \$150,000 for his performance at BSU," only 174 students are purported to have answered yes. I know this to be a falsehood, because I hired 300 work-study students to stuff that ballot box myself. If those results are accurate, some little financial aid brats won't be returning for the fall semester!

Charles Ruch
President, Boise State University

Arbiter ad irresponsible

The media, including your tawdry rag, should be aware of the influences they exert on the young, impressionable minds of children. My eight-year-old got hold of your paper, which featured an ad purporting to "meet the *Arbiter*" at a den of iniquity called the "Symposium." The ad promised "discussion, debate and drinks." When this innocent little boy learned that campus leaders were shamefully indulging in binge drinking, he went on a weeklong bender. We finally found the poor child, passed out on a pool table with a killer hangover and a case of Gonorrhoea. You godless communists should hang your heads in shame.

Martha Breedlove

Athletes get preferential treatment by women

Tana Schlepp's guest opinion last week was dead on! Athletes do get preferential treatment. Why, just last week, a Harvey Neef Main Line dancer turned me down so she could go cavort with "starting quarterback" Ryan Dinwiddie. Two Saturdays ago, some sorority chick turned me down because she just had to go to Bart Hendricks' party. Big deal they're football jocks. What do they have that I don't? Besides muscles, nice cars, gym memberships and hot girlfriends?

Gerald Thomasson
President, Associated Homely Men of BSU

Taquito-eating contest a major news event

I am outraged at the *Arbiter's* lack of coverage of the taquito-eating contest that took place outside the SUB last month. Over 50 honest, hard-working students tirelessly scarfed taquitos, just praying for some kind of nod—some kind of thank you. I suffered gastro-intestinal problems for three weeks, but still it did not lessen the sense of accomplishment and pride one feels in participating in a great Boise State event. Then, the next Wednesday, I flung open the *Arbiter* hoping for some kind of official recognition, a "job well done," from our BSU student newspaper. Nothing, not even a mere mention. Could it have something to do with the fact that your editor is a vegan communist? I think so.

Chuck T. Stern
Treasurer, Carnivores for Free Trade

Hayes' article an insult to custodians

An April 11 article by Sean "C." Hayes makes the following insulting statement about the Student Employment awards banquet, at which I was honored: "Best Janitor nominee Majorie Snelling—never one to miss a trend—evidently caused quite a stir showing up in the copy of the Oscar dress worn by Jennifer Lopez." This statement is boldly inaccurate! The dress I was wearing was clearly a copy of the lovely gown worn at the Oscars by Julia Roberts, only with the pay cuts for custodians at Boise State, I ran out of thread.

Marjorie Snelling
Custodial Goddess

Jerel Thomas is a disgusting troll

I am amazed that the *Arbiter* would print the woefully inaccurate lies of Jerel Thomas. Why your paper would print this defender of big tobacco, hater of gays and Erin Brockovitch, enemy of the environment, is one for the philosophers. But, as I pore over his columns weekly, I'm left with two burning questions: What is Jerel's phone number and is he busy Saturday night?

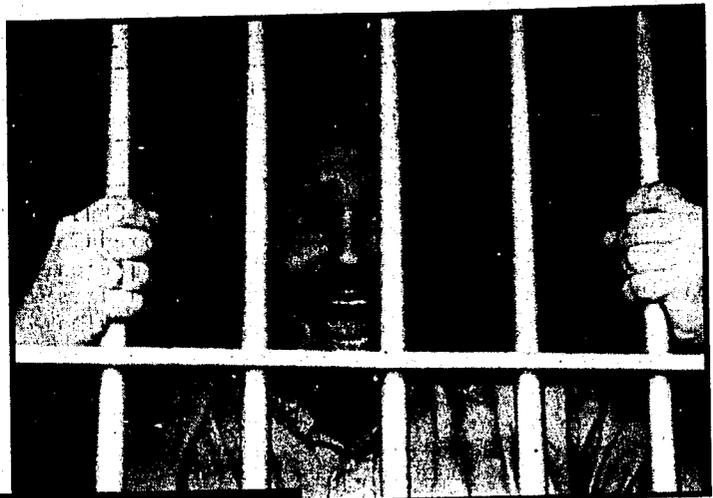
Kristi Chevalier

Correction:

In last week's letters to the editor section, Scott Tomlinson wrote the following inaccurate statement, "Arbiter staff members are atheist homosexuals." Research has uncovered, in fact, that several of our staff members are agnostic homosexuals, two are Hindu homosexuals, one is a closeted Mormon homosexual, some are bisexual and the remainder are simply sluts. We regret the error.



Our glorious leader Brad Ardent on the phone, scorin' some points with his wife. Atta boy Cap'n!



The ad manager is: IN. Bannister Brownlee back where he belongs.

Account manager Lyn Collins in the process of making the Arbiter staff a little less hungry. Not pictured in this photo: all sorts of people, animals, and alcoholic beverages.



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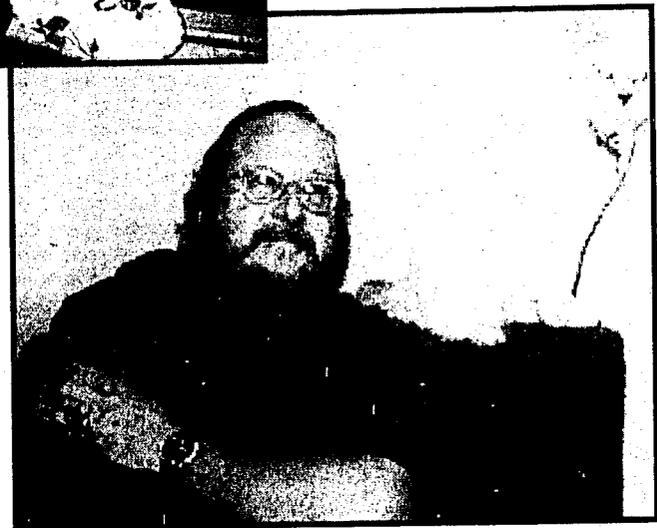
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Faculty advisor Dan Morris with Buddy. Buddy has no official capacity within the Arbiter, and has in fact threatened to sue us on several occasions. We are all thankful about the strict laws in Idaho regarding cats hiring attorneys.

Arbiter
STAFF
the faces of
enlightenment.

Most photos taken by Ted Harmon.
The others he just scanned in.



Ted's our little bitch!

Child labor laws be damned! We bought Jordan Mardis our staff photographer on ebay a little while back, and through several chemical injections we have changed him from a cute little boy into six feet of BSU student he is today. The baseball uniform was included in the price too, although we don't make him wear it every day.



The Production Goddess, Stephanie Pittam rules the production room with an iron fist. Occasionally in abuse of her power as a deity, she will make other employees do the "loyalty dance" and recite quotations from our "little red books", all while listening to Jimmy Buffet.



Staff writer Laura Wylde (left) along with office managers Laure Choffrut (right) and Mel Llanes-Brownlee (back).



This is what Laura Wylde looks like while riding in a Fiat going 75mph...alarmed.

Editor-in-chief Carissa Wolf in medias res.



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MISC.

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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).

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MISC.

Marxist study group beginning this Fall. Call 388-8563 for details. Advisors wanted.

FOR SALE

Dave Matthews Band Tickets. May 26th at Sam Boyd Stadium in Las Vegas. \$60/each, call Mike, 890-0453.

Black wrought iron style queen size canopy bed. Includes posts and main frame, plus a matching iron and glass night stand. \$250 OBO, 283-2756.

HELP WANTED

P/T help wanted. \$10/hr, 11:00am to 1:30pm Monday through Saturday. Must pass drug test. Apply at Deli George's, 401 S. 8th St., Monday through Friday from 2pm-6pm.

Working rock blues trio work study, hiring additional members male or female, keys, vox, percussion. 334-2289, Allen.

Lead vocalist wanted for alternative rock band. Dedication required. Serious inquiries only. Call Jake at 342-5069.

HELP WANTED

New Student Information Center is looking for Campus Tour Guides. \$7/hr, Tues/Thurs 1:30-2:45pm. Summer hours change. Greet guests/ perspective students, and conduct campus tours. Apply at the New Student Information Center.

Boise's Best Part-time Job for Students!

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HELP WANTED

Arbiter needs skilled photographers! Positions available for this next year. Great opportunities and exciting work. Call The Arbiter's Photo Editor, Ted Harmon, at 345-8204 ext. 301, to schedule an interview.

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- Top Dollar - our reps average \$7-\$12/hour
- Paid Training

Sturmer & Klein

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 376-4480

HELP WANTED

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Camp Greylock & Romaca seek caring, energetic counselors and coaches. Co-ed staffs, competitive salaries + room and board. Internships are available. Located in the Berkshire Mountains of Massachusetts, 2.5 hours from Boston and NYC.

Archery, Baseball, Basketball, Climbing Wall, Creative Arts, Drama, Football, Golf, Gymnastics, Hiking, Inline-Hockey, Lacrosse, Mountain Biking, Sailing, Soccer, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Volleyball, Waterskiing, plus nursing and administrative positions.

Beautiful waterfront campus, outstanding group of people, very rewarding summer.

Camp Romaca for Girls: 888-2-romaca www.campromaca.com

Camp Greylock for Boys: 800-842-5214 www.campgreylock.com

What are you doing this summer?

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

2 students looking for furnished or unfurnished 1 or 2 bedroom apartment to sub-lease for the summer. Leave message with Colleen at 455-2100 or 454-2063.

Female roommate wanted. Located across the street from BSU. \$250/mo + 1/3 utilities. Call for details, 483-8018.

Arbiter employee free to a good home. Well behaved, clean, housebroken, good with kids.



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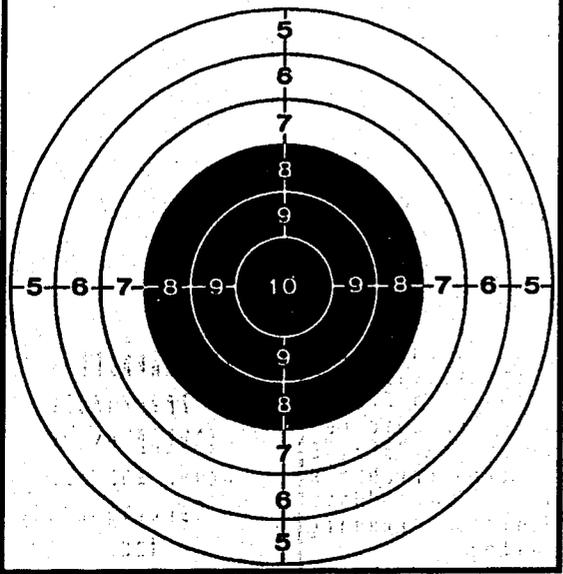
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WALLY'S IN JAIL FOR IMPERSONATING A DEAD PERSON.

WALLY'S IN JAIL. CAN YOU HELP GET HIM OUT?

WALLY, NOW THAT YOU HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD, I CAN'T LET YOU WORK ON ANYTHING IMPORTANT.

WE PLAN TO REPLACE HIM WITH A LOOK-ALIKE WHO WILL CONTINUE BUYING FROM US.

I'VE NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.

HE'LL HAVE TO USE ALL OF HIS STREET SMARTS TO SURVIVE.

TELL HIM TO TRY THE DOOR. THE GUARDS ONLY PRETEND TO LOCK THEM.

I DON'T HAVE A CRIMINAL RECORD. I GAVE THE POLICE A FAKE NAME.

HEY, THAT'S WILLY FROM THE CLUB OF PEOPLE WHO LOOK EXACTLY LIKE ME.

IT'S CALLED "WORK."
AM I DOING IT RIGHT?

I'LL NEED SOME TEMPORARY TATTOOS. WHICH WAY IS THE GIFT SHOP?

BUT I'D HAVE TO SAY IT WAS THE LIFERS WHO WERE THE MOST EMBARRASSED.

YOU MIGHT NOTICE A CHANGE IN THE QUALITY OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS.

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